

VOLUME 1/24: H.D. WILSON, RE: TRADE LICENSES ISSUED
TO ORIENTALS - 1925.

ORIENTAL ACTIVITIES.

23

LAND OWNED AND LEASED BY JAPANESE AND CHINESE
IN B.C., 1921.

	No. of Owners or Lessees.	Total Acreage.	Orchard.	Small-fruit Growing.	Truck- farming	Dairy- farming.	Mixed Farming.
Land owned by Japanese.....	492	8,875.78	176.00	2,096.21	281.50	80	681.28
Land owned by Chinese.....	116	5,664.61	14.50	25.81	1,632.93	.....	1,228.00
Totals.....	608	14,540.39	190.50	2,122.02	1,914.43	80	1,859.28
Land leased by Japanese.....	103	1,781.26	189.00	155.00	660.25	485	236.75
Land leased by Chinese.....	369	11,087.12	87.50	64.00	8,184.55	.....	1,581.00

The report of the Chief Inspector of Mines for 1928 shows that of 3,814 men working underground in the collieries of the Province in that year, and 1,520 working above ground, a total of 5,334 employed in and about the coal-mines, there were 96 Japanese and Chinese employed underground as miners, 83 employed underground as helpers, and 63 underground and 206 above ground as labourers, or 242 underground and 206 above ground, a total of 448.

In 1925 there were 3,828 men employed in underground workings and 1,615 above ground, 5,443 in all, of whom 532 were Orientals, 288 working below and 244 above. The percentage of Orientals in coal-mines in 1928 was 8.4% of the total, as against 9.8% in 1925, while the percentage of those employed underground was 6.345% in 1928 as against 7.523% in 1925.

on roads, bridges, buildings, or any public works whatever. Clause 45 in the Department's form of contract agreement reads as follows, in specific language:—

"The contractor shall not, directly or indirectly, employ any Asiatic upon, about, or in connection with the works; and in the event of his so doing the Minister may declare forfeited to His Majesty all moneys due or to accrue due the contractor."

No goods for use in the Department of Public Works are purchased from Oriental firms. Once in a while small purchases have been made by new or subordinate officials who were ignorant of this rule, but generally speaking this restrictive regulation is rigidly enforced.

ORIENTAL TRADING ACTIVITIES.

A survey of the trading activities of the Oriental races in British Columbia shows that in the entire Province, in 1925, there were 3,231 Asiatics licensed to carry on business in the various professions, commercial pursuits, trades, and callings for which licences are required. Of these, 2,122 were Chinese, 1,084 Japanese, and 75 Hindus. In the cities 2,647 licences were held, in the rural municipalities 354, in the villages 20, and in unorganized territory 142.

In the appended table is summarized the information received from the several municipal licensing officials and the Provincial Police regarding the number of licences held by each of the Asiatic races in the year mentioned, with the trades which they carry on. In some cases the classification of "general store, retail store, or general merchant" covers some of the trades segregated under individual headings in other municipalities, but the figures in the recapitulation give the minimum engaged in each calling.

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IN B.C., 1921.

	No. of Owners or Lessees.	Total Acreage.	Orchard.	Small-fruit Growing.	Truck- farming	Dairy- farming.	Mixed Farming.
Land owned by Japanese.....	492	8,385.78	176.00	2,006.21	251.50	80	631.28
Land owned by Chinese.....	116	5,664.61	14.50	25.81	1,632.93	.....	1,228.00
Totals.....	608	14,050.39	190.50	2,122.02	1,914.43	80	1,859.28
Land leased by Japanese.....	103	1,781.26	189.00	155.00	560.25	435	236.75
Land leased by Chinese.....	369	11,087.12	87.50	64.00	8,184.55	.....	1,581.00
Totals.....	472	12,868.38	176.50	219.00	8,744.80	435	1,817.75
Grand total, lands owned and leased.....	1,080	26,918.77	367.00	2,341.02	10,659.23	615	3,677.03

ORIENTALS IN COAL-MINES.

The late Chief Inspector of Mines reported that during the year 1925 there were employed underground in the coal-mines of the Province 288 Orientals, 228 of whom were Chinese and 62 Japanese. There were employed above ground 244, all Chinese. Employed in and about coal-mines during the year mentioned there were, therefore, a total of 532 Orientals, 470 Chinese, and 62 Japanese.

RECAPITULATION.

	Chinese.	Japanese.	Total.
Underground.....	228	62	288
Above ground.....	244	.....	244
Totals.....	470	62	532

NO ORIENTALS ON PUBLIC WORKS.

The Deputy Minister of Public Works reports that in so far as public works are concerned no Oriental labour is permitted, either directly or indirectly, on any contract or day-labour work on roads, bridges, buildings, or any public works whatever. Clause 45 in the Department's form of contract agreement reads as follows, in specific language:—

"The contractor shall not, directly or indirectly, employ any Asiatic upon, about, or in connection with the works; and in the event of his so doing the Minister may declare forfeited to His Majesty all moneys due or to accrue due the contractor."

