

2646 Yukon Street.⁵¹
Vancouver. B. C.
9.1.41

Algerman H. D. Wilson.
The City Hall
Vancouver.

Dear Mr Wilson:

I am very pleased to see
that the Japanese Dish of Curry and
Rice; is being highly seasoned!!
The Hikawa Maru brought in another
large number of evacuees on Saturday
last and no doubt the Empress of
Asia, due this evening, I think;
will also have a large number!
The Japanese are, without a doubt;

C. B. Ransom
Plumtree Hall
July 21

2043. Stainsbury Ave.
City

5/17
Mar. 19. 1941.

Alderman Wilson

Dear Sir

We would like to congratulate you on the stand which you are taking on the Japanese situation in this City. But would like to draw your attention to the situation of the Foreign Element also. A party by the name of Mr Rosepek. Bought an apartment Block at the above address. We are all Britishers in this Block. & were very comfortable until he took over. He took over Dec 1st 1940. The first thing he did was to cut every facility. We have had him up to the Rental board & also the R. N. W. But up to date not a thing has been done. We spend our money in Educating our children & trying to be clean decent Citizens. While they hoard their money, then buy up property & expect us, to come down to their level. The small housing situation is so bad we cant find places. The council that are against you fighting these conditions should take a look at this place. & find out where he got his money to pay cash for this place. He is allowed to have a police dog & 3 cats some days the dirt & stench from these

animals is more than we can stand. Is this ^{5/17}
what we have to send our boys for 1st-30:
a day to fight for. While they stay here
& laugh at us.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs. W. Routh

2043 Stainsbury Ave
City

1316 - 37th Ave. Vancouver B.C. 19/41 5/18

my dear Mr. Wilson

Don't give any
attention to Editorial on page 4 of Western
Province. one wonders just what is he
saying it. You are not alone by any
means. you have more people behind
you than you have any idea of.
and I am in a position to know
as I contact - from 100 to 150 people a
day. women whose husbands and sons
have been robbed of their jobs in garden-
ing mill hands etc. and for the past
three years my reply was always
"Vote for Wilson" if they didn't know
who Wilson was I would have them
write down your name. and when
you came out "top" in the election I
gotted myself on the back for being
largely responsible. I will not go into
detail fully regarding my bitter ex-
perience with jobs but will say that

VOLUME 1/5: H.D. WILSON, CORRESPONDENCE - 1941.

**CHOICE
HOLLYHOCK SEED**

• •

Extra large assortment of
gorgeous varieties including
black.

Single, semi-double and
double, fringed petals.

Contents will give 200 feet
of plants when transplanted
two feet apart.

DIRECTIONS:

Sow in rich soil in early
spring and transplant when
plant shows five leaves.

HOLLYHOCK PLANTS
FOR SALE

M. GRASLEY-BICK

1316 WEST SEVENTH AVE.

Vancouver, B. C.

Phone: Bayview 300

no phone now.

3

5/18

them see back to Japan and give
Helena Gullidge a one way ticket to
go with them.

If you ever have time
I would like to talk to you and
perhaps I can help in some way
at least I can give you the infor-
mation I have.

Please excuse this rambl-
ing letter. I only wish I could express
my feelings. I admire you for your
mind and always look on you as
a second Anthony Eden who tried to
warn the British people of Germany's
preparations. I am

Sincerely yours

McGrathy-Bick.

P.S. I am a Canadian 4 generations

VOLUME 1/5: H.D. WILSON, CORRESPONDENCE - 1941.

5/19

3992 - W 13th Ave.
Vancouver, B.C.
March 26th 1941

Alderman Wilson,

Dear Sir,-

Re: Japanese Question

As an old timer in Vancouver and thirty years in West Point Grey I would just like to express to you my views on the above vital question to all citizens in our city and especially the tax payers. And also to express the hope that you will win the good fight you are striving for and to thank you for your past efforts. I view with alarm the increase of these Orientals in this district as well as elsewhere and why my neighbors will patronize them just to save a few cents, I cannot understand. And yet their shops seem to be overflowing with work and Japanese gardeners are many in this district.

Japanese have bought a home on the Corner of Twelfth and Courtenay and by gossip I hear that the small daughter goes around telling about her father and brother working for the Japanese Government, presumed by the neighbors to be spies. I tell you this for what it may be worth in your work.

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Edith Mounce

1316 - W. 7th Ave. Vancouver B.C. 19/41 5/18

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attention to Editorial on page 4 of Editorial
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kind of it. You are not alone by any
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patted myself on the back for being
largely responsible. I will not go into
detail fully regarding my bitter ex-
perience with jobs but will say that

2

for eight years I specialized in grow-
ing hollyhocks. and was reaped of
25,000 to 30,000 plants per season, ^{at 15¢ each}
this is not an idle statement for I have
the police behind in this. and when I
found out that some of my customers
knew they were stolen, "I quit". I could
write you 20 pages of information I
have on the Japanese situation here
and I have every reason to believe
it is authentic. I am a woman of
middle age, alone, a taxpayer for 34
years and have been forced to make
articles and sell from door to door. and
I'm still saying Vote for Wilson if he
ever runs for Mayor. Perhaps some
day he will be Premier of Canada.
If you ever need a helping hand
please call on me for I, (like your-
self) am "defunct" I would like to see
a drive for a white country. Ship

VOLUME 1/5: H.D. WILSON, CORRESPONDENCE - 1941.

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5/12

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Yours very truly,

Mrs. Edith Mounce

S/20

(1003)
16 Hastings Street East

Vancouver B C April 28th 1941

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

Dear Sir:

Saturday afternoon I was told that Wallace Shipyard
in North Vancouver have Japanese employed, working there.

The young chap who told me was over there looking
for work and was turned down.

Of course I did not see the Japs, but was assured
such is a fact.

If such is a fact, it's another Damn shame.

Yours very truly,

W. Harry Wilson
W. Harry Wilson

P.S. You "said" you would drop in several months ago when
I wrote that I had some Jap dope which might interest
you. WHW

5/21
Bold Pt, B.C.,
July, 20th 1941.

Alderman H.D. Wilson,
Sir,

Your fight against Japanese control of the fishing industry has not been unnoticed by some of us older fishermen on the coast, I have carried on most of the time a one man war on the Japs for years, and today was talking to another fisherman who mentioned your name and asked me to write you and let you know we appreciated your efforts to break that control; Further, I am taking the opportunity of informing you that this menace has been spreading rapidly since the war started. The Japanese cod fishing fleets have cleaned out the Gulf of Georgia and are now operating in the Johnstone Straits and Blackfish Sound. They are ^{also} using sunken nets for dogfish, but sell them on cod reefs and just take the lines of what ling cod they catch, no wonder the ling cod are disappearing fast, cod lines are fifty cents per lb. and it takes 100 lbs of cod to make 3 lbs of lines, they can't sell mitted cod so dump them overboard. In some places the nets obstruct salmon trollers there is so many of them.

