

104. W.C. - Hopkins & W.W. Cony

CONFIDENTIAL.

WCH/N.

Vancouver, B.C. 27th., December, 1912.

Sir,

Referring to my letter of the 16th. ultimo regarding the intention of the Hindu leaders in Vancouver to send four representatives of their community to England, I beg to report that for the past two or three Sundays meetings have been held in the Sikh Temples in both this City and in Victoria, B. C., and the question of appointing the delegates has been very fully gone into. A very strong opposition was made against the nomination of Teja Singh, Dr. Sunder Singh, and Rajah Singh as representatives. However, after some deliberation and adjournments, the matter now stands as follows: the committee has selected Bhag Singh, Balwant Singh, Teja Singh, and Dr. Sunder Singh, as a compromise between the illiterate and literate candidates. Rajah Singh refused to consider his appointment as a delegate, maintaining that he once had been sufficiently submissive to appeal to the English people, and that on principle he would not be a delegate to interview any more English people; but would lay his case before his own people in India.

A sum of \$1,500.00 has already been raised, and a further amount promised, to defray the expenses of the delegation. It is not quite decided whether the representatives will first call on the Premier of Canada, and in the event of a failure to

secure any concession from him, to proceed to London to interview Lord Crewe, the Secretary of State for India; however, the date of their departure is not yet fixed, but it is expected they will leave early in the coming year. In all probability I shall be here when the Delegation leaves; but, in any case, I shall so arrange it that Mr. Reid will advise you by wire immediately on the departure of these people.

It may happen - although there is no definite decision on the point - that if their mission fails in England, the whole party will proceed to India; but, this is merely a suggestion; still, the outcome of their undertaking may result in the adoption of this latter course.

G. D. Kumar returned to Vancouver on the 22nd. inst., after an extensive trip South as far as San Francisco. During his tour he visited Berkeley, Sacramento, Chico, Stockton, and Oakland, Cal., returning by way of Portland, Oregon.

With respect to Dr. Sunder Singh, at present at Victoria B.C., I would draw your attention to the fact that this man has, within the last four or five months, been very active in endeavouring to obtain subscriptions to enable him and one Kartar Singh, to import from India a press with the necessary equipment for starting a newspaper in Victoria, printed in "Goormookhi", the

common language of these people in Canada. It is his intention to publish the "Sansar" and the "Aryan" in this tongue.

Mr. H. H. Stevens, our Local Member of Parliament, has apparently roused the ire of this community by his stand in the matter of the Hindu Immigration question, with the result that he has received anonymous letters from them, threatening dire calamity should he not withdraw from his present attitude: Mr. Stevens has promised to shew me these communications when able

Your obedient servant,

Sd. W. W. Cory

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

DEPUTY MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR,

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