THE DAILY PROVINCE FEBRUARY 5, 1910

THE DAILY PROVINCE, VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA

THROTTLE PRESS OF TROUBLED INDIA

Proposed Legislation Will Punish Newspapers Which Render Government Odious in Sight of People.

Calcutta, Feb. 5.—The new press bill designed to suppress the dissemination of anarchistic literature, which was foreshadowed in the speech with which Lord Minto appeared before the imperial council, was introduced at today's session of the council by Sir Herbert Hope-Risley, secretary of the home department of the British government of India.

The measure does not create a censorship immediately, but provides for the control of all newspapers and presses, the proprietors of which are obliged to deposit form(Sic) \$160 to \$600, which is to be forfeited on the conviction of the party of an attempt to incite to murder or anarchial(Sic) outrages, to tamper with the loyalty of the army and navy, excite racial clash or religious animosity, contempt of the government or native prince, or the intimidation of public servants, etc. Sir Herbert, explaining the necessity of curbing freedom of publication, said:

"We see a widely-read portion of the Indian press occupied in rendering the government odious in the sight of Indian people. The government is represented as a foreign one and therefore selfish, and it is alleged to have produced famine, its public works to have generated malaria and to have introduced the plague and poisoned the wells with the object of reducing the population in order to place it into subjections; to have destroyed religion by a

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godless system of education and in short to have enslaved a whole people who now struggle to be free. The press openly proclaims the only cure for the ills of India is freedom from foreign rule."