





Honorable Claude R. Wickard

-3-

March 13, 1942

March 13, 1942

Honorable Claude R. Wickard  
Secretary of Agriculture  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Secretary Wickard:

In an Associated Press dispatch dated San Francisco, March 10, Nobumitsu Takahashi, agricultural coordinator, Northern California District Council of the Japanese-American Citizens' League, is quoted as saying:

"The Japanese farmers stand to lose approximately \$100,000,000 in investments, but due to the complexity of the economic system, billion-dollar investments by others (Caucasians) will also be lost.

In other words, the economic structure of the vegetable industries, both wholesale and retail, will be seriously weakened.

These damaging effects of such nature will in no way bolster the United States war effort or the morale of its citizens."

Your careful consideration of this statement is suggested with a recommendation that you, in your official capacity as Secretary of Agriculture, undertake a thorough and sweeping investigation of this situation. Such investigation should go into the history of the colonization by Japanese and settlement on the lands of the Pacific Coast states from the earliest days in order to determine authoritatively and bring out openly the underlying factors which enabled this alien race to infiltrate and take possession of the finest agricultural lands of the western states in the face of the determined opposition of the governments of the different states and of citizens generally. How was it possible to overcome this opposition and secure control of these lands, notwithstanding all these states passed strict laws to the effect that aliens ineligible to citizenship should not be permitted to gain title to lands.

It is of paramount interest to this nation to give the most serious consideration to this question. If the approximately 130,000 Japanese in the Continental United States have been able to control directly not only one hundred million dollars in investments, but, as Takahashi implies, a billion dollars would be lost by the Caucasians, what will happen, within say the



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next fifty years if the Federal Government continues to ignore this question? Undoubtedly, the result would be that this economic strangle hold now demonstrated to exist on the Pacific Coast would be many times enlarged and become an increasingly grave danger to the republic.

Permit me to appeal to you, not only as the head of the Department of Agriculture but as a citizen, to give your personal attention and use the power and influence of your office to go into this matter most thoroughly.

You should undertake to ascertain how it has been possible for Japan to establish its colony in this country, maintaining it under complete control as part of its program of aggrandizement and eventual world conquest.

I suggest you draw on other departments for such information as will be enlightening to you. The Census Bureau should be asked to give you complete up-to-date figures covering immigration into the United States and Hawaii since its inception. Also, I suggest you ask the Census Bureau to supply you with detailed information on the number of Japanese who have annually gone back to Japan. It is estimated that approximately 25% of American-born Japanese have been taken back to Japan, a large number being children who have been trained up to owe their allegiance to Japan, and after completing their education have been returned to this country where they would render most useful service to the Japanese government.

Some department of the United States government should compile a complete case history of every Japanese in the Continental United States and its possessions, including both aliens and American-born, procuring accurate information on every detail of each individual.

Your particular attention should be directed to the Japanese organizations which so largely dominate the vegetable producing business of the Pacific Coast states. Twenty-three years ago I urged the then United States Attorney General that alien Japanese who were then setting up their produce associations be prosecuted for establishing a monopoly in the production and sale of vegetables and other farm products. I said at the time:

"The United States government is permitting Japanese to compete with American farmers, not on an even basis, but with a decided advantage."



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I suggested that

"Congress amend that provision of the law which exempts farmers from the Sherman Anti-trust Act, forbidding commerce in restraint of trade."

I also said:

"It is absolutely fatal to American interests to give the Japanese the weapon that the present law provides -- that of combining in restraint of competition."

These Japanese associations are more than they seem. They not only strangle American industry; they are, quite literally, a government within a government. Although, on the surface, they are merely combinations of Japanese farmers, they are actually the visible symbol of the Mikado in the United States. The associations are controlled from Tokyo, just as marionettes are pulled across the stage with a string, and if it ever came to a show-down you would find that the members would pay their allegiance to the invisible hand that pulls the string -- and not to the country in which they are making their living."

I am sure you will become personally interested in the phenomenal achievement of the Japanese government and its people in establishing themselves in our country and developing an influence with the various departments of the Federal Government, clear beyond that of our own citizens. We have for nearly half a century been appealing to every department of the United States government to take positive action that would checkmate these people. Their infiltration into this country, including development of influence with the various departments of the government, is actually the same tactics as applied in penetrating the jungles of Malaya.

It is now suggested by the writer that you not only use the full power of your department to make a sweeping investigation of this whole business, but that you endeavor to secure the coordination of all other departments of the government, in order that this malignant cancerous evil be permanently eliminated from this nation.

Sincerely,

Miller Freeman

MF:FM

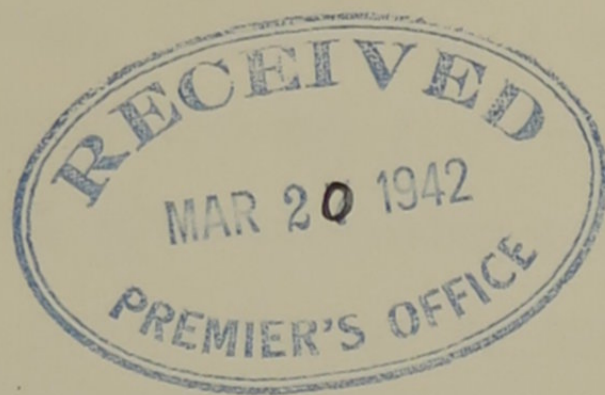




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VICTORIA

March 20, 1942.



The Honourable John Hart,  
Premier,  
BUILDINGS.

Dear Mr. Premier:

I enclose herewith my Report containing information which I obtained in regard to the Japanese situation while I was in California.

Yours sincerely,



REPORT RE JAPANESE SITUATION AS DEALT WITH IN CALIFORNIA.

On Tuesday, March 10th, I called upon the Honourable Earl Warren, Attorney-General for the State of California, to discuss the general situation with him. By reason of a request sent by Mr. Austin Taylor to the Honourable Ian Mackenzie, the Washington authorities were advised of my visit, and Attorney-General Biddle had sent instructions from Washington to give me the fullest information and co-operation. I found the authorities not only willing, but exceedingly anxious to discuss these matters and co-operate in reference to them.

