

L.- Japanese in B.C.

70-25

v
24-10-40

Mr J. A. Adams

Types: X-81 Secret Correspondence & Memoranda
70-25 Miscellaneous Correspondence,
resolutions, recommendations etc.

- 70-25.A. utilization of Japanese labour
70-25.B. Applications for appointments & Positions
70-25.C. fruit Industry in Fraser Valley.
29-7 Japanese fishermen

Japanese
... among in this conflict along with
the Germans, against us to-day. One does wonder, not talk.
Your sincerely
J. A. Adams

WHEREAS the Dominion Government announced some weeks ago that it would remove certain Japanese residents from British Columbia coast defence areas in order to prevent the possibility of sabotage to the Canadian war effort,

AND WHEREAS there is now widespread criticism throughout British Columbia at the delay in carrying out the policy announced by the Government,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Vancouver, where the majority of the Japanese in Canada are located, urges the Government to speed up its programme relative to Japanese resident in the defence areas of British Columbia. The City Council is of the opinion that speedier action on the part of the Government in this regard will not only provide greater security for defence areas but will allay fears of Vancouver citizens generally and will be in the best interests of the Japanese resident here.

Vancouver
February 9th, 1942

1535 Vine St
Vancouver B.C.
Canada
FEB 14/42

Hon. Ian MacKenzie



Sir /
I urge you to remove all Japanese - men woman & child - of every age - naturalized or not, at once from B.C. All are potential spies & would help their national, once they get a footing here. Take away all arms - radios, cameras & vehicles of whatever kind & send them away by train or otherwise to the Dust Bowl in back elsewhere - Let them take away only their clothing & cooking utensils & supply weekly ration of rice & dried fish - their normal diet in Japan - Let them occupy the abandoned farms & if any other buildings or furniture is needed let them build & make their own
appoint a hundred & two Chinese guard armed & authorized to keep them within certain limits & inspect them daily. I suggest Chinese guard because they know the habits of

the Japs & can distinguish them from their own
people, & they would be glad to keep the Japs from
aiding our enemy. Confiscate all money
& property owned by Japs to be used to carry
on our war against them & make it unlawful
for them to acquire any land or property
from now on - All this can be done with
their own money used for this purpose. I
say send the lot away - don't imagine they could
ever be Canadian patriots - Their allegiance is
to Japan always. & you surely know women
& children can be just as deadly spies
& helpers as these men. Let them be deported
to their home in Japan after the war. The
poorly treated treatment of Japs here makes me sick!
why build homes for 100 & work on road? They
should be taken from interment camps in
gangs to work on road & be bankrupted if
they get fed - never name giving them money.
There plenty of men here who would be
glad to work without payment without
trusting to one dead of money!

"your fat, speedy action protest Canadian
Grauer, Greig & Greig

70-0.5

sm

Ottawa, 19th February, 1942

Dear Mr. Tregidga,-

This is to thank you for your letters of February 14th and February 15th.

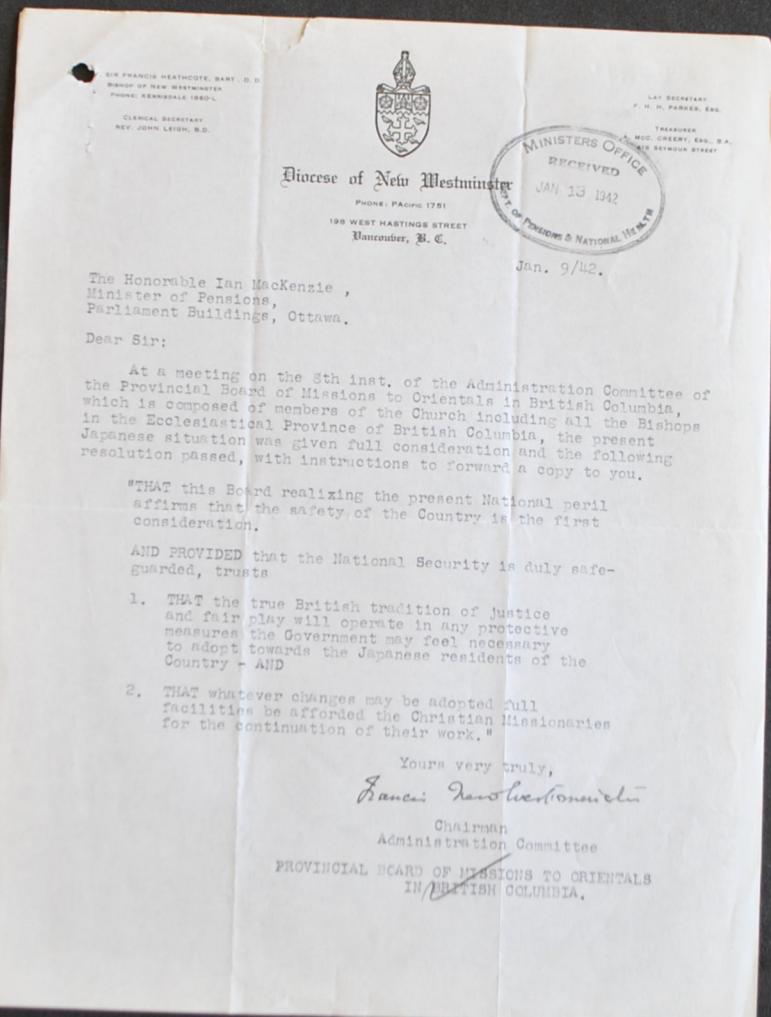
The length of time taken to begin removal of Japanese simply represents the length of time necessary to prepare places in which to accommodate them. You will doubtless know by this time of action taken today which indicates that the Government is dealing firmly with the whole question.

