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Rajani, Kanta Das

1923

Hindustani Workers on the Pacific Coast.
Walter de Gruyter & Co., Berlin.

Index
from
book

Rajani Kanta Das; Hindustani Workers on the Pacific Coast
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preface V. a study of the latent abilities of Indians to adapt to new social and economic conditions.. done for dept of Labor statistics, U.S.
1. most came from Hoshiarpur, Jellundar, Amritsar, Lahore, Ludhiana, Feerozpoore of the Punjab.

virtually all rural and agricultural. very few were wage earners. /30-80 acre farms

7. claims Canadian immigration mostly rel economic/letters from 1st immigrants most important source of information. Virtually none came to stay

9. 1900-2050 East Indians in U.S.? students, businessmen & European Indians 1st immigrants, of sig no. 10. 1904 → 1st U.S. = Bakshis S., Astoria, 1899

11. by 1920 5391 had arrived, 1658 plus lefts. → 100 before 1904.

13. chart over 3543 were rejected at ports-1907-20. 14. 249 deported

15. movement to Calif was wrt cultural background as independent farmers. located in n. cal rice fields, cotton/s. calif.

17. Calif-2742, Wash-1414-new york-292-oregon-208 1910 census.

18. Stockton. Bakersfield, Fresno ceters. Stockton was main sacramento other center-19.

22. first work (U.S.) railroads

note: no competition for this 'hot weather' farming from C and J's.

24. partnership system among Sikhs wrt tenant farming of larger farms.

25-6 sikh farm foremen are v. import rel contracting others to work.

27 E.T. mills--Duncan, Ladysmith, Coombs, Vancouver.

(Tansor Lumber co, Mayo L.C., Eastern, Virginia, Bharat.)

also: Bohay trading co., Guru-Nanak Banking and Trust Co., 7 logging camps

2 shingle factories, 2 groceries, 50 fire-wood stores, 25 farms, 6 lumber

co. in B.C. owned by E.T. 'generally three to six partners' in these

endeavors.

29. note: ranches use labour teams yearly like caste labor rights

31 there was a depression in the lumber industry 1920-1. many went back to India in 1921. in the lumber industry, though, Sikhs are often the last let go.

34. very high sense of labor self-worth, will support each other consistently

35. considers the lower wage argument then not valid.

36. competition against: am, mex, Jap in Imperial valley

fresno-am jap, armenian in vineyards, ranches

San-Joaquinto--Japanese (rice growing)

37. are of the prime age group-25 to 40.

41 claims rapid adaption to techniques of both mills and farms.

41-2 very highly regarded rel attendance.--result of a survey all across Pacific coast, employers regarded them as excellent.

rel. application and endurance "very highly rated"

also speed and dexterity. also innovative.

generally, Sikhs are involved in extensive, rather than intensive agriculture.

53. note: a Sikh preference for piece work over wage based on hours.

55. wages increased from the range 15-20 c in 1906 to 40-60 in 1920

on the average. 1908 annual wages \$450 as op 900 presently (1920) as a minimum

64. cooperate rel buying foodstuffs, sometimes eat together

note: effects of lack of family.. do not skimp on quality of food.

66. dining clubs very common.

68 about a dollar a day spent on food.

religion.

There are (1920) no Hindu or Mslem temples on the pacific coast, save for a white vedanta society one in S.F.

sikh temples at Stocton, Vancouver, victoria

81. "Wherever there are 20 or 25 sikhs, there is a temple also, which is sometimes nothing but a shack used for divine service."

82 debate is the ~~me~~ only hobby or recreation of S here.

84 zero gambling, no drugs much drinking, though.

86. little crime, much litigation in the courts.

93! The outstanding feature of the industrial life of the Hindustan~~es~~es of the Pacific Coast is their business success. The majority of them did not have any money except the ammount required by the immigration authorities

94, They have adapted to the swampy San Joa~~q~~ine and the hot Imperial valley better than americans.

Their gambling impulse is dir4cted towards industrial speculation

"They do not gamble, nor do they spend much time in fishing and hunting.

97-8 survey of bankers considered them good risks, rel to others in their same position.

100."Thrift is another notable virtue of the Hindustan~~es~~es on the Pacific Coast. To live within their means is a special feature of their ~~standard~~ standard of living. "101 a deck of 1000 bank accounts averaged some \$350.

"It might al so be mentioned here that all the Hindustan~~es~~es on the Pacf cast transact their business though banks. While in India, they scarcely knew anything of banks. Whatever savings they had, they invested ~~mainly~~ mostly in ornaments. Soon after their arival in America, they began to understand the importance of profitable~~ness~~ness of te banking system and to use it for all business purposes.

107 notes the extreme rationality wrt success and failure which comes from Indian roots--failure does not destroy one.