23-2-13-1 pt 2 Representations & Resolutions General

FILE NO. 23-2-13-1 VOLUME NO. ACCESS REVIEWED: DEP RECORD GROUP 2 SS REFERENCES ACC. VOL/BOX 656 SUBJECT FILE 23-2-13 SUB-SUBJECT FILE TITLE Closed open WHEN IN USE THI Date (1) FURPOSE FOR WHICH REFERRED

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THE FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION

CANADIAN SECTION

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Executive Secretary ALBERT G. WATSON

Publication "RECONCILIATION"



ROOM 303, 74 KING STREET EAST TORONTO 1, ONTARIO

EL. 7032.

Department of Labour, RECEIVED JUN 9 1943

Secretary to Minister.

The Hon. Humphrey Mitchell, Minister of Labour, The Dominion Government, Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Honourable Sir:

We are attaching herewith a statement with reference to the Japanese-Canadians which is self-explanatory.

June 6th, 1945.

We believe that the way in which we, as a nation, deal with this problem is the acid test of Canadian democracy. We, therefore, urge that you implement our recommendations.

Yours respectfully,

FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION,

J. Lavell Smith, Chairman.

A. Godfrey Watson, Executive Secretary.

FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION Room 303, 74 King St. E., Toronto, Ontario.

Statement with reference to the Japanese-Canadians

I Re Canadian citizens of Japanese origin:

WHEREAS it is stated that a large percentage of those in British Columbia relocation centres have applied to go to Japan after the war, and

WHEREAS we believe that among the reasons for their decision is their sense of injustice at the denial to them of citizenship rights and the hazard of taking up their lives anew in central and eastern Canada, in spite of the best efforts of the Government Commissioners on replacement, and

WHEREAS this sense of insecurity in locating elsewhere in Canada has been made acute by war-time emergency restrictions, Federal and Provincial, that in our judgment need no longer be imposed;

WE, the members of the National Council of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, petition the Prime Minister of Canada and his cabinet to recognize now the citizenship of Canadians of Japanese origin and grant them their full rights.

WE urge in particular,

1. THAT the Dominion Government seek at once ways and means of encouraging and aiding Canadians of Japanese origin to locate in the various provinces of the Dominion and to assure the Provinces and Municipalities that it is in the interest of this Dominion that permanent settlement should be encouraged by them, not only as a method of dispersal but also as an implementation of the rights of Canadian citizenship.

2. THAT the restrictions with respect to the purchase of property by Canadians of

Japanese origin be lifted.

3. THAT those desirous of settling east of the Rockies be assisted in re-establishing themselves in those lines of work for which by experience and training they are equipped.

4. THAT all who have suffered financial loss with respect to property and the instruments of their livelihood as a result of relocation shall be idemnified.

5. THAT those who for any reason may have signed the application to go to Japan be informed that they are free to reverse their decision and to register their change of mind accordingly.

II Re Japanese nationals resident in Canada:

WE urge that in the interest of justice Japanese nationals with a clear record be given opportunity to remain in Canada and take out Canadian citizenship after the war, and that in the meantime as many disabilities as possible be removed.

Department of Labour,
RECEIVED

MAY 4 1945

Secretary to Minister.

Toronto, May 1st, 1 9 4 5.

Hon. Humphrey Mitchell, Minister of Labor, O T T A W A.

Dear Sir:-

I have just heard that the Dominion Government has past an edict that the Japanese, (Canadian born) of B.C., must decide to either go back to Japan or else move to the Eastern Provinces.

I understand that in coming East they are given no promise of being able to earn a livelihood, rent or own property or security of any kind.

I therefore ask that these restrictions be lifted; that an agreement be made between Federal and Provincial Governments whereby they may move among us as Canadian Citizens, having the same Freedom and privileges as the Canadian Germans or Italians have had, and expect to have.

Thank you,

Isa. M. Byers



BRITISH COLUMBIA SECURITY COMMISSION

360 Homer Street,

VANCOUVER, B.C.

12th April 1945.

A. MacNamara Esq.,
Deputy Minister,
Department of Labour,
OTTAWA, Ontario.

Re: BROADCAST FROM VANCOUVER.

I am enclosing a copy of broadcast given recently over the National network of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. I referred to this broadcast in a memorandum to you dated March 28th, 1945.

Asheringel T.B. PICKERSGILL, Commissioner. COPY.

THIS WEEK: March 31-45. 4.45-5.00 PM. PDT.

ANNOUNCER: What

What should be done with the Japanese in Canada?
Tonight's programme "This Week" brings you two different points of view on this problem which is receiving such wide attention at the present time.

Our speakers are two well-known British Columbia citizens - Mr. Austin Harris of Richmond community on the lower B.C. mainland, and Dr. Norman Black of Vancouver.

First we will hear from transcription the view expressed by Mr. Austin Harris on this question.

Mr. Harris.

DISC:

NUMBER ONE

ANNOUNCER:

And now to bring you a second point of view on this matter, here is Dr. Norman Black of Vancouver - Dr. Black.

DISC:

NUMBER TWO

ANNOUNCER:

This evening we have brought you the opinions of two British Columbia citizens on the question - "What should we do with the Japanese." You have heard views expressed by Mr. Austin Harris of Richmond community and Dr. Norman Black of Vancouver. This has been another programme in the series of topical broadcasts under the general title of "This Week."

Another programme in this series will be heard next Saturday at this same time.

THIS IS THE CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION.

COPY. "THIS WEEK" March 31st, 1945. 4:45 to 5:00 p.m. PDT Austin Harris. I feel that I can speak with some authority on the attitude of at least one prominent British Columbia community on this subject, "What Should We Do with the Japanese." midst - that is send them back to their native land. both. intermarriages are successful for those involved.

Principally, we do not want these people back in our community. And added to that, we feel that after fighting the Japanese for all these years we should now take action to deport those still left in our

It has been said on many occasions that our Canadian government has no power to repatriate the Japanese. It is my contention, and that of many of my fellow residents in Richmond community, that no person of Japanese ancestry can be a true British subject as long as every Japanese born in a foreign country must register with a Japanese consul or with the Japanese homeland. I insist that no person can be a subject of two countries and be loyal to both any more than a man can have two wives and be loyal to

Then again the Japanese do not want to assimilate any more than we do. Personally, I would estimate that less than five percent of

I speak as one who has lived on the lower mainland of British Columbia for over half a century, and who has had dealings with the Japanese in several lines of business during that time. I have had occasion to make a study of this question over a period of more than forty years. I honestly believe that I am in a better position to comment on the question than many of those who have not had sufficient experience even to tell a Japanese from a Chinese.

I would like to read you an extract from the Encyclopedia Britannica eleventh, twelfth or thirteenth edition, volume 5. It reads: "Japanese resident of Australasia - that includes Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand - in 1904, seventy one thousand one hundred and twenty nine. In 1906 the number had reduced to three thousand two hundred and seventy four. This means that in two years Australasia deported sixty seven thousand eight hundred and fifty five Japanese.

Expediency, rather than race hatred, seems to have moved the Australasians to halt further incursions and to deport those Japanese already Their action helped to save their country in later years from barbaric conquest, it shortened the Pacific war immeasurably, and it saved countless thousands of Allied lives. Do we here in Canada owe a similar duty to our future generations? Action which I believe we may shortly be called upon to take may decide this question.

It is idle to say that Canada, emerging from a bloody war in which the Japanese have committed countless atrocities upon millions of innocent people cannot achieve constitutionally that which Australasia achieved constitutionally when at peace.

Race hatred does not have to enter the case at all. We admire a lion in his cage, but common sense tells us not to let him loose in our midst.

