

Corr. JAN 1949

2.3

January 4, 1943.

National Japanese Citizens Association,
84 Gerrard Street East,
Toronto, Ontario.

Attention Mr. George Tanaka.

Dear George:

Allow me to compliment you and your
colleagues on the brief which was submitted to the
Royal Commission on Japanese Canadian Property.

This brief seems to me to be admirably
expressed, and I hope that the Commissioner will read
it and be impressed by it.

Yours sincerely,

J. A. Brewin

FAB:HC

January 4, 1949.

Mr. L. S. Turcotte, L.L.B.,
Bank of Nova Scotia Building,
Lethbridge, Alberta.

Re: Japanese Claims Commission

Dear Mr. Turcotte:

I have had a letter from Mr. McMaster in which he tells me that he has been able to retain the assistance of Mr. Alex McDonald of Vancouver, to assist him on the hearings of the claims. This will probably make it unnecessary for him to avail himself of your generous offer of attending at Vancouver for part of the hearings of the category cases.

I know that both he and I were very grateful for your co-operation in this matter, and it may be that he will still be in the position of asking for your help in Vancouver, but as I have said at the present time it does not appear that it will be necessary.

He mentioned in the letter that he would like me to ask you to forward all copies of exhibits, etc.

With best wishes for the New Year.

Yours sincerely,

FAB

FAB:MC

January 4, 1949.

Mr. W. E. Huckvale,
c/o Messrs. Ritchie & Huckvale,
Barristers,
Acadia Building,
Lethbridge, Alberta.

Re: Japanese Claims Commission

Dear Mr. Huckvale:

I have had a letter from Mr. McMaster in which he tells me that he has been able to retain the assistance of Mr. Alex McDonald of Vancouver, to assist him on the hearings of the claims. This will probably make it unnecessary for him to avail himself of your generous offer of attending at Vancouver for part of the hearings of the category cases.

I know that both he and I were very grateful for your co-operation in this matter, and it may be that he will still be in the position of asking for your help in Vancouver, but as I have said at the present time it does not appear that it will be necessary.

He mentioned in the letter that he would like me to ask you to forward all copies of exhibits, etc.

With best wishes for the New Year.

Yours sincerely,

FAB:HC

FAB

January 3, 1948.

F. P. Varcoe Esq., K.C.
Deputy Minister of Justice,
Department of Justice,
Ottawa, Canada.

Re: Japanese Property Claims
Commission

Dear Mr. Varcoe:

This is to confirm my telephone conversation with you.

There are a number of outstanding matters in connection with the Claims Commission which I have been instructed by my clients to take up with the Minister.

I will be in Ottawa on Friday, and it would be most convenient for me if I could see the Minister and yourself on that date.

I will telephone on Thursday to see if it has been possible to make this arrangement.

Yours sincerely,

FAB:HC

8621

January 5, 1949.

Mr. George Shoji,
259 King Street East,
Chatham, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Shoji:

When I was in Vancouver recently, I had occasion to discuss your case both with Mr. McMaster our agent there, and with Mr. Justice Bird.

It now appears that where property was retained by the Veterans Land Act Administration and was the property of veterans of the First and Second World War, the Government are willing to return the property to the veterans.

We wrote to you about this before, and, of course, understood that you did not wish to return to your farm in British Columbia. On the other hand, you will no doubt appreciate that as the farm prices are now considerably higher than they were at the date of the sale to the Veterans Land Act in 1943, it is probable or possible that your farm could be put back in your name and sold by agents in Vancouver at a good deal higher price than what you will obtain through the findings of the Commission.

If you wish to consider the possibilities of this action, will you please let me know, and I will have Mr. McMaster investigate the matter in order to get fuller information as to the possibilities of sale, and the price which you might expect to realize.

With kindest personal regards.

Yours sincerely,

FAB:HC

Fuz

January 5, 1949.

Mr. R. J. McMaster,
c/o Messrs. Campbell, Brazier, Fisher & McMaster,
Barristers,
675 West Hastings Street,
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Bob:

George Tanaka has called to my attention a letter from Mr. Virtue dated the 3rd of December, 1948 a copy of which has been sent to you in regard to Mr. Sissuo Moriyama who carried on business on Cordova Street in Vancouver for many years prior to the evacuation. Mr. Virtue suggests that Mr. Moriyama may be able to give valuable evidence in respect to the claimants, in respect to the sale price of second hand furniture, etc. George Tanaka wishes to know whether you think it worth while for them to contact Mr. Moriyama. At the present time apparently do not know of his whereabouts. If you think it is worth while they would endeavor to find out where he is through advertisements in the New Canadian or otherwise.

For myself. I am somewhat doubtful as to the probable value of Mr. Moriyama's evidence, but I should be glad to be advised by you.

Yours sincerely,

FAB:HC

FW

January 5, 1949.

Messrs. Virtue, Russell & Morgan,
Barristers and Solicitors,
McFarland Building, Opposite Court House,
Lethbridge, Alberta.

Attention Mr. A. Gladstone Virtue, M.C., K.C.

Dear Mr. Virtue:

I am sorry not to have written to you sooner in respect to your letter of December 3rd to Mr. Tanaka, copy of which you sent to me. This letter refers to the possibility of using the evidence of Mr. Moriyama in respect to the sale price of second hand furniture. Mr. Moriyama does not appear to be known to Mr. Tanaka or other members of the executive of the National J.C.C.A., and they have not at the present moment any knowledge as to his whereabouts.

