# PART II

# JAPANESE IMMIGRATION

TORONTO, March 8, 1902.

The Honourable R. W. SCOTT,
Secretary of State,
Ottawa.

I have the honour to transmit herewith Part II of the Report on Chinese and Japanese Immigration, namely, that part relating to Japanese Immigration.

Much that was said in Part I, as to the effect of Chinese immigration upon the various industries, upon white labour, and in retarding the settlement of the country, applies with equal force to the Japanese. Part II is therefore supplementary to Part I, and deals principally with those industries in which the Japanese are employed, namely, the fisheries and lumber industries, and employment incidental to these, as boat building and getting out shingle bolts, cordwood cutting, &c.

The Province of British Columbia, the Japanese, Chinese and labour unions were represented by eminent counsel, who requested and received permission to examine the witnesses in respect of the matters which they represented. This of course took very much more time than if the examination had been limited to questions asked by the Commissioners. It was the course adopted in the important commission appointed by the United States Congress to inquire into Chinese immigration, and was the only course which could give satisfaction to all concerned, and offered the fullest opportunity to educe evidence that might be thought material to the different interests. Counsel for the province attended throughout, and counsel for the Chinese and Japanese at all the principal places where evidence was taken, the labour unions were only represented at Vancouver. The plan adopted of inquiring into each industry and the presence of counsel unavoidably occupied much time, but the Commissioners pressed the work to the limit of consent of the attending counsel, holding two sittings each day. Every trade and calling employing oriental labour was inquired into, and most important information for the purpose of comparison was obtained on the American side in regard to industries developed under like conditions as obtain in British Columbia.

This whole mass of evidence—containing about seventeen or eighteen thousand folios—to be of any value had to be arranged, sifted and passed upon. Each subject and industry was dealt with separately, and the final conclusion reached from the consideration of the whole.

The evidence quoted on each subject matter fairly represents the whole, and in a comparatively short space renders the vast mass of evidence available for reference.

The Commissioners desire to express their appreciation of the excellent work done by the secretary, Mr. Francis J. Deane, gathering data, in bringing the subject of the

Commission prominently before all parties interested before the formal sittings of the Commission, thus giving the fullest opportunity for the expression of opinion and presentation of facts by all parties interested, and during the sittings of the Commission in arranging for the different interests to present their views and procuring the attendance of witnesses, and in every way facilitating the work of the Commission; so that absolutely no time was lost in waiting for witnesses or otherwise.

The Commissioners also desire to express satisfaction for the efficient work done by Mr. Alexander Crawford, stenographer to the Commission, in taking the evidence. His work was much more arduous than court work, because it was continuous and the hours longer.

The argument of counsel representing the Province of British Columbia and the Chinese will b found in the Appendix, Part I, and that of counsel representing the Japanese in the Appendix to Part II.

The Commissioners desire to acknowledge the great assistance rendered by counsel who represented the different interests. *(See* Appendix to Parts I and II for argument of counsel.)

The importance of the inquiry, involving questions Provincial, National and International, and relating to every natural industry in the province, pressed upon your Commissioners the necessity of approaching the questions involved with the utmost care, and of avoiding any conclusion that was not in their opinion abundantly supported by the evidence. Both in taking the evidence and in the more laborious work of preparing the report no more time has been occupied than was absolutely essential, commensurate with the difficulty and importance of the subject matters dealt with.

R. C. CLUTE,
Chairman.

## CHAPTER I.—JAPANESE IMMIGRATION.

Prior to the year 1896 no record was kept of the number of Japanese who arrived British Columbia, and the records for 1896 are said to be imperfect.

TATEMENT showing the number of Japanese landed at Victoria, B.C., as follows :—

| | |
|---|---|
| July 1, 1896, to June 30, 1897 | 691 |
| July 1, 1897, to June 30, 1898 | 1,189 |
| July 1, 1898, to June 30, 1899 | 1,875 |
| July 1, 1899, to June 30, 1900 | 9,033 |
| July 1, 1900, to June 30, 1901 | 1,125 |
| Total from July 1, 1896, to June 30, 1901 | 13,913 |

From July 1, 1899, to April 13, 1900, there arrived at Vancouver 520 Japanese, of hom 390 were destined for Canada. The great influx occurred between July 1, 1899, nd August 30, 1900, amounting to 11,272. The following table will show the number f arrivals per month :—

| — | Canadian Ports. | Other Ports. | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1899. | | | |
| July | 241 | 125 | 366 |
| August | 248 | 99 | 347 |
| September | 260 | 146 | 406 |
| October | 184 | 188 | 372 |
| November | 519 | 212 | 731 |
| December | 19 | 85 | 104 |
| 1900. | | | |
| January | 298 | 181 | 479 |
| February | 417 | 246 | 663 |
| March | 934 | 674 | 1,608 |
| April | 3,020 | 1,773 | 4,793 |
| May | 2,667 | 1,826 | 4,493 |
| June | 1,495 | 494 | 1,989 |
| Total, 1899-1900 | 10,302 | 6,049 | 16,351 |
| 1900. | | | |
| July | 685 | 173 | 858 |
| August | 285 | 41 | 326 |
| September | 44 | 16 | 60 |
| October | 62 | 12 | 74 |
| November | 39 | 19 | 58 |
| December | 14 | 26 | 40 |
| 1901. | | | |
| January | 13 | 14 | 27 |
| February | 13 | 35 | 48 |
| March | 27 | 36 | 63 |
| April | 5 | 42 | 47 |
| May | 12 | 70 | 82 |
| June | 24 | 89 | 113 |
| Total, 1900-1901 | 1,223 | 573 | 1,796 |
| 1901. | | | |
| July | 13 | 86 | 99 |
| August | 6 | 47 | 53 |
| September | 7 | 90 | 97 |
| October | 13 | 123 | 136 |
| November | 7 | 90 | 97 |
| December | 10 | 166 | 176 |
| Total, 1901 | 56 | 602 | 658 |

| | |
|---|---|
| From July, 1899, to December 31, 1901— | |
| For Canadian ports | 11,581 |
| For other ports | 7,224 |
| | 18,805 |

JAPANESE IMMIGRANTS TO PUGET SOUND.

The following statement is instructive as showing not only the number of Japanese immigrants in the Pacific coast states, but also the number that were rejected under their immigration laws :—

3,631 Japanese immigrants arrived at Port Townsend, Washington State, between July 1, 1898, and Nov. 30, 1899 ; of these, 904 were examined by United States immigration officers stationed in Canada, and 2,727 were examined and passed at the port of arrival.

The number which entered Puget Sound customs district for various points in the United States between December 1, 1899, and November 30, 1900, was 9,770, of whom 266 were rejected. The total number of Japanese admitted through the ports of Washington State for 29 months, from July 1, 1899, to November 1, 1900, was 13,401 ; rejected as above, 266. The last United States census gives the number of Japanese in Washington State as 5,617.

The commissioner of labour for California gives the total number of Japanese in th state as 14,296 (by the last United States census it is stated to be 10,151) ; of these over 5,000 entered during the last two years. From Victoria by card 348, from Victoria by card, 1899, 274, and during 1900, up to December 1, 1,000, or a total of 1,622 ; which, added to the 904 who entered the Sound District from Canada, gives a total of over 2,500 that entered these two states from Canada during the last two years.

The present census shows that there are 4,759 Japanese in Canada, of whom 4,578 are in British Columbia.

There is no record to show how many Japanese have returned from Canada to Japan.

JAPANESE IN THE UNITED STATES.

Of the 86,000 Japanese returned in 1900, 61,111 were enumerated in Hawaii ; 279 in Alaska, 284 in military and naval stations abroad, and 24,326 in the United States proper, and of the latter number 23,376 were found in the western states and territories, distributed as follows :

| | |
|---|---|
| Arizona | 281 |
| California | 10,151 |
| Colorado | 48 |
| Idaho | 1,291 |
| Montana | 2,441 |
| Nevada | 228 |
| New Mexico | 8 |
| Oregon | 2,501 |
| Utah | 417 |
| Washington | 5,617 |
| Wyoming | 393 |

The recent rapid increase of the number of Japanese in these states and British olumbia will appear from the following:

| | 1900. | 1890. | 1880. |
|---|---|---|---|
| rizona | 281 | 1 | 2 |
| alifornia | 10,151 | 1,147 | 86 |
| olorado | 18 | 10 | .... |
| daho | 3,379 | 1,291 | .... |
| ontana | 2,441 | 6 | .... |
| evada | 228 | 3 | 3 |
| ew Mexico | 8 | 3 | .. |
| regon | 2,501 | 25 | 2 |
| tah | 417 | 4 | .... |
| Vashington | 5,617 | 360 | 1 |
| Vyoming | 393 | .... | .... |

The following table gives a comparison of the number of Japanese, with the total opulation of the Pacific coast states and British Columbia:

*British Columbia.*

| | |
|---|---|
| otal population | 177,272 |
| Number of Japanese | 1,578 |

*Washington.*

| | 1880. | 1890. | 1900. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total population | 75,116 | 349,390 | 518,103 |
| Number of Japanese | 1 | 360 | 5,617 |

*Oregon.*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total population | 176,768 | 313,767 | 413,536 |
| Number of Japanese | 2 | 25 | 2,501 |

*California.*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total population | 864,964 | 1,208,130 | 1,485,053 |
| Number of Japanese | 86 | 1,147 | 10,151 |

*Disproportion of Japanese Males and Females*

| | Males. | Females. |
|---|---|---|
| Washington | 5,432 | 185 |
| Oregon | 2,405 | 96 |

The disproportion in British Columbia is about the same. The exact figures are not yet obtainable from the census returns.

CAUSE OF THIS LARGE INFLUX.

Different reasons have been assigned for this large influx of Japanese into Canada and the United States during the year 1900. The reasons given by the commissioner of the bureau of labour statistics of California are as follows: He says, I made considerable effort to ascertain the reason for the abnormal increase in the number of Japanese arrivals during the early part of 1900, with the result that three reasons, that seemed in some degree plausible, were advanced, namely:—

1st. The generally advertised prosperous condition of the country, and reported demand for labour, which naturally stimulates immigration.

2nd. That emigration recruiting agencies in Japan had booked a large number of Japanese emigrants for Honolulu; that about the time they were aboard ship the bubonic plague with its resulting quarantine, etc. appeared at that place, and stopped the sending of the emigrants there and that the agencies named, rather than surrender their commissions, induced the emigrants in most cases to change their destination from Honolulu to San Francisco, and in this connection will be noted that the time of the coming of the largest numbers of Japanese per month was coincident with the time of the prevalence of the said plague in Honolulu.

3rd. That, taking advantage of supposed favourable conditions, emigration agencies in Japan were extremely active in fostering the exodus of Japanese to California and other American ports for the sake of accruing commissions.

Now, as to the cause of the sudden decrease in the said arrivals, which became apparent about May and June, 1900, it seems authoritatively to be stated that it has been in a large part due to the action of the Japanese Government in restricting the departure of its subjects for American points.

In this connection the evidence of Mr. Frank Burnett, of Vancouver, president of the United Canners, Limited, is important. He says: I was in Japan last winter and took considerable interest in the matter while I was over there. I got introduction to different individuals, and explained the situation to them, that is the large number that came in here last year, and that a great deal of feeling was being created against the Japanese on that account. They seemed to realize the importance of preventing any great immigration of their people here or of reducing the present number that is allowed by law to come from each district. There has been a reduction imposed. That had been imposed prior to my visit. They seemed willing to further restrict and seemed anxious to maintain friendly relations with us.

Q. Can you explain why it was such a large number of them came here at one time?—A. It was about the time I was going over there, and I got the credit for bringing them over; about that time the Philippine and the Hawaiian Islands had both come under American sovereignty; and on that account those two countries that hitherto received large numbers of Japanese immigrants were closed from any further immigration from Japan, and for that reason the tide of immigration was changed to this country.

Q. How could they accomplish that; there is no law in the United States against Japanese immigration?—A. They use their Alien Act to stop them; and there is no doubt that was the cause of so many Japanese coming here last year, and not because I happened to be in Japan.

Alexander R. Milne, C.B., Collector of Customs at Victoria, said: The Japanese have decreased in number since August last. There was some restriction placed on the transportation from Japan, I believe. That was the chief cause. I believe the Japanese Government imposed some restrictions on their people leaving the country, and that that was the chief cause of the falling off in the number of Japanese coming here. . . The Japanese now have a rule by which they only permit a certain number to leave Japan; I think it is 47 a month they will give a permit to.

HOW JAPANESE IMMIGRATION IS PROMOTED.

In November, 1898, a Commissioner was sent by the United States Government to Japan for the purpose of investigating the subject of Japanese immigration into the

United States. (See Appendix.) He points out that 'Under the Japanese law every subject is registered in his native prefecture, which he may not leave without permission of the authorities and from which he, or she, must obtain their passport, when they desire to emigrate. Inasmuch as the Government claims the perpetual allegiance of its subject, it grants a passport, limited to three years, and I was informed that a large part of the emigrants who thus go abroad return to their native land sooner or later, and consequently few Japanese, and indeed I may say none, come to the United States with a view to remaining or making homes, the theory of their emigration system being for the promotion of emigration as an educational process and money-making investment for a temporary period, the profits of which accrue jointly to the promoter and to the emigrant, the Japanese Empire being the recipient of what may be described as the unearned increment through its people that thus go abroad, through their contact with more enlightened people, and by reason of the accumulated capital, which they return to their native land. It is through the tenacious allegiance which the subjects of Japan yield to their sovereign that the promotion of emigration becomes a reasonably safe business.'

It further appears from this report that there are twelve companies organized to promote emigration, with a total capital of 558,999 yen (a yen, about 50 cents gold value). Six of these companies have agents in the United States and Canada. They have offices at all important emigration centres. At Tokyo they have an association of emigration companies, which is in the nature of an Emigration Board of Trade. It is said that the offices of these companies are well equipped for business purposes; that the managers and stockholders are among the leading business men and politicians of Japan. The emigration companies all advertise more or less in the newspapers for contract labour, designating them to go to Hawaii, Peru and Mexico, and they advertise through circulars, pamphlets and by means of travelling solicitors for emigrants going to the United States.

It is further stated that 'the documentary evidence herein presented as a whole shows that the business is vigorously and aggressively prosecuted through personal solicitations of agents, whose earnings depend on their zeal and success. The emigration companies are all provided with blanks for obtaining passports. Agents of the steamship companies and emigration companies do not occupy offices together; they are nevertheless very closely connected through the brokers and hotel keepers, and it is hard to draw a line of separation of interest. Many of the hotel keepers are emigration brokers and nearly all brokers are intimately connected with the emigration companies; while it is safe to assert that if the steamship companies were to establish and maintain a fixed rate for steerage passage, it would cut the profits of the brokers, hotel keepers, and emigration companies 50 per cent, and it seems to me conclusive that if it were not for the existence of the emigration companies and these agencies for the collection of emigrants to go abroad, the profits of the steamship companies would be materially reduced. By their present methods the steamship companies, whether intentionally or otherwise, clearly offer inducements for the emigration companies to solicit the emigrants, both being large capitalized enterprises that have a mutual interest, which is inseparable, as long as they are allowed to exist side by side, the one to obtain fees from emigrants and the other to receive steerage passage.

'Great stress was laid by Japanese officials upon the fact that the Japanese government requires every emigrant to provide sureties to provide for his return to the country in case of need, before granting a passport. I talked with many men of long experience in Japan and found but one universal opinion, that not ten per cent of the emigrants leaving that country could or would go unless they had assistance or were helped or assisted by some person or influence. Aside from the facts herein presented the coolie class could find no proper sureties, such as are required by the government, unless some arrangement was provided by responsible parties for looking after this class of emigration after they land in the United States.'

The commissioner further states that 'the great mass of emigrants, say 95 per cent of the whole, are coolie labourers and small farmers who class as coolies.'

He places the population of Japan at forty-three millions, with a density of 293 to the square mile, and says: The great mass of the people live by farming, which includes silk raising and fishing, at which occupation they earn from 100 to 150 yens per annum, which suffices to support a family of about four—a man, a wife, and two or three children. In large families the mother and other children work. The agricultural implements used are of the most primitive character, and the allotment of land to the family or individual is in most cases less than an acre. There are no division fences, each little tract being divided from its neighbour by a little ridge of dirt from 1½ to 3 feet wide. Factory employees earn from 15 to 20 sen per day. Farm labourers earn from 15 to 30 sen per day, depending upon locality. The labour which Japan sends abroad is pauper labour. My reasons for thus classing it are that the over-population of Japan has reduced the value of labour below a decent living point, measured by civilized standard, and further that this competition is increasing in such force that it seems unreasonable to assume the probability of the value of labour approximating the cost of future products and living.

The agricultural interests of Japan are practically incapable of expansion, which forces all surplus labour into the employment of various manufactures and into fishing. Japan's market for manufactures is, and must for fifty years remain, very limited, if we except silk, pottery, curios, &c., and even the demand for these native products must find a limit.

The question naturally occurs, how do they raise sufficient money to emigrate? As I intimated in my report of the 24th ultimo, the emigration companies in certain instances furnish them money, sending a banto along with the emigrants to look after their interests. I found, by inquiring among the people, that it requires from five to ten years for a Japanese farmer to save 200 yen. Some undoubtedly do this, but the majority secure money by selling their holdings and by borrowing from the emigration companies, friends and relatives, upon whom they are more or less dependent, going their security. The laws are very strict in Japan concerning the collection of debts. There are no exemptions, and hence in view of the fact that every emigrant to the United States is able to send money home, this is a safe business. Besides, the pickings of the emigration companies enable them to get back part of the funds loaned the emigrant before he sailed. I cannot, of course, prove this state of facts but all the circumstances occur in supporting this view. (For complete statement of wages paid in Japan see Appendix.)

In confirmation of the statement above quoted, 'that the Japanese Government requires every emigrant to provide sureties for his return in case of need before granting a passport,' may be quoted the following evidence referred to in the report of the Bureau of Labour statistics for the State of California for the year 1900, from the evidence of a Japanese who conducts an employment agency in San Francisco:

Q. Does your government require all Japanese coming to this country to go back? Don't your papers require you to go back in three or four years, or get leave to stay longer?—A. Yes, sir, any that come here want to get back as quick as possible.

Q. You think that the plague in Honolulu made more Japanese come here?—A. Yes, I think that is the reason.

Q. Why is it?—A. The reason is that a great many labourers have been going to Honolulu, and an order has been issued that no more labourers can go there until the sickness at that place dies out. Some Japanese emigration societies promised to send the labourers to Honolulu, and when they could not be sent there they were sent here instead. The emigration societies got a commission from each boy, and do not like to pay it back.

Q. How much commission?—A. $5.

Q. For how long is your passport issued?—A. I would have to ask the consul to renew it.

Q. Does not your government command you to come back, or have your passport renewed?—A. They sometimes stay without getting new passports. In my passport

e is no time stated; came as a student. They are more strict with labourers. When go back they are punished.

The Commissioner of Labour for the State of Washington, in his report dated uary 7, 1900, referring to this class of immigration, says:

Asiatic immigration to the United States has assumed such proportions, and the ainty of its constant increase, unless something is done to stop it, is so self-evident, what to do to prevent this subtle ruinous conquest of our American working men women upon the Pacific coast has now become a question of such importance that report would not be fulfilling its purpose did it not present the matter to you for consideration. . . . .

So long as this class of immigration was limited to the number who, of their own tion and means, came to our shores, their presence could not be said to be a public ace, but when they began coming by the shipload, with not a woman or child mpanying them, the thoughtful, patriotic American had to look for other reasons n those which prompt the white man to leave his native land in Europe and come ng us. . . . .

The Asiatic does not come here to become an American; I know this from personal uiry. According to the strictest meaning of the term, he is here as an exploiter; her does his presence here, when measured by the attending consequence to our own ple, constitute an equal exchange for that which he receives. . . . .

Certain legal persons which the American people have created say they must have se Japanese in order to carry on their business. I admit that if a few of them are wed to equip themselves with this class of help the others must follow suit or suffer n an unequal competition, hence in order to be fair and treat all alike we must either w all to have them or deny the privilege to each. If we allow all to have them it ns the displacement of at least five million American working men and women to ke room for enough Japanese to do their work. If we allow them proportionate ges to that of Americans, their saving power being so much greater on account of ng expenses, this number of alien wage-earners would form a constant and dangerous in upon our gold supply; while their presence as employees in our industries will d to a general reduction of wages, which will not stop until an equilibrium is reached ween the wages paid in Japan and the United States, plus the cost of coming and ng from one country to the other. Long before this condition is reached there will trouble between the two races which will undo all that has been done in the work of ablishing friendly relations in trade and commerce between the respective governnts of the two races. . . . . .

When questioned as to their purpose in coming here the answer was 'to work five rs and then return to Japan and buy a ton (one-fourth of an acre) of land and tle down.' Discerning that most of them were boys and young men I made particar inquiry about the amount of money they had earned in their lifetime, and did not l one who, if he had saved every yen that he had earned, could have had enough to buy suit of blue and pay his fare on the vessel, to say nothing of having the $30 to flash fore the inspector in order to be allowed to land. When questioned as to how they tained the money they all told the same story of how their father, or some other relae, had mortgaged their little home in Japan to raise the money. Their first earnings ng to pay off the mortgage; after that save until they had enough to go back to pan. From these little men I learned that craze to get to the United States to rn and save a competency is as widespread and intense throughout Japan as is the sire of Americans to obtain a bonanza gold placer claim in Alaska. Yet they no more end to spend their lives here than do our people intend to live and die in Alaska, and these grounds I doubt very much if they are entitled to be classed as immigrants; wever, they were able to comply with every requirement and must be allowed to ne in.

Of those who come in via British Columbia I am convinced that a large majority e contract labour slaves. Of the wisdom or good policy of educating Japanese students this country to fit them to work both ends of a contract labour bureau by which they rter in the flesh and blood of their fellow Japanese I am in serious doubt.

WAGES PAID IN JAPAN.

The following rate of wages paid in Japan is quoted from the Report of the United States Commissioner above referred to:—

| Occupation. | August, 1897. Sen. |
|---|---|
| Carpenters | 60 |
| Sawyers | 70 |
| Cabinet-makers | 70 |
| Shoemakers,—first class | 120 |
| second class | 80 |
| third class | 50 |
| Tailors,—Japanese style | 40 |
| Foreign style,—first class | 150 |
| second class | 100 |
| third class | 80 |
| Blacksmiths | 80 |
| Ship carpenters,—first class | 80 |
| second class | 70 |
| third class | 60 |
| Gardeners | 50 |
| Coolies | 40 |

(In estimating the wages as given above it must be borne in mind that it is given in Japanese. A sen is a tenth part of a yen, and a yen is equal to about 50 cents of our money.)

The following table from the report of the California Bureau of Labour Statistics gives the wages paid in Japan in 1897. It is said that wages in Japan had greatly increased within the several years prior to this date.

Wages in Japan, 1897—(In Canadian Money.)

| Occupations. | Day. | Month. |
|---|---|---|
| | $ cts. | $ cts. |
| Blacksmiths | 0 24 | ..... |
| Brickmakers | 0 28 | ..... |
| Carpenters | 0 24½ | ..... |
| Fishermen | 0 19½ | ..... |
| Gardeners | 0 23½ | ..... |
| Joiners | 0 22½ | ..... |
| Labourers | 0 17 | ..... |
| Labourers, agricultural (male) | 0 15 | ..... |
| Labourers, agricultural (female) | 0 9½ | ..... |
| Sawyers | 0 25 | ..... |
| Servants, domestic | ..... | 1 41 |
| Servants | ..... | 0 79½ |
| Ship carpenters | 0 25 | ..... |
| Shoemakers | 0 23 | ..... |
| Shoemakers, Japanese shoes | 0 19 | ..... |
| Stone-cutters | 0 27½ | ..... |
| Tailors, European clothing | 0 29 | ..... |
| Tailors, Japanese clothing | 0 18½ | ..... |
| Wheelwrights | 0 20½ | ..... |

(For full list see Appendix.)

From the above list it will be noticed that the wages of labourers is 17 cents, and farm labourers, 15 cents, a day. Domestic servants, $1.41 per month, servants, 79½ cents a month, fishermen, 19½ cents a day. These are the principal classes who come to Canada.

Gin Kanga, employed on the 'Empress of China,' was born in Japan, referring to ie Japanese who came over on the 'Empress of China,' says: They come from the outhern part of Japan, beyond Kobe. I think most of the people are fishermen over iere. Those who work in the woods here are in Japan, farmers. Farm labourers in apan are very cheap. I cannot tell you for sure, but I think $5 or $6 a year of your ioney, and supply them with food, clothing and houses to live in. On many of the arms they work on shares, one-fourth or one-sixth of the produce for working it. I iink somebody must put the money up for them to come here,—the emigration office.

S. Fuseya, a Japanese tailor, Victoria, stated that: In Japan tailors are paid from 0 to 30 yen a month, that will be about $10 or $15 a month here. Living is very heap in Japan. It costs a common labourer to live in Japan about 7 yen a month. t costs here about three times what it costs there. The wages of a common labourer about 15 or 20 cents Canadian money, and it costs him about 7½ cents a day for his ving.

### THE IMMIGRANT AT HOME.

Alfred Dyer, journalist, who travelled through China and Japan for four years in onnection with his profession, said: Referring to Japanese restriction I may say that n European cannot travel in Japan outside the treaty ports without a passport. For nstance you cannot travel from Kobe to Hong Kong without producing your passport efore you can secure your railway ticket. That regulation was enforced in 1895. It loes not matter what your business is. The Japanese are very willing to learn. They lo not restrict an Englishman as much as one would think, and they employ a great nany outsiders. It is a matter of common knowledge that all the cashiers of the principal firms throughout the towns are Chinamen. The Chinese bear such a reputation or uprightness in money matters, which as far as I know is most thoroughly deserved, hat they are employed in nearly all the business houses and banks in Japan. There he business man places his reputation for honesty and uprightness far above anything lse. In business matters I would trust a Chinaman as much as I would a white man. The Japanese do the same where they would not trust their own people.

A Japanese village belonging to the same class as the Chinese would be nattier and prettier. They are not as substantial, but they are cleaner, nattier, flimsier and prettier. They have more rooms and are built of cheaper material, and they can afford to have more rooms. When they get into other situations they have not much to lose if they have to leave a house. I think a Japanese house is distinguished by the want of furniture. The Japanese sleep on mats. The Chinese go in more for beds.

I much prefer the Chinese to the Japanese. They are strictly honest, and as to virtue they are very much better.

### THEIR HOMES.

The Rev. Dr. Wiley, one of the bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, who published a record of his observations in China and Japan in 1879, says: Among the masses of the people their wants are few and easily supplied. Their homes are very simple, and their furniture very limited and cheap, and their clothing scant and inexpensive. The house is built of wood, light and airy, and generally only one storey high. They are partitioned into rooms, not by permanent walls, but by sliding frames or folding screens, so that they can alter almost at will the size and shape of the rooms. The floors are covered with mats made of straw and rushes, and several inches thick, so that they serve at once for seats, after the peculiar fashion in which the Japanese sit, and for beds—a Japanese simply folding himself in his outer coat, and stretching himself on the matted floor, resting his head on a peculiarly shaped pillow. The window frames are all moveable, filled with oiled paper instead of glass. The furniture of the house is on the same simple plan. A Japanese, no matter what his rank or wealth, has but little furniture. The room looks always bare and empty. A few shelves hold some cups and saucers, and there are several small trays and stands. There are no

chairs, and the tables are low, small and plain. As to the kitchen, one or two small moveable stoves, a few pans of metal, and some brooms are all that are needed. Everywhere, however, you will admire the cleanliness observed in these homes.

Marriage is universal. The great problem which disturbs so many in western countries, how to keep a wife and home, being unknown here. Their future house is taken, containing three or four little rooms, in which clean mats are put. Each then brings to the housekeeping a cotton stuffed quilt, and a box of wearing apparel for their own personal use, a pan to cook the rice, a half dozen large cups and trays to eat off, a large tub to bathe and wash in, and the great problem of home and family is solved.

A witness stated that an ordinary Japanese house would cost about $20, built of wood and thatched. Another witness stated that the Japanese village is flimsier than the Chinese; they are more artistic, cleanlier, nattier and have more room.

UPON ARRIVAL IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Dr. Alfred T. Watt, superintendent of quarantine for British Columbia, said: The Japanese go back a great many of them and stay over the winter. They come over here and make enough money to take them back to Japan, and keep them comfortable until the next season. I believe they have been brought over here for $7 a head. It is more than that now. Tramp steamers brought over very large numbers. That is the lowest price. About $30, I think, is the usual price. They do not bring their families. Two or three Japanese in every hundred bring their wives here. The emigration is induced by companies. They furnish them, sometimes, with European clothes. When they come here the Japanese clothing is cast off.

Q. Do you mean that those Japanese who come here are brought here by any companies on this side who contract to bring them over and furnish their labour to people?—A. I do not believe that.

Q. What you mean is that certain persons in Japan make it their business to furnish intending emigrants with information, with the necessary outfit of European clothing, and all that sort of thing?—A. Yes.

Q. When the individual comes here he is on his own hook?—A. He is looked after by the agents of the companies here who induced him to emigrate.

Q. You do not consider he is forced in any way?—A. No.

Q. You do not consider that disadvantageous to this country?—A. No.....

When they are indoors they very often wear Japanese costumes. I believe they purchase their clothing from ordinary stores. They bring an outfit with them to last them for some time, then they go to the ready made clothing stores. I have seen them at meals, eating rice, fish and some kind of vegetables. They like to have their dried fish and salted fish that come from Japan, and with their own fish they like to have their own rice and their own preserves. I know that a great quantity of these food stuffs is brought from Japan. I am in a position to say a large quantity of food stuffs come over for the consumption of the Japanese, and I do believe the Japanese purchase more from Europeans than the Chinese do. When they come through by the quarantine station we have trouble in getting them to use the water closets. The Japanese I think understand matters relating to sanitation in their own country. They deal very vigorously with any epidemic disease. The Japanese understand that. They adopt vaccination against smallpox. The ones that came last year were mostly from the farming class. There were a certain number of fishermen as well. They wear their own clothing on the vessel. They have a full suit of European clothing they put on as soon as they arrive here in almost every case. They nearly all have a few dollars, up to $40. Of course, of the Japanese who pass through the quarantine, a great many of them are bound for American ports, and all those have $30 in gold with them; that is to meet the requirements of the American law. I do not know whether it is their own money or whether it has been supplied to them. They all have the Japanese kemeno or gown, a quilt or blanket and a suit of European clothes. They are nearly all young men from 16 to 30.

Q. Did you ascertain whether they come to settle permanently in the country or a view to returning to their own country at an early date?—A. Well, they come here expecting to get work and expecting to make a competence in a short time. he course of last year the Japanese were very much deceived by the emigration panies. These companies represented to them that they would soon make money in working on railways and so on. I think they have been induced to sell what erty they have and invest in tickets to come here. I think they pay their own way. nsider they are apparently more like our own people. They dress in European ing, but you find in the boarding houses where they live—there are three or four nese boarding houses in the city—there they will put on the Japanese costume and ng around in their own houses. They put on Japanese costume and eat food pre- in much the same way as it is prepared in Japan. They live on rice and fish cipally. Large numbers live in one house. They live and sleep very much the here as in their own country. The Japanese do not crowd together in the same as the Chinese are crowded. They do not all live in the same quarter. The nese are congregated in certain houses, large boarding houses, a large number ing in one room; I think scarcely as crowded as the Chinese. Of course the nese in Victoria is more of a floating population; they come and go away again. go out to farms and canneries and wherever they can get work in good weather come back here in the winter time. The Japanese work for less than you would of offering to a white man. I think their wages are lower than the Chinese; at they were this last winter, because great numbers of Japanese came here and there little or no work for them. That was attributable to misrepresentations made by ration agents. Few Japanese have arrived since last August or September (that d be 1900). At that time the Japanese Government stopped the issue of passports apanese emigrants.

William Harrington Ellis, Provincial Immigration Officer for Vancouver Island, : As immigration officer I have been enforcing the Provincial Immigration Act, rally termed the Natal Act. This Act does not affect the Chinese, as their entry Canada is provided for by the Dominion Immigration Act. Japanese immigration practically ceased since the beginning of the year; have only issued eight certificates try during that period, and several of these were issued to naturalized British cts. Have refused admission to three Japanese who were deported by the steam- carrying them here. Am given to understand the Japanese Government are not ng passports to subjects desiring to enter Canada. Japanese passengers destined Puget Sound ports are still present on Oriental liners. Coasting and Trans-Pacific ners will not book Japanese from a foreign port to British Columbia unless they first proved their ability to comply with the terms of the Act.

I consider Japanese cleanly in habits, industrious and intelligent. I believe them dangerous competitors in the business of the country than the Chinese. They t European dress and food and conform as much as possible to the customs of the try. As a race they believe they are capable of taking an equal place among the ized nations of the world. They are more aggressive than the Chinese, and if per- ed to enter this country without restriction, would in the course of time become a iderable portion of our business and working community, and would undoubtedly t upon becoming enfranchised. I do not consider them desirable as citizens from fact that they do not or cannot assimilate with the white races. At present they, the Chinese, occupy a special place in the community. They furnish labour at a with which the white labourer cannot compete. They do not support families, and e almost altogether among themselves. They are meagre contributors to the general are and a positive detriment to the white labourer. Their advantage is altogether the standpoint of capital.

I am given to understand many Japanese immigrants come to Victoria and Van- er as being convenient points from which to enter into the United States. If sed entry to that country they will return to this, whereas if they sail direct from an and were refused entry they would be returned to Japan.

The Great Northern, Northern Pacific and Southern Pacific Railway systems employ Japanese in large numbers as track repairers, the Great Northern employing alone nearly 4,000. The Oriental labourer cannot be replaced by restriction or head tax. An acceptable immigrant must be brought in, and a practical and earnest effort is necessary to bring him. The coast of the Eastern Maritime Provinces and those of Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Finland, furnish fields from which to draw a desirable immigration. The peoples of these countries are engaged in callings similar to those which prevail on the British Columbia coasts. To bring them in in sufficient numbers it would be necessary to advance fares and expenses and provide locations for them before arrival. This would entail a large expenditure, but there is an excellent source from which the necessary funds can be secured, namely, the head tax imposed on Chinese. It would be but reasonable for the Federal and Provincial Governments to devote the large amount received from the head tax to securing an element which would in time replace the Oriental in British Columbia. As this province is the only sufferer in the competition of this undesirable immigration, it would be but common justice to expend the money received from such source in providing means for not only staying the tide of Oriental immigration, but in replacing that class already here. I consider that laws preventing their employment in mining and other industries only allays the evil as far as those special branches of labour are concerned.

Q. The Provincial Act of 1900, assuming that that is held to be constitutional, would that be sufficient check on the Japanese?—A. Yes, if it were constitutional and was acted on. . . . . I think the Japanese question is not so acute here, in a sense, as the Chinese question. I do not think the presence of the Chinese and Japanese tended to drive white people from here, or from settling here. I am speaking of what might be termed the navvy class. That class did not show a desire to remain in the country as settlers; they simply went off to where they could secure the same class of labour. The Japanese are still coming in on the steamers, not in great numbers, but from 12 to 25 on a steamer. I do not think any large number of Japanese enter without the test being applied. The only way it is possible for the Japanese to enter the province without the officers being acquainted with the fact is by smuggling them from American ports and landing them at the cordwood camps. Officials have been appointed at all places of entry into the province.

Clive Phillips Wolley, formerly Executive Sanitary Officer for the Province:

Q. Have you had any experience so as to enable you to speak of the Japanese?—A. I have had very little. I am very much prejudiced in favour of the Japanese. I do not want him, but I think it better to have him than the Chinese, if we have to have either of them.

Q. For what reason?—A. For the reason he seems to be willing to live more or less the white man's life. He will live as a white man does, and he is cleaner in his surroundings. He is more like our own people in assimilating to our manners and customs and modes of living, and he is more cultivated, and he is more manly and gentlemanly. With reference to the Japanese, where I was in mining camps and elsewhere there were not any Japanese, therefore I cannot speak of them from personal contact with them in their work, but I have seen the Japanese working on farms and building boats on the Fraser river. I have seen them on the Island farms, between this and Vancouver. I have also seen them on the farms around Duncan. Two Japanese will do as much work as one white man if you watch them enough. They are harmless little chaps.

Q. What do you say as to their habits of cleanliness? Are they better than the Chinese in that regard?—A. I only know this, that around the house, as farm servants they are as cleanly as other farm servants. I have never observed their mode of living in cities. I only speak as to that in regard to their working on farms.

Q. You say you prefer the Japanese to the Chinese; why?—A. I would rather have him because he buys our produce, and dresses like ourselves, and seems to be willing to adopt our habits and customs.

Q. Do you consider the Japanese as great a competitor, dangerous as a competitor? A. Yes, he is a more dangerous competitor with the white man. He adapts himself

more easily to our civilization than the Chinese. The Chinese will do the lowest kind of labour and stick to it; the Japanese will get higher if he can, and he has brain enough to rise into any of the mechanical pursuits.

James Wilson, Sanitary Inspector of the City of Victoria, said: With reference to sanitation, I do not think there is much difference between the Japanese and Chinese. I think they do a good deal more harm than the Chinese. They will work cheaper than the Chinese, and they get into the white man's ways quicker. They are clean, so far. I had to take them to Court several times to get them to understand and carry out the sanitary laws. They adopt the dress of the white man and their hair is cut different to the Chinese. There is not a Japanese town the same as Chinatown. There are only three or four Japanese boarding houses now and some few in them. There were nineteen or twenty Japanese boarding houses last summer. I have seen forty-five of them in one room in one night. We had to take them to Court and fine them for breaking the health by-law. Breaches of the by-law are not frequent. I have no trouble since I took four different parties into Court. They get to understand the law. The food they use looks some- thing like the Chinese,—pretty much the same. A good deal of that comes from Japan. Only a few of their women come out.

They will be more ready to take up the habits of the country than the Chinese. They keep the price of labour down more than the Chinese. A few of them take to individual housekeeping. In house furnishings they generally have mattresses and a few chairs. They are more inclined to European habits than the Chinese. In the boarding house they use straw mattresses. In one boarding house I found forty straw mattresses.

There is more danger of the Japanese driving out the white man in the labour market than the Chinese. They seem to pick up the way to do the work quicker, and they will tackle anything. They tackle everything, housework and farm work. They work for $5, $6, and $10 a month. I favour their exclusion.

There is one laundry house on Fox Street. They keep all kinds of stores. Several of them are tailors, and they have two or three stores for curios and the like, and there is a grocery store. They are not in the habit of keeping excrement and using it like the Chinese. Take the ordinary Japanese and his house is furnished pretty near the same as that of a common white man. They have a desire to become Europeanized or Americanized in their method of living. The convictions were for temporary overcrowding, and when the convictions ceased the overcrowding ceased.

Dr. Roderick Fraser, Medical Health Officer for the City of Victoria, referring to the Japanese says:

Q. With reference to the Japanese do they congregate in any particular part of the city?—A. No, they live in any part of the city. They wear European dress. They occupy ordinary houses. I do not think they adopt the manners and habits and customs of our own people in the matter of dress. I do not think they adopt our food, and the labouring Japanese does not sleep on the same kind of bed; they use a hard bed like the Chinese with a wooden pillow. They live close together. They are equally dirty with the Chinese, the lower class of Japanese is if anything more dirty than the Chinese. In enforcing the sanitary by-laws among the Japanese I have no more difficulty than with the Chinese. For instance, if a house is rented by Japanese in some respectable part of the city it is soon turned into a Japanese boarding house and we very soon have complaints. They are no better than the Chinese lower class. They employ white physicians exclusively and patronize our hospitals very generally. They make very good patients, and they are ready to submit to any sort of surgical or medical treatment. I find that even the humblest Japanese labourer puts in all his spare time in trying to learn to speak and read English.