Your interest is appreciated, and I thank you for the suggestions in your letters.

Yours sincerely,

W. J. Tregidga, Esq.,
1535 Vine Street,
Vancouver, B.C.

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SYLVIA
COURT
WITNESS OFFICE
RECEIVED
DEC 27 1941
DEPT OF PENSIONS & NATIONAL HEALTH

1154 Gifford
Street
Vancouver, B.C.
December 21st
1941.

My dear Ian:- 70-25
Everyone on
the Pacific Coast
certainly has the wind up
over the Jap situation,
especially Mayor Comett.
Costs of A.R.P. are
not as much as Comett
makes out. People
are only too glad to
Volunteer their services

(5) gratis. Of course the
money grabbers all
want to get a slice
of any movies going
around. The Japs here
are very cocky. There
will be trouble when
Hong Kong falls
or we lose any big
Battles or if Japanese
Bombers ever come
over B. C.

(3) I would not be
surprised if Riots
should break out.
The protracted Black
arts get on the nerves
of people. women
get very nervous.
It would not take
much to make the
white people Burn
down Powell st
(Jap Town) or
Steveston.

It depends on what
the Japs do to provoke
trouble (that is the
Japanese Government.)
A general Boycott of
all Japanese stores
and Businesses is in
full force now.
With very best personal
regards and the best
of seasons greetings.
They to remain
Yours sincerely
Harry L. Phelan



OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL

Ottawa, January 6th, 1941.

b

679

mm 70-85

Ottawa, 7th January, 1941

By Hand

Dear Mr. Heeney,-

With reference to your letter of January 6th, dealing with the special committee on Japanese-Chinese problems in British Columbia, I notice that in the committee you have Lieutenant-Colonel MacGregor MacIntosh. He would be an excellent member of the committee except for the fact that he is now stationed at Lethbridge and in charge of a military school there, and therefore I doubt if he would be available for observation of the situation in British Columbia.

He, of course, has always had an anti-Japanese attitude, just as Professor Angus is considered to be in the opposite direction.

I shall think of someone else to replace Colonel MacIntosh if the objection I state is valid, and will speak to you personally about it.

Yours sincerely,

A. D. F. Heeney, Esq.,
Clerk of the Privy Council,
Ottawa.



OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL

Ottawa, January 6th, 1941.

Honourable Ian Mackenzie, M.P.,
Minister of Pensions and National Health,
Ottawa.

Dear Mr. Mackenzie:

I think you are aware that the Special Committee appointed on October the 1st last to investigate the situation of persons of Japanese and Chinese racial origin resident in British Columbia, are making certain recommendations to the government as to how this problem should be dealt with.

Among the Recommendations of the Committee is the following:

"That a small standing Committee should be set up in British Columbia to supervise the carrying out of such of the foregoing recommendations as are adopted by the Government, and for the purpose of keeping the Government constantly informed as to the oriental situation in that Province."

At their last meeting the Cabinet War Committee in approving this Recommendation, approved also, subject to your concurrence, the following personnel for the standing Committee recommended - Lt. Col. H. F. Sparling, Assistant Commissioner F. J. Mead (both of whom have been members of the Special Committee), Professor H. F. Angus, Lt. Col. McGregor McIntosh, M.L.A., and Mr. Fred J. Hume, Mayor of New Westminster, the last named to be Chairman.

Provided that you are agreeable, it is the intention to request these persons to act. I am asking Mr. Keenleyside, who is a member of the Special Committee, to let you have a copy of their Report, when it is prepared.

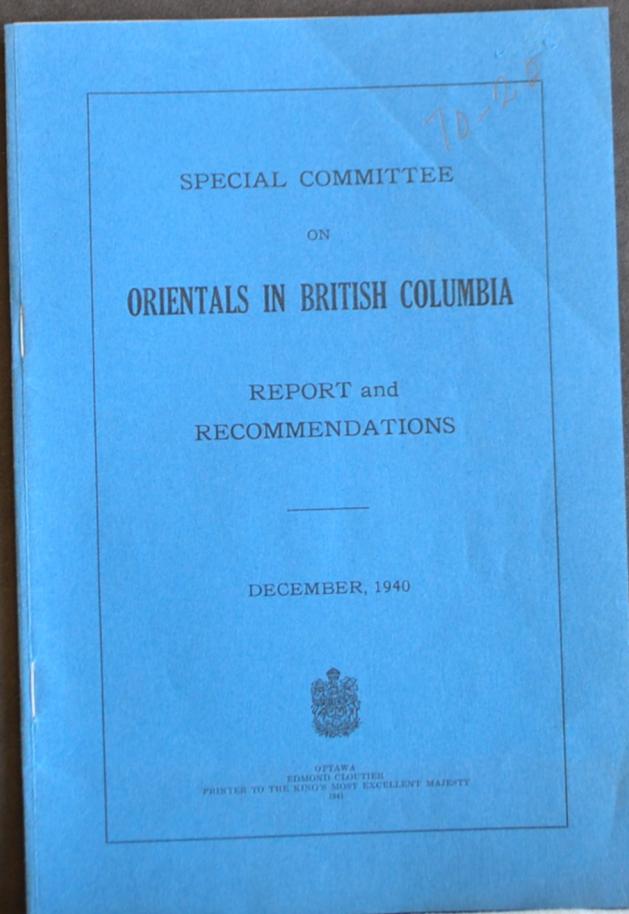
-2-

You might let me hear from you, in this
connection, as soon as convenient.