However, I have written to Mr. McMaster, who is thoroughly familiar with the evidence in this matter, and if he thinks fit, we will make an endeavour to find Mr. Moriyama.

Yours very truly,

FAB:HC



Campbell, Brazier, Fisher & McMaster

Barristers and Solicitors

A. T. R. CAMPBELL
C. W. BRAZIER

A. W. FISHER
R. J. McMASTER

A. J. F. JOHNSON

A. E. COBUS

ROYAL BANK BUILDING
675 WEST HASTINGS STREET
VANCOUVER, B.C.

OUR FILE NO.

RECEIVED
JAN 8 1949
CAMERON WELDON
& BREWIN

January 6th, 1949.

Andrew Brewin, Esq.,
Barrister & Solicitor,
Sterling Tower Building,
Toronto 1, Ontario.

Dear Andy:

Re: Japanese Claims Commission.

Mr. Justice Bird advised us yesterday that it will be necessary for him to sit on the Court of Appeal during the week of January 17th. Accordingly, the commencement of the proceedings has been stalled off to January 24th. We trust that if you have not already been able to make arrangements for an appointment with the Minister of Justice for yourself and Mr. Hunter that this additional delay will permit the same.

We spoke to Mr. Justice Bird today with respect to the matter of our request to the Government for finances having already forwarded to him the copy of the letter to be submitted and a request that he write the Department expressing his views. He indicated today, however, that he does not wish to take the initiative in writing the Department. He is quite prepared to write expressing his views if the Department consults him. Our impression was that if he is consulted by the Minister or the Justice Department that his opinion will be favourable.

It has been intimated that Mr. Justice Bird intends to hand down his findings with respect to the argument concerning fair market value in the near future. He has sent out an invitation to other counsel who were not present to express any views which they might care to express on the subject. I am not optimistic that he will go with us on your contention with respect to the Smyth vs. Revenue Commissioner Case and with respect to the allegation that the conditions of the market must be reasonably normal.

We have already sent to Virtue our transcript

Mr. Brewin:

January 6th, 1949.

-2-

of the argument and have requested him to return it at an early date. Messrs. Norris & MacLennan requested that they might borrow it today and we will try to get it into their hands as soon as possible.

We have made arrangements with Alex McDonald as previously discussed and he expects to be free from Wilson's office on the 15th of the month. He has already undertaken part of the work and we feel sure that he is going to be of great assistance. We would appreciate receiving a report as to what steps have been taken to make the appeal for the additional 1%.

Not having heard from you since your return East concerning the M. Furuya Company Limited possible claim we presume that the officers have decided not to apply for leave to file a late claim. Accordingly, we are returning to the Custodian's office the copy of the Reports of P. S. Ross & Sons which you examined when you were out here.

You may recall when you were out here the Commissioner dealt with the matter of the claim of Tokyo Maikawa with respect to property owned by T. Maikawa Stores Limited. As directed by the Commissioner Hunter filed an Affidavit by Frederick Field to the effect that 1252 shares had been issued by the Company and that 1167 of these shares were registered in the name of Tomekishi Maikawa who at the date of Pearl Harbor was resident in Japan and his affidavit shows that to the best of his knowledge the said Tomekishi Maikawa has never returned to Canada. In the circumstances, the Commissioner ruled that the claim of Tokyo Maikawa had no standing unless he brought forth conclusive evidence that he was beneficially entitled to a substantial portion of the shares. His address is 173 Donlands Ave., Toronto. We consider it would be advisable if you communicated this information to him.

We have gotten after Virtue several times with respect to the \$3,000.00 supposedly forthcoming from his committee but have not received any word from him yet as to when it will be paid. We expect that he will be out here for the General Evidence later in the month and unless we receive payment before that time we will take the matter up with him.

Yours truly,

CAMPBELL BRAZIER FISHER & McMASTER,

Per:

T. Bole

*P.L. My partner Charlie Brazier will be in
Ottawa on the freight rate case for several
months as from Tues. the 11th. He had quite
a bit to do with Garson in that connection
and if he can do anything for us Charlie would be
pleased to - B 66.*



THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

J. M. STREIGHT
OFFICIAL ADMINISTRATOR

TELEPHONE:
703

607 COLUMBIA STREET
NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.

January 6, 1949.

Messrs. Virtue, Russell & Morgan,
Barristers & Solicitors,
McFarland Building,
Opposite the Court House,
LETHBRIDGE, Alberta.

Gentlemen:

Re: Estate of Kumikichi FUJINO
Your file 3318

I beg to advise you that I have received no reply to my letter of November 18, addressed to Messrs. Cameron, Weldon & Brewin.

I am sending a copy of this letter to them, trusting that they will make immediate reply.

Yours very truly,



OFFICIAL ADMINISTRATOR

JMS:nh

c.c. Messrs. Cameron, Weldon & Brewin,
Barristers & Solicitors,
Sterling Tower,
TORONTO 1, Toronto.

Dear Friend:

December 29, 1948

I was very happy to receive a few days ago two letters from Mr. and Mrs. MacMillan from Taipeh, Taiwan. Since their departure last year, from Toronto, I received a short card from Mr. MacMillan before their departure on the "SS Maiden Creek" from New York. I was informed that their vessel would shortly be leaving for Panama about October 10, 1947. Prior to receiving this recent letter from the MacMillan's their last letter was mailed from Manila en route to China. In that letter they informed me that they would be at sea a total of approximately 60 days since their departure from New York before they would arrive at their destination.