I had the feeling that they were exceedingly glad to discuss the matter with me and very anxious to see a uniform handling of this situation.

The Attorney-General's Assistant, Warren Olney, was available for any information I required from that Department. Lieutenant-Commander Ringle of Los Angeles (Navy), and Nat Peiper, F. B. I. Agent, also discussed the situation with me, and I dealt with Mr. Howland, Assistant to the Attorney-General of the United States whose Headquarters are temporarily in San Francisco, and who is in charge of the handling of the Japanese in that State on behalf of the Federal Authorities.

The situation in relation to the handling of the Japanese in the United States is a little different to that in Canada, and the authority is centralized in General DeWitt who is Western Defence Commander of the 4th Army. His jurisdiction is over



the Ninth Division which covers the seven western States.

Apparently there is no division of authority and under the unified command the war situation in California is handled without having to make reference to various departments.

Following the Pearl Harbour episode the Japanese question came very live in California, and exhaustive investigations were made by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

There was a very strong feeling on the part of the people of the State that the Japanese should be removed. This feeling was natural for the reasons of war and the additional reason that California had always stood against the Japanese immigration, and apparently had stood alone on this question against the other States in the Union. It must be remembered that Japanese are not naturalized in the United States and that immigration has been completely stopped since 1924. They have not been allowed to buy land since 1920. The result is that the nationals are all older Japanese, many of them very old men and women, and not much difficulty was feared in reference to them. Investigations of the F. B. I., however, showed that the danger came from the native-born younger Japanese. The authorities in California feared this element more than any other of the Japanese elements. They had many Japanese organizations, some of these reaching as far as and including British Columbia. They had foreign language schools which, upon investigation,



have been found to be sources of propaganda from Japan. They have many young Japanese who have been to Japan for their education and have come back and preached the doctrine of Japanese domination. The authorities concluded from all of the information gathered together that a Japanese is a Japanese, and the danger lies with all Japanese, whether they be men, women, or children.

The determination was arrived at that they must be removed from the Coast and the Constitution of the United States raised the first difficulty. As I have already pointed out, there are no naturalized Japanese, and the native born are American citizens and entitled to the inalienable rights of all such citizens.

This made it rather difficult to make any rules or regulations dealing with specific members of the United States, and research was made to find a precedent for any action that may be taken. A precedent was found under President Madison in 1812, when an Order was made to the effect that all British subjects be removed forty miles back from the Atlantic Coast. (Forty miles in 1812 meant more than one hundred miles in 1942).

A combat zone has been established running back one hundred miles inland. This is under the direction of General DeWitt.



The Government of Mexico was asked to co-operate in order that action in the United States would not be nullified by the Japanese in Mexico.

Mexico set up two inland areas, gave every Japanese ten days to get there or an alternative of being shot. Their action was speedy and effective.

Under the power vested in General DeWitt he has power in the combat zone to restrict and require movement of all persons as to their residence, and they can all be required to reside under permit.

The authorities felt that they were faced with certain situations which should be given consideration.

Firstly, the necessity of the removal of all Japanese from the combat zone.

Secondly, the carrying out of this removal in such a way as to leave no allegations of cruelty or inhuman treatment possible.

Thirdly, the protection of Japanese property from exploitation because of the necessity of their having to dispose of their goods, chattels, and businesses speedily.

On March 2nd, 1942, General DeWitt issued an Order from Headquarters Western Defence Command and Fourth Army to the people of Arizona, California, Oregon, and Washington, and to the public generally, in which he recited that by virtue of orders made by the War Department in December 1941, that portion of the United States lying within the States of Oregon,



Washington, California, Montana, Idaho, Nevada, Utah, and Arizona, and the Territory of Alaska, has been established as the Western Defence Command, and designated as a theatre of operation and further by Executive Order 9066, dated February 19th, 1942, the President of the United States authorized and directed the Secretary of War and the Military Commanders (from time to time designated) whenever he or any such designated commander deems such action necessary or desirable, to prescribe military areas.... from which any or all persons may be excluded and with respect to which the right of any person to enter, remain in or leave shall be subject to whatever restrictions the Secretary of War or the appropriate Military Commander may impose in his discretion. The Order further recited that:

"The Western Defense Command embraces the entire Pacific Coast of the United States which by its geographical location is particularly subject to attack, to attempted invasion by the armed forces of nations with which the United States is now at war, and, in connection therewith, is subject to espionage and acts of sabotage, thereby requiring the adoption of military measures necessary to establish safeguards against such enemy operations".

It was therefore ordered by J. L. DeWitt, Lieutenant General, United States Army, as follows:

"1. The present situation requires as a matter of military necessity the establishment in the territory embraced by the Western Defense Command of Military Areas and Zones thereof as defined in Exhibit 1, hereto attached, and as generally shown on the map attached hereto and marked Exhibit 2.



2. Military Areas Nos. 1 and 2, as particularly described and generally shown hereinafter and in Exhibits 1 and 2 hereto, are hereby designated and established.

3. Within Military Areas Nos. 1 and 2 there are established Zone A-1, lying wholly within Military Area No. 1; Zones A-2 to A-99, inclusive, some of which are in Military Area No. 1, and the others in Military Area No. 2; and Zone B, comprising all that part of Military Area No. 1 not included within Zones A-1 to A-99, inclusive; all as more particularly described and defined and generally shown hereinafter and in Exhibits 1 and 2.

Military Area No. 2 comprises all that part of the States of Washington, Oregon, California and Arizona which is not included within Military Area No. 1, and is shown on the map (Exhibit 2) as an unshaded area.

4. Such persons or classes of persons as the situation may require will by subsequent proclamation be excluded from all of Military Area No. 1 and also from such of those zones herein described as Zones A-2 to A-99, inclusive, as are within Military Area No. 2.

Certain persons or classes of persons who are by subsequent proclamation excluded from the zones last above mentioned may be permitted, under certain regulations and restrictions to be hereafter prescribed, to enter upon or remain within Zone B.

The designation of Military Area No. 2 as such does not contemplate any prohibition or regulation or restriction except with respect to the zones established therein.

