

1/1

February 3rd, 1938.

Office of the Attorney General,
Parliament Buildings,
Washington, D.C.,

Dear Sir:

I made a recent enquiry in the City of San Francisco concerning measures adopted to control the orientals in that State, as we have a similar problem in British Columbia, and Vancouver in particular.

I would appreciate hearing from you as to measures that have been taken to control the oriental in respect to restricting his business operations to a given area, and also his rights to own and hold land.

I trust that you will be able to furnish this information without any inconvenience to yourself.

Yours very truly,

ALDERMAN
City of Vancouver.

HDW:T

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

1/2
Oriental

BM FXW:mrr

166992

February 11, 1938.

Mr. Halford D. Wilson,
Alderman,
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of February 3,
1938, in which you make a request concerning measures adopted
to control orientals.

Within the jurisdiction of the Department,
your letter has been submitted to it
for consideration.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General,

Brien McMahon

BRIEN McMAHON,
Assistant Attorney General.



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CANADA

Leader of the Opposition

Oriental's ^{Y3}

O t t a w a,
11th February, 1938.

Halford D. Wilson, Esq.,
Alderman,
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Mr. Wilson,-

I duly received your letter of the
28th of January.

The matter to which you refer will
be discussed in the House during the present session.
My views on the question are, of course, well known
to you.

Yours faithfully,

R. S. McDonald

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H. D. Wilson

26th February, 1938

H. G. Mackenrot, Esq.,
801 Birks Building,
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Sir:

Just a line to advise your Committee
that I appreciate the support that they are giving
me in an effort to control the Orientals in the
Province.

Yours very truly,

HALFORD D. WILSON
Alderman.

HDW/MVE

1/5

H.D. Wilson

March 2nd, 1938.

Wm. J. Edmunds, Esq.,
Suite 5,
135 East 16th Avenue,
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Mr. Edmunds:

I desire to acknowledge receipt of your letter and to thank you for your interest and suggestions contained in the same.

Realizing the seriousness of the situation which confronts us, I trust that there will be many thousands like yourself who will lend their full support in bringing about some check upon the inroads that the Orientals are making in our City and Province.

Yours very truly,

ALDERMAN

HDW:T

1/6

H. D. Wilson

March 2nd, 1938.

D. B. Watt, Esq.,
1462 W. 11th Avenue,
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Mr. Watt:

May I take this opportunity of thanking you for your letter of the 1st instant, making a splendid suggestion in connection with buildings occupied by Orientals. As you point out, it is unfortunate that no plan can be adopted whereby Orientals are confined to an area, but the resolution which I have before the Committee at the present time, I believe will overcome all legal objections, and I am sincerely trusting that the Council will see their way clear to pass the same.

I may say that I am going to have the Building Inspector make an immediate check on all buildings occupied by the Orientals and see if they are living up to the By-law - this also applies to the Health Department.

Yours very truly,

ALDERMAN

HDW:T

PRESIDENT:
WALTER DEPTFORD,
1462 EAST TENTH AVE.,
VANCOUVER, B. C.
TELEPHONE: BAY. 2089L

VANCOUVER BRANCH
OF

SECRETARY:
FRED MARGRIE,
809 EDINBURGH ST.,
NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.
TELEPHONE: NEW WEST. 1715L



The Royal Society of St. George

FOUNDED 1894

X X X

PATRONS:

HIS MAJESTY THE KING HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

1/7
5th March 1938

Sgt. Halford W. Wilson
Alderman (Vancouver City)
Vancouver, British Columbia,
CANADA

of Sir re/ The Oriental situation
in O.C.

of Sir,

at our Board of Management on Feb 25th.
we unanimously decided that letters of
commendation be sent to the following
gentlemen:-

"Sgt. Halford W. Wilson Alderman (Vancouver City)
Sgt. Tom Reid M.P. New Westminster
Mr. A. H. Neill M.P. (Comox Alberni)
Captain Macgregor Macintosh (M.C.C. The Islands)
expressing our appreciation, and assuring
them of our heartfelt support & co-operation
in their most worthy fight against the
Oriental penetration of British Columbia,
which in our opinion has now reached
such serious proportions as to warrant
immediate action".