Dr. I. M. McLean, Chief Health Officer for the city of Vancouver, said: I do not regard the presence of the Japanese coolies as a menace to public health to the same extent as the Chinese. Typhoid fever is not as common among the Chinese as among the Japanese. The Japanese are a cleanly people so far as ordinary bathing is concerned. They soon get into the way of improvement.

The above fairly indicates the nature of all of the evidence taken as to the condition of the immigrant upon his arrival, his habits, modes of life, and compliance with sanitary laws.

# CHAPTER II.—THE FISHERIES AND BOAT BUILDING.

## PART I.—THE FISHERIES.

It is in connection with the fisheries that the presence of the Japanese has been most keenly felt as competitors with the whites. The following statement shows the total number of licenses issued in British Columbia during the last five years, and to what extent the Japanese have encroached upon this business.

*Total number of Licenses in British Columbia.*

| Year. | Total. | To Japanese. |
|---|---|---|
| 1896 | 3,533 | 452 |
| 1897 | 4,500 | 787 |
| 1898 | 4,435 | 768 |
| 1899 | 4,197 | 930 |
| 1900 | 4,892 | 1,892 |
| 1901 | 4,722 | 1,958 |

### ARE THERE TOO MANY FISHERMEN ON THE FRASER RIVER?

1st. OPINION OF CANNERS.—Condensed statement. (For fuller statement of canners see Canning Industry, Part I, Chap. XV.)

Henry O. Bell-Irving, the manager of the British Columbia Packing Company, that have six canneries on the Fraser, two on the Skeena, one on Rivers Inlet, one in Alaska and one on the Sound, and employ from 1,000 to 1,200 men on the Fraser River, says: I think the river is overcrowded; there are too many fishermen and too many canneries just now. I think it would make it more profitable to the packer if there were fewer canneries and fewer fishermen. There were larger profits made in the past than are made now. A certain number will have to drop out. I think the fisheries have pretty nearly reached their maximum. The number of canneries increased, and the number of licenses for each had to be reduced, and this raised a friction, and the government four or five years ago said, we will grant licenses to everyone who will pay for them. The number of boats is far in excess of what it ought to be, but owing to the competition of canners each increases the number of boats, and if one does the other has to, or he does not get his share of the fish.

The Japanese as fishermen are not very reliable, but I think they will favourably compare with the whites, because they work hard when the fish are scarce.

I have always held that a man should only look to fishing as a means of increasing his comfort, and enable him to clear a nice claim for himself on the banks of the river, but many of them look upon it as their right to make enough out of the fishing to keep them the rest of the year. Fishermen could farm the most of the year, and the fishing would better enable them to get along. That would have to be done by slow growth. I think if two-thirds the number of fishermen were employed on the river that have been for the last few years, it would be enough. If it could be accomplished it would be desirable for all parties. If the number of whites and Indians at present employed all came they would fill the bill, and the Japanese could be dispensed with. Combine this with a reduction of the canneries to half, and it would bring about a better condition of affairs on the river.

Frank Burnett, president of the United Canners, Limited, says: I think there are not enough whites and Indians to do the fishing on the Fraser. There are not too many nets and boats. I think there are enough Japanese here now. I do not think there are too many canneries; I do not think there are too many fishermen. Every four

years we have a good run. I believe in free trade. It is a case of the survival of the fittest.

I would not impose the same restriction on the Japanese as on the Chinese, I think, because they assimilate more easily and are less undesirable people. I think I would impose a restriction upon them; how much is hard to say, it should be settled between the Governments, as far as the Japanese are concerned.

When we buy fish from white fishermen we buy from them individually, but when we buy from Japanese fishermen we buy through Japanese bosses. We generally advance a little to them in the beginning of the season, and they are morally bound to sell us their fish. At the beginning of the season the Japanese boss will come in and say he has so many boats, and on the strength of that we will advance him so much, principally in the way of supplies. We give orders on stores, and give very little money. It is difficult to get at whether or not the Japanese boss may own the boats himself and hire the men. We simply let the contract to the boss. We let our own boats out on shares. We have about a hundred boats in the three canneries, The Japanese have built quite a few of our boats. We do not build boats for the sake of hiring Japanese. We hire them to either Japanese or whites. We sometimes sell the boats to the fishermen. Sometimes the Japanese builder supplies fishermen. We have about three hundred Japanese boats. That means six hundred Japanese for two canneries. In one cannery we have not Japanese at all. We have twenty or thirty white men in these two canneries; in the other all white men and Indians. We would rather hire white men, that is outside of sentiment altogether, and for this reason,—each contract made with a white man is for himself individually. If he goes back on his contract we only lose a small amount, whereas if a Japanese boss goes back on his contract it means the loss of several thousand dollars to us.

Charles F. Todd, of Victoria, engaged in the wholesale grocery and salmon canning business, said: Increased canneries demanded increased number of fishermen. I don't know of any white fishermen out of employment by reason of the presence of Japanese. There are not enough white men to keep the canneries running without the Japanese. Many of them do nothing after the season is over. In winter there is a super-abundance of labour. There are too many in the canning business. If the Chinese were not here we would not have had so many in the business. If we could not have Japanese we would be at a great disadvantage.

Alexander Ewen, of New Westminster, who has resided in British Columbia for thirty-six years, and been engaged in the cannery business since 1870, says: White men are not so anxious to fish now. There are not half enough boats for the full capacity of the canneries. The number of fish caught and put on the market is not decreasing, but the cost is increased, and the number of fish caught by each fisherman has decreased. The white men cannot make the money they did formerly. There was a limit on the Fraser once to five hundred boats to ten or twelve canneries, and the license was $20. The limit was taken off, and the licenses limited to British subjects. I don't think the number of canneries would be here but for the cheap labour. The canners think there are too many canneries, and the fisherman think there are too many fishermen. The white fishermen have dropped away. The Japanese are taking their place.

If we had as many fish as in 1897, or if we had any guarantee of what it would be, it would be easier to do the fishing with a thousand boats or less, than with three thousand boats. If the Japanese had not come in the industry would have been out of existence. With the number of canneries in existence now you could not get along unless there were more boats. The number of canneries has doubled within twelve years.

A great many white men within the last three years have become not so anxious to fish as they were. They will not leave work at which they are earning $5 a day to go fishing, and a great many of them have dropped out. It was not from the number of boats, but from the number of fish in the river.

I expect the cost of production now compared with ten years ago is about double what it was then. The cost of catching fish is more expensive, because the fishermen have to have more expensive boats to go to sea after the fish. In the river they use cheaper nets.

A great many of the fishermen are dead broke all the time. Some of them have saved a good deal of money on the Fraser river.

Under existing circumstances the canneries could not be carried on without oriental labour. Within the last three or four years they could not exist without Japanese fishermen. Most of the Norwegian and Swede fishermen on the other side have their homes here.

Before the Japanese came here we had a great number of fishermen from the State of Washington. I said the industry was over-done. I cannot have said there were too many fishermen. While there are so many canneries they want more fishermen. The fishermen do not come from the Sound now as they did before, but they would come, I have no doubt, if they could get work. If the number of canneries were reduced there would not be so many fishermen wanted unless the canneries were to double their capacity. If the number of fishermen were reduced by one-half, leaving the canneries as they are, the effect would be that the canneries to run properly and get a reasonable interest on the money invested, would have to reduce the price of fish.

James Anderson, whose cannery is in the city of New Westminster, said: I corroborate the evidence of Mr. Ewen as to the labour question, what it costs in machinery and the like. I might differ with him a little about the number of canneries. We could do with fewer canneries, but the people who put their money into them, that is their concern. We require the Japanese in order to get fish, to keep running the canneries. I have never employed them. I have employed white men and Indians exclusively; at the same time it might become necessary for me to employ Japanese. We are up the river a little more than others, and we have more control over the labour there. We employ farmers up there as fishermen. Norwegians and Swedes used to come here from the American side, but the new regulation of issuing licenses only to British subjects will bar these men out. I think the new regulation barred men out, and that was what led to the Japanese coming; that is only my opinion; I have never employed Japanese.

My opinion is to get rid of Chinese and Japanese, if the conditions will allow it. I think you can do better without the Japanese than without the Chinese.

David Douglas, bookkeeper at the Deas Island Cannery, said: The head man of the Japanese came to us and asked to be allowed to supply us with so many fishermen. Any Japanese who came to us had to be able to produce citizen's papers, and show that they were prepared to fish. The Japanese live in one house, and the man who can speak English the best generally does the business for the others. We have two contractors, Japanese; one supplies us with twelve boats and the other fifteen. Canners are careful in making advances to Japanese, so there will be no risk. We certainly never advance money to bring them from Japan. I have seen Japanese go out in a fishing boat that I did not think was under their license. He (the license holder) would probably be sick and they would go out and handle the boat for him. I have seen whites do the same thing. They are treated the same as white fishermen. We credit their fish to the license number of the boat, and if they came from a certain house, we make all our settlements with the head man. Every man who has a fishing boat is there when the settlement is made, and sees that the settlement is just. We refused to take fish from a fisherman who had made arrangements with another cannery, and owed them. In one case the Japanese who ran the house owned the gearing. In another case there were several brothers who owned all the gearing in the house. Both Japanese houses salt fish. One crew moved up to the cannery in the fall and salted fish there, buying from white fishermen and others on the river.

Lee Soom, a Chinese merchant, of New Westminster, with a capital of $30,000 invested in the cannery business, employs 100 hands, says: The fishermen say there are too many boats,—I think not too many boats, but too many canneries.

### 2ND. THE FISHERMAN'S VIEWS.

Charles Kilby, of Nanaimo, who has fished on the Fraser for many years, says: It is almost impossible for a white man to make anything at fishing on account of the

Japanese employed, The Japanese obtain the licenses illegally. The river is overcrowded with boats and nets. There are altogether too many.

The unsanitary condition of Japanese and Chinese in Steveston has been the cause of a large number of deaths among the Japanese from typhoid, and other diseases peculiar to themselves called berri-berri. They are also doing the work of the white fishermen which we used to do during the winter months, when the salmon fishing was over. The white fishermen used to supply cordwood to the canneries, and clear the land and cut shingle bolts. The Japanese do that now, and in fact they have almost monopolized the unskilled labour that the white fisherman used to work at during the winter.

Japanese have also gone largely into boat building on the Fraser river. I have tried to obtain work outside of the mines, and I found that in almost everything I tried I had to compete with the Japanese. During the fishing season the river is overcrowded with nets. There are altogether too many licenses issued, and the great majority of them are issued to Japanese. I was one of the delegates from the Fishermen's Union to the Canneries Association, and in that interview it was admitted it would be better for the canners and for the fishermen if the number of licenses were restricted.

Alfred Tetterman, of Vancouver, fisherman, said: In the early days when there were no Japanese the whites could make a good living, but they occupying the space in the waters it lessens our catch, or even if we caught as many, the canneries cannot get away with them. Four years ago we were limited by the canneries to 100 fish a day, and we had to throw 500 overboard for ten days. The number of fish is divided among so many, there are only a few for each, and when we have a big run the canners can't take care of them. I could not fish last season, so many Japanese, I thought I could not come out even. It is aggravating to a man to be pushed out by Japanese. We don't want so many, and the canners don't want them. I'd rather starve together with my own race.

John L. Anderson, Vancouver, engaged in fishing for eleven years, said: The fishing in the river is overdone by an over-supply of fishermen of different nationalities. There are too many. We have to set our nets too near together. The Japanese take the place of white fishermen. The French-Canadians would come in. They would help to populate the country. They live well, too. I say our government issues too many licenses by one-half. We can't set half the number of nets within the space allowed. The nets are set within fifty feet of each other on the Fraser river. I think there are white men and Indians to fill all the space. From a fisherman's standpoint the government issues too many licenses for the Fraser river. I think the nearest that nets should be set to each other should be 1,500 feet. It would be better for this country and for the fisheries at large if there were not more than one-half of the present licenses issued. Japanese are fairly good fishermen from what I could see of them.

I do not believe that the market has much to do with reduction in the price that is paid for the fish to the fishermen. It is just the canners' action. Last year they simply starved the men into their prices, at least they finally starved the Japanese into or drove them into it, between them and the militia. On Puget Sound canners generally own the traps. The fish caught in the traps do not cost them as much as the fish caught by net fishing. They pay a higher price for fish on Puget Sound than they do on the Fraser River. If there were a reasonable number of fishermen here, I would be satisfied with fifteen cents all through the season. There are fully as many white fishermen here now as there were in years past, but they are divided up among the canneries more.

I say that instead of the Japanese, the government or someone should bring in white men, and the country will be benefitted all over. I belong to the Fishermen's Union. The cannerymen do not appear to manifest any disposition to prevent the overcrowding of nets on the river, because every year they are taking more boats to the canneries. They rather encourage than discourage the increase. I do not think it will last five years more before there will be very few white men fishing on the river. They are fast decreasing in numbers now. I consider a white man at $1.50 a day as cheap as a Japanese at $1 to work in the lumber mills or any other industry except the fishing. In fishing the Japanese are just as able to catch as many as the white man if he pays

attention to it. They ought to be excluded altogether. They are certainly a greater menace than the Chinese. They build boats and sell them to the canneries for $60, such a boat as I have got $150 for some time ago.

John McCarthy, contractor and foreman for Stevedore, says: I fish every year. The Japanese have overrun the fishing business. They are so thick you cannot get your nets out. There are too many licenses. I believe there are enough whites and Indians. I have a family here. There is little encouragement to rear a family here, because there is no place for boys. I think the whites are badly treated.

Peter Smith, for fourteen years a fisherman on the Fraser, a half-breed of Indian descent, says: In the first place British subjects are driven out into the deep water. The Japanese are taking the white man's place in fishing. I was born here, married and have three children. My complaint is the Japanese have more rights than whites and Indians. I went to get a license, and he asked me if I was British born. A white man has to attend personally, but a Japanese can send a boss, and my own brother could not get it through me. There are too many fishermen on the Fraser River. It is overcrowded with Japanese. It has been that way for the last three years, because there is not space enough between the nets. The best fishing grounds are crowded. I fish the year round. If any more Japanese come in there will be bloodshed.

I used to get five cents a pound for smelts and three cents a pound for herrings. Now the Japanese cut that down to two cents for smelts and one cent a pound for herring. I have been driven out of the business. I cannot make my living out of it.

John Ibbotson, fisherman, New Westminster, said: There are too many licenses and too many Japanese. Limit the licenses, and give the preference to the settlers.

John Scott, farmer and fisherman for fifteen years, has a wife and three children, said: The longer I have been here the harder I have been pushed. I used to think this was a white man's country, and one of the best under the sun. I am discouraged on the fishing question. In gardening they have me to do what the Chinaman can't. I want to see the country prosper, but I don't want to feel that I am being squeezed out of my inheritance. I am an Englishman, and I came out when I was 17 years old.

George Henry West, fisherman, New Westminster, since 1894 on the Fraser, said: There are too many fishermen on the river. There were sufficient whites and Indians.

Hezekiah Stead, New Westminster, followed fishing for nine years until the last two seasons, puts it in this way: I think there are too many fishermen on the river. The fewer the fisherman, the more fish they could catch, and the cheaper they could sell the fish to the canners, and be more successful all round.

John Kendall, New Westminster, says: I am supposed to be a fisherman, and try very hard to be, and it is a failure. The trade is monopolized by the Mongolians. There are too many fishermen on the river. I am a Newfoundlander by birth; am married and have five children, four boys and one girl, oldest 12. I am over $200 behind what I was last year this time. If the Japanese and Chinese still continue to come I have got to leave or starve. I am British to the backbone. I wish to stay under the British flag. When the fishing season is over I find it the hardest task I ever had in my life. I find these Mongolians have me coralled, the same as they have in fishing. I apply at various places, sawmills and factories, and I may say every place, seeking employment. In three years I have worked about four months outside of fishing. I got a little work outside the city. Last year I tried the same means of cutting shingle bolts or cordwood. I found I could get no job. I saw shingle bolts and wood being cut by Chinese and Japanese. I applied to Mr. Jardine and Mr. Scott to buy shingle bolts, but they refused. There were Japanese working there. A dozen people asked me to write them in Montreal. I wrote one or two and told them not to come.

Nicholas John Coulter, the vice-president of the Grand Lodge of the British Columbia Fishermen's Union, born in Jersey, Channel Islands, says: With a smaller number of licenses the whites and Indians could catch more each, and be able to supply the canneries. They can take every fish out of the river that ought to be taken out, and could afford to sell them less, and both would prosper.

Patrick Cain, New Westminster, a fisherman from New Brunswick, says: I think white men and Indians could catch all that could be handled. Half the boats would catch as many as are caught now.

Thomas Sheaves, New Westminster, says: I have been fishing here for twelve rs. Till the last three years I could make a living, and a good living. Since that I 't do it. I can't pay for the gear and make any wages at all; cannot catch the fish; many fishing. There are too many Japanese got in here the last two or three years. me from Newfoundland. Have a wife and three children; live here; have a house lot of my own. I like the country. It is just this way, either the Japanese have to get out or we have got to get out.

George Mackie, New Westminster, said: The presence of the Mongolians not only vents immigration of white people, but it drives many who are here out of the country. n who came from Scotland and Canada are returning to where they came from. A ting population that used to come here only come now in small numbers. We were in love with them and they stopped coming. The restriction of licenses was objected by some fishermen who were not citizens of the country and who wished to fish here. ce the department made a rule that only British subjects could get a license to fish, jects who were bona fide fishermen, they have evaded it by manufacturing orientals British subjects so that they might get licenses. A bona fide fisherman is a man has had some experience in fishing. The license stipulates he should have his own ts and nets. Most decidedly he should have one to be a bona fide fisherman. I believe reat majority of the Japanese do not use their own boats and nets. The majority of dent fishermen own their boats and their gearing. The Japanese bosses own the ts that are fished in by Japanese, in the majority of cases.

Many other fishermen gave evidence to the same effect; in short, it was their nimous opinion that the river was overcrowded, and that the white men were being en out.

### 3RD.—PROTESTS OF INDIAN CHIEFS.

The chiefs of the different Indian tribes made request to the Commission that they ht be heard upon the question of Chinese and Japanese immigration. This request readily granted, and as Nanaimo and Vancouver were the more convenient points it arranged that they might be heard there A number of the head men, Chiefs of tribes, attended, and they selected from among themselves certain chiefs by whom y desired to have their grievances presented.

Z. Hilton, Chief of the Quamachin tribe in the Cowichan district, said: When first white people came they took up lands and asked the Indians to work at $2 a day. as much pleased to get work and get that wage for myself and my family. I had ething to depend on, and I bought everything I wanted, and I was pleased at the te people living where I could get the work. When the Chinese came here first y came with nothing at all. They brought no family with them and they broke up rything. In a little while the Japanese came, and they were worse than the Chinese, it seems they have no right to stay in the place at all. I ask for something to be e for my people. I cannot get work for my people on account of these being so k around my place. The reason I have not better clothes is I cannot get work. I e four acres in my farm and cattle and horses. If my people do go fishing the anese are always ahead of them. Indians do get work at the canneries, but not as ch as they used to get. It used to be 25 cents each for salmon about eight years . Last year they got about 20 cents for a short time, and when the run was good Japanese sent the price down. Before the Japanese came I used to get money and paid for my work; now I have no show at all to get a living. 300 belong to tribe of grown up people—about 400 in all. I favour keeping Chinese and Japanese of the country. I hold the Japanese are the worst of the two. When my friends to fish the Japanese have hurt them. The settlers employ the Chinese and Japanese do not employ the Indians at all. For four years I have got nothing from the ners.

Joe Kuketh, Indian Chief, gave evidence to the same effect.

Edward Halbertson said he was much pleased to meet the Commission; that when used to work on the farm he had steady work all the time and now he cannot get

regular employment as he used to do because the Japanese and Chinese cause all this trouble, because the Japanese and Chinese put the wages down awful low and that is the reason he cannot get work. Therefore, he brings the complaint to see if the government can do anything for his people. He wants to get his work back. He wants to keep the Japanese and Chinese out of the place. He spends his money here when he earns the money. He feels bad because the Japanese just bring their clothes with them, while he has a wife and family to keep. If this goes on the Indians and whites get no money. He has the same mind towards the Japanese and Chinese as whites have. He makes the same complaint as to the fisheries as Chief Hilton. The Japanese put down wages. No advances this year from the canneries; can't get it now like we used to get it. That's the fault of the Chinese and Japanese. Our people are not willing to work for the price Japanese do. There are plenty of Indians to do all the work if there were no Japanese and Chinese. They used to work in mills but the mills are full of Japanese and Chinese.

Jacob Kaksulatza, Indian Chief, said: I go to the Fraser to fish. One time the Fraser River was reserved. We had a piece of land where they used to camp. Lots of white people then and they used to help us. I want the Chinese and Japanese kept out. All the Indians are hard up. There are lots of Indians here.

Chief James Harry, of the Squamish Indians, represented seven Indian Chiefs, namely, Chief James Harry, Chief Tom, Chief Harry, Chief Joe, all of the Squamish Indians; Chief Joseph, Capaline River, Chief Casino, Langley, and Chief James Isaac, Port Hammond. He says: The Japanese come to this country, they come too thick altogether. It don't matter where you go you see Japanese. You go to the Fraser River you see Japanese, hundreds in the summer time. You go to Howe Sound, nothing but Japanese. You go to Indian River, just the same, nothing but Japanese. In fishing time we had no chance to fish ourselves, and when we begin to fish we put our net in the boat and we go out to fish. Two or three nights we lost our nets. I lost mine; the Japanese cut it; I saw it was cut; I saw the Japanese cut it; I caught the man. The Japanese thick on Point Gray; I have no chance to fish, so I can't fish. There are too many Japanese. You see boats three miles out from the coast, nothing but Japanese, and so we cannot make a living. The Japanese kill us; they are killing Indians, killing whites. My people have no chance to make a living. Can't make bread and butter; no chance to go to work; they are all over; they work for nothing. They began about ten years ago and got thicker, thicker, thicker all the time, and last year too thick altogether. We used to catch 200, 300; we don't now. We used to get 6 cents and 7 cents, but no limit; now canneries pay 18 and 20 cents, but as soon as they are beginning to run they put a limit—first day 200, second day 150; that is the lowest limit. Each boat would not get so many. Last summer the highest I got was 150 fish. There are too many fishing on the river. I think you can get any amount of Indians and whites to supply the canneries if you look that way. My people, my father, my grandfather fished on the Squamish River and Fraser River.

The Japanese are cutting all the wood we have here in British Columbia and bolts on the north arm, Howe Sound, and here in Vancouver on the west side, and our people have no chance to go to work and cut the cedar. They used to cut the cedar and bolts and wood. The Japanese cut wood for too little—just like for nothing. My people worked in the mills; now have no chance. The Japanese work for about $15 a month—not enough to buy clothes and keep wife and family. I have a wife and three children. Thirteen and fourteen years ago the Indians got $1.50 and $1.25 working in the mills; now they get no chance to go to work. The Japanese can live on a tablespoonful of rice and a little perch. We are not the same. I think the Indians and whites as good as the Japanese. The Japanese build boats cheap and make oars. We make sails, boats and oars and everything. Our women get work in the canneries; they get $1, $1.25, $1.15, $1.10, depends on what they do. Boys and girls get work when plenty of fish. We do hand-logging in winter. We do stevedoring, make good wages but not steady. I think you could get enough whites and Indians to do the work. There are a little more than 10,000 Indians, men, women and children, engaged in fishing. Canneries take fishermen just as they come along. Just as many fish now but too many

ats and not as many fish to the boat. I should say that 2,000 licenses should be nted, but not over 3,000. Good way if government says not so many licenses. The panese work for nothing. The Indians want to get fair wages. This is our country, t a Japanese country.

Chief Casimil, of Langley Tribe, said: I ask that you should have compassion on me whatever I tell you. We belong to this country; it is our country. I was born in s country. My fathers have been here long before; that is I am a citizen of this ntry; I am here to ask you people to look after this country for us. We are being ven out of the country, as we cannot make a living as we used to do. I wish you to nember whatever I tell you now.

The Japanese are getting too many. We cannot get work and cannot get any ney because of the Japanese. Very few of us can get any food because of the panese. I am very glad that you are all taking stock of this, and that you will take to Ottawa before the head man. That is all I have to say. I wish to express my row; if the government does not look after them they will soon control the land. e got our land from the government, and we should have a right to fish, but we can- t fish and make a living.

Joseph Isaacs, chief at Port Hammond, was satisfied with what was said, and was t sworn.

Chief Joseph, Capilano Creek, said: The Japanese come in so numerous it cheapens bour. They bring down the fish to 3 cents. The Japanese know they don't belong this country. They make their country good on our money. That is why our country es not improve any. Can't get a good house or make a good living. Twenty years o we could go out fishing and bring home 200 or 300. There were two canneries. It s good then. A great many canneries now and Japanese came in numerously and ings not good. I tell the truth and wish you (the Commissioners) to tell at Ottawa at they take the money out of the country. I am glad to be able to speak.

Chief John gave evidence to the same effect.

### 4TH.—OPINIONS OF OFFICIALS.

Colin B. Sword, Dominion Government inspector of fisheries for British Columbia, d: The relative number of Indians and whites would be difficult to estimate. The dians go under white men's names in many cases. Prior to 1889 there were I believe enty licenses allowed to each cannery. In the first instance I think there was no striction. In 1889 the number was reduced to ten to canners and traders. In 1900 e regulation was, in respect to ten licenses granted to canners, that the fishermen uld have to be registered, and were required to take out licenses in their own names. 1900 the licenses were still limited to ten to a cannery. Licensees must all be British bjects. The number of licenses given represents the number issued for the whole ovince. Canners are not permitted to turn over their licenses to Japanese who are t citizens. The fisherman must be a man who is qualified to take out a license in his n name. The Indian does not require to have his name registered. Every one else es. The half breed is treated the same as a white man. I have no means of account- g for the enormous increase in the number of Japanese in 1900.

Each one of these licenses respresents a fisherman, and they usually have a boat ller. At present some of them are fishing alone, but in the height of the season they nerally have a boat puller.

To register, the fishermen have to attend before the officer appointed to receive em. Fishery guardians are authorized to take registration of fishermen and some hers. The personal appearance of the applicant is required in every case. One of the icers last year was under a wrong impression as to that point. In issuing licenses e have no authority to go beyond the certificate of the court that they are naturalized izens. In several cases we found an attempt was being made to obtain a license on a rtificate issued to another man, a Japanese; in all such cases we refused to issue the ense. There did not seem to be any intention to defraud.

I should think we have too many licenses issued for the necessity of fisheries. I think myself there should be only about one-half the licenses for the Fraser river. I think it is in the interest of the canneries and of the fishermen, and of the fish, that only one-half the number of nets should be used on the river. I say from Point Roberts to Point Gray, if there had been half the number of licenses issued the fishermen would have made more for themselves at a small price for the fish. I have not solved the question as to how that limitation could be had with convenience to all parties. The limitation of the number of licenses was attempted before I had anything to do with the office. If the number of Japanese licenses issued last year (1,892 licenses) is deducted from the whole number there would be 3,000 licenses left. I think that would have been a sufficient number to have done all the fishing with the best results to the canners and the fishermen. I think that the number of white men and Indians that can be employed now would be sufficient to take all the fish that would be required. The exclusion or limitation of the Japanese would not detrimentally affect the fishing interest, if the white fisherman and Indians can be obtained in the different localities in sufficient number, in the localities required.

All the fishermen personally known to me are men who have settled in the vicinity, but they are a comparatively small proportion of whom I can speak of from personal knowledge. I cannot say if a large proportion of them are men with families.

I cannot suggest any arrangement that could be made by the government by which the number of fishermen could be limited. The regulation that drift nets shall not be used to obstruct more that one-third of any river, and kept at least 250 yards apart has never been enforced. The regulation seems to be in regard to set or fixed nets. It had not been enforced before I took the office, and I did not attempt to enforce it. They use drift nets here for salmon.

I think the Japanese fishermen generally have a Japanese as a boat puller. It might be possible for the number of boat pullers to become qualified as British subjects and account for an increase of licensed fishermen from 930 to 1892 last year. I have no record of licenses issued to Japanese prior to 1896.

To reduce the licenses I do not see how it can be enforced as a matter of legislation or regulation by the government. No, we could not enforce the regulation in respect to the 250 yards. The nets do not drift at the same rate. The quantity of salted dog-salmon exported by the Chinese or Japanese would be shown by the reports. These are mostly taken from the custom house records. There were 39 seining licenses issued. None were issued to Japanese. All such licenses are dealt with by the department at Ottawa. Seining licenses at present are supposed to be issued where drift nets cannot be employed. I have no information on the subject. Only one trap license is issued. One for Boundary Bay. I understand the department consider that traps would result in the depletion of fish, and undoubtedly their use would dispense with labour if the traps were in proper places. If you want to employ the men of the country it will be better with gill nets. If you want simply to develop the industry, then it is different. It is very difficult to say; the fishing industry might be developed in such a way as to place men who now make their living at fishing at a great disadvantage. There would not be so many employed. If the number of fish taken now would be sufficient to prevent the depletion of fish it would be no advantage to set traps. I have been a member of the Local Legislature for some years. I would not care to express an opinion as to Chinese immigration.

Licenses have to be renewed every year. The objection to the traps is it would leave no fish for the drift men to catch. If you used traps in addition to the present system; if you adopt set nets and traps you could regulate the catch much better. The fish caught by gill nets on this side must have escaped the traps on the American side. Purse seines are illegal in this country. I think this country can be developed in time without this alien race. I think this country would suffer if it lost the canning industry. If cannery men say that the industry cannot be carried on at a profit without oriental labour I would accept it with an allowance.

There is jealousy over the Japanese coming into the fishing business. As regards individual feeling I have not seen anything but what it is friendly enough. Some parts

of the river are more favourable for drift nets than others. Where there are snags the nets will not drift, and the nets are liable to be torn by the snags. Every fisherman pays ten dollars for a license. There were something like three thousand boats fishing on the Fraser River last season, covering about sixty or seventy miles. When a Japanese comes to get a license he has to produce naturalization papers, and to prevent fraud the officer here puts his initials and the year on the naturalization certificate.

If it is left to the cannerymen and the fishermen to reduce the number of licenses, and at the same time Japanese immigration is permitted to pour in here, the result would be an increase of Japanese fishermen, and the white fishermen would be driven out.

Thomas Robinson, assistant to the inspector of fisheries, New Westminster, said: Up to last year all the licenses were issued in New Westminster. Licenses are issued for the whole province. Some fishermen fish up north and then go south as well. I should think about 75 per cent is a fair estimate of those issued for the Fraser River. The number of licenses issued to canners in 1900 on the Fraser River was 397; Rivers Inlet, 50; Skeena River, 75; Naas River, 20; total. 542. In 1899, 157 licenses were issued to canners; in 1900 the restrictions were relaxed somewhat. The endorsement of the fisherman's name on the license was abolished, making them transferable to any registered British subject.

If there is anything in the name of an applicant for a license, or in their speech, which would lead me to suspect that they were of foreign birth, I would demand the production of citizens papers, and I would do the same if I was not personally acquainted with the man.

It is very difficult to tell an American citizen. If he denys his citizenship we have no means of proving otherwise. People from the old country do not generally apply until they have been here for some time. They cannot fish until they get citizen's papers. The object is to keep the industry in the hands of our own people. If a fresh immigrant he would first engage in boat pulling until he had the proper qualifications. I had four years' experience on the river as a fisherman. I think on the river the fishing industry is overdone. If there were two-thirds the number of boats it would be better. There are not necessarily too many canneries. With fewer boats they would be able to get as many fish, and it would pay the fishermen better as the canners could take more fish from each boat. In a large run it becomes a question not of how many fish you can catch, but of how many fish you can dispose of. I am not prepared to say that canneries compete among themselves. When there are few fish running, and there is a demand for canned salmon, of course better prices will rule. The fish are not all caught in the river; a good many are caught outside the river. The American traps get a larger toll out of our fish than most people have any conception of. There is no room for the number of nets inside the river that are at present licensed, and men are forced outside. The conditions at present make it almost impossible to carry out the fishing regulations as to the distance of nets being apart and one-third of the river being left free. A little more than two days in the week for protection would not hurt the fish. The catch has not shown any sensible diminution. Fishing is more or less a game of chance. The permanence of the industry should be of first consideration. I have not seen any particular advantage in the Japanese as fishermen over any other fishermen. Their equipment is practically the same. The objection of white fishermen to them is that they have crowded the people of the country out of their own grounds. The development of the canning industry on Puget Sound has made the conditions on the Fraser River, both for fishermen and canners, more hazardous. I believe their sock-eye type is somewhat larger than ours. The sock-eye type is made up of Fraser River salmon. They use traps and purse-seines. They have no close season until the fish are gone. The waters there are regarded as territorial waters. Within the last seven or eight years the canning industry there has developed more largely. Even with those traps on the other side, I think two-thirds of the number of boats on the Fraser River, would be equal to handle the run of fish. The traps nearest the Pacific Ocean generally get the sock-eyes, before they are caught on the Fraser River. In round

numbers, at the end of last month (April), 800 licenses were issued to Japanese, and 200 to whites. I think it was because of some rumour that got abroad among the Japanese that there was going to be some restriction in regard to issuing licenses to them. The government would be justified in discriminating between citizens in issuing licenses if the preservation of the fish was concerned. The preservation of the fisheries in their full strength depends a good deal on the regulation as to the number of fishermen, and I think the American regulations are very important to be considered in that matter. They allow more machinery to be used there. Too many fishermen will result in an injury to the fish, injury to the canneries, and injury to the fishermen. In good runs fewer boats and fewer nets would supply the demand. In the case of the limitation of the number of fish to canneries in a heavy run, a great number of fish are thrown away. If there were a less number of boats last year they would have got more than the number of fish which would have been warranted. The canners' pack is not the first object. The less the run, the less should be taken out of it. To have 3,000 or 4,000 men who are employed only for a short time, and then looking for odd work, is not in the interest of the community. It tends to keep white settlers out.

W. L. Fagan, Provincial assessor and collector for the City of Vancouver, said: There is but one way to drive the Japanese out of the river, and that is by the immigration of some fishing races from Ireland, Scotland and the Baltic; bring those men here and give them fifty acres each to cultivate. If white men were brought here and given land to cultivate, say fifty acres each, they would soon be able to compete with the orientals. Do not allow them to preempt for some time, charge them but a nominal rent. They would then have small holdings of their own, and in the fishing season they would go on the river. At present there is no room for immigration; there is nothing for them to do. If they had land, that would occupy at least two-thirds of their time. I do not think any more orientals would come here as the contractors know the market and will only import sufficient to supply the demand. Those white people are not well off in their own country, and would only be too glad to come here. I would sooner see the white labourer here, even although it took a longer time to develop the country. Fishermen from Ireland, Scotland or the Baltic cannot come in here unless the government assists them. The Japanese have got their places and they keep them as long as they can; we would have to help the whites to come here. Certainly the government ought to protect our own people If white men can come here and get land and settle on it, it will soon solve the problem of the Japanese on the river. The Japanese do not seem to care about making homes here; they do not take up land; they do not seem to care about settling here. They come here and make a few hundred dollars and then go back to Japan when they can get away. There is no contractor, either Japanese or Chinese, will go over to China and Japan and spend money to bring labourers here without there is a market for them.

At the time of the rush to the Klondike a great many white fishermen left this country, and the Japanese were here. I do not know how they knew to come here at that time; what happened to bring them here I will never tell you, but they saw there was an opening here and they came. If you had something to put in their place I would restrict more of the Japanese coming here. I think you could easily get enough fishermen to come here if there were inducements for them to come, which do not exist at present. They wont emigrate here on chance. You cannot show them anything to induce them to come here. It would require the government to take an interest in them and show that interest by restriction of Chinese and Japanese immigration.

Most undoubtedly it would be a good regulation to make the Japanese prove that they were British subjects before they got their licenses. I have no doubt many of them have been illegally naturalized. The Japanese ought to be compelled to appear personally to get their licenses, and they ought to be able to prove that they have been legally naturalized. I would have everything arranged that the fishermen of British Columbia would have proper protection against aliens. A great many of the Japanese fish all the year round.

FRAUDULENT NATURALIZATION PAPERS.

The natural irritation caused by this large and sudden influx of Japanese as fishermen was much aggravated by the fact that there was grave irregularity, if not actual fraud, in obtaining certificates of naturalization by very many of the Japanese. It appears that the fare from Japan to British Columbia, being very low, large numbers of Japanese have been in the habit of coming out for the fishing season, arriving in April and May, and returning after the fishing season is over. Many of these were engaged as boat pullers for the Japanese fishermen, the regulations not requiring for this service that they should be British subjects. It appears that these boat pullers were naturalized. It is certain that many of them never resided in Canada for one full year. Some of them may have resided here during the fishing season only for three years, and yet hundreds of these men, who had never in any way complied with the requirements of the law, were naturalized. The Commission took sufficient evidence to establish these facts. It was impossible for them to inquire into every case. A short reference to some of the evidence will suffice.

E. W. McLean, notary public, of Vancouver, says: I naturalized quite a number of them (Japanese). My commission was revoked. There was never a Japanese but what was accompanied by another Japanese who vouched for him. I swore the Japanese who vouched. There was no case within my knowledge where there were any naturalized before they were here three years. I naturalized about 208 Japanese between May and July, 1900. They came before the fishing season. They came three, four or five at a time, not ten in a batch. They were accompanied by an interpreter. Half signed their names in English characters, others wrote their names in Japanese. I could not tell that was his name. The oath was read to them by an interpreter, and there was an interpreter's jurat. I had known about a dozen of them for over two years. I took the interpreter's word for it. It did occur to me there might be a fraud on me. I satisfied myself beyond a doubt that they were entitled to be naturalized. I don't now think they committed a fraud. I had not naturalized any before this. Most of these people were boat pullers and had gone to Japan, and were now returning so that they could get naturalization papers and go fishing. I had the naturalization forms there. I never had any instructions or orders in council affecting that. A great many go to Japan and return in the spring. The mass of the other affidavits that were taken were of the same class. I knew in the fall of 1899 a number went to Japan. Nearly every steamer that went was loaded. The passage was about $30.

Gin Kanga, smoking room steward on the *Empress of China*, says: I work on the *Empress of China*. My run is from Vancouver to Yokohama. I remember that by the *Empress* 200 Japanese came out for fishing in April, 150 of them returned in September. The fare is about $25 from Yokohama, and $50 to go back, and sometimes $35. I know by the number of tickets that they are fishermen. Just fishermen and farmers emigrate here.

Robert T. Burtwell, dominion fisheries guardian, said: When I received my appointment as fishery guardian, I had to go to Captain McFadden's office; he was the fishery inspector; I copied the entries in his book into my book; I noticed there were a great number of Japanese and others entered as fishermen, who could only have been a very short time in the country, and I noticed them there in the office that many mere children were coming over and presenting certificates claiming to obtain fishing licenses as British subjects. They were not old enough, many of them; I called Captain McFadden's attention to that; I called the attention of the fishermen's union to that fact, and I went to Mr. Bremner, the dominion labour commissioner, and called his attention to it. With reference to the Japanese who came into the office when I was there, I used to go and fetch Mr. Bremner up. He used to interrogate the Japanese; he would take them up before the Japanese Consul, and there he would elicit the information. In a great number of cases they had only been a short time in the country, that they had been in all probability prompted by others to come there and perjure in order to obtain these certificates to get licenses. In my presence Mr. Bremner elicited the information that Japanese who had been here for some little time were in the habit

of personating other Japanese for the purpose of obtaining licenses to fish; in this way the matter was brought before Mr. Shimizu, the Japanese Consul. I went to a certain notary public here in Vancouver, Mr. Thicke, I went there with the purpose of getting naturalization papers myself to find out how the thing was done.