5. Any Japanese, German or Italian alien, or any person of Japanese Ancestry now resident in Military Area No. 1 who changes his place of habitual residence is hereby required to obtain and execute a "Change of Residence Notice" at any United States Post Office within the States of Washington, Oregon, California and Arizona. Such notice must be executed at any such Post Office not more than five nor less than one day prior to any such change of residence. Nothing contained



herein shall be construed to affect the existing regulations of the U. S. Attorney General which require aliens of enemy nationalities to obtain travel permits from U. S. Attorneys and to notify the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Commissioner of Immigration of any change in permanent address.

6. The designation of prohibited and restricted areas within the Western Defense Command by the Attorney-General of the United States under the Proclamations of December 7 and 8, 1941, and the instructions, rules, and regulations prescribed by him with respect to such prohibited and restricted areas, are hereby adopted and continued in full force and effect.

The duty and responsibility of the Federal Bureau of Investigation with respect to the investigation of alleged acts of espionage and sabotage are not altered by this proclamation."

It will be seen by this Order that such persons or classes of persons as the situation may require will by subsequent proclamation be excluded from all of Military Area No. 1, and also such zones as are within Military Area No. 2, and that special permission may be given to certain persons or classes of persons to enter or remain within Zone B. Zone A and B. are shown on Pages 16 and 17 of the Public Proclamation No. 1, attached.

Additional regulations controlling travel and conduct of aliens, certificates of identification, etc., have also been issued.

This is the background showing the authority and the reason for setting up authority for dealing with Japanese in California.



The whole question of dealing with alien enemies in this or any other State has been turned over to the Department of Justice, and they have set up in San Francisco, under Tom C. Clark, a complete system of machinery for dealing with the situation. Mr. Clark is Co-Ordinator of Enemy Alien Control, Western Defence Command, and working with him is Wallace Howland, Assistant Chief of Civilian Staff, Western Defence Command. Mr. Howland is an Assistant to the United States Attorney-General.

The Justice Department sent these two men to San Francisco, and their staff has taken two floors in the Witham Hotel in that City, which is the official centre for handling alien problems. They have to deal with about 93,000 Japanese.

It was pointed out to me that General DeWitt felt very keenly on the point of proper treatment for self-security, and is very anxious indeed that the handling of this matter, in both the United States and Canada, be as uniform as possible in order that there might be no allegations, by comparison, of improper treatment of these people.

The Japanese occupations in California differ from those in British Columbia. Their largest occupation in California is agriculture.



Their first difficulty was that no other locality in California or in any other State wanted to take the Japanese.

The wide powers given to General DeWitt, however, made it possible for him to say where these people were to go, and, in my opinion, this is the only proper way to handle the situation. It was decided down there to keep them together. If they are disbanded as far as their families are concerned, those left behind are soon out of funds and become a charge on the Community. If they are allowed to go wherever they like local situations arise originating new problems which have to be met with. Furthermore, allowing them to go into new sections results in chaos economically and socially. It was decided that infiltration was not practical, and Government control and surveillance was necessary, and also provided them with protection against possible flare-ups, and things of that kind. It further gave assurance to the Community, as they became wards of the Government.

The policy is to set up community groups of 5,000 or more, provide housing and useful employment. So far the removal has not really begun, apart from the removal of necessary groups because of their former connections or



activities; but the Government is now setting up reception centres for the immediate housing of these people until permanent settlement in areas where they can be usefully and gainfully employed are established.

They have selected for the permanent establishment lands in Arizona, on Indian Reserves, where they have a large irrigation project. A dam has just been completed and they have 50,000 acres that can be put into cultivation in six months' time. They are now setting up reception centres there and are moving first the Japanese who can do construction work. They expect these reception centres ultimately to receive as many as 10,000 Japanese each.

The mode of transfer has not been decided upon, nor have they yet been told to get out of the State of California, and will not be so told until arrangements are made. These reception centres will provide for community messes, and to the greatest extent possible, work will all be done by Japanese. Cooks, dish washers, carpenters, electricians, mechanics, and all different work necessary will be carried out by the Japanese paid for by the Government, and, of course, they will be under Military supervision. They will be charged back certain amounts for board and lodging.



So far two properties have been selected, one in Arizona and one in Nevada. Present plans are to get 20,000 out of the critical area within forty-five days.

They will use fabricated buildings, which they expect to erect at the rate of 1000 per day. They will be standard designs, such as are already used for army purposes, standard barracks, messes, houses, etc.

A special Order has been made making it an offence for any Japanese to sabotage any crop or other thing he leaves behind when he leaves the territory.

The Federal Bank has been appointed as a Trustee of their property. This was found necessary because of advantage being taken of Japanese who were making sacrifices in order to realize upon their property before leaving.

Another problem they are making a study of is taking care of the crops formerly taken care of by the Japanese. This is a very difficult problem, one which will require considerable thought.

The exception which may be made to the localizing of Japanese in California is a suggested exchange of Japanese students from the Universities for other students from Eastern Universities.

The fact that I had the honour to represent the Canadian Bar Association at the American Bar Association



-12-

Meeting in 1939 made the way very easy for me, and the co-operation exceedingly generous.

If I can be of any further help or assistance in discussion or negotiation with the authorities in California, I will be glad to give my services.

March 16, 1942.



J-3-29

1 9 4 2  
April 7

Keith Pratt, Esq.,  
BLOOMFIELD STATION, P.E.I.

Dear Sir:

I have for acknowledgment your letter of March 27 and note what you have to say regarding your desire to purchase one of the businesses relinquished by Japanese owing to their transfer from the Coast. I would suggest that you communicate with Major Austin C. Taylor, who is Chairman of the B. C. Security Commission, Vancouver, B.C., and has charge of these matters.

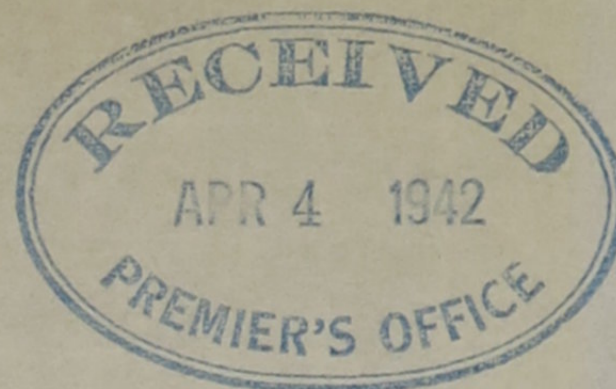
Yours faithfully,



43163 ✓

Bloomfield Station P.E.I.

