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Illegal entry.BOARD OF REVIEW. RE JAPANESE IMMIGRATIONINTERIM REPORT AND SUPPLEMENT MAY 14th. 1938.

Duties of Board is divided into three phases, viz: 1. Organization Advertisement and reception of evidence. (2) About three months to check evidence received and (3) Final series of meetings to prepare the Board's report. (First phase now ended).

Number of suspects listed 158. Deported 4. Still pending 135.

Japanese informers: First result of announcement of Board sitting was removal of two Japanese, "Jimmy Yamashita (70) Naturalized, and Mr. Tabuchi, who were informers for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. The first named left for Japan on the "Hiya Maru" Mar 19 (his fare being paid by Japanese community) and Tabuchi disappeared early in March. The Japanese Consulate began registration of the Japanese race in B.C. The R.C.M.P. presume the object is (a) to show the number of Japanese in B.C. greatly exaggerated and (b) to discover which Japanese are here illegally and to keep them out of sight. On several occasions the Japanese consul has attempted to ascertain how much information was being obtained by the Board (results Nil). He expressed to the Chairman that too much vigorous a campaign against the Japanese would have a bad effect on the local residents and produce unfortunate repercussions in Japan. He even said that while ten or fifteen deportations might not be serious, if the number increased to 30 or 40 the effect on Japanese opinion would be bad. He was told that the Canadian could not agree to any restrictions in regard to those illegally here no matter what their number or nationality might be.

Newspaper & Anti-Oriental Speeches: One concrete result has been complete cessation of all statements regarding the illegal entry of Orientals (in the press or on the platform) and whereas this charge was frequently made prior to Board appointment it has not been made once since. Every effort was made to encourage those most active in making accusations to appear before the Board. Cap't MacGregor Macintosh did appear but had nothing specific to offer. He could not even offer any rumours or hearsay about specific cases which could justify an investigation. Mr. C.E. Hope was also persuaded to appear but while very ready to express opinions on other aspects of the problem he could give no information regarding illegal entries. If the Board has accomplished nothing else it has put a stop to the charges regarding illegal entries which were formerly so prominent a part of the anti-oriental campaign in British Columbia.

Relief: It was revealed that approx 1000 Japanese were receiving relief and that many were registered as agricultural laborers and domestic servants. The Board recommends that no further permits for such be issued until all are off Relief. This was submitted to Immigration officials and instructions to such effect are now being enforced.

East Indian's: It is admitted by Anup Singh (who presented the case for the Hindu's group, at Ottawa) that a number of Hindu's are here illegally (about 1930) but asks that this violation be overlooked and promises they will co-operate with Immigration officials in stopping further illegal entries. (Dr. Anup Singh's written representations will be found in Supplement Appendix K.)

PUBLIC REACTION IN B.C.

- (a) The purpose for which the Board was established is good-but comparatively unimportant. While it is desirable to apprehend and deport all aliens illegally in Canada the number is small and, as far as the Japanese are concerned, is not really an important aspect of the question. (This view was expressed by Premier Patullo and by many others).

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- (b) "The methods of the Board are well intentioned but inadequate. Rather than expecting the people of B.C. to come forward with specific information regarding illegal entrants the Government should conduct a registration of all orientals and thus be in a position to decide who is here illegally now and in the future to keep an accurate check on the whole oriental population". (This view would seem to be supported by practically every person in B.C. who has given the matter any thought and it is, of course, a serious criticism.)

There appears to be no divergence of opinion in regard to the necessity of registration. When questioned regarding the advisability of enforcing registration upon a single element in the population the majority were prepared to have all the people of B.C. included in the registration, also to be effective, should include a record of the finger prints of the registrant.

SUGGESTION RECEIVED:: (1) That ship patrol should be established. (The Board thinks this has little value). Not the slightest evidence has been presented to support charges that any immigrants have entered Canada in this way. (By the landing of immigrants from Japanese vessels illegally.) Practically everyone wished to have legal Immigration stopped, thus making suppreptitious entry very much more difficult.

One of the most obvious loop-holes was brought to the Board's attention by the Immigration Service. Children born in Canada are sent to Japan at an early age and remain there for many years for school or family reasons. Then, 15 or 20 years later they return bearing their birth certificates and are admitted as Canadian nationals. It is impossible for the officials to tell whether the young man or woman is the same person who left Canada 15 or 20 years before. This is a situation that justifies serious consideration. (1) Prior to 1931 the fact that many children returning in this way were in possession of CERTIFICATES- ISSUED only a short time before, following delayed registration of the bearer's birth.

Officials of the R.N.W.P. produced records showing that since 1931 43 Japanese found to be illegally in Canada and ordered deported by an Immigration Board were allowed to remain on decisions reached in Ottawa. While compassions to considerations may explain some of these decisions there is reason to believe that other explanations must be suspected in the majority of cases. These decisions, naturally, make the task of reducing the number of illegal entries much more difficult

PROGRAMME FOR THE SUMMER:

- (a) Every suspect on the list shown whose case has not been settled will be carefully investigated. There are 133 to be handled.
- (b) Certain relatively isolated Japanese communities have been selected for intensive examination. In each of these cases the Mounted Police Detail will examine every Japanese resident of the area and by this method of sampling a fair yardstick can be obtained from which to judge the extent of the problem presented by illegal entrants.

CROSS SECTION OF THE JAPANESE COMMUNITY IN B.C. AND TYPE OF ECONOMIC LIFE TOGETHER WITH AN ESTIMATE OF THE JAPANESE POPULATION.

Mayne Island	Agriculture	75
Minstrel Island	Lumbering	60
Port Alice	Pulp	150
Bella Vista	Fruit Farming	50
Rivers Inlet	Fisheries	80
Glacier	Railroading	50
Bamfield	Fishing	30
Port Alberni	Lumber & Fishing	200
Allison Harbour	Lumber	20
Salt Spring Is.	Farming & Fishing	200
Paldi	Lumber	75
Kapoor	Lumber	60