

GANDHI SALT DIGGING TO BEGIN TOMORROW

Inedible Product of Dandi to Be Gathered as a Gesture of Flouting the Indian Law.

Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

SURAT, India, April 3.—Mahatma Gandhi, Indian Nationalist leader, continued his march this morning along a dusty track from Dandoli southward toward the village of Dandi, where he intends to flout the government's salt monopoly.

Mr. Gandhi's present plan for the final stages of his campaign is to arrive at Dandi at noon Saturday after a short forced march from the straggling village of Jalalpur, which is his destination tomorrow night. Then he proposes to engage in a little silent meditation, after which he will address the eighty-two devoted followers who have marched with him from Ahmedabad, 200 miles away. His listeners will include also those admirers who may disregard his appeal not to crowd into Dandi, which is on the bank of a shallow creek on the edge of marshy country and has little shelter and no accommodation and a minimum supply of fresh water from one small well. The whole party, duly equipped with buckets and spades, will then follow Mr. Gandhi to the beach and begin their work.

It is interesting to note that the salt in the creeks around Dandi is admitted to be practically inedible, a fact which is typical of the unreal character of the whole demonstration. Of course this in no way affects the illegality of the proceedings. Under the salt tax act, the collection of salt is an offense punishable by a maximum of six months' imprisonment.

Despite Mr. Gandhi's exhortations, there is every prospect that a big crowd will follow his procession across the country swamps to see the end of his march and the beginning of the real business. People already are arriving at Navsari, either afoot or in heavy wagons drawn by white bullocks, garlanded with flowers and wearing bells around their necks.

A force of 150 armed police is encamped at Jalalpur, but the government flatly denies that British troops have been stationed in the neighborhood. There have been no troops in the district. The nearest are at Albaroda and Bombay, which are occupied by the normal forces.

Law and order in the whole Surat district, with 5,000,000 inhabitants, are maintained by a Superintendent of Police and 742 Indian policemen, of whom fewer than 300 are armed.

Apart from its more spiritual considerations, Mr. Gandhi's visit to Surat has yielded \$9,375 for his campaign fund, in addition to \$750 contributed by the small village of Dandoli. Before marching away today, Mr. Gandhi said he had no idea where, when or how he would spend the money.

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NEW DELHI, India, April 3 (AP).—Nine Nationalists are resigning their seats in the Legislative Assembly following the passage of the imperial preference provision in the tariff bill, which carries a 5 per cent preference on certain lines of Lancashire cotton goods.

Pandit Malaviya, the party leader, who has sent a long letter to Lord Irwin, the Viceroy, saying he was interrupting a quarter of a century's participation in the Constitutional activities of the Legislature because of his conviction the government is not prepared to carry out even the present reforms in their true spirit.

M. S. Aney, another resigning Nationalist, says he wants his resignation to take effect the day that Mahatma Gandhi is arrested in his civil disobedience campaign. No effort has been made to interfere with Gandhi's activities thus far.

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