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powell st knows

by mark n toyama

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powell st knows
all about those
who limp, run, stagger or walk
criss-cross, stop and talk
for echoes of laughter
whispers of pain
odor of burnt toast
exotic scent of chow mein
dissolve into the street in mid-
night rain

that's how
powell st knows
powell st knows
and loves the light skip
of children as they trip
to school and their studies
a lovely age
when yellow and white are
buddies

powell st knows
of a youth in a room
dark, dreary and dank
a two by four tomb
and can tell by his weakening
tread

that god again forgot
his daily bread
powell st knows

powell st knows
and shudders and hates
dwellers by satan's gates
the reeling squaw in drunken
stupor falls
and tries to beat
her fists to pulp
on the wet concrete
and sobs

powell st knows
it is fifth avenue
main street wall street and park
avenue
serves
as the centre of a social scheme
longs to be the nucleus of a
grandeur dream
and yet

yoshio and yaeko's fanciful, feet
tuck on down a wondering
street
light fantastic
to a jitterbug beat

Moving? Let Us Know!

Have you moved, or are you moving? If so, and you still wish to read The New Canadian, please be sure to forward your change of address to the circulation manager of this newspaper. A large number of people have moved without giving any notification, with the result that they are missing copies later ask for, but which are no longer obtainable.

Readers are again reminded that no charge is being made for The New Canadian, and anyone wishing to receive the paper is asked to place his name and address with the circulation department.

Ottawa Told 4,300 Japanese Removed From Protected Area

OTTAWA.—The House of Commons Friday heard Hon Humphrey Mitchell, Minister of Labor, submit a report from the British Columbia Security Commission, which showed that 9,313 persons had passed through Commission machinery, and that 4,300 out of a total of 22,084, have been removed from the coastal protected area.

As of May 11, there were 2,555 persons of Japanese origin, including men, women, and children, confined to Hastings Park Clearing Station.

Road Camp projects had absorbed 2,285 males, distributed as follows:

Blue River - Yellowhead Section: 1,290

Revelstoke - Sicamous: 417

Hope - Princeton Highway: 237

Schreiber-White River, Ont.: 341

"Ghost Towns" in the interior of British Columbia had absorbed a total of 1021 persons to date, as follows:

Greenwood — 812

Kaslo — 185

Slocan — 22

Sandon — 2

Alberta sugar beet fields had taken a total of 1635 persons, and Manitoba farms, 720.

A total of 316 persons thus far have been moved on self-supporting projects, on which evacuees will be responsible for their own maintenance.

This included to date: Christina Lake—80, Bridge River and Minto City—150, Lillooet—51, and Westwood—35.

No figures were given for the number of people who have moved voluntarily to destinations of their own choice as private individuals.

ROYAL CITY EVACUATION COMPLETED

NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.—When the Canadian Pacific Kettle Valley train rolls out of New Westminster Sunday night,

May 17, with some 150 women and children, evacuation of this city and district will have been virtually completed. Left behind will be a small number of families who will be going to other projects.

A consistent policy of co-operation to effect an orderly removal has been marked in this district, since the very first movement of nationals to road camps and Niseis to Schreiber.

For the past several weeks a committee, including Bert Murakami and Hideo Onotera, of the Japanese Canadian Citizens Council, and George Sasaki, Yukio Hasebe, Kaichi Okihiro and Susumu Nagai, has been working under pressure to assist in the movement of women and children to interior towns.

The rapid movement into Kaslo has caused some congestion there, it is reported, but these difficulties are being ironed out steadily as the people are settling into the hotels and houses there.

Mission Co-op. Union Leases Maple Ridge Berry Exchange

Arrangements have been made by which the Maple Ridge Co-operative Producers Exchange business at Haney will be taken over by the Pacific Co-operative Union of Mission under a straight lease basis in trust, the Maple Ridge - Pitt Meadows Gazette said.

"This information was confirmed by J. B. Shimek, manager of the Pacific Co-operative Union who states that W. J. Briggs, bookkeeper in the Haney plant for some time, will be the branch manager," the report continues.

SIXTY FARMERS
"Y. Yamaga, manager of the Japanese berry growers co-operative organization at Haney for the past 15 years, was given orders by the security commission to move within 72 hours, and had to relinquish his post," the report said.

"The membership of the Maple Ridge Co-operative Producers Exchange was almost wholly Japanese but as the farms of members are being taken over by white farmers the produce from these farms will generally find its way to the Co-op. There are about twenty of the largest Japanese farmers still in the Maple Ridge district, and these comprise the greater part of the fruit acreage."

LEADER & SPOKESMAN
"Mr. Yamaga, leader and spokesman among the Japanese organized in the Fraser Valley, and around Haney for a great many that during his fifteen years," the report said, "had management of the Maple Ridge been in Maple Ridge for 35 years Co-operative Producers Exchange and was always active in community affairs. He has been a great try," the Gazette declared.

Committee Elected At Solsqua Camp

SOLSQUA, B. C.—A committee of six to act for the camp at Solsqua has been elected by ballot, and an advisory committee from the various working groups in the camp will soon be formed.

Acting on the committee are three Issei, A. Takagi and M. Yoshio, of Vancouver and H. Shimozawa; and three Nisei, Carr Suzuki and Chick Kuwabara of Maple and James Kumagai of New Westminster.

worker in the Japanese United Church, and is one of the executive of the British Columbia Maple Ridge - Pitt Meadows Fair Association.