During the interval, I had foregone the pleasure of writing to them to keep them informed of the activities of the Co-operative Committee and the JCCA and the good work that was being continued where they had left off as it was thought possible by the MacMillan's that letters with any reference to Japanese, notwithstanding that they be Canadian citizens, might not be received with any degree of welcome in Taiwan owing to war instilled hatred. But from these present letters from the MacMillan's, I gather that these fears are now groundless and I shall be very happy to keep in close touch with them regarding our work in Canada.

Sincerely yours,

GEORGE TANAKA, National Executive Secy,
National Japanese Canadian Citizens Ass'n.

Mackay Memorial Hospital,
Taipeh, Taiwan, CHINA,
November 28, 1948.

Dear George:

It would seem that we have severed all connection with the Western world for we have taken no time off to write to any of our friends back home. The first half of the year was a struggle for me to get back into the life here. Two weeks after arrival I went into our mission hospital as acting superintendent of nurses. That meant not only facing up to an entirely new line of work with inadequate language and little experience but it meant also facing up to a time of tremendous change in the lives of the people and especially in the hospital where the change from Japanese and German medicine to Western medicine was thrust upon us in the hospital without a Western doctor to guide the staff. I spent endless hours with our staff doctors working out a system that would give the best medical care to the many patients that came to our doors. We used a mixed language of Japanese, German, Formosan, English and Mandarin. How we struggled to understand each other and the many medical terms and the new medicines that came in from all the countries of the world through UNNRA and later IRC in Shanghai. It was all a great experience for me and very worthwhile for all that was accomplished in getting the institution on a firm footing. Now, of course, we face other problems of inflation and scarcities of food, etc., but we have forged a strong organization that has a chance of weathering the storm.

The year has sped past and once again we feel we have never been away from here. It all seems a dream to recall the war years at home. Looking back now they seem so peaceful and uneventful after this year of "shaking events". However, we eagerly read every bit of Canadian and American news that we can lay hands on even if it is two or three months late. We are still waiting for the "post mortem" on the American election. Papers from the States take a full month, from Canada and Britain six weeks. Airmail letters come in five to seven days so we are not too much cut off from the recent world happenings.

How I should like to hear of Japanese Canadian doings. It would seem that you have done a good job throughout the year from a few reports that we read in papers but we have heard nothing about the Property Commission.

And, too, we should like to know all about your personal doings. Are you still at the helm? Is Kinzie and Roger still with you? Is the New-Canadian still doing a good job? How do you stand with the government now? What are the battles that have yet to be fought? This would look as if I expected to hear from you about all your doings. I certainly would be happy to hear from you if you can spare the time. Both Hugh and I remember gratefully the fellowship we enjoyed with you those few years and though time and space separate us for a period of time we shall look forward to renewing the ties when we meet again.

(continued on reverse side)

Please pass on my greetings to all the "gang". Remember me to your mother. I hope she is well. Greetings to your wife. Merry Christmas to you all.

Sincerely,

"DONALDA".

November 29, 1948.

Dear George:

It is just about a year since we set foot on the shores of Asia after an absence of more than eight years. Behind us we left many friends having ties of race and culture in this part of the world and, therefore, the time is more than ripe for a brief report and a word of greeting. We recall how anxiously we looked forward to our return. Old friends on this side of the world awaited us and we wanted to know how they were faring. They had endured years of war and had entered into a post war period of social, political and economic confusion. One of them said recently, "In wartime we had to contend with bombs; now, in peace time, we must get accustomed to barter." which reminds me that as I write, inflationary prices makes a loaf of rather poor bread cost the equivalent of one American dollar which, in barter terms is the price of a stamp for an ordinary air mail letter.

During the past year Taiwan has rapidly become more and more like the mainland of China. With the exception of a handful of intellectuals or highly skilled technicians all Japanese have been sent back to the home islands. Snatches of the Japanese language are still heard everywhere, especially among young folk. This freedom to use Japanese, we cannot help but note, marks a striking contrast to the former regimented orders to "use Japanese only." The Taiwanese have to contend with many language changes. With the almost overwhelming influx of mainlanders Mandarin Chinese is now rapidly coming into use. The disturbed conditions in the north are sending tens of thousands of refugees over here. Every ship to the harbour of Keelung is thronged from stem to stern with every last person that can cling to a square foot of space. With them come all the problems and perplexities of a country in confusion and distress; glittering wealth and multi-patched poverty; searchers after special privilege and opportunity--people fleeing from Communist hordes. Amid these conditions, some Taiwanese sigh for the good old days of economic security even though the security they knew was at a low level. Deep down, however, they know that, for the sake of the future, freedom must come first. But with freedom has come a responsibility that is hard to bear.

Not more than two references to Japanese-Canadian doings reached us during the year. Both were encouraging. One was a brief review of Professor LaViolette's book. This indicated the attitude of a social scientist toward our war-time treatment of the little 23,000 West Coast minority. We hope the book may be widely read. The other was a report on the progress made toward rehabilitation and the fine way in which the Japanese Canadians are making good in many fields of Canadian endeavour. For both we were indebted to our good friend B. K. Sandwell of the SATURDAY NIGHT. (The paper is usually about three months late but we read it through, from the Editorial page to Mary Lowrey Ross!)

