

know in the United States. It may be several generations before India's untouchables walk all of India as men equal by right, and so accepted, as well as by law. It is well, though, to have the principle established legally.

Although India's untouchables have probably gained greater notoriety than any other caste (or, rather, lack of caste there), the idea of caste is not an Indian copyright. Coolies throughout the Far East are still subject to most of the restrictions placed against the untouchables in India. Japan discriminated, and still does, socially and economically, against its original inhabitants, the Ainus, as we do against the American Indian in some states. Discrimination because of color is still almost a universal crime against humanity. But the Constituent Assembly's declaration is a step toward the day that Gandhi hoped and prayed for.

INDIA'S UNTOUCHABLES

Almost a year after the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi the greatest of the internal reforms he urged on India is recognized by the Constituent Assembly in its adoption of a clause in the new Indian Constitution outlawing "untouchability." Forty million Indians now legally can leave their ghettos, use the village wells, bathe in the rivers and enjoy the privileges of citizenship denied them by obscure tradition for centuries.

Passing a law against discrimination is, of course, only a first step, as we