5/21

Another report I have picked up lately is that quite a large part of the Blueback & young coho salmon catch made by Japanese trawlers is handled by their own packers, boxed and iced down and taken to Vancouver and loaded on Japanese steamers and landed in Japan without ever being seen by a white man. Of course I can't verify this, the party that told me said, that the Jap fisherman just gets a slip for his fish he is not paid any cash until the returns come back from Japan. From past experience I know it is useless to report anything about a Jap to the Dept. of Fisheries since Gen. H. D. McRae ceased to represent us at Ottawa. The situation is serious, not only from a fishermen's but also from a military standpoint. There must be at least 15,000 Japanese trained troops in B.C., they had machine guns in Vancouver in '07. There is no doubt they have plenty of equipment hidden, they have had over 30 yrs to bring it in. Nice little surprise to wake up and find a Jap fleet off the coast and a Jap-Nazi fifth column armed with Tommy guns, and all their fast fish packers armored and sporting machine guns and quick fivers.

5/21

I have long been of the opinion we should form some sort of a Vigilante Committee. The Govt. seems to ~~be~~ powerless to do anything, it is up to the people of B.C. to take a hand before it is too late. This spring there was at least 40 Jap cod boats hanging out around the Seymour Narrows, most of them from Nanaimo. I reported this to the Provincial Police at Campbell River.

A son of a well known Jap Fish Packer, Nakashima, has just returned from Japan. He is 23 yrs old, served in the Jap Army, was born here, is on his father's fish scow at Baker Pass, and the only English he knows is "fifty cents". There are hundreds of born Canadian citizens like this, Canadians by birth but Japanese in every thought and act. They look on us as a pack of fools for letting them get by with this and you can't blame them.

I think the idea of a Vigilante Committee would go over big, it would click with a lot of us ex Service men, would you start it?

yours Truly,
Chas C. Hean.

Victory
Vengeance, and Vigilantes.

5/22

932 Ragnar St- City 31. 7. 41.

Alderman Wilson

Dear Sir

First: Thanks for your constant look out. — Re Japs! — This has been a still is a GREAT matter

2nd You will perhaps remember me seeing you sometime since about the extra charge to my wife for water. — By which you saw & the length of the time ^{before} we heard again from the Water Dept. I was in hopes that the matter was settled

But she has been billed again for the about 6 months that she had 2 — one 2! — elderly person staying here. One who is about 80 years. As she was a widow & lived here alone for so long a time, & now there are one 2 of us she thinks that she is not being ^{regarded} fairly with. & I do too. So

The 2 persons mentioned were
only here 6 months. Total 4 persons
and if she had had a family
pay of 10 I suppose that would
have been OK. Will you please
give them your own personal attention.
I hope that I am not troubling you.
Thank regards & the very best of
good wishes to you - & yours

Sincerely

A. M. M. L. S. R.

5/23

850 Hastings Street West,
Vancouver, B.C.
August 4th, 1941.

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

Dear Sir:-

Pursuant to your telephone request of last Wednesday, I have been able to find out the following information regarding the Japanese tenants at 3185 Oak Street.

The family, including at least 7 children and 2 adults, moved in approximately July 15th, and have since got ready for the opening of their business, the Lux Cleaners & Dyers, on August 1st.

Their living space is approximately 36' long, 14' wide, and 15' high or 7560 cu. feet of living space for 9 people.

The children are small, ranging from 4 to 10 years of age. They are dirty and sloppily dressed. They run around the streets of this district and cause trouble for the business people and are a nuisance to the residents.

I am speaking for the entire neighbourhood when I say that we do NOT want this sort of thing around.

Whatever you may do regarding the removal of these undesirable occupants will have the complete backing of the tax-payers and property owners of the district in question.

I hope the information you wish is contained in this letter. You may call on me at any time to assist you.

Yours very truly,

SMCM/MP

A. Stewart McMoran

5/24

LOCKE, LANE, NICHOLSON & SHEPPARD

Barristers & Solicitors

C. H. LOCKE, K. C.
WILLIAM S. LANE, LL. B.
J. R. NICHOLSON, LL. B.
F. A. SHEPPARD, LL. B.
K. L. YULE

703 Rogers Building

Vancouver, B. C.

CABLE ADDRESS, "MAYERS"
TELEPHONE, PACIFIC 7137

August 9th, 1941.

Alderman Halford D. Wilson,
The City Hall,
VANCOUVER, B. C.

Dear Sir:-

We are instructed by The Granby Consolidated Mining Smelting & Power Company Limited to write to you regarding a statement reported to have been made by you concerning that company.

In the Vancouver Daily Province of Saturday, July 26th, 1941, certain statements are reported to have been made by you regarding Japanese investments in this Province, and the same article reports comments made on your statement by the Japanese Consul at Vancouver. In the article referred to the following appears:-

"The Consul was not impressed by Alderman Wilson's statement that the Mitsui Banking House controls the Granby Consolidated Mine, the Columbia Nickel Mines at Choate, and controls large iron ore deposits on the Queen Charlotte Islands."

If any such statement was made by you concerning the Granby Consolidated Mining Smelting & Power Company Limited it is quite incorrect. The Mitsui Company of Japan has not now and never has had any shareholdings or interest of any kind in the Granby Company, and does not, needless to say, control the actions of that company in any way and never has. In addition to this firm being Solicitors for the Granby Company, Mr. W. S. Lane and the writer have been Directors for many years, and the facts are within the writer's personal knowledge. Statements such as you are reported to have made are highly injurious to our clients, and assuming such statements to have been

5/24

- 2 -

Alderman Halford D. Wilson,

August 9th, 1941.

made by you we ask you to publicly retract them.

Yours faithfully,

LOCKE LANE NICHOLSON & SHEPPARD

per

W. L. Locke

CHL/ART

QUEENSBOROUGH STORE
PHONE 2029
A. SPRICE Prop.

August 16, 1941

Mr. H. D. Wilson Alderman

City Hall

Vancouver

Dear Sir .

" If they (the Japanese) didn't stay open they would starve to death . " Alderman Bennett " Sun " August the 13th .

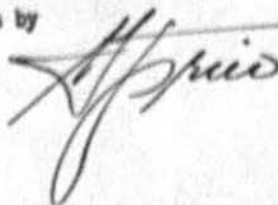
If you prevent the thief from stealing or the burglar from robbing they too would starve .

Either enforce a law or repeal it but to permit lawbreaking by one group only on such hypocrisy is too ridiculous .

Is Ald. Bennett in the least interested in the fate of thousands of decent , lawabiding merchants who are crushed out of a living by the gigantic commercial emporias?

Why such partiality for the Japanese, or is he too , like so many others taken by fear, like aspen leaves, every time he meets a Japanese ?

