70
CN
I
ZA62C
R45

REPORT

OF THE

ROYAL COMMISSION

APPOINTED TO INQUIRE INTO THE METHODS BY WHICH

ORIENTAL LABOURERS HAVE BEEN INDUCED TO COME TO CANADA

W. L. MACKENZIE KING, C.M.G.,

Commissioner.

OTTAWA
GOVERNMENT PRINTING BUREAU
1908

HX
F50
C5
C18
1908

REPORT

OF THE

ROYAL COMMISSION

APPOINTED TO INQUIRE INTO THE METHODS BY WHICH

ORIENTAL LABOURERS HAVE BEEN INDUCED TO COME TO CANADA

W. L. MACKENZIE KING, C.M.G.,

Commissioner.

OTTAWA
GOVERNMENT PRINTING BUREAU
1908

3827—1

CONTENTS.

Page.

Order in Council *re* appointment of commission.. 7

Text of commission.. 9

Letter from commissioner transmitting report.... 11

Commissioner's Report—Introductory chapter.. 13

Part I.—Immigration from Japan.. 17

Part II.—Immigration from China 69

Part III.—Immigration from India 75

Conclusion 81

ROYAL COMMISSION.

Commissioner:

W. L. MACKENZIE KING, L.L.B., C.M.G.,
Deputy Minister of Labour.

Secretary:

FRANCIS W. GIDDENS,
Department of Labour.

Counsel for Province of British Columbia:

CHARLES WILSON, K.C.

Counsel for City of Vancouver:

GEORGE R. COWAN, K.C.

Stenographer:

F. EVANS.

Interpreters:

(Chinese) YIP ON.

(East Indian) C. J. BROOKE,
W. P. SNEE,

(Japanese) T. I. NAGAO.

EXTRACT FROM A REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL, APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL ON THE 5TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 1907.

On a Memorandum dated 4th October, 1907, from the Secretary of State, recommending ,in view of the recent unfortunate occurrence which have taken place in British Columbia as a result of a largely increased influx of Oriental labourers into that province, that Mr. W. L. Mackenzie King, C.M.G., Deputy Minister of Labour, be appointed a Commissioner under the Inquiries Act, Chapter 104 of the Revised Statutes of Canada, to conduct an inquiry into the methods by which the said Oriental labourers have been induced to emigrate to Canada during the present year.

The Committee submit the same for approval.

RODOLPHE BOUDREAU,
Clerk of the Privy Council.

The Honourable
The Secretary of State.

COMMISSION

APPOINTING WILLIAM LYON MACKENZIE KING, C.M.G., COMMISSIONER TO INVESTIGATE AND REPORT UPON THE METHODS BY WHICH ORIENTAL LABOURERS HAVE BEEN INDUCED TO EMIGRATE TO CANADA.

CANADA.

GREY. [Seal.]

EDWARD THE SEVENTH, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India.

To all to whom these presents shall come, or to whom the same may in anywise concern:

GREETING.

WHEREAS in and by an order of our Governor General in Council bearing date the fifth day of November in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seven (a copy of which is annexed) provision has been made for an inquiry by our Commissioner therein and hereinafter named into the methods by which Oriental labourers have been induced to emigrate to Canada during the present year.

NOW KNOW YE that by and with the advice of Our Privy Council for Canada, We do by these Presents nominate, constitute and appoint William Lyon Mackenzie King, C.M.G., of the City of Ottawa, in the Province of Ontario, Deputy Minister of Labour, to be Our Commissioner to conduct such inquiry.

To have, hold, exercise and enjoy the said office, place and trust unto the said William Lyon Mackenzie King, together with the rights, powers, privileges and emoluments unto the said office, place and trust of right and by law appertaining during Our pleasure.

AND WE DO HEREBY under the authority of Part I. of the Inquiries Act, Chapter 104, Revised Statutes, 1906, confer upon Our said Commissioner, the power of summoning before him any witness and of requiring them to give evidence on oath or on solemn affirmation, if they are persons entitled to affirm in civil matters, orally or in writing, and to produce such documents and things as Our said Commissioner shall deem requisite to the full investigation of the matters into which he is hereby appointed to examine.

AND WE DO HEREBY require and direct Our said Commissioner to report to Our Governor General in Council the result of the investigation, together with the evidence taken before him and any opinion he may see fit to express thereon.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent and the Great Seal of Canada to be hereunto affixed:—

WITNESS: Our Right Trusty and Right Well-Beloved Cousin, the Right Honourable Sir Albert Henry George, Earl Grey, Viscount Howick, Baron Grey of Howick, in the County of Northumberland, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom and a Baronet; Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, &c., &c., Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Our Dominion of Canada.

At our Government House, in the City of Ottawa, this fifth day of November, in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seven, and in the seventh year of Our reign.

By Command,

(Sgd.) P. PELLETIER,
Acting Under Secretary of State.

(Sgd.) E. L. NEWCOMBE,
Deputy Minister of Justice.

To His Excellency

The Governor General in Council:

THE undersigned, having been appointed by Royal Commission, dated the fifth day of November, 1907, to inquire into the methods by which Oriental labourers have been induced to come to Canada within the past year, has the honour to submit herewith a report containing the proceedings of the commission and the results of his investigation, together with the evidence taken before him and such opinions as he has deemed it desirable to express thereon, pursuant to the directions of the commission.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. L. MACKENZIE KING,

Commissioner.

Ottawa, July 11, 1908.

Part I. of this report, relating to *The Immigration from Japan,* was presented during the month of January. Owing to important official duties which necessitated the commissioner's absence from Ottawa for nearly four months, it was not possible until July to complete the balance of the report, which relates, in Part II., to *The Immigration from China,* and in Part III., to *The Immigration from India.*

INTRODUCTORY.

Proceedings of Commission—Witnesses examined—Province of British Columbia and City of Vancouver represented by Counsel—Asiatic Exclusion League also represented—Searching nature of inquiry—Extent of evidence—Main divisions of report—Statistical table setting forth, by nationalities, extent of immigration of Orientals.

THE notification of my appointment as commissioner was received by wire at Vancouver on the fifth day of November, at which date I was engaged under Royal Commission in an inquiry into the losses and damages sustained by the Japanese population resident in Vancouver on the occasion of the anti-Asiatic riots during the month of September. The hearing of evidence in connection with that inquiry having been completed on the day of receipt of this notification, the remainder of the week was occupied in assessing the damages under the first commission, and on Monday, the eleventh of November, I entered upon the duties of the present commission. From that date sittings of the commission were held continuously until Saturday, the thirteenth of November, during which time one hundred and one witnesses in all were examined, including twenty-seven Japanese, fifteen Hindus, thirty-five Chinese, and twenty-four other persons. Sessions were conducted in both the cities of Vancouver and Victoria. Besides the sittings held in the regular places of meeting, witnesses were also examined at the detention shed, Vancouver, the freight shed at Victoria, and on board the steamships *Princess Victoria* and *Kumeric*. A number of the immigrants on the latter ship were examined on their arrival from the Orient, and before communication had been held by them with any persons on this side.

Personal visits were also paid to the offices of the Nippon Supply Company and the several employment agencies in the city of Vancouver; and interviews had with a large number of persons representing various interests and different points of view. By means of this personal investigation, the commission obtained a mass of valuable documentary evidence which otherwise would not have been disclosed. The fact that many of the documents had to be translated and were required for immediate use in the examination of witnesses and that the services of interpreters were necessary, rendered the duties more onerous than they otherwise would have been, and occasioned, in order that the inquiry might be prosecuted with every diligence, the carrying on of the work of the commission at night as well as by day. In this connection, I desire to record my appreciation of the splendid assistance rendered by Mr. F. W. Giddens, the secretary of the commission, but for whose faithful and efficient service the inquiry would have been materially prolonged.

Mr. Charles W. Wilson, K.C., ex-Attorney General of the province of British Columbia, appeared before the Commission on behalf of the government of that province, and Mr. George R. Cowan, city solicitor, appeared on behalf of the city of Vancouver.

Mr. Harry Cowan was appointed by the Asiatic Exclusion League of Vancouver to appear before the commission on behalf of the League. Mr. Cowan was present at all the sittings of the commission and assisted counsel, but did not take part in the examination of witnesses.

The direct examination of the witnesses was conducted by the Commissioner, the witnesses being also examined by counsel for the government of British Columbia and counsel for the city of Vancouver, who were accorded the right of questioning all witnesses and of having any persons called whom they desired to have appear before the commission.

I made it plain at the outset of the inquiry that it was my desire to make the investigation as thorough and searching as possible, and that to this end I would welcome suggestions and assistance from any source. The presence of able counsel on behalf of the province of British Columbia and the municipality of Vancouver warrants me in asserting that no phase of the subject, which, by reason of local conditions or other considerations may have been of special significance to either the province or the city, failed of due publicity.

It is quite true that the nature of the inquiry being what it was, there might have been a seeming justification in increasing considerably the number of witnesses and somewhat prolonging the investigation. As it is, the extended evidence covers over eight hundred typewritten foolscap pages, exclusive of exhibits. Counsel for the province of British Columbia agreed on the last day of the inquiry that the calling of additional witnesses was unnecessary. I am convinced that such further evidence as might have been obtained would have served only to corroborate the facts as disclosed, and that, having regard for economy of time and money, an important consideration in the discharge of public business, the calling of additional witnesses would not have been justified.

The subject of inquiry being the methods by which Oriental labourers have been induced to come to Canada during the past year, it may further an understanding of the problem if this report is divided into three parts dealing respectively with the immigration from Japan, India, and China, and if the detailed analysis of the causes which have brought about this immigration is preceded by a statement setting forth the extent of the immigration from the beginning of the year up to the beginning of the month in which the commission was issued The following table, based upon the evidence given before the commission by Dr. Munro, medical inspector and immigration agent at Vancouver; Dr. G. L. Milne, medical inspector and immigration agent at Victoria; Mr. Roff, assistant to Dr. Milne at Victoria, and statistics furnished by courtesy of the officials of the Interior Department at Ottawa, will afford this information in the most concise and convenient form.

TABLE showing arrivals of Orientals at Canadian Ports on the Pacific Coast during ten months ending October 31, 1907.

Month.	JAPANESE.		CHINESE.		HINDUS.		TOTAL BY PORTS OF ARRIVAL.		Grand Total by Months.
	Vancouver.	Victoria.	Vancouver.	Victoria.	Vancouver.	Victoria.	Vancouver.	Victoria.	
January	2	273	4	2	0	21	6	296	302
February	57	277	15	5	11	0	83	282	365
March	136	239	15	0	44	6	195	245	440
April	447	310	52	38	47	51	546	399	945
May	154	525	61	51	84	6	299	582	881
June	43	784	794	44	102	6	239	834	1,073
July	1,483	841	102	65	37	17	1,622	923	2,545
August	308	386	119	72	145	15	572	473	1,045
September	327	981	104	59	901	0	1,332	1,040	2,372
October	4	548	218	146	517	39	739	733	1,472
Total by ports of arrival.	2,961	5,164	784	482	1,888	161	5,633	5,807	11,440
Total by Nationalities ..	8,125		1,266		2,047		11,440		

From the above table it will be seen that during the ten months ending October, 1907, the steamships of the Pacific brought to our shores in all 11,440 Orientals, of whom 8,125 were Japanese, 2,047 Hindus and 1,266 Chinese.* These are the totals. They embrace all who were brought, including such as were not allowed to land, some who were subsequently deported, some who were former residents, and those who came *via* Canada and gained admission later into the United States. These totals are, of course, greatly in excess of the number of actual immigrants, and should not be confounded with them.

It is the purpose of this report to disclose what number of those who have been permitted to land have remained in Canada, and what were the motives and the methods by which they were induced to come to this country.

*No mention is made in this report of immigrants from the Orient other than such as have landed at ports on the Pacific ocean.

I.—THE REGULATION OF EMIGRATION IN JAPAN.

Some important considerations—System of registration in Japan—Emigration policy—Consent of Foreign Office a necessary preliminary to emigration—Emigration companies, how controlled—How passports are granted—The supervision exercised by the authorities—Extent of Japanese government's responsibility for recent emigration to Canada.

IN shaping the destiny of the future Empire of Japan her statesmen have not hesitated to incorporate in their policy the ideas and practices which have made for national greatness and expansion among the nations of the world. The example of Germany is apparent in Japan's military organization; England's example in her navy; that of the United States in her commerce. Permeating all is a spirit of intense patriotism, a devotion to emperor and country, so profound as to constitute a religion. An appreciation of this is essential to an understanding of the question of emigration from Japan, as it affects, not only those who determine and are controlled by its policy, but the countries to which Japanese emigrants may come. It accounts for the extent and effectiveness of regulation in Japan, and helps to explain the ready submission accorded the central authority, upon which the successful working of Japan's whole emigration policy so completely depends. We can neither appreciate the causes which have induced the emigration of the past year, its significance, the means by which it has been carried out, or the determining factors in its restriction, without a glance at this system of control.

Japan is divided, for purposes of its administration, into prefectures, presided over by governors appointed at Tokio; the cities, towns and villages are identified with the prefecture to which they belong. In every municipality a registry of families is kept. As births, marriages and deaths occur, the family register is altered accordingly, new entries are made, the nature of the happening recorded. If a daughter marries, the fact is shown on the register of her family; it is also entered on the register of her husband's family. If a resident of a village in one prefecture decides to live in another, he takes with him a certified copy of the family record, which is entered on the register of the village to which he goes. Thus, with the record of each individual is bound up the record of his family connection Every Japanese is supposed to carry a seal, an impression of which is kept in the record office. The placing of this seal, the genuineness of which has been attested by certificate, on any document constitutes a declaration the most sacred a man can make. If lost, the fact must be immediately reported and a new seal procured and registered; to be without a seal may occasion serious consequences.

Emigration from Japan is regulated by a general Act which gives the government power to issue instructions from time to time as to the classes of persons who may be permitted to emigrate, and under what conditions this emigration will be allowed.

These instructions are issued to the governors of the several prefectures into which Japan is divided. Under this policy emigration from Japan can take place only with the consent of the government, which consent is signified by the Foreign Office issuing a passport. Without the permission of the Foreign Office no one can obtain a passport; without a passport no one can emigrate.

Emigration may take place upon the initiative of individuals desirous of going to another country, or at the instance of emigration companies formed for the purpose of promoting emigration. All emigration companies are under the supervision and control of the government; they are obliged to carry on their business in conformity with the Emigration Act and instructions issued by the government, and to give security in the nature of bonds that their duties will be properly discharged and the obligations placed upon them duly met. These companies are composed in large part of men of influence and financial strentgh in Japan. Among the number are members of the Diet. The companies have varied in size and number from time to time. During the past year there appear to have been six or eight of importance, though the number was reduced considerably during the last months of the year by the consolidation of several of the smaller concerns, in consequence of increased obligations imposed by the government.

If application is made to the government for a passport by an individual, it must be accompanied by a certified copy of the register record. The Foreign Office, on receipt of the application, causes such inquiries to be made concerning the applicant as are deemed expedient. The application is sent to the local police authorities for their certificate, and if, after this examination, the Foreign Office is satisfied that all requirements have been met and that it is proper to grant a passport, one is issued. Where emigrants are being sent out by an emigration company, the company makes application to the Foreign Office for permission to send out a certain number, setting forth in its application wherein the requirements of the Act have been complied with; if its application is approved, the government issues instructions to the governors of certain prefectures to allow a certain number of men to go from their prefectures, and the agents of the companies visit the districts named and procure the emigrants. Every person desirous of emigrating through the agency of a company is required, as in the case of individuals making application, to produce a certified copy of the register, which is sent to the Foreign Office and submitted for examination and approval before the passports are issued. Individuals applying for passports on their own initiative have to produce bondsmen who are prepared to guarantee that the requirements of the Emigration Act will be complied with. Where sent out by companies, the companies have to deposit the necessary security in the shape of a cash bond with the government, while they in turn secure themselves by having the emigrant obtain securities among his relatives and friends. For their services the emigration companies are allowed to charge a prescribed commission, fom 20 to 25 yen being a customary amount.

Under this system the Foreign Office has a record of all persons who leave the country; if they be persons who are liable for military service, and every Japanese male who fulfils certain physical requirements, is expected to serve from two to three years in the army and is liable to be called upon for service at any time between the ages of 21 and 31, it is possible to procure their return by a notification to the bonds-

men or to the company under which they have emigrated; it is possible, too, to ensure within limits that no Japanese going abroad is likely to become a public charge on the country to which he has been allowed to emigrate. Emigration companies undertake, as a part of their obligation, to bring back, when required, such emigrants as they may send out. Each passport is separately numbered; it bears the signature and seal of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the signature and seal of the person in whose name it has been issued, and is made of a paper specially prepared for the purpose. The passports are examined by the marine police, who place their certificate upon them before the emigrants leave the port. To attempt to leave without a passport or to present a fraudulent passport is an offence. A passport cannot be used more than once, nor can it, without the possibility of immediate detection, be presented by a person other than him for whom it is intended. The passport names the country to which it entitles its holder to emigrate.

Japanese emigration to Canada is made up of Japanese coming to Canada direct from Japan, or Japanese coming to this country from countries lying beyond the jurisdiction of Japan. In the case of the former, the emigrants have been destined for either Canada or the United States, and, from the above account, it would appear they have come in the numbers they have with the knowledge, and, it is to be presumed, in accordance with the policy of the Japanese government. In the case of the latter, they have come without the authority of the Japanese government and presumably against its desires. The presumption in each of these cases is borne out by the evidence taken before the commission.

II.—THE IMMIGRATION OF PREVIOUS YEARS.

Japanese population in Canada in 1901—Increase of following years—Probable average during 1902-4, inclusive—Arrivals during 1905-6, inclusive—Probable number at beginning of 1907—This number exceeded during the months following—Cause of the unrest explained.

BEFORE entering upon a detailed account of the emigration of the past year, it may be well to glance for a moment at the emigration of previous years; as it is in the light of past numbers that the significance of present increases may be read, and are to be, in part, explained.

Table XVI. of the Census of 1901 gives the total immigrant Japanese population in Canada as 4,674, of which numbers 4,515 were in British Columbia. Practically all would be adult males of the labouring classes. The branch of the Dominion Immigration Department was not opened at Vancouver or Victoria till July, 1904, and there are unfortunately therefore no statistical records of the immigation from January, 1901, to July, 1904. There are sufficient grounds, however, for believing that during that period the total number of immigrants from Japan was small.

The Commission of 1902 in its résumé on the subject of Japanese immigration to Canada, says:—

'The emigration of Japanese has for the present practically ceased, only 56 having arrived at Canadian ports in the last six months of 1901. This is doubtless owing to instructions given the local authorities by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs for Japan, instructing them to prohibit entirely the emigration of Japanese labourers destined for Canada or the United States. The commission was favoured by a copy of these instructions through the Japanese Consul at Vancouver, which is as follows:—

'"DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
TOKIO, August 2, 1900.

"'To the Governors of the Prefectures:

'"You are hereby instructed to prohibit entirely the emigration of Japanese labourers for the Dominion of Canada or for the United States.

'"VISCOUNT AOKI,
'"Minister of Foreign Affairs."

The total immigration for the fiscal year 1904-5, the first year during which a record was kept by the Immigration Department, was 354. It is probable therefore that the numbers per annum during the years 1902 to 1904, inclusive, did not average 250 per annum. This is borne out by the evidence of Mr. Gotoh, the largest contractor of Japanese labour in Vancouver, during those years. Mr. Gotoh found from 1900 to 1906 that it was increasingly difficult to obtain the supply of Japanese labour which his contracts called for. In his evidence he stated that during 1902-3 he furnished about 600 labourers to the Canadian Pacific Railway, during 1903-4 about 400, during 1904-5 not more than 200, and during 1905-6 only 170. Though his contracts called

for a larger number, he was unable to obtain them in the country. The figures of the Immigration Department do not distinguish in the list of arrivals reported as immigrants, the numbers of Japanese who have previously resided in Canada. This number has become considerable of late. Many of the Japanese who are engaged in the fishing industry go back to Japan at the end of one season, returning at the beginning of a new one. Mr. Morikawa, the Japanese Consul at Vancouver, informs me that during the past year (1907) he issued 1,568 certificates to Japanese returning to Japan. It is probable that most of these intended to return to Canada, the certificates being to enable them to secure passports whenever they decided to do so. In estimating the figures of the last few years, it must be borne in mind, therefore, that they do not relate to new arrivals only, but include an increasingly large proportion of returning Japanese.

