



Dr. M. S. Aney delivering presidential address at the inauguration of the Malaviya Memorial Lectures here on Friday at Senate Hall.—Leader Photo.

# Mahamana's Bold Defence Of Ancient Heritage

(By A Staff Reporter)

ALLAHABAD, Aug. 11.—Dr. M. S. Aney, 82-year old veteran leader of India's freedom struggle and an old associate of the late Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya referred here today to Mahamana's boldness in defending the Hindu culture and heritage which at one time received a strong challenge from the English-educated reformers.

Dr. Aney said: that Malaviyaji gave a new impetus to the Hindu renaissance along with Swami Vivekananda and Lokmanya Tilak.

The elder statesman while delivering his presidential address at the inauguration here today of the Malaviya Memorial Lectures at the University Senate Hall paid rich tributes to his old departed comrade. Dr. Aney said: 'I had the rare good fortune of being his humble associate in those momentous days. To the last day of his life Malaviyaji's one idea was independence of India for which he worked whole heartedly.'

Pandit Malaviya, Dr. Aney added, won the hearts of all including his foes by his humility and innate love of humanity.

The veteran leader of Maharashtra said: 'It is extremely appropriate that the birthday centenary celebrations of the late Malaviyaji began today in Allahabad which, besides being his birthplace was also the scene of his public activities for a considerable time. In fact it was the birthplace of his public life also.'

Recounting Malaviyaji's manifold activities, Dr. Aney observed that as the founder of Banaras Hindu University he helped in the revival of ancient culture and learning.

its perpetrators would remain a most brilliant chapter in the struggle for Indian freedom. Though Pandit Malaviya remained in the Congress, he did not follow the decision of the Congress blindly. When the Congress decision on the Communal Award was taken, he not only protested but tendered his resignation from the membership of the Congress Working Committee. He formed a new party and successfully defeated Congress candidates in Bengal, Punjab and Banaras.

Dr. Aney further said: 'Pandit Malaviya was a politician and an eminent educationist. He was respected most by the people of India for his patriotic services. During British rule our ancient institutions and cultural heritage were ridiculed by many English-educated Indians. It became almost a fashion to proclaim dis-respect for the Hindu scriptures, customs and usages. The whole Sanskrit literature was dubbed as superstitious. Fortunately at this critical juncture three great men—Swami Vivekanand, Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya emerged into prominence. They boldly defended the Hindu culture and Vedic scriptures. Pandit Malaviya, clad in pure white khaddar, came to be looked upon as one of the enlightened and devoted defender of the Hindu faith. He observed meticulously the religious injunctions as regards daily prayers. His efforts for popularisation of Devanagari script and Hindi are too well-known. He had the prophetic insight to foresee that India's unity required a common language and a common script and he did not spare himself till he got this principle recognised partially by Mahatma Gandhi and later on by the Constituent Assembly.'

After referring to the services that Malaviyaji rendered to the Congress soon after joining the Bar, Dr. Aney said that Malaviyaji's advocacy of the cause of the victims of Jallianwalla Bagh and his merciless exposition of