Salute to a rare and fearless champion by



Queensborough B.C.

**JAPANESE TRADESMEN
BROUGHT UNDER FIRE**

A friend of anti-Japanese attack by Ald. H. D. Wilson—this time for alleged late-closing of confectioneries and dry cleaning establishments—met with a sharp rebuff from Ald. John Bennett Tuesday that he was indulging in "political propaganda."

The matter arose as the result of a communication from a large dry cleaning firm asking for strict enforcement of the 6 p.m. closing by-law applicable to the industry.

Ald. Wilson declared that 222 home-operated establishments—confectioneries as well as dry cleaning outfits—were the worst offenders.

"They're all open selling goods after hours," he charged.

"As the business they do after hours is prohibited by the

City Hall

Vancouver

Dear Sir .

" If they (the Japanese) did'nt stay open they would starve to death . " Alderman Benett " Sun " August the 13th .

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And Devine.

JAPANESE TRADESMEN BROUGHT UNDER FIRE

A renewed anti-Japanese attack by Ald. H. D. Wilson—this time for alleged late-closing of confectioneries and dry cleaning establishments—met with a sharp accusation from Ald. John Bennett Tuesday that he was indulging in "political propaganda."

The matter arose as the result of a communication from a large dry-cleaning firm asking for strict enforcement of the 6 p.m. closing by-law applicable to the industry.

Ald. Wilson declared that Japanese-operated establishments—confectioneries as well as dry-cleaning outfits—were the worst offenders.

"They're all open selling goods after hours," he complained.

"All the business they do after hours in comparison with the turnover of one of these big grocery chains wouldn't amount to a hill of beans," Ald. Bennett returned. "If they didn't stay open they'd starve to death."

The original request for enforcement of the bylaw was forwarded to the chief of police and the Police Commission.

Imperial Visit

Editor, The Sun; Sir:—We, the undersigned Canadian-born Japanese, hereby register our strong protest against the publication by The Vancouver Sun on Saturday, April 2, 1937, of a cheap and disgusting cartoon designed to bring contempt and ridicule upon and to insult their Imperial Highnesses, Prince and Princesses Chichibu.

We refer to the cartoon appearing on the front page of the issue in question depicting their Imperial Highnesses shaking hands, in bowing position, with a so-called Mr. and Mrs. Vancouver (whatever these beings may be), representing just two ordinary common Canadians.

As loyal and patriotic Japanese, it is our duty to remind The Vancouver Sun that we Japanese people regard our Imperial Family as divine and whose sanctity is inviolable. The divine persons of the Imperial Family are not to be profaned by being made subjects of such insulting cartoons or caricatures.

The Vancouver Sun cannot be of such short memory as to forget that not so long ago a cartoon by a contemptible American Red concerning the person of our Emperor was the subject of a sharp and just protest to the American Government by our ambassador and an official apology was obtained from Secretary of State Cordell Hull.

A recent editorial of The Vancouver Sun, unjustly condemning the peace-loving Imperial Japanese Empire of militarism, while at the same time professing to welcome their Imperial Highnesses, goes to prove that the cartoon in question was subtly designed both to insult their Imperial Highnesses, Prince and Princess Chichibu, and to offend local Japanese loyal feeling. Taking the most charitable view possible, the cartoon showed very bad taste and a complete ignorance of Japanese traditions and noble ideals.

If The Vancouver Sun and the Canadian public in general had kept their eyes open during the recent visit of Prince and Princess Chichibu, they would have observed that no Japanese looked down on the puppet procession of their Imperial Highnesses from the windows above, so great is our respect for the divine persons of our Imperial Family.

That no objection was made to Canadians and other foreigners doing so was merely a concession on the part of the Japanese people concerning those who do not as yet fully appreciate their highly patriotic feelings. The brazen attempt, on board ship, on the part of a motley rabble of news reporters to gain audience with their Imperial Highnesses, and thus interview them directly and ply them with profane questions, was another unfortunate indication of the complete ignorance of Vancouver's newspaper fraternity concerning matters pertaining to our Ruling Imperial Family.

We Japanese are a proud and sensitive people, and the Imperial Japanese Empire has a way of dealing with those peoples and nations who show their insincerity by disregarding and flouting our most sacred sentiments and feelings.

However, in conclusion, we beg to say that this letter is written in a true friendly spirit to remove possible misunderstandings for the future, in the end that diplomatic and trade relations between Canada and Japan may be further cemented.

This letter expresses sentiments of various leading Japanese in Vancouver and vicinity to whom we have shown the draft, and therefore trust your paper will in all fairness give it due publicity.

Thanking you, yours very truly—

J. S. TANAKA, 396 Powell St.

P. USHJUNA, B.A., Steveston, B.C.

K. YADA, Steveston, B.C.

P. HJAJAMA, Maple Ridge.

GEORGE YAMADA, New Westminster

1960 Robson St^{5/26}
Vancouver B.C.
Dec. 9/41

Alld. Halford D. Wilson

Dear Alld. Wilson -

In going through some old papers yesterday, I came across the enclosed letter, signed by Japanese, that I had clipped from the Daily Sun newspaper, for 10.1.1. a day or two after the visit to Vancouver, of the Japanese Imperial representatives to the Coronation of their Imperial King George VI and Queen Elizabeth. In view of the fact that the Superintendent of the Sailor's Home, 500 Alexander St had been commanded by a Japanese delegation to the Home, prior to the tone of the district, by the Prince and Princess, to close all blinds in the Home that no one might look down upon their Imperial Highnesses. I thought it wise to keep the enclosed letter for reference. Considering the present crisis, it may be wise to have the owners

5/6

PHONE 2424

MONK & COMPANY

WHOLESALE FISH DEALERS AND SHIPPERS

• •

FOOT OF BEGGIE STREET
NEW WESTMINSTER. B.C.

February 6th, 1941.

Alderman H. D. Wilson,
Vancouver, B.C.

I feel confident that there are many more Canadians in the same position that I am: a position that not only enables us to come in actual contact with the Japanese problem but also puts us in a position to suggest a definite remedy that we may all verify with FACTS.

Perhaps there is already an active group working along the same lines that I have in mind. However, at this writing I have never heard or read of any such group. Often the expression "time marches on" is used. My own personal opinion is that "time" at present is very valuable.

Hoping that you may enlighten me on this subject at your earliest convenience, I remain,

Yours truly,

Lloyd Monk
Lloyd Monk

LM

P.S. This is a personal letter and does not commit the views of Monk and Company. XM.

General delivery. 5/7
Vancouver B.C.
Feb 11th /41

Olderman, H.D. Wilson.
Vancouver B.C.

Dear Sir.

I have been very interested in your work regarding the Gops. As I am enclosing a page taken from "Liberty" Dec 23 /39. the paragraph explains itself.

