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123. Report from American Vice Consul-General Vancouver to American Consular Bureau

DEC 17 1913



Vancouver, B.C., December 4, 1913.

THE PEOPLE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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In a report from this Consulate-General dated November 8, 1913, File No. 840.1, entitled "The People of British Columbia", the question of the admittance of Hindus was covered to some extent, mention being made of a number of them being held at Victoria, B. C., awaiting deportation, owing to the fact that they had not come to Canada by a continuous voyage. The application for their release made by the attorney was granted in respect to 36 of the 39 Hindus detained, Chief Justice Hunter holding that the only reason that Hindus can be prevented from entering the Province is because of undesirability or failure to comply with the monetary requirements, and that the question of their coming to Canada by a continuous passage does not apply. The full text of the decision, as published in a local paper, is annexed hereto.

There are due here in a few days some 20 other Hindus, and it is thought it will be necessary, under the judgment handed down, to admit them to the Province. Should there be no change in the Order-in-Council by the authorities at Ottawa which will counteract the effects of this judgment, it is expected that a large number of Hindus will immediately leave India for British Columbia.

Respectfully submitted,  
*G. C. Woodward*  
*G. C. Woodward*  
Vice Consul-General in Charge.

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(In triplicate)