

in the spring and the summer, but the view held was that while many of the Hindus who had been unemployed were now at work on farms, and in orchards, the employment was only temporary and that the general situation and prospects as regards the winter were not seriously different from those that prevailed earlier in the summer.

It was decided that it would be well to have East Indian delegates appointed and sent to British Honduras without delay. Word was sent on Tuesday, October 13th, to the leaders of the community to attend a meeting on Wednesday morning, 14th, in the basement of Chalmers Presbyterian Church, Fairview. At this meeting besides the East Indian leaders, there were present Rev. John Knox Wright, Capt. C. J. Brooke, J. H. McGill, W. C. Hopkinson, and myself. The East Indians were addressed by Capt. Brooke and Mr. Hopkinson. Rev. Mr. Wright also spoke, though briefly.

PROPOSAL EXPLAINED.

The proposal was explained to the East Indians in this way:

You all know how a large number of East Indians suffered last winter. You all know that a large number of East Indians have been out of work most of the summer. You know yourselves that the prospects for the coming winter are anything but bright. The Immigration Act provides that any immigrant who becomes a public charge shall be deported. If Hindus are without work and without money this winter, and thus become public charges, they cannot be allowed to remain a charge on Vancouver or other places, and will have to be deported. The Government does not want to have to deport East Indians, and with the winter in mind, has been looking for some place that would offer work and more favourable conditions for them than British Columbia does. The Imperial authorities have pointed out that there is a good demand for labour and ample land available for settlement in British Honduras, and have asked Canada to pay the expenses of a delegation of East Indians to British Honduras in order that the East Indians may see for themselves whether Honduras would be a good place for them. We, ourselves, do not know anything about Honduras. We want the community to appoint two delegates who can go and see the country and report back to the community whether it offers opportunities which it would be to their advantage to seize.

PROPOSAL WELL RECEIVED.

The leaders seemed to me to be pleased that the government was taking an interest in their behalf, and promptly agreed to appoint two delegates. They at first wished to appoint two Sikhs, but I refused to allow this and insisted on the appointment of a Sikh and a Hindu, to represent the two principal East Indian elements in