During the fiscal year 1905-6 there were, including new arrivals and returning immigrants, 1,922 immigrants in all, and during the nine months (July to March) of the fiscal year 1906-7, 2,042; of this latter number 607 came during the months of January to March, inclusive, which would leave 1,435 for the last six months of 1906.

On a calculation such as the foregoing, without making any allowance for the number of Japanese who should properly be classed as former residents, or for such of the number as may have gone to the United States, returned permanently to Japan, or died in this country, it would appear that between 4,000 and 4,500 would represent more than could possibly have come to Canada from the time of the taking of the census of 1901, up to January, 1907. Speaking of emigration to the United States, Mr. W. M. Nice, a commissioner appointed by the United States government in 1899 to inquire into Japanese immigration, says in his report: 'I am of the opinion, through personal observation, that 90 per cent of the (Japanese) emigrants to Canada find their way to the United States.' Without assuming any such proportion, but having regard only for conditions such as are generally known to exist and which it is reasonable to take note of in an estimate of this kind, it would appear that the total increase in the Japanese immigration to Canada during that period did not reach 3,000. Supposing, however, that 3,000 Japanese became residents of the province of British Columbia during this time, by adding this number to the total in the province at the time of the last census—which on the assumption that all Japanese included in the census of 1901 had remained in the province—it would appear that the total number of Japanese in British Columbia at the beginning of 1907 would have been about 7,500. I am inclined to think that the total number was considerably less than this.

Assuming, however, that 7,500 was the total Japanese population at the beginning of the year, it is not a matter of surprise that with the arrival at their shores of 8,125 Japanese in the ten months following, the people of British Columbia and more especially the residents of Vancouver, should have experienced some concern, and that as vessel after vessel landed an ever-increasing number, until in fewer months than it had taken years to bring the Japanese population of British Columbia to what it was, this total was exceeded by new arrivals, that consternation should have been felt in many quarters. If anything more were needed to occasion unrest, it was to be found in the simultaneous arrival from the Orient of Hindus by the hundreds and Chinese in larger numbers than those of immediately preceding years. It was an alarm at numbers, and the cry of a white Canada was raised.

III.—THE IMMIGRATION OF 1907.

Immigrants rejected—Immigrants admitted to the United States—Immigrants admitted to Canada—Sources of Immigration Hawaiian Islands—Mexico—Japan—Immigrants sent out by emigration companies—Large immigration due to exceptional causes—Classification of immigrants—Probable numbers of respective classes—Descriptive table giving detailed classification of Japanese arrivals at Canadian ports.

OF the 8,125 Japanese immigrants who arrived at Canadian ports during the ten months, January to October, 1907, inclusive, 77 were refused admission to either the United States or Canada, and were sent back to Japan at the expense of the vessels which had brought them here. Of the 8,048 who were allowed to land, 3,619 or 45 per cent, held passports for the United States and were admitted by the United States officials to that country.

Deducting from the total number of Japanese arrivals those who were admitted to the United States, and the number of those who crossed the Pacific, but who were refused admission to either Canada or the United States, a total of 4,429 remains to be accounted for as the number of Japanese who came to Canada during the ten months mentioned. Of this number 2,779 came from the Hawaiian Islands and 9 from Mexico, leaving 1,641 who came to Canada direct from Japan. Of the immigrants direct from Japan, 900 in round numbers were sent out by the Tokio Emigration Company at Yokohama at the instance of the Canadian Nippon Supply Company at Vancouver in accordance with an arrangement effected between these two companies. Hence, of the 4,429 Japanese comprising th e total numbers of those admitted to Canada, other than such as were *in transit to* the United States, 3,679 or 83 per cent of the whole, are accounted for by those who came to Canada from the Hawaiian Island and those sent out by the Tokio Emigration Company. Had emigration from these combined sources, each of which was exceptional in its nature, and due to causes explained in detail in this report, been eliminated; had, in other words, the immigration from Japan followed the channels of previous years, the total number of Japanese arrivals during this period would not have exceeded 750, of which total the numbers representing immigrants proper would be considerably less.

Owing to the absence of any classified statistics, it is impossible to give, save in a general way, such figures as will represent, with any degree of accuracy, the classes of which this 750 is composed. Nine of this number came from Mexico; of the remaining 741 the numbers are made up of:—

(1) such immigrants as held passports for the United States, but were refused admission to that country by the American officials, but who were, notwithstanding, allowed to remain in Canada;

(2) relatives of Japanese residents in Canada, to whom passports were issued by the Foreign Office in Japan on the presentation of certificates from the Japanese consul at Vancouver;

(3) friends of Japanese residents in Canada to whom passports were issued by the Foreign Office in Japan on the presentation of certificates from the Japanese consul at Vancouver, setting forth that on their arrival in Canada immediate employment was guaranteed them by the Japanese who had asked that permission be given them to come;

(4) Japanese formerly resident in Canada, who had obtained from the Japanese consul at Vancouver certificates entitling them to passports or return;

(5) all other Japanese, whether saloon or second-class passengers, including officials, merchants, travellers and students.

It is quite clear that of these several classes, Japanese belonging to the last two cannot properly be entered as immigrants at all, and those belonging to the first class, though allowed to remain in Canada, were never intended by the Japanese authorities as immigrants for this country. As nearly as can be estimated, those belonging to the first class number 151; of the fourth and fifth classes it is impossible to say exactly what the numbers are. That the numbers belonging to class (4) are considerable, and to class (5) comparatively few is pretty generally admitted.

Mr. Morikawa informs me that the total number of certificates issued during the whole year 1907 to relatives of residents in Canada was 250, and that the number to friends of relatives was 108. Of classes (2) and (3) therefore, the total number who could possibly have come to Canada during 1907 could not have exceeded 358 during the whole year, assuming that all to whom certificates were granted were able to obtain passports and to avail themselves of them. Dr. Munro, the medical inspector and immigration agent at Vancouver, states that of the Japanese who have come to Canada during the past year, 95 per cent were immigrant labourers who came steerage. The remaining 5 per cent would embrace all those in class (5) and possibly a few in some of the other classes. In this group would be included a number of merchants and other persons who had been former residents of this country, and who were returning to Canada; also, travellers or Japanese going to other countries, but all told on this estimate the 5 per cent would constitute about 225 persons. None of these persons, it is safe to say, could be classed as immigrants. If we deduct those Japanese who were not intended for this country from the 741 Japanese who represent the numbers who have come to Canada, exclusive of the emigrants from Hawaii and Mexico and the labourers sent out by the Tokio Emigration Company, we have left a total of 590, which number would include all returning Japanese, all persons belonging to class (5) and all persons included in classes (3) and (4).

That 300 is a conservative estimate of the number of former Japanese residents will be more than borne out by the general opinion of those who are in a position to speak as to the large numbers of Japanese fishermen who return to Japan at the close of one season to come out at the beginning of the next, to make mention of other classes. If, of the remainder of arrivals, we estimate at 100 the total number of persons under class (5) other than such as are Japanese formerly resident in this country, that is to say, all other merchants, officers, students and travellers, we shall have left only 190 as representing the numbers who have come out under classes (2) and (3), and which alone with the immigrants from Hawaii, Mexico, the Tokio Emigration Company, and United States rejections are entitled to be properly classed as such.

The following statistical table may serve as a further classification of the Japanese arrivals, classified according to the sources from whence they came, and the classes to which they respectively belong.

CLASSIFICATION of Japanese Arrivals at Canadian Ports during the ten months ending October, 1907.

Total arrivals, 8,125.

- (i) rejected 77
- (ii) admitted to United States. 3,619
- (iii) remaining in Canada..... 4,429

  - (i) from Hawaiian Islands 2,779
  - (ii) from Mexico.. 9
  - (iii) from Japan direct..... 1,641

    - (i) under agreement with Tokyo Emigration Company..... 900
    - (ii) immigrants to United States rejected by United States officers and allowed to remain in Canada..... 151
    - (iii) persons formerly residents in Canada (approx.)... 300
    - (iv) other classes..... 290

      - (i) merchants, officers, students and travellers (approx.)... 100
      - (ii) relatives or friends of Japanese in Canada, admitted on certificates of Japanese Consul (approx.)..... 190

IV.—THE TOKIO EMIGRATION COMPANY AND THE CANADIAN NIPPON SUPPLY COMPANY.

Japanese on railroads—Numbers on the Canadian Pacific Railway—Methods on United States railways—Similar methods introduced into Canada—Mr. Gotoh and his contracts—Objects of the Canadian Nippon Supply Company—Indifference as to Company's business—Conflicting testimony of shareholders—The personnel of the Company—Denial of any connection with Japanese emigration companies—Connection admitted—The Company's books and records examined—Prospects of promoters of Company—Concerning the securing of labourers from Japan—Japanese Government makes an exception which permits of labourers coming to Canada—Possible explanations—Important considerations in connection with exception made—Negotiations in Japan by directors of Canadian Nippon Supply Company—Policy of restriction encountered—Restriction overcome—Letter containing instructions issued by Japanese Government concerning emigration to Canada—Particulars as to same—Gotoh's evidence re instructions—Time at which exception re contract labourers granted—Consequent activity of Emigration Companies in Japan—Monopoly effected on both sides of Pacific—Secret understanding between Emigration Companies in Japan—How effected—Branch office of Canadian Nippon Supply Company opened in Yokohama—Canadian branches—The first shipment of labourers from Japan—Successive shipments of labourers—Statistical tables showing numbers of labourers sent out—Passports granted—Their respective occupations in Japan—Classification of labourers in employ of Canadian Nippon Supply Company—Company's method of handling labourers—Supervision of Company's business by Japanese Consulate—The distribution of labourers—The Canadian Pacific Railway Company contract—The Wellington Colliery Company contract.

IN reference to the employment of Japanese in British Columbia the report of the Royal Commission of 1902 has the following:—'On arriving, the Japanese immigrant seeks work wherever unskilled labour is employed, as domestic servants, farm labourers, in getting out shingle bolts, wood, cordwood, and in the mines to a limited extent. They are also employed on the railways, in sawmills, shingle mills, boat building, and large numbers engage in fishing during the season. A few are employed as tailors and in other trades. . . . . The competition is keenly felt in the fisheries, in the sawmills, and in getting out wood, shingle bolts and mining timber, in boat building and to a less extent in mines and railways. . . . . They work under contract much as the Chinese do and are hired by the boss Japanese who takes the contract. He is often a merchant or a regular contractor, and makes his profits chiefly on the supplies furnished the men.'

In referring elsewhere more particularly to the employment of Japanese on railways the report says:—'Japanese are employed by the Canadian Pacific Railway in British Columbia to a limited extent. The number varies in different seasons of the

year; 70 are employed steadily, 30 as section men and 40 on extra gang work. At certain seasons of the year as many as 300 more are employed. Nearly 5,000 men are employed in this division. It is plain that the numbers employed on the Canadian Pacific Railway in comparison with the whole number of employees on the Western Division is small. This was the situation in 1901 at the time the report of the Commission was written. During the past year the number of Japanese employed under contract for the Canadian Pacific Railway was 1,130. In addition to this number, 270 were employed by contractors doing construction or clearing work for the Canadian Pacific Railway. It is in the employment of Japanese labour on railway work that we find the beginnings of what has led to the importation of most of the labourers who have been brought to Canada by the Canadian Nippon Supply Company.

The employing of Japanese labourers on railways has been a common practice among the railways of the Western States during recent years. The labour has been furnished to the railways by Japanese contractors, who have relieved the companies of any difficulties in its direction or management. The companies make their agreement for the supply of a certain amount of labour with the Japanese contractors, pay the contractors direct for the labour supplied, and the contractors make their own agreement with the men, charging a commission for the employment secured and supplies furnished.

Among the Japanese labour contractors who had had a wide experience in supplying labour to the American railroads was Mr. S. Gotoh, of whom mention has already been made in this report. He had furnished men to the Oregon Short Line, the Union Pacific, the Southern Pacific, and the Northern Pacific. In 1901 he came from Tacoma to Vancouver and established a connection with the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. He succeeded in effecting an agreement with that company similar to the agreements between the railway companies and Japanese contractors across the line. He opened an employment agency in Vancouver, and in addition to his railway contract, obtained contracts to supply other industries with men, in particular some of the sawmills and logging camps in British Columbia. Mr. Gotoh is a man of rather exceptional ability and indefatigable industry. He says he found it more difficult to procure Japanese labourers in Canada than in the United States, and that it became increasingly difficult up to the beginning of last year; nevertheless his superior capacity enabled him to ultimately obtain from the Canadian Pacific Railway Company an agreement to be the sole contractor through whom its Japanese labour would be supplied, provided he could furnish the labour in the quantities required. It does not appear that Mr. Gotoh, so long as he carried on his business as an individual, made any arrangements with any parties in Japan to send labour to this country; he states most emphatically that he did not, that owing to the emigration regulations of Japan it would have been of no avail to him to have attempted to do so; nor does it appear, notwithstanding the fact that one or two emigration companies in Japan were reported to have had agents in Canada prior to the beginning of 1907, that between 1900 and January, 1907, these parties were in any way responsible for the Japanese immigrants who came to this country. Mr. Gotoh's labour was supplied entirely from among the number of resident Japanese, together with some who were brought on occasions from the United States. It was owing to this that he found it so difficult to procure labour

in the quantities required, and that from being unable to fulfil their obligations, he lost money on some of the contracts he had entered into. He thinks the explanation of his losses lay in the preference of his fellow countrymen resident in Canada for fishing rather than construction work on railways, and in the absence during these years of arrivals of labourers in any appreciable numbers from Japan. It was during his period of straightened circumstances that Mr. Gotoh became associated with Mr. Yoshy, a member of the Japanese Consulate at Vancouver, which association it was that led subsequently to the formation of the Canadian Nippon Supply Company.

The memorandum and articles of association of the Canadian Nippon Supply Company, Limited, as drawn under 'The Companies Act, 1897' and amending Acts. were signed on December 17, 1906. In this memorandum the objects for which the company is established are set forth at length. They include the building, constructing and improving of railroads, highways and roads; the acquiring of timber lands, saw-mills and shingle mills; the cutting and manufacture of lumber and shingles; the taking of contracts of every kind and description, including contracts for the furnishing of labour, and the buying and selling of goods, wares and merchandise of all kinds for purposes of wholesale and retail business therein. The capital of the company fixed at $100,000, divided into 1,000 shares of one hundred dollars each. The names and description of the subscribers who, in pursuance of the memorandum of association, are formed into the company, are given, respectively, as Charles Gardiner Johnson, ship broker; Frederick Yoshy, merchant; Saori Gotoh, contractor; William Washington Boultbee, broker; and Motoji Kodama, contractor, all of Vancouver.

For a responsible corporation, supposed to be conducting an important business, the object of which, among other things, was the supplying of labour to contractors and the developing of an import and export trade, there was in the testimony they gave before the commission a curious indifference and lack of knowledge in regard to the nature and extent of the company's transactions on the part of its principal officers, even as to their own connection with its affairs. Mr. Gardiner Johnson admitted that he was a shareholder and president of the company; he could not, however, say what portion of the shares had been issued or what number were held by each of the directors; he could not say as to how many shares he held himself. The company, though formed in December, 1906, had never had a meeting of directors since its incorporation. 'It is one of the simplest things in the world,' said Mr. Johnson. 'I am president, having been asked to be president. I have not taken one dollar, not one fifty-cent piece out of the business.' As to labour, Mr. Johnson stated that he knew nothing at all about it, that he had never had any conference with any employers of labour on the subject of obtaining it. 'I don't think I would know what to talk about if I had a conference. I don't know about the labour crisis or anything,' was a reply he gave when questioned in reference to the matter. There was something humourous in Mr. Yoshy's statements in reference to the prsident of the company:

'Q. And what about Mr. Gardiner Johnson; did you speak to him first?—A. At the same time, I think; I cannot tell; I don't remember at all; Mr. Gardiner Johnson he don't know at all about the business—our company's business—he is just president.

'Q. But the president of a company ought to know what he is president of?—A. 'Well, I can't tell; but he doesn't know.

'Q. Why doesn't he know; doesn't he want to know?—A. Well, I think he is busy.'

Mr. Yoshy explained that the amount of the capital was divided into five equal parts, making the holdings of Mr. Gardiner Johnson, Mr. Boultbee, Mr. Gotoh and himself $20,000 each. The shares comprising the remaining $20,000 were to be divided between the employees. He and Mr. Gotoh and Mr. Boultbee received $100 each per month in salaries for their services to the company; the president received nothing. The four of them composed the directorate. All were to share alike in the dividends when declared. About $50,000, Mr. Yoshy thought, had been paid up in cash or valuable assets, each having put in the same amount.

Mr. Boultbee, the treasurer, stated that the number of his shares was ten, and that Mr. Johnson, Mr. Yoshy and Mr. Gotoh also held ten apiece, the value of the shares being $100 each; the shares had not been paid up for in cash. His brother, Mr. J. E. Baker and some other Japanese were also interested in the company.

Despite this unfortunate conflict in the testimony of the officers of the company in regard to their several interests, it was quite evident from their testimony in other respects that the purposes of the company were twofold—to furnish labour to companies and contractors, on the one hand, which part of the work was to be under the direction of Mr. Gotoh; and to furnish supplies to this labour, which part was to be under Mr. Yoshy's direction. Messrs. Gardiner Johnson and W. W. Boultbee were associated because of their personal and business connection, and that as a concern hoping to command the confidence of wholesale dealers and others in both Canada and Japan, the company might be composed of Canadians as well as Japanese. Mr. Kodama, the fifth member of the company, and secretary to Mr. Gotoh, was brought in as a shareholder in order, apparently, to complete the statutory requirement at the time of the Company's formation. It was hoped that as the business of the company increased, it might be enabled to carry on an extensive import and export trade between Canada and Japan. Up to the present its trade with the Orient seems to have been confined to the bringing in of Japanese provisions for the supply of the labourers whom the company had furnished on its several contracts; $15,000 worth of imports on an average per month had been, according to Mr. Yoshy's statement, the amount imported since July. The export trade had not yet commenced. Mr. Gotoh appears to have transferred the major part of his business, in particular his contract with the Canadian Pacific Railway, to the new company, though he retained on his own account the supplying of labour in connection with one or two small contracts which he had entered into prior to the time at which the company was formed.

More unfortunate in the suspicion it arouses concerning that part of the company's business which had to do with the bringing in of labourers to Canada direct from Japan with which the whole interests of the company were so closely bound, was the positive denial by Mr. Yoshy, of any kind of connection between the company of which he was an organizer and chief director, and the emigration companies of Japan. Not only did he disclaim all relationship between the Canadian Nippon Supply Company and any Japanese emigration company, but he was certain that no employment agency was connected in any way with the emigration companies of Japan. His testimony on this point is unhappily only too plain

'Q. Has your company any agents in Japan?—A. No, I have not.

'Q. Have you any agreement to supply labourers as required?—A. No, nothing at all, I think.

'Q. Could you be sure of that?—A. Yes, I am sure.

'Q. You are sure you have no agreement at all with any agency in Japan?—A. No.

'Q. I presume then it must be these companies that have. Do you know whether they have—the Canadian Kangyo Company?—A. No, I don't think so, any Japanese employment agent has, I don't think, agreement with any Japanese emigration companies in Japan.

'Q. Well, I had one man tell me last week he was an agent for one of the companies in Japan. He told me that he had an agreement to send them orders for as many men as were required, and that the only reason he had not sent them any men this last year was there were so many arrived from Honolulu that there was no need getting them from Japan, and he told me that your company had an agreement of some sort.—A. No; this is the reason I can't tell you if we have. Supposing if we have some agreement with an immigration company in Japan, I think our government would not allow to come in so many numbers of the Japanese come in here.

And elsewhere:—

'Could you say of your own knowledge, whether any of these (i.e. Vancouver companies) get men over?—A. So far as I know they have no connection with any Japanese immigration company in Japan at all.'

* * * *

'Q. Do you know anything about the shipment of emigrants from Japan to British Columbia by the emigration companies there?—A. No, I don't know at all.'

* * * *

'Q. Do you know whether the emigration companies have sent any agents here—that is, Japanese emigration companies in Japan?—A. Here?

'Q. Yes?—A. No.

'Q. You don't know?—A. No.

And again:—

'Q. You have told us that you do not know much about these emigration companies in Japan. Are you able to tell us of your own knowledge whether such companies as those exist or not? That is, companies for the purpose of forwarding your countrymen here. Are there such companies existing collecting Japanese desirous of emigrating ,and forwarding them to Canada?—A. There is no special emigration companies in Japan, just for the purpose of sending emigrants to Canada.

'Q. There is not?—A. Oh, no.

