## "Canada A People's History: The Great Transformation"

## **Gold Mountain**

•	British Columbia was part of "Gam Saan", Mountain to the thousands of Chinese					
	men who first crossed the Pacific with dreams of a better life.					
•	In the early 1880s, 15,000 came to build the most difficult and dangerous sections					
	of the Canadian Pacific Railway.					
•	One Chinese worker died for every of track laid between Vancouver and the					
	Rockies.					
•	When the line was finished, railway workers spilled in to the emerging Chinatowns					
•	The Chinese perform the only jobs available to them in hand laundries, as cooks, domestics,					
	street vendors. Outside Chinatown, many are of this unknown seemingly					
	mysterious society.					
•	To try to stop Chinese immigration, the government sets up an entry fee, a fifty dollar					
	tax.					
•	Instead of giving them rights, the government decides to raise the head tax to					
	hundred dollars – two years salary at a sawmill or cannery.					
•	In just one year, 1905, immigration from China drops from nearly 5000 to just					
	people.					
•	Businesses too find ways to Chinese workers. A new fish canning machine replaces					
	a crew of 30, the "iron chink".					
•	Keeping British Columbia white is still proving difficult. While Chinese immigration has almost					
	stopped, thousands continue to arrive from Japan and					
•	On a Saturday night in September 1907, the newly formed Asiatic League calls a					
	huge protest rally at city hall. Half the city turns out. Part of the crowd turns on Chinatown.					

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- There are no deaths, but bitter feelings simmer for \_\_\_\_\_\_.