Yours sincerely,
Fred Margrie (Joint Secy)

H. L. KEENLEYSIDE
G. W. FISH
F. W. TAYLOR

CANADA



BOARD OF REVIEW
(IMMIGRATION)

IMMIGRATION BUILDING
VANCOUVER, B. C.

Oriental

March 24, 1938

Dear Alderman Wilson:

This letter is to thank you and Alderman De Graves for appearing before the Board of Review this afternoon and for the interesting information which you gave us with reference to Oriental penetration into Vancouver business life.

While, as you know, the Board of Review is not authorized to consider anything except questions of illegal entry, it would be of assistance to the authorities in Ottawa if you and Alderman De Graves could put together a brief outlining the material which you delivered before us to-day. It is only by public-spirited actions of this nature that a true picture of the situation in British Columbia can be achieved.

I am writing concurrently in the same sense to Alderman De Graves.

Yours sincerely,

H. L. Keenleyside
Chairman of the Board

Alderman H. D. Wilson
3075 Main Street
Vancouver, B. C.

1/9

H. D. Wilson

25th March, 1938.

Fred Margerie, Esq.,
Secretary,
Royal Society of St. George,
808 Edinburgh Street,
New Westminster, B. C.

Dear Sir:

I wish to take this opportunity of expressing my sincere thanks to the members of your Board of Management for their letter of the 5th inst., conveying their appreciation for the effort put forward by myself and others in connection with Oriental aggression in our Province.

Undoubtedly the information available presents a very serious picture and it is imperative that those possessed of British ideals and imbued with British tradition must stand together in an effort to combat any movement that would, in time, dominate and suppress British influence in our Province.

No doubt an idea will be gleaned from press reports that progress in the matter of curtailment of inroads being made, particularly by the Japanese, is not as rapid as one would expect, and it is encouraging to note that a Society of the standing and influence in the Community such as that of the Royal Society of St. George, is willing to lend its aid in crystallizing public opinion.

Again thanking you for the support extended in this matter and wishing your Board every success in their efforts, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

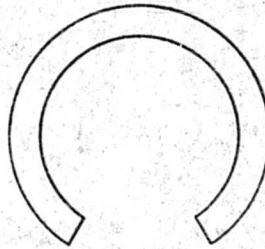
HDW/MVE

HALFORD D. WILSON
Alderman.

B. C. MOTOR TRANSPORTATION LIMITED

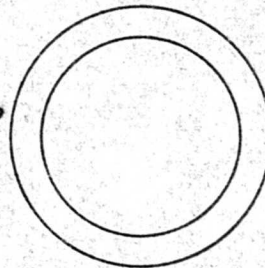
1/10

VANCOUVER, B. C.



March
31st,
1938.

Y. C. Leong, Esq.,
51 Pender Street East,
Vancouver,
British Columbia.



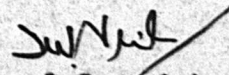
Dear Mr. Leong:

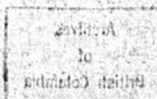
Further to our discussion on the possibilities of instituting a Chinatown Tour in the City of Vancouver in conjunction with our Gray Line sightseeing services and your letter of recent date wherein you set out the cost of proposed rentals, decorations and personnel required to operate such a project, and our further conversation yesterday morning as to the financing of this scheme, you suggest that a syndicate be formed and that this Company contribute 50% of the cost of equipping these attractions.

We have given this matter our careful consideration and while we feel there is great merit to such an attraction, we are unable to contribute to, or enter into, any syndicate arrangement for the financing of such a scheme; also, we feel that this matter is approached too late in the Season as all our publicity and folder distribution is now completed for the coming Summer Season.

I wish to thank you for your efforts in endeavouring to bring about further attractions for Tourists visiting our City, and the courtesies extended to me in arranging for a tour of Chinatown in connection with this proposal. We will endeavour to obtain further information as to how such tours are conducted in other Cities in Canada and the United States so that this matter could be discussed early this coming Winter.