'Q. Can you tell me this: Has there been any literature, any newspapers or pamphlets or circulars among your countrymen, setting out the advantages of Canada as a place to go to? Have there been any newspapers, literature ,pamphlets ,anything of that kind, circulated among your countrymen advising them to come to Canada?—A. No, no advice, advised nothing.

'Q. Sure of that?—A. Yes, sure.'

Also:—

'Q. .....Now, Mr. Ishikawa has sworn your company is agent for one of these immigration companies in Japan?—A. No; he does not know, I think.

'Q. Why should he say that?—A. Well, I think he made a mistake, and you had better ask him. He has no knowledge about my company's business, do yo usee. Well, perhaps he said, just only suppose. I think he doesn't know much about your own company's business.

I asked him further:—

'These are all the agents for employment companies in Canada?—A. I think four.

'Q. Then you do not get a commission on bringing out men?—A. I think there must be a commission.

'Q. You say that as far as you know, he had no authority to make that statement, so should not have made it. Mr. Ishikiawa should not have said that your company was acting as agent for an emigration company?—A. No.

'Q. You say that Ishikawa should not have said that your company was agent for companies in Japan?—A. Oh, no. Well, in fact, our company will not do any business with any agent of the emigration company at all.

Q. Now, when you were in Japan did you have a talk with any of these emigration companies, or any one connected with them?—A. No; when I was there, a lot of the emigration companies' people called on me, and asked me to make enquiries about providing—something like that.

'Q. Did any of them say to you they were going to send out men?—A. Oh, no, not my business.

'Q. I know, but did they volunteer that statement to you?—A. No.

'Q. Did any of them say to you they were thinking of sending men to Canada? —A. Well, at that time I don't think so, because when I was there, there was quite a large number of Japanese here.'

Mr. Ishikawa, of whom mention is made, was the president of the Japanese Boarding House Keepers' Union of Vancouver. He is a man of years, and in giving the testimony to which reference is made did so, I think, in an honest and straightforward manner. (It was given before the commission of inquiry into the losses sustained by the Japanese residents of Vancouver.) He stated that he had been in Japan during the spring of the year and had made arrangements to act as the agent or correspondent of one of the emigration companies. He was to send orders for such numbers of men as he might be able to secure employment for, and was to receive a commission on the orders sent. The unexpected influx of Japanese in such large numbers from Hawaii had so filled the labour market that he had had no chance of sending any orders to Japan. He thought there were four agents in Canada of companies in Japan, the Canadian Nippon Supply Company and himself being two of the number. Mr. Ishikawa represented before the present commission that he feared his evidence before the prior commission had not been rightly interpreted. On careful examination, however, he held in the main to the admissions as here recorded. His tenure of office as president was appointed. His tenure of office as president of the Boarding House Keepers' Union came suddenly to an end, and a new president was appointed in his place.

The two agents to whom Mr. Ishikawa made reference had left Vancouver at the time of the sittings of the commission. There is nothing to indicate, however, that either of them had been any more successful than Mr. Ishikawa himself. (The evidence that the Canadian Nippon Supply Company perfected a monopoly on both sides of the Pacific is, however, complete.)

To dispel the mystery which appeared to surround the business of the Canadian Nippon Supply Company, I decided to personally visit the offices of the company, and to ask permission to look over some of its books and records. Mr. Gotoh was absent at the time I called, but Mr. Yoshy, who had given evidence, was present. I explained to Mr. Yoshy that it was within my power as a commissioner to call for the production of any document in the possession of the company, but that I was desirous, if possible, of avoiding the necessity of procuring these documents under subpœna, and that I would much prefer, however unpleasant the task might be, to make, with his assistance, a personal investigation. Mr. Yoshy gave assurance of his willingness to allow me ready access to the books of the company and to all papers and documents in his possession, and this assurance he helped to make good. I visited the offices on two or three occasions and selected books, papers and records such as appeared to have a

bearing on the subject of the inquiry. These with Mr. Yoshy's permission, I took to my rooms at the hotel, and such as were in Japanese were subsequently translated there. Of the generous consideration shown by Mr. Yoshy in what was to me the discharge of a somewhat painful public duty, I am pleased to make the fullest acknowledgement. It affords me pleasure, also, to record the assistance given by Mr. Gotoh, who, upon return, though naturally much annoyed at his letter files having been searched during his absence, readily accepted the situation, and subsequently rendered material assistance in the translation of some of the documents, and in the deciphering of messages which had passed in code between Canada and Japan. He gave very frank and full testimony, and assisted the commission to the utmost of his powers. The outline narrative of the relations of the Canadian Nippon Supply Company and the Tokyo Emigration Company as here given, is based chiefly on the documentary evidence supplied from the files of the Canadian Nippon Supply Company.

Both Mr. Yoshy and Mr. Gotoh appear to have carefully considered the probable future of the new venture before Mr. Yoshy's connection with the Japanese Consulate at Vancouver was severed. In particular, they negotiated with different parties as to their willingness to employ Japanese labour and to make them sole contractors in the event of their finding it possible to furnish this labour under contract in the quantities desired. Through Mr. Gotoh's connection with the Canadian Pacific Railway, the new company once started had a contract sufficiently large to ensure its continued existence. Negotiations had also been commenced with Mr. James Dunsmuir, the president of the Wellington Colliery Company, for the supply of miners from Japan, and had been so successfully conducted that before its incorporation the new concern had also the assurance of a contract with that company. There seemed too, bright prospects of a contract at some future day with the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company. The enormous work of construction this company had undertaken was everywhere known, but Mr. Gotoh was able to obtain from the late Mr. E. G. Russell, the then agent of the Grand Trunk Pacific in the west only the following communication:—

'GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY,
'VANCOUVER, B.C., December 10, 1906.

'Mr. S. GOTOH,
'Japanese,
'Vancouver, B.C.

'DEAR SIR,—Making reply to your verbal inquiry of recent date upon the subject of Japanese labour for general and railway work in Northern British Columbia, I would say 5,000 men will undoubtedly be required should they apply in reasonable numbers, and there is no doubt that all such men can secure a remuneration of $1.50 per day.

'There would not be any difficulty in securing 5,000 acres of land in British Columbia for cultivation at not to exceed $12 per acre and upon reasonable terms, but not for speculation.

'There could not be any objection to giving an exclusive right to supply Japanese labour required so far as was legal, so soon as a company demonstrated its ability to perform such an undertaking, and so long as good labour and acceptable citizens in numbers required were furnished, and that you could control their actions as law-abiding people or remove them, and everything was done as required.

'Yours truly,
(Signed) E. G. RUSSELL.'

Mr. Gotoh's experience in connection with the supplying of Japanese labour had taught him that labour of this class could not be obtained in sufficient quantities in Canada; that if the contracts of which the new company had assurances, as well as those of which it had hopes, were to be carried out, labour would have to be brought to Canada from Japan. What grounds Mr. Yoshy and Mr. Gotoh had for believing that they would be able to secure this labour from Japan in view of the known policy of the Japanese government to restrict the number of emigrants to Canada is something on which the evidence taken before the commission throws but little light. (The facts are that when the Canadian Nippon Supply Company was formed a policy of restriction was in existence.) It was the first obstacle the company encountered when it commenced negotiations in Japan for the sending out of labourers to this country. Both Mr. Gotoh and Mr. Yoshy visited Japan after the company was formed, and it was while they were there that a new exception was added to the all but general prohibition which had hitherto prevailed. This exception was that thereafter emigration companies were to be allowed to send labourers under contract to Canada; to appearances, the change was effected at the instance of the emigration companies in Japan.

Whether this change was the result of such representations as were made to the Japanese government through the emigration companies, assisted, in so far as they might be of service in that connection, by Mr. Yoshy and Mr. Gotoh; or whether it was the carrying out of a new policy on the part of the Foreign Office in Japan, of which Mr. Yoshy and Mr. Gotoh, or either of them, may have had some knowledge at the time they were negotiating for the supply of Japanese labour in large quantities with companies in this country ,it is impossible to say. There appear to be grounds for either belief. It is scarcely to be credited that two such experienced persons would have embarked upon an enterprise ,the success of which depended upon their being able to secure Japanese labour from Japan, without a very substantial belief in their ability to secure this labour. On the other hand, it is to be remembered that they were not without powerful Canadian interests behind them when they went to Japan; that they had in their possession documents which indicated the need and the desire for Japanese labour in this country, that they were able to afford assurances that for this labour employment would be immediately forthcoming, and that they were in a position to conjure with names which, to the statesmen of Japan, would not be without significance or weight. (In justice to Japan and to the prejudice which has been aroused against her people in some quarters ,in consequence of the sudden influx of her countrymen in large numbers to Canada, it is not to be forgotten that in the regulations, which were issued about April of the present year, the exception permitting emigration companies to send labourers to Canada was made conditional upon the production at the Foreign Office of Japan of the duplicates of *bona fide* agreements with responsible employers of labour in this country; the *bona fides* of which agreements the Japanese government required should be certified to by her consuls resident in Canada. If there was a change in the policy of Japan, it was not one which could adversely affect the interests of this country without a Canadian citizen, or a Canadian corporation, first placing upon it the seal of his or its approval.

The negotiations conducted by Mr. Gotoh and Mr. Yoshy in Japan, and the success with which these negotiations were attended, will be apparent from the following:—

As has been stated, the Canadian Nippon Supply Company was formed on December 17, 1906. Mr. Gotoh sailed for Japan in January, reaching there about the close of the month. 'When you were in Japan,' Mr. Gotoh was asked, 'did you interest yourself in any way in trying to further the objects of your company?' 'Well, naturally,' he replied, 'I have such business in view, you see, and so I try to find it out; but at the time I found that the policy of the Japanese government would not allow any labourers to come out to the country, both to the United States and Canada.',

'Q. That was when you arrived in Japan in January?—A. In January, yes.'

On the 30th of January Mr. Gotoh sent the following letter from Yokohama to Vancouver; it was addressed to Mr. Kodama, his secretary, and a member of the firm of the Canadian Nippon Supply Company:—

'YOKOHAMA, January 30, 1907.

'M. KODAMA,
'Vancouver, B.C.

'The following article is an abstract from a newspaper recently published: "At present the Foreign Office do not allow any emigrants to go out of the country for the purpose of labouring to both Canada and the United States, and so our emigration companies are making certain movements against this policy, and there some change may come for them, if negotiations be arranged, so I think if I make a frank statement before these people of the nature of my work out there, I might be able to make certain arrangements with the emigration companies. Please tell Mr. Yoshy as soon as he settles his own affairs to return to Japan. I do not know how soon I am going to return, but I should say not before next March. (I have been attended by so many emigration companies' agents here that I am just avoiding meeting them.) On account of that I don't want to speak anything to them until I find the nature of the emigration companies.'

Having found the situation as set forth in this letter, Mr. Gotoh commenced negotiations with the emigration companies. On the 5th of March he was joined by Mr. Yoshy and by the 1st of April an arrangement had been effected whereby the Canadian Nippon Supply Company was placed in a position to secure large numbers of labourers through the emigration companies of Japan.

In regard to the restrictive policy of the Japanese government as he found it at the time of reaching Japan and the methods by which this policy was overcome, Mr. Gotoh gave the following evidence before the Commission:—

'Q. How did you get over that policy?—A. Well just simply I learned, you know, with people talking round town, and they asked me whether there was any such prospect for the labourer, but I had been told by the government would not allow any passport for them.

'Q. Does every man who goes out of the country have to have a passport?—A. Oh, yes, every one.

'Q. Did you see any of the emigration companies in Japan about this matter, to see if they could arrange anythingé—A. Not at that time.

'Q. When did you?—A. Later, about February to March.

'Q. What companies did you see?—A. As I had my relations working in the Tokio Company that led me to them; that is why I just had such a conversation with this Tokio Emigration Company.

'Q. Some of your relatives were interested in the Tokio Emigration Company?—A. Not interested just working for them.'

Having been shown the letter sent by himself to Mr. Kodama on the 30th of January, and asked if the translation as above given were correct, Mr. Gotoh replied in the affirmative.

'Q. That letter then would bear out what you say: That is, when you got to Japan, you found the Government had a policy to restrict emigration, and not allow any emigrants to come to the United States or Canada, as labourers, and you then set to work to see if you could not, through the emigration companies, bring about some arrangement, which would enable you to bring out labourers, notwithstanding that policy?—A. Yes.

'Q. What was the nature of the arrangement that was subsequently made by the emigration companies, so as to enable you to fulfil your object?—A. Well, with me, you mean?

'Q. Yes, with you, and with the Japanese government?—A. Well, I never made any arrangement with the Japanese government at all.

'Q. You might tell me first the arrangement you made with the emigration companies. As I understand it, there was only one company you made an arrangement with?—A. Yes, well that was after they had seen the Japanese government.

'Q. As I understand it, you got there first at the end of January, and then later, you found you could not make any headway, until the emigration companies in some way influenced the Government in getting it to change its policy?—A. Yes.

'Q. Are the men connected with these emigration companies prominent men in Japan?—A. There are several emigration companies in Japan, you know, and some of the companies have such members as financiers and politicians, and all sorts of men, but some of them have not. Some of the companies such as the Tokio Emigration Company, which I have now, which I made arrangements with, has no politicians, just only merchants.

'Q. Prominent merchants?—A. Yes.

'Q. They are men of influence?—A. Well, they have usually a certain influence.

'Q. Well, you consulted with them, and said that if they could make some arrangement with the Japanese government to allow the issue of passports to a number of labourers to Canada ,you would be able to dispose of these labourers after they got here?—A. Yes, exactly.

'Q. That is it exactly?—A. The arrangement I made with the Tokio Emigration Company, which is to dispose of those emigrants after they arrive here.

'Q. And they were to look after the getting of emigrants themselves?—A. Oh, sure.

'Q. Well, about the end of February or March—you say about the end of March? —A. February or March.

'Q. You received word from them that under certain conditions they would be able to secure passports for labourers coming into this country?—A. Yes.

'Q. Now, what was the condition?—A. It was, if any one produced a duplicate of an agreement which was verified by the Japanese consul in this country.

'Q. That is to say, the emigration company would be able to secure passports from the foreign office for labourers provided they were able to show the foreign office a duplicate of an existing agreement in Canada?—A. In Canada.

'Q. Which had been certified to by the Japanese consul?—A. Yes.

'Q. What was the purpose of the certificate of the Japanese consul?—A. Well, whether such an agreement existed or not.

'Q. That was in order to prevent the foreign office from being deceived?—A. Yes.

'Q. In the matter of a fraudulent agreement?—A. Yes.

'Q. So what you would have to do would be to send over to the Tokio Emigration Company in Japan a copy of an agreement which you had with some company here? —A. Yes.

'Q. And then the Tokio Emigration Company would make application to the

foreign office to allow passports to be issued to the labourers who were to work under the agreement?—A Yes.

'Q. And in order that the foreign office might not be deceived, they required that the agreement should be certified by the Japanese consul in this country?—A. Yes, in this country.

'Q. As a *bond fide* agreement?—A. Yes.

'Q. Then is it necessary for you to show any agreement you may have to the Japanese consul so that he may verify any of the statements that the emigration company may make in Japan?—A. I have to show—to produce a duplicate to the Japanese consul at the time when I ask for certification.

'Q. What is the reason the Japanese government takes such precautions as to require this certificate?—A. Well, I don't know. I only could say by my knowledge, by my judgment, that is why the government would take such action. Of course, you see, they do not want to fill up any other country with a number of men sending out from Japan to be out of work.

'Q. They do not wish their subjects to be out of work in another country, is that your idea?—A. Yes, and if the Japanese government knows that there is certain work provided for them then they could send such a number to any country, without any fear in the future, you see.

'Q. Does the government also keep track of all these emigrants that go out from Japan?—A. Oh, yes.

'Q. Do you know the reason for that?—A. That, of course, you see, is to restrict the number of emigrants going out of the country.

'Q. And also, is it not, so they will be able to know where all the Japanese are as far as possible?—A. Oh, yes, that is why all emigrants coming out of the country have to register each time when they land in a foreign country at the Japanese consul's office.

'Q. I will get you later to explain in full the system under which they come from Japan here, and what they are required to do; but just now, I want to follow up the part of the inquiry that pertains to the arrangement you made with the government—at least, that the emigration company made with the government. You say they told you that if you sent them to Tokio Emigration Company they would then send these agreements to the Foreign Office, and the Foreign Office would issue passports for the number of men named in agreements, or such number as they might wish to allow to come, and that those men would be sent out to this country and when they came here you would see them at this end, so as to make sure that they got immediate employment?—A. Yes.

'Q. On the 1st of April you sent a cablegram to Kodama here at Victoria, from Tokio. Look at that cablegram and see if the following is a true translation:—'Unless they prove they have agreement with certain company showing they are entitled to furnish a certain number of men by the regular agreement, cannot make any arrangement with emigration company to secure passports from government.'

'Q. Is that correct?—A. Yes.

'Q. "They," I presume, means the emigration companies in Japan?—A. Yes.

'Q. And unless the emigration companies in Japan can prove an agreement with a certain company showing that company is entitled to furnish a certain number of men in accordance with a regular agreement, these emigration companies will not be able to secure passports from the government. So what you had then to do was to make sure you had *bona fide* agreements with certain companies here?—A. Yes.

'Q. And then these agreements being forwarded to the emigration company, it was up to them to get the passports and send out the men?—A. Yes; that is why I cabled this fact to my office.'

Among the letters obtained from Mr. Gotoh's fyles, was one from S. Hirata in Japan addressed to Mr. Gotoh at Vancouver. It is dated Kobe, April 1, and was

sent to Mr. Gotoh by the writer without the latter's knowledge that Mr. Gotoh was in Japan at the time. Mr. Gotoh explained to the commission that Mr. Hirata had at one time been associated with him on the Northern Pacific Railway in the United States, and that since Mr. Hirata's return to Japan, they had corresponded with each other. Mr. Gotoh's translation of this letter was as follows:—

'Herewith I write a letter and ask your answer upon the matter of emigration affairs in Japan, and to give me quick answer according to my statement below mentioned. As you know, the policy of our Foreign Office for the emigration matter has always been in the negative for the last few years, and we could not get any satisfactory arrangement on that account, but if you could arrange a special matter I think we could make a certain arrangement to handle the emigrants going out of the country, that is, anyone who handles certain business, mining, fishing, farming, any necessary labourers could be employed for such special purpose and could be shipped to your place if you produce a certificate of Japanese consul out there.

'Here I make a copy of certain clauses of Emigration Act.

'"In immigration matters to Dominion of Canada, according to the treaty of Canada and Japan it is impossible to give any privilege freely unless the applicants fill the following articles. It is the policy of our government to restrict the limitation while the condition of immigration affairs is growing day by day.

'"It is especially requested that each time when any company or individual makes application for the passport, the approval of Chief of Emigration Department in Foreign Office is needed.

'"1st. Passport will be given to the emigrant who has once been in the country of Canada having such a certificate given by the Japanese consul in such country.

'"2nd. Emigrants who have such letter relating to the work approved by Japanese consul shall be permitted.

'"Emigrants handled by emigration companies must show conditions as follows:—

'"*a*. Company must show a duplicate of agreement wherever made with employers and employees and approved by Japanese consul.

'"*b*. When the Emigration Department in the Foreign Office thinks that it is fit to issue a permit for such emigrants showing duplicate of a suitable agreement which is not approved by Japanese consul."

'As you have seen in this Act, there will be several ways to get 300 or 500 to a 1,000 emigrants to ship under your hand whenever you produce any agreement or duplicate of agreement which you may have with any company, certified by Japanese consul, or else if any company or individual could do so in a similar manner, so if you can get any such similar agreement as we had on the Northern Pacific, I think I can give you any assistance to satisfy you for your work.

'I have many, many friends in all emigration companies here, and some of them are my relatives, so will you let me know whether you can send such a duplicate of contract agreement approved by Japanese consul at early date or not, as I have several emigrants asking me if there is any prospect of going out of the country in such a way to get passports from the government.

'All emigration companies will charge the emigrants 20 to 25 yen, and if you want me to make any arrangement by dividing the interest with any emigration companies here, I will take the matter up.'

Mr. Gotoh, in the course of his examination, stated that the word which he had translated as 'Act' should more properly have been translated as 'instructions.' He also explained that the arrangement Mr. Hirata was desirous of making with him was similar to one which he had succeeded in making with the Tokio Emigration Company.

It will be observed that this letter was written by Mr. Hirata in Japan to Mr. Gotoh in Canada on the same day that Mr. Gotoh sent to Mr. Kodama at Victoria the cable above quoted: 'Unless they (i.e., the emigration companies)prove they have agreement with certain company showing they are entitled to furnish certain number of men on regular agreement, cannot make an arrangement with emigration company to secure passports from government.'