If the other provinces of Canada with only a few years experience don't want the Japanese, is there any reason why British Columbia, with a half century of painful experience should be saddled with them when so many of us most decidedly don't want them. Especially in view of the fact that British Columbia would be the point of invasion from the West in the event of another Pacific War. It is widely believed here that the Japanese were in British Columbia before the war for one purpose only - that of peaceful penetration. It has been said that the Japanese were brought here by the big business interests for cheap labour. Such was not the case. It has been proven from their own writings that over a hundred years ago the Japanese were talking of aggression against the Americas. This was long before there were big interests here. Many of the Japanese here at the time of Pearl Harbour were here for the sole purpose of aiding their countrymen when they invaded our coast. If the enemy had struck at our coast instead of Pearl Harbour, where would we be today.

We have been told lately of plans for the appointment of a commission for the purpose of separating the loyal from the disloyal Japaness. I believe with many others who have known the Japanese from direct, that there are none loyal to the British Crown.

The Japanese conception of religion is entirely different to ours. Their whole standard of living and mode of living is so different to ours that it would seem impossible for the two groups ever to live and work together peacefully.

Between the time of Pearl Harbour and the movement of the Japanese from the coast area, I, and many others in Richmond community were told by numbers of Japanese including many of those born in Canada, that in less than six months the Japanese soldiers would be in B.C. and that we would be working for them. Others said that the Japanese soldiers would be in British Columbia before the security commission could get the B.C. Japanese moved away from the coast.

Industrially these people are not needed. I have good reason to know that individually the great majority of the officials of the western canning companies do not want these people back on the coast. Since the Japanese were moved from the coast the fishing industry has carried along as though there had never been any Japanese in the country.

My contention is that every Japanese, male or female, allowed to remain in Canada after the war is going to take the place of a white man or woman. And that man or woman may be returned from our services. Are these returned people going to stand around, watch the Japanese doing their work and do nothing about it?

I believe it is the duty of everyone on the home front to do all in their power to see that the returned men and women have jobs that will enable them to live at a fair Canadian standard.

I know that this whole question of what we should do with the Japanese is one which requires a great deal of thought, but I feel - and I know that a great many people in our rural British Columbia communities feel - that the Japanese must not be allowed to come back to our communities to take over businesses, industries, and jobs which should be kept for our own service men. Such few of our Canadian residents of Japanese blood as have shown themselves undeserving of a home in this country are to be deported. Any others who may desire to return to the land of their ancestors are promised liberal treatment by the Canadian authorities. Indeed, an obvious defect in recent official pronouncements is that they seem calculated to encourage those who may be willing to abandon their status as British subjects and citizens of Canada, rather than to encourage those evacuees who, through these difficult years, have remained unshaken in their fidelity to this land of their adoption.

However many there may be who despair of re-establishing livable social conditions and economic security and have come to the sorrowful conclusion that Canadian law is inadequate for the protection of their rights and dignity, there will certainly be many others who will elect to remain in this country - which for most of them is the land of their birth. For these people homes must be found by the same federal authority that deprived them of the homes that they occupied prior to evacuation. Decent respect for their legitimate interests, and for the interests of all Canada, requires that these unfortunate folk should be dispersed among the various Canadian provinces. That same respect for the legitimate interests of these people, uprooted in implementation of military policies aiming at the security of the Dominion as a whole, calls for a readiness on the part of provincial governments to forget their fueds and wounded dignities and to remember that we are all Canadians.

It is possible that the Dominion government has not taken steps that would have facilitated provincial co-operation. It is also possible that evacues are at present distributed East of the Rockies on the basis of federal promises, the fulfilment of which has turned out to be politically impossible and socially indefensible. If so, the relevant agreements must be revised and the several provinces must, with all the cheerfulness possible under the circumstances, grapple effectively with their responsibilities as parts of this Dominion. The call is for statesmanship and a practical demonstration of loyalty to Canada.

Clear announcement is overdue as to what assistance the government which deprived these people of their homes is prepared to extend to them in the establishment of new homes.

A clue to the correct policy may be found in consideration of what we would have done if, for purposes of national security, it had been necessary to evacuate from their homes any considerable number of Canadian residents and citizens of Occidental stock. There can be no doubt that their real property would have been expropriated at a fair price; that the federal authorities would have accepted any necessary financial responsibility for their economic re-establishment in other parts of the Dominion; and that the provincial authorities would have given all needed co-operation for the solution of a national problem. I think that my hearers will agree with me that the accident of complexion is insufficient ground for denying neighbourly treatment to any group of Canadian citizens.

The population of Canada consists of racial or national groups every one of which is a minority group. The relations between a number of these sections of our population leave much to be desired, and it is the business of statesmen, and of good citizens in general, to fight sectionalism and racism with all the weapons at their disposal. Every evidence of antipathies based upon creed or ancestral stock, no matter against what minority these antipathies are directed, constitutes a danger to the unity of Canada. Ungenerous treatment of any minority endangers the rights and security of other such groups.

Fellow Canadians, the dictates of magnanimity and generosity rarely lead us astray. In this case policies based upon those dictates will protect the dignity of Canada and make it possible for our country to do its duty. Without generous cooperation on the part of the provinces that duty cannot be performed.

Victoria Branch THE CANADIAN PENSIONERS! ASSOCIATION OF THE GREAT WAR (INC.) 225 Pemberton Bldg., Fort St., Victoria, B. C. 24th March 45 W. L. Mc. Kenzie King. Esq., Prime Minister. Honorable Sir. Re Japanese in Canada At a recent meeting of this Association the following opinion was recorded. Resolved by the Canadian Pensioners Association Victoria Branch. that in the interests of Canada, as a whole, and in particular of this Province of British Columbia. All persons of Japanese Blood and ancestry be repatriated to Japan as soon as possible, at the Conclusion of Hostilities with that Country. and be it further resolved that Japanese be disallowed, entry into Canada for all time. All of which is respectfully submitted. We Remain Honourable Sir. Yours Respectfully Canadian. Pensioners. Association (Sgd.) R. C. Keane Hon. Secretary.

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EIM/LW Mar. 21.

COMMENT POLITICAL

Criticism of Action of Can.Govt. re Japanese Nationals

To friend:

Contents of letter is as follows:

I thank you for your letter of the 5th instant. I surely was surprised but very pleased to hear from that "fella" who trotted often to and from Maikava Stores and my office.

Maika va store building is empty and not yet sold, but the warehouse building at the rear was sold about a year ago for only one thousand dollars or thereabouts. Powell Street is bit by bit getting to be Shinsan-Machi. When you come back and go visiting there you will hear a weird music produced by scratching a couple of string tied to a stick at the end of which is a small round wooden box.

You know the kind I mean. I concur and sympathize with you and people similarly situated as you in what you say about the doings of the Custodian's office. When you read British and Canadian history, people had to be always alert and vigilant to preserve their rights; do not you think that people of the Japanese race also must fight for their rights? If you have time, read how the "bill of rights" was obtained. The Britishers spend big sums of money for a principle, but not so with the people of Japanese race. I urged and pleaded with them, I mean those who have money, including your relatives, to raise money to do this, but they said no, so I was powerless to do anything except to send protest after protest which had no more effect than those protests that were sent to Japan by signatory nations of the "Kellogg Pact" when Japan invaded China. When the war is over, the Japanese people in Canada will surely regret their failure to help themselves. I think they have too much faith in something that I think will not be of any use to them, that is "Kokusa idampan". The regulations authorizing the Custodian to sell your property were made under the author -ity of the War Measures Act and so the purpose for which they were made, should be to advance the war efforts of Canada or for such other good reasons. But do you believe for one moment that disposing of your real and personal property will help Canada in anyway? I cannot believe this and I am at a loss to understand it, and no other person can understand it either, so it should have been a matter for the Court to decide. There is a saying that "laws come to the assistance of the vigilant, and not of the sleepy"
I hope soon I will have the pleasure of seeing that "fella" trot-Nothing else of interest. ting into my office."