March 27th 1942



Premier of British Columbia  
Victoria B.C.

Dear Sir:

I understand that the Japanese have been taken from their places of business and interned in the interior, Please advise if there would be a good chance for a person to secure a business ? What arrangement would there be? Would a person have to buy the business out, or rent it? after the war would be over would the former occupants carry on again?

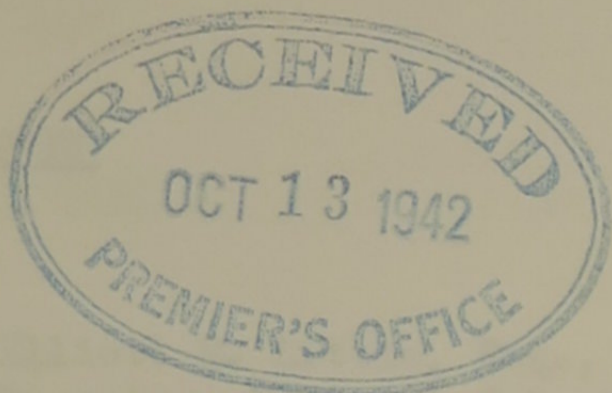
Any information you can give me will be greatly appreciated.

Yours truly,

Keith Pratt

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Keith Pratt". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned below the typed name.





8-3-29  
TELEPHONE MARINE 8131

47798  
✓

355 BURRARD STREET  
VANCOUVER, CANADA

October 10th, 1942.

The Honourable John Hart,  
Premier, Province of British Columbia,  
Parliament Buildings,  
VICTORIA, B. C.

Dear Mr. Premier:

Not for publication but for your information  
I am enclosing a copy of letter going forward today to Mr. Elliott M.  
Little, which will explain itself.

Yours very truly,

*Wilfred Hanbury*  
Wilfred Hanbury, *per*  
Monte Lake, B. C.

WH:O





copy

October 10th, 1942

Elliott M. Little, Esq.,  
Director, National Selective Service,  
Motor Building,  
OTTAWA, Canada.

Dear Mr. Little:

Being maintained in British Columbia and contributing nothing whatsoever to the war effort are over four thousand able-bodied men. I refer to the Japanese. These Japanese are not working because -

- (a) By legislation of the Province of British Columbia, Orientals are excluded from working in logging operations. (Provincial legislation does not prohibit them from working in sawmilling.)
- (b) The British Columbia Security Commission has prohibited Japanese employment in sawmilling and lumbering.

There exists today the greatest shortage of lumber in history and it is becoming more pronounced daily. Mines in British Columbia and Alberta are being forced to curtail production for lack of timber. Millions of bushels of grain on the Prairies will spoil for lack of storage. The fruit-growers of British Columbia, who this year were unable to procure the full amount of lumber to box their fruit crop, are faced with no supply whatsoever in 1943. One year's work of 4,000 workmen (even if not experienced) could produce all the lumber required by these mines, farmers and fruit-growers.

Assuming the consent of the military authorities to the employment of Japanese as suggested, I recommend that you order immediately that all able-bodied Japanese be made available to industry in non-defence areas of Canada.

For political reasons it is quite unlikely that the British Columbia Legislature would rescind or suspend their legislation prohibiting employment of Japanese in logging operations. For this reason, I recommend that the Federal Government raise this prohibition by Order-in-Council under the War Measures Act.

Your order should be accompanied by a strong appeal to employers outside of defence areas to use Japanese labour where possible, and to those key employees who must remain in each industry, that they work harmoniously with Japanese, solely for the purpose of greater war production.



Page 2.

Elliott M. Little, Esq.

October 10th, 1942

This plan would release much trained labour now employed in non-defence areas, and which is badly needed in lumbering and other industries in defence areas.

The proper authorities would, of course, decide upon the necessary accommodation, policing and restrictions.

I am addressing this letter to you in support of the unanimous resolution to the same effect, telegraphed to the Timber Controller of Canada from Penticton, B. C., on September 26th, on behalf of the Interior Lumber Manufacturers' Association, of which I am a Director. I am also Chairman of the Timber Control Committee for the Interior of British Columbia.

With you remains the decision as to whether Canada can longer afford the luxury of maintaining unemployed a potential production of over 400,000,000 feet of lumber during the next war year.

Yours very truly,

Willfred Hanbury  
Monte Lake, B. C.

WH:O



J-3-29

1 9 4 2  
Dec. 24

H. E. Beyer, Esq.,  
Managing Secretary,  
Kyuquot Trollers Co-operative Assn.,  
1124 Government Street,  
VICTORIA, B. C.

Dear Mr. Beyer:

In the absence of the Honourable the Premier  
I am acknowledging copy of your letter addressed to the  
Prime Minister of Canada. You can be assured that this  
matter will be given the fullest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

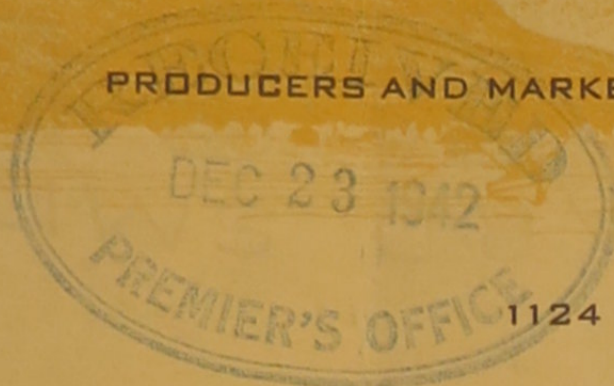
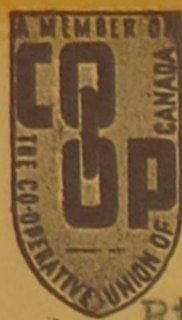
HEB/H

*H. E. Beyer*  
Managing Secretary.