The following statements from Mr. Gotoh's evidence in regard to the precise meaning of the instruction mentioned in Mr. Hirata's letter will, with what has already been said of the regulation of emigration in Japan, afford complete explanation of the system under which emigration from Japan was restricted by the Japanese authorities, and of the manner in which passports were secured for the emigrants who came to this country during the past year:

'According to the instructions set out in this letter, it would seem that there are two or three ways by which emigrants can arrange to secure passports to come to Canada, from the Foreign Office in Japan?—A. Yes.

'Q. In the first place, any emigrant who has been in Canada ,if he goes back and wishes to come out again, must present a certificate from the Japanese consul, showing he has been in this countryé—A. Yes.

'And in that event a passport will be issued to him?—A. Yes.

'Q. Is there a new passport issued to him?—A. Yes; every time they make application, you know.

'Q. Would there be any way of telling, when the passport was received here, whether it was the first time this man had come out, or whether it was the second or third time?—A. Well, that would be asked by the immigration officer, but the passport does not show that.

'Q. So a great many passports might be handed in here, issued this year, some of which might have been issued to men who were in Canada before, and had gone back, and were just coming out again?—A. Oh, yes; a great deal of them.

'Q. Then the next method appears to be that 'emigrants who have such letters relating to the work approved by the Japanese consul," shall be permitted; from what you have told me, I understand that to mean that persons who have relatives in this country, or who wish their friends to come out, will get the Japanese Consul to certify to a statement that they are living in this country, and that they want their relatives to come here?—A. Well, that is provided a man had certain work here—not labour, you know. Suppose a man keeps a store or firm or anything like that, and cannot get assistance he can send after his relatives. That is the second class.

'Q. That is, persons in sending for their relatives in that way, must state they want them to do particular work for them, is that it?—A. Not work for them. I mean those relatives who are working in Canada have to provide them with all work through the year and so on.

'Q. Have to guarantee they will be working right through the year?—A. Yes.

'Q. That is to prevent them from becoming a public charge?—A. Yes.

'Q. And when a person wants to get out his friend, is his letter certified to by the Japanese Consul?—A. Yes.

'Q. So that the Foreign Office will not be deceived in the matter of that letter? —A. Yes.

'Q. Then the 3rd class is emigrants who are handled by the emigration companies?—A. Yes.

'Q. Apparently, it was not until after you were over and the emigration companies got to work on the subject that they were able to get this permission?—A. Well, I don't know. I could not say definitely about that, but it came out in such a way that we could say so. Whether it had been the policy of the Japanese Government

long ago—of course I don't want to speak anything about the Japanese Government's policy—what I mean——

'Q. Quite so. You cannot state what their policy is except in so far as you may have gathered it from communications, and what you know of it yourself?—A. Yes.

'Q. In the case of the emigrants coming out through the emigration companies, the company must show a duplicate of the agreement with the employers, wherever made?—A. Yes.

'Q. And this must be approved by the Japanese Consul?—A. Yes.

'Q. There is a subsection (*b*) there, which says that when the Emigration Department in the Foreign Office thinks it is fit to issue a permit for emigrants showing a duplicate of a suitable agreement, they may do so even if it is not approved by the Japanese Consul. That would probably be for some cause; why do you think that clause is there?—A. I think, you know, if the Government did not wish such an article in the instructions. Supposing the emigration companies should say there is no consul in that country? Then what are you going to do? So that the clause is there to enable them to just give the excuse.

'Q. As I understand, Mr. Gotoh, the first clause is that the agreement should be certified by the Japanese Consul? But there is another clause that the Emigration Department may issue passports to emigration companies who produce duplicates of agreements even where they have not been certified to by the Japanese Consul; and that, you think, may be to meet cases where there is not a consul in the locality, or something of that sort, so as not to limit the powers of the Foreign Office?—A. Yes.'

It was on April 1, Mr. Gotch wired his secretary, Kodama, that unless proof were given of an agreement with some company to furnish men, the emigration company could not make arrangements with the government for the necessary passports, and, as has been pointed out, it was on the same date that Mr. Hirata wrote Mr. Gotoh informing him of the new instructions which were being issued. On the day following, April 2, Mr. Gotoh cabled his secretary Kodama, stating that several agents were going from Japan to Canada and to please prepare for them. This cable was in the following words:—'After knowing the condition of Canada, several agents are going down to your place, so please prepare for them. (It does not appear that any of these agents succeeded in effecting business connections for their companies, notwithstanding it was after the new instructions had gone into effect that they came to this country. That they did not succeed was owing to the ingenuity and skill with which the Canadian Nippon Supply Company had effected a monopoly on both sides of the Pacific.) So far as contracts were concerned, such as they had, entitled the Canadian Nippon Supply Company to act as sole agents for the supply of labour to the companies with which the agreements had been effected, the door being thus effectively barred against all possible competitors. Through a unique arrangement whereby the Canadian Nippon Supply Company agreed to pay a commission of $1 per head to labourers supplied by Japanese employment agencies in Vancouver, and to insert advertisements at its own expense in the name of four of these companies, whenever there was a special demand, the jealousy of the Boarding House Keepers' Union and other rival agencies was averted, and their attention withdrawn from the manner in which the supply of Japanese labour in the city was being augmented through the secret manœuvres of the large concern. On the other hand, in Japan, the Tokio Emigration Company, with whom the Canadian Nippon Supply Company had concluded an arrangement for the sending out of Japanese to Canada ,was able to silence the activities of the five other largest Japanese emigration companies by representing that any

serious competition between the several companies in Canada would probably lead to public exposure and criticism of their plans of operation, and destroy the opportunity which all held in common. This company, moreover, represented to its rivals that the Canadian Nippon Company with which it was connected was all powerful in the matter of obtaining the most important contracts, and it was tacitly agreed that in the event of the other companies remaining silent, a division between the several companies would be made of any contract which the Canadian Nippon Supply Company might be able to secure for the employment of labourers in connection with the construction of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway.

Mr. Gotoh's evidence as to the nature of this arrangement was as follows:—It was given upon production of the following letter, dated Yokohama, June 1, addressed to Mr. Gotoh, at Vancouver, and signed by Mr. Muira, the representative of the Canadian Nippon Supply Company in Japan.

'YOKOHAMA, June 1, 1907.

'S. GOTOH,
'Vancouver, B.C.

'As many emigration companies are moving to try and find out the condition of 'Canada certain agents to our country, and I think the main object they are going 'is to find out whether they can make any agreement with any companies down there 'To supply the labourers, so Tokio Emigration Company certain companies to take 'steps similar to those they had taken, not to send out agents, but to make arrange-'ments through the Nippon Company, namely, Moriaka, Kumomoto, Nippon Immin, 'and Kokoku and Bansei.

'We are learning that several emigrants are moving from Hawaii to your country 'sending such a shipload, and we will know what step the Japanese Government will 'take over that step and will advise you later.

'(Sgd.) T. MUIRA.'

'Q. Now, do I understand from that letter that the Tokio Emigration Company in order to prevent other companies from sending out agents and competing with you here, entered into an agreement, or understanding with them—was that it, in Japan?—A. Yes; the letter shows that.

'Q. Can you tell us what was the nature of that understanding?—A. Well, you see there are several emigration companies in Japan, you know, and I think the Tokio Emigration Company thought itself wise thing to pacify them, not having them send out agents to other countries, so as to have them compete with each other, while the Tokio Emigration Company knew that they had no such chances to get agreement to supply labour in Canada.

'Q. The Tokio Company knew that if they began this rivalry they would lose, possibly, the chance of getting contracts, was that it?—A. Oh, no; I explained fully to the Tokio Emigration Company the condition of Canada, and the only chances we had—the agreement we had with the Canadian Pacific Railway, and I only had Canadian Pacific Railway agreement, you know; so this is the only chance we have to furnish labourers at present. So when the Tokio Emigration Company got permit out from the Government all other companies though there is another opportunity for getting the same thing; and they were just starting, rushing to this country. And I thought it wise to prevent these actions.

'Q. Perhaps I can anticipate—you can tell me whether I am right. From what you have told me, as I understand it, the Tokio Emigration Company came to an understanding with these six companies named here, that if they would not send out their agents, so as to prevent the possibility of friction in this country, they would share up the business with them later, if they got any other contracts? That was the understanding?—A. Yes, sir; that was the understanding.

'Here is a letter also, from the Yokohama branch of the Canadian Nippon Company to you. Who is it signed by? Muira? It is dated June 1st. It says, "These emigration companies have made some kind of arrangement with themselves and will not take such foolish step as all other. The emigration companies are complaining to-day, so you just be easy about this matter. These six emigration companies want you to be correspondent for those companies in future, and just make report in regard to those companies of supplying labourers. There is a Mr. Horu, a member of Parliament, who is going down there to see the country for his vacation. If he is there, please take him every place where he wishes to go." Is that correct?—A. Yes.

'Q. Have you acted as correspondent for the six companies?—A. Yes, yes, not six companies, but corresponded with the Tokio Emigration Company and they transferred by correspondence to the others.

'Q. And they have a sort of mutual understanding not to compete against each other?—A. Yes.

Mr. Gotoh admitted, in giving his evidence, that he had, while in Japan, made use of the letter given him by Mr. Russell to convey the impression to the Tokio and other emigration companies that he was in a position to obtain a contract for the supply of labour to the Grand Trunk Pacific. He stated, however, that when, under this pretext, an attempt had been made to secure additions Japanese labour for Canada, the Foreign Office in Japan had cabled to the Japanese Consul at Vancouver to ascertain definitely if the Canadian Nippon Supply Company held any *bona fide* contract for the supply of labour to the Grand Trunk Pacific, and had been informed by the Consul that no such contract was in existence. This fact was absolutely publicly announced by the Foreign Office.

The arrangement between the six emigration companies was consummated by June 1st. Mr. Gotoh had left Japan the middle of May and arrived at Victoria on the 31st of that month. Mr. Yoshy, who as has been mentioned, reached Japan on the 5th of March, did not leave until the second week in June, when failing to secure passage direct, he returned via Honolulu and San Francisco, reaching the former place on the 21st of the month and the latter at the beginning of July. During the month of May he opened a branch office of the Canadian Nippon Supply Company in Yokohama, of which Mr. Muira was placed in charge.

One purpose of having the branch at Yokohama was to facilitate business dealing with merchants and others in Japan. It appears also to have been opened with a view to avoiding the necessity of the Canadian Nippon Company communicating direct from Canada with any of the emigration companies in Japan. Communications between Canada and Japan were confined as largely as possible to the branch office in Yokohama, and the officers of this branch were to have the necessary dealings with the emigration companies; and make such arrangements as might be required for the shipping of the labourers whom the emigration companies might supply.

In Canada, the labour agency branch which Mr. Gotoh had established at Revelstoke in connection with his own business was taken over by the Canadian Nippon Supply Company and its business extended. The Company also opened a branch at Victoria and retained an agent at Cumberland.

In a letter to Mr. Kodama, dated Yokohama, April 22, Mr. Gotoh explains that he has finished arrangements with the emigration company and was then at the beginning of the 'red tape' which was causing him a good deal of trouble. He was

also having difficulties with the steamship companies in his endeavours to obtain passage for the emigrants who would be coming out. These difficulties, like all others, he appears to have successfully surmounted and on the 15th of May, the first shipment of Japanese sent out by the Tokio Emigration Company to the Canadian Nippon Supply Company left Yokohama by the *Kagi Maru* and arrived at Vancouver on the 28th of the month.

It is possible to trace without difficulty the several consignments. At the time of the sailing of each ship, the branch office of the Canadian Nippon Supply Company in Yokohama forwarded to the office of the company at Vancouver, a statement of the Japanese steerage passengers being sent out by the Tokio Emigration Company. These particulars included the name of each emigrant, the number of his passport, his age, occupation, the prefecture of his birth, and whether married or single. The following table compiled from the above statements, will show the names and date of sailing of the several vessels by which the emigrants were brought, and the number who were sent in each consignment.

TABLE showing Consignments of Japanese Labourers to Canadian Nippon Supply Company from the Tokio Emigration Company, Japan, compiled from Statements sent to the Supply Company from its branch office in Yokohama.

Name of Vessel.	Date of Sailing.	Number of Emigrants.
	1907.	
Kag-Maru	May 15	26
Bellerephon	" 25	60
Tosa-Maru	" 29	60
Monteagle	June 3	61
Shinano-Maru	" 12	64
Tremont	" 21	77
Nin-Chow	" 24	92
Tau-Maru	" 26	56
Tartar	" 29	29
Aki-Maru	July 10	90
Antilochus	" 23	63
Rio-Juan-Maru	" 24	28
Kag-Maru	August 7	60
Shinano-Maru	September 4	76
Aki-Maru	October 2	14
Total		856

Under the arrangement affected, it was the duty of the Canadian Nippon Supply Company to notify the Japanese Consul at Vancouver of the arrival of all emigrants sent out by the Emigration Company, and to furnish at regular intervals a statement showing in detail the number of arrivals, the name, date of sailing, and port of arrival of the several ships by which they were brought. The following table compiled from returns made to the Japanese Consulate is an interesting supplement to the table compiled from the statements of particulars forwarded by the branch office of the Canadian Nippon Supply Company in Japan, the figures of which table is corroborates in every particular:—

TABLE showing consignments of Japanese Labourers to Canadian Nippon Supply Company from the Tokio Emigration Company, Japan, compiled from returns made by Canadian Nippon Supply Company to the Japanese Consul at Vancouver.

Date of Sailing from Yokohama.	Name of Steamer.	Date of Arrival at Victoria.	Number of Immigrants.		Total for Month.
			Common.	Miners.	
1907.					
May 15	Kag-Maru	May 29	26		
" 25	Bellerophon	June 9	60		
" 29	Tosa-Maru	" 12	60		146
June 4	Monteagle	June 19	61		
" 12	Shinaro-Maru	" 26	64		
" 21	Tremont	July 7	77		
" 24	Nin-Chow	" 9	75	17	
" 26	Tan-Maru	" 10	26	30	379
" 29	Tartar	" 13	27	2	
July 10	Aki-Maru	July 24	87	3	
" 23	Antilochus	August 7	25	38	
" 24	Rio Juan Maru	" 8	28		181
August 7	Kag-Maru	August 21	15	45	60
September 4	Shinaro-Maru	September 18	76		76
October 2	Aki-Maru	October 17	14		14
Grand Total			721	135	856

It will be observed that the total number of contract labourers according to the figures of each of these tables is 56. Elsewhere in this report I have stated that the number of emigrants sent out to Canada to the Canadian Nippon Company for the ten months ending October 31, 1907, was 900. The difference of 44 is explained in that the last arrivals of which mention is made in the table are those who came by the ss. *Aki-Maru,* which landed on October 17. A later steamer brought additional labourers. Mr. Gotoh was of the opinion that the total number brought over would equal 900.

In the office of the Canadian Nippon Supply Company I came across a number of passports from Japan. On examination they proved to be the passports issued to the Japanese who had been sent out by the Tokio Emigration Company. Each was separately numbered and showed the date on which it had been issued by the Foreign

Office in Japan. In counting the passports and making a classification of the dates on which they had been issued I found that there were 854 in all, issued in the following numbers during the months May to September inclusive of the present year:—

May	267
June	303
July	133
August	136
September	15
Total	854

These passports had all been made out for Canada, and all bore the stamp of the marine police of Japan and of registration at the office of the Japanese Consulate in Vancouver. It will be seen that this number is but two short of the total number of emigrants reported by the Yokohama branch of the Canadian Nippon Supply Company as having left Japan and reported as having arrived in Canada by the main office of the company in Vancouver.

The respective ages of persons to whom these passports had been granted will be seen from the following figures:—

TABLE showing ages of persons for emigration to Canada as contract labourers had been granted during months May to September, 1907, inclusive.

Under		Between 21 and 32 inclusive.		Over 32 and under 40.		40 years of age and over.	
Age.	Number.	Age.	Number.	Age.	Number.	Age.	Number.
16	3	21	33	33	17	40	13
17	33	22	50	34	21	41	3
18	59	23	50	35	19	42	6
19	61	24	54	36	15	43	7
20	66	25	62	37	13	44	4
		26	44	38	9	45	3
		27	40	39	15	46	1
		28	30			47	1
		29	25			48	2
		30	43				
		31	32				
		32	22				
Total. . .	222	Total. . . .	485	Total.	109	Total.	40

From these figures it will appear that of the persons sent out by the Tokio Emigration Company, 222 were under twenty-one years of age, 485 between the ages of twenty-one and twenty-two, inclusive, 109 over thirty-two and under forty, while 40 were forty years of age and over. The respective occupations of these 856 persons in Japan were as follows:—

Occupation.	*Number.....*
Carpenters	1
Fishermen	2
Merchants	3
Labourers	126
Miners	157
Farmers	552
Indefinite	15
	856

The numbers appear to have been evenly divided between married and single men.

In the offices of the Canadian Nippon Supply Company a card catalogue record is kept of all Japanese to whom employment has been given. This record shows the place of residence of the applicant, immediately prior to the time of his application for employment; it shows also the date on which he was employed by the company and the disposition of his labour from time to time. The following is a careful classification of the information contained in this catalogue:—

CLASSIFICATION of Japanese Labourers in the employ of the Canadian Nippon Supply Company during October, 1907, showing place of residence of employees immediately prior to their engagement with the Company, and the date of their employment.

Month.	Where from.					
	Japan.	Hawaii.	United States.	Canada.	Unknown.	Total.
May	21	0	0	0	0	21
June	101	0	1	2	0	104
July	190	1	0	4	6	201
August	86	101	3	39	57	286
September	300	0	1	25	4	330
October	48	0	0	1	0	49
No date	125	37	1	85	229	477
Total	871	139	6	156	296	1,468

From the above classification, it will be seen that the Canadian Nippon Supply Company was supplying under contract, at the end of the month of October, 1,468 labourers, most of whom were employed on the Canadian Pacific Railway. 871 of these labourers had come out direct from Japan, being the number of those sent out by the Tokio Emigration Company to whom employment had been given up to the 23rd of the month; 139 were from among the number of those Japanese who came to Canada from Hawaii, 6 were from the United States, 156 had been residents of Canada. Of 296 the former place of residence was unknown. The most of these, Mr. Gotoh explained, had been among the labourers formerly in his employ and were taken over by the Canadian Nippon Supply Company at the time of its formation.

An examination of the pay-rolls of the company showed the number of labourers in its employ to be the same as given in these figures.

The business of the Canadian Nippon Supply Company appears to have been conducted from start to finish with an attention to details on which it would have been difficult to improve. With the labourers in its employ the company appears to have been fair and just and the charges made for its services, all things considered, apppear to have been entirely reasonable. As an arrangement between corporations and large bodies of inexperienced foreign labourers, it is doubtful whether a more perfect system could be worked out to the advantage of all parties concerned. By its contracts, the company undertook to furnish men at the locality desired and to supervise their welfare while employed. Not only were the labourers thus supplied, but interpreters and foremen, under whose direction they were to work. The contract called for payment of the labour at a certain rate. The company to whom the labour was supplied, instead of being put to the trouble of engaging as individuals the labourers furnished was relieved of all responsibility on this score by making payment in a single cheque to the Canadian Nippon Supply Company for the labour it had supplied in accordance with the terms of the contract. The individual labourers were then paid by the Nippon Company in accordance with the agreement arrived at between the company and themselves. This agreement varied but slightly in particular cases. In the main the arrangement was as follows: The company charged the men it supplied with work a fee of $1 a month for its services in having secured them employment and to compensate the company for the expense to which it had been put in office management, the securing of contracts and the like. The wages paid the men appear to have been the same as those fixed in the several contracts.

The Canadian Nippon Supply Company also furnished to the several camps supplies of food, clothing and sometimes of tools as well. A commission was charged on all such supplies. A charge of 50 cents a month to meet hospital expenses was made, the company undertaking on its part to furnish medical attendance and to meet all outlays on this score. A charge too, of 50 cents a month for the handling of mail appears also to have been a common practice. At the end of each month the several charges were deducted from the total amount due in wages, and the balance was sent by cheque to the labourer.

As has been explained, all contracts between the Canadian Nippon Supply Company and other concerns under which it was desired to bring out labour from Japan required to be submitted to the Japanese Consul for his certificate, and as has been shown, the company notified the Consul of the arrival of all labourers coming out under these contracts. They were expected to register at the office of the Consulate on arrival, and the Nippon Company at the end of each month furnished a detailed statement to the Consulate, giving the number of arrivals by each ship. At intervals more detailed statements were furnished. The books of the company appear also to have been open for inspection by the Consulate. The Consulate appears to have exercised very careful supervision over the company's business and the welfare of the labour in its employ. Where an immigrant deserted his employment, as occurred in one or two instances ,and left for parts unknown, this fact was immediately reported by the Canadian Nippon Supply Company to the emigration company in Japan, and also to the Consul at Vancouver, the purpose evidently being that of giving to per-

sons who had gone security for the immigrant an opportunity of protecting themselves in the event of it subsequently turning out that the emigrant had escaped beyond the control of those who were responsible for his return when required to Japan.

