

SHIVERING HINDUS ARE THROWN INTO STREET

Hundred New Arrivals Spent Cold Night in South
Vancouver.

EJECTED BY CONSTABLE.

Mr. Vogel Defies Authorities, While People of Eburne
Are Indignant.

One hundred Hindus, clad in the scantiest of garments, were thrown out of houses which they had been occupying on the cemetery road last evening, and spent the night in the open air.

And last night was about the coldest of the season.

Along toward daylight a few of them were housed, but the majority spent the greater part of the night huddled together, trying to keep out the cold. There were not half enough blankets amongst the men to go around, and from the appearance of the men and the scantiness of the clothing they possessed, they seemed to have suffered all the tortures of a cold winter's night.

The eviction of the Hindus arouse out of the insistence of the authorities of South Vancouver not to allow the Hindus to be foisted on them by the city of Vancouver. A few days ago W. H. Mason & Co. rented a house on the cemetery road, half a mile outside the city limits, to Attam Singh. Almost one hundred of the new arrivals took possession. They not only crowded the dwelling house, but swarmed the stables and chicken houses, which were renovated for their reception. The rent was paid to December 7.

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Mr. H. B. A. Vogel, who lives near the South Vancouver Town Hall, was much incensed this morning, as he described conditions to The Province. He said:

"Disgraceful," Says Vogel.

"It is inhuman and disgraceful that these men should have been turned out last night in the cold. They had scanty clothing and very few blankets. Late in the afternoon the constable of the municipality appeared and literally threw all of the Hindus out of the buildings. In another little house they had rented the owner appeared and move all their baggage and belongings into the street. When I came home last evening I saw the Hindus all camped along the road, shivering in the frosty night air. This kind of atrocity is permitted in a civilized country, it appears. I took action at once by arranging to house a number of them for the night. To-day we fixed up temporary shelter for the poor fellows, and they will stay at my place until they find some better housing. I do not care what the members of the Council think about it. I am against the Hindus being allowed in the vicinity at all, but in the name of humanity we must keep them from freezing to death."

Fearful of Hindus.

At the South Vancouver Municipal Hall it was stated this afternoon the eviction of the Hindus took place after the municipality, moved by the attitude of the residents near the places, had notified the owners that unless instant action was taken against the Hindus the municipality would take up the questions and act. The real eviction was, however, done under the direction of the owners, though a municipal constable was on the ground. The complaints concerning the conditions under which the Hindus were living, and the fear inspired in the locality because of their presence, was thought to be ample warrant for any urging the Council gave in the matter or any threatened action on in its part.

One of the houses was rented to a Hindu through the local firm of W. H. Mason & Co. The manager stated this morning that a respectable Hindu asked for the lease of the place, and as it was an old shack permission was given.

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Before the rent money was paid, however the stipulation was made that the action was subject to approval of the owner, a lady who resides in New Westminster. The South Vancouver authorities communicated with her, as the result of which action she repudiated the lease and directed the Hindus to be turned out. The firm would repay the Hindu the rent paid.

Objections at Eburne.

Out at Eburne it is reported that a force of men is at work to-day repairing the old Greenwood cannery making ready for the accommodation of the five hundred Hindus, for whom Dr. Monro recently stated provision would be made. Interior fittings are being places, wells dug, etc. The residents of the locality have showed the spirit in which the threatened invasion of the place is felt, by refusing to supply the needed materials or boards for the men at work on the improvements. What will be the outcome of the matter, said an Eburnite this morning, and would be hard to tell. The residents certainly objected to having a proposition which was too big for Vancouver to handle thrust upon a sparsely settled district, and would govern their actions along this line.