We two have had a busy year; the one largely responsible for the running of an 80-bed hospital where samples of almost all the problems that arise between Western and Eastern medical practices are of daily occurrence; the other shuttling back and forth between Taipeh and Shanghai--between College, Church and University work and representing Canadian Aid to China and Canadian Red Cross. We could write at length about these things, but at present we just want to greet you and to say MERRY CHRISTMAS.

Sincerely,

DONALDA and HUGH MACMILLAN.

REFER TO NO.
YOUR FILE NO.

L. S. Turcotte, LL. B.

Barrister and Solicitor

BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA BUILDING

PHONE 4331 P. O. BOX 442

LETHBRIDGE

ALBERTA

January 7th, 1949.

Messrs. Cameron, Weldon & Brewin,
Barristers etc.,
Sterling Tower,
TORONTO 1, Ontario.

Dear Sirs:- Re: Japanese Claims
 Commission

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of the
4th instant for which I thank you. The copies
of all Exhibits were forwarded to Mr.
McMaster a month or two ago.

Yours very truly,

L. S. TURCOTTE.

LST:EM

Per 

RECEIVED

JAN 10 1949

WELDON
& BREWIN

10th January, 1949.

Mr. R.J. McMaster,
c/o Campbell, Brazier, Fisher and McMaster,
Barristers, etc.,
675 West Hastings St.,
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Bob:

I have your letter of January 6th to answer also have a report to make on my interview with Mr. Garson which took place last Friday. I understand from Hunter that the hearings have been postponed one further week and also that Mr. Justice Bird either has handed down or proposes to hand down his views as to "fair market value".

I do not await his opinions with any great optimism.

A letter has been sent out in respect to the appeal for the additional 1% to all claimants. This letter, I think, went out about the end of the year so there has not yet been much or any response to it.

I passed on your suggestion that the solicitors in each Province should also write to the claimants and this I think should be done. I will endeavour to make arrangements with the Committee here about this.

I will write to T. Maikawa about the matter mentioned in your letter.

I trust that you will be able to put effective pressure on Virtue in respect to the \$3000.00 when you see him.

I saw Garson on Friday and took up three points with him. First was in regard to the fishing vessels.

He intimated that he might be prepared to recommend to the Governor-in-Council an amendment of the terms of reference in respect only, however, to those cases in which the sale was made illegally by the Navy authorities and subsequently a letter was sent stating that the sale had been made and requesting signature of the bill of sale together with a promise to pay the proceeds in case the bill of sale was signed. He

(cont'd)

Mr. R.J. McMaster

10th January, 1949.

took the view in general that no claim should be permitted where the claimant had signed a bill of sale or had otherwise consented to the sale unless duress was shown. I suggested to him that the previous sales without authority plus the letter showing that the proceeds would be made available if the bill of sale were signed amounted in the circumstances to a degree of coercion.

I also understand from Hunter that there were cases where the Custodian sold vessels but the claimants executed bills of sale under similar conditions of amounting to a type of coercion in which he has disputed the Commissioner's right to make an award.

It may be that an amendment to the Order-in-Council might clarify these cases too. However, what I am most anxious about at the moment is to get a full statement from you as to the facts in regard to the sales plus a copy of the letter written and information as to the number of cases in which this situation existed. If you have not the exact number no doubt you could give us an estimate. Upon the basis of this further material I think a favourable decision might possibly be made.

I also took up the question of commissions and it appeared that the Minister was not willing to recommend that Mr. Justice Bird be empowered to determine this question and indeed I am not at all sure that he would be very anxious for this to be done and I did not press him. He suggested that I should write a further letter to him which I will do setting out our argument that they would then get an opinion of it and if we were not satisfied with the opinion we could launch a test case.

His view seemed to be that we should not in justice or upon a proper interpretation of the Order-in-Council be entitled to real estate commissions or auctioneers' fees but that we might be entitled to what the 12% or 7% charged in regard to chattels for what might be called "management expenses". This, I understand, coincides with Hunter's view and I presume the Department of Justice will very likely give an opinion confirming this and the direction will be made to return this 7% to the claimants.

The last but not least, the Minister vigorously refused to have anything to do with recommending payments for any part of our legal expenses. I spent two and one half hours with him and we argued the matter very fully. It was quite

(cont'd)

Mr. R.J. McMaster

10th January, 1949.

clear that he had made up his mind before I spoke to him and he said that as we had made our own arrangements which he thought were reasonable but had at the same time no doubt entitled us to be fully and adequately compensated at the conclusion of the hearings he thought that it was "effrontery" to ask the Government to assist us further.

I pointed out to him that we were not asking for this in ease of the solicitors or counsel involved but to assist our clients and to enable us to cooperate more fully with the Government. I further pointed out to him that the mistake I thought I had made was in asking for too little as I believed that in accordance with the American precedent the Government should undertake to pay substantially all of the fees at least of successful claimants. However, he was quite adamant although friendly and amended his description of our representations to say that they were ingenious.

He tried to take the last that this was the same as any case brought against the Crown although I pointed out to him that the proceedings were entirely a different nature and that if we had not stepped in no doubt the Government would have been put to greater expense and trouble in pursuing the work of the Commission. However, there was not the slightest sign of him considering our representations favourably so that it will be necessary for us to press forward with the endeavour to collect the further 1%. In the event of lack of success in this I think we shall have to borrow money and I will take steps to have the Co-operative Committee consider this. I wish I had known about your partner being in Ottawa before the interview with Carson but frankly I don't think it would have made very much difference.