No goods for use in the Department of Public Works are purchased from Oriental firms. Once in a while small purchases have been made by new or subordinate officials who were ignorant of this rule, but generally speaking this restrictive regulation is rigidly enforced.

ORIENTAL TRADING ACTIVITIES.

A survey of the trading activities of the Oriental races in British Columbia shows that in the entire Province, in 1925, there were 3,231 Asiatics licensed to carry on business in the various professions, commercial pursuits, trades, and callings for which licences are required. Of these, 2,122 were Chinese, 1,084 Japanese, and 75 Hindus. In the cities 2,647 licences were held, in the rural municipalities 354, in the villages 20, and in unorganized territory 142.

In the appended table is summarized the information received from the several municipal licensing officials and the Provincial Police regarding the number of licences held by each of the Asiatic races in the year mentioned, with the trades which they carry on. In some cases the classification of "general store, retail store, or general merchant" covers some of the trades segregated under individual headings in other municipalities, but the figures in the recapitulation give the minimum engaged in each calling.

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BRITISH COLUMBIA.

In the case of the City of Vancouver, where 56 per cent. of the Oriental licence-holders in the whole Province are found, it has been possible to make an analysis of the proportion they bear to other races, thanks to the very full information furnished by the civic authorities. It is thus evident that in 1925 Orientals constituted the given percentages of the total number of licensees in each of the classes of trades following:—

	Per Cent.		Per Cent.
Laundries and laundry offices	82½	Grocers	25
Greengrocers	91	Wood-dealers	25
Hawkers and peddlers	72	Hardware	20
Poulterers	62	Lodging-houses	23
Fish-dealers	45	Candy and fruit dealers	25
Restaurants	33	Dressmakers	16
Bath-parlours	53	Shoe-repairing	15
Cleaners and dyers	39	Men's clothing	12½
Barbers	32	Printers and publishers	12
Dry-goods	29	Pool-rooms	12
Tailors	31	Licensed vehicles	14
Jewellers	26	Taxicabs	10
Tobacconists	26	Auto-drivers	9

Taking the Province as a whole, the Chinese are to the Japanese as 2 to 1 in the holding of trade licences. In Victoria nearly all are held by Chinese. In Vancouver the Japanese licence-holders are to the Chinese 5 to 6. Among the district municipalities Richmond has 87 out of the total of 122 trade licences issued to Japanese in all districts, while the adjoining municipalities of South Vancouver and Burnaby have between them more than one-third of the trade licences issued to Chinese in all districts.

No trading licences of any kind are held by Orientals within the cities of Alberni or Slocan, the district municipalities of Coldstream, Peachland, Salmon Arm, Spallumcheen, Sumas, or Tadanac, or the village of Burns Lake.

The fact is pointed out, particularly in Vancouver and Victoria, that whereas until recent years Chinese stores were only to be found in those quarters of the two cities which have for many years been occupied by people of this race, stores and laundries conducted by Chinese are now to be found spread over all parts of the cities, in addition to the still existing Chinese quarters. Municipal officials state that in numerous instances these stores, selling confectionery, soft drinks, fruits, cigarettes, vegetables, canned goods, or small groceries, have replaced or driven out white storekeepers who formerly made a livelihood, or supplemented the earnings of other members of the family, in this manner. Chinese residence in other quarters than their own has followed this business penetration.

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NUMBER OF TRADE LICENCES ISSUED TO ORIENTALS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA IN 1925.

City	Total No. Licenses Issued	CITIES																							
		Alberni	Amstutz	Chimney	Comox	Courtenay	Creston	Esquimalt	Fort St. John	Fort St. James	Langford	Leavenworth	Lynden	Maple Ridge	North Vancouver	Port Alberni	Port Moody	Prince George	Richmond	Salmon Arm	Shaw	Terrace	Vernon	Victoria	
Alberni	2																								
Amstutz	2																								
Chimney	2																								
Comox	2																								
Courtenay	2																								
Creston	2																								
Esquimalt	2																								
Fort St. John	2																								
Fort St. James	2																								
Langford	2																								
Leavenworth	2																								
Lynden	2																								
Maple Ridge	2																								
North Vancouver	2																								
Port Alberni	2																								
Port Moody	2																								
Prince George	2																								
Richmond	2																								
Salmon Arm	2																								
Shaw	2																								
Terrace	2																								
Vernon	2																								
Victoria	2																								
Totals	2,647	1,008	303	24	158	230	190	23	150	130	6	18	118	114	232	11	91	11	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

DISTRICTS

District	Total No. Licenses Issued
Burnaby	15
Chilliwack	11
Colubien	2
Coquitlam	1
Delta	8
East Vancouver	9
Fraser Mills	16
Gananoque	1
Maple Ridge	1
Metropolitan	1
North Vancouver	14
South Vancouver	11
Oak Bay	11