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I.R.B. C. 11

CONFIDENTIAL

F. CHARPENTIER. Director

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EJT/MB March 15 C 0

The Editor, The New Canadian, Kaslo, B.C.

Dear Sirs

From an issue of your paper which was handed to me some time ago it appeared that the proposals which I made some time ago relative to re-settlement of the Japanese in Canada had come to your attention as had also the resolution of the Kelowna Board of Trade advocating total repatriation of all Japanese, although of course, the word "repatriation" is not apt when referring to Canadian-born Japanese. You will also have observed that the re-action to the Board of Trade resolution has not been favourable. At the meeting referred to I did not press for consideration of my proposals partly because we had at the time a local situation which was most unsatisfactory due to the failure of the B.C. Security Commission to implement its undertakings to our local Committee (which has been remedied and explained following a visit of Mr. Pickersgill here) and partly because I recognized from the tone of the meeting that the proposals would not then receive unbiassed consideration. However I did warn that in my belief the total repatriation approach would not get anywhere and that it would be necessary to deal with the matter from a different angle. Events have indicated that such belief was well founded.

March 7,1945.

The matter of a just and reasonable settlement of this problem is one which has given me a great amount of concern, primarily because I do not believe that the approach thus far has been such as is likely to lead to that kind of a settlement. Two considerations appear to me of primary importance, these being (1) that a very definite and heavy responsibility rested upon the government of Canada and thus upon the people

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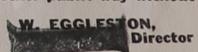
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of Canada toward those people who have been uprocted and made homeless and (2) that in fulfilling that responsibility care must be taken that the solution shall be such as will make for the ultimate assimilation of those of Japanese race who may remain in Canada, so that the future will be freed from the danger of any race problem.

In the proposals which I made I suggested that all Japanese nationals and their children under sixteen years of age be returned to Japan. I confess that I was not even then satisfied with that suggestion. Further reading and consideration have compelled me to the conclusion that such action is not justifiable. I find that I cannot square with my conscience the proposition of sending back to Japan children who have been born in Canada and who have grown to any age in this country, provided their parents agree to the conditions which I would set up. The same applies in respect of Canadian-born Japanese girls who may be married to Japanese nationals. Either all Japanese should be given the option of remaining in Canada on compliance with the conditions or those compulsorily sent to Japan should be only unmarried Japanese nationals and Married Japanese nationals with wives of Japanese birth but without children (or possibly with children born since Pearl Harbour only). On that point I have not yet fully come to

The matter of conditions is that to which I should expect you would possibly take immediate exception. We one recognizes more clearly than I do that to set up conditions such as were proposed by me, and particularly that providing for a ten-year agreement, involves infringement of the ordinary rights of Canadian citizenship. However, it is my belief that, if the end to be achieved justifies such a course, we should not hesitate to take it. The ends to be sought are those of (1) providing the homes and means of livelihood those who have been forcibly taken from their homes and whose properties and means of livelihood have been taken from them (2) Settling such people in locations and under such conditions as will contribute most to their being absorbed into the social, economic and political life of the country.

It is the latter consideration which gives me most concern. There is no great difficulty involved in the first part of the problem if no account is to be taken of the second part, since it would be a simple enough matter to establish Japanese colonies with government subsidy, etc. But to do that would militate more than anything else, against achievements of the second objective.

A factor in the situation which must be recognized by both people of Japanese origin and those who are most anxious to reach sound conclusions in this matter is that the re-settlement of Japanese in such manner as to make for real assimilation involves great difficulties, owing to opposition to Japanese settlement, which exists both in British Columbia and on the other side of the Rockies. Both racial and economic elements enter into the picture. It is for that reason that I have felt that the goal will never be reached under a purely voluntary set-up. I think you will agree that the best possibilities from the standpoint of assimilation will arise if those of Japanese origin are well dispersed and I think it is true that the more widespread the dispersal the better should be the conditions for assimilation. The efforts of the government in the direction of permanent dispersal have not been very satisfactory thus far. Having in mind the readiness with which antagonisms have been and are likely to arise and be exploited any plan must give assurance in two directions. It must give assurance to those in British Columbia that the dispersal will not be merely temporary, for the dominant objection raised in connection with the government's proposals of dispersal (which are very nebulous indeed) is that they give no guarantee that within a few years all the Japanese will not be back at the Coast or in the Okanagan. On the other hand, it seems to me that to work out an effective dispersal it is equally

necessary that assurances be given to communities east of the Rockies against an undue influx into any community. I fear that without such assurance many well-disposed people will take the position that they will not welcome any Japanese, since if they do and there is no restriction, they will possibly be only inviting a large influx into their district. That would militate very strongly against proper dispersal. The only sound attitude is that which accepts it as the responsibility of those of other than Japanese origin to accept as fellow-citizens those of Japanese origin. If there is suspicion and antagonism, which seem to me inseparable from an unplanned and uncontrolled dispersal, it will be impossible ever to develop the attitude of mind toward Japanese-Canadians which is essential to success. That is why I have considered that from the standpoint of the Japanese-born themselves they should be ready to accept conditions and restraints for a period for the sake of the long-term objective to be attained. I am sure that the more enlightened at least among the Japanese themselves must recognize that a future of their racial stock which looks toward and is progressing toward real assimilation into the life of Canada in all respects is something to be preferred to a continuation of racial animosities and prejudice, with untimate development, possibly of a serious racial problem in Canada, That is why in my suggestions I have suggested conditions which, having in mind the purpose to be achieved, appear to me justifiable.

I have written thus frankly to you, since I have felt anxious to have the re-actions of one of those who would be most intimately affected. There may be points of view which I have failed to take into account and which one should take into account in arriving at sound conclusions. For that reason I would appreciate it very greatly should you see fit to write to me giving me your attitude toward the arguments which I have advanced. I am writing to you confidentially and not for publication or to have my communication referred to im any way and I can assure you that anything you may write to me will be similarly regarded.

Yours faithfully,

GREENWOOD, B.C. JAN. 28TH 1945.

HONORABLE H. MITCHELL.

MINISTER OF LABOR

HOUSE OF COMMON.

OTTAWA, ONT.

Department of Labour,
RECEIVED

FEB 5 1945

Secretary to Minister.

DEAR SIR: -

BEG TO TAKE LIBERTY FOR WRITING THIS
LETTER TO YOU REGERDING THE REPLACING JAPANESE
PLAN.

THINK THE PLAN OF YOURS TO DISTRIBUTING

TAPANESE ALL OVER CANADA, AND HELP THEM TO MAKE

SUPPORT THEMSELVES, IS VERY GOOD, BUT VERY UNEASY

PLAN IT IS, WHEN CONSIDERED FROM TAPANESE STAND

POINT.

ALL MUNISION FACTORIES WELL BE CLOSED UP, AND THE

NUMBER OF JUBLESS PERSONS WILL BECOME NUMEROUS WITH

RETURNED SOLDIRS FROM THE FRONT.

WHAT IS MORE, THE COST OF LIVING WILL NOT

BECOME AS LOW AS THAT OF BEFORE THE WAR, WITHIN

2.3 YEARS, BECAUSE TO REDEEM THE VICTORY BOND AND

OTHER PURPOSE THE GOVERNMENT WILL NEED MORE MONEY
THAN THEIR REVENUE, AND SO IT IS QUITE NATURAL TO
IMPOSE WAR TAX NEWLY OR CONTINUE THE PRESENT
ONE IN EFFECT.