Yours very truly,

A. Murray.

Secretary to the
Cabinet War Committee.



SPECIAL COMMITTEE

ON

ORIENTALS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

REPORT and
RECOMMENDATIONS

DECEMBER, 1940



OTTAWA
EDMOND CLOUTIER
PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY
1940

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REPORT TO THE

Report and Recommendations of the Special Committee on Orientals in British Columbia, December 1940.

APPENDIX NO. 1

OTTAWA, December 2, 1940.

Sir.—I have the honour to submit herewith the Report and Recommendations of the Special Committee on Orientals in British Columbia which was appointed on October 1, 1940, to investigate the position of persons of Japanese and Chinese racial origin, who are resident in British Columbia, and to report upon the problem of Japanese and Chinese in that Province from the point of view of national security, with particular reference to the question of military training.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

H. L. KEENLEYSIDE,
for Lt.-Col. A. W. Sparling, (Convenor),
Special Committee on Orientals in
British Columbia.

The Right Honourable W. L. Mackenzie King, M.P.,
Secretary of State for External Affairs,
Ottawa.

Report and Recommendations of the Special Committee
on Orientals in British Columbia, December, 1940

I. APPOINTMENT AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. On the 1st of October, 1940, the Cabinet War Committee appointed a Special Committee to investigate the situation of persons of Japanese and Chinese racial origin who are resident in British Columbia. This Committee was composed of:

Lt.-Col. A. W. Sparling, Headquarters Staff, M.D. No. 11 (Convenor).
Dr. H. L. Keenleyside, Counselor, Department of External Affairs.
Assistant Commissioner, F. J. Mead, R.C.M.P.

2. On the 3rd of October the functions of the Special Committee were extended and made more specific by instructions from the Cabinet War Committee to examine and to report upon "the general problem of Japanese and Chinese in British Columbia from the point of view of internal security and with particular reference to the question of military training."

3. Subsequently, on the 17th of October, the personnel of the Committee was enlarged to include Sir George Sansom, formerly Commercial Counsellor at the British Embassy, Tokyo, Japan.

II. METHODS OF PROCEDURE

4. The first meeting of the Special Committee was held in Ottawa on the 17th of October, and subsequent investigations were initiated by Colonel Sparling and Assistant Commissioner Mead in British Columbia during the following fortnight. The whole Committee convened in Vancouver on Monday, the 4th of November, and sessions were held there, in Victoria, morning, afternoon and evening, during the following week. Subsequently the Convenor and Assistant Commissioner Mead conducted an investigation, and on the 16th of November the results of their study were circulated to the other members of the Committee. This Report was then prepared in its final form, and is being presented to the Cabinet War Committee on the 2nd of December, 1940.

5. The method of procedure followed by the Committee was as follows: Reports of earlier studies by the police, military and other authorities were first examined. Statistical and other material was obtained and reviewed. Then, when the Committee convened in British Columbia, representative individuals who had knowledge and experience of the oriental problem were invited to give their views, in confidence, and to state facts known to them personally. A questionnaire was used as a basis for discussion, but an effort was made to avoid leading questions and to give the witnesses full scope. A list of the persons thus examined is appended to this Report as Appendix A. They included representatives of:

The Provincial Government, Municipal Governments, The Canadian Army, Navy and Air Force, The Royal Canadian Mounted Police, The Provincial Police, Municipal Police Forces, Employers of Japanese Labour, The Canadian Manufacturers' Association, Merchants, Shipping Companies, Labour Unions,

The Press (including the Japanese), The Clergy, The University of British Columbia, The Legal Profession, Japanese Business Men, Japanese Professional Men, Japanese Farmers, The Japanese Canadian Citizen's League, The Fishing Industry.

6. A transcript of the evidence thus obtained has been prepared and placed on file in the Department of External Affairs.

III. THE STATISTICAL BACKGROUND

7. The following statistical summary is based on material provided by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, by the Police authorities in British Columbia, incriminating material obtained confidentially from Japanese sources, and by previous official and independent investigations. It is to be accepted with some reservations due to the length of time that has elapsed since the last census, and due also to the considerable fluctuations which can take place in the numbers of persons in isolated and scattered but law-abiding communities without a full appreciation of the changes being apprehended by authorities preoccupied with other matters. With these reservations the following statistical statement may be accepted as reasonably accurate.

8. The total number of Japanese in Canada is approximately 25,000, this constituting a little over 2 per cent of the total population of Canada. Of these Japanese some 23,000 live in the Province of British Columbia. This represents some 3-2 per cent of the total population of that province.