Kindest personal regards.



fab/mg

VIRTUE, RUSSELL & MORGAN

BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS
AND NOTARIES PUBLIC

McFARLAND BUILDING, OPPOSITE COURT HOUSE

LETHBRIDGE, ALBERTA

A. GLADSTONE VIRTUE, M.C.K.C.
WILLIAM STAFFORD RUSSELL, B.A., LL.B.
FREDERICK JOHN MORGAN, B.A., LL.B.

12th January, 1949

PLEASE REFER TO FILE NO. 3201

JAPANESE CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE,
GEORGE TANAKA, ESQ.,
National Executive Secretary,
84 Gerrard Street E.,
TORONTO 2, ONTARIO.

Dear Sirs:

We are pleased to enclose herewith our Trust Account cheque for \$2,000.00 to apply on the contribution to be made by the Southern Alberta Central Committee and the claimants they represent, toward the valuations and other like expenses incurred by the Central Committee.

We are hoping that before the writer leaves for Vancouver on or about the 19th instant we may be able to send you a further sum of \$1,000.00 to complete the present payment asked for of \$3,000.00.

As you know, it has been necessary to make a request for an additional contribution from claimants amounting to a further 1% of their claims, and the Committee inform us that this money is coming in bit by bit.

Copies of this letter are going to Mr. Brewin, Mr. McMaster, and our Central Committee, for their information.

Yours truly,

VIRTUE, RUSSELL & MORGAN,

Per

V/L
encl.

Copy to Mr. Brewin for his information.

VIRTUE, RUSSELL & MORGAN

BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS
AND NOTARIES PUBLIC

McFARLAND BUILDING, OPPOSITE COURT HOUSE

LETHBRIDGE, ALBERTA

A GLADSTONE VIRTUE, M.C.K.C.
WILLIAM STAFFORD RUSSELL, B.A., LL.B.
FREDERICK JOHN MORGAN, B.A., LL.B.

12th January, 1949

PLEASE REFER TO FILE NO.

3201

R. J. McMASTER, ESQ.,
c/o Messrs. Campbell, Brazier, Fisher
and McMaster,
Barristers and Solicitors,
Royal Bank Building,
Hastings Street West,
VANCOUVER, B.C.

Dear Mr. McMaster: RE: FISHING NETS & EQUIPMENT.

The following information we believe will
be helpful in all Net Claims:

We had a visit yesterday from a member of
our Committee, Mr. Makatiro Oga who is a fisherman of
long experience.

He says that the cost of cork lines; cork,
lead lines and lead for a 150 fathom net is as follows:

Cork line - 32 lbs. @ 50¢	\$16.00
300 Corks (barred) @ 5¢	15.00
Lead Line - 20 lbs. @ 50¢	10.00
200 lbs Lead @ 7¢	14.00
		<u>\$55.00</u>

In addition to the actual out-of-pocket
expense, the affixing of the lead and cork to the lines
occupies a full day's time of two skilful fishermen, which
would have a value all told of at least \$12.00 or \$15.00.
Therefore the actual cost of equipping a 150 fathom net
would be approximately \$70.00.

The cork and lead depreciate very slowly, and
can be used again and again for many years. The lines
supporting the cork and lead also depreciate slowly.

I presume you are much more familiar with the
way in which these nets are equipped than am I, but in any

R. J. McMASTER, ESQ.,
c/o Messrs. Campbell, Brazier, Fisher
and McMaster,
VANCOUVER, B.C.

12th January, 1949.

- 2 -

RE: FISHING NETS & EQUIPMENT.

event I got Mr. Oga to give us a rough sketch which I am enclosing, showing how the lead and cork are placed.

I trust that this information may be of some use.

I suggest that we call some fishermen who will be prepared to give direct evidence of a general nature regarding these cork and lead lines. If you have no fishermen available there, no doubt we could get permission for one of our Southern Alberta fishermen to attend there and give evidence.

Perhaps Mr. Leckie would attend for an hour or so and admit that the above information is correct.

