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Immigration Branch 4

copy
Department of the Interior

Canada

Vancouver, B.C. 17 November 17th 1909.

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

Deputy Minister of the Interior,

Ottawa, Ont:

Dear Sir,

In the course of a visit to the Canada India Supply and Trust Company Limited, I met a Hindu named MEHMUL who appeared to be suffering from some injuries to his legs, and on enquiry, he made the following statement:- On the 24th. of October last he was a passenger on a boat proceeding to Arrowhead, and had in company with him another Hindu named Duloo. That in the course of their journey they were in the saloon where there were Chinamen and some white men. At about 4 a.m. one of the white men brought out a shot-gun, loaded same, and left it on a table with the muzzle pointing in the direction of the Hindus. The white man left the room and shortly after another white man came in, had a look at the gun and pulled the trigger, which went off, and a charge of shot struck MEHMUL and DULOO in their lower extremities.

MEHMUL states that he made a complaint to the Captain of the Boat, and asked him to take the two men into custody, or to give him their names, which the Captain refused to do, and on the arrival of the boat at Arrowhead the Captain telephoned for a Doctor

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who came and attended to the two injured Hindus, while the two white men were allowed to go. The Doctor attended the Hindus and had them sent on to Revelstoke where they were admitted to the Hospital and treated for 14 days, causing them an expense which they themselves defrayed; and, as nobody seemed to take an interest in their case, or inform the Police of the occurrence, they decided to come down to Vancouver and lay the matter in the hands of any of the influential and educated Hindus so that they could obtain justice, and have the two white men apprehended and prosecuted.

I advised the men to leave the matter in my hands for the present until I had consulted and made some enquiries. I made reference of the facts to Messrs. Harkin and MacGill, and it was decided that the Local Provincial Police should be informed of the occurrence, and a copy of the statements of the Hindus be forwarded to the Bupt. of Provincial Police at Victoria.

I see from a copy of the "Vancouver World" that they apparently got hold of the story, which is the same as I have already stated above.

I will advise further any developments in connection with this case.

Yours obediently,

(Sd)

Wm. C. Hopkinson