9. Persons of Japanese racial origin now resident in British Columbia can be classified by national status as follows:—

(a) Canadian Nationals by naturalization, approximately	2,400
(b) Canadian Nationals by birth, approximately	13,400
(c) Japanese Nationals, approximately	7,200

23,000

10. These again can be classified by occupation approximately as follows:—

(a) Farming,	1,200
Manufacturing, pulp mills, etc.	2,000
Commerce,	600
Construction,	211
Transportation and communications,	211
Hotels, restaurants, laundries,	123
Business, employed help—wholesale and retail,	435
Business, employed help—wholesale and retail,	2,340
Employed in other miscellaneous occupations,	2,340
Separately not employed,	7,982
Total,	15,018
Separately not employed,	28,000

11. The distribution of the Japanese population in British Columbia is of some importance as it illustrates why the agitation against these people is so largely concentrated in the south-west corner of the province. The following figures are approximate but are considered to be relatively accurate:

Vancouver City	8,000
New Westminster (approximate to New Westminster)	2,600
Other Townships (New Westminster to Goldstream)	1,000
Other Townships (Goldstream to Comox)	1,000
Comox and District	1,000

28,000

12. The age, sex and national constitution of the Japanese population is approximately as follows:—

	Under 16 years	Over 16 years
Male	4,100	9,000
Female	4,200	5,700
Canadian Born	6,900	1,900
Japanese Nationals	3,200	500
Naturalized	1,200	1,200
Total	11,300	11,300

13. The number of males of Japanese racial origin who are of or near military age is approximately as follows:—

	16 to 20 years	Over 20 years
(1) (2a)	1,600	7,300
(2)	8,900	

Total number of male Japanese in British Columbia who are single or widowers, without dependents, and between the ages of 19 and 45, both inclusive, is approximately 2,300.

14. In view of certain statements which have been made in regard to the immigration of Japanese to Canada the following figures, showing the number of persons of Japanese racial origin who have entered Canada as immigrants during the past ten years, are worth examination:—

	Japanese Nationals	British Subjects	Total
1930-31.....	77	193	205
1931-32.....	135	60	115
1932-33.....	94	21	105
1933-34.....	29	6	35
1934-35.....	74	19	93
1935-36.....	68	18	83
1936-37.....	50	23	103
1937-38.....	99	40	139
1938-39.....	29	17	46
1939-40.....	21	15	36
Total.....	827	293	1,120

15. The situation in regard to persons of Chinese racial origin in British Columbia is relatively simple as there is no immigration; the number of women and children is very small; total numbers are decreasing, and, except in Vancouver, the persons in this category are distributed widely and more or less evenly throughout the province instead of being concentrated in a few areas. The more important statistical returns in regard to the Chinese are summarized below.

16. The numbers of Chinese in British Columbia, based on categories of sex and nationality, are approximately as follows:—

	Canadian	Naturalized	Chinese Nationals
Male	500	200	20,000
Female	400	—	20,000

Total 20,600

17. The geographical distribution is approximately as follows:—

Vancouver City	6,500
New Westminster City	400
Vancouver Island	4,500
Central British Columbia	19,200

18. The number of Chinese males of or near military age (18-45) in British Columbia is 8,000, most of these being near the upper age limit.

19. The following comparative figures may be of interest:—

Chinese population in British Columbia	(approximately)
Chinese population in British Columbia	18,110
Chinese population in British Columbia	14,810
Chinese population in British Columbia	21,100

IV. THE PROBLEM

20. In the light of its instructions the Committee conceived its duties to be as follows:—

- (a) To discover the extent and distribution of hostile feeling between the white population on the one hand and the Japanese (and Chinese) population on the other.
- (b) To ascertain the causes of hostile feeling.
- (c) To determine whether such hostile feeling as exists constitutes a special danger to the internal security of the province in particular or to national defence in general.
- (d) If such danger exists, to consider what practical steps should be taken to reduce that danger
 - (1) by improving the state of feeling between the white and oriental communities; and
 - (2) by recommending precautionary measures designed to meet activities prejudicial to civil security or national defence, whether on the part of the white or the oriental population; and
- (e) To consider in particular what steps should be taken in regard to the application to oriental Canadians of the terms of the National Resources Mobilization Act, 1940.

V. THE CHINESE ASPECT OF THE ORIENTAL PROBLEM IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

21. The members of the Committee believe that in present circumstances, for reasons which do not require elaboration, the problem of the Chinese population in British Columbia is neither so difficult nor so urgent as that created by the presence of the Japanese. Therefore, the body of this report deals almost exclusively with the Japanese problem and takes the Chinese situation into account only as a subsidiary issue. In the absence of specific mention, what follows should be taken as having reference directly, if not exclusively, to the Japanese.

VI. THE EVIDENCE

22. In the examining of witnesses the members of the Committee first directed their attention towards discovering whether, in fact, hostile feeling existed in any important degree. It became immediately apparent that there was in some quarters an active hostility towards the Japanese; and that, while many witnesses expressed a liking for them, or an admiration for their individual and national qualities, this was coupled with a greater or less degree of suspicion of the Japanese as a people and a feeling that their racial solidarity was likely in an emergency to override their loyalty to Canada and produce subversive or otherwise dangerous activities. No concrete evidence was adduced in support of this sentiment, and charges of disloyal conduct brought by witnesses against individual Japanese or groups of Japanese proved in every instance upon further examination to arise from unmanifested rumour and hearsay.

23. The fact that none of the witnesses examined were able to give convincing or even plausible evidence to support adverse statements is not, of course, sufficient to prove that no members of the Japanese community have been, or will in future be, guilty of wrongful acts of the kind ascribed to them; but it is relevant to record here that the representatives of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the Provincial and the Municipal Police who gave evidence to the Committee were unanimous in testifying that, although they had investigated a

great number of reported cases of subversive acts on the part of Japanese over a period of years, they had not in consequence been able to find anything to substantiate these accusations. The police officers who appeared before the Committee, while in some cases they differed in their personal views on the questions at issue and in their attitude towards the Japanese as a people, all agreed that they formed one of the most law-abiding elements in the population of the Province and that they were in general industrious and inoffensive citizens.

