

been recognized, and each Indian may bring his lawful wife and her children to the country. To all actuated by the spirit of humanity and Christian sympathy the action of the Government should give satisfaction, but there are those who object and are raising their voice in protest. In the interests of international brotherhood and good-will this is greatly to be regretted, and at the present juncture most ill-advised and injurious to the wider interests of the empire.

Of the East Indians who have come, or have been brought here, a large number had for years been loyal soldiers in the Indian army, and till the arrival of agitators from India a short time ago, were devoted in their attachment to British institutions. They expected to be received as loyal subjects of the King-Emperor and treated as such, and they were prepared, according to the best of their knowledge and ability, to enter into our national life and contribute what they might to the common welfare. If these expectations have not been realized the blame is not wholly theirs.

The circumstances under which they came were peculiarly unfortunate. Prejudices and suspicions were awakened, racial feelings were excited, and a gulf was opened between them and our people which has grown wider with the passing years. It will be well for us to consider how the situation appears from the point of view of these people from India. Most of them are from the Sikh community, one of the finest races, physically and morally, in that land, and they do not forget the important service their fathers rendered in saving India at the time of the mutiny, nor the services they and

their people have since furnished in guarding the country from hostile tribes, nor the sacrifices their brothers and other relatives have made as comrades of our own soldiers in the great war on all fronts. The discrimination against them, and the restrictions imposed appear to them to be dictated by selfish and racial feelings that take no account of their place in the Empire or of the services they have rendered it.

It makes their hearts sore to see Chinese and Japanese in the enjoyment of domestic life with happy children growing up around them while they have been compelled to leave their wives and dearly loved little ones in far away India. Nor did it make for loyalty and contentment for them to feel that Orientals from non-British lands could lay their grievances before representatives of their own Governments who could speak with authority to our Government while they, loyal subjects within the Empire, had none to speak in their behalf.

The natural result of well-grounded expectations of a recognition of which they felt themselves worthy, is a widespread and deep resentment in the hearts of those who have returned to India and of those still in our midst.

When the Order-in-Council was issued in the public press the Hindustanis manifested a spirit of satisfaction and pleasure that the justice of their claim to have their wives with them was at last recognized, and their long coveted rights granted. This is, however, being displaced by a fear that the opposition now being voiced since the passing of the order may lead to its being set aside, and to the closing of the door again. In their interests as human beings en-

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