2

IN ADDITION TO THOSE ABOVE MENTIONED, WHICH WILL

MAKE TAPANESE SITUATION MORE THARDER, I AM AFRAID OF

ANTI-TAPANESE FEELING WELL BECOME MORE FURIOUS THAN NOW

WHEN SOLDIERS COME BACK AND WORK WITH TAPANESE SIDE

BY SIDE, BECOUSE TAPANESE WHO CAN WORK WITH RETURNED

SOLDIERS, THAT MEANS TAPANESE CAN BE PLACED IN THE

POSITION OF RETURNED SOLDIERS WHENEVER IT IS NECESSARY

FOR EMPLOYER, THEREFORE TAPANESE ARE THE COMPETITOR

FOR SOLDIERS WHEN THEIR EXISTENCE HAPPEN TO BE AGAINST

SOLDIERS INTEREST. NO BODY LIKE COMPETITOR, SPECIALY

SO, WHEN HE IS ENEMY ALLIANCE.

NUMEROUS JOBLESS, HIGH COST LIVING AND ANTIJAPANESE FEELING WILL MAKE IT VERY HARD FOR JAPANESE
TO LIVE IN CANADA AFTER THE WAR. EVERY JAPANESE
HAVE THE SAME ANXIETY AS MINE, THIS ANXIETY WILL
GREATLY HINDER THE RELOCATION PLOBLEM, INSPITE OF
THE KIND CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORITY, WHO ARE TRING
TO RELOCATE JAPANESE BEFORE THE WAR END AND LET

IF THE RELOCATION PLAN DON'T WORK AS QUICK AS

EXPECTED, MORE TROUBLE AND EXPENDITURE WILL FALL DOWN

ON THE GOVENMENT'S SHOULDER, AND AS FOR JAPANESE, THEY

WILL BE PRESSED HARDLY BY THE B.C. SECURITY COMMISSION

TO GO DUT TO SELF-SUPPORTING EMPLOYMENT IN THE EAST.

IF THEY VENTURE TO RELOCATE TO EAST, FINANCIAL

UNEASYNESS MAY FALLOW. TO EASING THIS UNEASYNESS, GOVERN
MENT WILL HELP THEM IN FINANCIALY OR WITH SOME MEANS, I

THINK. BUT SUCH KIND OF HELP WELL NOT LAST AS LONG AS

THEY WANTED TO BE, ON THE CONTRARY, IT NEED TIME TO

MAKE BUSINESS WELL PAYABLE.

WHAT, THEN, SHALL WE JAPANESE DO? WHY DON'T THEY GO BACK TO JAPAN?

WHY THEY PREFER CANADA THAN TO GO JAPAN AFTER WAR?

WELL, IF THEY THINK, THEY CAN LIVE ON DOWN THERE

OR DON'T LIKE CANADA, THEY WILL GO JAPAN, OTHERWISE

THEY STAY HERE. AND IN CASE OF ME, I CAME HERE

AT 1912, HAVE STAYED HERE 32 YEARS WITHOUT VISIT

JAPAN EVEN I TIME, NATURALY NO FREINDS IN THERE

WITH RELATIVES BUT QUITE STRANGER, AND HAVE NO

IDEA HOW TO MAKE LIVING. MANY OLDER TAPANESE IN CANADA HAVE THE SAME CONDITION AS MINE. AND SOME TAPANESE MAY STAY HERE BECAUSE THEIR CHILDREN PREFER CANADA.

AT ANY RATE, IF THEY ARE GOING TO STAY HERE
THEY MUST MAKE EARNING, SO THAT THEY WANT THEIR
FINANCIAL FOUNDATION WHICH THEY HAVE LOST BY THE
EVACUATION THEY DONE UNWILLINGLY. TO MAKE UP
THAT LOSS THEY MADE, GOVERNMENT MAY HELP THEM.

IT IS VERY GRATEFUL TO BE HELPED BY GOVERNMENT,

AND GOVERNMENT MAY THINK, THAT JAPANESE MAY SATISFY

THIS PLAN, BUT THE FINANCIAL FOUNDATION WHICH THEY

HAVE LOST WAS TRUSTWORTH, ON THE CONTRARY, THEY MUST

IN YOUR PLAN WORK HARD AGAIN TO MAKE THEIR BUSINESS

FOUNDATION AS FIRM AS BEFORE, AND IT IS QUITE DOUBT
FUL WHETHER THEY CAN BUILT IT UP AS GOOD AS BEFORE

EVEN WITH YOUR HELP.

SO THAT, I THINK, THIS RELOCATION PLAN IS A LITTLE UNFAIR.

IS THERE, THEN, ANY WAY WHICH MAKE BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND TAPANESE GOOD? YOU MAY ASK.

YES! HERE IS MY PLAN, BUT I SCARE THIS PLAN

WILL MAKE YOU LAUGH, YET I CAN'T STOP TO WRITE YOU ABOUT IT WITH THE ENGLISH EVEN IT IS SO POOR.

PLAN

WHAT GREATLY NEED AFTER THE WAR IN JAPAN AS WELL
AS CHINA AND OTHER PARTS OF ORIENT, ARE PULP, WHEAT,

LUMBER AND SCRUB IRON, SO PRODUCE THOSE PRODUCTS BY

JAPANESE MAN POWER UNDER THE CONTROL OF CANADIAN

GOVERNMENT, AND EXPORT THEM TO THE ORIENT. GOVERNMENT

MAY, OF CAUSE, SUPPLY THEM FOR DOMESTIC DEMAND, BUT IT WILL

GET IN THE WAY OF PRIVATE COMPANY.

IF YOU START MY PLAN FROM NOW, YOU CAN GET
THOSE PRODUCTS BEFORE THE WAR COME TO THE END,
EVEN IF YOU TRY HARD NOW TO PUT JAPANESE IN THE
POS POSITION FOR WORK IN EAST, THOSE WILL BE TAKEN
AWAY BY WHITE MAN AFTER WAR WITHOUT DOUBT. THEN
ANOTHER JAPANESE PROBLEM WILL FALLOW TO BE SOLVED.

Supposing, THAT A QUARTER OF 16000 JAPANESE WHO

ARE NOW IN THE INTERIOR SETTLEMENT, GO BACK TO

JAPAN BY SEGREGATION AFTER THE WAR, THE REST OF

12000 JAPANESE WILL TAKE PLACE TO PLAY MY RELOCATION

GAME. OF CAUSE, I HAVE NO IDEA, THAT, HOW MANY

JAPANESE WILL LEAVE HERE FOR JAPAN BY SEGREGATION

THIS NONBER OF 1/4 OF 16000 IS ONLY MY SUPPOSITION.

THE 12,000 TAPANESE, AFORSAID, SHALL BE REPLACED

TO - ONTARIO AND QUEBEC FOR PULP INDUSTRY

British COLUMBIA FOR LUMBER

PRAIRIE PROVENCES FOR WHEAT

ALL OVER CANADA FOR SCRUB IRON.

6

PLACING MANY TAPANESE IN ONE TOWN OR DISTRICT WILL CAUSE ANTI-JAPANESE FEELING, SO THAT YOUARE GOING TO SCATTER THEM ALL OVER CANADA, THAT IS VERY GOOD FOR A WHILE, BUT ALL JAPANESE, EVEN THE CANADIAN BORN JAPANIESE NOW IN EASTERN CANADA ARE VERY ANXIOUS ABOUT THEIR POSITION AFTER THE WAR, SO THAT, INSTEAD OF SCUTTERING THEM ALL OVER IN CANADA, ESTABLISH SEVERAL TAPANESE VILLAGE IN 3 OR 4 PROVINCES AT SOME REMOTE PLACE, NOT NEAR TOWN AND MAKE THEM WORK UNDER CONTROL OF GOVERNMENT AS BEFORE TO MAKE SOMETHING LIKE INDIAN VILLAGE, BUT WITH AN INDASTRIAL ESTABLISHMENT IN THERE. THIS IS MY PLAN. TO MAKE THOSE NEW VILLAGE, ALL BUILDING MATELIALS, LIGHTING, PLUMBING AND HEATING SYSTEMS USED AT ALL INTERIOR SETTLEMENTS CAN BE USED .