If you could get in touch with "N.A.T." through the Editor, you may learn some interesting things. Also, your local doctors may be able to give you some information.

I may perhaps be in Vancouver during the next few weeks, and will look you up, if I am, as I may be able to tell you things that cannot be written.

Keep up the good work, even if you are accused of being a "rabble rouser." We sore need a few more that will do the same.

Yours truly
P.C. Blyth.

Port Clements Feb 15th 1941
Mr. H. J. Wilson
Vancouver B.C.
5/8

Dear Sir:

I have noticed several articles in the "Vancouver Province" about you fighting against the "peace full penetration" of the Japs, which I indorse heartily.

Now I would like to call your attention to two different Japs having been caught taking Movv pictures around Vancouver and they were let off with great excuse "I'm so sorry" & etc. and bluffed their way out not long ago there were some Japs gill netting in front of the Air Plane Station, I think it was at Sea Field. Now if that Boat had been searched by the proper authorities, they would have found a "Movv camera".

I have been Steamboating and fishing on the B.C. Coast for 40 years and I know the Coast pretty well and I've seen Japs hand-lining (fishing for Cod fish?) while they were actually taking soundings of the different Inlets all along the Coast. During the last War I was on the Halibut Boat "Jessie" we use to tie-up at Victoria several days every trip. One day I saw a Jap sitting on the wharf with a fishing rod stuck under his leg in his hand he had a roll of paper and

5/8

and in the other he had pencil and drawing a sketch of the Johnson St. Bridge. I went up town and got a Policeman but when we got to the wharf the Jap was gone, he must have seen that I noticed what he was doing and skipped out. I dare say our "friendly? Enemies?" have their Coast Surveyed about as well as the Dominion Surveyors have if not better. They need watching.

Please do not make my name public as I am too well known by the Japs and they might make it very warm for me. They are very aggressive and arrogant, but put them on the carpet and they can be ever so sorry and polite.

Hoping this may be of some use to you I am

Yours Truly

W. G. Reinhardt

Port Clements

B.C.

5/9

611 West 113th St.,
New York City,
Feb. 17, 1941.

Dear Mr. Wilson,

I have been preparing an article on the Japanese-Canadians -- and I should be grateful for any information you could give me on the subject. I was recommended to you by Lt. Colonel M.F. Macintosh, to whom I wrote previously in this connection. The article will appear in the forthcoming issue of Asia, which goes to press in about ten days -- so I'd be very grateful if you could send me your reply immediately via air mail. I list some questions:

1. What effect has the war had on Japanese-white relations in B.C. -- (a) up until the Berlin-Rome-Tokyo declaration of Sep. 27 (b) since this declaration?
2. The problem of assimilation has naturally receded into the background. It is pointed out by some, however, that social assimilation is taking place -- that the Japanese who are born in Canada have a higher standard of living than their parents, a lower birth-rate, etc., all of which tends to reduce their competitive superiority over the white man. What is your opinion on the subject?
3. In your opinion, is there any concrete evidence of Japanese espionage on the West Coast or of an unpatriotic attitude among the Japanese there?
4. Would you care to make any statement for quotation? If there is anything you don't want me to quote you on, please indicate.

A few words about myself might be in order. I was formerly on the editorial staff of Magazine Digest (Toronto) and I have written for Current History, The Nation, Time, etc.

Will send you a copy of the article when it appears. You'll be helping me tremendously if you give this matter your early attention. Please accept my thanks in anticipation.

Very sincerely yours,

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

David Martin -

P.S. Could you provide me with a few recent quotations from (a) the provincial press (b) public figures demanding more stringent measures against the Japanese?

5/10

NEWS
EDITORIAL SERVICE SYNDICATE

545 W. GEORGIA STREET ★ VANCOUVER, CANADA

February 19, 1941

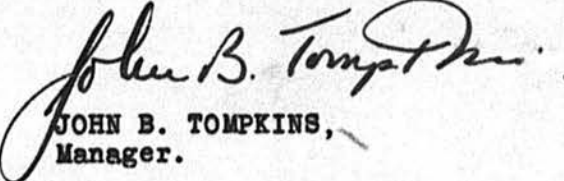
Ald. H. Wilson,
City Hall,
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Sir:

I would be pleased if I might have the opportunity of an interview with you regarding conditions in Vancouver's oriental laundries and the possibility of further extension of bus routes in Vancouver.

We desire this information to incorporate in articles in the BRITISH COLUMBIA HOTELMAN and MOTOR CARRIER.

Very truly yours,


JOHN B. TOMPKINS,
Manager.

JBT:PE



Box 415
Kelowna, B.C.
February 5/11

Alderman Wilson,
Vancouver, B.C.
Dear Sir:

In Sunday's "Pro-
vince" I have just read
the recommendations
of the committee on the
Oriental situation now sit-
ting in Ottawa. Recom-
mendation 3 is parti-
cularly dangerous.
Are we living under
the British flag or the
sugarcane?

You are a brave and
courageous person. Will you
fight this evil recom-
mendation?

Yours truly,
M. B. Henderson

5/12

Halford D. Wilson

February 22, 1941

David Martin, Esq.,
611 W. 113th Street,
NEW YORK CITY, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Martin:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 17th, and again on the 18th instant.

I gathered that speed is essential in forwarding the information, as you go to press in a few days. Therefore, I have not been able to prepare for you all the data that I think would be of interest, and particularly as it reflects the attitude of the majority of the people in British Columbia.

Answering your questions categorically, I would say that the War has caused considerable apprehension amongst white people, owing to the large number of Japanese in British Columbia. Approximately one person in twenty-seven is of Japanese racial origin. Thirty thousand Japanese would be a conservative estimate of their number, and of these, a substantial number are non-naturalized; others have become naturalized since leaving Japan; and of course, there is a growing number of Canadian-born Japanese.

I would qualify this statement by stating that British Columbia has consistently, over the years, through its Provincial Government, taken steps within its power to curtail privileges extended to the Japanese, but effective measures have always been vetoed by the Federal Government. This may be attributed to the woeful ignorance of Eastern Canada of the problem as it exists in British Columbia. The Japanese population of Canada, it may be stated, is confined solely to British Columbia.

Your second question, referring to assimilation, may be answered by stating that there are no indications that assimilation is in progress. Inter-marriage between whites and Japanese is extremely infrequent. The only association between the two races is in the Public Schools and Universities, but after this period, the Japanese gravitate to their own

5/12

David Martin, Esq.

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February 22, 1941

Circles.

There is a decided lack of co-operation both in labour, industry and retail business. The Japanese attitude is that the white people cannot expect co-operation as long as they are denied the privilege of voting and the right to enter certain professions. On the other hand, British Columbians are reluctant to extend privileges to the Japanese until such time as they indicate a willingness to elevate their standards of living and business practice to that which is generally acceptable to Canadians. The result is a dead-lock, and no progress toward assimilation has taken place.