Q. To examine into the method?—A. To get at the way the thing was done; to find out the way that naturalization papers were secured, and how the certificates came to be granted. I told Mr. Thicke it was imperative I should have my paper in very short order. He said he could manage that very easily, that he had secured a great number, and he showed me quite a pile of Japanese applications that he had on the table. He said he was going to put these through, and he would put mine through at the same time. He asked me if I knew of any others who wanted naturalization certificates; I told him I knew of several Italians who wished to become naturalized. He said if I introduced any trade to him, he would put them through for the sum of $2, and he would give me a rake-off of 50 cents. So from that I came to the conclusion that the system of naturalizing Japanese and others in British Columbia was perfectly rotten. I may say in reference to my duties as fishery guardian, that I found the Japanese were more prone to fish illegally than the white people or white fishermen.

Q. What do you mean by that?—A. They would fish with nets longer than are permitted by law, and they would stake nets in violation of the law, and they would fish during illegal hours; and I came to the conclusion as a fact, though it was very difficult to trace it, that the Japanese had transferred licenses. The Japanese are very hard to identify. I considered that the number of nets fishing around the Fraser River was far too many; that there being so many nets around the mouth of the river they drive the fish back and prevent them entering the river, their natural spawning ground; the result of that was, I have seen salmon go past the river and go into some of the little inlets that were dropping ripe spawn in salt water.

Q. Now, what was it that lead you to think that there was illegal naturalization of Japanese?—A. From the manner in which I found that the Japanese were being represented by others. One man would come to the notary public and say that a number of Japanese desired to take out naturalization papers; the notary public would swear him, and then the process would go on; but other irregularities I have no doubt crept in. Mr. Thicke forgot to swear me until I jogged his memory that I had not been sworn. The notary public will then ask the party if he had been three years in the country, and his name and address; he would then make out a form, and he would attend to the rest of it.

Q. Is the person you refer to still a notary public?—A. No, sir.

Q. Why?—A. His authority was cancelled by the provincial government after the investigation.

Q. Have you ascertained how many of those naturalization certificates were issued to men who were not entitled to them?—A. There were five parties brought up in one of the courts here, brought before the court by Provincial Constable Campbell, and it was proved that they were not entitled to certificates, that they had not been in the country. The investigation was not a sweeping one, it simply embraced the men brought into court. Mr. Bremner, the dominion labour commissioner, had a list of those who went before the Japanese Consul, and who it was found out were not entitled to be naturalized. A great many of those cases I brought to his notice.

Edward Bremner, labour commissioner for British Columbia, said: I was asked by some of the fishermen to make some inquiries at the office where licenses were issued. On questioning some Japanese who appeared with naturalization papers and asked for licenses, I discovered that many of them had not been the required time in the country to get those papers legally. In one case a Japanese had papers where he had only been three weeks in the country. I know personally of three different cases. Out of thirty Japanese who applied one afternoon, not more than four could make any attempt of understanding English. Even those four could speak very little English. I had to employ an interpreter, and notwithstanding the disadvantage, one of them admitted that he had been only two and a-half years in the country at the time, and yet his naturalization certificate was granted the year before. On another occasion out of about

fifteen questioned through the secretary of the Japanese Consul, two accused of fraud were prosecuted, one was accused of impersonation; the excuse he gave was that the man whose papers he presented was sick. This was last year, 1900. These were the only cases I investigated. In the case of Sayo Tario Mokogama, I understand from the secretary of the consul that he could neither read nor write in his own language even. He admitted that he had only been in the country three weeks. This would seem to show that the man was not perhaps as much to blame as those who had brought him there. The impression I got was that there were a great many cases of fraud. I got possession of this naturalization paper as it was left at the office pending the decision of the fishery officer, whether he would grant the party applying a license or not, and the party never called for it again, that is the original. The name here is Nakakama, and that was handed in, and a certificate applied for by a man who gave his name as Soyo Tario Nakagama. It would seem there was some mistake made by the notary public.

Thomas Robinson, assistant inspector of fisheries, New Westminster, says: Last year it occurred to me that a great many had secured their citizen papers without complying with lawful conditions. My experience with the Japanese is that when they have been here two years they have some knowledge of our language, whereas last year numbers of them did not understand the meaning of 'yes' or 'no' but their papers being in proper form as issued by the court, I had no alternative but to recognize them. There were several cases of personation, one last week where a man presented papers as his own, which I proved to be false. He was a Japanese. I took possession of the papers until the proper party applied for them. The papers had been drawn from a bunch. I have had cases of this kind before, but found there was no provision for which action could be taken. They never seem to have taken our fishery regulations very seriously.

Mr. A E. Back, of Vancouver, district registrar of the Supreme Court, since its establishment there, presented a carefully prepared statement on this subject, from which the following extracts are taken:

In respect to Naturalization Acts, Naturalization Act, 1870, United Kingdom, provides that:

An alien who has resided in the United Kingdom for a term of not less than five years may apply to one of Her Majesty's principal secretaries of state for a certificate of naturalization.

The applicant shall adduce in support of his application such evidence of his residence or service, and intention to reside or serve, as such secretary of state may require. The said secretary of state, if satisfied with the evidence adduced, shall take the case of the applicant into consideration, and may, with or without assigning any reason, give or withhold a certificate as he thinks most conducive to the public good, and no appeal shall lie from his decision, but such certificate shall not take effect until the applicant has taken the oath of allegiance. (Sec. 7, Naturalization Act, 1870. United Kingdom.)

*Re. North-west Territories.*—Section 2, Order in Council, January 29, 1899, provides:

His Excellency in Council has been pleased to make the following regulations:

Section 2. In the North-west Territories the certificate mentioned in the twelfth section of the said Act shall be presented to a judge of the Supreme Court of the North-west Territories, who shall take such measures to satisfy himself that the facts stated in the certificates are true, as shall in each case appear to him to be necessary; and when satisfied that the facts stated in the certificate are true, he shall grant to the alien a certificate of naturalization, authenticated under his hand and seal of the Court.

This law in my strong opinion should be applied to British Columbia. In theory the general Act of Canada hereinafter referred to is a proper measure, taking into consideration the need of immigration, but a condition has arisen on this coast which needs the protection of above section 2, giving the judge to whom the J. P.'s or Notary's certificate is presented, the power to take such measures to satisfy himself that the facts stated in the certificate are true; and here I see no reason why, as in the English Act,

power should not be given to the judge to give or withhold a certificate as he thinks most conducive to the public good, with or without assigning any reason.

On July 30 last, I inquired of the registrar of the Supreme Court, at Regina, what measures as a matter of fact the judge did take to satisfy himself. It appears that in addition to the J. P.'s or Notary's certificates an affidavit of some other responsible person as to the good character of the applicant is required.

Now, regarding the Naturalization Act of Canada, after consideration in the light of my experience, I see little to complain of. I suspect that there exists an improper and incomplete method of carrying out the Act by the persons entrusted, either through ignorance or inadvertence. I refer to the persons mentioned in section 9, particularly the J. P.'s and Notaries, and in doing so I wish here to say that these persons are possessed of all the skill and intelligence expected by the statute delegating the power.

I respectfully submit and earnestly recommend the following observations to the Commissioners: Naturalization forms should have marginal notes; directions to the notary that in the case of a marksman, that the affidavit was first read over and explained to the deponent, and that he appeared perfectly to understand the same; and in case an interpreter is required that the notary first swear the interpreter to truly interpret.

By section 8, the alien must take the oaths of residence and allegiance. By section 10, the alien shall adduce such evidence, &c., as the person before whom he appears requires, and such person on being satisfied with such evidence and that the alien is of good character, shall grant the certificate. Section 8 having already provided for the taking of the oaths of residence and allegiance, section 10 surely requires some additional evidence, it may be much or little, but some must be adduced, without casting any imputation on the honesty of the justices of the peace or notaries. I venture the opinion that no evidence whatever other than the taking of above-mentioned oaths is ever adduced. Now, if I am right in this conjecture, it follows that by last paragraph of section 11, the certificate referred to in section 10, form B, was not properly before the court, and all things had not been done to entitle the certificate to be presented, read and filed of record in the court, and it therefore follows that any certificate of naturalization issued on the evidence of an uncorroborated affidavit has been improvidently issued and may be cancelled. The justice of peace or notary's certificate as presented to the court is in appearance proper and valid, and the court would hardly on a mere conjecture direct the justice of peace or notary to be cross-examined, admitting the power to do so.

A stop should be put to trafficing naturalization certificates.

## EXPORT OF FISH TO JAPAN.

Ewen W. McLean, Chinese interpreter, said: I was asked to ascertain the quantity of dog fish—what are called dog salmon—shipped last year. I find that in the year 1900 the shipments to Japan of that salted fish amounted to some 2,200 tons. I got the information from the Japanese exporter, a man named Koronaga. He made the contracts for the Japanese shipping the salmon. He tells me there were 16,000 tons shipped through Dodwell & Co., and 600 tons by the ship *Alpha*, which was lost upon the coast. They did not ship by the Canadian Pacific Railway. They could not get freight by the Canadian Pacific Railway boats. They shipped mostly from Victoria, by the American line, for which Dodwell & Co. are the agents.

Q. Why wasn't any of the dog salmon shipped by the Canadian Pacific Railway?—A. The Canadian Pacific Railway does not care to ship any of that kind of freight.

Q. Why?—A. Because there is quite a difference I understand in their through freight. I understand most of the fish is put up by Chinese contractors in the canneries. They generally occupy a part of the cannery after the general fishing season is over. I understand that each fish costs about 16 cents; that includes catching and packing. There is no reason why the business should not grow to large proportions. The business should be large here, but last year, on account of the war, they could not get

freight from here. I know that quite a number of Japanese went home from here to join their army, and I know that freight was difficult to get from here. They have been shipping that class of salmon three or four years. They are caught after the regular fishing season is over, by the Japanese. They are an inferior fish.

Q. Are the steamers that carry the freight not controlled by the Canadian Pacific Railway?—A. No, they are under the control of the Northern Pacific, I understand. Their headquarters are at Victoria, and their general agents or general managers are Dodwell & Co. They run in connection with the Northern Pacific. It is an American line of boats.

Q. So that this trade, whatever it amounts to, is carried in American waters and the fish are caught and packed by Japanese?—A. Yes.

Q. What benefit do we get from that?—A. Only the small freight to Victoria, $1 a ton. The salt comes principally from Liverpool and Australia. The fish are salted and put up in boxes. They are made at the lumber mills. I cannot tell the value of the fish. That is a new industry; it was started as an experiment by the Japanese some years ago. During the big run of 1897 they salted a good deal of the sock-eye salmon not required by the canneries; they salt them in big tubs or tanks that they have for the purpose. I think it is an industry likely to grow to large dimensions. The canneries do not seem to have facilities for salting sock-eye salmon as the Japanese. I think Japan is a big market for fish. Fish going from here would have to compete with fish caught in Japan by cheap labour. I don't think there is a great deal of deep-sea fishing in Japan. A great part of the fishing is coast fishing. Where we have one fishing boat they have thousands. There are so many fish easily caught on the coast there that there is little or no necessity for deep-sea fishing. They catch fish with lines there generally. They have no such thing as our large runs of salmon. There is abundance of fish in Japan but not of the kind we have here.

Thomas Robinson, assistant to the fishery inspector, said: In 1898 the value of dry salted dog salmon amounted to $160,000. In 1899 the value was $120,000, and in 1900 the value was $298,000. I think that covers the ground. The value is reckoned at three or four cents a pound, I cannot recall which. We have no information as to the number engaged in that business.

The export of fish and fish products to Japan since 1896, is as follows:—

| | |
|---|---|
| 1896 | $ 2 |
| 1897 | 1,069 |
| 1898 | 17,986 |
| 1899 | 40,270 |
| 1900 | 47,773 |

(See the Report of the Department of Trade and Commerce, 1900, page 614.)

## SUMMARY.

Prior to 1896 comparatively few Japanese engaged in fishing, and a record of licenses issued to them was not kept. In that year 452 fishing licenses out of a total of 3,533 were granted to Japanese. This number has increased until in 1900 out of a total of 4,892 fishing licenses, 1892 were granted to Japanese, and in 1901 out of a total 4,722 licenses, 1,958 were granted to Japanese. The increase in the number of licenses is in direct proportion and corresponds to the increased number taken out by Japanese. Each canner receives a certain number of licenses, and a number of these are given to Japanese; so that about two thousand licenses were held by the Japanese for the year 1900, and over that number for the year 1901.

For each boat there is at least one additional puller, making over four thousand Japanese directly engaged in the fishing business, and many more indirectly connected therewith. The Japanese are expert fishermen, having followed that calling in their own land, and unless something is done it is perfectly evident that they will in a few years supersede the white fishermen and control this business. Not one in twenty can

speak English beyond a few words. Numbers of them return to their own land after the fishing season is over, and the rest are thrown upon the labour market to find employment where they can, to the great detriment of the white working man and the incoming settler

It is manifest that Japanese become naturalized not for the purpose of becoming citizens of the country in the ordinary sense of that term, but for the express purpose of qualifying themselves for fishermen's licenses.

The following table will show the rate of increase and the danger apprehended :—

(Prior to 1890 there is no record of any Japanese having been naturalized in British Columbia.)

JAPANESE NATURALIZED IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

| Year. | Victoria. | Vancouver. | New Westminster. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1890 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1891 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| 1892 | 0 | 4 | 16 |
| 1893 | 1 | 5 | 60 |
| 1894 | 7 | 47 | 59 |
| 1895 | 11 | 72 | 9 |
| 1896 | 38 | 197 | 12 |
| 1897 | 85 | 230 | 6 |
| 1898 | 37 | 93 | 9 |
| 1899 | 144 | 94 | 140 |
| 1900 | 238 | 437 | 231 |
| 1901 to August 29 | 36 | 182 | 3 |
| | 601 | 1,363 | 545 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Total | 2,509 |
| Nanaimo | 3 |
| Chilliwack (for year 1900) | 179 |
| Nelson (for year 1897) | 1 |
| | 2,692 |

During the same period the returns show that 1,156 Chinese were naturalized in British Columbia.

At Vancouver the total number of Japanese naturalized is 1,363, while all other nationalities, including Chinese, that took out naturalization papers amounted 734, exclusive of whites naturalized during the year 1901, which would probably make the total number of whites naturalized about 900. Nearly 1,700 Japanese have been naturalized during the last three years.

The great increase in the number of licenses granted on the Fraser has had the effect of overcrowding, forcing many of the fishermen to leave the Fraser for the open water, which requires a large sea-going boat at two or three times the cost of the smaller one formerly used on the Fraser River. This overcrowding also decreases the individual catch and forces the fishermen to demand more for their fish than formerly, and receive less remuneration for their work, both the canner and the fisherman losing thereby. It has created serious irritation between the white fisherman and Japanese, the former complaining that they are forced out of an industry which they helped to develop, and that after the fishing season is over they are met by large numbers of Japanese in every industry where unskilled labour is employed, who work at very low wages, have no family to support and send or take most of their earnings out of the country.

The natural irritation caused by this large and sudden influx of Japanese as fishermen was much aggravated by the fact that there were grave irregularities if not actual fraud in obtaining certificates of naturalization by many of the Japanese. It appears that

the fare from Japan to British Columbia being very low, large numbers of Japanese have been in the habit of coming out for the fishing season, arriving in April and May and many of them returning after the fishing season is over. Many of these were engaged as boat pullers for the Japanese fishermen, the regulations not requiring for this service that they should be British subjects. It appears that these boat pullers were afterwards naturalized. It is certain that many who were naturalized never resided in Canada for one full year, some of them may have resided here during the fishing season only for a part of three years, and yet hundreds of these men who had not complied with the requirements of the law, were granted naturalization papers and received their license to fish. The naturalization certificate being regular in form the officer considered he was bound to recognize the holder as entitled to a license.

The Commission took sufficient evidence to establish these facts. It was impossible for them to inquire into every case.

When we visited Steveston at the mouth of the Fraser in May, and therefore before the fishing season had commenced, we found a busy hive of men almost exclusively Chinese and Japanese, except the overseers. The Chinese engaged in making cans in the canneries and the Japanese in boat building and otherwise getting ready for the opening of the fishing season. What was particularly noticeable in this busy throng was the absence of white men.

This class of Japanese almost without exception come without their families and are rapidly taking possession of an industry which for national as well as economic reasons should be retained in the hands of the white population, the actual settlers. What is wanted and is essential to the welfare of the country is to establish a permanent class of fishermen, householders, who, owning small holdings, may be assisted in earning their livelihood by having an opportunity of making a few hundred dollars additional during the fishing season.

As long as the fishing is profitable to the fishermen so long will the white men be willing to engage in it. As the margin of profit grows less, they will drop out, and the Japanese who can obtain licenses, who live on less, and are content with smaller remuneration, will occupy their places. This diplacement is evidenced by the number of licenses issued. Whether that margin of profit grows less by reason of overcrowding, depletion of the fisheries, or for any other reason, the tendency is towards the complete occupation of salmon fishing by Japanese while they continue to be licensed. Practically none of the Japanese of the fishing class bring their families with them. They have shown no signs of settling permanently in the country or of becoming merged amongst our people as all the various classes of white men do who are engaged in the fishing here. They have contributed in part to the present abnormal development of the industry. The opinions stated by those most interested was that white men are preferable and that they would not desire to see the industry get under the control of the Japanese. It is not right that this important industry should fall into the hands of a class who are foreigners and who do not assist in settling the country with a permanent class of citizens.

### PART II.—BOAT BUILDING.

Boat building is and always will be an important industry in British Columbia. Until a few years ago it was entirely in the hands of Canadians. It has passed largely into the hands of Japanese, except in the case of one large manufacturing firm where the work is chiefly done by machinery, and high class pleasure boats, which are chiefly built by whites. The Japanese make not only their own fishing boats, but also large numbers for the white fishermen. Formerly small boats were used almost exclusively on the Fraser, but within the last few years by reason of the large increase in the numbers of fishermen crowding on the Fraser, has resulted in large numbers fishing at the mouth of the Fraser and in the Gulf, for which larger and seaworthy boats are required. These of course are more expensive.

The fact is that the Japanese practically control this branch of the business except as above mentioned. Along the shores and bays from Port Moody to the mouth of the Fraser many hundreds are engaged in this business.

Boat building is an important adjunct to the fisheries and both are rapidly passing out of the hands of Canadians and into the hands of Japanese. This cannot but be regarded as a very serious matter.

Andrew Linton says: I am a boat builder. I came here in 1884. I learned to be a shipwright and boat builder in New Brunswick and State of Maine. I was born in New Brunswick. The Japanese have interfered with my business. In the first place I used to build flat-bottom boats and boats used for logging work and around booms. The Japanese commenced on those first. I could not compete and had to quit. I then built a higher class of pleasure boats. They did not affect me there so much. There were seven or eight firms employing a number of men, I can't say how many. I also built fishing boats. The reduction in price drove me out. I think the boat business would be better if the Japanese were out of it and we could start apprentices, but now it is hard to get young people to take up the trade. They fear competition with Japanese. The fishermen get their boats for less than they did before, about one-quarter less cost. We never feared competition from outside, that is from a white man's country.

Henry Mundon says: I am a boat builder. I have been here four years. I only employ one man now. I did employ as high as ten. The boat building is being done too cheaply now and I am not taking fishing boats to build. I can't get my price. Lots come to me to buy and ask the price. My price is $85, and they say they can get them from $60 to $65. The Japanese sell to the whites. I know they have built for the canneries at $65. When I had ten men employed I paid $2.50 to $3.00 a day. I am married and have three children. The Japanese get their help cheaper. There is one shack where they all live together. The boats I build ought to last seven or eight years. I could have built a lot of boats for fishermen and cannerymen too, but I would not take them. I built a few for $75 for cannerymen and lost money on them. I could have employed ten men if I had taken contracts of those who spoke to me. There are 100 being built (by Japanese) near where I am. Last year more were built than this year. I employed six men last year. The material in my boats cost $47 and 18 days' work. The Japanese used poorer material. They put in maple ribs. I have seen them whip sawing lumber. The Japanese can build as good a boat as a white man can for fishing. They build a cheap boat. I favour the exclusion of Japanese and Chinese. It was the year before last I employed ten men.

Other witnesses gave evidence to the same effect.

Alfred Wallace carries on boat building on a large scale. His evidence presents many important features. He says: I run a ship and boat-building establishment and employ 64 hands. The only way they (the Japanese) affect our business is they (the cannerymen) give them the boats to build, and they (the Japanese) guarantee to furnish them the number of men to fish the boats that year. The canners themselves told me. There is not more than 3 per cent for private individuals. I don't think my trade has been affected any. We buy the lumber in the rough and manufacture everything ourselves. We manufacture cheaper than formerly. I have been in business eight years. They have cheaper labour; that reduces the price of boats. Last year we built 392 boats; of these 80 per cent were for the canneries. We run a union yard exclusively and pay union wages, $3 to $4 and nine hours per day for skilled men. We hire boys from $1.25 to $2.50—twelve boys altogether. About 50 per cent of the boats are built by Japanese. The Japanese have offered their services to me for 10 and 11 cents per hour; 24 of the men and boys are employed in boat-building; 33½ cents per hour is the lowest wage I pay to skilled workmen. I think the Japanese are very good mechanics, but very slow. You can get all the men you want, of good skilled men. There is no trouble about getting white labour. I have never had Japanese working for me. We may have to have them after awhile—get cheaper men to turn out cheaper articles. By machinery we can compete. We could not compete if the Japanese had machinery. We employ the men the year round. We have few unskilled labourers. It don't make much difference to me whether they come or not. My principal customers are the canneries so far as fishing boats are concerned. We can do the work about 15 per cent cheaper by machinery. No one building by hand can compete with machinery. We keep the staff steady. We build stock boats in winter. All round from Port Moody to the Fraser

River, that is 35 or 40 miles, you will find shacks where boats are built by Japanese all along the shore. They cut the timber and rip-saw it and build boats wherever you see a shack. We build many for the Skeena trade. A boat will last eight years. The canneries buy new boats to replace the skiffs. I don't want to do anything to interfere with the fishing business. My principal patrons are cannerymen. I think there are just as many men building boats to-day as four years ago. It is a different class of boats to-day. We can compete with them at a profit. I don't say a good profit. If a company started who employed them we would have to cut wages or shut down. If prices are reduced as much in the next four years as in the last four years, we could not compete at the same wages and cost of material. I think we have enough Japanese here now. The arrangement with the Japanese and canneryman gives them an advantage. I can't get any of my boat builders to go fishing. The canners are our best customers. You will find the Japanese boat-builders everywhere. The men who build the boats do the fishing. They work from daylight till dark. One Japanese takes the contract and he is the responsible party. They are an intelligent race. They may go into this business and if they do we will have to get cheap labour, and then I would be opposed to further immigration. They live in boat houses. Two-thirds of my men are married men. I would not like to hurt the cannery business. They are my best customers; but I think we have enough here now. The opinion of canners will not alter my opinion.

SUMMARY.

The following facts are made clear by the evidence:

Boat builders working without machinery have been driven out of the employment of building fishing boats. The wages formerly paid for this class of work was from $2.50 to $3 a day.

The Wallace factory employs 24 hands in boat building of this class, exclusively white labour, and pay union wages,—men from $3.00 to $4.00 a day for skilled labour, and boys $1.25 to $2.50 per day, and is able to compete by using machinery. The manager declares that he could not compete if Japanese employed machinery. If a company started who employed Japanese he would have to cut wages or shut down. If the selling price was reduced in the next four years as much as in the last four years this factory could not compete at the same wages and cost of material.

All whites engaged in this business are opposed to further immigration of Japanese.

The fishermen get cheaper fishing boats but lose more than they gain by competition of Japanese fishermen.

This industry is a good illustration of the effect of oriental labour. It grew up to meet the requirements of the trade exclusively by white labour and so flourished, giving employment to large numbers of men at prices that would enable them to live and support their families. The Japanese was not a necessity. When he comes, by reason of his low standard of living, he is able and has driven out all but the large machinery-supplied factory. This factory would not now compete if another started employing Japanese labour, or if the Japanese employed machinery. That this will take place in a short time if they continue to come can scarcely be doubted; and then the same argument might be presented as is now made in respect of other industries;—it cannot be successfully carried on without cheap labour. Of course it cannot if the competition of cheap labour brings down the price. The cure is to remove the cause; not more cheap labour, but less. While cheap labour continues to come in it creates the conditions which it is said make it necessary.

# CHAPTER III.—THE LUMBER INDUSTRY.

## PART I.—SAWMILLS.

The Japanese are employed to a very considerable extent in the lumbering business. Their proportion to whites and Chinese employed will appear from the following table:—

| Mill. | Whites. | Chinese. | Japanese. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Chemainus Mill | 58 | 56 | 56 |
| " (in camp) | 128 | 19 | 30 |
| Hastings Mill | 164 | 0 | 93 |
| " (in camp) | 245 | 10 | 0 |
| Royal City Mills, New Westminster | 180 | 57 | 29 |
| The Moodieville Sawmill Co | 60 | 10 | 40 |
| Sayward Mills, Victoria | 30-40 | 60-70 | 0 |
| Munsie Mills, Victoria | 10 | 17 | 0 |
| Haslam Mills, Nanaimo | 59 | 13 | 9 |
| North Pacific L. Co | 45 | 0 | 46 |
| Robertson & Hackett, Vancouver | 80 | 0 | 20 |
| Royal City Mills, Vancouver | 90 | 11 | 66 |
| Brunette Mill, near Vancouver | 168 | 10 | 78 |
| Shields' Mill, Kamloops | 30 | 3 | 9 |
| Yale Mill Company—Head office at Rossland controlling mills at Rossland, Robson, Nakusp, Cascade, Roche Creek, Deadwood | 200 | 3-4 as cooks. | 0 |
| Hillyer's Mill, Nelson | 40 | 0 | 0 |
| Buchanan's Mill, Kaslo | 10-50 | 0 | 0 |

Probably the best idea as to whether the Japanese are necessary for this business, and as to whether there are sufficient in the country to meet the demand, may be gathered from the evidence of the employers. As most of these witnesses have been quoted from at length, in dealing with this question as it affects Chinese immigration reference may be had to that evidence.

Edmund James Palmer, manager of the Victoria Manufacturing Company's mill at Chemainus, that exports nearly as much as all the other mills at British Columbia, says: We first employed Japanese about a year ago last February. I never employed them in the mill except three months ago. I let them a contract for grading the road. I know the Port Blakeley mill on Puget Sound, Washington, employs Japanese. All the other mills there employ whites.

Q. What do you say as to the Japanese?—A. I think there are plenty of them here. I would say that all further immigration of Chinese or Japanese should be prohibited. What we have here now I think quite sufficient, and I think we can gradually work white labour in until we would soon have sufficient white labour in the country to answer all demands.

The Japanese are more inclined to adopt our mode of living and more inclined to spend money in doing so.

Richard H. Alexander, manager of Hastings Mill, Vancouver, says: We employ ninety-three Japanese, in trucking and piling lumber. They are paid from 90 cents to $1.25 a day. The Japanese are all in inferior positions, with the exception of the lath mill, at which there are six or seven of them at the cut-off saws and trimmer. We first engaged them twelve years ago.

(The evidence of this witness is fully given in Part I, Chap. XII.

Robert Charles Ferguson, manager of the Royal City Mills, Vancouver, which forms one of the three mills under the control of the British Columbia Mills and Trading Company; the other two being the Hastings Mill and the Royal City Mills of New

Westminster, says: We employ 150 men, of whom 60 are Japanese. Over half the Japanese are paid 90 cents a day. Three Japanese have charge of saws. They are satisfactory. We get as much done as if run by a white man. We pay a Japanese sawyer $1.25 a day. We pay white labour of the same class (sawyers) $2.25. If no more Chinese and Japanese were admitted I would be satisfied for the present time, but I don't think we could do in the future because the Japanese are spreading out more. That is they are going over the country and going into business for themselves and are employed more largely. I don't think we could get white labour to take their place at present. I don't see why Japanese should not be able to run the higher class of machines. I would not care to run my mill with Japanese altogether. Certainly I would employ cheap labour all through if competition made it necessary. In handling the machines the Japanese can handle as much as the white man. If it came to heavy work the white man might be worth a little more, not over 15 per cent.

White men could not live on the same wages we pay Chinese and Japanese. Our firm tried to take a couple of carloads of people from the east at one time. We brought them out by rail with the usual result, they tried to beat their fares and left the employment of the company. They were bushmen and loggers. The lumber industry is languishing here at the present time, partly because of the foreign trade being dull and a dullness in the North-west market. Our trade last year was hurt by the labour unions here demanding higher prices for labour in the first part of the year. I should judge the employment of Chinese and Japanese have an effect on labour associations. We have a great deal of difficulty getting men to work during the fishing season. I would sooner employ all white labour if I could get it.

Robert Jardine, the local manager of the Royal City Planing Mills at New Westminster, who employs 29 Japanese out of a total of 266 men, says: The Japanese came in in 1897; prior to that Chinese were used. In 1897 we had a number of white men employed that filled the positions now held by Japanese, and they left and went fishing and we were compelled to get whatever labour we could. Probably eight or ten left and more left gradually. I would as soon employ white men at $37 or $38 a month as Japanese at $1 a day. It is not because of the difference in wages, but the difficulty in getting men, that we employ Japanese. We require cheap labour and the Chinese is the kind we have. We have to have cheap labour or shut our business down, because two-thirds of our cut is shipped east, to the North-west Territories, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, and as far east as Halifax. If we had to employ all white labour at from $35 to $40 a month, it would amount to a thousand dollars a month or over. We would have to pay 60 per cent more. We don't feel the competition so much. We have a price list between the different owners. It is not always adhered to. We only use 29 Japanese. I suppose the employment of Chinese and Japanese, and that white labour has to compete with them, does keep white labour out to a certain extent. (*See* further evidence of this witness Part I, Chap. XIII.)

Henry Depencier, manager of the North Pacific Lumber Company, that employs 46 Japanese out of a total of 91 men, the rest being white, says: The mill had been shut down for ten years on account of the depression in the lumber trade here. We commenced within the last year. We employ Japanese because of the 16 in the mill they do as much as white men. Two white men will do as much as three Japanese. I prefer white men. There are sufficient Japanese here now. In the east, Ottawa Valley, we had a whole mill outfit at what we pay the Japanese. Now wages are higher in the east. We had labour from Quebec at $1 a day and they boarded themselves. It is higher now. We never tried to bring that labour here. They could not come at that rate of wages. They are better than Japanese. We could pay them 50 per cent more. I think they would be brought here if the Japanese were not here. They can do more anywhere about the mill. At piling lumber the Japanese do about as much in a day as whites. We can produce lumber much cheaper here than east. They can work it up more closely there than here. They work up everything there. All of it can be sold. It was not a labour question at all. It was a question of finding a profitable market. We pay white labourers $1.50 to $1.75; skilled $2.50 to $3.85; two boys 18 years old $1 a day. We pay the Japanese $1 a day, and three $1.25 a day.

John G. Woods, superintendent of the Moodyville Sawmill Company, which employs 110 men, of whom 40 are Japanese, says: We pay white men from $30 a month and board up to $140 for foremen; Japanese 90 cents and board to $1.25 and board. Board costs 35 cents a day. In most positions they are as good as whites. They are behind machines and keep the machines clear. The Japanese run machines, namely, the edger and trimmer; one edger and five trimmers run by Japanese. We formerly had white men do it. He runs the machine as well as a white man and we keep him there. I don't see why a Japanese should not do anything there is to do about a sawmill. I very much prefer white men if other conditions are equal. The competition is as keen as the mills can stand and keep afloat. I guess we could fill the positions with white men if the Japanese were out—get them here in the country, but would have to pay them more. We would have to pay whites $15 a month more. If we had to pay $700 or $800 more than we do now we would have to shut down. I would close down so far as I am concerned rather than employ Asiatic labour. I have had large experience here in mills. For the last five years the Moodyville Mill has just about held level without the owners getting one cent interest or dividends. The property has been kept up. Our position is good for foreign markets but not for local trade. We do simply a foreign trade. We ship to China and Japan.

James W. Hackett, of the firm of Robertson & Hackett, that have a sawmill and sash and door factory. They employ 100 men in and about the mill and factory, of whom 20 are Japanese. Only white men are employed in the camps. Their market is local and east. He says: We tried to run our mill without Japanese. We found that it was necessary to have a certain amount of cheap labour. We had to compete with others who had cheap labour; besides cheap white labour is very unsteady. You can get white labour for $1.50 a day, but they won't stay with you. If others had employed exclusively white labour we would. We don't employ Chinese. The export mills have a good deal to do in fixing the local price. What they do not export they sell cheap. The local market would be better without the export mills. The more there is shipped for foreign markets the worse it is for local trade, because every million feet leaves a lot rejected which comes in competition with the local trade. Our white men are a very sober class of men. Some kinds of work Japanese will do as well as whites. I think it would take as many whites to do the work of Japanese. It would make a difference of $24 a day. The greater portion of our labour is skilled labour. Public opinion on the Chinese and Japanese question is very strong. Last year I paid out $50,282 in and about the mill and factory. Of this $3,282 was paid to Japanese and $47,000 to whites. I also paid to whites in the camp $24,125. I would have had to pay $1,640 more to whites if I had employed all whites and no Japanese. Our realty and plant is worth about $100,000. We have a good class of labour in this country, better than in most countries.

Andrew Haslam, sawmill owner at Nanaimo, said: I think the Japanese are stronger physically than the Chinese. Japanese can do harder work than the Chinese. I am certainly in favour of employing white men. I think myself the Japanese will finally be the keener competitors of the white men. I do not think anyone will deny that the Japanese are a progressive people and have advanced more rapidly of late years than any other nation; but on the other hand their wants are so few and their habits so simple they can live very well for a small sum of money, for such a sum that a white person could not possibly live on; and to bring an unlimited number of these people here to enter into competition with our white people, I do not think is in the interests of the country by any means. It is a question to my mind whether it is wise to encourage immigration beyond what can find profitable employment in the country. I have heard very little of the Japanese question here. I do not think it would be wise to persist in any regulation that would tend to irritate the Japanese people at the present time. As far as I know of the business of British Columbia, and I have had an opportunity of studying it for 35 years, all I can say is that the white men got less wages before the Japanese and Chinese were in the country than they did after they were in here.

Lewis A. Lewis, manager of the Brunette Sawmill Company, New Westminster, pays out in wages in connection with his sawmill, planing mill and logging camp annually $141,937; for white labour, $119,773, and the balance to Japanese and Chinese; that is about 85 per cent to whites and 15 per cent to orientals. He employs in all 168 white men, 78 Japanese and 10 Chinese. He says: The average wage of the Japanese is $1.00, Chinese, 90 cents, and white labour $35 to $100 a month. Have had Japanese four or five years, but not as many as now. Had 10 or 12 more last year than the year before, using more men in 1900 than in 1899. The business has increased, but the number of white men is about the same. The increase has been 10 or 12 additional Japanese. The Japanese have gradually taken the place of white men in some places they have. Some of our tally men are Japanese. He could do it as well as white. The Japanese have taken the place of white men in piling lumber. We paid $35 to $40 a month. We now pay Japanese $1 a day of 26 days. That is instead of $35 to $40, we pay $26. I don't think a Japanese will do as much work as a white man. They don't understand. The Japanese don't understand English. I would as soon pay a white man $35 a month as a Japanese $26 in certain kinds of work. There was no advantage in taking on Japanese instead of white men as to that work. In trucking rough lumber out of the yard, Japanese are cheaper. As far as I can recollect when the Japanese did not do it, the Chinese did. Our market is all the way from here to Quebec. Our principal market is the North-west Territory, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec. When it goes east of Winnipeg it is large special timber for bridge building. We export to Glasgow, Scotland and to Japan. It is not regular, it is incidental. It would not be a tenth of our business. The Chinese are engaged in piling lumber in the yard. No Chinese work in the mill; some of the Japanese do. They work behind the edger. None run the edger. None of the Japanese do any skilled work; one of them uses a trimmer saw for cutting off, for the last year or so. We formerly paid a white man $40 a month, and we pay the Japanese $1.35 per day, say $32.50 per month. He can't do the work as well. He can do as much. The man at $40 could get his job back at the price. I have resided here fourteen years. Japanese were not in the sawmills then; white men and Chinamen did the work.

I don't know of any Japanese or Chinese with families. The white men are, I think, mostly married. We give preference to married men. I don't think we could get along without the Japanese in the lumber business. We could get along without the Chinese. I am speaking from the lumberman's standpoint. Labour is short during the summer time till after the fishing season is over. White labour is short during these months. There is abundance of white labour during the winter months. If you give Japanese employment in winter they will stay in summer. Our white men stay with us in summer. We supply lumber and boxes to the canneries. This year it may be $50,000 if a big run. Last year it was $30,000 to $40,000. Two other mills also supply the canneries. The business is in a fair condition, but it could be better. The last three years have been better. For eight previous years we did not make money. We get a special order and we have to get out special lengths. British Columbia can fix the price for the east, but there is such keen competition among the mills that it cuts the price. If you want half a dozen men, Japanese, you can get them on short notice by speaking to a boss Japanese, same as to boss Chinamen. There is very strong competition in British Columbia. The prices are below what would give a reasonable profit if we had to employ white labour.

Alexander Shields, manager of the Kamloops Sawmill, employs 9 Japanese out of a total of 42 men. He says: We have some difficulty in keeping whites. We shut down for a while and the men were then discharged and when we started we brought in Japanese. The whites were not invited to come back. The management is in favour of further restriction. I would restrict it so no more would come in. I think there are enough here. In the logging camps we employ about 100 men, all whites. We prefer them. We would not have Japanese or Chinese. I think the Japanese are more desirable as a class than the Chinamen. I don't think any serious loss would result if no more came in. In the sawmill business it is necessary to have cheap labour. We come

into competition with the coast mills. Our management would favour no more coming in.

Charles Hillyer, of Nelson, employs 40 men in his sawmill and sash and door factory, and pays for unskilled labour from $2.25 to $2.50 and for skilled labour $3, $3.50 and $4 a day. The market is local and for the mines. He says: I favour further restriction. If any restriction can be put on it ought to be done. In 15 years there wont be a white man working in a sawmill. If I compete with the coast mills I will have to put my white men out and put in Chinese. I will have to put in Chinese. I will have to put in Chinese and Japanese within two years.

Geo. A. Buchanan, sawmill owner of Kaslo, employs from 10 to 50 men, according to the season; no Japanese or Chinese, except occasionally as cooks. He says: I am not in favour of putting restriction upon anybody as far as I am concerned. I think all kinds of men should be free to come and go and make their homes anywhere it suits them. God made of one blood all nations of the earth.

William C. Dickinson says: I was bookkeeper and yard foreman in the Royal City Mill. I had from 25 to 35 Japanese under me. In heavy work I would rather have one white man than two Japanese. I could have done the whole work with 20 or 25 white men. I favour restriction to keep out Chinese and Japanese. Japanese compete more keenly. I remember when only one Japanese was employed there. In the last two years they have increased. They are increasing more rapidly than in the past. The Japanese range from 50 cents to $1.10, the average was about 80 cents. The white men struck and the Japanese took their places,—I should say about ten who are still in their places. The above is the wages before the cut. $10 was taken off my wages. The tally men and markers were succeeded by Japanese. I don't agree that whites are getting higher wages by reason of Japanese being employed. Eight or nine years ago there was only one Japanese, and the whites are not getting more wages now than then. I don't think their wages would be higher if the Japanese and Chinese were turned out.

AMERICAN MILLS.

It will be convenient here to refer to the statements obtained from lumbermen in Washington State and compare the wages on either side of the line in this industry.

