

R 676 Col 384/gle 536877/12  
L.

23rd October, 1907.

Memorandum:

I beg to attach, herewith, statement showing the number of Hindus who have arrived in Canada from the fiscal year, 1904-05 until the end of September last, showing a total of 3,967. Of this number some 1649 have applied for admission to the United States, 375 of whom have been rejected; in other words about 1274 have gone across the line.

During my visit to Vancouver I made a very careful investigation as to immigrants coming from India and I find that they are totally unsuited as immigrants for this country and measures should be taken to prohibit their landing in Canada. The first obstacle in the way of these people is our climate. Last year some twenty-five of them died from exposure and it is likely to be repeated this year. Referring to the numbers who have gone across to the United States, I find that the bulk of the destinations are Southern California, where the climate is more to their liking. Another reason why they should be excluded is the different castes and the refusal to partake of food such as is consumed by white people. Then their habits of life are such that they cannot be considered as desirable immigrants. They cannot be assimilated in the body politic.

In discussing the Asiatic question generally, I have had numbers of people say to me, who were favourable to a limited number of Asiatics <sup>being</sup> ~~to be~~ allowed into the country, that as for the poor Hindu, it would be a mercy to keep him out.

W. D. Scott

Superintendent of Immigration.