

Vancouver, B. C. June 17th, 1914.

Dear Sir,

I have your favour of the 17th inst.,
numbered 41.

Referring to your paragraph numbered 1, -
do I understand you to say that you will not permit enquiries
to be made of the passengers on board to each show the sum of
\$200.00 in the holder's possession at the time of such
enquiries? As you have declared to my officers that you
came here for the purpose of testing the validity of the
Immigration Act and the Orders in Council, and since you now
refuse as I take it to allow each passenger to be interviewed
on board as to the money in his possession it would be reasonable
to infer that all of your passengers have not the money in hand
required by the statutory enactment.

With reference to paragraph 2 of your letter;
the board of enquiry is proceeding with its work just as quickly
as it possibly can, hampered as it has been by the methods
pursued by yourself and counsel. Insofar as you are discuss-
ing anything with your solicitor is concerned, both he and
yourself have been assured many times that you will have ample
opportunity of discussing anything with him that you like when
you are brought ashore for the purpose of attending a sitting
of the board of enquiry.

In the meantime your status is that of a
passenger on board the "Komagata Maru," and an applicant for
admission into Canada.

Should you wish any communication to be taken
from you to Mr. Bird, or any other solicitor who for the time
being might be acting for you, I shall be glad to have my

officer bring such a letter from the ship and have it delivered at once.

Regarding paragraph 3 of your letter; I would draw your attention to the fact, as has already been done verbally, that when the "Komagata Maru" arrived at the Port of Vancouver that the passengers, speaking generally, were of three classes. The first class was of men who claimed to have had Canadian domicile. These individuals had the right to come before the board of enquiry in preference to any others. All these cases have been disposed of. The second class consisting of men whom the Doctor refused to pass as being medically unfit were the next to be dealt with. Their cases are still progressing. Insofar as medical treatment is concerned - you have your own medical officer on board, and Dr. Monro is available for any assistance that might be required.

You say that men were called for four successive days without any result. I cannot understand what you refer to, except possibly those days when the board convened and you absolutely refused to allow any of the passengers on board the vessel to leave it for the purpose of attending the sitting of the board. The third class passengers referred to above were the remainder. They will be dealt with as suggested to Mr. Bird in the first instance in the order in which their names appear on the manifest. This document was not prepared by myself or my staff, and we understand it was actually prepared by yourself.

Surely with all the massive detail with which my Department is encumbered, especially when this work has been multiplied by the coming of the "Komagata Maru" and the necessity of boards of enquiry continually sitting, this course of conduct


cannot be objected to. I cannot see that you have any right to be called first; whereas, stated before, your status is as a passenger and applicant for landing in Canada.

Insofar as food and merchandise is concerned; I have many times offered to afford any assistance in my power to see that the vessel is properly equipped - that is to say, any passenger on board the vessel being a male person with the exception of yourself and Gurdit Singh will be brought off at any time and given any assistance that lies in my power for the purpose of having supplies placed on board. This under the terms of the charter party must be purchased at the expense of Gurdit Singh.

Surely you must realize this course to be reasonable, as it will be utterly impossible and a bad precedent to allow any applicant full liberty on shore on the pretext of procuring necessities.

You refer to the provisions of the Immigration Act. These provisions will be carried out. Kindly refrain from writing me again with regard to the matter of purchasing supplies. I have told you and written you many times that I will carry out any food that is brought to the immigration wharf, and I will also allow your steward to effect any purchases in the manner I have so often stated.

Yours truly,


Dominion Immigration Agent
and Inspector.

Dalgit Singh,
Secretary for Charterer,
ss "Komagata Maru,"
Vancouver Harbour.