I SAPANESE DOCTOR SHOULD BE PLACED, IF HIS EARNING IS NOT ENOUGH, GOVERNMEN WILL HELP HIM FROM THE PROFIT MADE BY THEIR BUSINESS THERE. I SHOOL SHOULD BE BUILT, STUDENTS MUST PAY THEIR TUITIONS BECAUSE THEY PAY NO MUNICIPALITY TAX. TEACHERS SALARY WILL BE PAID BY GOVERNMENT AS ABOVE. BLOCKS OF HOUSES FOR FAMILYS, MESS HOUSES FOR SINGLE MAN, AND THEY, OF CAUSE PAY RENT, LIGHT AS. ORDINARY PEOPLE. STORES WILL BE ALLOWED TO OPEN, POST OFFICE UNDER GOVERNMENT EXPENSE.

ANY JAPANESE CAN GET OUT OF THIS VILLAGE BUT
NO ONE CAN MOVE IN THERE EXCEPT TEMPORARY VISIT
OR BY MARRIEGE.

NOW I HAVE MENTIONED THE OUTLINE OF MY PLAN

AS ABOVE, AND CAN SAY NOTHING FURTHER THAN THAT,

BECAUSE I HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE ABOUT PULP, LUMBER

WHEAT NOR SCRUB IRON AND ADMINISTRATION BUSINESS TOO.

SO THAT, NOW, I ASK YOUR PARDON TO LET ME

TELL YOUR HOUNOR, BY THIS OPPORTUNITY, ABOUT ONE

THING WHICH I LIKE TO BE UNDERSTAND BY YOUR

HONOUR. THAT IS, WHY CANADIAN GOVERNMENT DOES

NOT USE JAPANESE TOWARD MINARAL AND COAL MINE

BUSINESS?

IF YOU SECURE ANY NINE IN ALBERTA OR ANYWHERE AND

MAKE IT RUN BY JAPANESE MAN, SUPERVISED BY GOVERNMENT

APOINTED SUPERVISOR AND ENGINERS, THEY WILL PLAY THEIR

PARTS WELL, WHAT IS MORE SO, WHEN THEY ARE GOING

TO STAY IN CANADA BY SEGREGATION. NO TAPANESE

WILL MAKE TROUBLE IF THEY ARE PAID WELL AND THEIR

LIVING ARE DEPEND UPON THAT MINE BUSINESS.

NO JAPANESE WILL TRY TO DESTROY THE WAY BY WHICH THEY

ARE MAKING MOMEY, INSTEAD OF GRATIFY FOR LIVING

PEACEFULLY IN THE COUNTRY WHERE THEY ARE CALLED

ENEMY ALLIANCE.

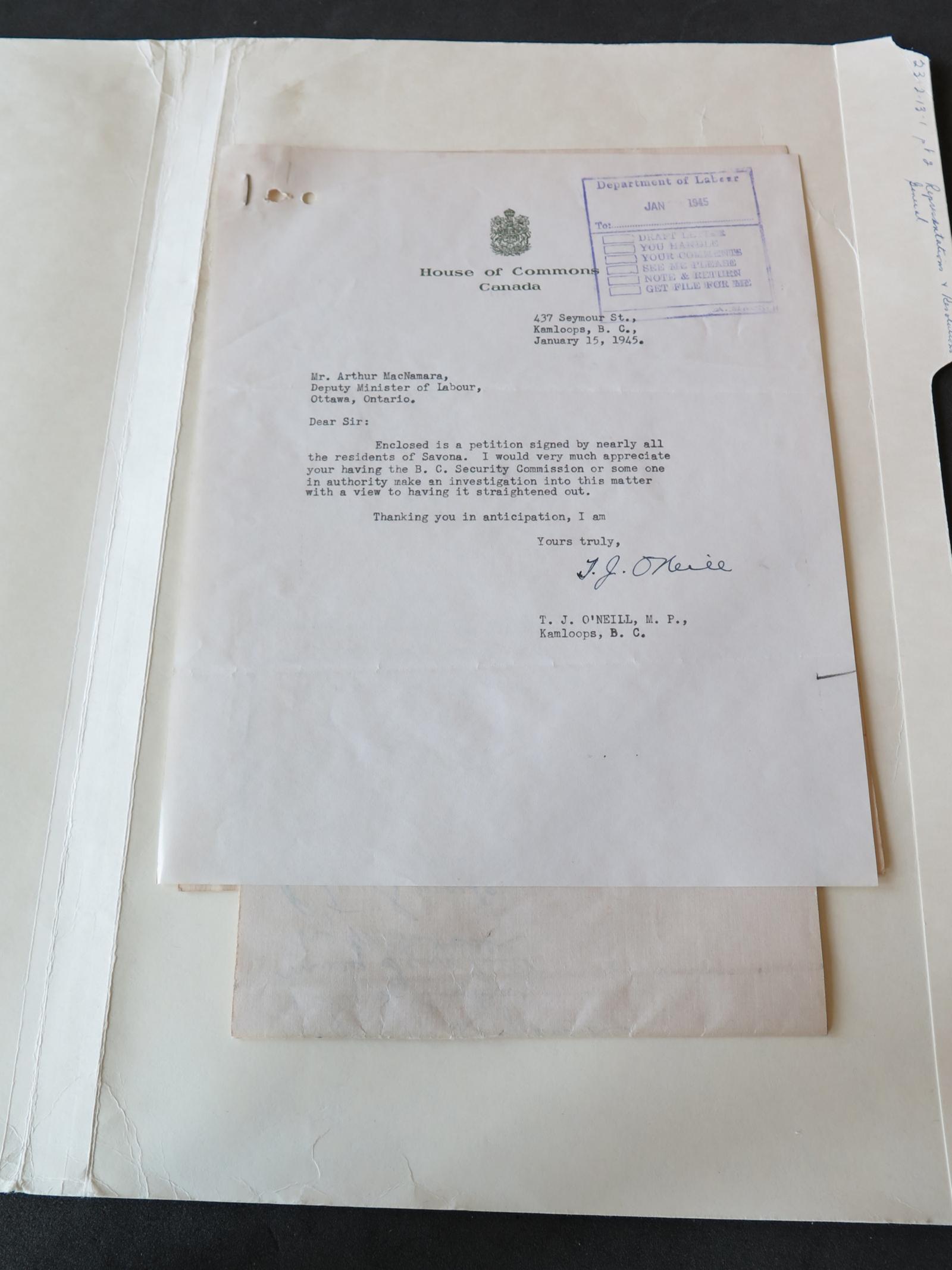
BEFORE I AM GOING TO PUT PERIOD ON MY
LETTER I THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS FOR SPENDING
YOUR VALUABLE TIME TO READ THIS LETTER,

RESPECTEFULLY YOURS.

ZSano.

KOMAZO SANO 59 YEARS OLD JAPANESE NATIONAL

23-2-13 OTTAWA, February 5, 1945. AIR MAIL Mr. Kamazo Sano, Greenwood, B.C. Dear Mr. Sano: The Honourable Mr. Mitchell has asked me to acknowledge your letter of January 28 explaining your proposals for the settlement of Japanese evacuees in various parts of Canada at useful employment. The plan which you propose is indeed interesting, and I wish to thank you for bringing it to our attention. You may be sure that it will receive full consideration. Yours very truly, HTP/VM A. MacNamara.