# KYUQUOT TROLLERS CO-OPERATIVE ASS'N

PRODUCERS AND MARKETERS OF OCEAN TROLL-CAUGHT QUALITY SALMON



BUYING STATIONS:

KYUQUOT  
KLASKISH  
WINTER HBR.  
UCLUELET  
BAMFIELD  
REFUGE COVE

1124 GOVERNMENT ST. - VICTORIA, B.C.

December 22nd, 1942.

Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King P.C.  
Prime Minister of Canada  
Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Mr. Prime Minister: Re: Japanese Re-patriation

At the Annual General Meeting of our Association consisting of 405 bona fide fishermen fishing up the west coast of Vancouver Island, the question of re-patriation of Japanese was discussed fully and the stand taken by our letters directed to the authorities since 1932 was confirmed.

We beg to refer the Prime Minister to our letter dated January 8th, 1942, in which we set out the fishermen's unalterable opposition to the Japanese in the fishing industry and, as world affairs have developed, we further wish to stress these points, and are now asking that re-patriation of all Japanese in Canada be made part of the terms of peace.

It has been firmly demonstrated during this year how easily the Japanese can be replaced with white fishermen without curtailing fish production. We, in our Association, made room for sixty more fishermen earning a decent living on grounds where previously the Japanese were predominant.

We would also suggest that all real property owned by Japanese, as in the case of Ucluelet, be disposed of at a fair price to white people so as to give the population in these places an opportunity to get possession of their own homes instead of paying rent to the Japanese. Our members feel that as long as the Japanese own property the Government is doing too little to prevent them from again occupying these places at the end of the war, when it would be doubly difficult to remove them; although it is expected that the Government will see to it that this country is made secure for Canadians who owe allegiance to only one Government.

"Therefore, be it resolved that the members of this Association request the Government to re-patriate all people of Japanese birth and descent at the end of the war, and in order to facilitate this move that all their property be disposed of so as to avoid obstacles that might arise because of Japanese being property owners."

Yours very truly,

Kyuquot Trollers Co-operative Association.  
per

*J. H. Beyer*  
Managing Secretary.

HEB/H



J-3-29

1 9 4 3  
April 23

G. H. Dunn, Esq.,  
City Clerk,  
Corporation of the City of Kelowna,  
KELOWNA, B. C.

Dear Sir:

I have for acknowledgment your letter of April 16 and note the resolution passed by the City Council of Kelowna in connection with the Honourable the Attorney-General's stand with regard to the purchase of property by people of the Japanese race.

Please be advised that this policy was adopted by the Provincial Cabinet some time ago.

Yours faithfully,

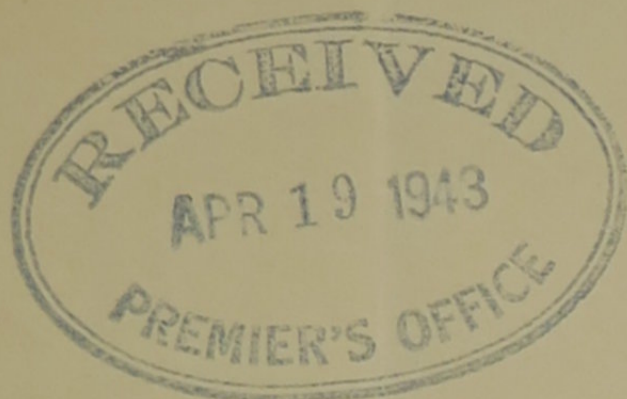
Premier.



*The Corporation of the City of Kelowna*

*G. A. McKay, Mayor*  
*G. H. Dunn, City Clerk and Treasurer*

50480  
8



*Kelowna, B.C.*

April 16th, 1943.

The Hon. the Premier,  
Parliament Buildings,  
Victoria, B.C.

Sir:-

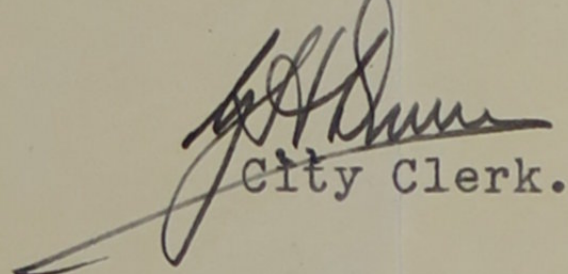
I beg leave to inform you that, at the regular meeting of the Municipal Council of The Corporation of the City of Kelowna held on the 12th instant, the following resolution was passed:-

"That the City Council of the City of Kelowna heartily support the action of the Hon, R. L. Maitland, K.C., Attorney General for B.C., in refusing to allow sales of property to people of Japanese race and respectfully ask that he continue to adopt that attitude as a settled policy for the future and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier and to the Attorney General".

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

  
City Clerk.

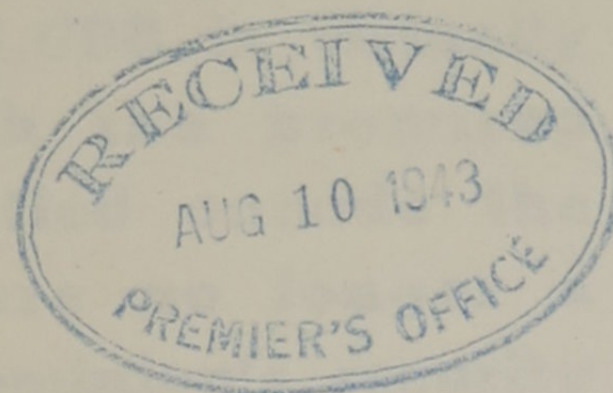
GHD/J.





Ottawa, August 4, 1943

Honourable John Hart,  
Premier,  
Victoria, B.C.



Dear Sir:

I attach for your information  
"Canadian Business" of July 1943 which con-  
tains on page 48 an article by Austin F.  
Cross describing the evacuation and reallocation  
of Japanese in Canada by the British Columbia  
Security Commission under the authority of the  
Minister of Labour.