24. Nevertheless, despite this favourable testimony, the Committee was obliged to recognize that, even granting the Japanese in British Columbia to be innocent of acts or speech conducive to suspicion and hostility, there are in fact mistrusted and disliked by many people, particularly in those districts where they are most thickly congregated. It was, therefore, necessary to discover the true causes of this ill-feeling, and this point was put specifically to the witness examined. The almost invariable reply was to the effect that the chief cause of animosity was economic. The Japanese are disliked by those whom they injure (or who consider themselves injured) in competition with white Canadians as labourers, as fishermen, farmers, as retail storekeepers or in other occupations, where they accept lower wages or work to a less expensive standard. This sentiment may sometimes be justified by the facts, since it is natural for a white competitor to resent the existence of a class which appears deliberately to depress standards of income, working hours, and living conditions. But even where it is not justified, it is easily rationalized by representing the Japanese as a community who, besides being economically undesirable, are politically dangerous.

25. It is doubtful whether these sentiments of dislike and mistrust would persist to any significant degree in times of normal economic activity and relatively full employment, unless they were kept alive and stimulated by other agencies. Unfortunately the Committee received ample evidence to show that hostility towards the Japanese has been deliberately inflamed by certain individuals for reasons which can only be ascribed to a desire for personal political advantage. While considering such practices to be objectionable at all times, and particularly dangerous in present circumstances, and although not suggesting that to suppress those practices will remove the anti-Japanese sentiment which now exists, the members of the Committee are convinced that, as a first step towards diminishing the mutual antagonism between certain elements of the white population and the Japanese community, it is essential to prevent acts tending to create public suspicion and alarm. In this sense, the suppression of public statements arousing antagonism against the Japanese in British Columbia should be an integral part of plans for civil security and national defence.

26. From opinions expressed to the Committee by responsible citizens, it is apparent that popular fears would be greatly allayed by an official statement that the Government is satisfied that adequate precautions have been taken and will be continued against any dangerous elements in British Columbia.

27. While there may be differences of opinion as to how far the charges levelled against the Japanese in respect of underselling and underlying their white competitors are justified, it is probable that their grievances could be removed by the proper enforcement of existing legislation, or the enactment of new laws or by-laws, which would prevent some forms of unfair competition, e.g., the custom of some Japanese food retailers of sleeping in their stores and thus reducing overhead costs for rent. In general, any policy designed to raise the standard of living and the standard of income of the Japanese would tend to narrow their competitive margin and thus to remove causes of ill-feeling against them. In this connection it was brought out clearly by the evidence of many

witnesses that it is the exclusion of Japanese from one occupation after another in British Columbia which has driven them into occupations of a different grade, e.g., when driven out of the fisheries they turned to small storekeeping, tailoring, dry-cleaning, where their inexpensive standards permit them to drive off white competition. There is no doubt that the Japanese themselves have a sense of persecution when after being excluded from one occupation they are blamed for resorting to another. The animosity of the white population thus has its counterpart in the resentment of the Japanese; and it is obvious that such conditions make for neither loyalty nor harmony. It is indeed in some respects astonishing that the native Japanese are not more vocal and active in their resistance to the discrimination to which they are subjected. This can partly be explained by the fact that, by and large, they are at least as well off, and in most cases even better off, materially than they would be in Japan. They are, moreover, a traditionally disciplined and obedient people, accustomed to thinking in terms of the interest of their community as a whole, so that any tendency toward imprudent actions can be readily held in check by the leaders of their several groups.

28. While it is probable that, given patience and the lapse of time, the most serious economic causes of ill-feeling between white and Japanese could be modified, it was clear from the statements of many witnesses that most of the racial friction of British Columbia regard the Japanese as undesirable because of their distinctive racial character. No doubt in the most favourable conditions racial animosity might, with the lapse of time, be expected to diminish, and it is possible that such conditions could be produced by legislation, good will and individual effort. But the chief problem before the Committee was the short-term problem. It was therefore obliged to recognize that, in addition to the economic factor, racial prejudice is an important element in producing dislike and mistrust of the Japanese. It does not matter whether this racial prejudice is reasonable or not. It exists and it has to be taken into account. Moreover, the present international situation, in which Japan has declared herself on the side of the enemies of the British Empire, has in itself intensified not only national feeling but also racial feeling.

29. It was very apparent, and in this the majority of the witnesses who appeared before the committee agreed, that this complex of economic, national and racial factors has produced a dangerous situation, but it was most significant that, with one exception, all the witnesses examined, even those most hostile to the Japanese, agreed that the greater danger was to be expected not from the Japanese themselves but from the white population, who with only the slightest additional provocation, might suddenly resort to violence against Japanese individuals or groups. The Japanese themselves are alive to this hostility, and their fear and perplexity, and their natural determination to protect themselves if attacked, are further elements of danger.

30. The committee recognized that the situation in British Columbia may be further complicated at any time by acts committed outside of Canada; acts which cannot be foreseen but which may be intensely provocative. Any occurrence of that nature might not only provoke action against the Japanese in British Columbia, but, if there were Canadians of Japanese race serving at the time in the armed forces of Canada, they also might be in danger of attack by the less responsible element among their comrades.