2 w To The Federal Government of Canada, The Provincial Government of British Columbia and all officials having authority respecting Japanese in Canada: -The Petition of the undersigned residents of the village of Savona, British Columbia and its vicinity, Showeth :-1- That a business resident of Ashcroft, B. C. (25 miles away) very recently bought one of the very best houses in the village of Savona, and this week began placing Japanese on 2- In view of the diabolocal and treacherous way in which the Japanese started their war, the beastly atrocities marking their conduct of it, the petitioners can view the sight of any Japanese or endure the thought of them only with horror and extreme antipathy: 3- Your petitioners consider it a gross outrage to have these Japanese thrust into their community and respectfully request that they be at once removed from our neighborhood: 4- We wish to declare our loyalty to our country and our determination as far as we can to continue it along the best British lines and as the whole racial setup of the Japanese is utterly opposed to our ideals we are against their promimity now on any terms whatever, and if need be are pledged to do what we can to cause their removal from our midst. Your Petitioners therefore pray that each and all of you so far as you have power and influence will cause our wishes as above expressed to be carried out with celerity and dispatch. y 13 names Signed at Savona, B. C. this 95day of December, 1944 a. Styer am. Edaw James & Lupper Harris a. The line Grace Colevell lova on miles Wordly M. Me Farland Luy Wilson Frances Hughes Ilounce Style a. Cooney. E. M. Villies 21:11 & 11 1 1 1/10°

request that they be at once removed from our neighborhood: 4- We wish to declare our loyalty to our country and our determination as far as we can to continue it along the best British lines and as the whole racial setup of the Japanese is utterly opposed to our ideals we are against their promimity now on any terms whatever, and if need be are pledged to do what we can to cause their removal from our midst. Your Petitioners therefore pray that each and all of you so far as you have power and influence will cause our wishes as above expressed to be carried out with celerity and dispatch. y 23 names Signed at Savona, B. C. this 95day of December, 1944 a Styer Tharma a. The line Long Evilson Frances Highes Ilouna Vyu E.M. Villiers Chel Villiers Bernard & Ming . Elanuce Liberteson g & Williew, O.NR 9. a Johnson Wm London M. J. Villiers Smith Curtis W. Leskin John Wilson Chao Hayer David Thomson 73

ON REXLING E.S. Fee. A. Fehr IP J. Lom: Forland Douglas Walter Christian Jack Chuitian John E. motime L. G Browssean C. a. Wilson J. Henstocil. & Swimm Lathenin mildam Van & Bigham 28melesa en a meled Fred mouris Mrs a. Slyce Elijabeth Leighton ESSY Eumands Smith Curtis W. Leskins
John Wilson
That Hayer
David Thomson

Elijabeth Orv. Mc Feely. annie m. Leighton Widow An Sp. Leighton J.P. mary Dernbull ng mogut osh P.T. Swarle Menna Smarle N.T. Goopen mrs. la R. Hatain Mr. Charle D. Water If Panihot Hallace a. Hatson Ethel n. Wilson Staries. P. Obenstock Holding London Ans A John Mus P. Ledwards mus ann Motivel andrew Blansky Smith Curtis W. Leskin John Wilson Chao Haye Jaccillas David Thomson 73

23-2-13 AIR MAIL Ottawa, December 11, 1944. URGENT Mr. George Collins, Commissioner of Japanese Placement, Department of Labour, 360 Homer Street, Vancouver, B.C. On December 1 I wrote you concerning an incident referred to us by Mr. T. J. O'Neill, M.P., involving a Japanese family recently settled at Savona, B.C. I would be obliged if you would let me have a report on this matter as soon as possible or, better still, a telegram giving the particulars. HTP/MM A. MacNamara.

Ottawa, December 1st, 1944. AIRMAIL Mr. George Collins, Commissioner of Japanese Placement, Department of Labour, 360 Homer Street, Vancouver, B.C. Mr. T. J. O'Neill, M.P., telephoned in connection with a situation at Savona, B.C., involving a Japanese family recently settled there and has sent over a copy of a wire which he has received in this connection which is enclosed herewith. We advised Mr. O'Neill that we would obtain a report on the matter and see what the situation was. I have no doubt that this case has come to your attention and would be glad to have your early advice thereon. Perhaps you could wire on receipt of this letter. Enc. A. MacNamara.

COPY OF TELEGRAM

DEC. L , 1944.

SAVONA, B.C.

T. O'NEILL, M.P.

OTTAWA.

THE FOLLOWING WIRE WAS SENT TO ATTORNEY GENERAL MAITLAND
VICTORIA B.C. OVER THE SIGNATURES OF JAMES LEIGHTON A FEHR
AND SMITH CURTIS SEVEN JAPANESE BROUGHT IN HERE HESTERDAY AND
PUT INTO ONE OF THE BEST HOUSES IN THE VILLAGE ALLEGEDLY BY
THE OWNER MRS. A. JOHNSON HOTEL KEEPER ASHCROFT OUR INHABITANTS
HERE FEEL IT AN UNBEARABLE OUTRAGE AND ASK YOU TO CAUSE REMOVAL OF JAPS IMMEDIATELY PETITION FOLLOWING STOP THE FOLLOWING
REPLY RECEIVED FROM E. PEPLER DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL RETEL
CONTROL OF JAPANESE IN HANDS OF FEDERAL AUTHORITIES AND PROVINCE
HAS NO JURISDICTION IN REGARD TO SAME HOWEVER AM MAKING INVESTIGATION INTO YOUR COMPLAINT END OF MESSAGE AS THE PEOPLE OF
SAVONA AND VICINITY RESENT THE PRESENCE OF THESE JAPANESE WE
ASK YOU AS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THIS CONSTITUENCY TO TAKE THE
NECESSARY STEPS SO THAT THEY ARE REMOVED IMMEDIATELY
(SGD) A. FEHR J.P.

The Hon. Humphrey Mitchell Esq.

Minsiter of Labor:

Dear Sir:

Nov 17th/44

Secretary to Minister.

I have listened with a great amount of interest to your speech at Edmonton on the unity of all nations in Canadad and you will pardon me I am sure for bringing you attention, (especially as it comes under your direct supevision) pertaining to the Japanese, may I digress for a moment and ask why these people who have committed no breach of our statutes should be treated in the way they have? Taken from their homes lawfully acquired and placed in interior places crowded into narrow spaces yet with it all they have not as yet shown that bitterness of spirit that any other nation would. Their personal and precious belongings sold for a pittance at auction. I have personally seen these goods sold in Vancouver, their possessions sold at less than 25% per cent of Your B.C.S.C. whose personal & at the coast and have value. no doubt been affected by the race hatred & accented inculcated by politicians such as Howard Green and Ian McKenzie one on each side of politics. Let me also tell you that Howard, Green, s father who was sick unto death last February owes his life to the Japanese Doctor Shimo-Takahara who attended to him fatthfully and brought him back to normal health. YEt this Doctor who is regularly registered and a member of the B.C. Medical Association is denied the right to act as superintendent of the Victorian Hospital in Kaslo according to the order issued by the head of your B.C.S.C. medical director Dr. Arthur. Please look into the actions of the heads of this depart-

Page No 2 Hon. Minister of Labor Who live at Vancouver and direct the affairs of this Japanese commuinity five hundred miles away, and are not intouch with them except when they make a jpy ride, when fishing and hunting is good, check up on the number of employees you have at the coast and the large amount of overhead that is incurred by them. Do this and I for one will spread the doctrine that you have preached to-night for the unity of nations within Canada. Will be pleased to answer any questions you may want to ask relating to this Japanese question and having lived in this Kootenay District nearly fifty years can do so. During the late &&&& for Victory bonds the Japanese people contributed Thirteen Thousand Five Hundred dollars, how little did the German nationals who are free at the best wages give not any. Yours truly, Frank T. Abey hank. & aby

Dear Sir:

Nov 10th/44

On the above date a public meeting was called waslo'ved

Board of Trade to discuss the removal of Japanese evacuees to the other parts of B.C.a fair representation was present.