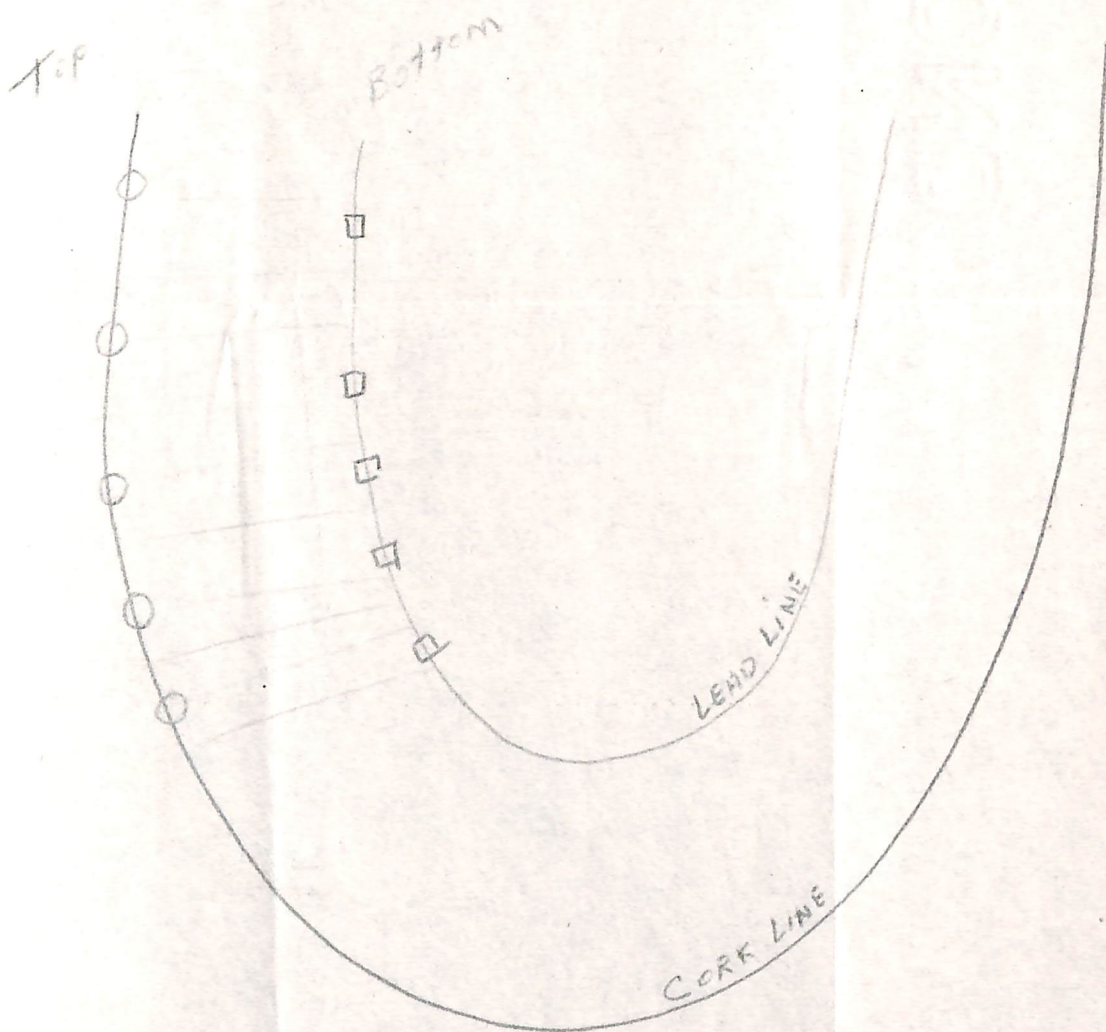
Yours truly,

VIRTUE, RUSSELL & MORGAN,

Per

V/L
encl.

Copy to Mr. Brewin for his information.



O - CORK

□ - LEAD

January 13, 1949.

Miss Margaret Boos,
67 Riverdale Avenue,
Toronto, Ontario.

Dear Miss Boos:

I am enclosing herewith accounts of Jack
Gilbert and Reid Scott.

I have discussed these accounts with the
Committee before, and they appear to me to be in
order. I intimated to Mr. Gilbert that owing to the
present financial circumstances of the committee we
would be glad if he would accept \$300.00 on account
and to Mr. Scott, that we would be glad if he would
accept \$150.00, and that the balance would be payable
to both of them after final recovery.

As we understand that Mr. Gilbert has recently
purchased a house and is in need of the funds, we would
be glad if his account could be looked after as promptly
as possible.

Yours very truly,

FAB:HC
Encl.

CHARLES HERBERT HUESTIS,
M.A., D.D., LL.D.

11337 123rd ST., EDMONTON
Alberta

Jan.13/49

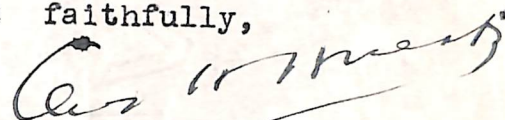
DearMrBrewin,

I h_{ave} been reading your review of Property Claims of the Japanese Canadians enclosed with the report of the Committee. Could you let me know to what date your report carries. What farther progress has been made.

I have, as you now, taken much interest in the matter and I think mine was the first article published on the subject - in The Star.

With all good wishes for the New Year to yourself

Yours faithfully,



Chas.H.Huestis

Mr F.A Brewin,
67 Riverside Ave.,
Toronto, Ont.

Campbell, Brazier, Fisher & McMaster
Barristers and Solicitors

A. T. R. CAMPBELL
C. W. BRAZIER

A. W. FISHER
R. J. McMASTER

A. J. F. JOHNSON

A. E. COBUS

ROYAL BANK BUILDING
675 WEST HASTINGS STREET
VANCOUVER, B. C.

OUR FILE No.

January 18th, 1949.

F. A. Brewin, Esq.,
Barrister & Solicitor,
Sterling Tower,
Toronto 1, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Brewin: Re: Japanese Property Claims
 Commission - Ontario.