The Stetson and Post Mill Company, Seattle, employ 125 men; no Chinese or Japanese.

Q. What is the average wage for unskilled labour here?—A. The average wage will be about $2 a day for unskilled labour. It ranges from $1.75 to $2.25 or $2.50 a day. Sawyers are paid from $3.50 to $4 a day.

W. H. Perry, the assistant general manager of Moran Brothers, who operate a sawmill at Seattle and employ about 100 men, stated that the average wage paid to common labour was $2 a day, that being the minimum. The men who operate the planers they are to a certain degree skilled labour and are paid $2.25, $2.50 and $2.75.

Theodore Ludgate, a Canadian, who has recently engaged in the sawmill business at Seattle, and employs 150 men in and about the mill, says:

Q. What is the average wage for unskilled labour?—A. The lowest wage we pay is $1.75 a day to roustabouts, men who are here to-day and are to be found some place else next week. A great many men we pay $2 a day to; $1.75 a day is our cheapest labour and it runs from that up to $5 for our filers and sawyers. The filers get $5 a day. The planer foremen get $3.50 a day and the planer feeders get $2.25 a day. No mills in the city or neighbourhood employ Japanese labour. The only mill employing Japanese labour is the Port Blakeley mill, nine or ten miles across the Sound from here.

A. S. Martin, secretary of the Puget Sound Sawmill and Shingle Company, Fairhaven, Washington, said: We are employing 265 hands. We have 110 men employed in logging camps. We never employ Chinese or Japanese. They are only employed at one mill, at Port Blakeley. Minimum wages for unskilled labour is $1.50 per diem. There are about ten men working here for that wage. At present $2 is our minimum. Wages run up to $5 and $6; average, $3.33⅓ per diem. We make a specialty of cedar shingles, having the largest cut of any mill in the world.

W. T. Harris, of Whatcom Fall Mill Company, at Whatcom, Washington, says: We employ about 75 men. No Chinese or Japanese. We buy our logs. I think no Japanese or Chinese are employed in the logging camps. Wages for ordinary labour are as low as $1.50 per day, but for skilled labour run up as high as $150 per month. Board is worth from $4 to $4.50 a week. The proportion of unskilled labour employed by us is two-thirds, including some machine attendants. We ship some of our product into Canada. Our chief market is in the east. We experience no difficulty in getting common or skilled labour. Chinese are not employed in Whatcom at all. Don't see them here at all. The population of Whatcom is about 10,000. The principal industry of Whatcom is lumbering. There are no canneries. The coal mines are several miles out from town. They employ all white labour.

W. Sherman, of the Bellingham Bay Improvement Company, Washington, said: We employ about 350 men. No Chinese or Japanese. We engage in export lumber business to South America, Australia, Hong Kong and Japan, and also ship to San Francisco and east of the Rockies. There are no Chinese or Japanese employed on the Bellingham Bay and British Columbia railway. The average wage paid to unskilled labour is from $1.75 to $2 per day, and to skilled labour up to $4 per day; average, $2.50 to $3.75. There is no difficulty in getting labour. We buy our logs.

## WAGES ON THE AMERICAN AND CANADIAN SIDE COMPARED.

### CANADIAN MILLS.

*Chemainus Mills (Chemainus, B.C.).*

Japanese—$1 to $1.25.
Chinese—$1 to $1.25 and one at $1.50.
Whites—$2 for unskilled labour, and from $2.25 up for skilled labour.

*The Hastings Mill (Vancouver).*

Japanese—90 cents to $1.25.
Whites—$40 to $45 a month, and in the woods the whites received from $2.25 to $2.50 a day.

*The Royal City Mills (Vancouver).*

Japanese—From 90 cents to $1 for common labour; sawyers, $1.25 to $1.50.
Whites—Labour: unskilled, from $1.75 to $2.50; skilled, $2.50 to $3.50.

*The Brunette Sawmill Company (New Westminster).*

Japanese—95 cents to $1.25; average $1.
Chinese—90 cents.
White labour—$35 to $100 a month.

*The Royal City Planing Mills at New Westminster.*

Japanese—85 cents to $1.40; average $1.
Chinese—85 cents to $1.35 per day; average $1.
Whites—$35 to $125 per month, and $1.75 to $3.40 a day for skilled labour.

### AMERICAN MILLS.

*The Stetson and Post Mill Company, Seattle.*

Japanese—None employed.
Whites—$2 for unskilled labour. It ranges from $1.75 to $2 50 a day. Sawyers are paid from $3.50 to $4 a day.

*Moran Brothers, Seattle.*

Japanese—None employed.
Whites—Average wage for common labour $2 a day, that being the minimum.

*Theodore Ludgate, Seattle.*

Whites—$1.75 is the cheapest labour employed, and up to $5 for filers and sawyers. Planer foreman $3.50, planer feeders $2.50. A great many of the common labourers are paid $2 a day.
Japanese—None employed.

*Puget Sound Sawmill and Shingle Company, Fairhaven, Washington.*

Japanese—None employed.
Whites—Minimum wage for unskilled labour $1.50 per diem to $2. This company employs 265 hands. At present $2 is their minimum.

*The Whatcom Falls Mill Company, Whatcom, Washington.*

Japanese—None employed.
Whites—Lowest $1.50 per day; for skilled labour as high as $150 a month.

*The Bellingham Bay Improvement Company.*

Japanese—None employed.
Whites—Average unskilled labour $1.75 to $2 a day. For skilled labour up to $4 a day.

SUMMARY.

In dealing with this industry it was found impossible to limit the evidence and summary to the Chinese and Japanese respectively, and for a fuller statement of facts and evidence reference may be had to a former chapter where the bearing of Chinese immigration upon this industry is dealt with, which in connection with what is here said will give a fair idea of the present condition of the industry.

In 1900 there was exported from British Columbia eighty-four million feet of lumber by six mills, the Chemainus 38,365,000; Hastings 23,873,000; Moodyville 19,312,000; The Royal City Planing Mills of New Westminster 1,312,000; The Northern Pacific Lumber Company 659,000, and the Canadian Pacific Lumber Company 687,000.

It will be seen that of the total export the first three mills exported 91½ millions of the 84 millions. The following statement shows the destination:

| Destination. | Total Exports from B. C. Mills. |
|---|---|
| Great Britain and Continent | 25,043,613 |
| Australia | 33,936,773 |
| Africa | 5,887,385 |
| Peru | 4,554,350 |
| Chili | 3,858,830 |
| Other South American Ports | 327,995 |
| China and Japan | 9,463,501 |
| U.S. Atlantic Port | 1,061,405 |
| Mexico | 76,701 |
| Total | 84,210.553 |

The exporting mills compete with the other mills in the local market.

The Chemainus Mill exports nearly as much as all the other mills together, and employs 56 Japanese about the mill and 30 in the camp. The manager of this large concern stated that they had never employed Japanese in the mills until three months ago. In the camps they are employed for grading. He thought there were plenty of them here now, and stated that in his opinion all further immigration of Chinese or Japanese should be prohibited. He said: What we have here now I think quite sufficient, and I think we can gradually work white labour in until we would soon have sufficient white labour in the country to answer all demands.

The manager of the next largest exporting mill, the Hastings Mill, that employs 164 whites and 93 Japanese, explained that they had always had in a mill a certain proportion of cheap labour; in the earlier days Indians; they gradually got off from working in the mill and were replaced by Chinese; and on the other hand, on account of the strong feeling against Chinese, they discontinued them, and have since been using Japanese. It was ten or twelve years since Japanese were first employed. He further stated that the Indians were not crowded out by either the Chinese or Japanese. The Indian camp was removed. They lived on the other side of the inlet, and it was difficult for them to go over to the mill in time, and during the construction of the railway got more profitable work with the contractors. The Indians were paid 75 cents a day and board, equal to $1 a day. The Chinamen will go along like a machine and do the same work every day until night at the same work, but the Japanese has got more spirit, and if he sees the machine crowding him he will put on a spurt and keep the machine clear, whereas the Chinaman will let the machine block up, and he will want another man to help him. The Japanese may not work as steadily but he works quicker, and is better for the work than the Chinaman in that way. Neither Chinese nor Japanese are used in the woods. They are not suited for it. This witness declined to express an opinion as to restriction on Japanese immigration.

He further stated that he desired to confine himself to its effect on the lumber trade, and said: The question is this,—we have always had a certain amount of cheap labour in connection with the operation of the lumber industry. It is quite possible that white labour would be generally profitable if we could get it under the same conditions. If the Japanese are to be replaced with white labour it will mean an increase in our expenses,—an increase in the cost of production of the lumber, but as it is at present the white men cannot work at the rate of wages that the Japanese do. Now, if the Japanese is replaced by white labour at a higher rate of wages on the industry on the manufacture of lumber, there can be but one result,—we would either have to raise the price of the article produced, or shut down the manufacture altogether. In our case the article manufactured has to be exported; it has to meet competition in the markets of the world with the same commodities from other places.

The superintendent of the Moodyville Sawmill, the next largest exporter, stated that they employed 40 Japanese out of a total of 410 men. This mill is situated across Burrard Inlet from Vancouver. They are paid from 90 cents to $1.25 and board. The board costs 35 cents a day. In most positions they are declared to be as good as whites. White men are paid from $30 to $140 a month. This would make a difference of about $600 per month in wages if whites were employed instead of Japanese, and the witness stated if they had to pay $700 or $800 per month more then they do now, they would have to shut down, but that so far as he was concerned rather than employ Japanese in responsible positions he would close down. This mill exports over four millions to China and Japan, out of a total of nine and a half millions.

The Hastings Mill, and the Royal City Planing Mill of New Westminster, under the same general management as the Hastings Mill, exported the balance of the nine and a half millions that went to Japan and China in 1900.

The local manager of the Royal City Mills of New Westminster says that the Japanese came in in 1897, but prior to that Chinese were used, but it is not because of the difference in wages but the difficulty in getting men that they employ Japanese; that they require cheap labour and the Chinese is the kind they have. They employ 57 Chinese and 29 Japanese and 180 white men. He further stated that they have to have cheap labour or shut down their business, and the reason given is that two-thirds of the cut

is shipped to the North-west Territories, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, and as far east as Halifax; that if they had to employ all white labour at from $35 to $40 a month it would amount to over a thousand dollars a month, and would be 60 per cent more than the cost of the labour of Chinese and Japanese now employed. He stated that he would as soon pay a white man $37 or $38 a month as a Japanese $1 a day. He further stated that they did not feel the competition so much because they had a price list between the different owners. He thought that the employment of Chinese and Japanese kept white labour out to some extent.

The manager of the Brunette Saw-mill Commany at New Westminster that employs 78 Japanese, being the largest number employed by any mill except the Hastings mill, stated that they had employed Japanese for the last four or five years but not in such large numbers as at present. That the Japanese had gradually taken the place of the white men. They pay the Japanese $1 a day or $26 a month, instead of $35 or $45 a month formerly paid to white men. He did not think that the Japanese did as much work as the white man, and stated that he would as soon pay a white man $35 a month as a Japanese $26 in certain classes of work, but that in certain other classes of work the Japanese was cheaper, and finally added that he did not think they could get along without the Japanese in the lumber business, but that they could get along without the Chinese. This gentlemen spoke purely from the lumberman's standpoint.

The next largest employer of Japanese labour is the Royal City mills of Vancouver who employ 69 Japanese, 11 Chinese and 90 white men. This case affords a fair illustration of what applies to nearly all the mills where Japanese are employed. The proportion given must not be understood as indicating the number of Japanese and unskilled white labour employed, the fact being that very little if any unskilled white labour is employed at these mills. The Chinese and Japanese practically fill all the positions of unskilled labour and have almost entirely displaced white men and Indians in these positions. The manager of this mill stated that they paid the Japanese 90 cents a day as common labourers and $1.25 a day as sawyers, three Japanese being employed in that capacity. It should be noticed here that the Japanese receive 90 cents a day without board whereas at the Moodyville mill they are paid 90 cents a day and boarded. The manager stated that he would be satisfied for the present if no more Chinese or Japanese were admitted, but thought that there might be difficulty in future because the Japanese are spreading out over the country and are going into business for themselves and are employed more largely. He did not think that white labour could be got to take their places at present. He thought that the Japanese would in time be able to run a higher class of machine, and declared that he would employ cheap labour all through if he found it necessary.

The Northern Pacific Lumber Company employ 46 Japanese and 45 whites, no Chinese. The manager stated that they employed Japanese because out of the total number 16 do as much as white men. In other classes of work two white men will do as much work as three Japanese. He preferred white men and thought there were enough Japanese here now.

The Robinson and Hackett Company of Vancouver employ 20 Japanese. The manager stated that they tried to run the mill without Japanese, but found that they had to have a certain amount of cheap labour to compete with others who had cheap labour, and that if others would employ white labour exclusively, their company was willing to do so. They do not employ Chinese.

The proprietor of the lumber mill at Nanaimo, employs 9 Japanese, 13 Chinese and 39 white men. He pays a total monthly wage of $4,350, of which $140 only is paid to Japanese, $368 to Chinese and $3,845 to whites. This gentleman ran his mill for 17 years with white labour exclusively, until two years ago. The cause of the change as stated by him was that the profits were getting so small that he could not afford to pay the white men for outside work, that is work apart from handling the machines; that there was an increased cost of everything that enters into the production of lumber, and that the selling price has remained the same for the last four or five years, and that owing to American lumber coming in free, they could only raise the price so that the American lumber could not be sold. The market is purely local, Nanaimo and vicinity.

He said that American lumber did not come to Nanaimo, but that it competed with other mills, and those mills took the trade that he otherwise would have got. The remedy he suggested was the admission of mill supplies free of duty and in that case he would only employ white men. He was in favour of employing white men and in the interests of the country, would choose them. He spoke very favourably of the Swedes and Norwegians as a desirable class of immigrants for mill work, and expressed the opinion that we had a sufficient supply of Japanese and Chinese here now, and did not think any serious inconvenience would accrue to his business if no more were allowed to come in. He thought there were enough in the country for some time to come. He further stated that he thought the Japanese were the keenest competitors of the white man; that a few years ago white men were getting out timber for Mexico; that is now done by Japanese. They contract for it themselves, several cargoes each year; that they more readily fall into our methods and habits; they are not as steady as the Chinese, and he did not know if they would make better citizens. He added that as long as the timber is in the country it is an asset, and unless we got out of it something commensurate with its value we lose it. He added that mills on the Sound employ white labour exclusively, except the Blakeley mill which employs 300 Japanese.

At the Kamloops sawmill, 9 Japanese out of a total of 42 men are employed. The manager thought Japanese more desirable as a class than the Chinese, but did not think any serious loss would result if no more came in.

No Japanese are employed at the Sayward mills and Munsie mills at Victoria, nor by the Yale mill company, which controls the mills at Robson, Nakusp, Cascade, Roche Creek, Deadwood and Rossland, employing 200 men, all whites, with three or four Chinese as cooks; no Japanese are employed at Hillyer's mill, at Nelson, or at Buchanan's mill at Kaslo.

The result of the examination of this industry shows that about 500 Japanese, as far as we can ascertain, are employed therein. These have largely taken the place of Chinese within the last few years. In some employments in and about the mill it is said that they will do as much work as a white man. One manager stated that 16 Japanese out of the 40 employed would do as much work as an equal number of white men, and that the balance was in the proportion of about 2 white to 3 Japanese. It will be seen, therefore, that the difference in cost between the employment of white labour and Japanese is not the difference in wages paid to each, but the difference in the value of their work. This latter sum it is difficult to estimate with accuracy, but approximately it may be stated to be from two-fifths to a half of the difference in wages; that is, that there is a saving to the mill owner of from two-fifths to one-half of the difference in wages between what is paid to a Japanese and what would have to be paid to white men. If only white men were employed in the above instance the saving would be $8, not $20. This probably expresses the view of the majority who favour cheap labour, but it must not be forgotten that some managers of large experience insist that white labour is as cheap in the long run as Japanese or Chinese, but it is not to be had at the present time, and that the reason of scarcity of white labour is because of the presence of the Chinese and Japanese, which has a tendency to keep out the desired class of white labour.

An examination of the conditions of this industry on the American side shows that no Japanese are employed in the mills there, with one exception, and that is at Port Blakeley where they were first employed last year.

The average wage paid for unskilled labour is from $1.75 to $2. In one instance a few men were employed at $1.50 per day, but the largest proportion are paid $2, and from that up to $3.50 and $4 for skilled labour. There is no difficulty there as far as we could ascertain in obtaining abundance of white labour at these wages. There is a large export trade from the Sound, amounting to over 156,000,000 feet last year, and a still larger cut for local and eastern trade. It is proper to observe that the only mill that employs Japanese labour is a large exporting mill.

We are of opinion that if no more Japanese come in, having regard to the number that are now in the country, that there are sufficient for the present requirements, and for some years to come, and that the change from Japanese to white labour would take

place gradually and without any serious loss to the business. As this industry is one of the few that gives employment the year round, it is of great importance that it should give employment to white labour, and so build up a permanent community.

PART II.—SHINGLE BOLTS, MINING TIMBER AND CORDWOOD.

While the Japanese are not engaged to any extent in the shingle mills as the Chinese are, they have crowded out the Chinese, the white men and the Indians to a very large extent as labourers in getting out shingle bolts, mining timber and cordwood; although as yet they are not employed to any large extent in the lumber camps.

John Murray, provincial timber agent, says that on the coast the larger percentage of cutting shingle bolts is now done by Mongolians. Ten years ago they did very little. The same thing applies to cordwood. The Mongolians monopolize it now. The wood business is done by the Chinese and the bolt business by Japanese. It is difficult to say how many are engaged in the business. It would run up into the hundreds.

W. H. Ellis, provincial immigration agent, says: I visited the cordwood camps on Main Island in the latter part of February. Several hundreds of Japanese are engaged in cutting cordwood on this and adjacent islands, chiefly for canneries and steamer companies. It is delivered f.o.b. on the scows at $1.80 to $2 a cord. I am informed that the contractors make little profit at these figures, and wages paid employees must be very small. The Japanese engaged in the work are principally from the Fraser River and owing to the small run of salmon last year they were in destitute circumstances at the close of the season. On their arrival at Main Island to commence work, they were without supplies and subsisted for some time on clams and thistle roots and whatever game and fish they could secure. The frequent heavy rains during the winter prevents continuous work. It would be impossible for white men to cut cordwood at the price and make very ordinary wages. The Japanese live in cedar shacks, sleep in bunks, ranged in tiers, and altogether have a wretched existence.

Andrew Haslam, carrying on a large lumber business at Nanaimo, said: I think myself that the Japanese will be the keenest competitors of the white men. A few years ago white men were getting out timber for Mexico and that is now done by Japanese. They contract for it themselves,—several cargoes each year.

C. Uchida, a Japanese contractor for shingle bolts, says: I contract to get out bolts, $2.05 per cord delivered on the scows. I pay $2 per cord and get 5 cents and what I make on supplies. The men do not have to buy in my store; they can buy in any other place. I take out about three thousand cords a year. We employ all Japanese, 36 men in the camp. There is only one family out there. Japanese have wives and children in Japan to whom they send money. Single men send very little money home. I buy groceries at the wholesale stores. I keep store and buy $2,000 a month; $360 a month goes into camp. I supply them with overalls and working clothes. I buy some from white men and some from Chinese. The white men do not get out shingle bolts. The 36 men in camp are not naturalized. I am not a British subject.

Edward H. Heaps, a shingle manufacturer, says: We employ in camps on contract about 80 getting out bolts. We let contracts to Japanese, Chinese and whites. The Japanese contractors employ Japanese, the Chinese employ Chinese, and the whites employ Japanese and Chinese. Ninety per cent would be Japanese and Chinese. We pay out $5,000 a month for eight months, $40,000 besides the factory wages. The division of wages would be the following:—

| | |
|---|---|
| To Chinese and Japanese for bolts | $36,000 |
| Japanese and Chinese in the mill | 8,000 |
| Total | $44,000 |
| Whites in the mill | $10,000 |
| For bolts | 4,000 |
| Total to whites | $14,000 |

The Japanese and Chinese are paid $3 to $1 paid to the whites.

Robert Jardine, the manager of the Royal City Planing Mills at New Westminster, who manufactures also a large quantity of shingles, says: We don't use shingle bolts. We cut them from the log and so we can carry on the shingle business without Japanese, because we get out ours all by white men.

### HOW THIS AFFECTS FARMERS AND OTHERS.

James Thomas Smith, a farmer from New Brunswick, fourteen years in British Columbia, has 170 acres, says: We had 20 acres of heavy wood. We generally had white men to cut it, for a small figure. Always had a hundred cords cut, but owing to the Chinese and Japanese we have half on our hands yet. We could not sell to clear ourselves on it. We cannot compete.

John Kendall, fisherman, says: Last year I tried to get a job cutting timber bolts or cordwood. I found I could get no job. I saw shingle bolts and wood being cut by Chinese and Japanese.

Much other evidence was to the same effect.

### SUMMARY.

The Japanese have gradually driven out the white man and to a large extent have taken the place of Chinese in getting out shingle bolts and cordwood, and seem now to have the exclusive trade for mining timber for Mexico, for which they contract and employ exclusively Japanese labour. The Japanese contractors pay the Japanese the contract price within a few cents and make their profits on their supplies.

One manufacturer, out of a total expenditure of $44,000, stated that he paid to Chinese and Japanese for bolts $36,000, and that he paid to whites for bolts $4,000.

Some of the manufacturers engaged in the shingle business purchase their bolts, which are gotten out chiefly by Japanese, and at first it appeared as if this were the cheaper method, but the manager of one of the largest mills stated that they do not use shingle bolts, but get out the material in the log, exclusively by white men, and so do not employ the Japanese at all for this purpose.

In the largest shingle mill in the world, situate at Fairhaven, Washington State, the material out of which the shingles are made is brought to the mill in log lengths. Shingle bolts are not used, and neither Japanese nor Chinese are employed in connection with the business. The Japanese are only employed in connection with the shingle business in getting out the bolts; and as it would appear that this is not the only or the cheapest method of procuring material for shingles—even from the point of cheapness the Japanese do not seem to be esential to the success of this business.

There are a great many shingle mills in Washington State, and the output is enormous and yet Japanese are not employed. The effect of the employment of so many Japanese in getting out shingle bolts, cordwood and mining timber is very serious upon the white settler.

It is clear that the shingle business does not depend upon Japanese labour for the supply of the raw material. Their monopoly of this branch of the business handicaps the settler in disposing of his timber while clearing the land, and deprives him of an avenue of employment necessary to success until his holding becomes sufficiently productive to be self-sustaining. (*See* Part I, Chapter VII, Land Clearing, and Chapter XIV, Shingle Business.)

## CHAPTER IV.—OTHER OCCUPATIONS.

The advent of the Japanese is comparatively recent, but for the time since they have commenced to come into the country in considerable numbers, their employment in the different industries and callings has been very rapid. Particular mention has been

made of those trades and callings wherein they are most largely employed, and only a short reference is necessary with respect to the others.—

(1.) The Mining industry.
(2.) Railways.
(3.) Sealing.
(4.) Domestic servants.
(5.) Farming, land clearing and market gardening.
(6.) Tailors, etc.

### I. THE MINING INDUSTRY.

*Coal Mines.*—It is only within recent years that Japanese have been employed at all in connection with the coal mines, and even now to only a limited extent. They are not employed at the Fernie mines nor by the New Vancouver Coal Company, Nanaimo. Japanese to the number of 102 are employed at the Union Mines, as miners, helpers, runners, drivers, labourers, timbering, blacksmiths, and labourers above ground,—77 being employed under-ground and 25 above ground. Only one Japanese is employed at the Extension mine and he above ground.

It is manifest that the Japanese are not essential to this important industry.

*Metaliferous Mines.*—The Japanese have not been employed in any of the metaliferous mines in the Kootenay district or elsewhere on the mainland, but they have been employed in mines near Victoria and on Texada Island.

Henry Croft, who is engaged in mining at Mount Sicker, 45 miles from Victoria, says: We employ both white labour and Japanese labour at the mines. White labour only in the mines and Japanese only in sorting of the ore. We employ from 30 to 35 Japanese in sorting the ore. We had previously tried to get white labour for that purpose. We tried to get boys from 15 to 20 years of age. We paid them $1.50 a day. We had the greatest difficulty in securing boys even in the city or in the country. The boys from the town would come up and work for three or four days and then leave us suddenly. The consequence was we had to look for other labour, either we had to look for other labour or shut down. I thought about securing Japanese from 16 to 21 years of age. We secured the Japanese for that labour. We found them perfectly satisfactory in every way. We pay them 90 cents a day. We cannot employ white men, white labour, for the simple reason that trade prices will not allow it. If we were to employ labour at $2.75 a day, which is what I understand to be paid in the Kootenay, it would make a difference to us in profit of over $19,000 a year. That profit enables me to employ more white miners than I otherwise would do.

I am adverse to Chinese and Japanese immigration, but I consider that in new countries like South Africa and Australia you must have cheap labour, and for instance in our own country we require cheap labour to run the saw mills. I hope that Norway and Sweden where they have cheap labour, they will ship some of it to us. There, cheap labour works in the sawmills, and the markets for their products are the same as ours. Unless we have some cheap labour, the lower grades of labour to do the lower class of labour in mines and lumbering camps, we cannot bring this country into the state of development we would wish. I think there are sufficient numbers of Japanese here now to meet the demand and also of Chinese. I do not think it necessary to permit any more Chinese to come into the country. I think there are enough of the Chinese and Japanese here at the present time. No serious inconvenience would arise to our business if no more were allowed to come in.

Q. Is there any industry with which you are familiar that you think would suffer any inconvenience, or to which any inconvenience would arise if no Chinese or Japanese were permitted to come in?—A. No, I believe it is now like a tap, when you want water you turn it on and when you have enough you turn it off. All you have got to do is to put a per capita tax on the Chinese high enough to exclude them.

Alfred Roper said: The Japanese have been employed as miners in one mine. Only the shift foremen and three white men. There must have been between 40 and 60. They were discharged. They worked in the mine and above ground. They did black-

smithing. There are only 30 or 40 Japanese on the island now all told. There were about 150 before they were discharged. There are 175 whites. White miners were paid $3 on hand drills and $3.50 for machine men. Muckers and shovellers $2.50. The Japanese miners and muckers were paid $1.25 per day. The cause of dismissal was that it cost too much. The output was too small. It did not pay. The manager said he had taken the Japanese out for good.

The number of Japanese employed in the metaliferous mines as a whole is insignificant, and it cannot be said that this industry is dependent upon their labour.

HYDRAULIC MINING.

The Japanese have displaced Chinese labour in the Cariboo Consolidated, where about 100 are now employed. (*See* Part I, Chaps. IX, X and XI.)

II. RAILWAYS.

The Japanese are not employed as yet to any great extent upon the railways; indeed with the exception of the Canadian Pacific Railway they are not employed at all.

The general superintendent of the pacific division of the Canadian Pacific Railway states that only seventy are employed in that division (main line) steadily. At certain seasons of the year as many as 300 or more are employed. Of the seventy, thirty are engaged as section men and forty on extra gang work from time to time. The Japanese are paid from $1 to $1.10 and white men $1.25 to $1.50. This out of a total number of nearly five thousand is comparatively small and it is manifest that this great overland railway has not hitherto been dependent upon this class of labour to any considerable extent. The numbers employed as compared with the whole number of employees on this division is so small, that it would be idle to urge that this class of labour is essential to the success of that great enterprise.

It is said that Japanese labour is largely employed on American Trans-Continental and other coast railways. We were informed, however, at Seattle, that the railways are letting them go, that one or two of the railways have already ceased to employ them, and that the Great Northern is getting rid of them as fast as it can.

The superintendent of the pacific division of the Canadian Pacific Railway stated: This company is not interested in employing a single oriental if we can get white labour. I don't desire to express any opinion on the question of immigration. I don't think white men with families could live on what we pay Japanese. We do not encourage white men with families. If the government had brought in whites to build the road it would have been better. More was lost than gained (that is by bringing in Chinese). The Japanese is a better man than the Italian.

(*See* Part I, Chap. XIX, Secs. 8 and 10, Railways.)

III. SEALING.

Wm. Munsie, Victoria, engaged in the sealing business, says: The Japanese make excellent sailors. I have been employing them for several years in the sealing vessels; I usually employ two, three or four to each vessel, but just now the sealing business is amalgamated into one company and there are quite a number of Japanese out this year, but I cannot say how many. No difference is made between the white men and Japanese as sailors. The principal reason of my employing them is, as sailors they are handy and sometimes white sailors are scarce.

A vessel usually carries 24 men all told, and among those there would be two or three Japanese; some vessels have no Japanese at all, and some have four or five Japanese. All vessels should carry Indians; the Indians are the hunters. Half of the number on board would be Indians, and sometimes a larger proportion. The Japanese do not hunt, they are sailor men; where the Japanese are employed on schooners they are boat pullers. The Indian schooners always carry a crew of about seven white men at least to man the vessel, and sometimes one or two Japanese are employed on them as sailors.

Sometimes we ship four distinct races,—the fourth a coloured man. The hunters and boat pullers eat forward and the mate and sailors take their food in the cabin. The captain and white men live together and have their food together, they live aft, and the Indians live in the forecastle. In such a case the Japanese lives aft and eats with the white men. When there are sailors or schooners carrying white hunters the sailors and Japanese eat in the forecastle, the white hunters and the captain and mate live aft. The reason is that the cabin would be too small for a crew of 24 men and the sailors go forward to suit the accommodation.

We have no Japanese overseers or superintendents. We only employ them as sailors, they are good sailor men, and trustworthy; there is not anything aboard the ship they cannot do. If no more came to this country I think we would not be inconvenienced.

They are not hunters; they are only fit for sailors, boat pullers and boat steerers. There are some Japanese hunters on the Japanese coast, but not on this coast, not even on Japanese schooners, and these vessels are even officered by white men. I think there are not as many of them employed now as there were five years ago. There is such a small percentage of them in the business that if none but white men were employed it would make no practical difference. There has never been an attempt to fill our vessels with Japanese. We seek white sailors first and then we pick up, if we require them, two or three Japanese. I do not know that there is any objection to them in limited numbers. I would be in favour of their exclusion.

### IV. DOMESTIC SERVANTS.

What has been said under this heading in dealing with Chinese immigration applies in many particulars to the Japanese, and reference may be had to the discussion of the question there for a fuller statement of the views of the Commissioners upon this important subject.

A large number of Japanese are employed as domestic servants and chore boys, but they are not employed nearly to the same extent that Chinese are, nor are their wages as a rule as high, nor do they give the same satisfaction. In some few cases they were highly spoken of, but they seem rather to have accepted situations on their first coming to the country as a means of livelihood until they could find some other occupation. In Victoria out of a total of 139 males, 57 found employment as domestic servants. They seem to be employed where less wages are paid than are usually paid to the Chinese domestic servants.

### V. FARMING, LAND CLEARING AND MARKET GARDENING.

The Japanese are employed to a limited extent on the farm and in land clearing and market gardening, and while in a few instances they are favourably spoken of as affording cheap labour, yet the great mass of the farmers, fruit growers, and those interested in agriculture regard them as undesirable immigrants and are strongly in favour of the view that no more of that class should be permitted to come in.

### VI. TAILORS.

A few carry on business as merchant tailors, and in some cases Japanese tailors are employed by Chinese, but they have not yet encroached upon this or other trades to any considerable extent.

## CHAPTER V.—HOW JAPANESE ARE REGARDED.

The Japanese are regarded as likely to prove keener competitors with white labour than the Chinese. With few exceptions this was the opinion generally expressed both

by employers and employees. It was also generally stated that they were more ready to adopt our mode of dress and habit of living than the Chinese are.

A reference to the evidence will more clearly indicate the views held in regard to them.

Joseph D. Graham, government agent at Atlin: The Japanese are a little cheaper than the Chinese. I would rather deal with them. They are a more manly class of people. They purchase goods from our ordinary tradesmen. They have got more of the western method about them. Everybody has his own idea. I draw my own conclusions from what I have seen of the Japanese: that they are a more manly race of people, and I have always drawn that conclusion. I have only met a few of the Japanese. Those I have met have been more manly than the Chinese. I cannot speak of them as a race.

Dr. Roderick Fraser, medical health officer for the city of Victoria: The Japanese live in any part of the city and wear European dress and occupy ordinary houses. I do not think they adopt the manners, customs and habits of our own people except in the matter of dress. They do not adopt our food, and the labouring Japanese does not sleep in the same kind of bed, but on a hard bed, like the Chinese, with a wooden pillow. They live close together.

Dr. Alfred T. Watt, superintendent of quarantine for British Columbia: I consider they are apparently more like our own people. They dress in English clothing; but you find in the boarding houses where they live—there are three or four Japanese boarding houses in the city—there they will put on the Japanese costumes in sitting around in their own houses and eat food prepared much in the same way as it is prepared in Japan; live on rice and fish principally.

The Japanese do not crowd together in the same sense the Chinese are crowded. They do not all live in the same quarter. They are congregated in large boarding houses. Large numbers sleep in one room. I think they are scarcely crowded in that respect as much as the Chinese. The Japanese in Victoria is more of a floating population.

William P. Winsby, Tax Collector for the City of Victoria: The Japanese assume our dress more generally. They live in boarding houses. I think they buy most of their food here. In some instances it comes from China; in some instances they use chopsticks, but a great many of them use knives and forks. They assimilate with the white man as far as they know how, and I should say the Japanese is a more dangerous competitor than the Chinese, because he is more adapted to white men's labour. He does not confine himself to one or two things. He does not seem to be so domesticated. He will work at any kind of work. A Japanese will take less wages than a Chinese will. As soon as they come here they open schools. Every man goes in to learn English.

James Andrew Grant, merchant tailor, of Victoria: The Japanese dress in European clothes and they are a better class of men taking them all around. They are small but they would be more likely to conform to our institutions, but the effect of their presence here on white labour would be just the same as that of the Chinese. I would favour their exclusion on the ground that they endanger the welfare of the labouring class the same as the Chinese do. I say they are a detriment to the country. Our country ought to be for our own people first. Self-preservation is the first law of nature.

Clive P. Wolley, formerly executive officer of the sanitary commission for the province: I have had very little experience as to Japanese. I am very much prejudiced in their favour. I do not want them, but I think better to have them than the Chinese, if we have to have either of them, for the reason that he seems to be willing to live more or less the white man's life. He will live as a white man does, and he is cleaner in his surroundings. He is more like our own people in assimilating to our manners and customs and mode of living, and he is more civilized—he is more manly and gentlemanly. I would rather have him because he buys our produce and dresses like ourselves and seems to be willing to adopt our habits and customs. He is a more dangerous competitor with the white man. He adapts himself more easily to our civilization than the Chinese. The Chinese will do the lowest kind of labour and stick to it. The Japanese

will get higher if he can, and he has brains enough to rise into any of the mechanical pursuits. It would certainly be better for all concerned if there was either a free importation of cheap labour or else that there should be a law enacted to keep out the Chinese and Japanese altogether.

Thomas R. Smith, of Victoria, general merchant, also engaged in salmon canning and general agent: They are not of the same class as the Chinese. The Chinese are sober. I do not think the Japanese are always sober. I do not think they are as law-abiding as the Chinese. I should say that of the two the Chinese is more desirable I think. If I made restriction against the Chinese I would make restriction against the Japanese. I do not say that the Japanese are preferable to the Chinese.

William John Taylor, of Victoria, barrister-at-law, who has resided fifteen years in the province says: I believe there is a great inclination on the part of the Japanese to become a citizen and he spends more of his earnings in the community. I think in some cases he will be a keen competitor with white labour. He can do more work than the average Chinese. Taking the average run of the Japanese they are more muscular. I think it would be advisable to exclude Japanese labour also, purely from industrial reasons; that they do not make for the benefit of the community so much as an equal number of whites would.

Charles F. Todd, who has resided in Victoria for over thirty years, wholesale grocer and salmon canner, says: Chinese and Japanese are much the same. My experience is that the Chinese are more trustworthy than the Japanese. I think restriction is quite as necessary with the Japanese as with the Chinese. I should say as much as on the Chinese.

Albert E. McPhillips, who has resided in Victoria since 1891 and is a member of the local legislature for the city of Victoria, says: I have had very little to do with, and I have observed the Japanese less than the Chinese. There are very few in Victoria. Those I have observed and my knowledge of the work performed by them is to the effect that they often work for less wages and compete more strongly against our labouring people than the Chinese.

Q. Do you think they are more inclined to adopt our habits and customs than the Chinese?—A. I think they do on the surface, but I wouldn't like to say more than that.

As at present advised I do not put one race above the other. I think they are equally objectionable. I would like to see the national government in some way meet the question as a whole to exclude these people from our shores; both races if possible; and in such a reasonable way as not to cause any disturbance of the relations between the Imperial government and Japan, because I admit that should have some weight with us. I still think it would be against the best interests of this country to have that race here in any appreciable numbers.

Joseph A. Sayward, of Victoria, manufacturer of finished and dressed lumber, and a large employer of Chinese labour, says: I am opposed to further immigration of Chinese in the interest of the country at large. I think the Japanese are pretty much of the same class. I do not know there is any difference. The same objections would apply to the Japanese.

Robert George Tatlow, member of the local legislature for Vancouver city, real estate and general brokerage business, says: My view is for prohibition of the labouring class. I may say I am in favour of prohibition as far as it can be got as to both Chinese and Japanese, with due regard to the existing treaty. I think they are equally dangerous to the future welfare of this country.

William Munsie, of Victoria, who is interested in several lines of business, sawmilling, sealing, &c., and employs Chinese in his lumber business and Japanese in the sealing business, says: In regard to Chinese immigration I prefer to exclude them—to exclude any further immigration. I do not like our country to be invaded with foreigners of the type of Chinese and Japanese. I do not think they will ever become Canadians in the proper sense of the term.

Q. Would that apply with the same force to the Japanese?—A. I think it would.

William H. Ellis, provincial immigration officer for Vancouver Island, says: I consider Japanese cleanly in habits, industrious and intelligent; believe them more dangerous competitors in the business of the country than the Chinese. They adopt European dress and food and conform as much as possible to the customs of the country. As a race they believe they are capable of taking an equal place among the civilized nations of the world. They are more aggressive than the Chinese, and if permitted to enter this country without restriction, would in course of time become a considerable portion of our business and working community and would undoubtedly insist on becoming enfranchised. I do not consider them desirable as citizens from the fact that they do not or cannot assimilate with the white race. At present they, like the Chinese, occupy a special place in the community. They furnish labour at which a white man cannot compete. They do not support families, and they trade almost altogether among themselves. They are meagre contributors to the general welfare and are a positive detriment to the white labourers. Their advantage is altogether from the standpoint of capital.

Edmund J. Palmer, manager of the Chemainus mills (exporters of lumber), that employ both Chinese and Japanese labour, says:

Q. I notice that you seem in the lumber business to employ more Japanese than Chinese?—A. It is the same class of labour, but the Japanese are better than the Chinese. The Japanese spend a large part of their money here. They will never settle our country up.

Q. What you mean is a great many of them have not brought their wives over here?—A. Not that altogether, but it is just like this,—if you want to improve the stock in the country you import good stock from the east or from other countries. The same thing applies to a country as to stock. If you want to settle it up and have a thriving community you import good men and their families, but here if you are figuring up to settle up the community and open up the country the Japanese are no good.

Henry Croft, engaged in mining near Victoria, where from 30 to 35 Japanese are employed in selecting ore, says:—

Q. Do you think there are a sufficient number of Japanese here now to meet the demand?—A. I think so. I think there are enough of the Chinese and Japanese here at the present time.