Again, it may be stated that the vast majority of Canadian-born Japanese are registered with the Japanese Consul, and thus enjoy Japanese citizenship in addition to British citizenship, enjoyed because of birth in this Country.

All Japanese children attend Japanese National schools which are maintained in order to foster Japanese culture, Japanese language and to preserve Japanese traditions.

Having examined the textbooks and the curriculum which are now the subject of investigation by the Vancouver City Council, it has disclosed that the basis of teaching is entirely Japanese in character. This has been one of the principal barriers toward the assimilation of Canadian-born Japanese in Canadian national life.

Relative to the standards of living enjoyed by Japanese in Canada, it may be stated here that apart from the few wealthy Japanese merchants, the Japanese community as a whole live under conditions which are far below the standards acceptable to the average Canadian. This occurs despite the fact that the average earnings of Japanese merchants and Japanese labour are on a par with British Columbians engaged in similar occupations.

Relative to the birth rate, the ratio of increase per thousand amongst the Japanese population is nearly five times greater than that of the Occidental population. Incidentally, the Chinese population in British Columbia shows a decline each year. This is attributed to the fact that there are very few Chinese women in Canada.

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ALDERMAN

HDW:MH
Enclosure

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ALDERMAN

HDW:MH
Enclosure

VOLUME 1/5: H.D. WILSON, CORRESPONDENCE - 1941.

press in America. The group in Ottawa
intends. Richards is a B.C. man now resident
in Ottawa with the Agricultural Economics
Service. I think this is an excellent opportunity
to get some worthwhile facts down here
to the eastmen who are after all responsible
for the mental situation in B.C.

Yours truly
J.H. Woods

Division Experimental Farm
Agassiz B.C.

P.S. I would like
what information you
can give as soon as possible.

5/13

Agassiz B.C.

March 8th 1941

H. Wilson Esq
Vancouver B.C.

Dear Sir

A friend of mine G. E. Richards
of Van. Ottawa has written to me asking for
information about Japanese in B.C. I know
that you have much data about them people
in B.C. & wonder if you would be good enough

VOLUME 1/5: H.D. WILSON, CORRESPONDENCE - 1941.

to let me have some of the information you have gathered. The points that Mr. Richards would now particularly like to discuss are the economic penetration of these people into our social & economic life. The extent to which they operate. Their subversive tendencies & related phases, especially their Japanese subterfuge.

I can assure you I am in hearty agreement with your outlook on this situation & wish you every success in your efforts to combat this evil. I would like to see the responsible author-

ities pass legislation that would not grant British citizenship to Canadian born people who are not assimilated. This would particularly include orientals & blacks. It would be drastic.

I would like to see all British withdrawal from Japan & all Japanese withdrawal from Canada except those who can foster & promote trade. We should have no orientals competing on our labor market.

Mr. Richards if it is to speak before a small closed group a discussion club. There is no publicity of any kind through the

5/14

514 Homer St., City,
March 12, 1941.

Ald. H. D. Wilson,
City Hall.

Dear Sir:-

It is necessary that I put the material I loaned to you to some further use and shall be obliged if you will kindly mail it to me at the above address.

I note in to day's papers that Mrs. Jamieson complains to the city council about outbursts in the council re the oriental question. I seriously suggest to you Sir that the so-called Canadian Civil Liberties Union constitutes the spear-head of the Fifth column in our community and nothing but a strong and virile attitude by loyal and faithful Canadian and British citizens can possibly save us from future disaster.

That the female of the species is far more deadly than the male is evidenced by the fact that women like unto Misses Jamieson, Steeves, Gutteridge and others can openly, and under the guise of decent citizens besmirch and nullify all that is being done to win the war it is high time that we either get busy on these traitors to democracy and any and all decent government, or else we ought to announce publicly that we are defeated.

1. I would remind you of the demand made by Woodworth on the floor of Parliament three years ago or less that we in B.C. grant the franchise to the Japanese, also to the fact that he was on a ship en-route to Japan within 30 days of making his demand.
2. On his return from Japan he addressed a large audience in Moose Hall on Nov. 9th of that year and again stressed his demand that the Japs get the franchise.
3. On Sept' 9th 1938 during the war session of Parliament he again addressed the House and said (see Hansard p.45) You cannot indict a great nation and a great people such as the German people. And on p. 47) Yes I have boys of my own and I hope they are not cowards, but if any one of those boys, not from cowardice but really through belief, is willing to take his stand on this matter and, if necessary, to face a concentration camp or a firing squad, I shall be more proud of that boy than if he enlisted in the war!. At this meeting Mr. J.E.Armishaw challenged to debate the question of franchise to orientals with Mr. Woodsworth at a date and place to be decided on but Woodworth declined.

5/14

- 2 -

You will have noted in the report I handed you that out of over 50 people who aired their views before the Board only two or so were connected with Labour, one a fisherman and the other representing labour. I hope that you have in your possession a copy of the Province for August 15th, 1940 which shows the pictures of the two Japs that were registering their yellow brethren. And the charge that though one of them was a Japanese born alien, unnaturalized, he had actually registered over forty Japs and signed their cards as deputy registrar. O' what a weapon this could be in the hands of a Canadian born patriot such as Halford Wilson, so why not go to it and slay them hip-and-thigh.

It would make a great scene if Mrs. Steeves was asked before a large Canadian audience how she reconciles her insulting statement at Victoria that she would like to see the Empire abolished alongside the fact that HER ROTTERDAM LOST THIRTY-THOUSAND KILLED AND ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND WOUNDED WITHIN THREE HOURS OF BLITZREIG BOMBARDMENT by her erstwhile friends the HUNS. Surely I need say no more though I might in closing refer you to the ,-

Sun of Aug. 22/40 where it states that the Chinese were com limented on their splendid co-operation and response to the matter of registration. THE SAME PAPER SAYS FEW JAPANESE ENROLL IN NAT. REGISTRATION.

NEWS-HERALD

- Aug. 20 Japanese response very poor.
- " 21. Penalty for non-registration Fine of \$200; 3 months in jail; added \$10. per day for each day's failure to register, and dismissal from employment. (Query,- How many Japs were fined or fired?
- " 22. Jap consul K. Nakauchi states that Baron Shuh Tomii, Ambassador to Canada passed through Vancouver en-route to Japan he being one of five Ambassadors and 19 Ministers recalled to Japan to prepare a political offensive.
- " 23. Report of Komagata Maru Incident.
- " " Trail, B.C. Doukhobors quit work. Refuse to register.
- " 24 Schizo Kobayashi sent as special envoy to the Netherlands.
- " " United States warns Japan re East Indies, Day of reckoning to come.