Yours very truly,

*A. MacNamara*  
A. MacNamara.  
Deputy Minister.

Japanese. When he gave this pledge  
in the House of Commons, he meant  
it, because to a native Briton and a  
former Royal Navy man, nothing  
less than British fair play would  
have been good enough. But he also

Before Pearl Harbour, Steveson was a  
well populated, all Japanese town at the  
mouth of the Fraser. Today its streets are  
deserted and the inhabitants have been  
removed to a less strategic community

a Japanese in Canada since December  
7, 1941.)

Coming up in place of the B. C.  
Security Commission, which went  
out of business, has been the Com-  
mittee of Japanese Placement, headed  
by Commissioner George C. Collins,



# What's Become of the Japanese?

**A year ago, Canada's Japanese were front page news. Today the task of finding new homes for more than 20,000 is virtually complete. Treated with the promised "British fair play", settled outside the strategic areas, they are no longer a potential threat to the Dominion's security**

**By AUSTIN F. CROSS**

**C**ANADA'S Yellow Peril has vanished. More than a year ago, thousands in this country were anxious about the Japanese problem. Today it is as dead as last year's bogeyman.

What has happened in the last twelve months to change Canadian opinion, to reduce Canada's Japanese population from a red-hot menace to a lot of harmless "Nips"? Briefly, Canada has reversed the old saw: *In union there is strength*, for it has scattered the Japanese, until today the adage might read: *In dispersal there is safety*.

A hundred Japs on Lulu Island at the mouth of the Fraser, near an airport, where a few Nipponese Quislings with good guns could control west coast shipping, is one thing, but a hundred Japs scattered the length and breadth of Quebec is another. Canada has solved the Japanese problem by spreading them ever so thin.

At the start, Hon. Humphrey Mitchell, Minister of Labour, promised "British fair play" to all Japanese. When he gave this pledge in the House of Commons, he meant it, because to a native Briton and a former Royal Navy man, nothing less than British fair play would have been good enough. But he also

had in mind the unspeakable reprisals the Japanese would be only too eager to practise on helpless Canadians languishing behind barbed wire.

## **How the Transfer Worked**

The story of this wholesale transfer of 21,228 men, women and children, without precedent anywhere,



Before Pearl Harbour, Steveston was a well populated, all Japanese town at the mouth of the Fraser. Today its streets are deserted and the inhabitants have been removed to a less strategic community

and carried on without bloodshed or casualties, is something of which Canada should be proud. But it has been chronicled elsewhere. Perhaps less well-known is the fact that, while the Americans handled their Japs at a *per capita* cost last year of \$600, Canada managed to look after its Japanese at an average cost of about \$200 per head. Nor did Canada skimp, since the Government was determined that no complaints of hardship or privation should be directed against it for its handling of the Japanese.

The skill with which the British Columbia Security Commission operated was so great that within a year they worked themselves out of a job. They removed the Japanese, reduced them from a menace to a help, and treated them so well that the first act of sabotage by a Japanese has yet to be recorded. (On the official documents it is stated by a high officer of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police that no known act of sabotage has been committed by a Japanese in Canada since December 7, 1941.)

Coming up in place of the B. C. Security Commission, which went out of business, has been the Committee of Japanese Placement, headed by Commissioner George C. Collins,



official of the Department of Labour. And back of it all has been the skilful hand of Arthur Mac-Namara, who can usually check trouble before it happens. He got everything flowing as smoothly as warm oil over glass.

Meanwhile, what has happened to the Japanese from Pearl Harbour until now? Figures of the Department of Labour reveal the following:

Interior Housing Centers.....	12,146 (3,044 nationals)
Self supporting projects.....	1,296 (213 nationals)
Road camps.....	801 (472 nationals)
British Columbia.....	1,325
Alberta.....	2,664
Saskatchewan.....	54
Manitoba.....	1,090
Ontario—Industry.....	997
Road Camps.....	50
Interned.....	628
Quebec.....	95
Total Japanese evacuated by B.C. Security Commission.....	21,228
Settled outside restricted area prior to evacuation.....	2,428
Repatriated to Japan.....	42
Total.....	23,698

Of the total Japanese in Canada, 5,020 are Japanese nationals, or about 21 per cent.

### The Interior Housing Centers

But the table only tells part of the story. Take, for instance, the interior housing centers. There are 12,146 people in these communities, spread out through the interior. Tashme, a brand new center, has 2,612 population; Slocan 2,806; and New Denver, 1,793. Tashme, by the way, is a coined word, the first two letters of the names of the three security commissioners, Taylor, SHerras, and MEad. Here, Japanese are working on a road project to help develop the Hope-Princeton highway, long a dream in British Columbia. It will be completed this year.

Generally speaking, the housing centers not only maintain women, children and old people, but constitute a handy labour supply, if anybody cares to employ Japanese.

For instance, let us suppose that a man in Montreal wants a Japanese gardener. He goes to Mrs. Marguerite O'Connell, Japanese Placement Officer at the National Selective Service office on St. James Street,

and makes application. Then the B. C. placement officer selects the most suitable candidate. The prospective gardener is told what his pay will be, and conditions of service. When one is chosen, he is sent to Montreal under Government auspices.

More and more, people are availing themselves of Japanese labour.

Here, for instance, are the types of men available at the end of April in B.C. settlements: millhands, 443; loggers, 223; farmers, 189; gardeners, 101; fishermen, 282; cannery workers, 50; domestics and dressmakers, mostly female, 219; office workers and store clerks, 145; general labourers, 209; dry cleaners or launderers, 63; chauffeurs, 45; cooks, 38; printers, 11; tinsmiths, 9; watchmakers, 9; tailors, 9; shoemakers, 8; marine engineers, 7; electricians, 7; miscellaneous, 333. Total, 1,988.

The official B. C. Security Commission report says of New Denver: "Japanese population 1,505.

"New Denver is situated on the east side of Slocan Lake, between the Kootenay and Arrow Lakes in the Upper Columbia River Basin. It has an altitude of 1,700 feet, with temperatures ranging from 90 degrees above to 20 degrees below zero. Annual rainfall is about 11 inches. The soil is fertile, well adapted to

mixed farming, gardening, and the cultivation of berries and fruits. Of the original white population of several thousand, only 350 now remain and the place of the former residents has now been taken by the Japanese evacuees.

