

Copy of Diary [William C. Hopkinson, Immigration Inspector]

COPY OF DIARY

Saturday, December 6th, 1902.
Left Vancouver at 7.30 a.m. and arrived at Revelstoke midnight. Put up at the C.P.R. Hotel.

Sunday, December 6th, 1902.
Left the Hotel at 10 a.m. and proceeded to the City. All persons of business being closed could not excepting the members of the C.P.R. Called on the Chief of Police and learned that there were about 60 Hindus in the City employed by the Forest Ranger Co. and the C.P.R. There were no distress signs amongst them, although a few were out of work. Returned to the Hotel at 1 p.m.

Monday, December 6th, 1902.
Left the Hotel at 8 a.m. and proceeded to the C.P.R. yards and found 25 Hindus working at the Coal Chute and around the yard. Payed \$1.00 day. Then drove to the C.P.R. - I learned that the two owners of the mine about the Hindus were charged to have been shot by a white man in the area. He stated that he instructed at Kelowna, British Columbia, the Chief of Police, to take legal proceedings against a Mr. J.C. Martin for the recovery of \$2000 for raising him to the two Hindus named Mahal & Dillan. That Mr. Martin had sent down the sum of \$100 through his solicitors Messrs. Macdonald & Son of Vancouver, B.C. and that after the hearing and Martin's expenses had been deducted as well as the solicitor's fee, the sum of \$80 had been sent down to the two Hindus in Vancouver. Mr. Bridge of the firm of Bridge & Scott confided in the statement, and stated that the whole affair was an accident, for which Mr. Martin had made ample reparation. In the afternoon proceeded to the Forest Ranger Company and found 25 Hindus working in the mill at \$1.00 per day. One Hindu named Bhole Singh left today for Vancouver, en route to India, assisted the purchase of his steamer ticket at the local office. In the course of my enquiries among the Hindus working for the C.P.R. I learned from five of them, viz: Gobi Chand, Subhroto, Lal Singh, Gouri Singh and Basi Singh that a Hindu named Horton Singh employed as a cook by the C.P.R. was levying blackmail on each of them to the extent of \$2.50 a month, for securing them their present employment. They were unable to speak English hence their inability to bring the matter before the white Foreman. I wrote Mr. DeBull on this matter and asked if I may bring the matter to the notice of the Divisional Supt. Returned to the Hotel at 8 p.m.

Tuesday, December 7th, 1902.
Left Revelstoke at 10 a.m. and arrived at Pritchard at noon, where there was still one Hindu mill in operation and which was to close down at the end of the week, and put 25 Hindus out of work, another mill at this place had burnt down a short time ago, and put 20 Hindus out of work. These had gone down to Vancouver. Started the steamer for West Kelowna en route to Kelowna. From the Officers of this boat I learned that shooting took place on the P.C. "Kootenay".

IDENTIFIER

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ARTIST

Hopkinson, William Charles, 1880-1914