Yours sincerely,

Hugh Thornley

5/15

7007 Victoria Road,
Vancouver South,
March 17th, 1941.

Alderman M. Wilson,
City Hall.

Dear Sir,-

We have followed with interest and appreciation your consistent efforts to cope with the Oriental problem here, and your struggle to prevent the retail businesses of Vancouver from continuing to fall into Japanese hands. You have been subjected to so much criticism and abuse over the matter that it may be of interest to you to know that at least some Vancouver citizens appreciate what you are trying to do.

I wonder if it would not be possible to have the Store-Closing By-Law amended so that all grocery stores, Japanese and Whites alike, would have to actually close their Grocery Dept. at closing time, and on Wednesdays and Sundays. These stores that are stocked up with groceries and keep open on Wednesdays and Sundays, and part of the night, are a nuisance to legitimate business and are continually breaking the Law. On a Wednesday not long ago we were parked on Robson Street when a man came out of an Oriental store carrying a can of goods, not even wrapping paper on the can. On a recent Sunday on the same street I saw a lady come out of another Oriental store loaded with parcels. Why should these stores be allowed to call themselves confectionery or fruit businesses and then carry and retail groceries, contrary to the Law? Why should they not be allowed to chisel in on the Dry Goods and also the Hardware Business, etc, of the City just as well as on the grocers? The Law should be amended so that the Police would have a reasonable chance to enforce it, or it should be repealed altogether. Store after store run by Orientals are wide open on Sunday, and their fruit and vegetables are no more perishable than ours. Could not the Law be altered so that both the buyer and the seller would be equally liable to prosecution? I believe this is the case in Toronto. At present the Police do not appear to be able to do anything if the proprietor of the store recognizes the Police Spotter and refuses to sell to her, but yet they go on selling to the people of the community and to the customers of other stores on Wednesdays, Sundays and after hours. If the Law could be tightened up and enforced these Japanese stores would not be the hindrance to proper businesses that they now are.

We have been in business here for over 15 years,

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2

have built a good new store, and right next door to us is an old dump run by a white man, stocked up with groceries, and is open every Wednesday, every evening until about 10.30 and all day Sunday. People come out of there one after another on Sunday and Wednesday with parcels and there does not seem to be the slightest notice taken of the Law. Apparently the store runs wide open, without even pretending to close, carries cooked and smoked meats right next door to our Grocery and Meat Store, and is there to serve our customers when we are obliged to obey the Law and close. We pay a lot of Taxes and have done so through the years, and this does not seem to us to be very fair. People no longer need to bother shopping during business hours as they know they can get what they want, when they want it, without any trouble.

As the Japanese problem is a Federal responsibility there should be some way of distributing these people equally among the different Provinces in proportion to their population (if they are here to stay) instead of B. C. having them practically all. If Ottawa city had their fair share of the Japanese people and Japanese stores they would have a better understanding of the situation.

In closing, could there not be some method devised so that the City Licenses of the Stores would be based on the turnover, so that big organizations such as the Safeway who are getting so much of the retail business of the City would have to bear their proper share of the City's finances. If there could be a Minimum License fee of say \$20.00 for small stores and then the License of the larger concerns assessed in the form of a turnover tax it would defray much of the city expenses.

Again assuring you that we appreciate the work you have done and are doing in the best interests of the city, we are

Yours very truly,

Hardy's Market,

Per (mn) Grace V. Hardy.

7 names signed to the letter, inspected.
I am sure, as my clipping has been rather
defaced by time, you would be able to see
the original as published in the Sun of
that date, by going to the newspaper "morgue"
at the Sun Publishing Building as they have
all copies on file of

Yours Sincerely
Wm. L. A.) Blm. Clark

R.R.3,
Cloverdale, B.C.

5/27

16-December, 1941.

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

Dear Sir,

re Japanese in British Columbia.

I have been interested in your comments at Council Meetings in Vancouver for some time, regarding the Nipponese in this province, inclusive of those in Vancouver.

On many occasions I intended writing you on the Jap question but put it off from time to time until now. I think the present is an opportune time to do something about those yellow fellows, since a state of war exists between Canada and Japan. Here is my idea as to how those Japs in this Country should be handled:- They should be removed from this Coast-Pacific - and allowed sufficient land on which a colony should be established, to which all Japanese should be sent to make a livelihood. Either in the Northern Territory or in Saskatchewan a colony for Japs should be established by the Federal and Provincial Governments of Canada.

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5/27

I would suggest that petitions bearing the signatures of residents in B.C. or any part of B.C. be sent to the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, and the Governor General of Canada, urging Government action in the matter of the removal of all Japanese from the Pacific Coast, and the establishment of a colony for them in Saskatchewan for various reasons, including the following:

- I. Fifth Column work to assist the enemy;
- II. It is impossible to assimilate those yellow fellows with Whites;
- III. A positive danger to the Country, and particularly the Pacific Coast in War time, notwithstanding any promises of loyalty any of the Japanese may make to those in authority. Japs and Germans are noted for acts of treachery. The Governments of Japan and Germany do not recognize naturalization of their nationals in any country.
- IV. About 6,000 Japanese Nationals live in B.C. around the Pacific Coast, under very little if any restriction as alien enemies. These should be interned or removed from the Coast as a safety measure.

V. American Authorities are rounding up all Germans, Italians, Japs, and other enemy aliens likely to be a danger to the Country.

3

5/27

in war time, while the Canadian Authorities are doing very little if anything in the matter of rounding up such alien enemies for internment. Therefore the Canadian side enemy aliens may become a menace to the Pacific Coast unless the Canadian Government is forced to take action by the people of British Columbia. A strong point is made by some of those in Authority of the fact that names and finger-prints are recorded of Japs in B.C. This is not of much use to restrict alien enemies in cases of sabotage, fifth column work, etc.

I shall be glad to hear from you, in this matter, with your comments and suggestions thereon!

Yours faithfully,

D. Gallen.

5

5/28

414-3 - W. St. Ave,
Vancouver, B.C.
Dec. 27, 1941.

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

Dear Sir,-

Ever since reading the report in the Province of your meeting held in protest to the complacent attitude in Ottawa, and here also of course, regarding our Japanese problems I have wanted to write to congratulate you on your stand! Our enemies all seem to be masters of organization, - but most of us are such "sleepy heads" we seem to be just "master muddlers."

We have been all these years at war and yet no conscription!

The only shadow of a protection here would have been our perfected black-out, - but when we had achieved a twenty-five percent one, that we quit, after three nights!

5/28

Genuine organization for successful A.R.P. conduct seems sadly lacking!

Every block in the residential areas should have at least two A.R.P. captains, and everyone in the block should know who they are and co-operate with them. The captains should inspect and see that every household has carried out the necessary preparations against fire and other instructions given.

If a country, like New Zealand, which has no nest of the enemy in its midst, can continue blackouts for every spot within ten miles of the coast line, for over two years without a break, it surely makes us look slack and careless when we quit after three nights!