The following copies of letters and telegrams from among the number given in evidence may help to suggest the amount of work required of the company in the distribution of its labourers, and the methods by which that distribution was carried on:

(Letter).

'VANCOUVER, July 1, 1907.

'Tokio Emigration Company,
'Yokohama.

'Steamer left Yokohama on May 15th, brought here 26, safely arrived here on May 29th ,and they were disposed of to the railroad labourers on the C.P.R. round Notch Hill, B.C. Please note.

(Sgd.) 'CANADIAN NIPPON SUPPLY Co.'

(Letter).

'VANCOUVER, July 8, 1907.

'Tokio Emigration Company,
'Yokohama.

'By *Bellerophon,* which left Yokohama on May 24, 60 immigrants arrived June 10th, Victoria, and we disposed of them to the C.P.R.

(Sgd.) 'CANADIAN NIPPON SUPPLY Co.'

(Letter).

'VANCOUVER, July 8, 1907.

'S. KISHI,
'Victoria.

'Okayama 35; Shizooka, 2; Kumamoto, 25; Kayashima, 4; total 66 arrived Vancouver. By your report the total number is 77, so please give us statement, and if you have passports for all of them send right on to our office. If sending telegrams please address company's name only. Use Kodama for personal affairs and don't make any address for cable.

(Sgd.) 'CANADIAN NIPPON SUPPLY Co.'

(Telegram).

'VANCOUVER, July 21, 1907.

'To T. KILPATRICK, Esq.,
'Revelstoke.

'We expect steamer in about 5.15. Will ship men accordingly.

(Sgd.) 'CANADIAN NIPPON SUPPLY Co.'

(Telegram).

''VANCOUVER, B.C., August 10th.

'To J. S. MILNE,
'Superintendent, C.P.R.,
'Medicine Hat Alberta.

'Shipped 30 to Calgary by 72 last night. Please give order to pick up Colonist 12 by 96, or be at Laggan; box car 2,597 will be taken by 72 if you can arrange.

(Sgd.) 'CANADIAN NIPPON SUPPLY Co.'

(Telegram).

VANCOUVER, August 27th, 1097.

'To T. IDE,
'Revelstoke.

'To-night we have sent 72, 57 boys to bookman, 20 with bookman for Illicillawaet and 20 with bookman for Beaver Mouth gang; the rest of them to Golden, if there is any more left down, but Field passes are only good to Revelstoke.

(Sgd.) CANADIAN NIPPON SUPPLY Co.'

(Telegram).

'VANCOUVER, September 5th, 1907.

'To S. Gotoh,
'Calgary.

''87 arrived last night by *Tasa Maru* and also *Monteagle* is going to arrive in a few days. Please advise if necessary where to ship them.

(Sgd.) CANADIAN NIPPON SUPPLY Co.'

This account of the Canadian Nippon Supply Company and its transactions may be appropriately concluded with a further reference to the contracts of the company. As has already been explained a contract between the Canadian Pacific Railway Company and Mr. Gotoh was in existence at the time the Canadian Nippon Supply Company was formed, and was transferred to the new company. On June 1, 1907, a new agreement was executed between the Canadian Pacific Railway Company and the Nippon Supply Company, which was for five years, to June 1, 1912. With the exception of the rates of wages specified it was, so Mr. Gotoh explained, the same to all intents and purposes as previous contracts. The wages to be paid under the new agreement were $1.35 to $1.50 per day to men working on section gangs and $1.65 per day of 10 hours to men working on extra gangs. The agreement contains the following clause taken from previous agreements in reference to the numbers of men to be supplied:—

'The Contractors hereby covenant and agree to and with the company to furnish 'promptly upon demand to the company at such points on the company's line of rail-'way in the province of British Columbia (and, in this agreement, whreever the 'words "line of railway" are mentioned, the same shall be held and construed to be all 'lines of railway owned or operated or under construction by the company or any 'other railway company with which the company has a working agreement) as may 'be designated by the company by its General Superintendent for the Pacific Division, 'or other duly authorized officers or agents ,as may be required by the company upon 'and over its line of railway tracks ,roadbeds, right of way, depots and other property 'either upon construction or maintenance ,the said men and work and labour per-'formed by them to be satisfactory to the company.'

On April 15 1907, the General Superintendent of the company sent the following letter to Mr. Gotoh:—

'C.P.R., PACIFIC DIVISION,
'OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT,
'VANCOUVER, B.C., April 15, 1907.

'S. GOTOH, Esq.,
'Japanese Employment Agent,
'Vancouver, B.C.

'DEAR SIR,—With reference to the agreement which has been renewed between 'you and this Company, regarding the employment of Japanese, I would say that the

'number required per annum will be between 500 and 2,000. With reference to 'labourers and sectionmen, they will be provided with board and lodging as in the 'past.

'Yours truly,
'F. F. BUSTEED,
'*General Supt.*'

It is in accordance with the terms of the agreement and this letter that the labour to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company has been supplied. Mr. Gotoh explained that Japanese labour was employed along the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway as far as Swift Current, Saskatchewan; he also informed the Commission that in addition to the labour supplied for work on the road some 30 Japanese were furnished as porters for the cars.

The agreement with the Wellington Colliery Company is dated the 31st January and is for 5 years. It calls for the supplying of 500 Japanese coal miners within 6 months after the date of execution, and in addition to this number 25 common labourers, 6 moulders, 6 machinists and 2 carpenters. The scale of wages for common labourers is fixed at from $1.35 to $1.55 per day and for miners as well as the other classes of skilled labour at from $1.50 to $1.90 per day, the hours to be 8 underground and 10 when working above ground. After each miner has worked in the mine one month the Supply Company is to receive in full for its services the sum of $5 for every miner supplied. It is provided that in the event of a strike taking place the Supply Company shall use its best endeavours to prevent its miners from joining the same, and if any of such miners shall strike, the Colliery Company shall be at liberty to wholly determine this contract forthwith or to cease from further employing any such strikers or at any time.

Mr. Gotoh stated that though 135 miners had come out to work under this agreement he had been unable to supply more than 40, as the men when they landed on this side of the Pacific declared that they preferred to work on the railways and he had no way of compelling them to go into the mines. Not having been able to fulfil the conditions of the contract he had cancelled it. He was no longer supplying miners at the time his testimony was given.

These are the only contracts the duplicates of which appear to have been sent to Japan.

V.—THE ALLEGED CONNECTION OF THE GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC.

Impression that company was responsible for immigration—Not justified by fact—Statement of Mr. McNichol, purchasing agent and western representative—Presence of Mr. Hays and Mr. Bacon requested—Declaration by Mr. Hays—Declaration by Mr. Macon—Unsuccessful efforts to secure contracts with Grand Trunk Pacific—Efforts by the Canadian Nippon Supply Company—Letter from Mr. Yoshy of August 10, 1907—Mr. Kaburagi's attempt—Grand Trunk Pacific in no way responsible for immigration of past year.

WHEN I entered upon the duties of the Commission, I was informed from many sides that the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company had been responsible for the large influx of immigrants from Japan. I was informed that the connection of this company with the alleged influx could not be too fully investigated. In justice to the feeling in the province and to all parties concerned, I took particular pains therefore, to ascertain what connection, if any, the company had with the matter. With the exception of the letter to Mr. Gotoh of December 10, above quoted, from the late Mr. E. G. Russell, and which I found among the papers of the Nippon Company, I was unable to secure anything which indicated that the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company or any of its officials had disclosed an intention of entering into any agreement with any concern for the supply of Japanese labour.

Mr. G. A. McNichol, the purchasing agent of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, who succeeded Mr. Russell, testified that he had been with the Grand Trunk Pacific since its inception, and the Grand Trunk Railway Company before that, about 17 years altogether with the two companies. Before his appointment as purchasing agent on March 1st, he had been secretary to Mr. Morse, Vice-President and General Manager of the Grand Trunk Pacific. He was prepared to swear of his own knowledge and on Mr. Morse's authority, that the Grand Trunk Pacific have never made arrangements or entered into a contract with any person to supply them with Oriental labour.' He had been approached by Mr. Boultbee, the treasurer of the Nippon Supply Company, to find out if that company could supply the Grand Trunk Pacific with Japanese labour, but had told him none was wanted. Mr. Russell, he said, had no authority to make arrangements with any company for labour.

During the inquiry I received the following letter from Mr. Charles Wilson, K.C.:

VANCOUVER, November 18, 1907.

W. L. MACKENZIE KING, Esq.,
Hotel Vancouver,
City.

DEAR SIR,—Will you please direct your Secretary to issue subpœnas both for Mr. Hays and for a Mr. Bacon, who is connected either with the Grand Trunk Pacific or with some one or more of the companies who are carrying on business at their works or at Prince Rupert.

I am afraid that it would be useless to trust to the post office, and that it will be necessary to send a special messenger by the first boat in order to bring these two gentlemen here.

I remain,
Yours faithfully,
(Sgd.) CHARLES WILSON.

After hearing the evidence of Mr. McNichol above set forth, Mr. Wilson stated that he would withdraw the request made in this connection. In order, however, that no question might be subsequently raised as to why the Commission had not insisted upon the presence of these gentlemen, I entrusted a solicitor to go to Prince Rupert to take their affidavits in the matter. He returned with the following declarations:—

IN THE MATTER OF CHAPTER 104, REVISED STATUTES OF CANADA, AND IN THE MATTER OF AN INVESTIGATION THEREUNDER.

DECLARATION OF DAVID H. HAYS.

Dominion of Canada,
Province of British Columbia.
To Wit:

In the matter of the 'Public Enquiries Act,' being chapter 104, Revised Statutes of Canada, AND, in the matter of an inquiry thereunder into the matter of the immigration of Orientals into British Columbia, conducted by Wm. Lyon Mackenzie King, C.M.G., a commissioner duly appointed therefor.

I, David H. Hays, of Prince Rupert, in the province of British Columbia, do solemnly declare:—

1. That I am the secretary and treasurer of the British Columbia Tie and Timber Company, Limited.

2. That the said British Columbia Tie and Timber Company, Limited, is not a subsidiary company of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company in any sense, nor has any director, officer or employee of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company any stock in the British Columbia Tie and Timber Company, Limited, nor are any of them otherwise interested in the said British Columbia Tie and Timber Company, Limited, in any way, the stockholders of the British Columbia Tie and Timber Company, Limited, being composed almost exclusively of Vancouver business men and residents of Dundee, Scotland.

3. That I am not now and never was in any way connected with the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company, the Grand Trunk Railway Company or Pacific Northern and Omineca Railway Company, except that I am, for purposes of organization only, a director of the Pacific Northern and Omineca Railway Company.

4. That the said British Columbia Tie and Timber Company, Limited, has not now and never had any agreement, arrangement or contract with any person or persons, firm or corporation, boarding-house master or any other person either to procure Oriental labour for the said company or to bring such men into the province of British Columbia, or to employ Orientals after they have been brought into the province of British Columbia.

5. The policy of the said British Columbia Tie and Timber Company, Limited, is to obtain the best men it can obtain to do the work, and no preference is given to Orientals, but rather to whites, as last spring my company brought twenty-five (25) white men from Ottawa for the purpose of employing them in connection with our undertaking, but the said men left us voluntarily very shortly after their arrival on the coast.

6. At present my company employs a total of sixty-nine (69) men, of whom thirty-two (32) are white and thirty-seven (37) are Japanese.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing it to be true and knowing it to be of the same force and effect as if made under oath, and by virtue of the 'Canada Evidence Act.'

DAVID H. HAYS.

Declared at Prince Rupert in the province of British Columbia, this 23rd day of November, 1907, before me.

R. L. McINTOSH, S.M.,
A Notary Public in and for the Province of British Columbia, and a Stipendiary Magistrate for the County of Atlin, B.C.

IN THE MATTER OF CHAPTER 104, REVISED STATUTES OF CANADA, AND IN THE MAAATER OF AN INVESTIGATION THEREUNDER.

DECLARATION OF JAMES H. BACON.

Dominion of Canada,
Province of British Columbia.
To Wit:

In the matter of the 'Public Inquires Act' being chapter 104, Revised Statutes of Canada, and in the matter of an inquiry thereunder into the matter of the immigration of Orientals into British Columbia conducted by Wm. Lyon Mackenzie King, C.M.G., a commissioner duly appointed therefor.

I, James H. Bacon, of Prince Rupert, in the province of British Columbia, Harbour Engineer, do solemnly declare:—

1. That I am Resident Engineer at Prince Rupert for the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company, and have full charge of all their operations at that point.

2. That I have at present about seventy (70) men under me in the employ of the said company, of whom sixty (60) are white and ten (10) Japanese. This does not include labourers employed by company contractors.

3. That the average number of Japanese employed for the past year would average rfom one (1) to ten (10) monthly.

4. That the said Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company has no contract or agreement of any kind or nature with any employer or boarding-house master either within the province of British Columbia or without, to supply the said company with Oriental labour. Nor have I received any instructions from the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company to endeavour to bring about any such arrangement, and I have no instructions whatever from the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company with regard to the employment of Oriental labour or the procuring of the same.

5. The policy of the company is to obtain the best labour possible for the services required, but where possible and advantageous, preference is given to white labour.

6. All the Japanese who have been employed by the said company have been obtained in the vicinity of Prince Rupert, and the company have never sent away from Prince Rupert for any labour of this kind.

7. With regard to a letter alleged to have been written by Mr. E. G. Russell with regard to the employment of Japanese by the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company, I never heard of the same until informed of it on this date by Mr. W. C. Brown ,but I say in regard to the same that Mr. Russell had no authority or power to enter into any contract or agreement of any kind with any person for the supply of Oriental or other labour on behalf of the said company, and I say further that

to the fullest extent of my knowledge the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company have taken no steps whatever nor given any intimation whatever of any policy in the direction of the importing and employing Oriental labour nor contracting with any person or persons, firm or corporation with a view of importing or employing Oriental labour, and it is the policy of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company to do their work by contract, and they have no interest whatever in entering into agreements of any kind with respect to the importing or procuring of Oriental or other labour.

8. Mr. E. G. Russell was fully and entirely cognizant of this policy on the part of the company, and I cannot believe that he would be so careless of the interests of the company as to attempt to enter into any contract of the nature suggested, especially as he knew that he had no authority to make such a contract or agreement.

9. That with regard to the Pacific Northern & Omenica Railway Company all the work that has been done by that company has been in the nature of surveying and contract work, the contract being let to Messrs. Foley Bros. & Larson, who are employing no Oriental labour.

10. With regard to contract work generally. It is the policy of the railway company to place no restrictions whatever on the contractors as to the character of the labour that they shall employ. Every contractor is at liberty to employ white or Oriental labour as he sees fit.

Some time ago I had occasion to let contracts for clearing fifteen hundred and seventy (1,570) acres of land on Kaien island. In asking for bids for this work I considered at the first, bids from white men only. One section of this work containing eighty-seven (87) acres, was offered to and examined by several white contractors, and was declined by all. I then offered it to a firm of Japanese by the name of Matsumoto Broters, who accepted it. The rest of the acreage has been let to white men, and while they are at liberty to employ Oriental labour, I believe have not done so.

The section of eighty-seven (87) acres referred to above is being done by Matsumoto Brothers who are employing Japanese. The average force being from fifty (50) to sixty (60). The work will probably be completed in about two (2) months.

As stated above, the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company does not in any way indicate to its contractors what kind of labour they shall employ.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing it to be true and knowing it to be of the same force and effect as is made under oath, and by virtue of the 'Canada Evidence Act.'

JAMES H. BACON.

Declared at Prince Rupert in the Province of British Columbia, this 23rd day of November, 1907, before me,

R. L. McINTOSH, S.M.,
A notary public in and for the province of British Columbia, and a stipendary magistrate for the county of Atlin B.C.

It was shown that several attempts had been made both by the Nippon Supply Company and other persons to secure contracts from the Grand Trunk Pacific Company for the supply of labour on its work of construction, but that all had failed as already mentioned. Mr. Gotoh admitted quite frankly that he had understood Mr. Russell's letter was not an agreement nor an undertaking, but that he had tried to make use of it in Japan to convey the impression that it was a genuine agreement, in order that he might be the better able to secure the labour which he desired from that country. The Japanese Government, however, had made independent inquiries

through its consul, Mr. Morikawa, at Vancouver, and had found out that no such contract was in existence. As late as July of the present year the Foreign Office appears to have given public notice to the effect that no contract of the kind existed. Mr. Boultbee, the treasurer of the Nippon Supply Company, corroborated what Mr. McNichol had said as to his having been approached in the matter by Mr. Boultbee on behalf of the Nippon Supply Company, and having, as Mr. Boultbee put it, been 'turned down.'

The following translation of a letter from Mr. Yoshy to Mr. Gotoh, sent from Montreal on August 10, 1907, shows that at the time it was written the Canadian Nippon Supply Company still found it impossible to make any contract with the Grand Trunk Pacific:

'About two o'clock I called on Mr. Nossé, and Mr. Nossé told me that Mr. Kaburagi was here, and asked for what purpose he had to come to Montreal, so I told Mr. Nossé that I don't know anything about it, that he may have the same business in regard to this railroad business for supplying labourers.

'Now, this morning when I called upon Mr. Nossé to see about the supply of labourers, he was so busy and could not hardly spare any time for myself ,so I saw the chief clerk and asked him what information he has and showing that letter from Mr. Russell. The chief clerk then stated it is to be consulted with Mr. Morse before saying anything, but after all chief clerk told me if Grand Trunk Pacific going to make any agreement with individual firm he had to get advice from Mr. Nossé, as Mr. Nossé asked Mr. Morse to let him know in regard to supplying labourers to Grand Trunk Pacific after getting introduction from Mr. Nossé accordingly.

'When I called on Mr. Nossé he said he had nothing to do with this business, and he would not agree to give me any introduction to Mr. Morse. If it is the same as yesterday I do not think after negotiations to-day we can advance further because Mr. Nossé objects. Also Mr. Kaburagi's movements for the same purpose, so I may return earlier than expected. To-day when I saw Mr. Nossé, Mr. Nossé was surprised that I got the information from the Grand Trunk Pacific. If Mr. Nossé is interfering with this business I don't think I could make any arrangement with the Grand Trunk at all, so it is much better to let this thing alone until we know further about it, so when I return to Vancouver. I may be able to find someone interested with the Grand Trunk Pacific and better make arrangements through them; there is no use staying here.'

Mr. Kaburagi, to whom reference is made in the above letter, also testified that he had gone to Montreal in the summer to see what could be done in the matter, but had been unsuccessful.

The evidence appears conclusive that in no way was the Grand Trunk Pacific Company responsible for any Oriental immigration which has taken place. Mr. Wilson, in his concluding remarks before the Commission, said in reference to this:—

'We have all of us been asking questions with the view of ascertaining whether that company which, as everybody must know, if they intend to commence their operations in the western part of Canada, will require an immense amount of labour, so much so that one of their agents stated that at least 5,000 men would be required; but it is only fair to say that so far as has been disclosed, there has been no contract produced, nor evidence of any arrangement entered into with that particular corporation. But one may be permitted to make this observation in respect to it, that while so far nothing has been done it may not have proceeded from any desire not to employ or to promote Japanese immigration into this country, but to the fact that they do not need labour at this particular time.'

VI.—THE IMMIGRATION FROM HAWAII.

The Planters' Association in Hawaii—United States law prohibiting Hawaiian emigration to mainland—Unrest in Hawaii leads to emigration to Canada—Details of immigration from Hawaii—The arrivals at Victoria—Nature of the several expeditions—Causes contributing to unrest in Hawaii—The 'Admiral Jaureguiberry'—Her difficulties at Vancouver—The 'Kumeric'—Her departure from Honolulu—Her arrival at Vancouver—Show money and its consequences—The 'Indiana' speculation—Her first and second trips—Steps taken by Canada Nippon Supply Company to stop emigration from Hawaii—Cables to Honolulu and Japan—Efforts of Japanese Consuls at Vancouver and Honolulu—Cable despatches by the former—Local Japanese employment agencies in Vancouver—Attitude of the Japanese Government.

