
PAPERS

Relating to Chinese Immigration into Canada.

By Command.

J. D. PRENTICE,

Provincial Secretary.

Provincial Secretary's Office,

27th October, 1900.

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR'S OFFICE,

VICTORIA, B. C., 16th August, 1900.

The Honourable the Secretary of State,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward herewith a certified copy of an approved Minute of the 14th inst. embodying a Resolution passed by the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, setting forth the opinion of that body as regards the effective mode of dealing with the question of restricting Mongolian immigration into Canada.

I have, etc.,

(Signed) HENRI G. JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Copy of a Report of a Committee of the Honourable the Executive Council, approved by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor on the 14th day of August, 1900.

The Committee of Council submit for the approval of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor the undermentioned Resolution of the Legislative Assembly, namely:—

“Resolved, Whereas resolutions have been passed by this House from time to time, requesting the Dominion Government to increase the poll tax on Chinese immigrants into Canada:

“And whereas the Dominion has passed an Act, known as the “Chinese Immigration Act, 1900,” increasing the poll tax from the sum of \$50 to \$100:

“Be it Resolved, That, in the opinion of this House, the said Act is ineffective and inadequate to prevent Chinese immigration into Canada:

“Be it further Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, requesting him to respectfully urge upon the Dominion Government that the effective mode of dealing with the question of restricting Mongolian immigration into Canada would be by either increasing the amount of the *per capita* tax to the sum of \$500 or by the passing of an Act based on the lines of the Natal Act, known as the ‘Immigration Restriction Act, 1897.’”

The Committee advise that a copy of this Minute, if approved, be forwarded to the Honourable the Secretary of State.

Dated this 13th day of August, 1900.

(Signed) J. D. PRENTICE,
Clerk Executive Council.

OTTAWA, 19th October, 1900.

SIR,—Adverting to your despatch of the 16th of August last, forwarding a copy of a Minute of your Executive Council, dated the 14th of the same month, submitting a resolution of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia upon the subject of Chinese immigration into Canada, I have the honour to transmit to you, herewith, a certified copy of a Minute of the Privy Council of the 9th instant, embodying the views of this Government upon the subject.

I have, etc.,
(Signed) JOSEPH POPE,
Under Secretary of State.

*His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia,
Victoria, B. C.*

Extract from a Report of the Committee of the Honourable the Privy Council, approved by His Excellency on the 9th October, 1900.

The Committee of the Privy Council have had under consideration a despatch, hereto attached, dated August, 1900, from the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia, forwarding a copy of a Minute of his Executive Council, approved on the 14th August, 1900, submitting a Resolution of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia upon the subject of Chinese immigration into Canada.

The Minister of Trade and Commerce, to whom the matter was referred, submits that the oft-repeated demands of the British Columbia Legislature for more restrictive measures had due consideration during the recent Session of Parliament, when a new Chinese Immigration Bill was introduced and was fully discussed. The prevailing opinion of the majority of the Members of the House of Commons and of the Senate was not in favour of approving of the restrictions demanded by the British Columbia Legislature; but, the matter having had full discussion, it was deemed sufficient, for the time being at least, to increase the poll tax on Chinese from \$50 to \$100, such increase to take effect from the 1st January, 1901; and, inasmuch as it was stated on the Floor of the House that a Commission would be appointed to inquire into the matter, he (the Minister) does not deem it expedient to recommend any departure from the law as it now exists and is provided for from the 1st January, 1901, until it is shown, after investigation, by report of such Commission, that it is in the interests of the Dominion at large that further restrictions should be imposed.

The Committee, on the recommendation of the Minister of Trade and Commerce, advise that a certified copy of this Minute be forwarded to the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia for the information of his Government.

All which is respectfully submitted for Your Excellency's approval.

(Signed) JOHN J. MCGEE,
Clerk of the Privy Council.

*His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor,
Province of British Columbia*

VICTORIA, B. C.:

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