

Immigration Branch

Department of the Interior

Canada

Vancouver, B.C., February 19th, 1910

W. W. Cory, Esq., C.M.G.,

Deputy Minister of the Interior,

O t t a w a. ONT:

Dear Sir,

With reference to my letter 17th. January last, I beg to enclose herewith cutting from "The Vancouver Daily World" of the 17th. inst. in which you will see that G.D. Kumar is again exploiting the grievances of his countrymen through the medium of the papers; in this particular case he alleges that whitemen are ~~grrr~~ "grafting" on his countrymen, besides loading them to drink and immoral habits. I have never come across a case in which any specific charges have been made against white men on any of these grounds, but it is quite true that a good many Hindus have taken to drink and visiting houses of ill-fame, and further than this, have been found to gamble amongst themselves.

I am also enclosing a cutting from the same paper of the 18th. inst.. this being the result of a young and newly appointed Reporter on the staff of the World, who, on being interviewed, stated that his article was the outcome of some superficial enquiry which he had no reason to disbelieve, but could not substantiate. There is no doubt that the seditious propaganda is still carried on here

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and across the line, and whatever information I have been able to glean concerning this side of the Hindu situation I have forwarded from time to time.

On the 18th. inst., the R.M.S. "Empress of China" arrived at this Port, having on board three adult Hindus and one child. The adults were Debi Chand, Nathu Ram, and Mrs. Udoy Ram, the child is the son of Debi Chand. Debi Chand and his son were admitted as returned Hindus, and Mrs. Udoy Ram was also permitted to land, she having come direct from the land of her birth, having the required amount of money, and through transportation from Calcutta. With regard to Nathu Ram, it has been ascertained that he applied to Thos. Cook and Sons, Calcutta for transportation to Vancouver, at the same time made over to them a ticket for a passage Hong Kong to Vancouver which had been sent to him in the year 1906 by one Palah Singh from here. This man is now in India. Thos. Cook gave him a receipt for this ticket, and instructed him to apply to their firm at Hong Kong for an order on the C.P.R. for a second class transportation Hong Kong to Vancouver if he did not like the steerage passage to that Port; at the same time giving him steerage transportation to Vancouver. On arrival at Hong Kong Nathu Ram applied to Thos. Cook & Sons, for second class transportation to Vancouver, and from them received

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a form which he was directed to present to the C.P.R. and pay the difference between the two classes, which he did, and received a ticket to this Port. As there seems to be a slight doubt as to this man having had direct and through transportation to this Port, Mr. MacGill has refused his permission to land; on the other hand, Solicitors for Nathu Ram have threatened Habeas Corpus proceedings and will issue a writ on Monday next.

In the course of conversation with the recent arrivals I came to learn that the Post Office Dept. in India have instituted a censorship on all correspondence from Canada and the United States and were watching the doing of all Hindus in the Colonies very closely. During the coming summer a good number of new arrivals may be expected as well as many returning Hindus.

It is stated here that Teja Singh is expected some time next month, but nothing definite can be learned.

In conclusion I beg to add that the address of Nathu Ram in India is as follows:- Village Machhike, Post Office Nihalasing-walla, District Ferozpur, Punjab, India.

Yours obediently.

(Sd) Wm. C. Harkness