

Personal:

Kindly do not write more than
one subject in any one letter.

In your reply refer to No.....

Immigration Branch

370

MRJR/EC.

Department of the Interior

Canada

Vancouver, B. C., June 30th 1914

H. H. Stevens, Esq., M. P.

203 Kingsway,

C I T Y.

Dear Sir:-

I beg to acknowledge receipt of copy of letter of June 8th, addressed to yourself at the House of Commons, Ottawa, signed by R. L. Maitland, Secretary of the Vancouver Conservative Ass'n.

I note that Dr. Patterson and the Secretary were appointed a Committee to take up the question of the failure of myself to recognize the Executive of the Vancouver Conservative Ass'n., and the stated case is given of one E. Pulford, who was endorsed by the Executive and with a communication, came down to this office with the object of being appointed as one of the guards of the Hindu ship.

And further that I advised Mr. Pulford there were no men needed at present, but that I would 'phone and advise him should we be in need of more guards.

Our books disclose these facts in connection with E. J. Pulford:

Age 41,
Ex Customs Officer, wishing work of any kind,
Sent down by Dr. Patterson,
address 611 Hornby St.
Telephone Sey. 5679,
Ex Official Chinese Commission,

Mr. Pulford did not ask for work as a guard and these are the only men who have been recently taken on the temporary staff for special work.

H.H.S. - 2.

I was leaving for lunch on the day in question, and Mr. Pulford hurriedly showed me the note from Dr. Patterson. I requested him to see Inspector Taylor who would make note of his qualifications and if we could avail ourselves of his services, we would inform him.

I rode home to lunch with Dr. Patterson that day in the street car, and Dr. Patterson referred to the matter of Pulford. I told the Doctor he was not a man that one would pick in an emergency for special guard work, with which Dr. Patterson agreed.

Pulford is a man quite below the average height and build, and looks to be at least fifty years of age. I certainly would not think I was doing my duty if I picked men of this type to do special work, although under ordinary circumstances Mr. Pulford's application would receive every consideration.

With reference to the allegation that "none of the guards appointed were, to the knowledge of the Executive, endorsed by that Executive, although Mr. Reid could easily have obtained them through our quarters." -

I cannot quite understand this reference as Mr. Garnham came with a special note from Mr. R. L. Maitland, the Secretary of the Vancouver Conservative Ass'n., and the writer of the communication under discussion, and was immediately taken on. Why? Because, in the first place every consideration is shown to any application endorsed by the Ass'n. or other prominent Conservatives. Secondly, Garnham was an ex-Sergeant-Major of the North West Mounted Police, and an A-I man for the work in hand.

H. H. S. - 3.

It is quite true five other men were taken on this temporary guard work, under the following circumstances. -

I requested the Department to place at my disposal, a Naval Patrol Boat for the purpose of guarding the s.s. KOMOGATA MARU, owing to the fact that the Immigration Patrol Boat, "WINAMAC" was out of commission - having new engines installed.

The Naval authorities were asked by the Department to try and arrange for the necessary patrol, but I have never yet received any definite word as to why this patrol was not given. After waiting for several days, I deemed it advisable - owing to trouble on the ship - to consult with the Chief of Police, thinking he would furnish me with a police escort. The Chief stated that he could not furnish me with the men except in cases of grave emergency, but in that case he would give me all the men necessary.

He suggested, however, that I take on four men who were next in line for special police work, or for any vacancy occurring on the staff. This was in the evening. I asked him immediately to send the men down. There was no time to consult with the Association or any of its members, and when I was relying upon the Chief of Police coming to my assistance, I thought it only an act of courtesy to place the men on that he wished appointed.

Accordingly, four men were placed on board as guards, together with Mr. Garnham and Mr. Quinny.

Mr. Quinny had been acting as C.P.R. special constable; he is a man 6 ft. 4 in., has seen active service, is a member of the 6th Regiment, and is a resident of Ward

H.H.S. - 4.

six, and is well known to members of the Executive. He knew the wharf, and had been courteous to us in many ways, whilst on duty there.