Nothing could present a greater fire hazard than our thousands of wooden buildings, but in the short period of grace being granted to us, we still practise an attitude of benevolence and by our lack of action say "It cannot happen here."

5/28

Surely you could gather enough leaders, with the same spirit, to really wake us up so that while we hope for the best, we will prepare for the worst.

We are in desperate need of leaders and organization and men like yourself can surely inspire others to helpful action.
With very best wishes,
Yours for Victory and Peace,

Edith L. Hill

5/12

Halford D. Wilson

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ALDERMAN

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Answering your questions categorically, I would say that the War has caused considerable apprehension amongst white people, owing to the large number of Japanese in British Columbia. Approximately one person in twenty-seven is of Japanese racial origin. Thirty thousand Japanese would be a conservative estimate of their number, and of these, a substantial number are non-naturalized; others have become naturalized since leaving Japan; and of course, there is a growing number of Canadian-born Japanese.

I would qualify this statement by stating that British Columbia has consistently, over the years, through its Provincial Government, taken steps within its power to curtail privileges extended to the Japanese, but effective measures have always been vetoed by the Federal Government. This may be attributed to the woeful ignorance of Eastern Canada of the problem as it exists in British Columbia. The Japanese population of Canada, it may be stated, is confined solely to British Columbia.

Your second question, referring to assimilation, may be answered by stating that there are no indications that assimilation is in progress. Inter-marriage between whites and Japanese is extremely infrequent. The only association between the two races is in the Public Schools and Universities, but after this period, the Japanese gravitate to their own

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David Martin, Esq.

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February 22, 1941

Circles.

There is a decided lack of co-operation both in labour, industry and retail business. The Japanese attitude is that the white people cannot expect co-operation as long as they are denied the privilege of voting and the right to enter certain professions. On the other hand, British Columbians are reluctant to extend privileges to the Japanese until such time as they indicate a willingness to elevate their standards of living and business practice to that which is generally acceptable to Canadians. The result is a dead-lock, and no progress toward assimilation has taken place.

Again, it may be stated that the vast majority of Canadian-born Japanese are registered with the Japanese Consul, and thus enjoy Japanese citizenship in addition to British citizenship, enjoyed because of birth in this Country.

All Japanese children attend Japanese National schools which are maintained in order to foster Japanese culture, Japanese language and to preserve Japanese traditions.

Having examined the textbooks and the curriculum which are now the subject of investigation by the Vancouver City Council, it has disclosed that the basis of teaching is entirely Japanese in character. This has been one of the principal barriers toward the assimilation of Canadian-born Japanese in Canadian national life.

Relative to the standards of living enjoyed by Japanese in Canada, it may be stated here that apart from the few wealthy Japanese merchants, the Japanese community as a whole live under conditions which are far below the standards acceptable to the average Canadian. This occurs despite the fact that the average earnings of Japanese merchants and Japanese labour are on a par with British Columbians engaged in similar occupations.

Relative to the birth rate, the ratio of increase per thousand amongst the Japanese population is nearly five times greater than that of the Occidental population. Incidentally, the Chinese population in British Columbia shows a decline each year. This is attributed to the fact that there are very few Chinese women in Canada.

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Time will not permit a thorough discussion of this matter, but the competitive superiority of the Japanese over the white people still exists to a large degree. This may be attributed to the practice of the Japanese in avoiding labour legislation by organizing companies that are presumably co-operative, where all employees are shareholders, thus avoiding the requirement of the Minimum Wage Act, and to a great extent barring collective bargaining as between employer and employee.

Also, it is a common practice amongst the Japanese to operate a business on a family basis, whereby parents and children are all engaged to some extent in the operation of the business, and thus labour legislation again is inoperative, as far as their operations are concerned.

In the matter of espionage, there has been no information publicly divulged which would indicate active subversive activity on the part of Japanese resident here. The fear is, however, that because of the loyalty and devotion of Japanese here to things Japanese, that should a serious situation develop, whereby Japanese forces attack this Coast, large numbers of Japanese resident here would constitute a Fifth Column, similar to that experienced in Norway and the Lowlands.

In addition to this letter, I am enclosing herewith a Brief on the subject, which I presented to the Federal Government, with the co-operation of ex-Alderman DeGraves. A perusal of the contents may provide you with information you desire.

Relative to your reference to Mr. C. E. Hope, I might say that to my knowledge he is still in the land of the living. However, the White Canada Society, if active, has not recently taken an active lead of a public nature, in opposing further immigration of Japanese and the infiltration of Japanese in the commercial activity of the Province, or the recent large acquisition of natural resources by Japanese interest. This in no way reflects upon the League, as I know that any organized effort to oppose the Japanese in British Columbia has always been discouraged by the Federal Government.

If at some future time you desire a more comprehensive report, I would be very pleased, if given the

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David Martin, Esq.

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time, to prepare a summary of all phases of the Japanese problem.

Yours very truly,

Halford D. Wilson
ALDERMAN

HDW:MH
Enclosure

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press in America. The group in Ottawa
intends. Richards is a B.C. man now resident
in Ottawa with the Agricultural Economics
Service. I think this is an excellent opportunity
to get some worthwhile facts down here
to the easterner who are after all responsible
for the mental situation in B.C.

Yours truly
J.H. Woods

Division Experimental Farm
Agassiz B.C.

P.S. I would like
what information you
can give as soon as possible.

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Agassiz B.C.

March 8th 1941

H. Wilson Esq
Vancouver B.C.

Dear Sir

A friend of mine G. E. Richards
of the Ottawa has written to me asking for
information about Japanese in B.C. I know
that you have much data about them people
in B.C. & wonder if you would be good enough

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to let me have some of the information
you have gathered. The points that Mr. Rich-
ards would now particularly like to discuss
are the economic penetration of these people
into our social & economic life. The extent to
which they operate. Their submarine tendencies
& related phases, especially their Japanese subterfuge.

I can assure you I am in hearty agreement
with your outlook on this situation & wish
you every success in your efforts to combat this
evil. I would like to see the responsible author-

ities pass legislation that would not grant Brit-
ish citizenship to Canadian born people who
are not assimilated. This would particularly
include orientals & blacks. It would be drastic.

I would like to see all British withdrawal from Japan
& all Japanese withdrawal from Canada except those
who can foster & promote trade. We should have
no orientals competing on our labor market.

Mr. Richards if it is to speak before a
small closed group a discussion club. There
is no publicity of any kind through the

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514 Homer St., City,
March 12, 1941.

Ald. H. D. Wilson,
City Hall.

Dear Sir:-

It is necessary that I put the material I loaned to you to some further use and shall be obliged if you will kindly mail it to me at the above address.