I do not think the Japanese will become permanent residents. White labour will not come in while the Chinese and Japanese are occupying the place in cheap labour that they are doing at present. That with restriction on immigration, white labour will gradually come in here, and the Japanese will leave the country. I favour restriction to a certain extent. We do not require any more Chinese or Japanese here at present. I favour a restriction, and that might be relaxed to a certain extent, as they are required from time to time.

Edward Musgrave, of Cowichan, retired farmer, says: I do not see any necessity for restriction as far as it has gone, and I look upon the state of affairs as temporary, and if there was any great volume of these people coming into the country I would be in favour of pressing the home government to do something, with a view to limiting the number of Chinese and Japanese to a certain number in the twelve months or something of the kind.

Edward Berkley, retired captain in the Royal Navy, who is now ranching near Victoria, is postmaster, magistrate, &c., says: The Chinese are good men but the Japanese is rather better on the ranch. I would have cheap labour regardless of colour.

Michael Finerty, farmer, Victoria, says: I never had any Japanese working for me. As far as I can see about them they are quick and active, but still I want white people to come into the country and make homes for themselves, people of our own race, who would make good citizens, or people of any white race who would make good Christians and good citizens. We ought to have good citizens and good protection for the country in the immigrants that are allowed to come in.

James Wilson, sanitary inspector for the City of Victoria, says: I do not think there is much difference between Chinese and Japanese. I think the Japanese do a great deal more harm than the Chinese. They will work cheaper than the Chinese and

they get into the white man's ways quicker. I consider them a greater menace to the interests of labour than the Chinese. I favour their exclusion.

John Legg, journeyman tailor, Victoria, says: Most of the objectionable features mentioned in connection with the Chinese apply to the Japanese. I favour their exclusion.

A. M. Sandell, cutter for Lenz & Leizer, manufacturing tailors, Victoria, says: I think the Japanese are a preferable race to the Chinese. They are not as desirable as Europeans in this country. I do not think the Japanese will assimilate with our people; it would not be desirable if they were inclined to.

George A. Shade, shoemaker, Victoria, says: The Japanese will come among us and learn our language. He will work for very little when he comes here in order to get an opportunity of learning our language, our habits and customs. He is more dangerous in competition than the Chinese. I do not think they are better men than the Chinese. They are an oriental race and their habits are about the same. I do not think the Japanese will make a better British subject than the Chinese. Even if they became naturalized citizens of this country I do not think they would be likely to take a stand in opposition to Japan. I do not approve of the Natal Act. There will have to be some other protection. Some of the Japanese learn to read, write and speak English before they come here. The law would have to be prohibitory to keep those people out.

William Smythe, shoe dealer, Victoria, says: I do not think the Japanese are good citizens of this country. I think they would be more dangerous competitors if they remained in the country.

Andrew Strachan, market gardener, Victoria, says: I do not think there is much difference between the Chinese and Japanese. I think they both retard the progress of agriculture in the country, for the simple reason that they are in the way with their cheap labour, or so-called cheap labour, and have driven out of the country white men who would have become actual settlers and developed the country. I think the Japanese are more inclined to adopt European methods than the Chinese. I think the Japanese are more liable to assimilitate to our manners and customs. Whether that would continue for long I do not know. The Japanese here only adopt our dress; that is all.

Robert H. Johnson, seedsman and nurseryman, Victoria, says: I would say the Japanese are a greater menace to the country than the Chinese. They will not only compete with the labourer, but they will soon compete with the proprietor in my opinion. I do not think the Japanese will assimilate with us.

Frederick S. Hussey, superintendent of provincial police, Victoria, says: I think the Japanese will be more injurious to the interests of white labour than the Chinese. They engage in many more pursuits. They are ambitious, and get into more avenues of labour in this country. I think it would be better if their immigration were restricted, if they come in as they have been coming for the last two years. They keep to themselves. They wear car clothes, but they do not do anything to help us, and they do not assimilate with our people. The Japanese are more vicious than the Chinese, I should say inclined to fight and use weapons. The Chinese do not do that. I think it would be better for white people if we had no Japanese at all here.

William M. Wilson, printer, Victoria, says: I would favour restriction of the immigration of Japanese. I would favour the strict application of the Natal Act. I believe the Japanese will be more likely to assimilate with us, to live like our own people, adopt our habits and mode of living, and live with us like other people.

J. W. Balmain, civil engineer and architect, Victoria, says: What I have said in regard to the Chinese refers in a great measure to the Japanese. (*See* evidence of this witness, Chap. XXII, Part I.) This witness stated that it was not desirable that these people should assimilate with ours. He favoured restriction of their immigration.

Alexander R. Milne, C.B., collector of customs for Victoria, says:—The Japanese are more dangerous competitors than the Chinese, because they labour for lower wages. I think a restriction on immigration would only excite the Japanese, because they are very sensitive as to their status as a people and a nation. I think the Japanese nation

has reached the stage in which they want the same privileges and amenities as are given to a first-class power.

A. S. Emory, carpenter and joiner, Victoria, says: I think the Chinese and Japanese are equally detrimental. Of course there is a difference between the two races; one has the advantage of the other in some respects, but I consider that they are both equally detrimental to the interests and the development of our province. I think some measure should be adopted to prevent them coming into the country. The educational test, as under the Natal Act, would, I think, be a great force if it was sufficiently stringent. I do not think any Imperial interests would be in the slightest degree in danger by dealing directly with the Japanese government in arranging for a mutual restriction. Let the Japanese government restrict the immigration of white labour, unskilled white labour, into their country, and let the same rule apply as against Japanese labour here.

William George Cameron, retail clothier, Victoria, says: I think the Japanese are a better class of people than the Chinese. As far as labour is concerned I think them as dangerous as the Chinese.

Samuel L. Reid, retail clothier, Victoria, says: The Japanese are not a desirable class of citizens. I do not think it would be desirable for them to intermarry with our people. I think it would be disastrous if they were permitted to come in in great numbers. The feeling does not seem to be as strong against the Japanese because they seem to be more inclined to adopt European customs and seem more inclined to make themselves at home. I am in favour of prohibiting any further immigration of the Asiatic races.

John Piercy, wholesale dry goods merchant, Victoria, says: I maintain that with the present number of Japanese in the country there is quite enough to supply all demands. I think there should be restriction on them. If there were no restriction I think they would be in a short time worse than the Chinese, flooding the country on the same principle as the Chinese do. I do not know whether we are affected by any treaty with Britain or not. International law is something I do not know anything about. That would have to be discussed in Ottawa. They will have to discover some means there, either by treaty or otherwise, of restricting the Japanese.

George Gawley, fish and poultry dealer, &c., Victoria, says: The Japanese are an injury to the white and Indian fishermen. I do not think they are the right class of people for this country.

Alexander Gilmour McCandless, retail clothier, Victoria, says: I favour exclusion of the Chinese and Japanese. There may be difficulties in the way as to the Japanese, but I favour the exclusion of both. I consider the Japanese superior to the Chinese. I consider there are enough Japanese here now to do all the work required for years to come, for those people who want cheap labour.

Joseph Shaw, market gardener, Victoria, says: I think the Japanese are worse than the Chinese. They work for much lower wages; when they first come they go out and work at farming for $5 or $7 a month, and when they get used to the work they get up to about $10.

Robert Erskine, retail grocer, Victoria, says: The Japanese are a race that do to a certain extent ape the white race. They fall more in line with the methods of white people. Those in the province for a number of years are better than the Chinese. They compete as keenly as Chinese.

Arthur L. Belyea, barrister-at-law, Victoria, says: I do not think the Japanese are more desirable than the Chinese. I qualify that only by saying that the Japanese catch on to our manners and customs faster than the Chinese. They imitate as far as they possibly can European civilization, but when it comes to be a question whether they will be European or Japanese, they are Japanese all the time.

Q. Would you say our race would receive benefit by assimilation with the Japanese?—A. I would not say. I do not like to express an opinion on that, but I would rather see no such thing as assimilation.

Hugh Gilmour, M.L.A. for Vancouver, says: The country and its interests would be better developed by white men. The country is a good place to live in. I think the

country is good enough for anybody to live in if we only had the Chinese and Japanese out.

Charles F. Dupont, capitalist, Victoria, says: I think the Chinese are better in their habits than the Japanese. The Japanese conform more to the manners and customs of the European nations. I think the danger of the Japanese assimilating is greater, but we do not wish them to assimilate. I am opposed to anything like assimilation between any of these races.

Dr. O. M. Jones, Victoria, says: As to cleanliness the Chinese and Japanese are about the same. I think they are both objectionable. I would prefer the Chinese to the Japanese if I had any preference. I think the Japanese coolie immigration ought certainly to be restricted.

Q. Would you take the chances of prejudicing the Japanese Government?—A. They look upon themselves as a great power. That is a diplomatic question; but I certainly think the Japanese coolie is not desirable as a part of our population any more than the Chinese.

Rev. Leslie Clay, Presbyterian minister, Victoria, says: The current idea is simply this, that the Japanese with the Chinese will not and cannot assimilate with us. I do not think the Japanese will ever assimilate with us. I do not think the Japanese will ever assimilate and become an integral part of our race.

Joseph Hunter, Superintendent of E. & N. Railway, Victoria, says:—I prefer the Chinese to the Japanese as far as ability is concerned for workmen. I think the immigration of Japanese ought to be restricted. If you restrict the Chinese I do not think you should allow the Japanese to come in. As far as my knowledge goes I do not think there is a great deal of difference between the Chinese and Japanese.

David Spencer, merchant, Victoria, says: Further immigration into the country of this class of people (Chinese and Japanese) will be very detrimental. I think the Japanese would assimilate with Europeans. They would bring their families here and get homes here more readily.

Robert F. Green, M.L.A. for Slocan, says: The Japanese will never become an integral part of the race that will develop Canada. As long as the Japanese are here we will be unable to induce the better class of immigrants to come into our province.

Rev. Canon Beanlands, Victoria, says: I think there is a greater danger from the Japanese than the Chinese, and I believe there should be some restriction. I think the morality of the Japanese is much lower than that of the English labourer. I think you are certainly running a risk of danger in introducing the Japanese ideas of the race relations and of the marital relations in British Columbia. I think the Chinese are preferable to the Japanese because they are non-assimilating. If there were many Japanese coming into this country it would be desirable to restrict the immigration. I think they are a more dangerous element in the country than the Chinese.

William McAllan, coal miner, Nanaimo, says: I am opposed to any further immigration of Japanese.

William Woodman, locomotive engineer, Nanaimo, says: I cannot detect any superiority at all between the Chinese and Japanese. I would pass legislation in the direction of fixing a minimum wage, and I am certain that would have the effect of putting both classes out.

John Knowles Hickman, locomotive engineer, Nanaimo, says: I would say prohibit both the Chinese and Japanese. If the Chinese and Japanese were excluded we would have plenty of white labour, and it would not be compulsory on our young boys to walk about the streets without employment. I do not think the Japanese will ever assimilate with us.

John C. McGregor, secretary of Trades and Labour Council, Nanaimo, says: The Japanese come here, do not bring their families, purchase land, or anything of the kind. They live in little old shacks and they compete with white people and work for much lower wages. In case of trouble I should think they would be more dangerous than the Chinese. They work for lower wages than the Chinese.

James Cartwright, coal miner, Nanaimo, says: I think the Japanese compete worse than the Chinese, by working for less wages. All my objections to the Chinese apply to the Japanese.

Andrew Haslam, mill owner, Nanaimo says: I think the Japanese will finally be a keener competitor with the white man than the Chinaman. I do not know of anything objectionable about the Japanese. I do not think anyone will deny that the Japanese are a progressive people, and have advanced more rapidly of late than any other nation, but on the other hand their wants are so few and their habits so simple they can live well for a very small sum of money, for a such sum that a white person could not possibly live on; and to bring an unlimited number of these people here to enter into competition with our own white people I do not think is in the interests of the country by any means. I do not think it would be wise to persist in any regulation that would tend to irritate the Japanese people. I think the people in this province should be prepared to sacrifice something for the sake of Imperial interests.

Marshall Bray, Government agent, Nanaimo says: I am in favour of the total exclusion of the Japanese.

Samuel M. Robins, superintendent of the New Vancouver Coal Company, Nanaimo, says: I never employed but one Japanese either for the company or for myself since I have been in the province.

Dr. W. W. Walkem, Nanaimo says: The Japanese are a better class of people I think than the Chinese. They may after a long time become settlers, but at the present time and under the present circumstances they are not desirable as settlers. Great Britain is well able to take care of herself. I do not think that any legislation in regard to the Japanese will hurt the friendly feeling between Japan and Britain a bit. A power like the Japanese would not like to see a class of citizens come here to represent their power who from their social conditions were not desirable, and who would come into competition with the working classes here, and that therefore the government here would be called upon to legislate against them. No doubt the Japanese government would assent to that if proper representations were made to it.

Andrew Brydon, manager of the Extension Colliery, near Nanaimo says: If the Japanese were permitted to come in here and the Chinese were prohibited, they would be just as great a menace to the various trades and callings in this country and to the country at large as the Chinese. I do not see any difference.

Charles Edward Stevenson, president of the Board of Trade of Nanaimo says: I have the pleasure to present to the Commissioners a petition from the Board of Trade of Nanaimo. It is against any further immigration of either Chinese or Japanese. It is in favour of the prohibition of further Chinese immigration and of the restriction of the Japanese by the application of the Natal Act. The Japanese are as undesirable as the Chinese, and I think something should be done in the way of coming to an understanding with the government of Japan, if it could not be done in any other way.

Edward Quenell, butcher, Naniamo, says: We can get along very well without Japanese. I lived here when there were none of the Chinese or Japanese at all and we got along all right.

Francis Deans Little, general manager of the Wellington colliery company union, says: The Chinese and Japanese are pretty much alike. I think the Chinese are stronger workers.

James Abrams, stipendiary magistrate for Comox district, says: I think the Japanese should be placed in the same position as the Chinese in the matter of further immigration.

John Murray, government timber inspector, Vancouver, says: I think there are enough Japanese here now. We do not want any more. The Japanese is a keener competitor in labour with the white man.

Robert J. Skinner, provincial timber inspector, Vancouver, says: I favour the total prohibition of both Chinese and Japanese.

Robert Marrion, health inspector for the city of Vancouver, says: I feel that the Japanese immigration is a greater menace to the country than the Chinese. The Japanese as he improves by the contact with civilization in this country becomes a very dangerous competitor.

Joseph Wright, assistant health inspector, Vancouver, says: I favour the exclusion of the Japanese from this country. I look upon them as great a menace to labour as the Chinese.

Robert T. Burtwell, Dominion fishery guardian, Vancouver, says: I think it would be better for the country if there were fewer Chinese and Japanese here.

Albert E. Beck, district registrar of the Supreme court, Vancouver, says: I think it is a serious thing in many ways introducing a class (Chinese and Japanese coolie labour) of the kind into the country. It affects everyone. I think it a proper exercise of our authority to exclude from our shores people who will not inter-marry. The Japanese are a Mongolian race who will not assimilate with our people like the Swedes and Norwegians. If the British nation was subjected to the same conditions we are subjected to on our coast I do not think they would stand it for a moment. It is a most serious question, this naturalization of Japanese. I do not know of any law more free and easy than the Canadian Naturalization Act. The Japanese should be restricted.

Richard H. Alexander, manager of the Hastings saw-mill, Vancouver, says:

Q. Do you favour any further restriction on Japanese?—A. Well, gentlemen, if you will allow me to demur from answering such a question as that, I would like to confine myself to its effect on the lumber trade. The Japanese supplies the want of the proportion of cheap labour that is necessary to compete in the markets of the world. I submit that there is great necessity that they should be here to supply that proportion of cheap labour in order that we may employ a larger number of whites. The point is this: We have always had a certain proportion of cheap labour, and in order to operate successfully we must have it yet, and having that cheap labour we are enabled to employ white men in the higher branches of industry.

Robert C. Ferguson, manager of the Royal city mills, Vancouver, says: I do not find Chinese or Japanese assimilate with our people at all. The only difference I see is that the Japanese are always trying to pick up English. I do not know whether I would be in favour of the restriction of those people coming in or not. It may be well to restrict for a time, but a man has to be governed by the wants of his business.

John Valentine Cook, tallyman and lumber rater, Vancouver, says: I favour restriction of both Chinese and Japanese. My idea is that the Japanese are more dangerous than the Chinese. I would exclude any more coming in of the working class.

Stephen Ramage, saw-filer, Vancouver, says: The Japanese are fast becoming to be a greater menace to the white population than the Chinese will ever get to be. They are more able-bodied and they are quicker to adapt themselves to their surroundings. Very few of them have families here. My principal objection to them is that they do not assimilate, cannot assimilate, with our race, and that our country should be for men of our own race, instead of being overrun by an alien race.

Arthur C. Gordon, shingle manufacturer, Vancouver, says: I favour the restriction of Chinese and Japanese immigration. That applies more to the Japanese than to the Chinese.

William C. Dickson, bookkeeper and mill yard foreman, Vancouver, says: I favour restriction being put on Japanese immigration to the extent to keep them out entirely. I think the presence of the Japanese here injures the labouring man fully as bad, if not worse, than the Chinese.

John L. Anderson, fisherman, Vancouver, says: The Japanese show no indications of becoming citizens except in an illegal way. There are a large number of Japanese who have naturalization certificates who ought not to have them if that subject were gone into. The Japanese are certainly a greater menace than the Chinese. If there cannot be an exclusion law my idea would be to try and get by some diplomacy the Japanese Government to agree to limit the emigration from Japan to a certain number each year, and that number should not be increased under any circumstances.

Peter Smith, fisherman, Vancouver, says: My complaint is that the Japanese have more rights in this province than the whites and Indians as far as I can see. I complain that people who are born in this country are being driven out of it by the Chinese and Japanese. As far as I can see there is no use or benefit to the country in allowing Japanese immigration into this country. We do not want to see any more of them here. I think if there are any more Japanese allowed to come to this country that there will be bloodshed.

Abel Wenken, brickmaker, Vancouver, says: My view is that the system of living among the Chinese and Japanese does harm to white men. I would say have exclusion. I do not see that there is any difference between the Chinese and Japanese.

Francis Williams, journeyman tailor, Vancouver, says: The Japanese are a very objectionable class of people to come into our country.

Angus M. Stewart, clothing manufacturer, Vancouver, says: I would be in favour of keeping the Japanese out just the same as I am in favour of keeping out the Chinese, because if they are not restricted they will very soon become as great an evil as the Chinese, as far as I can make out.

William Lawrence Fagan, provincial assessor and collector for the county of Vancouver, says: The Japanese do not seem to care about making homes here. They do not take up land. They do not seem to care about settling here. They come here and make a few hundred dollars and then go back to Japan if they can get away. If you had something to put in their places I would restrict more of them coming here.

John M. Bowell, collector of customs, Vancouver, says: I am in favour of the Natal Act.

Benjamin F. Rogers, manager of the sugar refinery, Vancouver, says: It would be impossible to exclude the Japanese. The Imperial Government would never agree to that.

Truman S. Baxter, law student, Vancouver, says: I am in favour of prohibition of further immigration of Chinese and Japanese. I think that either by enactment or by treaty with the Japanese Government they can arrange to either restrict immigration or prohibit immigration altogether from Japan. There would be no objection whatever in passing an Act similar to the Natal Act. Mr. Joseph Chamberlain has said so much.

Andrew Linton, boat builder, Vancouver, says: I put the Japanese on the same basis as the Chinese, if not worse. I think they are more dangerous to the country than the Chinese.

Henry Mundon, boat builder, Vancouver, says: I would favour the exclusion of Japanese from this country.

Alfred Wallace, boat builder, Vancouver, says: I think we have enough here at the present time of the Japanese. I would be opposed to further immigration of either Chinese or Japanese.

Richard Marpole, superintendent of the Pacific Division Canadian Pacific Railway, Vancouver, says: Japanese labour in my opinion is fully equal to Italian labour.

Alfred Raper, miner, Texada Island, says: I think it would be much better for the island and much better for the province at large if we had fewer Chinese and Japanese here. I favour the exclusion of these people from the country.

Rev. Edmund E. Scott, Methodist minister, Vancouver, says: They are awakening to the fact in Japan now that too many of their people have emigrated here, and I have no doubt there will be little difficulty in arranging the whole matter with the Japanese government. I think Japanese immigration is not desirable.

Rev. R. G. McBeth, Presbyterian minister, Vancouver, says: I have formed a more favourable opinion of the Japanese as a class. I am satisfied the Japanese I have come in contact with are brighter and more liable to assimilate with the Anglo-Saxon race than the Chinese. They take more kindly to our institutions and customs because they are not under the same superstition as the Chinese from a religious standpoint.

John Morton, secretary of the parliamentary committee of the trades and Labour Council, Vancouver, says: The skilled trades claim that the Japanese are worse than the Chinese because they are a class of people more likely to enter the skilled trades than the Chinese. I do not want them on any consideration at all. If the Japanese will associate with me and live in the same way as I do I would not object to him, but he wont do it; he simply refuses to do it.

Walter Taylor, fruit canner, Vancouver, says: I think we have got too many Japanese here now. I think in a great many cases if the Japanese were not here white labour would take their places. Sufficient white labour could be found to take their places.

Frank Burnett, canner, Vancouver, says: I think there are enough Japanese here now. As far as the Japanese are concerned I think the Japanese are no more objectionable immigrants than the slavs from Europe. I think the desired further restriction of Japanese could be obtained by negotiations.

Henry O. Bell-Irving, canner, Vancouver, says: I am rather in for free trade in labour for some time to come. I believe it will be the best policy. I consider that the restriction of labour will act very detrimentally to the prosperity of the country. For the development of this country we must have cheaper labour than we have now; otherwise development will be retarded and the population will increase very slowly. Take the mines for instance; only mines that are exceedingly rich can be worked under present conditions, whereas with cheaper labour the miners will be steadily employed, the miners would work systematically, they would have steady work right through, but as at present the cost of working the mines being very high, and in consequence a large number of mines have had to close down.

Samuel McPherson, merchant tailor, Vancouver, says: As far as this province is concerned I think it would be a good thing if they (Japanese) were restricted, because they work so cheap; they work cheaper than a white man possibly can.

Alexander McCallum, merchant tailor, of Vancouver, says: The Merchant Tailors' Association of Vancouver are opposed to further immigration of the Japanese.

Gordon W. Thomas, farmer, Vancouver, says: I think something should be done at once to stop the further flow of Chinese and Japanese into this country. The one is just as injurious to the settlement of the country as the other. The Emperor of Japan I believe has expressed himself in favour of restriction. It would be impossible for a white man to maintain his family and to educate his children on $15 a month, and that will soon be the wage if these people are allowed to come in.

N. C. Shaw, journalist, reeve of Burnaby, says: We are strongly in favour of restriction of Japanese immigration by some kind of convention with Japan. It seems to me that this can be arranged on a fair and equitable basis by arranging with the Japanese government that they will not allow more than a small percentage of labour emigrants to come to Canada in proportion to our working population, the Japanese stipulating in return for the same restriction on Canadian labour immigration. Japan would thus assert her position as an equal sovereign power with Great Britain, by the restriction of Canadian immigration to Japan.

Honourable James Reid, senator for Cariboo, says: I think as far as labour is concerned they (Japanese) are a greater danger than the Chinese. I think if restriction is applied to the Chinese it should be applied to the Japanese as well. If they are a detriment to the country, the restriction should be applied to them as well as to any others. I think that could be done through the Imperial Government. I think the Japanese immigration to this country could be arranged between Japan and the Imperial Government, and so many allowed to come in each year without there being any friction at all.

John M. Duval, wood-turner, Vancouver, says: Japanese labour is more dangerous than the Chinese, and my objections to the Chinese apply equally to the Japanese with more so.

James G. Scott, mayor of New Westminster, says: My objection to the Japanese is that they may invade other industries in the country and come into competition with our own people more keenly than the Chinese.

James Anderson, canner, New Westminster, says: My opinion is to get rid of both the Chinese and Japanese, if the conditions will allow it. I think you can do better without the Japanese than you can without the Chinese.

Henry T. Thrift, farmer, secretary of the Settlers' Association of British Columbia, New Westminster, says: Any distinction as far as I have been able to decide is that the Japanese are more dangerous than the Chinese, on account of their superior intelligence. The presence of the Chinese and Japanese here hinders the better class of people coming in here and settling up the vacant lands of the province.

William J. Brandrith, secretary of the British Columbia Fruit Growers' Association, New Westminster, says: I believe they (the association) are all in favour of total pro-

hibition of any further immigration of that class here. It applies equally to the Chinese and Japanese.

John Armstrong, farmer, reeve of Surrey, says: Farmers in my neighbourhood are in favour of prohibiting further immigration. They are distinctly against any more coming in. That applies fully as much to Japanese as to Chinese.

Henry Haggaman, expressman, New Westminster, says: I am opposed to further immigration of the Japanese.

George H. West, fisherman, New Westminster, says: I think the further restriction of Japanese immigration is absolutely necessary.

Hezekiah Stead, fisherman, New Westminster, says: I have nothing good to say about the Japanese. They are detrimental to our interests and to the interests of the country altogether. They are detrimental to the working man in every way. They work so low and they can live on so very little, that it is impossible for white labourers to live in the cities and pay taxes and pay rents for houses. I know that some of us have tried it and have failed.

George Mackie, fisherman, New Westminster, says: If they (Chinese and Japanese) continue to come in here I will either have to leave or to starve. Circumstances cannot better with these people here. The Mongolians have cut me out of everything as well as they have done in the fishing. I have applied at various places, at sawmills and factories, for employment, and cannot get it. During the three years I have been here I have only been able to secure work for four months outside of the fisheries.

John Perry Bowell, Methodist minister, New Westminster, says: I consider the immigration of Chinese and Japanese to be detrimental to the labour interests of the country, mainly because a great many avenues of industry where white people used to be largely employed are now being monopolized by the Chinese and Japanese. I think the fact that the Japanese is better qualified to adapt himself to the conditions prevailing here makes him a greater menace than the Chinaman to our own labour people.

N. J. Coulter, vice-president of the Grand Lodge of the Fishermen's Union of B.C., New Westminster, says: I am opposed to further immigration of the Japanese; firstly, because they cannot and never will assimilate and become amalgamated with the white citizens of this country; secondly, because they labour cheaper than a white man can afford to work and live; and thirdly, in the fishing industry they are not individual but contract labour, which in my opinion is not the standard of British Columbia or of the British Empire, and is contrary to all the traditions of British subjects.

George Hargreaves, painter, New Westminster, says: I am strongly opposed to further immigration of Japanese.

E. Goulet, Canadian Pacific Railway agent, Kamloops, says: I do not think the Japanese will ever assimilate with our people, and it would not be a good thing if they did.

M. P. Gordon, mayor of Kamloops, says: I think it would be beneficial to the country to restrict the Japanese coming in, to the same extent as the Chinese. I think the reason for excluding the Chinese would be greater than for excluding the Japanese.

Albert Riordan, miner, Kamloops, says: Out here at the Glen Mine the foreman wanted me to work with the Japanese and I quit. I would not work with the Japanese. I favour absolute exclusion of both the Chinese and Japanese.

Joseph McGee, secretary of the Labourers' union, Kamloops, says: I represent the Labourers' Union of this town. They consider that the Chinese and Japanese are a detriment to white labour, and though the union are aware that the Chinese and Japanese are not as plentiful as at the coast cities, yet they feel that the effect of the invasion of the Chinese and Japanese has had on the coast is the same as it is here, and they express themselves that the union is decidedly in favour of the total exclusion of Chinese and Japanese from the Province of British Columbia.

Dr. James W. Cross, health officer, Revelstoke, says: We have no Japanese in this town except in railway work, but I would prefer to see prohibition of both Chinese and Japanese.

Robert B. Farwell, machinist, Revelstoke, says: They are in every sense a most undesirable class of immigrants. They retard the progress of the country and keep good

immigrants from coming in here. If they were not here white men would take their places. I would favour preventing the Japanese coming into this country.

James C. Tunstall, mining recorder, Vernon, says: The Japanese are just as bad as the Chinese. There is just as much opposition to the Japanese as to the Chinese, as far as the labour question is concerned.

Joseph Harwood, expressman, Vernon, says: I favour total exclusion of Chinese and Japanese from the country. The Japanese are just as objectionable as the Chinese.

J. B. McArthur, mine operator, Rossland, says: I do not think legislation for or against the Chinese or Japanese would interfere with the investment of capital in this section. Of course, there may be Imperial and State reasons for dealing with Japanese differently from the way in which you would deal with the Chinese. That is something I cannot say anything about, but I will say this,—we can help to solve the question by representing to the Imperial Government that these people are an injury to our own people.

Honourable Smith Curtis, M. L. A. for Rossland, says: I am strongly in favour not only of restriction, but of exclusion of all oriental races. The opinion throughout the country I believe is practically unanimous. It is almost a unanimous opinion of all classes that there should be no immigration of this class of labour into British Columbia. If there are any reasons why it is inexpedient to adopt this course ($500 poll tax) against the Japanese for Imperial reasons, we ought to have restriction on the lines of what is known as the Natal Act, providing an educational test on emigrants, and that should be brought into force without delay. That is a method that has been suggested by the Colonial Secretary, the Right Honourable Joseph Chamberlain, and can hardly be objected to by the Imperial authorities.

John C. Egan, journalist, Rossland, says: What little I have seen of them (Japanese) I think they are as undesirable a class of citizens as the Chinese are in this country.

Frank E. Woodside, secretary of miners' union, Rossland, says: I think that the immigration of Japanese should be prevented entirely.

Edmund B. Kerby, manager of the War Eagle and Centre Star, Rossland, says: I do not think that it is for the best interests of the community to have an unlimited supply of Chinese and Japanese labour coming into the country.

Bernard Macdonald, manager of the British American Corporation, Rossland, says: My knowledge of the Japanese is not extensive, but I think they are preferable to the Chinese because they are more progressive, and therefore more profitable.

Thomas H. Long, sanitary inspector, Rossland, says: I think the Japanese should be excluded from the country.

James Devine, miner, Rossland, says: I am in favour of exclusion of both Chinese and Japanese.

Bullock Webster, provincial chief constable for West Kootenay, says: I find that the Japanese are honest, are better men than the Chinese, and their manner of living is more similar to that of white men. I think that the restriction of Japanese immigration is desirable.

Charles Hillyer, sawmill proprietor, Nelson, says: I consider that if the Chinese and Japanese are allowed to come in freely, in 25 years the white man will be the slave and the Chinese or Japanese the boss.

John Houston, M. L. A. for Nelson, says: They do not assimilate with English speaking people, and from my standpoint no race of people that cannot assimilate with ours is desirable, whether they be Chinese, Japanese or Europeans. I certainly would take the risk, if risk there is, of offending the Japanese nation. I do not know any good reason why our people should be degraded, and I do not see any reason why we should not be on good terms with the Japanese government, even if we did exclude the Japanese from the country. Self-preservation is the first law of nature and we cannot get over it.

Gustave A. Carlson, mayor of Kaslo, says: Personally I don't think we should have any more here than we have.

AMERICAN OPINION.

W. H. Perry, assistant general manager of Moran Brothers, Seattle, says: We have never employed Japanese. If I had to choose between an immigration of the one or the other I would prefer the Chinese.

J. W. Clise, president of the Chamber of Commerce, Seattle, says: There is no disposition at present to exclude the Japanese, but the people do not feel any more kindly inclined to the Japanese than to the Chinese.

A. H. Grout, labour commissioner, Seattle, says: There is a distinction between the Chinese and Japanese. The average Japanese is more intelligent, adapts himself more readily to our ways, and to that extent is looked upon with more favour. There has been quite a little agitation against them in the last few years.

Theodore Ludgate, mill owner, Seattle, formerly of Peterborough, says: If the Japanese come here in large numbers and conflict with white labour, the agitation would soon be acute, and the government would find some way of excluding them the same as the Chinese.

W. H. Middleton, secretary of the Western Central Labour Bureau, Seattle, says: The Japanese are looked upon as a more serious danger to white labour than the Chinese. The people generally are in favour of the same exclusion being applied to the Japanese as has been applied to the Chinese. A strong effort will be made to make the laws the same with regard to the Japanese as it is now in regard to the Chinese. The Japanese are looked upon as a greater menace than the Chinese at the present time.

A. S. Martin, secretary Puget Souud sawmill and shingle company, Fairhaven, Washington, says: The sentiment here is opposed to both Chinese and Japanese. If the matter were put to the popular vote not one would be allowed in town.

E. B. Deming, manager Pacific American Fishing Company, Fairhaven, Wash., says: Japanese are unsatisfactory. We would not think of employing them as Chinese are. I prefer white labour at higher wages to Japanese.

S. E. Masten, secretary of the Board of Trade, Portland, Oregon, says: We would rather not have the coolie class here. We would rather not have Japanese labour coming in here at all.

H. S. Rowe, mayor of Portland, Oregon, says: Very few of our people favour either the Chinese or the Japanese. The Japanese are getting more and more into domestic service here. They seem to take more to our ways and to be more inclined to settle here. I would not like to see this class of people filling up the State of Oregon.

W. J. Honeyman, merchant, Portland, Oregon, says: The Japanese do not appear to be satisfactory as servants, and they are not considered as good on railroad work. They are not as reliable in my experience.

A. A. Bailey, secretary of the federated trades, Portland, Oregon, says: The objection now is as great to the Japanese as it has ever been to the Chinese.

J. M. Lawrence, city editor *Oregonian*, Portland, says: I do not think the Japanese are any better than the Chinese. There would be irritation here if large numbers of Japanese were coming in, but I do not anticipate any danger from that question now. I think we have sufficient numbers of Japanese here now. We do not require any more of them, and if it can be arranged by diplomatic means that there will be an exclusion of the Japanese as there is an exclusion of the Chinese, the country will be benefitted.

T. M. Crawford, labour agent, Portland, says: The Chinese will not work for as low wages as the Japanese will. Here we get the worst class of the Japanese. It may be called the coolie class. They are a low type and an ignorant class. They answer all questions very nearly verbatim. They have been trained by the contractors who go to Japan.

R. Ecclestone, immigration officer, San Francisco, says: The Japanese coming in here are of the very lowest class. They work cheaper than the Chinese. Very few families come in. If they come here in large numbers there will be a similar agitation to that against the Chinese twenty years ago.

J. H. Barbour, immigration officer, San Francisco, says: People prefer the Chinese to the Japanese when they can get them. They are more reliable than the Japanese. The sentiment amongst the labour unions is that the Japanese is a stronger competitor.

H. F. Fortman, president of the Alaska Packers' Association, San Francisco, says: I would apply the same restriction to the Japanese as to the Chinese; in fact if I could I would double the tax on the Japanese, simply because they are not to be preferred to the Chinese. The Chinese are more reliable and law-abiding; even the Japanese consider the Chinese more reliable and more honest in their acts. In every Japanese bank and in every large Japanese institution you will find a Chinese compadore as cashier or manager. I think the trade with China is increasing more rapidly than our trade with Japan.

F. V. Meyers, commissioner of the bureau of labour statistics, San Francisco, says: The general feeling in the community is in favour of the continuance of the Exclusion Act in regard to the Chinese and to have the same measure of exclusion extended to the Japanese as well. The question of Japanese immigration is becoming acute. When the agitation for the Exclusion Act is brought up again, there will be a very pronounced agitation to have the Exclusion Act extended to prevent the Japanese coming in.

James D. Phelan, mayor of San Francisco, says: There is no preference here for the Japanese. They have the reputation of being less reliable. From our experience the Chinese observe the obligations of business more carefully, but the Japanese seem to be more ambitious to advance themselves along the line of western civilization, but they do not assimilate. They keep themselves a good deal by themselves.

### TRADE WITH JAPAN.

The following figures show that Canada's trade with Japan is very small.

In 1900 the imports were valued at $1,762,534, of which $1,301,215 were free, and $461,319 dutiable.

Of the goods admitted free of duty, tea amounted to $1,276,736. It may be noticed that settlers' effects amounted to $952, and for the previous year $97.

The exports for 1900 were valued at $112,308, of which $47,773 was fish and fish products, and $21,946 lumber and wood manufactures, breadstuffs $6,471, provisions, butter, cheese, &c., $3,049.

The following table shows the imports and exports since 1896 inclusive:—

| —— | 1896. | 1897. | 1898. | 1899. | 1900. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | $ | $ | $ | $ | $ |
| Imports | 1,648,232 | 1,329,980 | 1,458,233 | 2,009,747 | 1,762,534 |
| Exports | 8,253 | 141,946 | 148,728 | 135,265 | 112,308 |

The increase of American trade with Japan is largely made up of two items,—cotton and flour. Its development is indicated by the following table:—

COTTON EXPORTS TO JAPAN FROM UNITED STATES.

| —— | 1896. | 1897. | 1898. | 1899. | 1900. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | $ | $ | $ | $ | $ |
| Wheat | 1,481,056 | 2,345,016 | 7,428,226 | 5,775,784 | 12,712,619 |
| Flour | 286,111 | 819,620 | 644,039 | 722,710 | 1,554,739 |

# CHAPTER VI.—PART I.—RESUMÉ.

## CHAP. I.—JAPANESE IMMIGRATION.

From fourteen to fifteen thousand Japanese have arrived in British Columbia ithin the last five years. Of these over ten thousand arrived in one year, namely, etween July 1, 1899, and July 1, 1900. No record is kept of the number that have eturned to Japan. Many have gone to the United States, leaving only 4,759 Japanese Canada,—according to the last census,—of whom 4,578 are in British Columbia, early all of whom are adult males of the labouring class.

The total number of Japanese admitted through the ports of Washington State om July 1, 1898, to November 13, 1900, was 13,401, of whom 266 were rejected.

2,500 Japanese entered the States of Washington and California from Canada by rd. Washington State has 4,532 Japanese males and 185 Japanese females; Oregon tate, 2,405 males and 96 females.

The number of Japanese in the United States, as given by the last census, is 86,000, whom 61,111 are in Hawaii, and 24,326 in the United States proper, of which umber 23,376 are in the Western States.

### CAUSE OF THIS LARGE INFLUX.

The most probable cause assigned for this large immigration of Japanese seems to e that the emigration agencies in Japan had booked a large number of emigrants for Ionolulu, that about the time they were aboard ship the bubonic plague with its result- g quarantine appeared at Honolulu, and prevented the emgrants being sent there. he agencies rather than surrender their commissions induced the emigrants to go to ie United States and Canada instead; and that, owing to the American Alien Act, any came to British Columbia that were really destined for the United States.

In this connection it may also be mentioned, that six out of the twelve companies Japan organized to promote emigration have agents in the United States and Canada, nd, taking advantage of favourable conditions, fostered the emigration of Japanese to ie United States and Canada as a matter of business for the sake of the accruing ommissions.

Wages are very low in Japan, particularly of the class that come to Canada, namely, shermen, domestic servants, farm and other labourers. Farm labourers are said to eceive from 15 to 17 cents a day, fishermen 19 to 20 cents a day, domestic servants 1.40 to $1.50 a month, and other servants 80 cents a month.

### THEIR HOMES.

It is said by a high authority, that the wants of the people are few and easily sup- lied, their homes simple, their furniture limited and cheap, and their clothing scant nd inexpensive. Their houses are of wood, light and airy and generally one storey igh, the floors are covered with mats and serve at once for seats and for beds; a apanese simply folding himself in his outer coat and stretching himself on the matted loor; the window frames are movable, filled with oil paper instead of glass, the furni- ure is on the same simple plan. Everywhere, however, it is said you will admire the leanliness observed in these homes. One witness stated that an ordinary Japanese ouse would cost about $20.