31. In view of these considerations the members of the committee reached the conclusion that the first duty must be to point out that the first and perhaps the greatest potential source of danger is not disloyalty on the part of the Japanese in Canada but the animosity of white Canadians against the Japanese in general. The Committee's recommendations therefore deal

principally with the measures which can be taken to prevent acts of hostility against Japanese resident in British Columbia. Among such measures must be included not only military and police precautions, but also the removal, so far as may be possible, of conditions likely to produce mistrust and anxiety among both the white and the Japanese populations. In other words steps should be taken on the one hand to assure the white population that all necessary military, police and other precautions have been and will continue to be, taken against possible subversive acts, and on the other hand to assure the Japanese population that the authorities will take determined action to protect them against attack from whatever quarter, provided that they, for their part, remain loyal in all particulars. To these ends it is considered essential not merely to inform the public of British Columbia that the necessary steps are being taken, but also to announce the intention of the government to introduce certain specific measures calculated to remove special causes of public anxiety.

32. With this object in mind witnesses appearing before the Committee were questioned carefully with a view to ascertaining what special causes of anxiety were prevalent in the public mind. It became immediately apparent that perhaps the most important of these is a resurgent and, in the opinion of the Committee, unjustified belief that there are in British Columbia large numbers of Japanese who have entered the province illegally and that their entrance is still being achieved by considerable numbers of Japanese nationals. While the committee is convinced that the investigation made by the Board of Review in 1938 indicated that these beliefs are, and for some years have been, unfounded, it is nevertheless true that some sections of popular opinion in British Columbia still accept the charges as true. For these and other reasons the demand for a complete registration of the Japanese population is still foremost in the minds of a considerable element in the population. Recognizing the presence of this demand the Committee placed the question clearly and definitely before all the persons of Japanese race or origin who appeared before it. They were asked whether they would be willing to accept the discrimination involved in a new registration confined solely to the Japanese in return for the security to be gained by the possession of registration cards which would establish once and for all their individual rights to Canadian domicile. Without exception the persons of Japanese race to whom this question was put answered in favour of the proposal. In many cases they expressed themselves very strongly in favour of the proposal.

33. Having reached the conclusion that precautionary measures should be taken and announced, it remained to consider their proper nature and extent. With regard to military measures, the General Officer Commanding in Chief, Pacific Command, was consulted, and stated that he was in full agreement with the Committee's view of the situation; that he had already taken, and would continue to take, all possible military precautions against civil disturbance. With regard to police precautions it is believed, on the evidence of the witnesses examined, that all police authorities in the province are fully aware of the dangers to be guarded against and have laid plans accordingly.

34. An important aspect of the problem of protecting loyal Japanese against violence is the choice of methods to be used for the purpose of distinguishing potentially hostile elements from the loyal Japanese who are legally domiciled in Canada. For this purpose it is, in the Committee's opinion, desirable to impress upon the responsible leaders of the various Japanese communities that the *wrongful* act of a single Japanese would, even in present circumstances, and *a fortiori* if the international situation were to deteriorate further, imperil the lives and property of all Japanese, whether loyal or otherwise; and that consequently it is their duty and in their interest to co-operate

Fully with the authorities by keeping a close watch on their own communities and reporting without delay any suspicious circumstances. This obvious fact had already been recognized by many of the Japanese leaders and evidence was presented to show that efforts have already been made to warn the Japanese residents generally of the necessity of most circumspect behaviour.

33. The members of the Committee wish to emphasize here that they are persuaded that one of the most effective means of controlling the activities of the Japanese is to appeal to their sense of responsibility and to utilize the influence of the leaders of their several groups. This method of control can be used with particular effect in view of the cohesion existing within those groups and the strong sense of discipline and personal responsibility which is inherent in the Japanese character. It is considered that it is both just and important to capitalize upon the allegiance of the loyal Japanese Canadians as well as to impress upon any others the dangers of disaffection.

36. Coming finally to the problem of compulsory military training for Canadian citizens of Japanese race, the Committee are agreed that Canadian citizens, irrespective of race, in principle possess all the rights and duties of citizenship, and that therefore citizens of Japanese race can claim the right to be given military training and to serve in the armed forces. Many Japanese Canadians have in fact expressed their desire to serve, and some have definitely stated that they are even prepared to fight against other Japanese in the unhappy event of war against Japan.

37. Although the members of the Committee sympathize with this attitude, they are bound to consider the question in relation to other facts, and those facts are that opinion in British Columbia is on the whole against allowing persons of Japanese race to take military training or to serve in the armed forces. This opposition is based in part upon racial prejudice, as is shown by the statements of several witnesses who were offended by the prospect of white and Japanese youths being together in camp or in barracks. But what seems to the Committee to be a more valid objection was raised by those who argued that particularly in the event of increased tension between Japan and the democratic states, the situation of Japanese Canadian young men in training or serving in military units with large numbers of white Canadians would be one of great danger should racial or national passion be aroused by some untoward incident at home or abroad. A general outbreak might lead to the gravest results to the Japanese community concerned, and it might further set in motion currents of racial hatred in other parts of the world, with the usual sequels of reprisals and counter-reprisals. Therefore, it has been decided to recommend, though reluctantly and not unanimously, that at least for the present, Canadians of Japanese race should not be given military training (except of course the Basic Training provided for all students in public schools and universities) and should not be enlisted generally in the armed forces of Canada. Such exclusion will certainly give offence to a number of Japanese Canadians, and it would therefore be prudent to explain the Government's decision to them in a sympathetic way, dwelling upon the fact—upon which the Committee is wholly agreed—that it is largely based upon a desire to protect and to ease the position of the Japanese themselves, and not upon any mistrust of their patriotism.