Yours very truly,
B. C. MOTOR TRANSPORTATION LIMITED,


General Superintendent.



VOLUME 1/1: H.D. WILSON, CORRESPONDENCE - 1938.

CANADIAN PACIFIC TELEGRAPHS

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W. D. NEIL, General Manager of Communications, Montreal

Send the following message, subject to the conditions on the back thereof, which are hereby agreed to.

801-3 Birks Bldg.
Vancouver, B.C.
May 9th, 1938.

W.L. Mackenzie King, Esq.
Prime Minister of Canada
Parliament Buildings,
Ottawa, Canada.

It has come to the attention of this organization that Professor Angus of the Rowell Commission has been advocating, in public in Ontario, that Orientals in British Columbia be granted the franchise.

The question of Oriental franchise in British Columbia is a matter over which the people of this Province should have complete jurisdiction.

The Congress of Canadian Organizations protests strongly against this demonstration of bad taste by a commissioner discussing questions of British Columbia policy while drawing salary as a member of a commission whose duties are to report on Provincial Federal relationships.

"H.G. Mackenrot"
Secretary.

Mr H. D. Wilson
Vancouver City Hall
Vancouver B.C.

2316 Richmond Ave
Victoria B.C. 1/2
May 10th 38.

Dear Sir,

There are no doubt many thousands like myself, who greatly deprecate & deplore the intrusion & penetration of the Oriental, in our business & civic life & all that it means to the future of British Columbia & even Canada. Unquestionably Orientals have & are being exploited by Shyster lawyers, who well to do in their homes, & cities, because they work, sell, & live for less & band together for mutual benefit & advancement, as no other organization or Order can. Our chieftains are coming home to roost & I fear we cannot wish them on any other Province or part of Canada only by natural expansion & that seemingly will be soon nevertheless I wish to congratulate both yourself & Mr H. J. De Graves on your appreciated activities which is very much a step in the right direction & I trust you will be able to remain in a position to carry on the good work

Yours truly

T. H. Hughes,

Vancouver B.C. 1/13
May 16-38.

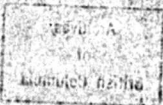
Alderman Wilson
Vancouver B.C.

While visiting at The Airport on Saturday
14th I noticed - and may say there was a
lot of comment about it - amongst the crowd
a couple of Japanese taking moving pictures
of Airport etc from all angles which in view
of the prevailing sentiment in that quarter

And their attitude recently over some pictures
taken in Japan, does not seem quite right.
The general opinion was that no person
should be allowed to take pictures around
that place.

You can use this information
in any way you please, but felt I should
mention it.

AW



Lasqueti Island B.C.
24th May 1938 - Y14

Ald. H. D. Wilson
Vancouver B.C.

Dear Sir

I have read your 'Brief' re Orientals in the Province of 10th inst & must say you have made a good job of it as far as you have gone.

I would like to call your attention to the following & hope you will act upon it as I think it the 'Crux' of the whole matter.

I have been a resident of Vancouver for 49 years & was here when the Oriental question first started. The 1st law was against the Chinese & they were not allowed to bring in their females, later this Law included Japanese & they have managed to get their females in I don't remember & this is what should be looked into.

If one can believe all one hears quite a few women have been smuggled in on their fishboats.

Further I would call your attention to the fact that every married Jap has to have a family

1/14

family of (8) - eight & it will only be a short time before they flood us out taking into consideration the decreasing white families.

Personally think the Law should go back to the original which did not allow the entry of females into Canada, there can be no increase without them. In fact it is my opinion that no nationality should be allowed entry into Canada that cannot assimilate with the people of this Country. Kind regards to your father I used to know years ago on Mount Pleasant.

Kind regards wishing you success

Yours truly,

A. M. Russell

1/15

Spiri River,
Alberca,
May 31, 1938.