"It is said that only through Mr. Y. Yamaga's efforts has the Co-operative movement among the Japanese been able to get organized in the Fraser Valley, and that during his fifteen years' management of the Maple Ridge Co-operative Producers Exchange has done much for the industry affairs. He has been a great try," the Gazette declared.

GREENWOOD COUNCIL

Work Pushed To Prepare Fourth "Ghost Town"

VANCOUVER, B. C., May 16.—An extra work crew of twenty-two men, including carpenters, plumbers and laborers, leaves here Sunday night to begin work at Sandon, B. C., last of the four "ghost towns" in the Kootenay area being used as a reception centre for evacuated women and children.

Registration of Buddhist families, who are expected to make up the bulk of the evacuees to this centre, is well under way, Rev. T. Tsuji of the Hompa Temple said. Rev. Tsuji returned Friday night from an inspection trip to Sandon.

The movement to Slocan, comprising Anglican families particularly, is due to begin Monday. This, together with the regular dispatch of city groups to Greenwood under the Catholic Mission, is expected to boost the evacuation of families from the city and from the clearing station at a faster rate.

The next report given by the Minister of Labor, Hon. Humphrey Mitchell, in the House of Commons, will show a much higher percentage of the total removed from the protected area.

ALMOST COMPLETE

Virtual conclusion of the sugar beet project is also in sight with seeding now beginning in Alberta fields, Commission officials indicate. Manitoba has been somewhat delayed owing to weather conditions, and a limited number of families from the lower part of the valley will be going to that province as soon as they can be selected by Mr. Wellwood, who is here representing the farmers in Manitoba.

The progress of evacuation, now clearly marked in New Westminster and Steveston, is becoming more apparent on Powell Street. Professional men report for instance a slackening off in services rendered. In the Japanese business section, once busy with shoppers, especially at the beginning of the removal program, there is a growing note of "deadness." More stores are closing daily.

Further groups of males are due to report for evacuation to road projects in the forthcoming week, keeping pace with the evacuation of families. The effect of all this, of course, will be to bring into greater prominence those who have thus far failed to make train connections.

Please Pack Your Baggage Carefully

Greater care in packing goods is urged upon all evacuees in a special communique from Nisei baggagemen in the ghost towns who stress these following points.

Tools, axes, etc. should not be packed into the empty space between the pedal and body of a sewing machine, unless extra care is taken in packing.

Knives, cutlery and any sharp instruments should be wrapped up very carefully, so that they will not cut through the baggage. Serious cuts were sustained by one Nisei baggageman from a knife sticking out of a large parcel.

Mattresses should be rolled up tightly and wrapped up to be kept clean.

Clothes bags should be tied up tightly.

Bicycles should be taken apart before shipment, and properly crated.

Shoyu and other food stuffs should be packed separately, especially if the shoyu is contained in bottles. In one case a large quantity of rice was ruined, because a bottle of shoyu broke.

In general, people are urged to pack up everything very carefully. And don't take too much, since space is very limited and accommodation is crowded!

GREENWOOD COMMITTEE
A telephone report from Greenwood says that the 900-odd people already settled there have a committee to direct affairs in the community.

It is indicated also that in urgent cases, relief can be secured on an advance basis immediately. There is definitely no fear that starvation or destitution awaits families moved to interior towns.

First Variety Show In The Park

That "much-talked-of but never-realized" concert at Hastings Park, first planned two months ago, finally becomes a reality this evening at 6 p.m. in the modern Exhibition Gardens, when the Welfare and Recreation Committee will sponsor the first variety show at the clearing station.

Pugnaciously diminutive Harry "F.B.I." Tsuchiya, fish-boat captain, electrician, manual training professor, and general trouble-shooter, will preside as master of ceremonies.

In the past the vaulted roof of the Gardens has flung back both the violent cheers of rabid basketball fans and the silvery-fluted tones of Dorothy Maynor.

This evening it will resound to full-voiced community sing-song, under the M.C.'s baton, the rhythmic sway of popular songs, both Japanese and English, and instrumental solos from a classic piano to a throbbing Hawaiian guitar.

1. Japanese Songs... Irene Tateyama
2. Popular Songs... Kazuo Yamasaki
3. Manzai... Tamotsu Yamamoto
4. Harmonica Solo... Doug. Sakae

5. Sing Song... Harry Tsuchiya
 6. Banjo Solo... Sueyoshi Ogaki
 7. Popular Songs... Ritsuko Kameda
 8. Japanese Songs... Takako Yano
 9. Popular Songs... Fujiya Toyota
 10. Sing Song... Harry Tsuchiya
 11. Song and Dance... Bobby Ito
 12. Japanese Songs... Lily Shishido
 13. Popular Songs... Eleanor Tsuchiya
 14. Martha Hori and Her Hawaiian Entertainers
- (Piano accompanists: Veznon Hakkaku, Fumi Ohori, Margaret Takahashi and Lily Ide.)

Revelstoke Seeks Trade From Road Camps

REVELSTOKE.—The Revelstoke Board of Trade Thursday night approved a suggestion of the City Council that Japanese from the six road camps west of here be permitted to come to Revelstoke each day to buy personal requirements. Letters will be forwarded to the B. C. Security Commission by both bodies endorsing the suggestion. There are over 500 Japanese on the project.