Upon reviewing the Ontario files we find that we have the transcripts only for the following cases and would appreciate your forwarding all relevant material in connection therewith so that our files may be complete:

Case No. 1185 - Sadamu Sato
Case No. 1184 - Matsuo Shimano & Shogoro Shimano
Case No. 1183 - Mrs. Misao Hoita
Case No. 1182 - Frederick Takeo Kato
Case No. 1180 - Jack Toshio Oki
Case No. 1177 - Mrs. Akiko Igashira
Case No. 1176 - Naoichi Karatsu
Case No. 1175 - Tadaichi Okada
Case No. 1174 - Itsuo Orida
Case No. 1172 - Shigeo Sugiura
Case No. 1171 - Mrs. Taka Watanabe
Case No. 1154 - Mrs. Kei Hayashi
Case No. 1153 - Shitsuyo Nobuoka
Case No. 1152 - Harry Ryotaro Nobuoka
Case No. 1146 - Hisa Takiguichi
Case No. 1145 - Jin Ide
Case No. 1144 - Taiji Tabuchi
Case No. 1143 - Hisa & Gengiro Mori
Case No. 1142 - Tayoshi Hiramatsu
Case No. 1122 - Ryatoro Nakamura
Case No. 1121 - Otokichi Okazaki
Cases 1118 & 1119 - Frank Hatanaka & Shuzo Hatanaka
Case No. 1117 - Yuhey Matsugu
Case No. 1116 - Mrs. Chise Saito
Case No. 1115 - Ritsuichi Uyeno

Mr. Brewin:

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Case No. 1114 - Yoshio Matsui
Case No. 1113 - Mrs. Shizue Matsui
Case No. 1112 - Ai Adachii
Case No. 1100 - Juichi Nakatsu
Case No. 1099 - Magozo Matsumoto
Case No. 1098 - Toru Maruya
Case No. 1097 - Mrs. Masa Teramura
Case No. 1095 - Mrs. Koto Koyanagi
Case No. 1094 - Eizaburo Kitagawa
Case No. 1093 - Kesaguma Uchimaru
Case No. 1092 - Yoshinori Goryo
Case No. 1091 - Akiyasu Masuhara
Case No. 1090 - Tomiheu Fujiwara

Yours truly,

CAMPBELL BRAZIER FISHER & McMASTER,

Per: *M. M.*

MM

P.S. Re: Mitsuzo Nakagawa. The file concerning this claim was forwarded to you by letter of October 2nd. As it is one of the files chosen for category purposes, we would appreciate your forwarding it to us by return mail.

January 24, 1949.

Mr. R. J. McMaster,
c/o Messrs. Campbell, Brazier, Fisher & McMaster,
Barristers,
675 West Hastings Street,
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your letter of January 21st. I wondered if it would be possible for you to send me the evidence given in respect to the "forced sales" of fishing vessels. I am particularly anxious also to have a copy of the letters which I understood were sent to the claimants telling them that their boats had been sold and in effect that they could get their money if they signed the bill of sale.

The \$2000.00 was received by the Co-operative Committee from Mr. Virtue with a promise of a further \$1000.00.

There is a meeting of the Committee on Wednesday and I will report to you the situation at that time. I understand that approximately another \$2000.00 has been received already through the general appeal.

In connection with Mr. Shoji, I am sure your suggestion will be quite satisfactory to Mr. Shoji.

Yours sincerely,

FAB:HC

IWB

19th January, 1949.

Mr. George Y. Shoji,
34½ Lansdowne Avenue,
Chatham, Ont.

Dear Mr. Shoji:

I have received your letter of January 8th and note that you do not wish to have your lands returned to you at the present time owing to the poor condition in which it is at the present time.

I have sent your letter to Mr. McMaster and he will call it to the attention of the Commissioner.

Yours sincerely,

F. A. Brown

fab/mg

VIRTUE, RUSSELL & MORGAN

BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS
AND NOTARIES PUBLIC

McFARLAND BUILDING, OPPOSITE COURT HOUSE

LETHBRIDGE, ALBERTA

A. GLADSTONE VIRTUE, M.C.K.C.
WILLIAM STAFFORD RUSSELL, B.A., LL.B.
FREDERICK JOHN MORGAN, B.A., LL.B.

26th January, 1949

PLEASE REFER TO FILE NO. 3201

R. J. McMASTER, ESQ.,
c/o Messrs. Campbell, Brazier, Fisher
and McMaster,
Barristers and Solicitors,
Royal Bank Building,
675 West Hastings Street,
VANCOUVER, B.C.

Dear Mr. McMaster:

I have just finished reading over the last
of the evidence given in November and December by V.L.A.
Appraisers.

I stated to dictate a memorandum for my own
sake, but it occurred to me that it might be of general
interest so I am forwarding a copy to you and one to Mr.
Brewin, merely for what it may be worth.

While the evidence is still fresh in my memory
I record that I came to the following conclusions:-

1. In every instance the Appraisers made their
appraisals "purely from an agricultural viewpoint".

2. In practically every instance they admitted
that they disregarded every other "potential".

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3. Mr. Justice Bird commented in nearly every case to the above effect so that it would appear that he has this firmly in his mind.

4. The value of plants and planting, e.g. strawberry plantations, even though only one year old, fruit trees, etc. etc., were entirely disregarded in arriving at "fair market value" from the Appraisers' standpoint, e.g. see evidence of Plumbly 994, 950 and 951.

5. Nearly all of the Appraisers admitted that they made no allowance for specialized features such as chicken farms, green-houses, and other highly developed types of farming.

6. Nearly all the Appraisers admitted under cross-examination (often in answer to the Commissioner himself) that they had made their appraisals with at least one eye on the probability that the land would be bought under the V.L.A. It was evident that they had been warned not to admit this as they gave their evidence with reluctance.