### THEIR EMPLOYMENT IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

On arrival, the Japanese immigrant seeks work wherever unskilled labour is mployed,—as domestic servants, farm labourers, in getting out shingle bolts, wood,

cordwood, and in the mines to a limited extent. They are also employed on the railways, in sawmills, shingle mills, boat building, and large numbers engage in fishing during the season. A few are employed as tailors and in other trades. Their average wage is from 90 cents to $1 day. Their competition is keenly felt in the fisheries, in the sawmills, and in getting out wood, shingle bolts and mining timber, in boat building and to a less extent in the mines and railways. They are generally regarded as more dangerous competitors than the Chinese. It is said he adapts himself more readily to our civilization, that the Chinese will do the lowest kind of labour and stick to it, while the Japanese will get higher if he can. They live at a cost that enables them to work for wages at which a white man cannot compete. They work under contract much as the Chinese do, and are hired by the boss Japanese who takes the contract. He is often a merchant or a regular contractor who makes his profits chiefly on the supplies furnished the men. In no case do their wages appear to be higher than that paid to the Chinese in the same calling, and in many places it is lower.

SANITATION.

On their first arrival there is the same difficulty in getting them to comply with sanitary regulations that there is with the Chinese, but after a few citations before the magistrate they are more attentive to the requirements of the law and give less trouble in this regard.

They do not live in aggregations in a particular part of the town, as the Chinese do, but their boarding houses are frequently overcrowded to the same extent.

CHAP. II. PART I. THE FISHERIES.

Prior to 1896, comparatively few Japanese were engaged in the fisheries. In that year we find 452 licenses were issued to Japanese.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| In 1897 | 787 | licenses. |
| 1898 | 768 | " |
| 1899 | 930 | " |
| 1900 | 1,892 | " |
| 1901 | 1,958 | " |

This does not show the total number of Japanese engaged in the fisheries. In 1900 542 licenses, and in 1901, 548 licenses were issued to canners; of these a considerable number are given to Japanese; about 2,000 licenses were held by the Japanese for the years 1900 and 1901; there are two men to a boat, so that between four and five thousand Japanese are engaged in the fisheries. This number ought to represent, and would under normal conditions, represent, a population of from fifteen to twenty thousand people, resident in the land, building up homes, supporting schools and churches, and forming an integral part of a settled and civilized community. Nothing of this obtains among the Japanese engaged in this industry. Very few indeed bring their wives with them. Many of them return to Japan after the fishing season is over, and the rest find employment where they can, in getting out wood and bolts, in mills, boat building and other employments, working at a wage upon which a white man cannot decently support himself and his family, and creating a feeling so pronounced and bitter among a large class of whites, as to endanger the peace and be a fruitful source of international irritation. Thus this great industry, instead of becoming a source of strength, is a source of contention and weakness.

It is essential to the well-being of the community that a permanent class of fishermen be fostered, householders and residents upon the land, and, if possible, owners of small holdings, who may by this natural industry be assisted in making their livelihood and be enabled to support themselves and their families while clearing the land.

The evidence made it clear that the larger number of Japanese become naturalized, not to become citizens of the country, but to enable them to obtain fishermen's licenses.

Nearly the entire number of Japanese who have become naturalized, take out fishing licenses, and but few of those who do not take out licenses become naturalized.

THE NUMBER THAT HAVE TAKEN OUT NATURALIZATION PAPERS.

Since 1896 over one thousand have become naturalized at Vancouver, as against 400 whites and 160 Chinese during the same period.

TOO MANY FISHERMEN ON THE RIVER.

The total number of licenses has increased from 3,533 in 1896 to 4,722 in 1901, and this increase has occurred principally upon the Fraser River. While the licenses have increased by 1,189, the number of Japanese licenses has increased by 1,506. Owing to this overcrowding many fisherinen stated that they had to leave the business. The bitter feeling among the fishermen, caused by their being crowded out by the Japanese, was much enhanced by the fact that grave irregularities, if not actual fraud, were practised in obtaining certificates of naturalization by the Japanese in very many cases. The fare is low, and many Japanese come over for the fishing season and return in the fall. Many of these are engaged as pullers by the Japanese fishermen, the regulations not requiring that boat pullers for fishermen should be British subjects. Many of these boat pullers who had not complied with the requirements of the law as to residence received naturalization papers.

A notary public, whose commission has since been revoked, referring to those who had been naturalized, said that most of these people were boat pullers and had gone to Japan and were now returning so that they could get naturalized to go fishing. He said that the mass of other affidavits that were taken to obtain naturalization papers were of the same class.

Other evidence established the fact beyond all doubt that naturalization papers were granted to Japanese that ought not to have been granted.

The assistant inspector of Fisheries stated that it occurred to him last year that a great many Japanese had secured their citizen papers without complying with lawful conditions. A perusal of the evidence raises a strong presumption of fraud.

WHITE FISHERMEN FORCED OUT.

The fact that white fishermen are being forced out of this industry and that Japanese are taking their places was clearly established. It works out in this way: In a short season the fish caught are so few in proportion to the number of fishermen that it does not pay. When there is a big run so many fish are caught that the number received by the canner is limited, and thousands are thrown away, and a lesser number of fishermen could catch all the canneries can pack. In either case a lesser number of fishermen and a lesser number of canneries on the Fraser River would benefit both the the canners and the fishermen. (*See* Summary of Evidence, Part I, Chap. XV, Canneries.)

It was stated by the canners that the adoption of trap nets on the American side had greatly disturbed their business. The canning industry on Puget Sound is almost wholly dependent on the run of salmon that would otherwise enter the Fraser River, and not only do they deplete the supply, but place their pack in competition with the Fraser River canners in the markets of the world, although not to the same extent as the Alaska pack. It was further stated by the canners that the adoption of similar methods on the Canadian side would greatly lessen the number of Japanese fishermen.

PROTEST BY INDIAN CHIEFS.

The chiefs of the different tribes of coast Indians of southern British Columbia gave evidence before the Commission, and strongly protested against the immigration of Chinese and Japanese. They explained that when the white people came and took up

lands and asked the Indians to work they were much pleased to get work and get wages; they had something to depend on, and were pleased that the white people were living where the Indians could get work. When the Chinese came they brought no family; in a little while the Japanese came and they were worse than the Chinese, and it seemed as if the Indians had no right to stay in the place at all. Formerly they used to get steady work all the time; now they cannot get regular employment, because of the Japanese and Chinese.

The evidence quoted in Chapter II—Protests of Indian Chiefs—fairly represents the views of all. They favour keeping Chinese and Japanese out of the country, and say that the Japanese are the worse of the two.

Probably one of the most important matters connected with this inquiry, is the rapid manner in which the Japanese are getting control of the salmon fisheries of British Columbia. The extent of the encroachment may be gathered from the fact that in 1896 there were less than a thousand Japanese engaged in this industry, while in 1901 the number had increased to over four thousand. Should Japanese be permitted to come into this country without restriction it cannot be doubted that this encroachment will continue until the Japanese will have control of this business.

The general consensus of opinion given by both the fishermen and the canners would indicate that this industry is not dependent for its existence upon the employment of these people. The fact that this industry has expanded to almost its present proportions, employing only whites and Indians, would indicate that the presence of the Japanese is not essential to its successful operation. The fisheries should be utilized to promote the permanent settlement of the country, and at the same time create a hardy class from whom may be drawn recruits for the mercantile marine and navy. The increased numbers of the Japanese prevent this. They come for a temporary purpose; they send a large proportion of their earnings to Japan; they do not bring their families or make homes, or in any sense become permanent settlers, and an industry which ought to be a source of strength to the country is rapidly falling into the hands of those who exploit it for a temporary purpose to the exclusion of our own people and to the permanent injury of the country.

In any event the rapid trend under existing conditions towards the monopolization of the fishing by Japanese, followed by the withdrawal of white men, on account of this overcrowding and of the diminishing profits in the business, is a matter which deserves most careful consideration. Salmon fishing has always afforded an opportunity for remuneration much greater than could be obtained in the same time from inside work which is done by the Chinese, and in this branch of the industry the Japanese are paid exactly the same as white men. Whatever necessity there may or may not be for Chinese to do the canning work, there is undoubtedly much less reason for the Japanese fishermen, who displace the white man at a white man's remuneration. It is bad enough to have one branch of the industry entirely in the hands of an alien race, who do not settle in the country, whose assimilation is impossible, and whose presence is accounted for simply for the exploitation of the opportunites of labour and its remuneration; but when the other main branch of the industry—the one which is most profitable and natural for full grown men to occupy, and is also the natural and necessary help for the actual settler—is also filled by another alien people who, in so far as permanent settlement and the general interest of the country is concerned, is equally undesirable, the seriousness of the situation can be understood.

Of the twenty thousand engaged in the industry at present one half are either Chinese or Japanese. The number of Japanese is rapidly increasing. It is only a question of time, under existing conditions until the industry is wholly in their hands, and until it is only possible for our own people to be interested in occupations and employments incidental to the industry itself.

## PART II.—BOAT BUILDING.

Boat building, especially that branch of the trade called into existence by the salmon industry, is closely identified with it. In the earlier period fishermen came from

the Maritime Provinces, Newfoundland, Scotland and European countries and had been trained to the business, and many of them were boat builders as well as fishermen. As the salmon industry increased the boats were built exclusively by white men, some firms employing as many as ten boat builders paying good wages and their business thus forming an important adjunct to this great industry. The trade has now passed largely into the hands of the Japanese, except the boats built by the one large firm of shipbuilders in Vancouver that employ 64 hands, exclusively union labour. The individual boat builder of this class has practically been driven out of the field. The Japanese who build the boats engage also in fishing.

The evidence establishes the following facts:

That the white man without expensive machinery cannot compete with the Japanese in building fishing boats, and have been driven out of the business.

A large proportion of this class of boats are now built by the Japanese, many finding employment in this business; the rest are built at a factory where union wages are paid.

The Japanese do not employ machinery; their boats are hand-built; if they did use machinery the manager of the boat factory declared that he could not compete, and that if a company started who employed Japanese and used machinery he would have to cut wages or shut down. If the selling price were reduced in the next four years as in the last four years, the factory could not compete at the same wages and cost of material.

While fishermen get cheaper fishing boats, they lose more than they gain by the competition of Japanese fishermen.

All whites engaged in this business are opposed to further immigration of Japanese.

The industry is a good illustration of the effect of oriental labour on white labour. It developed into a thriving trade exclusively by white labour, giving employment to large numbers of men that enabled them to live and support their families. The fishermen paid good prices for their boats and did well in the fisheries. The Japanese came in, displaced to a large extent the labour employed in this industry and entered into competition with the fishermen. He has driven out all labour except that employed in the large machine fitted factory. Should the white men in the factories give place to the Japanese labour the same argument might be presented as is now made in respect of other industries,—the business cannot be carried on without cheap labour. Cheap labour creates the condition which afterwards is said to make it necessary.

### CHAP. III, PART I.—THE LUMBER INDUSTRY.

The Japanese are not employed in lumber camps, except a few in building roads, &c. There are employed in and about the mills on the coast, referred to in the foregoing table.

| | |
|---|---|
| Whites | 924 |
| Japanese | 461 |
| Chinese | 263 |

In the upper country there are comparatively few employed; in most of the mills none. For instance the Yale Mill Company, with its head office at Rossland, and controlling the mills at Rossland, Nakusp, Cascade, Roche Creek and Deadwood, and employing 200 men, employ no Japanese or Chinese in or about the mills. Neither Japanese nor Chinese are employed in the mills at Nelson and Kaslo.

The Japanese are paid from 90 cents to $1.00 a day and board themselves; in a few instances they are paid as high as $1.25 a day. For unskilled white labour the average is from $1.50 to $2 and for semi-skilled from $2 to $2.50, and skilled labour from $2.50 to $3.50, and in a few instances $4.50 and $5,—the fact being that nearly all of the strictly common labour in and about the mills and yards is performed by the Japanese and Chinese.

It may be noted here that the mills upon the Sound with one exception employ only white labour, and the average paid for unskilled labour is from $1.75 to $2 a

day, the larger number being employed at $2 a day, and for skilled and semi-skilled labour the wages run up to $3.50 and even $4 and $5 a day.

It was alleged by some that the employment of Japanese and Chinese enabled the mill owners to pay, and they did pay, higher wages to their white employees than are paid in the mills on the Sound, but a careful comparison of the wages paid by each does not sustain this view. They may vary a little, but upon the whole the wages paid to white labour appear to be rather higher on the Sound than are paid to white men in the Canadian mills, and when you take into account the fact that no Japanese or Chinese are employed on the Sound, the wages there paid are certainly higher than the wages paid in British Columbia.

The Chinese are paid rather more than the Japanese, and for this, or some other reason, the Japanese have in a number of cases filled the places formerly occupied by Chinese. As a rule they only perform the work of unskilled labour, but in some cases they have taken the places of sawyers and do other work requiring more or less skill.

The mill owners differ as to the expediency of shutting them out. The manager of the largest exporting mill thinks we have plenty of them here now. Many of the other managers agree with him; but others, while admitting that there are sufficient in the country to meet the present demand, fear that there might in the future be a scarcity if no more came in.

The evidence establishes the following facts:

That the Japanese are employed in the coast mills approximately in the proportion of one to four.

That they have to a considerable extent taken the place of Chinese at a slightly less wage.

That they are employed as unskilled labourers in and about the mills, and in some instances are employed as sawyers and for other skilled work.

That their wages vary from 85 cents to $1.25 per diem, the average being about $1 per day, or a little less.

That there is a sufficient supply to meet the demands at the present time and for some years to come.

That they work for a wage at which it would be impossible for a white man to support himself and his family with comfort, or even decency.

That they are enabled to work for this low wage by their manner of living. Except in very few instances they do not bring their families with them. They frequently live together, somewhat similar to the Chinese, but have a reputation of being more cleanly.

That they are more dangerous competitors to white labour than the Chinese, because they are more energetic and pushing, work at even a less wage, live as cheaply, and are said to be quicker at learning our language and picking up our ways, &c.

### PART II—SHINGLE BOLTS, MINING TIMBER AND CORDWOOD.

At certain seasons of the year, when not engaged in fishing, there are approximately a thousand Japanese employed in getting out shingle bolts, cordwood and mining timber for Mexico.

The whites and Indians have been practically driven out of the business, and the Chinese have been largely superseded.

Last February several hundreds of Japanese were engaged in cutting cordwood on Mayne Island. They delivered it free on board the scows at from $1.80 to $2 a cord. The Japanese contractors make little profit at these figures. Their profits are chiefly on supplies which they furnish their men.

A few years ago white men got out all the timber for Mexico mines. This is now done by Japanese under Japanese contractors. Several cargoes are taken out each year.

Shingle bolts are chiefly gotten out by Japanese under Japanese contractors, the contractor receiving 5 cents a cord as his profit and the profit on the supplies which he furnishes.

One firm engaged in the manufacture of shingles paid out $14,000 for shingle bolts, which $36,000 was paid to Chinese and Japanese, chiefly Japanese, and $4,000 to ite men.

The Japanese work more cheaply than the Chinese and are rapidly driving them t of these fields of industry. Their manner of living in camps is very similar to that the Chinese and a white man cannot compete with them.

From the evidence of some of the shingle manufacturers it did seem at first that it ould be difficult to carry on the business except through the agency of this cheap bour, without cutting the prices of the white men who are still engaged in the busi- ess, but subsequent evidence from a large manufacturer of shingles established the fact at it was cheaper to get out shingle bolts in the log, exclusively by white men, than buy shingle bolts, even from Japanese, and this has been found to be so in the mills Washington State. There are some places doubtless where this method could not be lvantageously adopted.

The employment of so many Japanese in this business has largely displaced white abour and has further increased the difficulty which small landholders have in making living. It practically prevents him from realizing something from his wood and imber and from utilizing his time to the best advantage and so assisting him in sup- orting his family during the tedious and expensive process of clearing the land.

Formerly shingle bolts and cordwood were chiefly gotten out by white labour. All his is being changed; the white man is practically driven from this field, and its effect pon the settlement of the country is undoubtedly very serious.

The condition of the Japanese sometimes is that of absolute want. The provincial mmigration agent stated that on their arrival at Mayne Island last year to commence vood-cutting they were without supplies and subsisted for some time on clams and histle roots and whatever game and fish they could secure, and altogether had a vretched existence. This perhaps may arise from the fact that after the fishing season s over, several thousands of Japanese are without employment at a season of the year when there is least demand for labour, and if the fishing season happens to be short, as it was last year, it necessarily leaves many of them without employment and without means of subsistence. They work, therefore, in getting out shingle bolts, cordwood, mining timber, &c., for what they can get.

The normal condition between labour and capital is deranged and will continue to be, if this large immigration of unskilled labour should continue.

## CHAP. IV.—OTHER OCCUPATIONS.

*1. The Mining Industry.*—At the Union mines 102 Japanese were employed, as miners, helpers, runners, drivers, timbering men, blacksmiths and labourers, above and below ground. Seventy-seven are employed below ground and 25 above ground. Only three Japanese are employed at the Extension Mine. They are not employed at the Fernie Mines, nor at the New Vancouver Coal Company's Mines at Nanaimo.

As they are employed to only a limited extent in one coal mine, and under the same general management they are not employed in others, it is impossible to say that they are necessary for this industry, but if they are the supply is abundant.

The Japanese have not been employed in these mines either in the Kootenay district or elsewhere on the mainland. From 40 to 60 were employed at Texada Island. They worked in the mine and above ground. They were discharged. The cause of dismissal alleged was an increased cost of production. The output was too small. It did not pay. The only mine in which they are now employed so far as we could learn was a mine at Mount Sicker, 45 miles from Victoria, where from 30 to 35 are employed in sorting ore. The manager of this mine says: I think there are sufficient numbers of Japanese here now to meet the demands. I think there are enough of the Chinese and Japanese here at the present time. No serious inconvenience would arise to our business if no more were allowed to come in. It is now like a tap; when you want water you turn it on and when you have enough you turn it off.

The number of Japanese employed in the metaliferous mines is insignificant, and it cannot be said that this industry is dependent upon their labour to any considerable extent.

The Japanese have displaced Chinese labour in the Cariboo Consolidated hydraulic mine where, as the evidence shows, about 109 are employed.

2. *Railways.*—Japanese are employed upon the Canadian Pacific Railway in British Columbia to a limited extent. The number varies in different seasons of the year. Seventy are employed steadily; 30 as section men and 40 on extra gang work. At certain seasons of the year as many as 300 more are employed. Nearly five thousand men are employed in this division.

The general superintendent stated that the Company was not interested in employing Oriental labour if it could get white labour. He did not think, however, that a white man with a family could live on what the Company paid the Japanese. He stated that the Company did not encourage white men with families to come in for section work. He declared that the Japanese is a better man than the Italian.

It is plain that the numbers employed on the Canadian Pacific Railway in comparison with the whole number of employees on the western division is small, and it can scarcely be urged that the successful operation of the railway is dependent upon this class of labour.

3. *Sealing.*—Japanese are employed to a limited extent in this industry; being good sailors, they are shipped when white men are scarce as common seamen or boat pullers. No serious inconvenience could be occasioned this industry by the restriction of further immigration of Japanese.

4. *Domestic Service.*—It may be here mentioned that while a considerable number of Japanese are employed as domestic servants and chore boys they are not employed nearly to the same extent in that capacity as the Chinese are, and their wages as a rule are much lower.

The extent to which Japanese are employed in farming, land clearing, and other minor industries is briefly referred to in Chapter IV, 'Other Occupations,' but for a proper understanding of conditions in these industries reference may be made to the chapters on the subject in Part I, where they are fully dealt with. The opinions therein expressed regarding Chinese labour apply equally to Japanese, to the extent of their employment.

## EMIGRATION STOPPED.

The emigration of Japanese has for the present practically ceased, only 56 having arrived at Canadian ports in the last six months of 1901. This is doubtless owing to instructions given to local authorities by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs for Japan, instructing them to prohibit entirely the emigration of Japanese labourers destined for Canada or the United States. The Commission was favoured by a copy of these instructions, through the Japanese Consul at Vancouver, which is as follows:

[No. 659].

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
TOKIO, August 2, 1900.

To the GOVERNORS OF THE PREFECTURES:

You are hereby instructed to prohibit entirely, for the time being, the emigration of Japanese labourers for the Dominion of Canada or for the United States.

VISCOUNT AOKI,
Minister of Foreign Affairs.

## PART II—CONCLUSION.

In endeavouring to convey an idea of the kind of emigrant the Japanese of the labouring class is, it will be convenient to point out first wherein he differs from the Chinese of the same class. He is more independent, energetic, apt, and ready and anxious to adopt, at least in appearance, the manners and mode of life of the white man. He avails himself of every opportunity to learn English, and often makes it a condition of his contract of hiring that he may do so. It is said he is not as reliable in respect of contracts as the Chinese are, and that, while adopting to a certain extent our habits of life, he more readily falls into the vices of the white man than the Chinaman does.

As we said of the Chinaman, he has a different standard of morals from ours, and what has been said of the one in this regard applies to the other; and except for breaches of the sanitary by-laws, the absence of convictions would indicate that he is law-abiding. He often works for less wages, and in some important industries driving out the Chinaman. He comes without wife or family, and on a passport which requires him to return within three years, for which he has to give bonds before leaving. He does not contribute to the support of schools or churches or the building up of homes. He seeks employment in all kinds of unskilled labour, and works at a wage that all admit is wholly inadequate for the support of a white man and his family; and while the Japanese do not live in one particular quarter of the city or town, they are given to over-crowding in boarding houses, and the fact that they are adult males without family enables them to live in a manner and at a cost wholly incompatible with the home-life of a white working man who has a family. Coming as they do for a limited period, and very often only remaining a part of the year and returning again for the season when they can obtain employment, they carry away with them their earnings, are of the least possible value to the community, pay no fair proportion of the taxes of the country, and are a keener competitor in all the avenues of unskilled labour than the Chinese. Their presence in large numbers delays the settlement of the country and keeps out intending settlers; and all that has been said in this regard with reference to the Chinese applies with equal, if not greater force, to the Japanese. There is a clear distinction to be drawn between immigrants who, if otherwise desirable, come with their families to make Canada their home, and that class of immigrants who come for a limited period only, intending to return within a short period and take their savings with them. They contribute in small degree to that support and interdependence upon which the stability and prosperity of a community depends, and they withdraw to the extent of their savings the value of the product of the natural industries, and render it more difficult for the permanent settler of all classes, except possibly the employer, to obtain a living or to carry on his trade or calling with success.

The consensus of opinion of the people of British Columbia is that they do not and cannot assimilate with white people, and that while in some respects they are less undesirable than the Chinese, in that they adopt more readily our habits of life and spend more of their earnings in the country, yet in all that goes to make for the permanent settlement of the country they are quite as serious a menace as the Chinese and keener competitors against the working man, and as they have more energy, push and independence, more dangerous in this regard than the Chinese.

As directly bearing upon this question we beg to refer to the following despatches from the Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Governor General of Canada:—

DOWNING STREET, July 20, 1898.

Governor General,
The Right Honourable
The Earl of ABERDEEN, P.C., G.C.M.G.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches of the numbers and dates noted in the margin, in which you forwarded copies of various communications received by you from the Japanese Consul for Canada respecting the anti-Japanese legislation recently passed by the legislature of British Columbia.

2. I shall be glad if you will lose no time in transmitting, in accordance with the request contained in my telegram of June 18, copies of the Acts to which M. Shimizu takes exception, together with the observations of your ministers thereon.

3. In the meantime I have to request that you will impress upon your ministers that restrictive legislation of the type of which the legislation in question appears to be, is extremely repugnant to the sentiments of the people and Government of Japan, and you should not fail to impress upon them the importance, if there is any real prospect of a large influx of Japanese labourers into Canada, of dealing with it by legislation of the Dominion Parliament on the lines of the accompanying Natal Act. which is likely to be generally adopted in Australia.

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

(See Appendix for copy of Natal Act.)

DOWNING STREET, 23rd March, 1899.

Governor General,
The Right Honourable
The Earl of MINTO, G.C.M.G., &c., &c., &c.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 40, of February 27, forwarding copy of a letter from the Japanese Consul at Vancouver in which he calls attention to certain measures which have been introduced into the legislative assembly of British Columbia during its present session prohibiting the employment of Japanese and renewing with regard to these measures the objections which he urged against the legislation of the same nature passed by the legislature of that province last year.

2. Her Majesty's Government must regret to find the Government and Legislature of British Columbia adopting a course which is justly regarded as offensive by a friendly power, and they hope that your ministers will be able to arrange for the cancellation of the objectionable provisions and the substitution of a measure which, while it will secure the desired exclusion of undesirable immigrants, will obtain that result by means of some such general test as that already suggested in my despatch No. 214, of July 20, 1898. In any case, Her Majesty's Government strongly deprecate the passing of exceptional legislation affecting Japanese already in the Province.

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

COLONIAL OFFICE TO THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

DOWNING STREET, April 19, 1899.

The Governor General,
&c., &c., &c.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 54, of March 16, forwarding copy of an approved minute of the Dominion Privy Council to which is appended an approved report of the Executive Council of British Columbia, expressing the concurrence of the Government of that province in a report drawn up by the Minister of Finance and Agriculture on the subject of the Acts passed by the provincial legislature in 1898, containing provisions prohibiting the employment of Japanese on certain works.

2. The provincial government represent that these provisions are required by the economic conditions of British Columbia and they regret their inability to introduce legislation for their repeal.

3. Her Majesty's Government fully appreciate the motives which have induced the Government and legislature of British Columbia to pass the legislation under consideration, and recognize the importance of guarding against the possibility of the white labour in the province being swamped by the wholesale immigration of persons of Asiatic origin. They desire also to acknowledge the friendly spirit in which the representations they have felt compelled to make have been received by the Government of

British Columbia, and regret that after carefully considering the minute of the Executive Council they feel unable to withdraw the objections they have urged to the legislation in question.

4. There is no difference between Her Majesty's Government and the Government of British Columbia as regards the object aimed at by these laws, namely, to ensure that the Pacific province of the Dominion shall be occupied by a large and thoroughly British population rather than by one in which the number of aliens largely predominates, and many of the distinctive features of a settled British community are lacking.

5. The ground of the objection entertained by Her Majesty's Government is that the method employed by the British Columbia Legislature for securing this object, while admittedly only partial and ineffective, is such as to give legitimate offence to a power with which Her Majesty is, and earnestly desires to remain on friendly terms. It is not the practical exclusion of Japanese to which the Government of the Mikado objects but their exclusion nominatim, which specifically stamps the whole nation as undersirable persons.

6. The exclusion of Japanese subjects either from the province or from employment on public or quasi public works in the province by the operation of an educational test, such as is embodied in the Natal Immigration Law is not a measure to which the government of Japan can take exception. If the particular test in that law is not regarded as sufficient, there is no reason why a more stringent and effective one of a similar character should not be adopted, so long as the disqualification is not based specifically on distinction of race or colour.

7. Any attempt to restrict immigration or to impose disqualifications on such distinctions besides being offensive to friendly powers is contrary to the general principles of equality which have been the guiding principle of British rule throughout the empire; and, as your ministers are aware, Her Majesty's Government were unable to allow the Immigration Restriction Laws passed by some of the Australasian colonies in 1896 to come into operation for the same reasons as they are now urging against these laws in British Columbia.

8. Her Majesty's Government earnestly trust that on consideration of these explanations the Government of British Columbia will at once procure the repeal of the provisions complained of and the substitution of legislation on the lines indicated above.

9. If this is impossible, Her Majesty's Government feel compelled, however reluctant they may be to cause inconvenience to the province, to press upon your ministers the importance in the general interests of the empire of using the powers vested in them by the British North America Act, for cancelling these measures to which Her Majesty's Government object on grounds both of principle and policy.

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Your Commissioners fully appreciate the action taken by the Government of Japan on August 2, 1900, whereby the Governors of the Prefectures of Japan were instructed to prohibit entirely for the time being the emigration of Japanese labourers for the Dominion of Canada. It is stated in a pamphlet purporting to be published by the Japanese Consul at Vancouver: 'the principal reason for the measure thus taken was to avoid any friction that might occur by allowing them to come into British Columbia where their immigration was not desired by a certain element of that province,' and that 'the Government of Japan wholly stopped the issuance of passports to any intending emigrants for Canada since the first of August last (1900), and still continues to do so, under a provision of the Immigration Protection Law. (Law No. 70, 1896.)'

The course adopted by the Japanese Government, if we may without presumption be permitted to say so, is most opportune, eliminating all cause of friction and irritation between Canada and Japan, and so favouring a freer trade and intercourse between the countries than could otherwise obtain.

Nothing further is needed to settle this most difficult question upon a firm basis than some assurance that the action already taken by the Government of Japan will not be revoked.

Your Commissioners desire to express their earnest hope that in the continuance of this friendly policy, legislation on this subject by the Canadian Government may be rendered unnecessary. Should, however, a change of policy be adopted in this regard by the Japanese Government whereby Japanese labourers may again be permitted to emigrate to Canada, the welfare of the Province of British Columbia imperatively demands that effective measures be adopted to take the place of the inhibition now imposed by the Japanese Government.

Your Commissioners recommend that, in that event, an Act be passed by the Dominion Government on the lines of what is known as the Natal Act, made sufficiently stringent and effective to accomplish the desired result.

R. C. CLUTE, Chairman,

D. J. MANN,

C. FOLEY.

# APPENDIX.

Address of Mr. R. Cassidy, K. C.

Report of United States Commissioner upon Japanese Immigration.

Wages in Japan, 1897.

The Natal Act.

## ADDRESS OF MR. R. CASSIDY, K.C., ON BEHALF OF THE JAPANESE.

Mr. Cassidy, K.C., in addressing the Commission, said: Having to leave by boat to-day, I have to request to be heard first. I represent the Japanese in this community before this Royal Commission. The government of Japan, as it happens, is well represented in commercial matters by an able consul, Mr. Shimizu. Any remarks which I may make on the evidence will no doubt be received by the Commission in the same spirit as that in which they are offered, and in the same kindly spirit evinced by the Commission throughout this investigation. The Japanese desire to thank the Commissioners for the invariable courtesy we have received, whatever the result may be, whatever the report may be, and whatever course parliament may see fit to take after the investigation upon receiving the report of the Commission. I feel that the report cannot be otherwise than just to all of those concerned, and I am satisfied that the industrial interests of the country will receive great advantage from the evidence which has been placed before the Commission. The considerations upon which the Japanese rely, as rendering necessary the presence of this class of labour in the Province of British Columbia, have been fully and fairly put before the Commission. We all know that for some years past the presence of the Chinese here, and more recently the Japanese, has been the object of considerable agitation. While agitation is to be commended when it has for its aim the protection of the community at large, it very often happens that the circumstances on one side are very fully presented, while the considerations on the other side are paid little attention to; that is to say, the views of those who are not in the habit of gathering together to exchange opinions are not presented as fully as those of members of organizations banded together for the purpose of the propagation of their peculiar views of labour, political or economic questions. Business men, as a rule, are not in the habit of airing their views in public; therefore, I say it cannot be considered otherwise than as fortunate, that the investigation should have taken place, and have been as wide in its scope as it has been made by this Commission—all parties having had the fullest opportunity of presenting their views and of giving the facts which they considered went to support their different contentions. I also think it must be a matter of surprise to many people who have been accustomed to regard this question from one standpoint to find men who are in actual business, who are well acquainted with the country and its commercial life, who are deeply interested in the welfare and prosperity of the country, come forward and make such statements as they have done before this Commission; and, on the other hand, it is well to have had the opposing views presented, and the grounds stated upon which those who are opposed to the orientals base their objections.

It seems to me necessary to take rather a wide view of the subject. The scope of the Commission is wide enough to consider the question in all its bearings. Parliament

will thus be enabled to take a comprehensive view of the whole matter and decide intelligently what steps ought to be taken in the circumstances; and take into consideration the effect of any legislation proposed to be applied. It is impossible therefore to get away from the international question, and the Imperial question which stands alongside of it. It is impossible to get away from considerations dictated by the comity of nations, or to be blind to the important considerations of international policy, which govern civilized nations in dealing with each other. One of the first things Canada will have to consider is: What is the position which the British Empire takes with regard to matters of the sort? We all know that Great Britain is the champion of the *open door*; that the great empire of which we form a part has always made it her boast, that her territory is open to the citizens of every country; that her territory has afforded a home and a livelihood to the people and even to the exiles of all other countries. We have also to take into consideration the questions that have more particular reference to the Japanese. As a people the Japanese have made great strides in civilization; or rather, they have always been a civilized people, but have improved their civilization; their ports have been opened to Europeans, and they have profited by the intercourse, and they have adopted the methods of European powers; their course in the last few years has been one of extraordinary and gratifying progress; they are accredited to all civilized powers. We all know that instead of clinging tenaciously to ancient laws they have adopted laws based on the laws of England and the civil laws of Rome. They have adopted a constitution; their form of government is similar to our own. In international intercourse and courtesy they have been guided by high ideals, which I am free to say cannot be improved, being founded on the course adopted by our own great Empire. The course of events in the east is tending towards the civilization and the opening up of the great Empire of China: any general Chinese war will inevitably be followed by the adoption of our industrial methods and the spread of our commerce in that country, and return commerce will be conducted in the near future on European methods. So far with regard to China. With regard to Japan, that has all taken place; Japanese merchants trade with our merchants; not content with existing facilities by foreign vessels they have established a line of their own, as fine a line of steamers as runs on the Pacific Ocean, running from Seattle to Japanese ports. It is freely stated, by men who know, that the great development of late of the Port of Seattle is very largely due to the trade with Japan; and it is well known that the trade of our own province with Japan is very considerable, coming by the Canadian Pacific Railway steamers and other ships. We all know that in the recent crisis in China the presence of Japanese troops substantially saved the situation. It was stated in the London *Times* that the missionaries received protection and assistance from the Japanese. And how did Japan act at a period when other people stood aloof or attacked us, not by force of arms, but in insidious ways exhibited their animosity. Japan truly exhibited a wise attitude of friendship towards us. And what was the spirit displayed by the Japanese in British Columbia at the time troops were being raised for South Africa? They offered to raise and equip a corps from among their own people, and send them to South Africa. It was considered by the Minister of Militia wise not to accept the proposition. Now, it is an understood principle of international comity that when one nation opens its ports freely to the people of any other civilized nation, the other nation shall act on the same principle. It is a rule of practice, although it may not be an absolute obligation. No rule of international courtesy can be said to be an absolute obligation. We all know that fair and even-handed reciprocity is not always dealt out; and that the directing principles in accordance with the doctrine of even-handed reciprocity are not always recognized, but we should assume that while as a nation we receive courtesy and friendly intercourse and welcome from another nation, that imposes some obligation on us to refrain from legislation directed against its people.

It seems to me necessary first to take a view of the condition of British Columbia. It is the best of all the provinces in Canada. It is the richest in material resources — forest, field and flood, its metaliferous ledges and mountains all contribute to its prosperity. It is also a province in which the working man has a wide field for the application and development of his skill and energy. At the present moment the wages of workmen

thickly populated districts where there is plenty of labour offering—where labour is fluid. Wherever that is the case all you have to do is to find out, to ascertain the lowest possible cost at which men can live; they compete with each other to that point,—down to the starvation point; but, however much that may apply in England and in some ports of the great nation to the south of us, we find that it does not apply in this province. We find there is not a single industry in which any class of labour in our province is forced to a living wage. We find, in other words, that the rate of wages for ordinary unskilled workmen in this province is about $2 a day. It is quite true there are in certain industries, certain classes of work which there is no necessity for the white man to do at all, which are undertaken cheaper by the oriental than the white man; but even with regard to the orientals they are not for a moment forced down to a living wage. If the orientals were to work for what is to them a living wage, that might be an injury. We all know these men get from $1.00 to $1.50 a day. This province is always spoken of as a place where it is expensive to live. Ordinarily speaking, and in the proper sense, it is not expensive; but it is a place where ordinary workmen are not content with ordinary, humble fare, but live at greater expense than the same class in the east. Carpenters here get from $3.00 to $3.50 a day; they live up to their income, and live expensively. The staples of life are not, in a broad sense, more expensive here than anywhere else. I refer to that merely for the purpose of showing that while it is said that workmen are paid less in the State of Washington because they can live cheaper over there, my own view is that they cannot live cheaper over there. With regard to the staples of life, such a place as Seattle is more expensive, while some things may be had cheaper others are a great deal dearer. To return to that, Mr. McNair, who was a witness of the greatest importance, because his firm has mills on both sides of the line, he is in a position to speak about the matter. He says they do not pay as much to their labour in the United States, where they employ only white labour, as they do here; and he also said, if you will remember—and it was corroborated by every witness who spoke in the lumber trade—that it is the case here, that they are enabled to employ a certain proportion of cheap labour, at a lower rate per month, manual labour in the mill—that thereby they are enabled, having the rough, unskilled labour at a cheap rate, to pay the white men who occupy the positions requiring superior skill in the mills, better wages. The white men exceed the orientals in numbers, and those white men are better paid than they would be if only white labour were employed in the mill. The whole question is an economic and commercial one. There are large mills to the south of us who make of this province a slaughter market for their over-production. It is unfortunate our own lumbermen are not protected even in their own market. The result of that is, both with regard to the export and home trade, that they are driven into unequal and, therefore, unfair competition with the mill owners to the south of us. The consequence of that is, in order to live, our men over here, our manufacturers, are of necessity compelled to keep their expenses down to the same figures as those of the manufactures to the south of us. They point out that manufacturers of lumber in the United States have the advantage of us in several respects. They have a great home market, from 70,000,000 to 80,000,000 people, with no customs wall. Then they have the advantage of cheaper machinery. We know that in practice as to machinery here, a great part of it is brought from the United States, and that almost everything that enters into the cost of production is cheaper over there, except logs. That being the state of affairs, it is necessary that we should obtain, in some respect, advantage—and that one respect is the matter of labour, at least they would like to have it so; but in point of fact they do not get that; so really it is a wonder they can continue to live at all; and we are not surprised to hear, one after the other, come up here and say they are not making money at all, that it was a hard matter even to keep the mills open until within the last year or so, when things have been a little better. Now, that is not the worst of it. They might manage to get along without the orientals if they had a class of white labour in such numbers that directly an opening offered it would fall in at a reasonable wage. Now, there has never been an offering in British Columbia of a body of white labour to fill the places as they become vacant, with the labour market in a fluid condition; so that, for instance, if a mill wanted 100 men they could get them. I am referring to the

sort of labour which is required from day to day, the lower class of labour which some exigency or rush of business may require in a larger number. Now, there is no fluid white labour offering in British Columbia to fill such an exigency as that.

Then Mr. Alexander gave evidence, which you will remember. He put it strongly and clearly; he said it was absolutely necessary that this cheap labour should be employed in the mills here, so that the larger proportion of white labour should be kept busy. Then Mr. Hackett tells you that for two years he tried to run with white labour only, but he could not keep it up, and he had to get cheap labour of some sort. Then Mr. Heaps said—I still refer to the Report of the evidence in the newspaper—some of the machines at which a man could earn from three or four dollars a day were idle because of inability to procure sufficient white labour of the lowest kind. Now, every one of those manufacturers has pointed out to you that while the proportion of Japanese employed is relatively small compared to the white that the proportion of wages paid to them was still smaller in proportion to their numbers. Now, it seems to me to be clear then, if we are to accept the statement of the saw mill and shingle mill men, that under existing conditions they are unable to get along without that class of labour; and, taking into consideration that these men are not afforded protection even in their own market, by the government, that this is made a slaughter market for American over-production, I urge that it would be an exceedingly cruel thing, and one which ought not to be contemplated for a moment, to debar them from the employment of this cheap labour. Of course it is a question whether it would be any advantage to our own white workmen to make the alteration, when the conditions are such, when the competition in the market is such that these mill men cannot afford to pay more wages. If that is true, if they are obliged to employ white men, who cannot be got for less than two dollars a day, and very few at that—the average white man cannot be got for less than $2.50 a day, because of his peculiar position of independence here, owing to the great opportunities offered him because of prospecting and mining and other things,—I say if these mill men were compelled to hire white men for the lower class of unskilled labour at these wages, they would have to go out of existence. Isn't it better to have the mills here under such circumstances that they can exist and employ a large number of white men? Isn't the advantage largely in favour of leaving the thing as it is—and that is it not absolutely impossible, from an economic standpoint to alter it; and is it not folly to suggest there is anything injurious to our own people in the condition as it exists?

