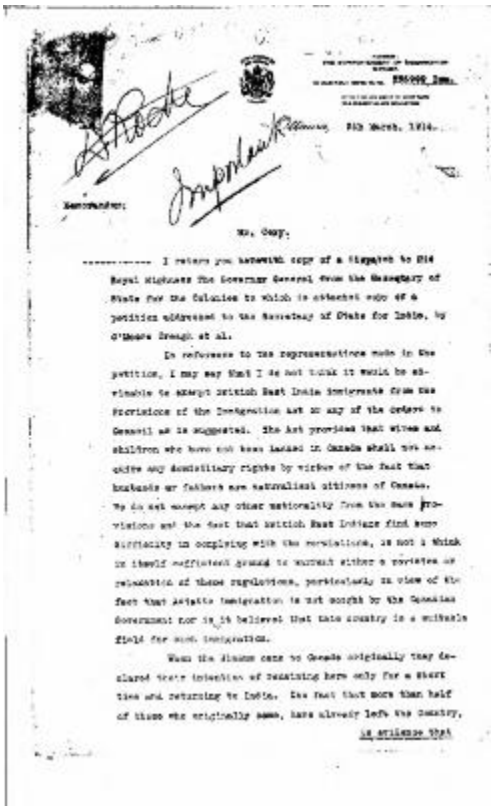
SOUTH ASIAN
CANADIAN
DIGITAL ARCHIVE

[William D. Scott, Superintendent of Immigration, to William W. Cory, Deputy Minister of the Interior]



Mr. Cory,

I return you herewith copy of a telegram to His Royal Highness the Governor General from the Secretary of State for the Colonies to which is attached copy of a petition addressed to the Secretary of State for India, by O'Meara Dreagh et al.

In reference to the representations made in the petition, I may say that I do not think it would be advisable to exempt British East Indian immigrants from the provisions of the Immigration Act or any of the orders in Council as is suggested. The Act provides that wives and children who have not been landed in Canada shall not acquire any domiciliary rights by virtue of the fact that husbands or fathers are naturalized citizens of Canada. We do not exempt any other nationality from the same provisions and the fact that British East Indians find some difficulty in complying with the regulations, is not I think in itself sufficient ground to warrant either a revision or relaxation of those regulations, particularly in view of the fact that Asiatic immigration is not sought by the Canadian Government nor is it believed that this country is a suitable field for such immigration.

When the Sikhs came to Canada originally they declared their intention of remaining here only for a short time and returning to India. The fact that more than half of those who originally came, have already left the country, is evidence that

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ARTIST
Cory, William W.; Scott, William D., 1861-1925