President G.Baker opened the meeting and was elected chairman

C.R.Fahrni Secretary.

After a free discussion it was unanimously moved that the following resolution be sent The Chadaian Premier

The Minister of Labor and the Chairman of the B. .S.C.

The Minister of Labor and the Chairman of the B. .S.C.

"Whereas in May 1942 the B.C.S.C. entered into an agreement in the form of leases with the City of Kaslo and citizens for certain buildings and acreage, the said leases being for the duration of the war with Japan and whereas the B.C.S.C. are endeavoring to abrogate these leases by moving the Japanese wards of the Government to other places in B.C. and have publicly announced this to be their immediate polocy, thereby causing large additional cost of domiciling them after the large expense incurred in placing them in Kaslo.

Therefore be it resolved that this meeting called thro to the Kaslo Board of Trade respectfully ask that their contracts be lived up to and the Kaslo Kaslo Japanese be left here until permanent homes are found for them in the east.

These people have shown themselves to be good living people, causing no trouble anre content to remain here for the duration.

They have contributed very substantially to the war effort by buying Victory Bonds, and the Japanese ladies have materially assested in Red Cross Work.

It is quite possible to find employment for these men in Lumbering and in heeded road work for the Government right in this district.

yours truly,

Secret ry Public Meeting

C. R. Fahrni

Copies sent to Prime minister Supt. Be. S.C.

Kaslo, B.C. Oct 10th /44

The Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, Esq.,

Dear Sir: Re Japanese Evacuees

Having been a resident of Kaslo for thirty years and a member of the City Council when the council agreed to accept the Japanese Evacuees said agreement was for the duration of the war with Japan.

It is with the thought of giving you first-hand information regarding how they responded and facts that you should know that I am writing this.

Your opposition will undoubtedly use them in the coming election your fair attitude towards these unfortunate people, which is so different from those of the Pro.Cons. and your own representatives in B.C.

Over twelve hundred Japanese were originally housed here in buildings belonging to the City of Kaslo were renovated and they gradually became reconciled and now feel more or less contented until they have been notified by the B.C. Security Commission that they are again going to be moved.

The Japanese High School Students attend the City School and have proven themselves ardent students, they paying the city school for their tuition, they have also a public school with Japanese School teachers (6) nearly three hundred in attendance.

For the first two years three million dollars a year was allotted to the entire Japanese evacuees the bulk of this going to Government employees, the overhead is tremendous, the proportion of employees is entirely out of proportion to the number of evacuees.

During the two and one half years that they have been resident in Kaslo there has not been one police court case, no trouble with the English speaking citizens, they have been very industrious and courteous.

The action of the Enemy Custodian has been very trying to these people, a number of Japanese left their personal belonging in the hands of white people at the coast, subject to them sending for them the Custodian placed them in warehouses at Vancouver then turned them over to public auctioneers who sold them at

I am enclosing in this letter a paper published in Kaslo by a Canadian and he voices the opinions of practically all the citizens yet I understand that measures are now taken to send some of the staff to other camps so if you take any action take it now.

Yours truly,

"Frank T. Abey"

This copy of resolution, which was submitted to the Annual Convention of The Farmers' Institute, District "D" recently held in Kamloops, is being forwarded to you for your information and necessary action. Jas.R.Colley, Secretary, Dongrime to a a RECTIVED JUL 11 1944 Secretary to Minister. REMOVAL OF JAPANESE FROM B.C. WHEREAS the national laws of Japan claim the right of control of all its nationals until after their obligation to military services has expired: and WHEREAS the male of the full age of seventeen years or upwards does not lose Japanese nationality until or unless he has completed active service in the Japanese Army or Navy; and WHEREAS the entire influx of Japanese and their offspring were mostly domiciled in British Columbia, grouped in colonics where they assumed complete dominance in civil and local life to the hazard and detriment of Canadian standards so essential to our freedom and progress: and WHEREAS native Japanese work for starvation wages until such time as they secure partial or complete control of their chosen vocation, all to the detriment of Canadian labour; and WHEREAS the cowardly attack of the Japanese Government on our good neighbour, the United States of America, at Pearl Harbour, brought Canada instantly to war against Japan; and WHEREAS it was necessarily doemed by our Government, as a result of this act of treachery, most essential to our safety that we immediately remove all Japanese from British Columbia; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we do hereby petition our Government -(1) Never again to allow any future settlement of Japanese in the Dominion of Canada, and that at the end of the war, or sooner if possible, all employers be forbidden to employ persons of Japanese ancestry; (2) That we advise our government in the opinion of this body that immediately following this war, all persons of Japanese ancestry be removed from Canada; (3) That in the mountime no person of Japanese ancestry be allowed to carry on business in British Columbia either directly or indirectly; (4) That in the meantime no person of Japanese ancestry be allowed to hold, own, or lease land or any interest in land or in any body corporate directly or indirectly and that any land or interest in land or in any body corporate held by such person of Japanese ancestry or by any agent or trustee in trust for him be forthwith forfeited to the Crown.

Ottawa, March 18, 1944.

m

Mr. W. K. Esling, M.P., House of Commons, Ottawa.

Dear Mr. Esling:

I wish to acknowledge your letter of March 17, 1944, concerning the conduct of businesses in Slocan Valley settlements by Japanese.

A misunderstanding appears to have arisen between two distinct matters in this connection, viz., power to buy or lease a building, and license to conduct a business.

Section 39E (3)(b) of the Defence of Canada Regulations as amended on the recommendation of the Minister of Justice by P.C. 7902 of December 20, 1943, now reads:

> "Nothing in this Regulation shall deprive a person of the Japanese race of capacity to lease any building or part of a building for a term not exceeding one year or from month to month or for some lesser periodic tenancy".

As heretofore, a Japanese can only acquire or hold title to land or growing crops on a license from the Minister of Justice. I advised the Nelson Retail Merchants' Association accordingly on February 8, 1944, in reply to their resolution.

Concerning conduct of businesses, the Honourable Mr. Mitchell advised you in his letter of February 28. In the settlements administered by the Commissioner of Japanese Placement, it was necessary soon after evacuation to permit Japanese to engage in barbering, shoe repairing, dry cleaning, and similar services which were not available otherwise to the large evacuee populations. In the case of Lemon Creek, which is entirely a Commission town, There were no businesses or services of any description before evacuation, and white merchants have since set up stores there to take care of the Japanese trade.