Now, in regard to the cannery business, I am not interested in that, except in so far as it relates to the fishing. The Japanese are fishermen. The cannery men say they cannot get along without the Chinese inside the canneries. The suggestion is that there are too many fishermen, and that the keen competition among them renders it impossible for them to make a living. It is to be said that the parliament of Canada, and you gentlemen as its advisers, are going to report—and make a law in this country having a wide international effect, because it will have the merely incidental effect of affecting or benefitting a few fishermen on the Fraser River, resulting in antagonizing a friendly people and inviting retaliation by restrictions in our commerce with the east. White fishermen complain there are too many fishermen on the river. Of course that is a matter which can be dealt with in the Fishery Regulations, supposing you come to the conclusion that it is true, that the interests of the province require that there should be fewer fishermen on the River—but that question is a debateable question—the cannerymen say that is not so—they prefer to have a good many on the river, because they can get fish at a cheaper rate. What the fishermen say is that there are too many fishermen on the river. That is a matter to be dealt with in another way. It is a very grave thing to think that the price of fish to the canners has kept up to a figure which renders it almost impossible for the canners to make money and that some of them have failed. It is said the reason of that is there are too many canneries and that they compete with each other for the fish. I am not prepared to say that that is not to the advantage of the country as a whole, their employing a great many fishermen and a great many people inside, and paying a good price for fish—much better than if there were fewer canneries. Then, in connection with that, it has been made a complaint against the Japanese that they build and sell boats. It is quite true that they build and equip

boats. It has been complained that they go into the woods and whip-saw logs and build and equip boats much cheaper than white boat builders. Now, that is an extraordinary complaint. These boats are sold to fishermen—they used to pay $150 for a boat which they can get now for $60; it is quite true that some boat builders may be injured, but look at the advantage to the fishermen who get a cheap boat. I point out that one boat builder from Vancouver, who has introduced up-to-date machinery, who builds boats by modern methods—stated that he was not afraid of Japanese competition, that he could build boats as good and as cheap as the Japanese; so the only man who gets hurt is the white man who proposes to go on without any assistance at all from machinery and to build a boat. In the good old days, when they had not machinery or apparatus for doing that, in the good old days before the Japanese built boats, a man could go and buy lumber and build a boat costing $150. The answer to that is, that it is not a fair price, and everybody is benefitted by the price to-day; a man can go and get a boat from the Japanese or from the modern manufacturer at a reasonable price. To say that the country is hurt by it, or that anybody is hurt by it, is simply absurd.

Now, then there are the coal mines. We went up to Nanaimo and from there we went to Union. In Nanaimo we found that no orientals of any kind were employed below ground there. In Union, on the contrary, we found some pits with both Chinese and Japanese. Now, it was observable that if any pit were to start now on the basis of all white labour as at Nanaimo, nobody would make money on it. For some years the New Vancouver Coal Company operating in that way paid practically no dividends; but last year it was screwed up to pay a dividend of three per cent; an interest that is nothing at all here, so it may be taken for granted, that that industry, if conscientiously run, is being run on a plane that will not pay, and certainly will not conduce to capital coming in to develop other coal fields.

CHAIRMAN CLUTE.—Where did you get that from? There is no evidence of that.

MR. CASSIDY.—With regard to the orientals being a source of danger in coal mining, as that has reference rather to the Chinese I will pass that over. I do not know it was said that Japanese were a danger to the men underground; I know that was said in regard to the Chinese. Of course it may be argued there is danger underground but if it should be attempted to apply that to the Japanese it does appear to me to be rather disingenuous. We know, we have been told, that the white men employ them underground themselves on contract work, and white men who can employ them never complain. It was shown in fact that in one mine, where they ran the whole mine exclusively with Chinese for some years, at Extension, they had no accidents. The oriental people are not more dangerous than white men; their instincts are such that they will carry on work with regularity and attention to safety much better than white men. The white man may have a wider range of thought, but it is possible he does not do his work with the same regularity and mechanical accuracy as of a machine as it is done by oriental people. That was their distinguishing characteristic, that if you wanted the work to be done with regularity and attention you could get the oriental to do it. Mr. Dunsmuir did his best to get white labour. It is within your knowledge that this question of whether he was to be allowed to employ oriental labour in his coal mines was determined by the Local Legislature in its wisdom saying orientals should not be employed underground. This was the subject of an appeal which was determined in Mr. Dunsmuir's favour by the British Privy Council. Having the principle determined in his favour, Mr. Dunsmuir turned around and said, I have shown you I am master of the situation, but notwithstanding that, I will voluntarily try the experiment, I will spend a great deal of money in doing it—for everybody knows that the real truth is when I turn the orientals out, instead of there being hundreds of white people about ready to work, there is nothing of the sort; I have to go abroad. He did go abroad, and imported a number of white miners, with the same result as has followed everything of the kind in British Columbia. The conditions were such that the men, having been brought out here in place of fulfilling their moral obligations to their employers and allowances made to them, went off, finding other work to do and left him in the lurch. There are so many good things in British Columbia that white labour is scarce here, extremely hard to get, and harder

l to be depended upon. At all events, that was the result of it. Now, the next estion is the question of the land. We have in this province as rich land as is to be nd anywhere in the world, that is timbered land. We have a moderate, equable nate. The soil and all conditions are favourable to the growth of all the ordinary ds. Notwithstanding that, we import more than we produce, and the reason of that that the cost of clearing the land is so great that it is cheaper to buy your vegetables; erything you can get out of the ground in this country, that can grow in this country, s cheaper to buy it in the United States and pay duty on it. Now, that state of airs is very unfortunate. Unless some economical mechanical method of clearing the d is invented this condition threatens to continue. Everything has to be viewed m an economic standpoint. It is necessary to the success of the settlers, and of the pitalists who have invested money here, that the land should be cleared by cheap bour; and we know the Japanese offer their labour in that field not excessively cheap, t for $1 to $1.50 a day. The settlers cannot afford even to pay that. They go upon e land, which is heavily timbered; they pick out a little bit and endeavour to clear it, d go on year after year until they are nearly heart-broken. That is the reason why riculture does not show as much progress as other matters here. It is necessary we ould have the Japanese to clear the land. Mr. Robins, of Nanaimo, although holding rong views against the orientals, said he could not see how the land could cleared without them. He is in a peculiar position; he has persuaded himself to the pleasant fiction or hallucination that he is master of the situation, and at the representations of the unions have no influence on him or are of little or no ail; that he keeps on the even tenor of his way without reference to them. Mr. obins is one of the most diplomatic of men, and he is living on terms of the greatest endship with the Labour Unions; they manage to get along nicely together. The bour union, substantially speaking, dictates to Mr. Robins what he has to do; but is very politic, and seeks as it were by passive means, by putting forward his own side the case, to get along with the union; but one thing he knows is that, considering e views and power of the union to which all his men belong, if he were to propose to mploy cheap labour everything would be undone at once. Mr. Dunsmuir, on the other nd, is not troubled in that way; he goes on with his own white miners and deals with em directly as individuals; there is no union; the coal is got out by contract, by the hite miners, who get the contracts: every one exercises his own opinion in the siness; the white miner gets a contract to take out coal, he in practice usually employs oriental to help him, and the two get along amicably and peaceably. Whether at is a good thing or bad, that is for the men to say.

CHAIRMAN CLUTE—How can you say the union dictates to Mr. Robins?

MR. CASSIDY—They have a strong union there at Nanaimo; and the attitude of r. Robins shows he is on such terms with the union that a certain consideration has be given to their views; they are to have opportunity for discussion; and there will e no lockout until so many days elapse. I think it is practically manifest such a con-tion of affairs does exist.

CHAIRMAN CLUTE—The agreement is they will not strike without consultation with ach other.

MR. CASSIDY—We all know perfectly well who it was contrived that arrangement; was not Mr. Robins' Company at all; but they have got into that position there.

Now, my learned friend spoke of the economical and industrial questions, and the ational and political considerations. I have gone into the economic and commercial spect of the investigation I think enough. Now, with regard to the national and olitical, I suppose he means the social. Political only comes in in considering whether he Japanese should be allowed to become citizens of our country. That is with regard o the Dominion Elections; they are controlled by the Dominion; but not so with regard o the province. It is said they are a non-assimilable people. Now, it seems to me an ntirely new doctrine that any country should prohibit from entering on its shores, and hould prohibit from enjoying in the fullest degree the benefits of citizenship all peo-les with whom one would not like to intermarry. Now, if that were adopted generally by ations it would result in a Chinese wall all round; it would be a retrograde movement;

and would delay civilization. The Japanese are an oriental people, because they live in the orient. It may possibly be there is some other line of division, in sentiment, between the peoples; but I apprehend to the Japanese women for instance, the white man can be no more attractive than the Japanese can be to the Canadian. Many people think the Japanese women are among the most charming of their sex. Some travellers in the east tell us that absolutely delightful is the courtesy and politeness of the Japanese women. If they came here and introduced many of their charming ideas among us, it cannot be said the Englishman would be against them. It would be disagreeable to find it necessary to exclude a people, to legislate in any way, with regard to a people who throw their doors open to us and welcome us as they do; it is contrary to the spirit with which one nation should regard another that a suggestion of the kind should be used as a pretext for turning away the citizens of a foreign country from our shores. That is not the true reason; but that they are injured in the wage question, and they desire to use every argument they can against the stranger. When you use the word 'assimilation' what do you mean? I say it just means reasonable assimilation, adoption of our laws, and our ideas, turning to our laws and institutions, friendly sympathy with us, ready to advance with us along the line of civilization and development. Are not the Japanese doing all that? They come here to Canada, they acquire our language, they aim to become citizens of our country. It has been suggested they become citizens only in order to get fishing licenses. I say that is not the case. It has been said that but few of them have a wish to live here; but it seems to me there is no objection to them on that ground. It has also been suggested, principally against the Chinese—I propose to say it does not apply to the Japanese—that they send their earnings out of the country. It is perfectly true there is a considerable margin between the wages he gets and what he lives on. The Chinaman is more frugal than the representative of any other nation. I do not consider it as a disadvantage to the country that he is frugal and economical; the result of the labour remains in the country. Has he got to spend all he earns in drinking whiskey, or indulging in any form of luxury? I do not put the Japanese on the same plane. He is not a frugal man; when he gets good pay he is like white men, he lives like white men. Rice is more expensive than potatoes. He eats meat and vegetables. I am sorry to say that of the offences charged against them drunkenness is the common one. Although that may not be a compliment to him, the result is that he spends his money in the country. It has never been suggested—I have asked the question over and over again—with regard to the fishermen, that there is any difference in cost between the equipment of the Japanese and that of the white fishermen. The only exception is that the white men eat potatoes and the Japanese eat rice, all other supplies they use equally. It is a difference in point of taste, and that is all there is in it.

Now, it is said that the presence of the Japanese in this province is keeping out of the province a desirable class of white settlers who would otherwise come in. Now, what is the desirable class we desire to come in? What we desire is cheap labour. This province can afford to pay high wages to all classes of skilled labour, and it does pay it. But, besides that, there is a large class upon the presence of which is dependent the development of our resources; and we do know the resources will never be developed until we have more labour; it is necessary there should be a considerable body of cheap labour, or rather of the lower class of labour; and that is the class it is desirable we should have come into the country. If it were so that we could get white men to come here and work for $1.00 or $1.25 a day we would welcome them with open arms, but you cannot; the moment you bring into this province a man from Quebec, Montreal or Toronto, he immediately becomes a $2 or $3 a day man. That is the lesson taught by the experience of those who have imported labour. In other words, he finds that, because of his equipment and intelligence, and being able to take advantage of the conditions out here, he can get more than at home. The fact of the matter is, if we could get into the province a large body of cheap labour, the effect would be to bring under cultivation a large part of the land, new industries would be started, and in the end we would be able to pay better wages than at present, and employ a great many more white men.

Now, it is said that it is important to consider whether we are not laying up for ourselves a race question. In the United States there is the race question with the negro in that country. The reason of that is the negro settles down on the land; they are a prolific people, and their numbers are growing more rapidly than those of the white people alongside of them. But the very thing that is charged against the oriental is the very thing that may be alluded to as preventing any such thing in this country. I grant you if they came here and settled on the land with their families, and increased, it would be a serious matter for the white man; but they come here and give us the advantage of their labour at a reasonable rate; the results of their labours are left with us; but that they go back to their country again seems to me to be a great advantage instead of a disadvantage.

Now, it is quite true that, from the standpoint of the statesman and the nation builder, it is very important we should have a large class of kindred people who will build up the country. I do not see that progress in that direction is retarded in any degree by the presence of the orientals. My view is that the population of the province is so small that we have a need for cheap labour, thus enabling industries to be developed; the effect of that will be to afford a larger field for white men and their families, of such a class as will be most desirable. That we wish. Down in Quebec, where you pay $1 and $1.25 a day for work on the railway, where you find large gangs of white labourers earning a very small wage, do you find among them this better class who will best build up this province? I think not. In other words, where you find cheap white labour fluid in large masses, as in railway gangs, we generally find the men to be low class Europeans and not likely to settle down and build up the country. In other words, the settlement of this country must always be by prosperous people who get their $3 and $4 a day, and can keep wives and families. I mean to say the existence of cheap labour here, by opening up the resources of the country, very largely opens up situations for people of the sort we want to get here.

The charge which appeared most attractive to the opponents of the Japanese, next to that of their competition, lowering the rate of wages, was that it is inadvisable to permit any considerable part of our working population to consist of an alien race, who cannot assimilate with our people, partake of our political and national life, or constitute a class of settlers which we would desire to become the parents of future generations of our people. If there was anything in the nature of a general substitution of Japanese for our own people I think there would be a great deal in this argument, but it is really an academic question. It is entirely contrary to international usage for civilised nations to exclude foreigners, who come to their shores in order to contribute their labour, or skill, or enterprise to the country of their adoption, —I may perhaps except the United States and some of the British colonies with reference to Chinese immigration. While there can be little doubt that a country which receives foreigners is benefitted thereby, it is questionable whether it would, in all instances, be an advantage to that country for the strangers to assimilate, either by intermarriage or by taking a share in the control of its affairs, by voting or otherwise. My own opinion is that an assimilation, in the sense intended by the objectors, would be a disadvantage, and that the fact that the strangers for the most part elect to go home after a certain period, is an advantage to both nations.

Now, who are the men responsible for the oriental agitation? An anti-oriental agitation has been continuously kept up in this province for the last 15 or 20 years, originally directed against the Chinese; but the Japanese, who have come to our shores in considerable numbers during recent years have been included as objects of attack, and it may be said, so far as the agitators are concerned, without any discrimination between the two peoples. It has become well understood by politicians and representative men generally, in this province, that an attitude of hostility to oriental immigration of all kinds was essential to popularity. During all this period there was a large body of most influential business men in the province who gave practical recognition to the advantages conferred upon industrial and commercial interests by the presence in the country of an element which supplied forms of labour necessary to the development of some of our most important resources. This labour was not only cheaper, but in its

class, better and more reliable than that offered by our own people. As will be readily understood the anti-oriental point of view obtained copious and often violent expression on all hands: in the newspapers, on the hustings, and through the action of the legislature. It is more than doubtful whether these expressions did not outrun sincerity, as there is no cheaper method in this province of acquiring political capital than by abusing a non-voting class who are obnoxious to the labouring classes of our own people, who have the control of political power. The business men of the Province who directly or indirectly gain advantage from, or use, oriental labour, and also the large class of men who recognize its value to us as a community, have always kept silent, and the facts and arguments which would support their point of view have not been presented to the public, and these facts and arguments have been elicited by this Commission. The opportunity of discriminating the position of the Japanese from that of the Chinese in this discussion has been an unmixed advantage to the former. I do not mean that the distinction has not always been present and appreciated by the class to which such distinctions appeal. The labour unions broadly speaking embrace the whole body of artizans and skilled workmen, and they put forward that their position is injured and going to be destroyed by this cheap labour. That seems to me to be one of the most extraordinary views of the whole affair. The evidence is before you with regard to the skilled organizations. I have much sympathy with the organizations and their purpose. The artizan organization of Victoria includes all the trades. No oriental is permitted to be a member. In dealing with employers of labour they make it a 'sine qua non' that no oriental should be employed. The result is they have the field entirely to themselves; and we also find that they are better paid than any other artizans in the Dominion of Canada. The reason of that is not far to seek. A man who undertakes labour at the price of the oriental is ostracised, even although the employer is unable to pay more; they fix the wages at as high a point as the thing will stand; but to suggest that that is a disadvantageous situation to the artizans is absurd. The employment of the oriental in British Columbia is a distinct advantage to these men. We all know that this is largely a sentimental matter. We all know they have their leading lights, who formulate their opinions; they have come to the conclusion that this province is not in a desirable condition, and that that is owing to the presence of the oriental. I say the province is in good condition. There is no single place labour is more independent than here. The great difficulty in Rossland arises from this,—the men, led by these union organizers, get extravagant ideas of their rights, and advance and insist on those; if their demands are not at once acceded to, they are so independent that just at the critical moment they turn round and strike, and throw the whole thing out of gear. The point I make is that they could not do that if the conditions were not such that they know they are quite safe. The labour conditions are such in the province that there is lots of room for them, there is no scarcity of employment.

While the view of the white workman is perfectly sincere, it is entirely mistaken. The relatively cheap and efficient Japanese labour available improves the position of the white workman. The employment of the Japanese does not decrease but increases the field for the employment of white workmen. The ability to obtain cheap labour for the lower but necessary classes of work greatly assists the development of our resources and renders possible enterprises which could not otherwise be undertaken, and such industries employ not only Japanese and Chinese at a low rate of wages but also employ large numbers of whites at a higher rate of wages, and the whites otherwise would not get that employment. The employment of Japanese does not decrease but increases the rate of wages obtainable by the white workmen. Owing to the competition to which our industries are subjected, both at home and abroad, but chiefly to that of the United States manufacturers and producers in the foreign markets to which we send out staple products, the cost of production in our industries is not a matter subject to our own dictation or control, and only a certain fixed proportion of that cost can be devoted to wages. It is obvious that the smaller the sum paid to the lower or oriental classes of employees the greater is the sum which any given industry can afford to pay to its higher, or white employees, and the nature of the pressure on the part of the employee under modern conditions is such that, broadly speaking, the sum paid in wages is either the

full amount or very close to the limit which the particular industry can afford. So that if it were not for the presence of the orientals in this province our own people would occupy all the positions in a smaller and less developed number of industrial enterprises, and compete with each other for the better places in them, while, as it is now, they lose a number of the lower class of places, and retain and greatly increase the number of the better class of positions open to them, and the country as a whole derives great advantage from the increased area of development. It is clearly indicated, as a matter of fact, that the British Columbia white workman is not only the best paid workman in Canada, but he is better paid than his brother immediately to the south of us in the United States.

The principal objectors to oriental immigration are the organized trades and artizan unions in this province, and while they are quite sincere in their very strong resentment against the oriental, I am satisfied that, even if it is not correct, which I think it is, that the presence of the oriental is advantageous to the white common labourer, there is no doubt that the presence here of the oriental is a distinct advantage to the men who work at skilled trades, and it must be remembered that the members of labour organizations belong exclusively to skilled trades of one kind or another, for it has always been found, in practice, impossible to organize common labour, and the voice of the common labourer is not heard nor are his views given effect to, to the same extent as is the case with regard to the workman in skilled trades.

The trades unions have two principal objects: To keep up the rate of wages; to keep, each after its kind, its own field of labour from encroachment by outsiders. With regard to the rate of wages, as I have already pointed out, the evidence indicated that the skilled workman received more because of the cheapness of the oriental common labourer. With regard to the exclusive occupation of the field open to skilled workmen, one of the principal difficulties with which members of that class have to contend in new countries, is the pressure from below of men of their own race who have come to the country without a trade, but having a certain amount of skill in some particular direction, offer themselves as artizans at a lower than the current rate of wages, and, as public opinion and the numerical weight of the white labouring men thus desiring to encroach upon the richer field prevents any attempt on the part of the unions to suppress those intruders of their own race, it is obvious that the substitution of a large body of white common labourers for the orientals now employed would be less advantageous to the members of the trades unions than the conditions which now exist, for the unions have been up to the present quite strong enough to protect their own field from incursions by the orientals, and they are thus enabled, and it is their rule, to insist both upon a minimum rate of wages and that orientals shall not receive employment along with themselves at the work of their different trades; so that the trades unions are really masters of the situation to a much greater extent in British Columbia than in any other part of Canada.

The point was made with some success against the Chinese that their personal habits, more especially in regard to over-crowding and unsanitary practices, constituted a menace to the health of the community, but the evidence did not sustain this charge as against the Japanese. There were a few instances of over-crowding in boarding houses following the arrival at the same time of large numbers of Japanese from trans-pacific steamships on certain occasions, but the difficulty was in each case of a most temporary nature and there is not, in any city in British Columbia, any crowding of Japanese into an exclusive quarter of their own as is the case with the Chinese. The well known fact that the Japanese are a particularly cleanly people in their personal habits, and perhaps more fond of bathing and washing than are our own people was brought out.

It is asserted it is a very wrongful thing for a man to come from abroad and enter into the tailoring business and to turn out clothes so good in style and fit that they enter into competition with older establishments in the country. There are very few Japanese tailoring establishments in the country—two or three in Victoria, and the same number in Vancouver; but the principle of the thing is—it is wholly without relation or precedent—that the country should say that people who are artists, who come

to our shores and enter into competition with our native born artists, buying their cloth from our wholesale houses, should be prohibited. It is not a wage question. They are entering into competition in something they can manufacture. We have all heard there is not such a great difference in the cost. Perhaps they are satisfied with a little less profit on their product. The real reason why they can do that is, they are not controlled by the labour unions. All clothes are enormously expensive in Victoria; you have to pay from $35 to $38 for an ordinary suit of clothes; and a great many people, it is said, who ought to know better go to Japanese tailors. The next thing that is subject of complaint is that the Japanese go into ladies' tailoring. Now, that is purely artistic. The humble and middle class of people do not indulge in ladies' tailoring; it is your swell who wants to cut a little figure who goes in for that. Do you know why some lady is doing that? Is she doing it in order to save a dollar, or anything of the kind? Not at all. She goes to the Japanese because he is an artist. There is a great deal of the spirit of bigotry about. It is put forward by a great lot of people that the Japanese are coming in here and running away with the trade. I do not think there is a word of truth in it. We all know that in England, when the Huguenots were turned out of France, and they sought refuge in Britain, it was felt to be a great advantage. I do not think myself there is anything serious in the complaint about the tailoring.

Thanking you very much for the careful attention you have given to the evidence throughout, and to the views presented on behalf of the Japanese, I can only say in conclusion it seems to me utterly impossible, that it would be impossible for any commission to say that the presence of the Japanese is detrimental to the country, or that they are a menace to us in any way. The Japanese are a people who live like ourselves; they do not hurt the country.

And now, one thing before closing: and that is, that it is clear the Japanese government is perfectly alive to every consideration that may be urged in this matter; and, being one of the great nations now, their country being represented at the courts of the leading nations of the world, they are ready to entertain any views that may be suggested with regard to the traffic between their country and ours, either with regard to immigration or anything else. It is impossible to suppose that on any such pretexts as are put forward, the parliament of Canada would pass an act against the Japanese—in other words, to affirm that that would be the proper way of dealing with any difficulties there may be. It is impossible to suppose that that is the proper way of dealing with it. I leave the matter in your hands, quite sensible that you will take everything into consideration in reporting your views to the government.

## REPORT OF THE UNITED STATES COMMISSIONER APPOINTED TO INQUIRE INTO JAPANESE IMMIGRATION.

*(Exhibits are published only in U. S. Report.)*

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., April 24, 1899.

The Commissioner General of Immigration,
Washington, D. C.

I have the honour to report that in pursuance with instructions by letter No. 17288, hereto attached, directing me to proceed to Japan via California for the purpose of investigating the subject of Japanese immigration into the United States, that I sailed on the steamer *Coptic* on November 29, 1898, and landed in Yokohama on December 18. I was employed in Japan in pursuance of the duties assigned me for ninety-seven days. During that time I visited the provinces of Sagami, Mushi, Owari, Yamashiro, Setsu, Kii, Bizen, Aki, and Suwo. Among the cities visited and where I pursued my investigations were Yokohama, Tokyo, Nagyoa, Kyoto, Osaki, Wakayama, Kobe, Okayama, Hiroshima, and Yamaguchi. I did not visit Nagasaki for the reason that very few emigrants embark at that port. After completing my inquiries,

I sailed from Yokohama on March 25, 1899, on the steamer *Rio de Janeiro*, and landed at this port on April 13.

The provinces visited, with the addition of the province of Kyushu, covers the section of Japan in which the greatest activity in regard to emigration prevails. However, emigrants come from every province in the Empire.

In connection with this report, I submit 34 exhibits as a part thereof, which, with the facts falling under my personal observation and imparted to me by reliable persons, form the basis of fact and argument herein and conclusions deducted therefrom.

The government of Japan, until comparatively recent times, was feudal and paternal in its character, and it naturally followed that after the Japanese renaissance, which period may be fixed as beginning with the reign of the present Emperor, the new institutions of the country took on many features of the old, and among these relics of mediæval times is the paternal principle that the subject cannot sever his allegiance from his sovereign. It naturally followed after the opening of Japan to foreign commerce, which begat an idea among its people for foreign travel, that the government provided regulations for the care and control of emigration abroad, which are characterized by many features of the feudal idea of allegiance or paternal duty on the part of the government in its relation to the subject, and which are now being used by designing men for the promotion of money-making enterprises. This is due to the ignorance of the mass of coolie farmers and the complicated system of granting passports.

Under the Japanese law every subject is registered in his native prefecture, which he may not leave without permission of the authorities and from which he, or she, must obtain their passports, when they desire to emigrate. (*See* the exhibit citing the regulations of several provinces in detail.)

Inasmuch as the government claims the perpetual allegiance of its subject, it grants a passport, limited to three years, and I was informed that a large part of the emigrants who thus go abroad return to their native land sooner or later, and consequently few Japanese, and indeed I may say none, come to the United States with a view to remaining or making homes, the theory of their emigration system being for the promotion of emigration as an educational process and money-making investment for a temporary period, the profits of which accrue jointly to the promoter and to the emigrant, the Japanese empire being the recipient of what may be described as the unearned increment through its people that thus go abroad, through their contact with more enlightened people, and by reason of the accumulated capital, which they return to their native land. It is through the tenacious allegiance which the subjects of Japan yield to their sovereign that the promotion of emigration becomes a reasonably safe business.

It is a feature of the construction of the Japanese law regulating emigration (*See* Regulations, Exhibit No. 1) that in providing the same the government has acted upon the theory that the character of the Japanese abroad will be taken as an index of the character of the nation at home. Hence these regulations provide for the careful inquiry into the character of those going abroad and also requires that provision shall be made for the return of the emigrant, in the event that he becomes sick, or a public charge in a foreign country, before passports are granted. These features of the Japanese law, regulating emigration and the granting of passports, are very well in themselves provided they were honestly enforced, and provided the Japanese people stood on an equal footing with the people of the United States in a moral, economical and educational sense, especially as to the value of their labour, making the act of emigration, in the nature of things, purely voluntary, they would be highly commendable. But there is an abundance of evidence going to show that the average Japanese village official and policeman, who practically pass on the qualifications of emigrants, is but little superior, if any, in point of morals to the average coolie farmer. Consequently, the performance of their duties is at most perfunctory, while the possibility of gain through the emigration companies, of which I shall hereafter treat, renders their investigations and reports of little value.

Upon this point, I was informed by various persons, it is desirable for the emigrant to go under the auspices of the emigration companies, because these companies smooth the way with the officials and, as some say, are influential. The emigration companies seem to be attached to the system, to which I have above alluded, by the laws making

provision for their organization. They are designated in Japanese 'Imin Toriatsukinin' and are authorized to make provision for the assisting of the emigrants abroad, provide security for the emigrants' care abroad required by the law and return in case of sickness or indigence, and in the performances of these services they engage in furnishing contract labour to such countries as permit it and otherwise contract with the emigrant for the services to be performed by them of a personal character. For such services they receive from the emigrant certain fees, ranging from 10 to 20 yen per capita.

These companies were first organized as ordinary partnerships, but later were brought under the control of the government, and are now operating under the law described, enacted in the twenty-ninth year of Meiji, 1896. (*See* Exhibit No. 1). In general, these companies, of which there are 12 in all (one new one having been organized while I was in Japan, to wit, the Okayama Emigration Company), are required by the government to deposit certain moneys as a guaranty that the business tranacted shall be strictly in accordance with the provisions of the Imperial Ordinance, the agents located abroad being subject to the approval of the government. They have an aggregate capital stock of 558,999 yen, distributed as follows:

| Company. | Place of Business. | Capital Stock. |
|---|---|---|
| | | Yen. |
| Kobe Toko Co | Kobe | 30,300 |
| Nippon Kissa Emigration Co | Tokyo | 100,000 |
| Kaigwai Toko Co | Hiroshima | 60,000 |
| Shin Morioka Co | Tokyo | 8,000 |
| Nippon Emigration Co | Kobe | 50,000 |
| Kyushu Emigration Co | Kumamota | 50,000 |
| Tokyo Emigration Co | Yokohama | 20,000 |
| " " | Tokyo | 100,000 |
| Kosei Emigration Co | Wakayama | 50,000 |
| Kumamota Emigration Co | Kumamota | 40,000 |
| Imperial Colonial | Okayama | 30,000 |
| Okayama (new company; capital stock unknown) | " | |

Six of these companies have agents in the United States and Canada as follows:—

| Company. | Agent. | Residence. |
|---|---|---|
| Kobe Toko Co | Takijiro | San Jose, Cal. |
| Nippon Emigration Co | Tanichi Takaya | San Francisco, Cal. |
| Kaigwai Toko Co | Kisuke Hamano | " |
| Shin Morioka | Taniche Takaya | " |
| Kosei Emigration Co | Tekiche Nishihata | " |
| Tobe Toko Co | Kinsuke Takahashi | Vancouver, British Columbia (Columbia Avenue.) |
| Kaigwai Toko Co | " | " " " |
| Kosei Emigration Co | " | " " " |
| Kyusku Emigration Co | Kwanichi Kayashi | Vancouver, B.C. |
| Nippon Emigration Co | Massataro Mito | At or in the neighbourhood of Victoria, B.C. |
| Horishima Emigration Co | Minami Jinnosuke | San Francisco, Cal., 529½ Geary street. |
| Kosei Emigration Co | Y. Nishibata | " " 260½ Brannan street. |

These companies have offices at all important emigration centers, but at the present time Hiroshima seems to be the chief center of operations. I have found nine branch

s in that city. (*See* Exhibit No. 1.) The character of the organization maintained hese emigration companies for business and political purposes may be inferred from fact that in Tokyo they have an association of emigration companies located at ashiro cho (street or line) called Kyobashi, which is in the nature of an emigration d of trade. The offices of these companies are well equipped for business purposes have the appearance of being well supplied with employees and clerks. The agers and stockholders are among the leading business men and politicians of Japan, are a formidable power when co-operating together. Among the capitalists and ticians thus interested is Mr. Suguwara, who is a member of the lower House of Parent and editor of the *Jimim*, the leading vernacular newspaper of Japan, published Tokyo. Mr. Suguwara spent several years in Idaho, where he had extensive connec- with railway contractors, and presumably laid the foundation of his fortune. I met ers connected with these companies, whose appearance showed them to be men of tion, and I was informed at Hiroshima that the gentlemen I met there were among leading capitalists of that city. (*See* Exhibit No. 20.)

I find that the emigration companies all advertise more or less in the newspapers contract labourers, designating them to go to Hawaii, Peru and Mexico, and that in eneral way they advertise through circulars, pamphlets, and by means of travelling citors for emigrants going to the United States. (*See* Exhibits Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.

In this connection, I desire to call your attention to the circulars and emigrants' nphlets of the Koesi Emigration Company and the Kobe Toko Emigration Company. hibits Nos. 2 and 33.) I heard of advertisements of a similar nature by other comies, but I found it impossible to obtain copies of them. The documentary evidence ein presented, as a whole, shows that the business is vigorously and aggressively pro- ut through personal solicitation of agents, whose earnings depend on their zeal and cess. This is particularly brought out by the fact, which clearly appears, that the igration companies are all provided with blanks for obtaining passports, which they turally would not keep on hand unless it was profitable to do so.

In fact, the evidence herewith presented, and all circumstances connected therewith, d which fell under my observation, tend to show and, in my opinion, establish beyond easonable doubt that the capitalists interested in these companies have taken advange of the law for the protection of emigrants to build thereon a system which has no rallel. The system presents an interesting study in the linking together of moneyking enterprises, which must obtain their profit through a common source. Agents the steamship companies and emigration companies do not occupy offices together. ey are, nevertheless, very closely connected through the brokers and hotel keepers, d it is hard to draw a line of separation of interests. Many of the hotel keepers are igration brokers, and nearly all brokers are intimately connected with the emigration mpanies; while it is safe to assert that if the steamship companies were to establish d maintain a fixed rate for steerage passage, it would cut the profits of the brokers, tel-keepers and emigration companies 50 per cent and it seems to me conclusive that it were not for the existence of the emigration companies and these agencies, for the llection of emigrants to go abroad, the profits of the steamship companies would be aterially reduced. By their present methods the steamship companies, whether intenonally or otherwise, clearly offer inducements for the emigration companies to solicit e emigrants; both being large capitalized enterprises, that have a mutual interest, hich is inseparable, as long as they are allowed to exist side by ride, the one to obtain es from emigrants and the other to receive steerage passage. (*See* Exhibits Nos. 7, 8, 3, 28).

The emigration company is exploited as a beneficiary institution and a similar arument is made in their favour by high officials of the Japanese Government (*See* Exibit No. 9), but if any number worth mentioning has been returned to Japan by the migration companies, I have been unable to discover the fact. (*See* Exhibit No. 1 nd the statements of the officers of the emigration companies and Kensho.) However, f the term 'beneficiary' is made to apply to the filling of the pockets of the stockholders f the emigration companies and others interested in the movements of emigrants, and o the fact that the system affords a splendid means of getting rid of a congested popu-

lation, then in that sense it is eminently beneficiary, because it is a matter of general repute that they are the most profitable enterprises in Japan. Great stress was laid by Japanese officials, with whom I conversed, upon the fact that the Japanese Government requires every emigrant to provide sureties to provide for his return to the country in case of need, before granting a passport. This fact is pointed out by a Mr. Shimamura. (*See* page 14, Exhibit No. 9.)

The system may be a benefit to Japan, but I deny that it is an advantage to other countries. The aged and decrepit cannot emigrate, and the percentage of those who do and become paupers amounts to nothing. This is shown by practical experience, while on the other hand their laws are so strict that they defeat their own purposes. It is a well known fact in Japan, and clearly appears in nearly all the exhibits hereto attached, that it was the difficulty experienced by the coolie class in obtaining sureties and obtaining passports that suggested and built up the emigration companies. (*See* Exhibits 7, 10.) There are really no fixed rates of Japanese steerage, so that the steamship companies if not voluntary parties to the system described are made involuntary contributors to the emigration companies and emigration brokers. (Copies of the so-called free contract, i ed by the emigration companies for emigrants going to the United States and Canada, furnished me by the foreign office in Tokyo, are attached as Exhibit No. 1.) It will be noticed in the statement of Kencho or prefecture officers and emigration company officers that they all declare that these free contracts are not now used in connection with emigrants going to the United States.

It strikes me as rather peculiar, however, if this is true that the Japanese minister of foreign affairs in transmitting these blank contracts and emigration papers to his excellency the United States minister at Tokio did not mention that fact. Moreover, by referring to Exhibits Nos. 11 and 12 it appears that free contracts were provided at one or more prefectures as late as January 28, 1898. (*See* particularly the transcript in the case of Sakamoto Kyuta and wife and Doihata Yoichi, Exhibit No. 12.) It is possibly true that some companies, finding that emigrants found with these contracts on their persons or in their baggage at American ports had more or less trouble, discontinued the using written contracts and substituted a mere memoranda with the emigrant, and some means by which he might make himself known to the agent in this country, the emigration company obtaining passports and otherwise looking after the emigrant, it being explained to the latter that the agent and other friends in the United States would see that provision was made for employment. The evidence of the soundness of this view is found throughout the evidence submitted, and I call your attention particularly to the fact that all of the agents of the emigration companies whom I interviewed, with possibly one exception, on being asked 'To what countries does your company send emigrants?' invariably included the United States in their answer.

Later on, when they had discovered the trend of my inquiries, they tried to hedge and qualify their former statement. I direct your attention to the testimony on this of Mr. Nacayama (Exhibit No 40); to the advertisement of the Koesei Emigration Company (Exhibit No. 33), and to the fact that all companies keep blanks suitable for such purpose, and to Exhibits Nos. 5, 6, 15, 16, 17, 21. Exhibits Nos. 18 and 19 are well worthy of consideration in this connection, the latter being the statement of a man long in the business and who should be able to tell how it is done. Mr. U. in his statement says that a verbal agreement is made with the labourers in Japan. If only ten or so are wanted, the agent has a letter of credit or the men are supplied with funds to land, which is afterwards returned to the agent. Should a much larger number of labourers be required, then they send an appointed man connected with the agency to accompany them, he being a passenger to all intents and purposes. After their arrival (which I understand to mean in the United States) they, the labourers, sign a contract, which is in accordance with the verbal agreement made previous to their departure from Japan. This plan is similar to that detailed by Mr. Omi at the United States legation, who informed me that he obtained his information from an officer of an emigration company.

