

Nathu Singh.

Gumanpura,
Dungarpur.
South Rajasthan

27th Aug 59.



him, Shilpa
promised to let
he leave. This may
be some useful to me
in tracking him.
with his supporters
you are only
Nathu Singh

strictly trusted.

1722

My dear Mr. Home. Ministry,

Having sat back for about three weeks after the Swatantra Party's Bombay meeting and the subsequent meetings at Ahmedabad which I also attended to know how the Party was shaping, my impressions are:-

- a) Rajajee is the best person to make the Congress mend their ways, ~~xx~~ cave in, or go under. I much admire the way he brings out the Congress weakness.
- b) In you, Munshi, VP Menon he has three very worthy supporters. Ranga appeared to me to be a sincere sort of a person, but will he keep the Party together as its Chairman or President? Masani a quick brain, who won't suffer fools gladly, his stock ~~xxxx~~ abroad may be high, but I am not too sure of his standing in the Country as opposed to his considerable influence in Bombay proper. I rather liked him, he must be a live wire. Raja Natheesingh, a pleasant chap, but I am not sure how far he is interested or will go. Hedge, I did not meet, then the few South Indian followers of Rajajee I did not come to know ^{in the interim meeting / 1st 2nd 3rd} them so I can't say much about them. Thereafter, there appeared to be a bit of a void. ~~xxx~~ to succeed the Party must collect good men, as opposed to the "Teela-tapka-walas, and the Matla-bees", otherwise the party will meet the same fate as the other parties ~~handwritten~~.

c) The local leadership. These I met at Bombay & Ahmedabad, I did not think much of them. They must be clean, selfless, ~~and~~ sincere, and reliable persons. In Rajasthan this is all the more important, as most of those who have played politics have been found out or are not very dependable.

d) In the rank and file, I thought there were very few who represented the toilers- the workers in the factories, or the tillers of the soil. The Party must make its programme attractive for them also. Amongst the bussiness people, Bombay may ~~have~~ have been well represented, but this was not the case at Ahmedabad, where there appeared to be a definite cleavage between the Patel and the bussiness groups.

Now about myself, I am keen to join the Party, but I must ensure as far as it lies in my power to do so that ideologically and temperamentally I would suit and fit into the Party. Except for the 'top ranks of the leadership, I am not sure of this. Further, having 'kept back my horses', I consider that if I join I must go all out, but I am not sure of the support I may get. As Menon, and Hedge, in the south, and Masani at Bombay together with some may be others, I can get things moving in the north-Punjab, UP, Behar, Orissa, and Rajasthan provided I have ~~an~~ Durgapur, Bikaner, and a couple of others backing. The main stumbling block will be finance, and you would know what can be done in this respect. Raja of Bhinai the Convener of the Party in Rajasthan, has written to me to make my suggestions to give fillip to ~~the Party~~. Before, I give him my views I would like to ~~know~~ have your reactions to the above, and of the prospects of financial help from the Head Office, in Rajasthan the prospects of collecting a large amount of funds is not very great. I am in correspondence with Pt. Nehru regarding Jagir and other controversial matters. and I would much like to have a copy of your write up on

Handwritten note in left margin: I would like Raja of Bhinai to join the Party. He is a very good person. He is a very good person. He is a very good person.