

Chinese Immigrants.—Oriental immigration to the Pacific Coast of North America appears to have commenced with the coming of Chinese immigrants about the time of the discovery of gold in California in 1849, and British Columbia is thought to have received its first Chinese immigrants some time before 1870. The original occupations of these immigrants were laundry workers and domestic servants. As early as 1872 Chinese were employed in the coal mines of the province and the Legislature was already considering the imposition of a poll tax on Chinese, the same proposition coming up later in the Dominion Parliament with the design of preventing the employment of Chinese labour in railway construction. A Royal Commission was appointed by the Dominion Government in 1884 to investigate Chinese immigration and this commission recommended the imposition of a head tax of \$10 upon Chinese entering Canada, together with registration and special legislation regulating the entry of Chinese domestic servants. This led to the passage of legislation in 1885 (48-49 Vict., c. 71), providing that thereafter Chinese of the labouring class should be required, as a condition of entering Canada, to pay a head tax of \$50 each. On Jan. 1, 1901 (63-64 Vict., c. 32), this tax was increased to \$100, and on Jan. 1, 1904 (3 Edw. VII, c. 8), after another Royal Commission had reported on this matter, the head tax was further increased to \$500. This tax was paid by all Chinese immigrants except consular officers, merchants, and clergymen and their families, tourists, men of science, students and teachers. In spite of this restrictive legislation, the number of Chinese enumerated at the decennial censuses rose from 4,383 in 1881 to 17,312 in 1901, to 27,774 in 1911, to 39,587 in 1921, and 46,519 in 1931. Of this latter number, 43,051 were males and only 3,468 females. Over 58 p.c. of all the Chinese in Canada, *viz.*, 27,139 were residents of British Columbia.

16.—Record of Revenue Receipts and Registrations for Leave of Chinese Immigrants, fiscal years ended Mar. 31, 1912-37, with Totals 1886-1900 and 1901-11.

Fiscal Year.	Paying Tax.	Exempt from Tax.	Percentage of Total Arrivals Admitted, Exempt from Tax.	Registrations for Leave.	Total Revenue.
	No.	No.	p.c.	No.	\$
Totals (1886 to 1900, inclusive).....	28,637	394	1.36	15,853	1,454,239
Totals (1901 to 1911, inclusive).....	25,160	3,655	12.69	29,409	6,147,260
1912.....	6,083	498	7.57	4,322	3,049,722
1913.....	7,078	367	4.93	3,742	3,549,242
1914.....	5,274	238	4.32	3,450	2,644,593
1915.....	1,155	103	8.19	4,373	588,124
1916.....	20	69	77.53	4,064	19,389
1917.....	272	121	30.78	3,312	140,487
1918.....	650	119	15.47	2,907	336,757
1919.....	4,066	267	6.16	3,244	2,069,669
1920.....	363	181	33.27	5,529	538,479
1921.....	885	1,550	63.66	6,807	474,332
1922.....	1,459	287	16.44	7,532	743,032
1923.....	652	59	8.30	6,682	434,557
1924.....	625	51	7.54	5,661	334,039
1925.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	5,992	308,659
1926.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	3,947	25,969
1927.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	5,987	14,844
1928.....	2	1	33.33	5,087	25,679
1929.....	Nil	1	100.00	5,480	30,795
1930.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	5,682	30,799
1931.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	5,783	28,846
1932.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	4,387	11,584
1933.....	Nil	1	100.00	3,626	9,152
1934.....	Nil	2	100.00	2,156	7,237
1935.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	2,103	6,506
1936.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	2,138	6,501
1937.....	Nil	1	100.00	2,059	9,893