Then again, a pertinent suggestion, if these companies are not engaged in sending emigrants to the United States, why do they have agents here? Upon this point see

terview with the managers and stockholders of the Hiroshima Emigration Com- (Exhibit No. 20.)

ouching the question as to what extent the emigration companies supply emigrants oney and means for coming to this country, I have no other evidence than that d to above: but taking the testimony all together, it seems to me that the stances go to show that the emigration companies engage in any feature of the ss which may seem profitable. I have elsewhere in this report called attention to nk forms of contracts issued for sending free emigrants to the United States and a. Exhibits Nos. 22 and 26 afford a thorough understanding of the intricate which is in force by the various prefectures in granting passports. The mass of farmers of Japan are very ignorant, and in the very nature of things require nce in obtaining their passports under such a system.

ouching the emigration to the United States through Canada, I am of the opinion, h personal observation, that 90 per cent of the emigrants to Canada find their the United States within two weeks after landing at Victoria or Vancouver, and cent of those landing in British Columbia are assisted by emigration companies aintain agents in British Columbia and in California.

ne records included in exhibit No. 27 were furnished me by the governors of the ces of Wakayama and Hiroshima respectively, and are complete transcripts of on file, upon which passports were granted to nine Japanese—T. Yiyabe, T. noto, M. Nakate, H. Nakate, T. Sumidi, Y. Omori, B. Yoshida, T. Narukawa, Shugite, who emigrated to Victoria, and thence via coast line steamers to San sco (*See* their affidavits taken from the port of San Francisco, at my request, and ded to me in Japan). These men went under what is known as the free contract ne Kosei, Kyushiu, and Kobe emigration companies respectively. By referring to No. 1, and the list of agents of the emigration companies in Victoria and San sco, it will be seen that a line of communication is thus established, by which this f labour is introduced into the United States.

his view is further confirmed by a transcript of the testimony in the matter of of the case of ten Japanese steerage passengers from Victoria by the steamer *Walla*, about the 10th day of April, 1899. See also the report by Inspector ey (Exhibit No. 31), locating certain companies agents in San Francisco and at sé. I talked with many men of long experience in Japan, and found but one sal opinion, that not 10 per cent of the emigrants leaving that country could or go unless they had assistance, or were helped or assisted by some person or in- . Aside from the facts herein presented, the coolie class could find no proper s, such as are required by the government, unless some arrangement was provided onsible parties for looking after this class of emigrants after they land in the States.

ne magnitude of the capital invested, requiring the utmost energy and most aggres- anagement to make it profitable, which, considered with the zeal, begotten of ition, between the emigration companies and the influence of wealth and political tion, points to but one conclusion; consequently I am forced to the conclusion e Japanese system of granting passports for a limited period requiring surety for the e of the emigrant aboard, and in some cases for the care of his family while absent, s return when sick or disabled, joined with the avarice of organized capital and ce of emigration companies, is the direct inducing cause of 90 per cent of the tion from Japan to the United States.

xhibit No. 29, which is a scheme devised by the managers of the emigration com- to evade what they expected to be the law, as applied to the Hawaiian Islands, ates the skill and willingness of those interested in emigration in Japan to boldly he law when it conflicts with their interests and serves as a key to the system I erein described; this justifies conclusions drawn therefrom. I find further, owing conditions herein described, that the objects and purposes of the laws of the States regulating immigration are largely defeated, so far as relates to immigra- om Japan. It may readily be perceived that such an organized system, having lers among ticket brokers and hotel keepers, joined by ties of interest, and from

employment bureaus in Japan and on the Pacific coast, and by reason of its capital and power able to coerce the steamship companies into dividing their profits, with a perfect system of coaching immigrants as to the requirements of the immigration laws of the United States, that the immigration officers here are practically powerless to hold back the influx of pauper and contract labour from Japan, which is increasing year by year.

In conclusion, I beg to acknowledge my obligation to his excellency Alfred E. Buck and Messrs. Miller and Herod, of the United States legation; to Mr. G. Hayashi, assistant secretary of the Japanese foreign office; to Consul-General Gowey and Messrs. McLean and McCance, of the American consulate at Yokohama; to Consul Lyon, of the United States consulate at Kobe, and to Commissioner H. H. North and Inspector A. H. Geffeney, of San Francisco, for their zealous and unselfish co-operation, which has contributed largely to whatever success has attended this investigation.

W. M. RICE,
Commissioner of Immigration.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
UNITED STATES IMMIGRATION SERVICE,
VANCOUVER, B. C., May 2, 1899.

The COMMISSIONER-GENERAL OF IMMIGRATION,
Washington, D. C.

Supplemented to and in continuation of my report of the 24th ultimo, relating to the immigration of Japanese to the United States, I have the honour to report as follows on the morals of the coolie class, from which 99 per cent of the immigrants of the United States are drawn; the condition of labour in Japan; the movement of population; and other features bearing upon the character of the Japanese people, their qualities as immigrants, and the encouragement of immigration from Japan to the United States and other countries by capitalists and officials.

It is thirty-two years since Mitsuhito, the one hundred and twenty-third Mikado of Japan began his reign. The Japanese designate this period as Meiji, or the beginning of enlightened government, and no one will question the fact that Japan has made immense strides along the material side of modern civilization during these years. It may be admitted, but it may also be doubted, that in the matter of government great improvement has been made; but in attaining the essential elements of individual character, which makes for all that is best in western civilization, the Japanese have made but little progress. The first idea that occurs to a thoughtful observer in the Flowery Kingdom, after becoming more or less familiar with conditions there, is that the Japanese have hypnotized the balance of the world, or else a certain class of writers have terribly buncoed the reading public on this point. Mr. William E. Griffis, a writer of ability and a gentleman who has had great opportunities for observation, says, in a recent article contributed to the *Outlook*:

'It is very certain that, whether intending it or not, the average newspaper correspondent and hasty tourist wishing to please both the Japanese themselves (who love 'sugar and superlatives') and the occidental admirers of 'Japanism,' give what, when analyzed, are caricatures of truth. They ignore both the men and the forces that have made the new Japan. Some of these literary 'impressionists' seem to be so Japanese-mad in their rhapsodies as to suggest Titania before Bottom. In the name of all our inheritance, let us not cast away perspective or take a Japanese poster as the gauge and measure of reality.'

The Japanese were never wealthy as a people. There are no rich men in Japan, who have acquired their wealth from Japan, unless it was through the conversion of landed estates or by speculating upon the labour of other men. The country produces no inventors, no original ideas, except along the line of its peculiar art in curios, silk, embroideries and pottery, and practically has no literature.

Only the Samuri, or soldier class, or nobility have enjoyed the comforts or culture of wealth until recent years, and until this time 50 per cent of the population live in the most squalid poverty, and the remainder of the common people, to put it mildly, are poor. It is not surprising that such is the case. It is historical that the population of Japan had outgrown the capacity of the soil to furnish food thirty years ago, and they have been enabled to live only by the practice of the strictest economy with food products. Infanticide was common; no deformed was allowed to live, the girl babies were not popular. Famines were frequent and loathsome and immoral diseases were everywhere prevalent, which have left their imprint upon the people to the present day. The people were habitual gamblers. In most of the municipalities, forming a city by itself, was a large colony of women for immoral purposes—a system recognized by usage and law and which prevails to this day. In fact the decencies of life were unknown except among a very few. It is not possible that a generation and a half could regenerate such a people. There is, it is true, a brighter side to new Japan, a regenerated section of the population who have taken on European ideas, who are struggling for better things, but the future is still veiled in uncertainty.

It is with Japan of to-day, however, that I have to deal, and with that class of people who emigrate. First, there are a few merchants and business men; second, a few students and young men, the sons of Japanese of the better professional and commercial class; third, the great mass of immigrants, say 95 per cent of the whole, who are coolie labourers and small farmers who class as coolies.

The first proposition I desire to advance, and the conclusions reached from observations and information otherwise obtained, is that Japan is now over-populated and her soil worn out; that her population is increasing by leaps and bounds. I need not enter upon a description of Japan, its barren aspect, its barren, treeless range of mountains which are features with which all are familiar. It is only the valleys and hillsides and flat lands adjacent to the sea that are tillable. The soil upon these flats and hillsides is light and utterly lacking in strength. In contains but little vegetable mould and receives no nourishment whatever from nature except through copious rains and washing from the wornout hillsides. Weeds and grass are unknown. The crops are dependent entirely upon artificial fertilizers, which are applied to the growing plant generally in a liquid form. Everything that can be made use of for fertilizing being carefully saved up by the people. The husbandman must give to the soil as much as he expects in return.

The best sources of information claim that from 10 to 15 per cent of the land of the empire, exclusive of Formosa, is tillable, and that probably not more than 2 per cent of undesirable lands remain to be put under plough. The area of the entire empire —and I will say here I do not in any case include Formosa—is 24,799 square ri, of which Professor Rein, an authority upon Japanese industry and agriculture, says 'but 12 per cent is tillable and that is under cultivation.' He, however, probably did not take into consideration a part of the lands on the island of Yezzo, and of course did not take into consideration Formosa. A native writer says that among the evils coming with the new era of things is the fact that land is being changed from the ownership of small proprietors to the hands of richer men.

The following statistics, compiled by the home department, give the total population at the end of 1897 as follows:—

21,823,651 males and 21,405,213 females. Classified according to family status, there are 4,423 peers, 2,089,134 shizohu, and 41,135,206 o dinary citizens. The above figures show, when compared with those of the previous year (1896), an increase of 520,599 in population.

Births and deaths during 1897 were: Births, 1,335,125—males, 684,941, and females, 650,184; deaths, 876,837—males, 452,383, and females, 424,454. The number of marriages was 365,207, and divorce cases 124,075.

The average percentage of annual increase, taken during ten years, is 1·04. The population to the square mile is 293, the density being, of course, immeasurably greater in the inhabited sections, where, outside of the cities, the people live in small villages. The great mass of the people live by farming, which includes silk raising and fishing, at which occupations they earn from 100 to 150 yens per annum, which suffices to support

a family of about four, a man, a wife, and two or three children. In larger families the mother and older children work. The agricultural implements used are of the most primitive character, and the allotment of land to the family or individual is in most cases less than an acre. There are no division fences, each little tract being divided from its neighbour by a little ridge of dirt, from 1½ to 3 feet wide.

The value placed upon tillable land is suggested by the fact that the government is now trying to re-form the boundaries so as to reduce the width of these division lines and thus restore to cultivation, it is claimed, about 175,000 acres of land throughout the entire empire. There has been an effort to introduce, which, of course, is well known, various foreign manufactures. The success of these enterprises has not yet proved conspicuous, but the effort, with the fact that the agricultural land everywhere, except on the islands of Yezzo and Formosa, is all occupied, has tended to build up the cities toward which the influx of population is continuous. Factory employees earn from 15 to 20 sen per day. Investigations made by a representative of the *Jiji* (a leading vernacular paper in Tokio) show that the wages of operatives rose on an average of 30 per cent between 1895 and 1897, the comparative table being as follows:—

| Occupation. | August, 1897. | August, 1895. | Increase. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Sen. | Sen. | Sen. |
| Carpenter | 0 69 | 0 46 | 0 20 |
| Plasterer | 0 80 | 0 60 | 0 20 |
| Painter | 0 80 | 0 60 | 0 20 |
| Mason | 0 80 | 0 50 | 0 30 |
| Sawyer | 0 70 | 0 60 | 0 10 |
| Roofer (tile) | 0 70 | 0 50 | 0 20 |
| " (brick) | 0 55 | 0 40 | 0 15 |
| Floor mat maker | 0 80 | 0 60 | 0 20 |
| Jataguya (maker of doors, &c) | 0 60 | 0 50 | 0 10 |
| Papering | 0 75 | 0 50 | 0 25 |
| Cabinetmaker | 0 70 | 0 50 | 0 20 |
| Cooper | 0 30 | 0 25 | 0 05 |
| Wooden clog maker | 0 30 | 0 25 | 0 05 |
| Shoemakers— | | | |
| First class | 1 20 | 0 90 | 0 30 |
| Second class | 0 80 | 0 60 | 0 20 |
| Third class | 0 50 | 0 40 | 0 10 |
| Carriagemakers— | | | |
| First class | 0 60 | 0 50 | 0 10 |
| Second class | 0 50 | 0 43 | 0 07 |
| Third class | 0 40 | 0 33 | 0 07 |
| Tailor— | | | |
| Japanese style | 0 40 | 0 30 | 0 10 |
| Foreign style— | | | |
| First class | 1 50 | 1 20 | 0 30 |
| Second class | 1 00 | 0 80 | 0 20 |
| Third class | 0 80 | 0 60 | 0 20 |
| Ribbon marker | 1 30 | 1 00 | 0 30 |
| Fukuromonoya (maker of purses, tobacco pouches, &c.— | | | |
| First class | 1 00 | 0 80 | 0 20 |
| Second class | 0 70 | 0 50 | 0 20 |
| Dyer | 0 35 | 0 20 | 0 15 |
| Cotton whipper | 0 30 | 0 25 | 0 05 |
| Blacksmith | 0 60 | 0 45 | 0 15 |
| Filemaker | 1 00 | 0 80 | 0 20 |
| Tobacco cutter | 0 44 | 0 36 | 0 08 |
| Ship carpenter— | | | |
| First class | 0 80 | 0 65 | 0 15 |
| Second class | 0 70 | 0 60 | 0 10 |
| Third class | 0 60 | 0 55 | 0 05 |
| Gardener | 0 50 | 0 30 | 0 20 |
| Coolie | 0 40 | 0 30 | 0 10 |
| Bookbinder | 0 70 | 0 50 | 0 20 |
| Sculptor— | | | |
| First class | 5 00 | 3 00 | 2 00 |
| Second class | 1 50 | 1 00 | 0 50 |
| Third class | 1 00 | 0 70 | 0 30 |

Farm labourers earn from fifteen to thirty sen per day, depending upon locality. Another reputable authority says that, while wages have increased 44 per cent, living has increased 64 per cent. Upon this point I beg to call your attention to chapters 3 and 16 of the report on the commerce and industries of Japan, made under the direction of the National Association of Manufacturers of the United States by the Hon. Robert P. Porter. The labour which Japan sends abroad is pauper labour. My reasons for thus classing it are that the over-population of Japan has reduced the value of labour below a decent living point, measured by a civilized standard, and, further, that this competition is increasing in such force that it seems unreasonable to assume the probability of the value of labour approximating the cost of future products and living.

The agricultural interests of Japan are practically incapable of expansion, which forces all surplus labour into the employment of various manufactures and into fishing. Japan's market for manufactures is, and must for fifty years remain, very limited, if we except silk, pottery, curios, &c., and even the demand for the native products must find a limit. I was informed by Mr. ——— that Mr. ———, a leading member of parliament from the Province of Kyushu, told him that his province (Kyushu) was annually producing a thousand more labourers than they could find employment for at home. At the time this conversation occurred this Japanese member of parliament was on his way to one of the southern islands to see if arrangements could not be made to take labourers there. This member of parliament, in his conversation with Mr. ———, spoke of the situation as one which gave them great concern.

The question naturally occurs, how do they raise sufficient money to emigrate? As I intimated in my report of the 24th ultimo, the emigration companies in certain instances furnish them money, sending a Banto along with the emigrants to look after their interest. I found, by inquiring among the people, that it requires from five to ten years for a Japanese farmer to save 200 yen. Some undoubtedly do this, but the majority secure money by selling their holdings and by borrowing from the emigration companies—friends and relatives, upon whom they are more or less dependent, going their security. The laws are very strict in Japan concerning the collection of debts. There are no exemptions, and hence in view of the fact that every emigrant to the United States is able to send money home, this is a safe business. Besides, the pickings of the emigration companies enable them to get back a large part of the funds loaned the emigrant before he sails. I cannot, of course, prove this state of facts, but all the circumstances concur in supporting this view.

Concerning the physical conditions surrounding the factory operatives, the *Jiji*, which is the most influential and conservative paper in Japan, styles the spinning factories as 'hellish pits.' My observation leads me to credit this statement to the fullest extent. Child and girl labour is largely employed at rates running from four to ten sen per day. The best workers in Japan are considered to be those engaged in the building trades, blacksmithing, tailoring and printing. Apprentices in the most of these trades are required to give their employers many years of service, receiving as an acknowledgment of past favours only two to three yen per month as purse money. During the period of apprenticeship there is no opportunity of acquiring even a rudimentary education. It is not unreasonable to declare that the life of the Japanese labourer is largely, if not wholly, destitute of pleasure and comfort and full of hardships and misery. The Jinricksha men are a large and useful class, but their lot is far from enviable. The majority of them are married men and have from three to five children, but they are nevertheless reputed to be a very dissolute, immoral and wasteful body of men; their homes are very inferior, their houses being built in a row of 10 x 50 feet, partitioned off, giving each abode a space of 10 x 12 ft.

The finishing of these houses is very meagre. Farm houses are somewhat larger, but aside from their environments are but little better. The facilities for cooking are very limited. Rent for the houses of labouring men ranges from 40 sen to 1½ per month, according to the location and condition of the house. Large numbers of the women and children of the working classes work at home, pasting match boxes, paper boxes, &c., and earning perhaps from 5 to 10 sen per day. A man as a worker in Japan is socially a doomed being, whether he be a mechanic of an advanced trade or a

waste-paper picker. The conspicuous characteristics of all classes of labourers and the majority of farmers are ignorance, and, in numerous cases, vulgarity. Large quantities of saki and Japanese beer are consumed by these classes, but their effects are not perceptible to the casual observer. The reputation of the Japanese as a drunken man is that he is good natured and jolly, consequently there is but little brawling; but, if I were called upon to point out a conspicuous national evil, I should say it was cigarette smoking, which prevails everywhere among men and women, and even the children are allowed to smoke unrebuked. Those women who do not smoke cigarettes smoke a small pipe.

The first thing a Japanese does on getting into a railroad car is to light his cigarette, and the fumes of tobacco fill the train from one end to the other. This habit prevails among all classes of people. Of course, the wealthier smoke cigars. Morally, the conditions of the lives of the coolie, farm and labouring classes are very low, and it is an unfortunate fact that, naturally quick and imitative as well, the Japanese people are slow to take on new and reformed ideas of social morality and integrity with their new clothes and much-vaunted new enlightenment. Home life is, as a rule, devoid of the pleasures and associations of western civilization. The father is the great 'I am,' a selfish, petty tyrant, whose comfort requires that all shall bend to his will and pleasure; the mother, with rare exceptions, is a nonentity; all others in the family are inferiors. The conjugal relation is exceedingly loose, concubinage being practiced by those who can afford the luxury and is recognized by law. Marriage is the simplest form of civil contract.

Under the new code, which attempts to reform the old system, the married couple must appear, within three days after entering upon their new relation, before the mayor of the city or the head man of the village, and sign a document of marriage and place their seal thereon, which is then filed or registered. In this connection, I was informed by the officers of the various governors whom I visited, that before granting passports to women as married, these records, or other evidence of marriage, are carefully inquired into. It is a fact, however, believed by all the immigration officers with whom I have talked, that at least 75 per cent of the women who come to the United States are lewd, or at least of such a low quality of virtue that they are easily overcome by the conditions which they find in this country. Few immigrants bring their wives with them, and the excess of Japanese men over women in this country renders it difficult, if not impossible, for the majority of Japanese women who obtain a landing here to avoid becoming promiscuous in their relations with men. An officer of the occidental and oriental steamer *Doric* told me in conversation that he had witnessed immoral practices among Japanese emigrants aboard the steamer in plain view of all the steerage passengers. Even when the steamers are provided with separate compartments for women in the steerage they will not occupy them.

Divorces are very numerous. Until recently the husband merely returned his wife to her family when he became tired of her or otherwise displeased. The new code, however, abolishes that practice, and allows the wife to make a defence in court. I find the average number of marriages for six years to be 377,043 per year, and the average divorces during the same period to have been 113,935. The legitimate live births for 1896 were 84,879, about 7 per cent of the total live births. The number of stillborn children for 1896—not taken into consideration with the live births—was 127,213. Immature marriages are a serious evil which the government is trying to reform. In some of the provinces the usual age for marriage among women has been from 12 to 18 years, and for boys the age was but little over. It is claimed, however, that a favourable change is being brought about. Naturally, this has produced a dwarfed race. The Japanese are not a strong people, as a whole, their constant labour, exposure, their feet (many of them being in the water when employed upon the farm), having had a most injurious effect, although apparently they enjoy good health. They appear to have a tendency to disease of the lungs. This was particularly observed among Jinricksha men.

The people are cleanly, and their towns and streets are remarkably so, owing probably to the fact that all the garbage is carefully saved for fertilizing purposes.

There are large numbers of lepers about the temples and on the roads leading thereto. No provision is made for their care, and the official statistics as to numbers—15,525—are unquestionably greatly underestimated.

One of the most serious blemishes on the national character is lack of business integrity and disregard for the truth, which, it is claimed by Europeans, prevails among all classes. Without a single exception, every European with whom I conversed (which was many) confirmed this view. An eminent professor in the University of Tokio, whose name I may not mention, referring to the habitual indulgence of falsehood in Japanese people, said :—

'The Japanese idea of truth is like their idea of punctuality. They admit the desirability of punctuality, but if one is behind time they say what is the use of making a fuss about it. They respect a man who tells the truth, but they say one can not always tell the truth, and what of it? It is a desirable thing, but not always practicable.'

The result of such a view of veracity is that individually, with exceptions, they can not be trusted when they have interests involved. The standing of the Chinamen among business men in these respects is much better.

The Japanese are endeavouring and are making commendable progress in perfecting their school system, but its efficiency, like everything else in the country, has been greatly exaggerated, and is largely on paper, which is equally true of the educational attainments of the mass of the people. To be able to read and write, with a limited knowledge of mathematics, does not indicate the same degree of mental culture which these attainments would in people of European origin, and with the mass of the people it indicates no moral culture whatever. In view of the limited resources of the country and the constantly increasing population, it is apparent that the government will have great difficulty in providing school facilities for all in the future, which fact forms a great incentive on the part of the economists and capitalists to encourage emigration abroad. The number of children who do not attend school is an unknown quantity, being very large, and I am inclined to doubt the reliability of the statistics furnished upon this point.

Many of the disadvantages under which these interesting people labour, are such as should not be charged up to a wilful blindness. Much may be attributed to misfortune and past conditions, and the more enlightened among them look forward with hopefulness to their correction; but the crowning infamy of their social system, and for which no excuse can be offered in the present age, is the light in which they regard the social evil and the conditions resulting therefrom. Every city has its Yoshiwara, or section set apart for houses of ill-fame, which are authorized and protected by the police. These people, while isolated for sanitary reasons, are not regarded with shame, but form an important feature of all the larger communities. The inmates of these places, or 'Joro,' as they are called, are replenished from the naturally depraved to some extent, but large numbers of innocent girls are unwittingly to themselves and sometimes with their knowledge of the consequences, sold by their natural protectors for various reasons into the Yoshiwara, from which there is no escape, unless some man buys them out for his own use. In the latter case, by marriage, they are restored to respectable society among the lower classes.

A gentleman (an Englishman) who had married a Japanese wife and been adopted into the family, having taken the name of Kobayashi Beiki, and who has written a very large book on the Yoshiwara of Tokio, informed me that he had investigated the records of the Yoshiwara of that city and found that they show that about 1,500,000 men had visited these houses during the year 1897, the law requiring that each visitor should be registered and reported to the police. The prices at which girls are sold into the Yoshiwara range from 50 to 150 yen, and I was informed that they might be purchased out at about the same figures. A small section of the press are beginning to denounce this system, but for many years it must continue to poison the national morals and furnish a supply of lewd women, who from time to time escape abroad, in spite of the vigilance of the authorities, who profess to be very strict about allowing unmarried women to go abroad. It should be borne in mind that in this report I am treating exclusively of the

immigrating class, which comes largely from the lower order. Naturally, there is a wide line of demarkation between this class and the better people, who may constitute one-fourth of the population more or less, but it is equally true that there is a sad lack of national integrity, character and conscience among all, but few of the more cultured, and possibly excepting the higher official class.

Christianity up to the present time has wielded but little influence, except in an educational way, in the ordinary meaning of the term education. Japan is yet a pagan nation and the present tendency, as they break away from their ancient religion, is to drift into opportunism politically, and into agnosticism religiously, with the moral effects which follow such views among the ignorant and uneducated. The result is that the nation, as a whole, presents the aspect of being morally mad. There is apparently no sense of responsibility to society or to Deity. Among such a people and under such conditions the contract labour system is a logical outgrowth. The emigration companies, which prey upon these ignorant but ambitious and conceited people, are regarded by them, with now and then a rare exception, as a necessity, going with and belonging to the conditions with which nature and their industrial development has confronted them. While the government denies any responsibility or desire to encourage emigration, the conditions which are herein set forth lead up to but one conclusion. The emigration companies are indifferent to any consideration, except that of profit, while the government permits the system, if it does not encourage it, in which it has a selfish interest, because it assists in relieving the country of a troublesome and what might become a turbulent population.

The limited resources of Japan, its lack of capital and markets for new manufactures, which is suggested by the facts I have herein detailed, considered with the fact that there is no land to which these people will go for agricultural expansion within the Empire, seems to suggest the impossibility of the absorption of 250,000 male labourers annually, leaving out of consideration women to an equal number. It is true that there is unoccupied land in Formosa, but the Japanese are averse to emigrating there because of the hot, wet climate. There is also unoccupied land in Yezzo, but that island is covered with snow one-half the year, and abounds with mosquitoes during a very hot summer, consequently it is doubtful whether the Japanese coolie can be hired to go there. The government has made, and is making, efforts to induce immigration to these islands, but with little success. Aside from the climatic conditions described, which are displeasing to the Japanese, there are other reasons why they will not go. The Japanese lives in the present; he is not, and never will be, an independent pioneer; he wants immediate profits, or wages; hence he desires to emigrate to civilized countries where he can earn good wages, and as he expresses it, 'learn English,' and how to farm and do other things as the more-favoured nations do, and, after he has achieved these results and made some money, place himself in a position to return to his native land in from three to five years; hence it is an easy matter for the agents of the emigration companies to persuade large numbers to come to the west.

They are beguiled with rosy stories of high wages and immediate employment. The Pacific coast is a favoured locality with them, not only on account of the wages paid, but because of the climate, which is very similar to that in the neighbourhood of Nagasaki, Kobe, and Yokohama; consequently there is a strong immigration movement. At present immigrants, aside from those who come to the United States and Canada, are going to Mexico, Peru, Brazil, Hawaii, Korea, and indeed to every country where contract labourers may be placed; but it requires much persuasion to induce them to go to Mexico, Peru and Brazil. The foreign office furnished me the following statistics, which I do not regard as of much value, of the actual number of Japanese residing in foreign countries at the end of 1897:

| | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|
| San Francisco and neighbourhood | 5,212 | 269 | 5,481 |
| Tacoma and neighbourhood | 79 | 3 | 82 |
| Seattle, &c. | 387 | 61 | 448 |
| Portland, &c. | 461 | 60 | 521 |
| Idaho, &c. | 385 | 27 | 412 |
| Vancouver, &c. | 402 | 21 | 423 |
| Victoria | 214 | 7 | 221 |
| Union coal mines | 291 | 7 | 298 |
| Hong Kong | 122 | 125 | 247 |
| Singapore | 158 | 456 | 614 |
| Thursday Island | 991 | 53 | 1,044 |
| Townsville | 1,413 | 60 | 1,473 |
| Vladivostock | 890 | 717 | 1,607 |
| Hawaii | 21,470 | 5,884 | 27,354 |
| Seoul | 1,097 | 790 | 1,887 |
| Chemulpo | 2,285 | 1,664 | 3,949 |
| Gensan | 862 | 561 | 1,423 |
| Fusan | 3,397 | 2,670 | 6,067 |
| Shanghai | 492 | 331 | 823 |
| Total | 40,608 | 13,766 | 54,374 |

In considering these statistics it should be borne in mind that nearly as many are returning to Japan from many of these countries as depart; but the number that return from the United States does not, it seems to me from observation, appear to be as large in comparison with the number who come as those returning from other countries. The manner and extent of the encouragement given to emigration by public men, capitalists and other individuals, evidently interested financially and from an economic standpoint in the emigration companies, may be inferred from Appendix A hereto attached, being references to the subject by the leading English and vernacular newspapers. It will be observed that nearly all of the clippings are translations from Japanese papers. The *Japan Times* is a government organ, edited by a Japanese and published in English. The *Japan Mail* is an English paper but pro-Japanese, while the other papers from which extracts have been taken are independent English papers.

This report would not be complete without a reference to the fact that Australia and Canada are both legislating against the Japanese, the former restricting the immigration and the latter limiting the opportunities for obtaining employment. This movement, if it goes on, will necessarily have an important effect upon the number who will try to obtain admission to the United States.

During my stay in Japan I was much interested in the information obtained concerning the light in which the immigration laws of the United States are regarded. I came to the conclusion that the average Japanese, by intelligence, is incapable of appreciating the motive behind the policy of the United States. The friendliness of the mass of the people for the United States and respect in which it is held is unmistakable; but this sentiment is childlike in its character, and is not based upon knowledge or a familiarity with the harmony between the principles upon which the Government of the United States is based and the laws carrying out those principles. Hence the immigration laws of the United States irritate them, because the motive is to them incomprehensible. All have an intense longing to visit the United States or to come for the purposes of labour.

The wealthy class have little or no respect for their own labouring class as individuals, and no sympathy with the toilers in the field and factory. Their condition is regarded as a decree of fate, and hence those who are capable rarely comprehend the dignity and rights of labour as it is regarded in this country.

In my former report, I gave the facts as I gathered them touching the manner emigrants are sent to this and other countries. In this, I have endeavoured to give a brief bird's-eye view, superficial in some respects, but, as a whole, I believe, true to life of the motives which lie behind the system described and the conditions which make it possible. There is much more that might be said, but I fear it might be deemed irre-

levant. I beg indulgence in expressing my opinion here, however, that the treaty which will go into effect in August between Japan and the United States is a great mistake for the people of Japan, as well as a great blunder on the part of the United States.

My reasons in general for this view would not be appropriate in this report, but among them is the effect which it would have upon the power of the United States to control immigration from Japan. I have been informed that the treaty between Japan and England, made at the same time, makes provision for the control of immigration by Canada, New Zealand, Australia and other English colonies in the Pacific. The Anglo-Saxon, Latin and Semitic races mix, and in time make respectable men and women, even from the lowest conditions, but the oriental races do not mix well with the people of Europe, and the mixture, unless made among people in affluent circumstances, is always degrading to the European. Wealth and education may and does modify natural tendencies. Much trouble may, in my opinion, be expected from the results of this treaty, the difficulties in the way of regulating immigration being certain to be much greater than heretofore.

The appendices hereto attached are evidences which sustain the views herein expressed, gathered by the way, and which might have been multiplied ad infinitum had I made these lines a special feature of my investigation. The special features of my investigation were set forth in part in my former report. The second special feature was the obtaining of information bearing directly upon individual emigrants and bodies of emigrants going to the United States, which might be used in excluding them on this side as contract labourers. To this end, I used every practical method at my command, causing bodies of outgoing emigrants to be interviewed both at Kobe and Yokohama by the most trustworthy persons I could secure for that purpose, also causing the hotel keepers to be pumped. It was either that my agencies were unreliable or the emigrants had been too well trained to give themselves away; at least my efforts in that direction were unsuccessful. The most reliable man, as I thought, whom I secured for this purpose, threw up the job on the advice of an American missionary whom he went to consult. It may be possible to occasionally secure evidence of this character, but it is very difficult, and I did not succeed.

The consular officers in Japan are, in my opinion, thoroughly efficient, and it is a matter of pride to a citizen of the United States to compare them with the consular representatives of other countries; but under the present laws they are practically helpless in the matter of emigration. The character of their duties is such that they can not make a specialty of looking after emigrants, and if it were otherwise nothing could be accomplished without a secret service fund. Even an effort in that direction, as a permanent benefit, would be an experiment.

In conclusion, I wish briefly to refer to the difficulties under which I laboured, and yet I may not dare to enter into detail upon the limitations which surround one gathering information which is regarded by the Japanese as injurious to their interests. They are intensely patriotic, which sentiment extends to a sense of duty not to knowingly 'give each other away.' The educated and intelligent are shrewd and intuitive in their perceptions, and are what the English designate as 'clever,' the word being synonymous with tricky. Few Europeans speak Japanese sufficiently well to make good interpreters, and I found but one European who could both read and speak Japanese; hence nearly all the work in the nature of translation must either be done by Japanese or by having a Japanese read to a European who speaks Japanese and writes in English as the Japanese reads.

Then, again, all Europeans in Japan (which word in the orient includes citizens of the United States, are there for special and personal interest. They do not like to acquire the ill will of the people among whom they live, and consequently help from that source in all but two or three instances was half-hearted. Under these difficulties and many others I did the best that I could, and the information transmitted, of whatever value it may be, I believe to be reliable and accurate.

Hoping that my labour herein may contribute something to the better enforcement of the immigration laws,

W. M. RICE,
United States Commissioner of Immigration.

## WAGES IN JAPAN, 1897.

(From the Report of the Bureau of Labour Statistics of California).

| Occupations. | Wages. | |
|---|---|---|
| | Day. | Month. |
| | cts. | $ cts. |
| Blacksmiths | 24 | |
| Brickmakers | 28 | |
| Carpenters | 24½ | |
| Compositors | 18 | |
| Confectioners | ..... | 4 82½ |
| Coopers | 19 | |
| Door and screen makers | 23 | |
| Dyers | 17½ | |
| Fishermen | 19½ | |
| Gardeners | 23½ | |
| Jewellers | 21 | |
| Joiners | 22½ | |
| Labourers | 17 | |
| Labourers, agricultural (male) | 15 | |
| Labourers agricultural (female) | 9½ | |
| Lacquered object makers | 22½ | |
| Metal utensil makers | 24 | |
| Mine-workers | 24 | |
| Oil-pressers | 18½ | |
| Papermakers | 17½ | |
| Pasters, paper | 22½ | |
| Plasterers | 25 | |
| Printers | 17½ | |
| Roofers, shingle and thatch | 24 | |
| Roofers, tile | 27 | |
| Saddlers | 23 | |
| Sake-makers | ..... | 4 95 |
| Sawyers | 25 | |
| Scutchers of cotton | 17½ | |
| Servants, domestics | ..... | 1 41 |
| Servants | ..... | 79½ |
| Ship-carpenters | 25 | |
| Shoemakers | 23 | |
| Shoemakers, Japanese shoes | 19 | |
| Silkworm cultivators (male) | 16½ | |
| Silkworm cultivators (female) | 10½ | |
| Snuff box, purses, &c. makers of | 20½ | |
| Soy-makers | ..... | 4 18½ |
| Spinners, silk | 11½ | |
| Stonecutters | 27½ | |
| Straw-matting weavers | 22 | |
| Tailors, European clothing | 29 | |
| Tailors, Japanese clothing | 18½ | |
| Tea-preparers | 22½ | |
| Tobacco-cutters | 21 | |
| Weavers (male) | 13½ | |
| Weavers (female) | 9½ | |
| Wheelwright | 20½ | |

## THE NATAL ACT.

Whereas it is desirable to place certain restrictions on immigration,

Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Natal, as follows:—

1. This Act may be known as "The Immigration Restriction Act, 1897."

2. This Act shall apply to:—

*(a)* Any person possessed of a certificate in the form set out in the schedule A to to this Act, annexed and signed by the Colonial Secretary or the Agent General of Natal, or any officer appointed by the Natal Government for the purposes of this Act whether in or out of Natal.

*(b)* Any person of a class for whose immigration into Natal provision is made by law or by a scheme approved by Government.

*(c)* Any person specially exempted from the operation of this Act by a writing under the hand of the Colonial Secretary.

*(d)* Her Majesty's land and sea forces.

*(e)* The officers and crew of any ship of war of any government.

*(f)* Any person duly accredited to Natal by or under the authority of the Imperial or any other government.

3 The immigration into Natal, by land or sea, of any person of any of the classes defined in the following subsections, hereinafter called "prohibited immigrant," is prohibited, namely:—

*(a)* Any person who, when asked to do so by an officer appointed under this Act, shall fail to (himself) write out and sign, in the characters of any language of Europe, an application to the Colonial Secretary in the form set out in Schedule B to this Act.

*(b)* Any person being a pauper or likely to become a public charge.

*(c)* Any idiot or insane person.

*(d)* Any person suffering from a loathsome or a dangerous contagious disease.

*(e)* Any person who, not having received a free pardon, has within two years been convicted of a felony or other infamous crimes or misdemeanour involving moral turpitude, and not being a mere political offence.

*(f)* Any prostitute and any person living on the prostitution of others.

4. Any prohibited immigrant making his way into or being found within Natal, in disregard of the provisions of this Act, shall be deemed to have contravened this Act and shall be liable, in addition to any other penalty, to be removed from the colony and upon conviction may be sentenced to imprisonment not exceeding six months without hard labour. Provided that such imprisonment shall cease for the purpose of deportation of the offender, or if he shall find two approved sureties each in the sum of fifty pounds sterling that he will leave the colony within one month.

5. Any person appearing to be a prohibited immigrant within the meaning of section 3 of this Act and not coming within the meaning of any of the subsections *(c)*, *(d)*, *(e)*, *(f)*, of the said section 3 shall be allowed to enter Natal upon the following conditions:—

*(a)* He shall, before landing, deposit with an officer appointed under this Act the sum of one hundred pounds sterling.

*(b)* If such person shall, within one week after entering Natal, obtain from the Colonial Secretary, or a magistrate, a certificate that he does not come within the prohibition of this Act, the deposit of one hundred pounds sterling shall be returned.

*(c)* If such person shall fail to obtain such certificate within one week, the deposit of one hundred pounds sterling may be forfeited, and he may be treated as a prohibited immigrant.

Provided that, in the case of any person entering Natal under this section, no liability shall attach to the vessel or to the owners of the vessel in which he may have arrived at any port of the colony.

6. Any person who shall satisfy an officer appointed under this Act that he has been formerly domiciled in Natal, and that he does not come within the meaning of any of the subsections (*c*), (*d*), (*e*), (*f*), of section 3 of this Act, shall not be regarded as a prohibited immigrant.

7. The wife and any minor child of a person not being a prohibited immigrant shall be free from any prohibition imposed by this Act.

8. The master and owners of any vessel from which any prohibited immigrant may be landed shall be jointly and severally liable to a penalty of not less than one hundred pounds sterling, and such penalty may be increased up to five thousand pounds sterling by sums of one hundred pounds sterling, each for every five prohibited immigrants after the first five, and the vessel may be made executable by a decree of the Supreme Court in satisfaction of any such penalty, and the vessel may be refused a clearance outwards until such penalty has been paid, and until provision has been made by the master to the satisfaction of an officer appointed under this Act for the conveyance out of the colony of each prohibited immigrant who may have been so landed.

9. A prohibited immigrant shall not be entitled to a license to carry on any trade or calling, nor shall he be entitled to acquire land in leasehold, freehold, or otherwise to exercise the franchise, or to be enrolled as a burgess of any borough or on the roll of any township; and any license or franchise right which may have been acquired in contravention of this Act shall be void.

10. Any officer thereto authorized by government may make a contract with the master, owners, or agent of any vessel for the conveyance of any prohibited immigrant found in Natal to a port in or near to such immigrant's country of birth, and any such immigrant with his personal effects may be placed by a police officer on board such vessel, and shall in such case, if destitute, be supplied with a sufficient sum of money to enable him to live for one month according to his circumstances in life after disembarking from such vessel.

11. Any person who shall in any way wilfully assist any prohibited immigrant to contravene the provisions of this Act shall be deemed to have contravened this Act.

12. Any person who shall in any way wilfully assist the entry into Natal of any prohibited immigrant of the class (*f*) in section 3 of this Act shall be deemed to have contravened this Act, and shall upon conviction be liable to be imprisoned with hard labour for any period not exceeding twelve months.

13. Any person who shall be wilfully instrumental in bringing into Natal an idiot or insane person without a written or printed authority, signed by the Colonial Secretary, shall be deemed to have contravened this Act, and in addition to any other penalty shall be liable for the cost of the maintenance of such idiot or insane person whilst in the colony.

14. Any police officer or other officer appointed therefor under this Act may, subject to the provisions of section 5, prevent any prohibited immigrant from entering Natal by land or sea.

15. The Governor may from time to time appoint, and at pleasure remove officers for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act, and may define the duties of such officers, and such officers shall carry out the instructions from time to time given to them by the ministerial head of their department.

16. The Governor in Council may, from time to time, make, amend and repeal rules and regulations for the better carrying out of the provisions of this Act.

17. The penalty for any contravention of this Act or any rule or regulation passed thereunder, where no higher penalty is expressly imposed, shall not exceed a fine of fifty pounds sterling, or imprisonment with or without hard labour, until payment of such fine or in addition to such fine, but not exceeding in any case three months.

18. All contraventions of this Act or of rules or regulations thereunder and suits for penalties or other moneys not exceeding one hundred pounds sterling shall be cognizable by magistrates.

Colony of Natal.

This is to certify that of aged by trade or calling a is a fit and proper person to be received as an immigrant in Natal.

Dated at this day of

(Signature.)

## SCHEDULE B.

To the Colonial Secretary.

I claim to be exempt from the operation of Act No. 1897.
My full name is My place of abode for the past twelve months has been
My business or calling is
I was born at in the year

Given at Government House, Natal, this fifth day of May, 1897.

By command of His Excellency the Governor.

THOS. K. MURRAY,
Colonial Secretary.