7. From remarks made from time to time by the Commissioner, and his own cross-examination of the witnesses, I believe we are justified in assuming that the Commissioner is convinced that, whether they admitted it or not, these Appraisers were appraising solely from the V.L.A. viewpoint.

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VANCOUVER, B.C.

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8. All the Appraisers admitted that their appraisals were conservative and cautious.
 9. Practically all the Appraisers admitted that there had been a considerable upturn in values between 1942 when their appraisals were made, and 1943 when the V.L.A. purchase was consummated.
 10. It will be noted that nearly all the Appraisers gained almost all their experience in valuing lands as representatives of the S.S.B. They had little experience in private appraisal.
 11. The Commissioner intends to take into account "every possible potentiality" that the properties may have had, but these men, (i.e. the Appraisers), were not approaching it from that point of view (see pages 768 and 769).
 12. The Appraisers say they have generally agreed to proceed on a "base value" of between \$50.00 and \$90.00 per acre for cleared land. To me this seems ridiculous in view of the fact that they all put the cost of clearing anywhere up to \$200.00 per acre apart altogether from the value of the land uncleared.
- I take it that you will have ample evidence as to the value of cleared reasonably fertile land without improvements in 1943.

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VANCOUVER, B.C.

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13. Grant, in his evidence in chief, at page 994
says:

"It was known at that time that we would be
building subdivision homes at a cost off
somewhere in the neighbourhood of \$5,000.00
on the adjoining property."

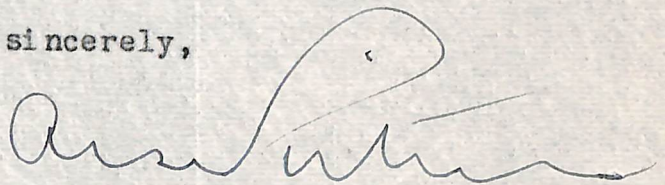
Why, then, did all the V.L.A. Appraisers
repeatedly and consistently write off comparatively new
homes built by the Japanese owners from \$4,000.00 or
thereabouts to \$1,500.00 or thereabouts, claiming that
these small agricultural holdings could only "carry" a
house worth about the latter figure?

In other words, where it was a question of
Japanese owned property the houses were written down for
appraisal purposes to the extent of one-half or two-thirds
of their value, and then the Government turned around and
built houses on adjoining small holdings costing \$5,000.00
and more.

Trusting that the above may correspond with your
own views, I am,

Yours sincerely,

V/L



Copy to Mr. Brewin for his information.

January 31, 1949.

Mr. R. J. McMaster,
c/o Messrs. Campbell, Brazier, Fisher & McMaster,
Barristers,
675 West Hastings Street,
Vancouver, B.C.

Re: Japanese Canadian Claims

Dear Bob:

I understand from a recent meeting of the Co-operative Committee that including the \$2000.00 from Mr. Virtue, we now have approximately \$6000.00 on hand and further payments of an additional 1% are coming in.

Practically all expenses other than those in Vancouver for which you will responsible have now been paid.

Will you therefore let me have an estimate of the amounts that will now be required in your opinion to cover your own expenses. McDonald's fees, the valuation and witness fees and other expenses, so that we can judge how much more money we may be required to raise.

Yours sincerely,

J. A. Brewer
J. A. Brewer

FAB:HC

January 24, 1949.

Dr. Cecil A. Wright,
Dean of Osgoode Hall,
Osgoode Hall,
Toronto, Ontario.

Dear Cec:

I was out of town when the announcement of the report of the Benchers on Legal Education, and the news of your resignation came out.

I wanted, however, to express to you now my most sincere regret that such a report should have been made which has forced you to take the action that you have.

I believe that what you have already done for the law school, and far more what you could do in future if given an opportunity, would not only make a tremendous difference in the whole standards and outlook of our profession, but would also be of great benefit to the community as a whole.

I suppose that owing to my political heterodoxy my influence in the legal profession will be very small, but I can assure you that if there is anything which I can do in any way to see that the principles for which you and your colleagues stand should gain acceptance in the profession to which I think they are entitled, I will be very happy to do it.

Yours sincerely,

FAB:HC

12/13

January 28, 1949.

Charles H. Huestis, Esq., M.A.,
11337 123rd Street,
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Mr. Huestis:

I now have your letter of January 13th.

The review of property claims was written some time in October. There has not been any substantial change since.

The Commissioner proceeded to hear claims of corporations in Vancouver in November and December, and heard further general evidence from the Government side, and started last week completing the general evidence of the Government and hearing general evidence from the claimants.

We expect the detailed evidence on the selective cases on the different categories, to start within a month, and if rapid progress is made there is some hope that the bulk of the work will have been finished by the end of June.

I am not at all hopeful, however of having a final report until perhaps the end of the year. It has turned out to be a very long drawn out affair, but it may well be that once the detailed evidence has been completed on a few cases, there may be a tendency on the part of the Government and ourselves to agree to figures in the nature of a settlement within certain categories, e.g. fishing nets, fishing vessels, personal chattels sold at auction. The larger cases will presumably have to be heard in detail.

It is still too early to prophesy the result of the Commission. I should think that fairly substantial recovery should be made, particularly in regard to the farm properties.

I have read with interest your articles on this and other subjects.

With kindest regards and best wishes to yourself for the New Year.

Yours sincerely,

I. A. Brown

FAB:HC