"A well-equipped local hospital serves the needs of the whole adjacent district and the commission is building a sanatorium for the hospitalization of Japanese tubercular cases, which will accommodate 100 patients."

This is typical of the reports the Government have made of the many town and community projects they have arranged.

It is noteworthy that, of those living in these seven communities, over one-quarter are Nisei, or Japanese nationals.

### Self-Supporting Nipponese

Then there are the self-supporting Japanese. These are located at Christina Lake, 108; Lillooet, 337; Minto City, 333; Bridge River, 266; McGillivray Falls, 67; and Taylor Lake, 185. Of the total, 213 are Japanese nationals.

The self-supporting Japs are those who are in business for themselves, and who are deemed to be "safe" people. For instance, a man running a store in Vancouver might have

At Tashme, one of the interior housing centers, the Government allows the Japanese to look after their own office administration. You'll envy them their new typewriters

—National Film Board







Even when there's a war on, tiny Japanese children find that lessons must be kept up. All but one of the young scholars seem to be deeply absorbed in their primers —National Film Board

been told to move out, but there would be nothing to stop him running a similar kind of store in the interior, in a safe center. Again, a professional man, or one who had means, could go up country, buy an hotel and operate it. As long as the Jap behaves himself and is self-supporting, the Government leaves him alone. That is to say, there is surveillance, but no interference. These self-supporters have given the Government no trouble.

In a different category are those who have worked and are working in the road camps. There are three of these camps, and in them 472 out of 801 are nationals. It speaks well for their law-abiding instincts that these Japs, although they have had many opportunities to do so, have not committed sabotage. At least one camp borders on one of our trans-continental railways, but the Nipponese seemingly have no intention of trying anything.

#### Japs in Other Provinces

There are also some 1,169 Japs in British Columbia engaged in farming and logging, and 21 in the hospitals and 3 in jail.

Eurasians, who are mostly allowed to live in the protected areas where

they have always lived, total 132. Married to whites, or part white themselves, they seem little likely to cause the Government any embarrassment.

On the prairie there were many sugar beet farms peopled by Japs last year, but this year they are not so enthusiastic. Apparently the rewards are not commensurate with

The Japanese dentist, practising in the B.C. Security Commission's Clinic at Kaslo, a housing center, supplied his own equipment. The nurse helps the patient's morale —National Film Board



the work. Meanwhile, a few in the cities have hired Japs as housemen or as housemaids. There are also 19 orphans usefully employed in the three prairie provinces.

Ontario has taken up quite a few in logging camps and as gardeners and efforts are being made now by Ontario lumbermen to get more Japanese, who for years have been among the good loggers of B.C.

There is also one internment camp "somewhere in Ontario", located at least 1,500 miles from either the Atlantic or the Pacific. The interned Japs are the so-called "bad" ones. Their loyalty would warm Hirohito's heart but nobody else's. The Mounties had for a couple of years before the trouble been ear-marking the bad cases, and these when the time came were rounded up and sent to Ontario.

In Quebec, there are about 100 Japanese. These include domestic workers, restaurant help, and students. The students move about freely in Montreal as in other provinces and no one pays any attention to them. Obviously, their sympathies are with Canada, otherwise their freedom would not be so assured. They are the product of Canadian public schools, Canadian environment, Canadian sports, Canadian magazines, Canadian culture, and it is safe to

say that the only thing Japs  
about them is their skin.

Including those in internment  
camps, there are in all 1,097 Japanese  
nationals east of the Rockies.

#### All Facilities Provided

The Government has little to say  
about the Japanese, but it has been  
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vides for the maintenance of old  
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### All Facilities Provided

The Government has little to say about the Japanese, but it has been stated that Government policy provides for the maintenance of old people physically unfit and the children in the interior housing centers (Slocan, Tashme, etc.) of British Columbia. As for the males, a Government report says: "The physically fit are expected to take employment in various parts of Canada where labour shortages make their assistance necessary."

There are many interesting phases of this Japanese situation. For instance, in the hospitals set aside for Japanese patients, Japanese doctors and nurses are provided. In one town, a Japanese dentist looks after Japanese teeth.

The schooling was an important issue but the Government sees to it that the Japanese children go to our Canadian schools. Education is not neglected. In fact, this is one of the best ways of avoiding any Japanese problem in the future.

There are many young Japs who want to form a Canadian battalion



—National Film Board

Potential danger to Canadian security are the Japanese nationals, most of whom are now working in road camps. To judge by this mealtime scene, they don't go hungry

to go and fight for Canada. Thus far, the Dominion has forbidden it, although United States has encouraged and permitted the organization of pro-American battalions of Japanese.

What particularly worries those who have to deal with the Japanese Canadians, and who know what is on their minds is the growing bitter-

ness among the pro-Canadian Japs. It is claimed that some are being driven to a pro-Japanese outlook merely by the refusal of some Canadians to see there are "good" and "bad" Japanese. Thus far, the military authorities seem to cling to the snap judgment of one American officer, who exclaimed: "A Jap's a Jap." Not only would these men be good soldiers, it is pointed out by those who know them, but army service would heighten their Canadian patriotism and loyalty. As it is now, events are forcing them to become pro-Japanese almost against their will.