38. In so far as the few Japanese Canadians who are eligible for admission to the Canadian Officers' Training Corps at the University of British Columbia are concerned, the Committee believes that this matter can be left to the good sense and discretion of the officials of the Corps and of the institution.

39. In order that the record may be complete the Committee wishes to report that the Minister of Education of the Province of British Columbia stated that as a result of criticisms that had been made of the teaching in certain privately conducted foreign language schools (notably those established by the Doukhobors), it had been decided to amend the Provincial Education Act in such a way as to bring such schools under direct official supervision. This step should have a beneficial effect in reducing the criticism that is commonly directed against the Japanese language schools which have been established in certain local communities.

VII. SUMMARY

40. The members of the Committee believe that the following may be accepted as a fair summary of the conditions in British Columbia which they were instructed to review.

41. There are in the Province of British Columbia some 23,000 persons of Japanese racial origin and approximately 22,000 persons of Chinese derivation. The latter, because their numbers are decreasing, because their economic competitive strength is restricted, because their nation has been traditionally and is today particularly popular in North America, and because they accept discriminatory treatment with a minimum of expressed resentment, do not constitute a serious problem.

42. The Japanese on the contrary are a rapidly growing and easily identified group. They offer strong competition in certain economic areas and they are not prepared to accept discrimination without protest. Above all, they are looked upon—even the majority who are Canadian nationals—as representatives of a nation that is opposed to many of the ideals for which Canada, Great Britain and their Allies, are fighting.

43. Thus the problem of the oriental in British Columbia is the problem of the Japanese.

44. There is no evidence that the Japanese population of Canada has been engaged in any disloyal or subversive activity. On the contrary these people have an admirable record as law-abiding and decently-behaved citizens. Nevertheless, the prejudice against them has been so strong that those white Canadians who have been willing to exploit this sentiment have succeeded in creating an altogether unjustified suspicion and sense of alarm in the public mind. Efforts of individuals and of newspapers to reduce this fear and dislike of the Japanese residents of Canada have been only partially successful. With a single exception, however, no witnesses who appeared before the Special Committee, including even those who were personally hostile towards the Japanese, agreed that in the present period of international crisis it would be desirable to reduce anti-Japanese activities and sentiment to a minimum. If this is not done there is good reason to fear that riotous outbreaks will occur, with inevitable and possibly dangerous repercussions at home and abroad.

45. The police and military authorities in British Columbia have taken precautions which they consider adequate to deal with any subversive activities on the part of individual Japanese and to protect all loyal Japanese against any attack from misguided members of the white community. To reduce the likelihood of any such developments, however, there are certain steps that might be taken which will protect the national interest, reassure public opinion in British Columbia and defend all citizens of whatever racial origin against unjust attack. The recommendations which follow are designed to effect this result.

VIII. RECOMMENDATIONS

46. After careful consideration of all the material available from other sources and after reviewing in detail the representations and advice of the many witnesses who had accepted invitations to appear before them, the members of the Committee have agreed upon the following recommendations:—

First Recommendation

That there should be continued vigilance on the part of all police authorities in the Province of British Columbia, and that they should as heretofore work on the lines of keeping a close watch for signs of disloyal acts, especially in the way of sabotage, while doing their best to encourage those Japanese whom they have no reason to suspect of disloyalty to co-operate with the authorities by keeping them informed of conditions in the Japanese community, and in general to impress upon the leading Japanese that in their own interest they must be on the alert to forestall or prevent subversive acts.

Second Recommendation

That the military and police authorities should bear constantly in mind the importance of continuing to provide for the defence of loyal Japanese.

Third Recommendation

That steps should be taken to diminish anti-Japanese propaganda in the Province, by appealing to individuals and to the Press on the grounds of civil security and national defence; and, if necessary, by using the Censorship for this purpose.

Fourth Recommendation

That whenever possible the co-operation of the leaders of various groups and associations in the Japanese community should be enlisted by the authorities concerned. Such leaders should be invited to accept, in accordance with Japanese tradition, personal responsibility for the loyal behaviour of the members of their respective groups.

Fifth Recommendation

That, at least for the present, Canadians of Japanese race should not be called up for military training. (The views of the Committee on this matter were not unanimous.)

Sixth Recommendation

That training of Canadians of Japanese race in the C.O.T.C. should continue at the discretion of the University authorities.

Seventh Recommendation

That, both for purposes of civil security and in order to deprive persons hostile to the Japanese of a constant and effective ground for complaint, there should be a re-registration of the Japanese population of British Columbia. (Suggestions for the procedure to be adopted are attached as Appendix B.)

Eighth Recommendation

That a small standing Committee should be set up in British Columbia to supervise the carrying out of such of the foregoing recommendations as are adopted by the Government, and for the purpose of keeping the Government constantly informed as to the oriental situation in that Province.

Ninth Recommendation

That the Government should issue a public statement designed to reassure the white population of British Columbia, and at the same time explaining to the Japanese residents in that Province the advantages which will accrue to them from the carrying out of the measures proposed in this Report.

Tenth Recommendation

That the provisions of the first, second, third, fifth, sixth, eighth, ninth and tenth recommendations should be implemented, *mutatis mutandis*, in the case of persons of Chinese racial origin resident in British Columbia.

