

HAPPILY ENDED.

The party of Hindus who came here determined to force an entrance into the country, contrary to Canadian policy and law, and who declared that they would die rather than return, have gone away alive and comfortable. They have been exceedingly fortunate. Though they took possession of the Japanese ship which brought them, deprived the captain of his authority, and violently resisted the police when, at the captain's request, they visited the ship to restore order, they have been sent away without paying any penalty for these offences. They have suffered some hardships at times, partly because certain wealthy fellow-countrymen of theirs who contracted to feed them failed to keep their word, and partly because in the early stages of the trouble they elected to have a hunger strike. The Government of Canada has generously come to their relief, and stocked the ship with abundant provisions for the journey home. The Hindus will live higher at the expense of the Canadian people than they did when their own countrymen were boarding them for pay.

Now that the incident has been closed Canada and the Empire may be congratulated on the way it was handled. During all these complications, and in spite of all provocation, every reasonable consideration has been shown the Orientals. The Government and its officers have been firm on the one essential question, that the Hindus should not settle in this country if the law of the land and authority of the immigration department were sufficient to prevent it. On that point there was no doubt or hesitation. Since counsel for the Hindus claimed that there was no law to reject them and that their exclusion would be an act of usurpation, they were allowed time and opportunity to appeal to the highest court in the province. Even after the decision was announced they were given a long time to decide to go away peaceably.

In the end it was necessary to show them that force would be used if they would not allow the captain of the ship to resume control and sail out of the port. The Rainbow was not summoned because the local police were incapable of enforcing the law and restoring the captain's authority. In ten minutes the policemen who went out to the Komagata last Saturday could have taken possession of the ship. They would have gladly undertaken the task had they been permitted. But from first to last it was the determination of the authorities to close this incident without bloodshed, if that was possible. The police did not go out to enforce the order of the immigration department, but were sent in response to a request of the Japanese captain for protection and assistance against his own mutinous passengers. The law would have justified the use of firearms to accomplish this purpose. But wisdom and forbearance sought other ways, happily not without success.

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STEVENS SPEAKS IN DEFENCE OF DOMINION GOVT.

Speaking at the Central Conservative Club on Monday night, Mr. H. H. Stevens, M. P., gave the lie direct to the statement that the Canadian government had not taken complete steps to inform the Hindoos prior to their sailing as to the impossibility of their admittance to Canada.

He outlined the many conspiracies being hatched for the purpose of taking the lives of some of the immigration officials, and remarked on the arrest of Hindoos at Sumas in connection with the attempted shipment of arms to the Komagata Maru.

Scores Solicitor.

Continuing, Mr. Stevens scored Mr. J. Edward Bird, the solicitor who represented the Hindoos in the recent proceedings at Victoria for his action in endeavoring to obtain a percentage of the film rights of moving pictures of the Komagata Maru.

The speaker read the following letter, received by Mr. Malcolm Reid, the superintendent of immigration, from the Canadian Amusement Company, 121 Hastings street:

"Sir,—I should feel very grateful for leave to take moving pictures in connection with the Komagata Maru, and if the troops are coming in it would make a valuable picture. Mr. J. Edward Bird asked me a short time ago to take the pictures, but he wanted 75 per cent of the film rights, which was too high."

It was signed by Mr. R. J. Herring. "In one way that letter makes you laugh," said Mr. Stevens, "but it is a serious thing when a responsible solicitor will take that light and mercenary view of a delicate situation, which may result, not only here, but in other parts of the world in loss of lives. I think this is one of the most serious of the modern history of

our empire and the full significance of it has been borne in upon my mind.

Story of Chartering.

Mr. Stevens traced the story of the chartering of the Komagata Maru, the changing of officers consequent on the attitude of the Dominion government toward the entrance of the Hindoos to this country, and assured his hearers that every effort had been put forth to stop the boat, and advise her that her passengers could not enter Canada.

To show that Gurdit Singh anticipated the results of his venture, Mr. Stevens emphasized the fact that that astute gentleman made each Hindoo pay his return fare, besides which they placed in his hands \$7000 in Canadian currency, which is deposited in his name in a bank in Japan.

Seditious Incidents.

Having touched on the many seditious incidents which have occurred during the past few months, Mr. Stevens read a dispatch from Ottawa authorizing the use of the naval service, and urging that no unnecessary violence be used, but that the law, without fail, be rigorously enforced. He knew there were a good many people who could tell the police and the immigration officials how much better they could have managed things on Saturday night. He wanted to make it perfectly clear that they did not retire defeated but they retired because they knew that if they used firearms at that moment, their action would be misconstrued and misinterpreted through Canada and through the empire. The rifles were not taken out with the idea of shedding blood but were for the thirty-five special immigration officers to act as guard for the captain and crew, after the police had left, until the vessel had been towed out beyond Cape Flattery. He thought the police were to be highly commended. They behaved with great coolness. Thirty suffered more or less serious injuries and only four, the seriously hurt, did not report for the next night.

fast launch passing between the Empress liner and the coal lighter which lay alongside, and have a consultation with some person aboard, through a porthole.

Immediately a bunch of rifles, to the number of nine or ten, were lowered to the launch, and the occupant of the craft made quick time to the Komagata Maru, where he passed the arms to the waiting Hindoos.

The observer immediately gave notice of the occurrence to the officers, and steps were taken to hold up the gun-runner, but without avail, his craft easily out-distancing the pursuers.

HINDUS' LAWYER HAL SUGGESTION OF SETTLEMENT

A. H. MacNeill, K. C., Says It Is Much a Matter of Dollars and Cents.

Correspondence Between that Counsel and R. L. Reid, K. C., for the Government.

Very Different Points of View Are Shown in These Letters.

Government Has Fed Hindus During Last Three Weeks as a Pure Charity.

At 11 o'clock this morning there appeared to be a chance of settling the Hindu difficulty. The tug sent out with the ultimatum to Gurdit Singh was cruising around awaiting the arrival at the dock of a local committee of Hindus who had wished to have a chance to confer with their countrymen aboard the vessel. The plan to send out a local committee of five resulted from an exchange of letters between Mr. A. H. MacNeill, counsel for the Hindus, and Mr. R. L. Reid for the government.

"It is all a matter of dollars and cents," said Mr. MacNeill to The Province. "These men are out there starving, for it is admitted by the Japanese captain that many have had no food for four or five days."

The inference from Mr. MacNeill's further remarks was that if the government would furnish food and assistance to get back across the Pacific a settlement might be made.

Following is a copy of the correspondence which passed during yesterday and today between the two learned K. C.'s mentioned above:

Vancouver, B.C., July 20, 1914.
Malcolm R. J. Reid, Esq., Dominion immigration agent and inspector,
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Sir,—A representative of the local Hindus waited upon us this morning with a view to laying before you several propositions which they think (and in which we concur), will lead to an immediate and honorable adjustment of the various difficult questions arising out of the presence of the Komagata Maru with her passengers in the port of Vancouver. We are sure you will agree that a recurrence of the events of Saturday