THE Japanese emigrant who reaches the Hawaiian Islands passes beyond the jurisdiction of his native country and comes beneath the flag of the United States. If employed in the sugar or rice fields, where most of his fellow-countrymen work, he will find himself the servant of an association of capitalists who control the political and financial destinies of the Island. The Planters' Association of Honolulu's an organization of employers formed for the protection of their mutual interests. Its influence is limited only by the wealth it represents, while the indirect effects of that influence are of vaster sweep than its possessors know. It is reported that the wishes of this association were not forgotten when the United States Government enacted in January of last year, 'that whenever the president shall be satisfied that passports issued by any foreign government to its citizens to go to any country other than the United States or to any insular possessions of the United States or the canal zone, are being used for the purpose of enabling the holders to come to the continental territory of the United States from such other country or from the canal zone, or from such insular possessions.'

It is believed, at least by the Japanese who reside in the Islands that the members of the Asiatic Exclusion League in San Francisco were not without contributions from the association's incidental expenses fund, to assist them in an agitation which by excluding Japanese from the mainland would confine that class of labour to the Islands, to the greater economic advantage of the members of the association. It was suggested by one of the Japanese witnesses who gave testimony before the Commission, that the influence of the Planters' Association was not altogether inoperative in British Columbia to-day. Inoperative it certainly has not been, if we recognize the fact that it was in the efforts of the Planters' Association to lower the wages of the Japanese resident in Hawaii, that we find the beginnings of that unrest which has led to Japanese coming in such large numbers from the Hawaiian Islands to British Columbia during the past year. A ship that landed over a thousand Portuguese at Honolulu, brought by the Planters' Association from Maderia to help weaken the competition of the emigrant arrivals from Japan, carried away from that port within

a fortnight later, Japanese in equal numbers, who failing to find admission to the American continent via San Francisco as before, came at the instance of those who engineered the expedition to Canada instead nor was this the only expedition of the kind. There was, however, a curious irony in the whole situation, more especially as it happened that United States citizens practising law in Honolulu ,acted as the legal representatives of the Japanese Boarding House Keepers, the parties primarily responsible for the exodus of their fellow countrymen from the islands, and that in their efforts to go one better, planters and boarding-house keepers alike were losers in the ventures they had planned.

As has been seen, the total Japanese immigration to Canada from the Hawaiian Islands during the 10 months ending October 31, 1907, was 2,779. This immigration had its beginning in arrivals in small numbers brought by Australian lines to the port of Victoria during the early months of the year. It was in the summer months, with the arrival at the port of Vancouver of the *Admiral Jaureguiberry* and especially the arrivals subsequently of the *Kumeric* and *Indiana* that the citizens of Vancouver saw landing at their wharves a foreign multitude for which accommodation within the city's precincts could not be found. It was then that many of the indifferent were alarmed and that the people at large became aroused to what the possibilities of an unlimited immigration of persons from the Orient might mean. The following table will show by months the arrivals of Japanese from Hawaii at the ports of Vancouver and Victoria respectively.

JAPANESE immigrant arrivals from Hawaii at Canadian Ports during the months January to October, inclusive (1907).

Month.	PORT OF VICTORIA.		PORT OF VANCOUVER.		Total.
	Name of Vessel.	No. of Japanese.	Name of Vessel.	No. of Japanese.	
January	Mona	63			63
February	Aorangi	26			26
March	"	26			26
April	Mona	44	Montara	282	326
May	Montara	59	"	226	285
June					
July	Manuka	14	Admiral Jaurequiberry	241	1,444
			Kumeric	1,189	
August			Indiana	306	306
September			"	257	257
October	Tremont	3			46
	Miowera	43			
Total		378		2,501	2,779

It will be seen from this table that over half of the total Japanese immigration from Hawaii was during the month of July, and it is to be accounted for by the arrivals on board the *Admiral Jaureguiberry* and the *Kumeric,* also that over an additional twenty per cent was composed of those who came by the *Indiana* on the occasion of her trips during the months of August and September respectively, and

that another fifteen per cent came by the *Montara* on her trips during April and May. All of these immigrants were landed at the port of Vancouver.

There does not appear to have been anything exceptional in the causes which account for the arrivals of those who were landed at the port of Victoria. Eight vessels in all disembarked Japanese from Honolulu at this port, but their numbers in all did not exceed 278. They were probably for the most part Japanese who had friends in Canada or who had learned from other sources of the relatively better opportunities of employment which the country afforded. The arrivals by the *Montara* were Japanese immigrants who would probably have gone to the United States via San Francisco, but who found that being from an island possession of the United States they were excluded from landing at that port under an order of the President in pursuance of the provision of the United States Immigration Law above quoted. The expeditions of the *Admiral Jaureguiberry* and the *Kumeric* were each in the nature of two-sided speculations. Their promoters were desirous of changing the attitude of the Planters' Association towards the Japanese residents in the islands; they were hopeful also of reaping a considerable profit from the transportation supplied to the Japanese who might be persuaded or desirous of leaving for Canada. The trips of the *Indiana* were not dissimilar in this respect.

The ground had been well prepared unintentionally doubtless, but most effectively by the action of the Planters' Association. When the Japanese came to the Hawaiian Islands they worked for very small wages. It is estimated that they came to the number of 50,000 or 60,000, this being in part, through the efforts of the planters to replace native labour on the plantation by Japanese coolies, a movement which started some twelve years ago. Of recent years, however, and especially since the Japanese war the emigration of Japanese to Hawaii has been considerably restricted, and the resident Japanese have sought hard to secure an increase in their wages and improved conditions of employment. This the planters refused to grant; instead they began to arrange for the importation of Portuguese labour. The unrest thus created by the action of the planters, the boarding-house keepers sought to intensify through the agency of a local subsidized Japanese press, by means of which advantages of British Columbia as a place where labour was in demand, wages high and opportunity great were brought before the minds of the workers in the plantations. Many were the articles appearing, some as press despatches from Vancouver, others simply descriptive. They were met by articles of a different sort inspired from another source, but the fact that wages for for common labourers on the plantations were anywhere from $18 to $35 per month, whereas on the railways of British Columbia they were from $1.35 to $1.50 per day, gave the best of the argument to those who were seeking to bring about an exodus sufficiently great to make the planters aware of the limited supply of available labour, and secure for it remuneration at an increased rate. A brief account of the several expeditions will serve to illustrate the methods employed.

The Japanese Boarding House Keepers of Honolulu, having learned that with the consent of the government at Washington some 3,000 Portuguese were to be brought under contract from the Canary Islands to work on the sugar plantations, that they were being brought by the *Savaric* and the *Kumeric* of the Andrew Weir line, entered into negotiations with the Theodore Davis Company of Honolulu for the chartering of vessels to take Japanese to Canada. They succeeded in chartering the

Admiral Jaureguiberry, and when the *Kumeric* arrived at Cote in Chili on her way from Madeira to Honolulu the agents of the Theodore Davis Company succeeded in chartering her for the Boarding House Keepers, to be in commission for them as soon as the Portuguese were landed. The *Admiral Jaureguiberry* got away without much difficulty; she carried only a small number of Japanese emigrants, 241 in all. When she landed at Vancouver, however, Dr. Munro, the medical inspector and immigration agent, acting under the regulation of his department that 'No person shall be permitted to land who is a pauper or destitute or likely to become a public charge,' assuming that the several emigrants had no employment awaiting them, demanded that before landing each should produce at least $25 to ensure that he would not become a public charge, and not being supplied with this amount he was about to reject 150 of the new arrivals. Members of the Japanese Boarding House Keepers' Union in Vancouver, on learning that a number of Japanese had arrived at the port and were about to be turned away for lack of funds, knowing that there would be little difficulty in securing for them immediate employment; and seeing the opportunity for a slight revenue in the way of commission for their services, and possibly also out of subsequent business dealings, came to the rescue of the party about to be rejected and advanced in cash the sum of over $3,000 as a guarantee bond that the Japanese would not become public charges. This was accepted by Mr. Munro on the condition that he should be given later a statement showing that employment had been secured by these men and where they were at work. The immigrants were then allowed to land. The passports belonging to these men were retained by the Japanese Consul pending their detention. They were later given to the Boarding House Keepers' Union, which, it is alleged, collected $5 apiece from each Japanese before returning his passport.

While the *Admiral Jaureguiberry* was meeting with difficulties at Vancouver the *Kumeric* was having her own troubles at Honolulu. Having landed 1,400 Portuguese she began to take on board the Japanese who had purchased their transportation for Canada. The planters, greatly incensed, threatened actions against the captain and used every means to prevent the ship putting out to sea, but she got away eventually and arrived at Vancouver on the 23rd of the month.

When the Japanese boarding house keepers of Honolulu decided on the chartering of the *Kumeric* they retained Mr. Charles F. Chillingworth, a United States Attorney resident in Honolulu as their solicitor and legal representative. Mr. Chillingworth had in his employ a Japanese interpreter, Mr. Kirochiro Maruyama. He, it appears, assisted materially in completing arrangements, and accompanied the emigrants on their voyage to Vancouver. The following is a copy of a half-page advertisement of the sailing of the *Kumeric* as it appeared in successive numbers of the Hawaiian *Shinpo,* a local Japanese paper in Honolulu:—

'Tramp steamer *Kumeric* sailing direct to Vancouver.
'Date of departure, 20th of June.
'Passage $36.
'Persons desirous of taking trip to destination please give notice to Boarding House Keepers.
'15th of June last day of booking.

'KIROCHIRO MARUYAMA.

'Honolulu, Corner of Arrow Lane, Britannia St.,
May 20th.'

Passenger lists were given to the keepers of the several boarding houses, who were allowed a commission on all tickets sold to persons who obtained passage at their instance. The usual charge for steerage passage from Honolulu to Vancouver is $30. Allowing for the commission paid there would still have been room for a margin of profit to the charterers of the ship, had they been making payment for transportation to the owners at the regular rate. The arrangement, however, was a better one financially for the charterers than this. It was agreed that a specified sum should be paid for the ship, and the numbers the *Kumeric* was to take aboard was to be limited only by her carrying capacity.

The charterers had learned from the experience of the emigrants on board the *Admiral Jaureguiberry* that it would be necessary for each of the passengers on the *Kumeric* to have in his possession $25, in order that he might be able to comply with the regulation of the Immigration Department as interpreted by its officer at Vancouver. They made arrangements ,therefore, to deposit a sum of money with the Theodore Davis Company sufficient to meet the amount which would be required for all the passengers, which amount was sent by draft to the charterers' agent at Vancouver, cashed by him and distributed among the passengers before they presented themselves for examination to Dr. Munro. The following letter was given by Theodore Davis to Captain Baird of the *Kumeric,* and shown by him to Dr. Munro on her arrival:—

'In order to comply with the immigration law of Canada, we have collected $25 from each of the passengers going to Vancouver on the *Kumeric.* We have done this for the sole reason that if left in their possession they might gamble it away, and on arrival there, they would not have the requisite amount of money; and, therefore, we considered it would not be safe, after collecting this money, to leave it in their hands, but that it would be better to hand the money over to you as master of the vessel, on account of the danger of carrying a large amount of money ready cash. We have, therefore, sent this money to the ship's agents in Vancouver in the form of a draft, which they will cash and distribute the money among the passengers.'

Dr. Munro, having seen this letter of Theodore Davis, was under the impression at the time he passed the immigrants that the whole transaction was genuine and *bona fide.* It appeared subsequently that the money belonged in reality to the charterers, had been put up in this way as 'show' money pure and simple, and that Mr. Maruyama who accompanied the party had come along to see to the getting of it back after all had been landed.

When the *Kumeric's* 1,189 passengers had arrived the Boarding House Keepers in Vancouver were greatly concerned. They had not accommodation for more than 300, and the Japanese Consul, Mr. Morikawa was appealed to. After calling upon His Worship the Mayor, and conferring with Dr. Munro, Mr. Morikawa decided that it would be best to keep the party on board till he would be able to make provision for their shelter. He arranged with the street car company to provide such cars as it could place at his disposal, and arranged that such numbers as could be handled in this way should be taken to Steveston, where temporary quarters were secured; others were to be taken around by boat to the same point on the Fraser. This was an expense incurred in the interest of the Japanese themselves, and Mr. Morikawa thought it proper that it should be met by them. Having been shown the letter which Captain Baird had in his possession ,he secured the consent of the immigrants to hold this money in trust till all were properly provided for, and arranged to have a member

of the consulate collect the money from each immigrant as he came off the ship. The Consul, moreover, appears to have thought that the money had been put up by parties in Honolulu interested in having these emigrants sent to Canada, and he openly stated that it might help to prevent like occurrences in the future if the money did not find its way back there again.

The sight of a number of immigrant arrivals dropping $25 apiece into a sack held by an officer of the Japanese Consul was too much for some of the citizens of Vancouver; the local member of the Dominion parliament and the city solicitor each interested himself in having what seemed an extraordinary proceeding immediately stopped. Dr. Munro was sent for, and gave orders that no further collections should be made and that the money already collected should be returned. Each immigrant, therefore, landed with his $25. Had the money all been collected and returned in the manner which Mr. Morikawa thought expedient, it is probable that none of it would have ever gone back to Honolulu. As it was, many of the Japanese with this amount in their possession spurned the proffers of assistance made them by the Vancouver Boarding House Keepers and sought of their own account the furthernace of the good fortune they had commenced to share the moment they put foot on Canadian soil. Mr. Maruyama had a difficult task; he was able by allowing a small commission to the Boarding House Keepers, to get back with their assistance some of the money, which the Japanese had been allowed to retain, but Mr. Chillingworth, who happened along on the 26th of August, to look after the interests of his clients, frankly admitted in an interview that the whole scheme had been a most pronounced failure, and that those for whom he was acting had been heavy losers by the venture.

But Mr. Chillingworth was not the only lawyer who interested himself in promoting this novel kind of speculation. Mr. A. V. Geer, another American attorney, resident at Honolulu, and a Japanese interpreter, Kinsaburo Mekino, started a similar though separate venture. The vessel chartered in this case was the *Indiana,* which arrived at Vancouver during August and September, carrying in the former month 306 Japanese labourers and in the latter 257.

The following is a translation of an advertisement of the sailing of the *Indiana* taken from a copy of the Hawaiian *Daily Chronicle,* a Japanese paper of which Mr. Geer is the proprietor:—

'29th day of July—Direct transportation to Vancouver, B.C.
'Notice.
'Name of steamer—The *Indiana.* Schedule date, 29th day of July.
'Last day of booking, 25th day of July.
'Fares, $36. The passengers limited to 800.
'Steamship *Indiana* left San Francisco on 21st day.
'If any passenger intends to take the boat, please book immediately.
'Dated July 15th.
'Agency of steamship, Kinsaburo Makino, next door to former Chikusaikman, Britannia St.
'Honolulu, P.O. Box 749.'

The following is a translation of the half-page advertisement which appeared in the same paper in the month following and which relates to the second trip of the *Indiana*:—

'Second trip to Canada.
'Name of Steamer—*Indiana.*

'Schedule date, noon, 20th day of this month.
'Fare, $36.
Booking date, up to 25th of this month. Apply to any Japanese Boarding-house or my office.
'Notice. 1. It is well known, whenever a tramp steamer tries to take away labourers from here, there is always opposition and this naturally delays schedule time which brings inconvenience to the passengers, but this steamship having taken all precautions against such happenings, we can guarantee the departure on time, as was shown on the first trip.
'2. Attorney Geer has already gone to Vancouver to protect all passengers, and will give you every assistance.
'3. Just at the departure of the steamer on the last trip about 150 applied for passage, but they had no chance of getting on board. To avoid such trouble, we ask intending passengers to please book on or before the booking date mentioned above.
'Agent, Kinsaburo Makino.
'Address, next door premises formerly occupied by Chikusaikman. Britannia St.
'Honolulu, Post Office Box 749.
'Telephone, Main 379.'

These advertisements and the number of arrivals at Vancouver tell their own story. Mr. Geer and his partner, Mr. Makino, had hoped to secure 800 passengers on each trip; they were able to secure only 306 on the first trip and 257 on the second. It is believed that the venture was with them a personal speculation. This would seem to be borne out by the fact that the first advertisement contains no mention of the Boarding House Keepers; that the second does so, indicates that the charterers thought the partial failure of the first was due to the non-support of the Boarding House Keepers; that there were other causes at work the smaller numbers of the second voyage show. In any event both expeditions were failures financially to those responsible for them, though they increased the Japanese population in this country to the extent of over half a thousand.

That the numbers from the Hawaiian islands fell off in the manner they did was doubtless due in part to the increased success which attended the efforts of the Planters' Association, but it appears to have been due also to the efforts of the Canadian Nippon Supply Company and of the Japanese Consuls at Vancouver and Honolulu.

The Canadian Nippon Supply Company, as has been shown, profited by the influx from Honolulu to the extent of obtaining only 139 labourers of the numbers who came in. These Mr. Gotoh said proved such poor labourers that he was obliged to sacrifice the contract under which he had put them to work. But the interests of the Canadian Nippon Supply Company as already shown lay with the emigration companies of Japan, not with the uncertain numbers coming from parts unknown. The Supply Company recognized in the agitation which these increases might provoke, that the foundations of their own business was threatened and their promoters endeavoured in many ways to have the tide of Hawaiian emigration stemmed.

The Hawaiian Shinpo of July 29th contains in Japanese the following cable despatch, which Mr. Yoshy admits having sent:—

'Special cable to our office—We received a cable message from Mr. Yoshy, 'director of the Canadian Nippon Supply Company of Vancouver, 9.40 p.m., of the '27th instant. "All emigrants completed their landing on the 26th instant. Have 'not any houses to stay in; cannot get any work; were sent out of the city about '12 miles. White men excited about it. $25 collected for support and other expenses; 'the emigrants had to do this.'"

In the letters and cables sent to Japan by Mr. Gotoh and Mr. Yoshy there are frequent references to the trouble which this immigration from Hawaii was giving them, and the hope was expressed that the Government in Japan might be able to do something to put a stop to it. The following, for example, is a copy of a lengthy cable sent by Mr. Gotoh to the Yokohama Branch of the Canadian Nippon Supply Company. It is dated Vancouver, June 4th, nearly two months before the above despatch from Mr. Yoshy to the *Hawaiian Shinpo,* and before either the *Admiral Jaurequiberry* or the *Kumeric* had sailed.

'VANCOUVER, June 4, 1907.

'Canadian Nippon Supply Company,
'Yokohama.'

'Information received by cable from Honolulu says certain steamers have been chartered for the purpose of importing another load of immigrants; if they are coming in this manner, we do not think we can provide all these emigrants coming out from Japan with work. They are taking such chances to carry emigrants out from Honolulu because the Japanese government has no way to interfere with these affairs; it is most undesirable to bring such a big load of emigrants to this country. Unless by some means these shipments from Honolulu are stopped, I cannot say whether we can take care of all emigrants coming from Japan, so try and see officers at the Foreign Office, and see if there are no means to take some decided steps to stop them.

(Signed) THE CANADIAN NIPPON SUPPLY COMPANY.'

The Canadian Nippon Supply Company knew only too well that any sudden influx of Japanese in large numbers was the beginning of the end with them, and thep put forth what efforts they could to save their own undoing.

More effective, perhaps, in their influence in lessening the numbers of emigrants from Hawaii were the repeated cables sent by Mr. Morikawa, the Japanese consul at Vancouver, to the Japanese consul at Hawaii and the exertions of the latter. In the same number of the *Hawaiian Shinpo* as that in which Mr. Yoshy's despatch appeared, was the following article containing a cable sent by Mr. Morikawa, to the consul at Honolulu. It is headed 'Pitiable Condition of the Emigrants on *Kumeric,* and reads:—

'Concerning the condition of the emigrants who left on the *Kumeric,* the local Japanese Consul General has not received any information. He sent a cable to the Consul at Vancouver, received the cable this evening as follows: Half-past six p.m., 27th day, by Consul Merikawa of Vancouver, *Kumeric* arrived at the quarantine station on 25th of this month. Received strict examination by immigration inspector, and yesterday afternoon they all landed. As sent in prior cable, all immigrants have not had any houses to stay, about 800 sent to Fraser River. I understand they will not be able to secure employment, and they may suffer for want of support. White labour is excited about it, and they made active demonstration. The majority of the emigrants did not know the exact condition in here, and I hope you will try every possible way to stop any more immigrants from there.'