### Japanese Sympathizers

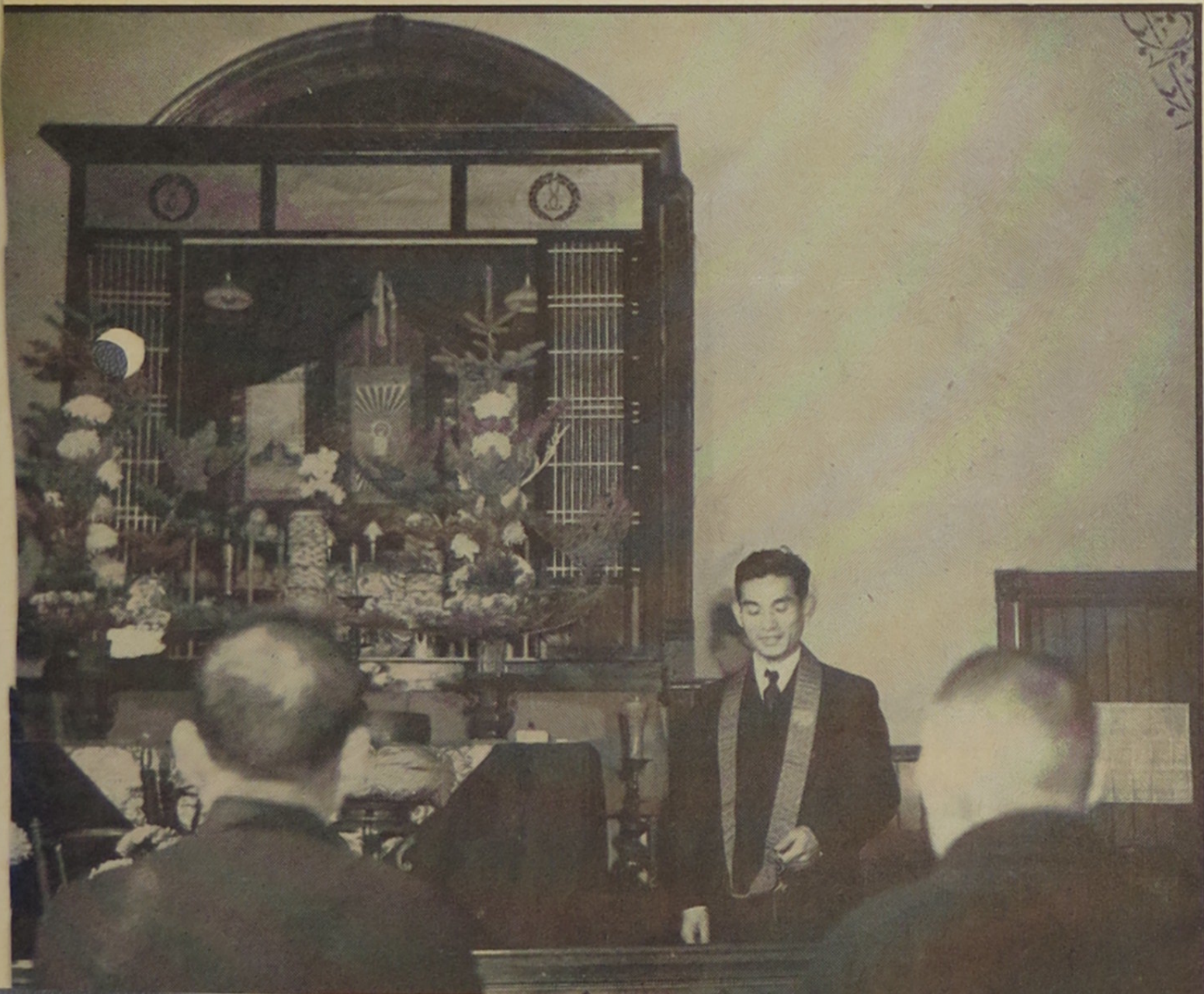
As for the out-and-out Japanese, the Japanese Government has not forgotten them. They have received New Year's greetings, urging them to be steadfast in their faith to the Mikado. The cards were not entirely limited to Nisei, but were sent to some who have taken the Canadian oath of allegiance. Those born in Japan, regardless of having sworn away citizenship, are still regarded as Japanese by the Government of Tojo.

Getting the Japanese back to Japan apparently has presented a

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Freedom of religion is assured to Canada's Japanese and facilities for religious services provided. The picture shows the interior of one Buddhist temple at Sandon, B.C.

—National Film Board





that Edmonton people are pioneer people and are ready to work to capitalize on the possibilities that beckon.

### What's Become of the Japanese?

[Continued from page 51]

problem. Thus far, only 42 nationals have returned from Canada to their homeland. There are others—not many—who have indicated that they want to be back in Japan, but the Japanese Government has apparently not been able to devise a plan for repatriating them. Shipping, of course, is a major factor, and they must be moved three-quarters of the way around the world. Again, and this can only be conjectured, a release of Japanese should be accompanied by a similar release of Canadians. The Japanese either can't or won't provide the necessary exchanges right now.

#### Spanish Hold Watching Brief

Looking after the Japanese interests in Canada fell to the lot of the Spanish Government. Last summer, Pedro Schwartz, Spanish consul general in Montreal, travelled through the west with Mr. Rive, an official of the Department of External Affairs. The Canadian Government gave the party *carte blanche* to go where they wanted and see what they wanted.

According to the official Government report "at the conclusion of his duty he (Mr. Schwartz) expressed himself as being satisfied that the Commission was doing everything possible to deal with the Japanese evacuees in a humane manner."

Meanwhile, of course, the International Red Cross has visited repeatedly the various places where the Japanese are located, and as Canada is a signatory to the Geneva Convention, she is carrying out its provisions to the letter.

But the Japanese have put their own check on their people in Canada. Some months ago, Ferdinand De Kobbe, a career official, came to take

up his post as Spanish Consul in Vancouver. Since Spain never had a consul in Vancouver before, since her Spanish nationals must be only a handful, and since the Franco Government does not seem to be increasing its representation abroad, the conclusion must be that, by agreement, Spain has undertaken to keep a watching brief on the Japanese in Canada for the Tokyo Government. De Kobbe is the Japs' lookout in Canada.

As the situation improved on the west coast, as the Americans wrested the Aleutian bases from the Japs, as months went by without any menacing shots being pumped from Nipponese submarines at our west coast, the temper of the Pacific province's people subsided. Today Canadians are taking a realistic view of the situation. They know that we have the Japs on our hands willynilly. They know that they are no longer a menace. They realize they represent potential labour. They realize that hot words get nobody anywhere. Lastly, they feel that if we, as custodians of the Japs in our midst, do not treat them with all possible care, the Canadian boys in Japanese hands will face the most ruthless reprisals. Under the circumstances, Canadians have decided that the "British fair play", promised to Japs in Canada more than a year ago by Labour Minister Mitchell, is the best policy after all.