PAPERS

Respecting the proposed increase of the per capita Tax on Chinese immigrants.

By Command.

C. A. SEMLIN,
Provincial Secretary.

Provincial Secretary's Office,
30th May, 1899.

Extract from a Report of the Committee of the Honourable the Privy Council, approved by His Excellency on the 15th May, 1899.

The Committee of the Privy Council have had under consideration a copy of a communication, hereto attached, from His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia, dated 21st March, 1899, to the Secretary of State, Ottawa, covering an approved Minute of the Executive Council of British Columbia, embodying a Resolution passed at the recent Session of the Legislative Assembly of that Province, expressive of the opinion and desire of that body that the Federal Government increase the per capita tax on Chinese immigrants to at least five hundred dollars.

The Minister of Trade and Commerce, to whom the matter was referred, submits that similar resolutions are passed almost annually, and have on all occasions been adversely reported upon by him as well as by his predecessors, and he is still of opinion that any interference with the Chinese Immigration Act as it now stands would as yet be injudicious, and he cannot, therefore, recommend the Government of Canada to accede to the desire of the British Columbia Legislature, as expressed in the Resolution above referred to.

The Committee advise that a certified copy of this Minute, if approved, be forwarded to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia.

JOHN J. MCGEE,
Clerk of the Privy Council.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia.

AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
VICTORIA, B.C., 21st March, 1899.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit herewith, for consideration of His Excellency the Governor-General in Council, an approved Minute of my Executive Council, dated the 2nd instant, embodying a Resolution passed at the recent Session of the Legislative Assembly of this Province, expressive of the opinion and desire of that body that the Federal Government should increase the per capita tax on Chinese immigrants to at least five hundred dollars.

I have, etc.,
(Signed) THOS. R. MCINNES,
Lieutenant-Governor.

The Hon. the Secretary of State,
Ottawa, Canada.

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