

the wealthy classes. It is hard to believe that slavery exists in Canada, under the full knowledge of the authorities and in fact with the deliberate connivance of the authorities, yet such is actually the case.

The wealthy Chinaman sends to China for one, two or a dozen of his fellow countrymen; he pays their passage and head tax, and when they arrive in Canada they remain absolutely under the control of their rich men until they pay back the last cent with interest. This may take five, ten or twenty years, and until it is all paid the imported slave is sent wherever his "boss man" sends him. When any operator in British Columbia wants a gang of Chinamen, or even one, he goes to one of these leading Chinese merchants, who supplies his wants, making the bargain entirely independent of the man who is being hired. His wages all go to his "boss," who controls his every move, and he is as absolutely a slave as were the negroes of the South prior to 1865.

For many years a very flourishing "white slave traffic" has been carried on through the ports of the Pacific, including Vancouver. The Chinese bring in young women who are sworn to by local merchants as their daughters or wives, whereas they are nothing of the kind, but actually being imported for immoral purposes. Many of these poor victims ultimately find their way to New York, Montreal and large eastern centres, where they are sacrificed on the altar of lust. Of course the authorities do not wittingly acquiesce in this traffic, but are practically helpless. In many cases they are sure that the Chinaman is lying, but they cannot prove it, and so are forced to admit the women. It would be interesting to trace the life of some of these poor victims and perhaps the Government could well afford to spend a few thousands in doing so.

During the investigation into the Chinese immigration methods in vogue at Vancouver, held by Justice Murphy at that port last year, it was clearly demonstrated that, with the connivance of the officials, gross mal-practices were constantly going on. In his report to the Government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Mr. Justice Murphy said: "Ample opportunity has existed at Vancouver for illegal entry of Chinese into Canada," and, again, "A system of direct fraud to secure illegal entry of Chinese into Canada as merchants and exempts has flourished at Vancouver." It should