I note in to day's papers that Mrs. Jamieson complains to the city council about outbursts in the council re the oriental question. I seriously suggest to you Sir that the so-called Canadian Civil Liberties Union constitutes the spear-head of the Fifth column in our community and nothing but a strong and virile attitude by loyal and faithful Canadian and British citizens can possibly save us from future disaster.

That the female of the species is far more deadly than the male is evidenced by the fact that women like unto Misses Jamieson, Steeves, Gutteridge and others can openly, and under the guise of decent citizens besmirch and nullify all that is being done to win the war it is high time that we either get busy on these traitors to democracy and any and all decent government, or else we ought to announce publicly that we are defeated.

1. I would remind you of the demand made by Woodworth on the floor of Parliament three years ago or less that we in B.C. grant the franchise to the Japanese, also to the fact that he was on a ship en-route to Japan within 30 days of making his demand.
2. On his return from Japan he addressed a large audience in Moose Hall on Nov. 9th of that year and again stressed his demand that the Japs get the franchise.
3. On Sept' 9th 1938 during the war session of Parliament he again addressed the House and said (see Hansard p.45) You cannot indict a great nation and a great people such as the German people. And on p. 47) Yes I have boys of my own and I hope they are not cowards, but if any one of those boys, not from cowardice but really through belief, is willing to take his stand on this matter and, if necessary, to face a concentration camp or a firing squad, I shall be more proud of that boy than if he enlisted in the war!. At this meeting Mr. J.E.Armishaw challenged to debate the question of franchise to orientals with Mr. Woodsworth at a date and place to be decided on but Woodworth declined.

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You will have noted in the report I handed you that out of over 50 people who aired their views before the Board only two or so were connected with Labour, one a fisherman and the other representing labour. I hope that you have in your possession a copy of the Province for August 15th, 1940 which shows the pictures of the two Japs that were registering their yellow brethren. And the charge that though one of them was a Japanese born alien, unnaturalized, he had actually registered over forty Japs and signed their cards as deputy registrar. O' what a weapon this could be in the hands of a Canadian born patriot such as Halford Wilson, so why not go to it and slay them hip-and-thigh.

It would make a great scene if Mrs. Steeves was asked before a large Canadian audience how she reconciles her insulting statement at Victoria that she would like to see the Empire abolished alongside the fact that HER ROTTERDAM LOST THIRTY-THOUSAND KILLED AND ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND WOUNDED WITHIN THREE HOURS OF BLITZREIG BOMBARDMENT by her erstwhile friends the HUNS. Surely I need say no more though I might in closing refer you to the ,-

Sun of Aug. 22/40 where it states that the Chinese were com limented on their splendid co-operation and response to the matter of registration. THE SAME PAPER SAYS FEW JAPANESE ENROLL IN NAT. REGISTRATION.

NEWS-HERALD

- Aug. 20 Japanese response very poor.
- " 21. Penalty for non-registration Fine of \$200; 3 months in jail; added \$10. per day for each day's failure to register, and dismissal from employment. (Query,- How many Japs were fined or fired?
- " 22. Jap consul K. Nakauchi states that Baron Shuh Tomii, Ambassador to Canada passed through Vancouver en-route to Japan he being one of five Ambassadors and 19 Ministers recalled to Japan to prepare a political offensive.
- " 23. Report of Komagata Maru Incident.
- " " Trail, B.C. Doukhobors quit work. Refuse to register.
- " 24 Schizo Kobayashi sent as special envoy to the Netherlands.
- " " United States warns Japan re East Indies, Day of reckoning to come.

Yours sincerely,

Hugh Thornley

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7007 Victoria Road,
Vancouver South,
March 17th, 1941.

Alderman M. Wilson,
City Hall.

Dear Sir,-

We have followed with interest and appreciation your consistent efforts to cope with the Oriental problem here, and your struggle to prevent the retail businesses of Vancouver from continuing to fall into Japanese hands. You have been subjected to so much criticism and abuse over the matter that it may be of interest to you to know that at least some Vancouver citizens appreciate what you are trying to do.

I wonder if it would not be possible to have the Store-Closing By-Law amended so that all grocery stores, Japanese and Whites alike, would have to actually close their Grocery Dept. at closing time, and on Wednesdays and Sundays. These stores that are stocked up with groceries and keep open on Wednesdays and Sundays, and part of the night, are a nuisance to legitimate business and are continually breaking the Law. On a Wednesday not long ago we were parked on Robson Street when a man came out of an Oriental store carrying a can of goods, not even wrapping paper on the can. On a recent Sunday on the same street I saw a lady come out of another Oriental store loaded with parcels. Why should these stores be allowed to call themselves confectionery or fruit businesses and then carry and retail groceries, contrary to the Law? Why should they not be allowed to chisel in on the Dry Goods and also the hardware Business, etc, of the City just as well as on the grocers? The Law should be amended so that the Police would have a reasonable chance to enforce it, or it should be repealed altogether. Store after store run by Orientals are wide open on Sunday, and their fruit and vegetables are no more perishable than ours. Could not the Law be altered so that both the buyer and the seller would be equally liable to prosecution? I believe this is the case in Toronto. At present the Police do not appear to be able to do anything if the proprietor of the store recognizes the Police Spotter and refuses to sell to her, but yet they go on selling to the people of the community and to the customers of other stores on Wednesdays, Sundays and after hours. If the Law could be tightened up and enforced these Japanese stores would not be the hindrance to proper businesses that they now are.

We have been in business here for over 15 years,

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have built a good new store, and right next door to us is an old dump run by a white man, stocked up with groceries, and is open every Wednesday, every evening until about 10.30 and all day Sunday. People come out of there one after another on Sunday and Wednesday with parcels and there does not seem to be the slightest notice taken of the Law. Apparently the store runs wide open, without even pretending to close, carries cooked and smoked meats right next door to our Grocery and Meat Store, and is there to serve our customers when we are obliged to obey the Law and close. We pay a lot of Taxes and have done so through the years, and this does not seem to us to be very fair. People no longer need to bother shopping during business hours as they know they can get what they want, when they want it, without any trouble.

As the Japanese problem is a Federal responsibility there should be some way of distributing these people equally among the different Provinces in proportion to their population (if they are here to stay) instead of B. C. having them practically all. If Ottawa city had their fair share of the Japanese people and Japanese stores they would have a better understanding of the situation.

In closing, could there not be some method devised so that the City Licenses of the Stores would be based on the turnover, so that big organizations such as the Safeway who are getting so much of the retail business of the City would have to bear their proper share of the City's finances. If there could be a Minimum License fee of say \$20.00 for small stores and then the License of the larger concerns assessed in the form of a turnover tax it would defray much of the city expenses.

Again assuring you that we appreciate the work you have done and are doing in the best interests of the city, we are

Yours very truly,

Hardy's Market,

Per (mn) Grace V. Hardy.