Mr. Shintaro Anno, a Vancouver Japanese contractor, who gave evidence before the Commission, testified that he was in Honolulu at the time, and that he had read in the Japanese papers there three or four cables from Mr. Morikawa to the Japanese Consul at Hawaii 'trying in every possible way to prevent any more immigrants coming here.' Dr. Munro, the Dominion Medical Inspector and Immigration Agent, when asked if he thought any of the employment agencies in Vancouver had had any-

thing to do with the bringing of these men from Honolulu, replied: 'No I don't think so; but I don't know anything about it. I know the Japanese Consul was very averse to seeing them come here. I think the first ship was the *Monteagle*, and from the time of the first arrival in April the Japanese Consul was anxious, and came to see me about it, and asked me if there was no way of preventing these people coming from Hawaii and he came to my office on a number of occasions, and asked me to exercise my powers to prevent these people coming.'

As to other employment agencies in Vancouver having had to do with the influx from Hawaii, my belief is that they had as little to do with it as they had with the immigration from Japan. They prospered in virtue of it, no doubt, and Japanese employment agencies started up like mushrooms in a night as soon as it commenced, but all alike appear to heve confined their attention to securing employment for such Japanese as applied to them for work, and making what they could out of small commissions charged. The members of the Japanese Boarding-house Keepers' Union in Vancouver, which was incorporated over four years ago, profited most, but it was through the increase i nthe number of boarders, not through labour contracts. *The Canada Kangyo ompany,* composed of persons most or all of whom were members of the Boarding-house Keepers' Union, was formed in April of 1907. It gave employment during the six months following to 300 or 400 Japanese, some of whom were furnished under contract and most of whom were from Hawaii. *The Kenny Takahashi Company,* formed about the middle of April, was a one-man concern, which supplied a few labourers to the railways and about 100 Japanese as domestic servants. *The Japanese General Contract Company,* formed during July, supplied between 400 and 500 men up to the end of October. *The Nittoh Employmcnt Company,* formed on August 1st, like *The Kenny Takahashi Company,* supplied mostly domestic servants, about 200 in three months. *The Oriental Contract Company* was an establishment with a large name but doing a small business. This company was formed on the 5th of October, and was composed of one Japanese who had, up to the time he was requested to appear before the Commission, secured employment as domestics for between 20 or 30 of his fellow-countrymen. *The Canadian Japanese Development Company,* formed still later in the month of October, was the *Yushin Company* under a new name. The latter company had been formed in June of the year previous, and had supplied about 50 men to mills during the present year. The principal business, both of the new and the old concern, was that of real estate, insurance agents and general brokers. Of individuals who interested themselves in the supplying of labour on commission was one Hichizo Hori, the proprietor of a local Japanese rice mills company. He admitted having secured employment on commission for some 300 Japanese, most of whom he thought were from Hawaii. These are the only Japanese concerns worthy of mention which were doing an employment agency business in Vancouver. Most of them are relatively insignificant, but their number, names and pretensions have not helped to quiet the agitation which had taken place, while in many quarters it has given grounds to the suspicion that in some way these agencies have been responsible for the immigration of the past year. The present inquiry has shown that they were the creations, not the creators of it.

It remains to be said that with this immigration from Hawaii it is unreasonable ot believe that the Japanese Government could have been in any way concerned.

The following statement made by Mr. Morikawa, in an interview reported in the Vancouver *Province* of July 25, 1907, appears to be a true account of the situation in so far as Mr. Morikawa's own endeavours and the attitude of the Japanese Government are concerned:—

'When an intimation was first received that there was to be an exodus of Japanese 'from Hawaii to British Columbia, strong representations were made to the Japanese 'Imperial Government. The home authorities were agreed with me that the move- 'ment was unwise, and instructed me to co-operate with the Japanese consul general 'at Honolulu in adopting every measure possible to prevent any of the Japanese 'labourers from removing to British Columbia. Many cablegrams have been 'exchanged during the past month in regard to the subject between here, Honolulu 'and Tokyo. In endeavouring to stem the movement we had the active co-operation of 'the Sugar Planters's Association of Hawaii. In a cable I sent to Honolulu just 'before the *Kumeric* sailed, I intimated the unlikelihood of the newcomers securing 'employment here. My advice was transmitted to the intending immigrants, but seems 'to have been completely disregarded.'

It is true that of the immigrants from Hawaii all were provided with passports, many of them passports issued by the Foreign Office of Japan during the present year, but they were passports marked for *Hawaii* or *Hawaii only*. In going to Hawaii their holders were voluntarily allowed to pass beyond the jurisdiction of Japan; in coming to Canada it seems reasonable to assume they went beyond the wishes of the authorities by whose permission they had been allowed to emigrate at all. This seems the proper view to take , but it makes plain this fact, which is of the utmost significance so far as Japanese immigration to Canada is concerned, that whatever may be the power of Japan to control the emigration from her own shores, that power may end when the territorial limit is crossed.

VII.—THE IMMIGRATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

Most of the immigration accounted for—Japanese from Mexico—Relatives or friends of Japanese residents in anada—Japanese immigrants rejected by United States officials and allowed to remain in Canada—System of treating diseased immigrants—Advantage taken by doubtful cases—Expense of treatment borne by companies.

IN accounting for the 2,779 immigrants from Hawaii, the 900 sent over by the Tokyo Emigration Company, the 3,619 who were destined for and admitted to the United States, and the 77 who were rejected, most of the story of the causes of Japanese immigration into British Columbia during the first ten months of 1907 is told. The numbers remaining constitute only 750, of whom it seems reasonable to allow that 300, at least, were persons formerly resident in Canada, and 100, Japanese merchants, officers, students and travellers, who came in the ordinary way. Of the 9 from Mexico all that can be said is that there were that number who came from that country. There remain then to consider the 190 Japanese who obtained passoprts from their government on the production of certificates from the Consul in Canada, that they were relatives or friends of Japanese resident here, and the 151 who came originally with the intention of going to the United States, were rejected by the United States officers and allowed to remain in this country.

The 190 require little in the way of explanation; the numbers are themselves the best answer that can be given to the degree of caution with which the Consuls in Canada and the Foreign Office in Japan have exercised their powers in this connection.

In regard to the 151 a word or two may be necessary.

With some of the steamship companies the United States have an arrangement whereby through the courtesy of Japan she is permitted to station officers at the Japanese ports, before whom the several immigrants desirous of entering the United States via these lines are required to present themselves for examination. If rejected by the United States officer at the Japanese port, the steamship companies refuse to carry them to the States, as the immigrant would with certainty be rejected on arrival at the American port and would have to be taken back to Japan at the expense of the company by whose ship he had crossed the Pacific. It is claimed that knowing this, some of the Japanese desirous of going to the United States, and unwilling to run the risk of rejection by United States officers at Japanese ports ,and others who have failed to pass the United States officials but who have their passports for the United States, instead of taking passage there direct, have purchased tickets for the Canadian ports. After arriving in Canada they have presented themselves for examination by the United States officers stationed at our ports. If rejected, they have been turned over to the Canadian officers, who, if the disease has been slight have allowed them to go to the detention hospital, where they have been treated and if the treatment has proved successful, they have been allowed to remain. It is further

alleged that after treatment many of the same Japanese have presented themselves for examination again by the American officers and if passed have gone to the United States. Such persons as have been rejected by the American officers on account of disease of a serious nature have been rejected by Canadian officers as well, and sent back on the vessel which brought them over. It was only where the disease was slight that they have received treatment. Wherever this treatment has taken place, it has been at the expense of the companies who have brought the labourers to this country, and when rejected, the immigrant has been taken back at the expense of the vessel by which he crossed.

VIII.—CONCLUSIONS.

Scarcity of statistical data concerning past immigration—Advisability of increasing immigration staff on the Pacific—Advisability of discontinuing system of treating immigrants suffering from disease—Immigrants rejected by U. S. officials to be also rejected by the Canadian officials—Restriction of numbers necessary—Factors to be considered in aetermining methods of restriction—Numbers permitted to come to Canada by Japanese Government—The probable effect of prohibition of immigration from Hawaii and of contract labour from Japan—The probable result if such prohibition is not effected—The need for immediate action—Essentials of solution—Some acknowledgements.

IF the narrative of this report, in so far as it relates to the immigration of Japanese into the Province of British Columbia has helped to reveal anything of the true inwardness of the situation, it must be apparent that through the absence of statistical data, the public has lacked an amount of information a knowledge of which might have materially assisted in removing erroneous impressions as to numbers, an all-important factor in discussions on a question of this kind. How many of the Japanese who have come to Canada within the past year were former residents of this country can only be approximately estimated by a process of deduction; no inquiries of immigrants on this score have been made and no records kept. How many have held passports for Canada, how many for the United States and how many for Hawaii, could not have been told without some such inquiry as the present. It is only within the last few months that a record of this kind has been commenced at one of the ports, and none was being kept at the other. In drawing attention to these facts there is no reflection upon the immigration officers at Victoria and Vancouver. They appear to have performed their duties faithfully and well, and to have had such duties in addition to those with which they are already charged, would have made their task impossible of performance. I would respectfully submit for consideration the advisability of giving to the work of the immigration officers on the Pacific a wider significance than has hitherto been accorded or possibly been necessary, and would suggest that a staff adequate to all the duties should be maintained.

The practice of treating diseased immigrants might, it would seem, be discontinued on the Pacific coast without working any hardship save in exceptional cases; it would ensure greater precautions on the part of companies carrying immigrants and at the same time would lessen a little the duties of our own officers. It would seem reasonable, too, that Japanese holding passports for the United States should be required to present themselves for examination by the American officers before examination by our own; if rejected by the United States officers they should be declared *ipso facto* undesirables, so far as Canada is concerned, and not allowed to land.

As for the Japanese immigration itself, the preservation of harmony between the several classes in the province of British Columbia, no less than the furtherance of friendly relations between this country and Japan demands that there should be an effective restriction of the number of Japanese who shall be admitted to Canada each year. It is but fitting, however, that in providing for this restriction, account should should be taken of the methods by which the immigration of the past year has been

induced and that the responsibility for the large influx that has taken place should be placed where it properly belongs.

If the present inquiry has revealed anything, it is that the Japanese Government has permitted to come to Canada during the past year, only the following classes:—

(1) Merchants, officers, students and travellers to the number of about 100 as described.

(2.) Japanese formerly resident in Canada.

(3.)Such persons as may be designated 'relatives' or 'friends' of Japanese resident in Canada, and this only where the consul resident in Canada has certified that they were wanted, and that upon their arrival they would be sure of immediate employment or a home. This number has been approximately 190.

(4) Contract labourers for work under a *bona fide* contract with a Canadian company or corporation, the *bona fides* of which contract has been certified to by the resident consul, and a duplicate of which has been produced at and approved of by the Foreign Office in Japan—a class of immigration which has been allowed only since April of the present year.

With the immigration from Hawaii the Japanese Government has had nothing to do.

Were the immigration of Japanese from Hawaii and all other points beyond the jurisdiction of Japan absolutely prohibited, and a stop put to the immigration of contract labour at the instance of individuals and companies in this country and immigration companies in Japan, and a like reserve shown in the future in the granting of passports to all other classes of persons as appears to have been practised in respect to these classes during the past year, the Japanese immigration to this country would not be such as, having regard for numbers, would be likely to cause any serious embarrassment to this country, or as to which exception could reasonably be taken. On the other hand, unless methods are adopted sufficiently effective to prohibit absolutely all immigration from Hawaii and the importation of contract labour from Japan, there are strong grounds for believing that the numbers of Japanese likely to enter Canada from the former islands will greatly exceed, within a few months, the numbers of the past year, and that the Canadian Nippon Supply Company and other like concerns will carry on a traffic in Japanese labour the like of which has not been equalled in the importation of any class of coolie labour that has ever been brought to our shores. I would most respectfully submit that an immediate consideration of this subject is desirable, not only in the interest of the people of the province of British Columbia, but of the whole Dominion, and that any effective solution demands prohibition of such Japanese immigration as may come from countries beyond the jurisdiction of Japan, and an absolute restriction in the numbers that may come from Japan direct.

In concluding this portion of the report, I desire to express appreciation of the many courtesies and the generous assistance accorded by the immigration officials of the United States and by our own officials in British Columbia. I have also to express acknowledgments to counsel who assisted in the inquiry, as well as thanks to the civic authorities of Vancouver and Victoria for rendering such service to the Commission as it was in their power to afford.

THE IMMIGRATION FROM CHINA.

Beginnings of immigration from China—Commissions of inquiry into Chinese immigration—Restrictive Legislation—Numbers of Chinese in Canada—Imposition of $500 capitation tax—Economic effects of tax—Summary of evidence—The family bond main factor in inducing immigration.

To explain the immigration of Chinese to Canada during the past year, it is necessary to take account of the immigration from China during previous years, and the measures passed by the Dominion Government in regard to this immigration. It was in the days of gold discovery in the mines of Cassiar and Caribou in the early sixties, and of the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway in the early eighties, that immigration from China to Canada took place on a considerable scale, there being no restrictions of any kind imposed. The numbers became such, however, that in 1884 the Government of the day found it necessary to appoint a Royal Commission to make inquiry concerning this immigration, and in the following year, 1886, a tax of $50 per head was imposed on every Chinese immigrant. The number of Chinese who had come into Canada at that time was estimated as between nine and ten thousand. The Dominion Census for the year 1891 gave the total of Chinese in Canada as 9,129, of which number 8,910 were in British Columbia. From these figures it would appear that the large influx of Chinese into British Columbia during the building of the Canadian Pacific Railway was well absorbed, nearly all apparently remaining in this country or others coming in to take their place. During the following decade the numbers so increased that in 1900 the Dominion Government increased the capitation tax from $50 to $100, the increase to take effect on January 1, 1901. It was contended by the people of British Columbia that this was inadequate and ineffective in preventing Chinese immigration to Canada, and the government, in the same year, appointed a second commission to investigate concerning Chinese and Japanese immigration into the province. The census in 1901 gave the total number of Chinese in Canada as 16,792, of which by far the greater portion were in the province of British Columbia. The Commission appointed in 1900 found that, as represented, the $100 head tax upon Chinese was ineffective and inadequate, and recommended that the amount of the tax be increased to $500. Adopting this recommendation, parliament, in July, 1903, enacted a law placing a tax of $500 on all Chinese entering the country, but its provisions did not come into force till January

---

NOTE.—Part I. of this report relating to the immigration from Japan was presented during the month of January. Owing to important official duties which necessitated the Commissioner's absence from Ottawa for nearly four months, it as not possible to complete until July the balance of the report which relates in Part II. to the immigration from China and in Part III. to the immigration from India.

1, 1904. The returns show that between June, 1900, and January 1, 1904, over 16,000 Chinese paid the tax of $100, as follows:—

Fiscal year, June 1900 to 1901	2,518
" " 1901 to 1902	3,525
" " 1902 to 1903	5,245
June, 1903, to January 1st, 1904	4,719
	16,007

In other words, the total Chinese population in Canada nearly doubled during the years 1900 to 1903 inclusive. Assuming that the bulk of the Chinese who came into the country remained here, it would appear that at the time the $500 tax was imposed there were over 30,000 Chinese in Canada, most of whom were in the province of British Columbia. What effect the new legislation had will be apparent from the following figures, which show the number of Chinese who have paid the tax in the years since the $500 limit was imposed.

From January 1, 1904 to June 30, 1904	0
" June 30, 1904, to June 30, 1905	8
" June 30, 1905, to June 30, 1906	22
" June 30, 1906, to June 30, 1907	91
" June 30, 1907, to March 31, 1908	1,482

Paradoxical as it may be, the all but complete cessation of Chinese immigration which followed the increase of the capitation tax to $500, which cessation continued up until the beginning of 1907, and the sharp upward movement which has taken place since, are each, in large measure, the result of the increase in the amount of the tax. The explanation is simple. Prior to the imposition of any tax, Chinese came to this country in such numbers that they not only entered into serious competition with white labour, but being in such numbers, there was more or less competition among themselves. Unfamiliar with the conditions in Canada, having come from a land where unskilled labour earns from 5 to 10 cents per day, and skilled about double, and at most treble, that amount, a wage of $20 to $40 month to a labourer and a wage of $10 to $30 to a servant, appeared to afford the opportunity of saving, within the course of a few years, that fortune which the Chinese immigrant came to this country to seek. Labour agencies and contractors found it a profitable business to bring Chinese in large numbers to the country. Yip Sang, a prominent Chinese merchant of Vancouver, stated that were there no tax at the present time, at least 8,000 would come out each year, and that he himself would bring out Chinese in large numbers. Chinese brought to this country by labour agencies and contractors, or who had come of their own volition, by informing relatives and friends in China of opportunities here, set up what may be described as a natural flow in the tide of Chinese emigration; this tide the tax of $50 or $100 was too small to check.

The imposition of a $500 tax administered a death blow to the work of the labour agencies and contractors. For a while it raised an almost effective barrier against the natural tide. An advance of $50 of even $100 to emigrants coming under the guarantee of service was a risk which agencies or contractors, considering first the security of their profits, hesitated to incur; when this amount was raised to $500, such an

advance could no longer be considered as a business proposition. Likewise, the Chinaman who was desirous of having his relatives or friends share his opportunity, discovered that through the imposition of the tax the economic inducement to immigration had been suddenly swept away. At the rate of wages then current for Chinese labour, he could extend to his friends no hope of being able to recover, even after many years of industrious toil, an outlay for admission so considerable. The Chinese at home looked on the new tax as constituting an all but impossible barrier. The Chinamen in the new land had not yet seen how this barrier was to be surmounted. Then the economic effect of the tax gradually became apparent. The Chinaman who had landed in this country prior to January, 1904, discovered that the state, unwittingly perhaps, had, by restricting further competition from without, created of his labour a huge monopoly; without organization, without expense, without even agitation, every Chinaman became a unit in a labour group more favoured than the most exclusive and highly protected trade union. Then monopoly began to do its work. The Chinaman, discovering his protected position, sought the advance in wages which comes from an increasing demand and a diminishing supply. Within a couple of years the wages doubled, and in some instances, more particularly in the case of servants of a better class, trebled, and even went beyond this point. Yip Sang testified that before the $500 tax was imposed, he paid Chinamen for packing fish, from $25 to $40 a month with food, that now he was obliged to pay for the same services, $60 to $70, that in other classes of employment Chinese were obtaining at the present time $2.50, where, before the tax had been imposed, only $1 was received. Thus, it has come about that as a result of the rise of wages consequent upon the monopoly created by the tax, Chinamen have found, speaking generally, that once in the country, it is possible to accumulate within half the time, the sum desired, and that thereafter the fortune from year to year is apt to be nearly, or more than double what it originally was.

It took about three years for the economic changes to work out, and for the Chinaman to become fully aware of the new situation; once cognizant of it, he began to advise his relatives and friends in China.

With the betterment of their economic conditions, the number of Chinamen returning for a visit to their own country began to increase. This number has grown so steadily since the tax was imposed that during the closing months of the past year, the steamship companies found it next to impossible to afford the accommodation demanded by Chinamen desirous of returning for a short sojourn to their own land. Many Chinamen who have gone on a visit to their own country have brought back with them relatives or friends. Others who have remained in Canada have sent home money to assist in the bringing of others out. Some have simply furnished the information and have left it to the intending emigrant to procure in such way as he might, the amount that was necessary to pay his passage and the tax imposed.

The difference in the remuneration of labour in Canada and China, and the fact that the savings of a few years here constitute a life fortune in China, have constituted the main incentives to emigration. The tax and its economic effects account for the numbers being what they are; the assistance given to their relatives and friends by Chinese, either here or in China, sometimes from humanitarian, sometimes from commercial motives, explain the means by which they have come. In addition to this a number of those who are coming at the present time are Chinese who have resided in the United States at one time, or have friends residing here at present. They know

conditions on this side of the water, and not being permitted to enter the United States, are coming to this country.

The following statements of a number of Chinese who were chosen at random from among the newly arrived immigrants on the *Empress of India* on November 11th, will show the natural causes to which the present immigration is due.