Signed by: { A. W. SPARLING (*Convenor*)
H. L. KEENLEYSIDE
F. J. MEAD
G. B. SANSOM

APPENDIX A**List of Persons Who Appeared Before the Committee***Representatives of the Dominion Government:*

Hon. E. W. Hamber, Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia.
 Maj. J. A. Motherwell, Chief Supervisor of Fisheries.
Members of the Provincial Government and Provincial Legislature:
 Hon. T. D. Patullo, Premier of British Columbia.
 Hon. George Weir, Provincial Minister of Education.
 Hon. Gordon Wiener, Attorney-General of British Columbia.
 Hon. R. L. MacLellan, M.L.A., Leader of Opposition.
 Lieut.-Col. Macgregor MacIntosh, M.L.A.
 Dr. J. L. Telford, Vancouver.

Representatives of the Military Forces:

Major-General R. O. Alexander, G.O.C., Pacific Command.
 Lieut.-Colonel L. S. Dow, Staff Officer, Naval Intelligence.
 Squadron Leader R. N. Wynd, R.C.A.F., Staff Officer, Western Air Command
 Intelligence.

Representatives of the Police Forces:

T. W. S. Parsons, Commissioner, B.C.P.P.
 John Shiras, Asst. Comm., B.C.P.P., Vancouver.
 Roger Bowley, Inspector B.C.P.P. i/c C.I.B.
 S. F. Moodie, Inspector B.C.P.P. and Head of A.R.P.
 J. Fringe, Inspector R.C.M.P., i/c Intelligence Section.
 Francis Henry, Royal Canadian Mounted Police.
 Donald McLean, Chief Constable, Vancouver City Police.
 J. A. McEwan, Chief Constable, Victoria City Police.
 Alexander Gao, McNeill, Asst. Chief Constable, Vancouver.
 W. A. Johnson, Chief Richmond Municipal Police.
 Y. C. Leong, R.C.M.P., Chinese Interpreter.

Representatives of Municipal Governments:

Dr. J. Lytle Telford, Mayor of Vancouver.
 Fred J. Burns, Mayor of New Westminster.
 Solomon Mission, Mayor, Maple Ridge Municipality.
 J. W. Corlett, Alderman, Vancouver City Council.
 Hallard D. Wilson, Alderman, Vancouver City Council.

Representatives of the University of British Columbia:

Dr. L. S. Klinek, President, University of B.C.
 Prof. H. F. Angus, University of British Columbia.
 Prof. Gordon Sturz, G.C., C.O.T.C., U.B.C.
 Dr. Stanley W. Mathews, Registrar.

Representatives of Business Interests (other than Japanese):

R. V. Stewart, Logging & Trading Association.
 William Stock, Logger Agent.
 J. H. Morrison, Vancouver Merchants Exchange.
 R. J. McLean, Lumberman.
 Hugh Caines, Canadian Manufacturers' Association.
 H. S. Stevenson, Manager of Steamship Line.

Representatives of Japanese Store Operators:

H. Trunkfield, Chain Grocery Store Operator.
 H. Priestley, Contractor.
 A. F. Allison, Lumberman.
 A. L. Hager, Member International Pacific Salmon Fisheries Commission.

Representatives of Japanese Interests:

T. Maruno, Japanese Farmer.
 George Shoji, Manager Japanese Small Fruits Corp.
 K. T. Shoyama, Publisher Nisei Newspaper.
 Dr. M. Miyazaki, Osteopath.
 Takeichi Umezuki, Secy., Japanese Labour Union.
 Tsutae Sato, Principal of Japanese Language School.
 Ippen Nishio, Importer and Exporter.
 A. Michiguchi, General Merchant.

Others:

Rev. W. R. McWilliams, United Church Missionary.
 Percy R. Bengough, President, T. & L.C., Vancouver.
 Albert Henry Young, Barrister and Solicitor.
 W. A. Walker, Fire Marshal for British Columbia.
 L. V. Kelly, Newspaperman.
 J. M. K. Melville, Junior Board of Trade.
 George Miller, Business Manager, United Fisherman's Union.

APPENDIX B

Proposed Method of Registration

It is suggested that a new registration certificate and card, of an attractive appearance, should be issued to every resident of the Province who is of Japanese racial origin. A certificate and card of this character will assist the Japanese press and leaders to "sell" the idea of the registration to their compatriots. (Promises of such co-operation have already been received and in one or two cases from most unexpected quarters.) The new certificate should provide space for the particulars now shown on the present registration certificates, and in addition should provide a space for a small photograph of the holder, together with his descriptive and national status, i.e., Canadian born, naturalized or Japanese. The signature of the Registrar should appear across the face of the photograph and on the card itself. The cards issued should be in duplicate and serially numbered, duplicate of such cards to be filed in the office of the R.C.M.P. at Vancouver. It is suggested that this registration be effected under the supervision of the Commissioner of the R.C.M.P.

Trinity Extra Strong

Ottawa, September 27th, 1940.

Personal and
Confidential

Honourable T. D. Pattullo, M.L.A.,
Premier of British Columbia,
Victoria, B.C.

My dear Premier:

Your letter of September the 23rd, regarding the calling up of Japanese and Chinese for military training, was considered carefully, last evening, by the War Committee of the Cabinet.

The Associate Acting Deputy Minister of National War Services is being directed to confer with the Attorney General of British Columbia, in this connection, and meantime I may tell you, for your own confidential information, that instructions are being given not to include Japanese and Chinese citizens in British Columbia in the first call for military training.

With kind regards,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

W. L. Mackenzie King.

A.M./H