I do not think there is any comparison between men of this stamp and Mr. Pulford, that is, when it comes to guard duty.

I may say the Department at Ottawa have since written approving of the temporary employment of these men.

As explained to Mr. Love and Dr. Patterson, and many of our friends, I would not suggest or recommend that any friends should be placed on this work, which is not only difficult but dangerous.

With reference to the general allegation that "Mr. Reid had not been playing fair with the Executive."-

This, I deny in toto. All the members of my staff have received their appointment through the Executive of the Vancouver Conservative Ass'n., with the exception of Mr. Hyndman who was appointed direct from Ottawa, but considering the fact that Mr. Hyndman was a well-known worker and former Secretary of Ward 5, who had been duly endorsed by the Executive, he surely was entitled to even a higher position than that of watchman on the wharf.

I might point out to you, that I wrote suggesting that when the night watchmen were appointed - in view of the fact that half of their salaries were paid by this Department, and I had definite instructions from Ottawa to suspend at any time - I should at least be consulted when these appointments were being made. If you remember, you replied stating that it was advisable to have them placed under either one service or the other, and that the Customs wished to keep control of these men, to which I acquiesced.

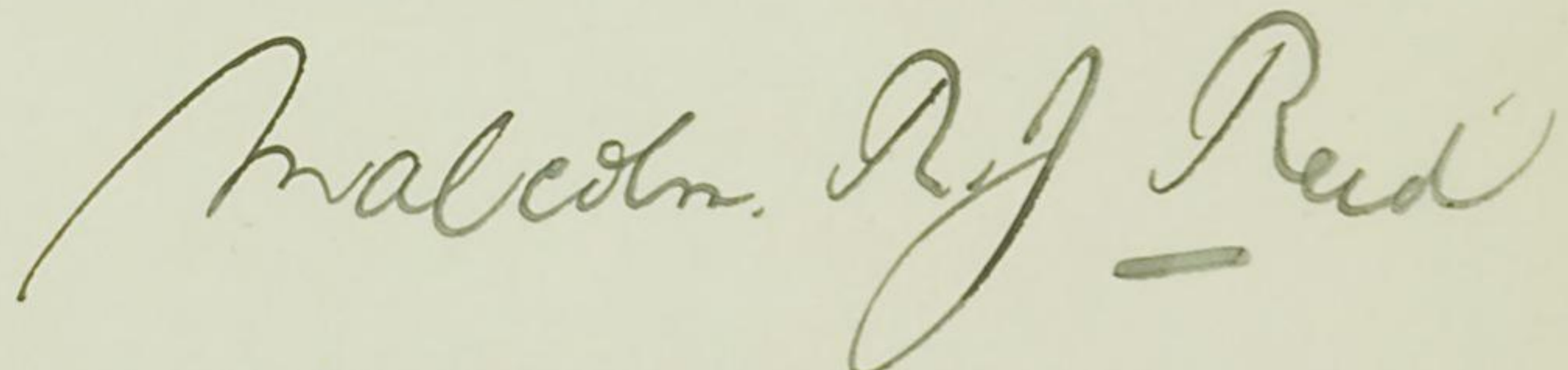
H.H.S. - 5.

The Executive of the Vancouver Conservative Ass'n. have always had the utmost consideration, and in the way of patronage no articles are purchased at any time unless the name of the firm appears on the local patronage list.

Considering the present crisis on the Oriental question, I am very much surprised that the Association should endeavor to place any obstacles in the way of my carrying out my duties to the best of my ability. I need scarcely remind you of the grave aspect of affairs should these Hindus be admitted, either by escaping or by legal process, and the disastrous result it would have on the Conservative party in British Columbia.

I should be pleased to appear before the Executive at any time or place and discuss matters of interest to the Association.

Yours truly,



DOMINION IMMIGRATION AGENT & INSPECTOR.

P.S. - It might interest you to know that our legal advisors are also on the patronage list, and the additional patrol boat is hired from Chappel Bros., well known Conservatives and Orangemen, and members of Ward 6 Ass'n.