The first Chinaman examined stated that some of the Chinese who had returned to China for a visit had told him of this country and its opportunities, and that he had used his own money to pay his passage and tax; the second that he had a store in China and had come out to start a grocery business in Canada. He had been at one time in the United States. The third said that his brother in Vancouver had given him money to pay the tax; his brother had a restaurant and had sent for him to come over and look after the business; the brother sent money for ticket and poll-tax both. The fourth stated his cousin had come back to China and told him of this country and promised to get him work if he came out here. The fifth had come out on money given him by his father, who was a farmer in Hong Kong, and had been previously in Canada. Some of the Chinese who had come over from Canada had told of the good wages here. He was to get work from a Chinese merchant in Vancouver. The sixth had an uncle in Vancouver who had written him that he would get him work here. His father had advanced the money. His father had been at one time in the United States. The seventh was a boy of fifteen, who was being brought out by his brother, who had been in Canada before. His father was living in Nanaimo and had paid for him. The eighth had a cousin in Vancouver ,who had told him to come, and that he would get employment in his store. The ninth had had money sent him by an uncle who was in Moosejaw, in the laundry business there. He expected to be able to pay back the $500 in four or five years. The tenth had a brother in Hong Kong, who has been in the United States and who had advised him to come out. He had with him a letter from his uncle, who was an export merchant, to another merchant in Canada. He had a brother in Canada who had also given him money. The eleventh had a brother in Toronto, who was in the laundry business. He had been in the United States before and made money there. The twelfth had a brother in Hong Kon, who had given him money. He was going to Toronto to work in a laundry and expected to be able to pay all advances back in four or five years. The thirteenth had had his tax paid by his father in Hong Kong. His father's friends in Canada had come to him and said that this was a good country; his cousin was to get him work. The fourteenth was also promised by a cousin a good place in Vancouver and was going to start a grocery business. His brother had given him money to pay the tax. The father of the fifteenth who was in Canada, had sent money to bring him over. He was brought out by an uncle who had been back in China. The sixteenth was told by a cousin in China last year that this was a good country; his cousin had promised to get him work; he had received an advance from his father. The seventeenth came out under circumstances exactly similar. The eighteenth had been twenty years in the United States and was coming to liv e in Canada. The nineteenth had a cousin in Canada who had written him to come over. His brother had given him money. The twentieth was told by a friend from Manitoba who was here last year, to come out and go into the laundry business. He was on his way to Manitoba. The twenty-first said his uncle in the United States had told him to come to Canada. He had kept a shoe store in China, and paid his tax with his own money. The twenty-second, a young lad, had come out

with his uncle, who had been in Canada before, and was on his way to Ottawa. The father of the twenty-third lived in Toronto, and had written him to come over, and sent money for the purpose. The father kept a restaurant in Toronto. The twenty-fourth had come out with his uncle, who had been in Canada before. His father, who kept a Chinese liquor store, had paid the tax; his father had left him $1,500; he wanted to be a cook, and thought in five years he would make enough to pay back the tax and start business in China. An uncle who was a cook was making $50 or $60 a month here in Canada; in China he would be making $5 in the same time. The twenty-fifth had a friend in Canada who kept a laundry, and who had sent $200 to help him to come over. His uncle had given him $350. His uncle kept a restaurant in Hong Kong, and his friend a restaurant in Moosejaw. The cousin of the twenty-sixth was in the laundry business in Calgary, and had told him to come out. His brother paid his fare and tax; he hoped to be able to pay it back in three or four years. The twenty-seventh had come out with a Chinese merchant at Calgary. His father had given him money to come out with. His father was a teacher. He thought his father could keep a family on $12 a month in China. He expected to pay his father back in four or five years. The twenty-eighth had come out with a friend from Lethbridge, who had been in China and who promised him work. The twenty-ninth had lived in Canada seventeen years before, and kept a store in Lethbridge. The uncle of the thirtieth owned a laundry in Toronto; he was going to work for him. His father had paid his tax. He expected to make $70 or $80 a month. The thirty-first had been employed in coal mines in Canada before. He had brought a cousin from China with him. His cousin's father lives in the United States and wanted the boy to come over. The thirty-second had been six years in Canada. The thirty-third had been in Canada for ten years. He had told his friends in China about Canada. He made $30 a month here, and would make only $4 if in China. The thirty-fourth had had a laundry for four years in Montreal. He was making $300 a year in Montreal. He said that others in China would like to come, but that the tax prevented them. The Chinese in Canada, however, he thought, made more money on account of the tax.

It will be apparent from the several statements herein set forth, that the immigration of Chinese during the past year has been due largely to the interest taken by those already in this country in their friends and relatives in China. Among the Chinese the family bond is a close one, and in their recognition of its obligations they set an example to other peoples The number of Chinese in this country being so considerable, it is not surprising, all things considered, that their relatives and friends should be coming in the numbers they are.

THE IMMIGRATION FROM INDIA.

Beginnings of immigration and number of immigrants—Alleged causes of recent influx—The real causes—Testimony of natives—Advertisements of steamship agencies—Representations concerning Canada—Exorbitant interest charges—Individauls engaged in promoting immigration—Need for supervision of immigration from India, to prevent injustice and for other reasons.

Of immigration from the Orient, that from India is the most recent. Until the year 1905 immigration from India was practically unknown. Such natives of India as visited Canada prior to that time were not immigrants; they were, for the most part, tourists. The returns of the Immigration Department show that arrivals from India to Canada have been as follows:—

From June 30, 1904, to June 30, 1905	45
" June 30, 1905, to June 30, 1906	387
" June 30 1906, to March 31, 1907	2,124
" March 31, 1907, to March 31, 1908	2,623
Total	5,179

Of this number, many were in transit for the United States.

Mr. David E. Brown, general superintendent of the Trans-Pacific Service of the Canadian Pacific Railway, who lived for fourteen years in Hong Kong, and had charge of the company's business in the Orient, when asked before the Commission if he could suggest what had brought the Hindus to Canada in such numbers within the past year, stated in reply that he would say that the movement had had its origin in the visit of the soldiers of the different colonies of the Empire to London, at the time of the Queen's Jubilee; that the Indian troops who had returned home via Canada had been made much of, and were impressed by the country and its opportunities; that Indians were employed very largely as police in Hong Kong, and that it was from among their number that the movement had started in the first instance. Asked what year that would be, Mr. Brown replied 'five or six years ago, possibly three or four, it was about a year after, or two years after the Queen's Jubilee.' When it was pointed out that the Queen's Jubilee was in 1897, Mr. Brown said: 'Well, say five or six years after they would get back home. As satisfactory reports were sent back by these men on this side, others would be induced to come.'

There are some, doubtless, who share Mr. Brown's view, which at least, is an agreeable one, creating, as it does, the impression that immigration from India had its beginnings from a cause essentially imperial and patriotic. On the other hand, the evidence of the Indians who testified before the Commission indicates pretty clearly that the immigration from India which has been a matter of concern to the people of British Columbia, owes its origin to aims and methods which were anything but imperial or patriotic; that, in fact the influx of recent years has not been spon-

taneous, but owes its existence in the main to (1) the activity of certain steamship companies, and agents desirous of selling transportation and profiting by the commissions; (2) the distribution throughout some of the rural districts of India, of literature concerning Canada, and the opportunities of fortune-making in the province of British Columbia; and (3) the representations of a few individuals in the province of British Columbia, among the number a Brahmin named Davichand, and certain of his relatives, who induced a number of the natives of India to come to Canada under actual or verbal agreements to work for hire, the purpose being that of assisting one or two industrial concerns to obtain a class of unskilled labour at a price below the current rate, and at the same time, of exploiting their fellow-subjects to their own advantage. Some of the natives may have emigrated to Canada of their own accord or because of the advice or desire of relatives who had come to this country, but had the influences here mentioned not been exerted, it is certain that their numbers would not have been appreciable.

The following admissions made by Mr. Brown during the course of his testimony, throw some light on the part played by the steamship agents in inducing this emigration. Mr. Brown stated that the Canadian Pacific Railway Company had on several occasions been obliged to notify agents in India to stop booking further passengers from Calcutta, as the company had not accommodation for them on its ships from Hong-Kong to Canada; also that as the result of what had been said to him by the Governor of Hong-Kong, concerning the number of Indians to whom tickets were being sold in Calcutta for passage to Canada, the company had issued instructions to its agents not to do anything in the way of inducing these people to come to Canada.

'Q. When you issued that regulation, did you think they might be using methods to induce emigration?—A. Well, of course, I thought they might; I did not know them as I would our own salaried men, and I wanted to safeguard our position.

'Q. They might have adopted methods for the purpose of selling tickets and getting commissions?—A. It might be.

* * * * * ....

'Q. Receiving commission on tickets, these agents would have every reason to sell as many tickets as they could?—A. Naturally.

'Q. And they would use such methods as they thought best to secure emigrants?—A. Well, I don't know what they would do; I know that so far as the traffic by us goes, we had other interests to take care of, and this is a new movement which surprises us as much as anybody.

'Q. And they filled you up to the limit?—A. At times, yes. Sometimes we had to hold—at least, they would get in a little bit late, or some could not be accommodated, and they would have to be held over in Hong-Kong, but they seemed so anxious to get to this country that they did not seem deterred; they would wait in Hong-Kong and pay their own expenses.'

A glance at the testimony of the several witnesses who appeared before the Commission, and who were selected without any prior knowledge of their circumstances or condition from among several hundred immigrants newly arrived during the fall of last year, will give a fair idea of the causes of the immigration and the methods at work.

Witness No. 1 was a man sixty-six years of age, decrepit, and deaf in one ear. He had heard of Canada through some man in this country, as a place where money could be easily made, and having learned that others were coming out for the same

purpose had mortgaged his land for a loan of 200 rupees to pay his passage, and was paying to the usurer fifteen per cent on the money borrowed. He had been a farmer residing in the district of Hushiapore. He had no intention of remaining in Canada, and had come for the sake of making money, which he understood could be easily earned. Having seen conditions in Canada he was glad to go back.

Witness No. 2 had also come with the hopes of making money. He had been advised to come by a man residing in Port Moody, in British Columbia, who had written him saying there was plenty of money and plenty of work, and had promised to secure him work. It had cost him 280 rupees to come here, and to raise this amount he had sold horses, cows and other possessions.

Witness No. 3 exhibited an advertisement of a steamsnip company, which he translated as follows:—

'Men who are coming to Vancouver.

'Those who wish to go to Vancouver, they can get their tickets from Jardine, Matheson & Co., Calcutta to Hong-Kong, R.M.S. No. 8, Calcutta.

'When you get off first at Vancouver, you will be examined by the doctor, and have to pass the Canadian doctor's examination when you arrive at Vancouver. If you are sick, or are suffering from any ailment, you will not be allowed to land, and will be sent back to your country. To prevent this trouble or inconvenience the company have so arranged that all those who are coming, or wish to buy tickets in Calcutta, when they get their tickets, they will be examined by a doctor without expense. The doctor will have a look at you, and if the doctor in Calcutta should forbid anybody going, his ticket money will be returned in full. When the men have made the arrangements for Hong-Kong they will have to make arrangements there for their catering and food. Every person who lands in Vancouver must have not less than $10, equivalent of 50 rupees, and he will have to satisfy the inspector that he is not a beggar. The price of the ticket is this: From Calcutta to Hong-Kong, outside of feeding expenses, 45 rupees, 156 rupees from Hong-Kong to Vancouver. Agent of R.M.S., Calcutta, 15th of April, 1907.'

The witness stated that a large number of circulars had been distributed in his district, as well as small notices, that they had been posted up in villages on the walls, and at the police station. He had been induced to come to Canada through reading these notices, along with the information he had received from others, and accounts in the papers in India about British Columbia.

The following is a translation of a similar poster brought by one of the immigrants from India, and at present filed with the documents pertaining to the Commission.

'Emigration to Vancouver.

'Men wishing to proceed to Vancouver. Those who wish to proceed to Vancouver can purchase their tickets at the office of Messrs. Gillander, Arbuthnot & Company, agents for the Canadian Pacific Railway and R.M.S. No. 8, Clive St., Calcutta.

'On arrival at Vancouver, a medical examination will have to be passed, and those who are weak and in any way ailing will not be allowed to land, but be sent back to Hindustan.

'To prevent the returning of any man from Vancouver, Gillander, Arbuthnot & Co. will have the men examined before embarkation.

'If the medical officer should fail any intending emigrant who has paid his fare, the amount paid will be refunded him.

'Those passed by the medical officer will have to make their own arrangements during the voyage across.

'Those proceeding to Vancouver must have on their person the sum of money to the value of Rs. 50 (Rupees 50).

'The undermentioned are the fares to Vancouver:—

(*a*) Calcutta to Hong-Kong with food, Rs. 45.
(*b*) Calcutta to Hong-Kong without food, Rs. 35.
(*c*) Hong-Kong to Vancouver with food, Rs. 156.

GILLANDER, ARBUTHNOT & Co.,
Agents Canadian Pacific Railway and R.M.S.

'Dated 15th April, 1907.'

Witness No. 4 was from the District of Ferozepore. He had received letters from fellow-countrymen in Canada, among them a brother who had been induced to come to Canada by a letter from Davichand. Davichand, he said, had sent tickets from Vancouver to India. He thought that about 45 persons had come on information sent them by Davichand. He had in his possession an aluminum token, bearing the words, 'Frank Narsey, Millside, B.C., It was there that his brpther worked. (It might be mentioned that the foreman at the Millside mills is one Uday Ram, who is a nephew of Davichand. Uday Ram appears to have control of the employing of men, and they are paid their wages through him.)

Witness No. 4 was from the district of Julinga. His occupation had been that of an agriculturist. His brother, who was working in one of the mills, had written him to come, and had sent a statement of the wages which he was earning. He could not read, but had come to make money.

Witness No. 5 produced a notice which had been given him by a servant of a steamship company in Calcutta, and which was similar to those above set forth. This man said that similar notices had been distributed in his village, and that some of the papers in India contained articles saying there was plenty of money to be made in Vancouver; that Vancouver was a fine country; that men would make from $1.25 to $2 a day, whereas in India they would earn only 8 annas a day (anna=3 cents). He thought many persons had read these articles which had appeared at different times in the papers, and had been induced to come through them.

Witness No. 6 was from the district of Gulundra. He was a farmer who owned his own farm, and had come to Canada in consequence of a letter telling him of opportunities in this country.

Witness No. 7 was from the district of Luduhundra. He had a brother working at Port Moody, who had written him to come. Other men from his own village had come, having been encouraged by Davichand. He had sold family jewels to raise the money. Four brothers working in the fields in India would make from 300 to 400 rupees in a year, together ($100 to $133).

Witness No. 8 was from Hochipore district. He had been in the cavalry for two years, and had received 31 rupees per month for the first year's services in the army, having to board himself and keep a horse and mule on this amount. It cost 15 rupees to keep the horse and mule; of the remaining 16 he spent 10 for food and drink; sometimes he was able to save a rupee or two a month. A letter received from a friend in Canada had induced him to come.

Witness No. 9 stated that the foreman at one of the mills had promised to give work to those who came, and 200 or 300 men had come from his part of the country. They were all from the Punjab. Davichand had written in the first instance to five or six men in the village and said it was a good country and place to work. It was

Davichand who had promised to secure him work at Millside. Davichand had sent three tickets.

Witness No. 10 was from the district of Julundra, Punjab. He had mortgaged his lands to get money. He was paying twenty per cent interest to a professional money lender for the loan. He could neither read nor write, but had heard of Canada through notices which some of the head men in his village had received and had read aloud. These notices had stated that persons coming to Canada would get $2 a day. 'That the country was good, the work good and everything good.' He was unable to say where these notices had come from. Some of the notices stated what was the amount of the fare from Calcutta to Hong-Kong and the fare from Hong-Kong to Canada. He had seen these notices both in Calcutta and in his native village. He would not have come had he not been informed of the contents of these papers. No one had written him from Canada. He had simply come as a result of what he had heard. All the men in his party were in the same position, they had come because they heard the country was good. When he left India there were about 300 all buying tickets at the same time. They had been examined by the doctor at Calcutta, some rejected, and they had taken two or three different steamers to Hong-Kong, where they were examined again and others rejected. Those who were accepted had all come to Canada by the one steamer from Hong-Kong. The notices distributed in the village had stated when the ship would sail and where to buy tickets.

Witness No. 11 was from Julundra district, Punjab. He was a farmer, and owned his own fields in India. He brought his son with him, and when starting had 650 rupees. A couple of hundred were his own, he had borrowed about 250 and had sold cattle and other things to raise the balance. He was paying 15 per cent interest on the borrowed money He had given a note for the amount, and if this note was not paid, his household effects would be sold. If a man were strong he would earn about 6 annas a day in the fields, and if not very strong, about 4. Twelve men had come from his village. They had heard about this country. One or two of them had received letters from friends. All of them had worked in the fields. An uncle here in America had written him about this country.

Witness No. 12 was also from the Julundra district, Punjab. He also was a farmer, who had mortgaged his fields to raise enough money to pay his passage. He was accustomed to pay men who worked for him two rupees a month and food; sometimes he gave them a few clothes. He had heard about Canada at the police station in his village where he had seen the notices. A friend in Canada had also sent him a letter, giving an address at which he could find his friend who had come to this country. The notice at the police station stated that Vancouver was a very good town, and that a man could earn from two to three dollars a day. It stated that tickets were bought in Calcutta. Three men had come from his village. He was married, and had left his wife and children in India.

Witness No. 13 was also from the Julundra district. He was a farmer, who owned his own fields, and had found, on counting up his earnings for six months, that he had been able to save about eight annas a day out of his fields. He had supplemented his savings by selling some cattle to raise sufficient money to come. He had come to Canada because of what he had heard read by the head men of the village from notices which had been sent about this country. It stated that if men were

strong they could get two dollars a day and that was why he came. Forty men had come from his village within the last two years. About ten had come with him.

Witness No. 14 was from Partapara, Phillour district, Punjab. He, too, was a farmer, who owned his own land. He estimated that he would be able to save 4 annas a day if he did not have to buy any cattle or make any other purchases. When he himself hired men he paid them 2 annas a day and food. Persons working for the government got about 4 annas a day. It cost a man about 3 annas a day to board himself. The witness was paying 18 per cent on 300 rupees he had borrowed. Asked how long it would take him to make enough money to pay back the loan and the interest in India, he replied: 'If I go back he will take my land, and I will die. If I do not give him the money he can take my land.' This witness was married and had three children. He had heard from friends who had been in Canada before, about the country. Work had been promised in one of the mills.

The Brahmin, Davichand, to whom reference is made in these statements, having left Canada a short time ago, it was not possible to have him appear before the Commission. His father-in-law and nephew, both employed in the Millside mills, were called as witnesses. The former said that he was from Ferozepore, Punjab. He had been in the country about a year. His son-in-law, Davichand, had written him to come and had sent him a ticket, the money for which he had paid back after securing employment at Millside. It was on the strength of Davichand's letter and ticket that he had come. He had been met at Victoria by Davichand, who had taken him to Millside. Davichand had also sent a ticket to his nephew, Uday Ram. This witness said that he had received $1.50 a day at the outset, but that the wages had recently been cut down to $1.25. There were 150 Hindus employed at the mills where he worked, and between 20 and 30 white men.

Uday Ram, nephew of Davichand, stated that he was foreman and interpreter of the Hindus at the Fraser River saw mills. The wages at the mills had been cut down 25 cents because the numbers of Orientals applying for employment were increasing. He had been in the country a little over two years. His uncle, Davichand, who had come to Canada a year before he did, had written him to come. Davichand, he said, was a Brahmin physician and as such exercised a considerable influence over men of the lower caste in India; he had, before coming to Canada, been in Australia for five years. Uday Ram said he owned a store at Millside, and that most of the Hindus bought their food and such supplies as they required from him. It was part of his duty, also, to endorse all cheques given in payment of wages. This, he alleged, was only to prevent the possibility of mistakes, and payment to the wrong person.

It will be apparent from the brief review here given of a part of the evidence, that the immigration from India, and the methods by which it has been carried on, besides occasioning unrest in the province of British Columbia, has resulted in great hardship and injustice to many of the Indians themselves. Apart altogether from the question of whether or not they are suited to this country, it is clear that without some supervision on the part of the authorities which will protect the natives from false representations, it is within the power of a few individuals to create a situation not only prejudicial to the lives and fortunes of hundreds of well-meaning and innocent persons, but of grave concern to the British Empire itself.

CONCLUSION.

The inquiry into the methods by which Oriental labourers have been induced to come to Canada, while it has been concerned first with the immigration from Japan, second, with immigration from China, and third, with immigration from India, has revealed one circumstance of like application to all, and that is the necessity, if movements of this kind are to be properly regulated and controlled, of having in each of the countries of the Orient, a representative of the Dominion, whose duty it would be to keep the Canadian Government informed of matters affecting Canadian interests along other than merely commercial lines. Such representatives should be persons familiar with conditions in Canada, and Canadian affairs, and who might be expected to keep in touch with the official classes of the countries to which they are sent, and advise as to political or other policies of concern to the Dominion. A notification of what was happening in India or Japan, followed by intimations at the proper moment to the parties concerned, as to probable consequences, might have avoided much of the trouble of the past year, which, if it has any significance, bespeaks a growing intimacy in our relations with the East, and the beginning of a class of problems which Canada hitherto has not been obliged to face.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

(Sgd.) W. L. MACKENZIE KING,

Commissioner.

OTTAWA, July 11, 1908.