Old man, Halford Wilson,
Clyde Hall,
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Sir:

As a British Columbia-
American, temporarily
in Alberca, I beg to offer
you my thanks for your
friendly to words and
acts. I am sorry that more
of Vancouver's old men
have not your strength
and determination. Unless
B.C. takes the law into
own hands, within our
very long period of time
it will be in the hands
of the yellow race. There
is a tolerance which is
far worse than the
honest intolerance. It
indicates weakness, indif-
ference and apathy. The
words "race prejudice"

...
are heard ² and written ^{1/15},
unless the ^{and} newspapers
of our great province please
a little more care for
judice they are lost.
May I say that con-
tinual protests should
be sent to Ottawa. Let the
water wear away a rock.

Yours truly,
(Miss) M. B. Verbeke

1/16

General Delivery
Vancouver
June 4 -

To Alderman Wilson

Dear Sir -

At the present time -
when - we have our unemployed
problem - returned men & their
families living on a pittance -
does it not seem strange that a
Japanese woman, should be drawing
a rather pension - of \$72⁰⁰ per month -
I wonder how much a Canadian
woman would receive from the
Japanese Govt - if she lived in Japan -
I do not know this woman but -
I do know it's a fact - and it
really makes my blood boil -
her address is somewhere in the
2100 Black Cypress St. - I have for
the past few months - wanted to
do something about this - so some-
one suggested writing to you -
I hope she gets sent back to Japan
and any more if there are any
receiving a rather pension -
yours for a square deal -
Veteran's wife and
Taxpayer for 25 years
V. A. Jones

1/17



Native Sons of British Columbia
POST No. 4

E. M. COTTON
SECRETARY
1107 SEVENTH AVENUE
PHONE 1980X

NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.

October 17th.

I 9 3 8

Alderman H.D. Wilson
City Hall
Vancouver B.C.

Dear Sir,-

The Native Sons of British Columbia, Post #4, New Westminister, wish to extend to you their sincere appreciation and congratulate you on your determined and continued campaign against the Orinetal activities in British Columbia and in Vancouver particularly.

It is through such publicity as this that the public will ever know just how serious a menance the Oriental question is to British Columbia. Wishing you every success in your seemingly up hill fight, we are,

Yours sincerely

Native Sons of B.C. Post #4

Secretary

PHONE SEYMOUR 1305

A. TURNER
GEO. RICHARDS

1/18



VANCOUVER DRY GOODS COMPANY

LIMITED

MAKERS OF SMART WASH FROCKS

136 WATER STREET
VANCOUVER, B. C.

Oct. 20th 1938

Mr. Halford H. Wilson
3075 Main St.
City

Dear Mr. Wilson

We sure appreciate the fight you are
 putting up re. Oriental penetration in business.
 One particular business there is at least 10 Japanese
 operations working on Wash dresses to, while:
 Although the Government is trying to centralize these in
 factories but much work is still being done in
 their homes in many cases under very unsanitary
 conditions. The garments made by Japanese
 carry no distinctive label and are sold & controlled
 by white men who use the Jap to get cheap work
 in order to undersell the legitimate white industry.
 If our Government would insist on every Japanese
 made article carrying a stamp Oriental made.
 then it would be up to the public but at present
 the buying public do not know they are purchasing
 dresses, Saungie etc that are made on Powell St.
 We and all our employees will give you every
 support in coming election.

Sincerely yours
 George Richards

1/9



THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

VICTORIA

November 17, 1938.

Alderman Halford Wilson,
City Hall,
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Half:

I read your brief last night and quite frankly, I was pleasantly surprised, for newspaper accounts had lead me to expect something quite different. I think it is a very sensible approach to the problem of the Canadian-born Oriental. I would go a little further than you indicate in one direction-- I do not believe in any quota, however small. I feel that the first step in the solution of the problem is to cut off further aggravation of the present condition.

I know you have done far more work on this problem than even your report would indicate, so I'd like very much to have a talk with you on the matter. Next time you are in Victoria I hope you will have lunch or dinner with me.

I am enclosing your report.

Yours very truly,

James Sinclair