Joseph of Johnson believe to request recent by you find

w Licenses to conduct businesses in the towns where the Japanese reside would be issued by the Wartime Prices and Trade Board where necessary, as far as the Federal Government is concerned. · Yours very truly, HTP/DMP A. MacNamara. the part which the sold and the state of the COLLEGE THE STATE OF THE PARTY THE STATE OF THE S Control to the Control of the Contro

Ottawa, December 13, 1943. Air Mail Mr. H. G. L. Strange, Director, Research Department, Searle Grain Company, Limited, Winnipeg, Manitoba. Dear Mr. Strange: -The Honourable Mr. Crerar has passed your letter of December 7th re Japanese to this Department for consideration and reply, as Japanese evacuation and relocation is under the authority of the Minister of Labour. You are to be congratulated on your tolerant and democratic attitude toward these people. From our experience and that of the R.C.M.P., the majority of Canadians of Japanese racial origin are loyal and industrious. It was necessary to intern only a small number as dangerous to the safety of the state. Defence authorities considered it necessary early in 1942 to evacuate all Japanese from the Pacific Coast Protected Area as a matter of security. Of the 23,000 who were so evacuated, about 7,000 have dispersed east of the Rockies and are busy reestablishing themselves between Alberta and weebec, practically all on a voluntary basis. Another 5,000 are scattered in small groups throughout the interior of British Columbia in self-sustaining employment. The transportation to employment is paid by the Government and in all cases this Department (especially Selective Service) tries to ensure fair treatment and provailing wages. 2/over

The balance of the Japanese (about 11,000) are located in temporary housing centres in the interior of British Columbia where they are given free housing, education, medical services, etc. If unemployable, they are given maintenance at B. C. rates and if employable they are urged to accept a wide variety of employment opportunities in all parts of Canada, located by Selective Service and by the Placement Staff of the British Columbia Security Commission. To those single physically fit male Japanese Canadians who refuse to accept employment voluntarily, during the present manpower shortage, we are beginning to apply compulsory direction to essential industry by Selective Service, as is also being applied to other groups of citizens. The Japanese when evacuated were allowed to take personal property with them, and many sold other property before they left. Control of the remainder (including real property) was vested in the Custodian's Branch of the Department of the Secretary of State, which has been gradually selling same at a fair valuation to prevent depreciation. The funds from such sale are made available to Japanese in the Housing Projects to support themselves, down to certain limits, or in other parts of Canada to reestablish themselves. Further particulars of disposition of Japanese property can be obtained from the Department of the Secretary of State, Custodian's Branch. As to the future of the Japanese in Canada, I may say that in the case of the Japanese Nationals this will largely depend on the peace conference at the end of the war and other conditions at that time. The Japanese Canadians can do a great deal to impress their loyalty and industry on the other people of Canada, and thus secure fair treatment and justice both now and after the war. Yours very truly, A. HacNamara. HTP/VA

SEARLE GRAIN COMPANY LIMITED WINNIPEG GRAIN EXCHANGE VANCOUVER MERCHANTS EXCHANGE N. L. LEACH. CHICAGO BOARD OF TRADE M. OILCHRIST. S. A. SEARLE. REGINA H. G. L. STRANGE. FORT WILLIAM NEW WESTMINSTER December 7th, 1943. This letter was forwarded to Hom. Mr. Mitchell from 14m. Y. a. Cresar's Mile The Hol Ministe OTTI Dear Mr ung Japanese e in British people (ind of a Camp. Columbia ey were all They wer one of them Canadian nat bewildered, could sp They thought however, anadian citizens. it was re t has been the stance, has official ed from this happened nat kind of property? to live in Camps. accommoda: he one interested lease, to those in this ma who are de cific for a ot at all take number of y y from the the attitud, are poor citizens. Indeed influence o quite the convery I believe myself. With best wishes. Yours very truly, Minister of .; H.G.L.Strange, Mines & Resources Director, Research Department. HGLS/EF

SEARLE GRAIN COMPANY LIMITED CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD WINNIPEG GRAIN EXCHANGE VANCOUVER MERCHANTS EXCHANGE CHICAGO BOARD OF TRADE M. GILCHRIST. VICE-PRESIDENT WINNIPEG EDMONTON VICE-PRES. & TREAS. H. G. L. STRANGE. AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH DEPT. December 7th, 1943. The Hon. T. A. Crerar, Minister of Mines and Natural Resources, O T T A W A, Canada. Dear Mr. Crerar:-The other day I met a group of young Japanese people on the train, travelling East from a place in British Columbia where they had been, I think, in some kind of a Camp. They were surprisingly favourable to Canada - they were all Canadian citizens born in this country - and only one of them could speak Japanese. They appeared to be somewhat bewildered, however, about the treatment they had received. They thought it was rather harsh considering they were loyal Canadian citizens.

Could I ask you to let me know what has been the official treatment of these people? What, for instance, has happened to their property and to the funds derived from this property? What is the future of these people? What kind of accommodation is provided for those who have had to live in Camps.

If your own good Department is not the one interested in this matter, could you pass this letter over, please, to those who are dealing with it.

I lived among the Japanese in the Pacific for a number of years. I know them quite well and I do not at all take the attitude of some that these people, who are away from the influence of their Military Government, are poor citizens. Indeed quite the contrary I believe myself.

With best wishes.

Yours very truly,

Director, Research Department.

Minister of . Mines & Resources

HGLS/EF

N. L. LEACH.

S. A. SEARLE.

Ottawa, July 14. Department of Labour, RECEIVED H. Ballantyne, Esq., General Secretary (Part-Time), The Religious Education Council of Canada eretary to M Room 417, 299 Queen St. West, Toronto, Ontario. Dear Sir: The Prime Minister has asked me to acknowledge your letter of July 7th, making representations on behalf of the Religious EducationCouncil of Canada, regarding O.C., P.C. 469, respecting the sale of the property of evacuated Japanese. Mr. King wishes me to inform you that similar representations have been received from the Board of Home Missions of the United Church of Canada, and that the Minister of Labour, has already given assurance on behalf of the government that they will receive careful consideration. Mr. King wishes me to assure you that the representations contained in your letter will be considered at the same time by the government. Yours faithfully, H. R. L. Henry Private Secretary JWP/PM

THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COUNCIL OF CANADA Room 417, 299 QueenSt. West, Toronto, Ont. July 7th, 1943 Right Honourable William Lyon Mackenzie King. Prime Minister of Canada, Ottawa, Canada. Dear Sir: Our organization comprises leaders of religious education in all the Protestant Churches of Canada, namely, The Church of England in Canada, the United Church of Canada, The Presbyterian Church in Canada, the Baptist Church, the Churches of Christ (Disciples), The Evangelical Church, with amembership strength of nearly 3,000,000, a large body of influential people who are vitally interested in Christian citizenship. Recently the attention of our Executive Committee was called to the action of the government by Order-in-Council No. P. C. 469, authorizing the sale of property and possessions owned by Japanese now evacuated from British Columbia. We are not unmindful of the serious problems confronted by the government respecting Japanese resident in our country at a time when we are at war with Japan. We realize there are many grave aspects of this problem which the government has had to face, and appreciate the difficulties confronted in attempting to reach an acceptable and wise solution. It seems to us, however, that on this specific issue respecting property the measures taken are unwarranted and will have an unfavourable effect upon Japanese citizens in Canada both now and in the post-war situation. We wish, therefore, to respectfully protest the action taken and also to suggest the following safeguards in carrying out the Order inCouncil: That sales of property and possessions should not be made hastily and only when deterioration might affect value.

- 2. That in any contemplated sales the owner should at least be notified and probably conferred with before final action. We assume that the proceeds of sales are held by the Custodian in trust for the owners.
- That property sales of Canadian Japanese citizens should not be made at all unless the owner agrees to their disposal and we urge repeal thereof forthwith.

On behalf of the Executive Committee,

Yours faithfully,

"H. Ballantwne"

General Secretary (Part time)

w

w Ottawa, July 9, 1943. Honourable Norman McLarty, P.C., M.P., Secretary of State, Ottawa. My dear Colleague, -The Committee representing the United Church of Canada interviewed me recently concerning Government administration of the Japanese evecuses in Canada, and left with me a memorandum conveying their views on this matter. Section 111 of the memorandum concerns Japanese property and reads as follows:-"111 - PROPERTY: We have noted with dismay that an Order-in-Council was passed authorizing the setting up of a Commission to proceed with the sale of all Japanese-held property in the protected area, and that the definition of this is such as to include the property of all individual Japanese, whether born in Japan or born in Canada, and that the proposal envisages the sale of the homes, the furniture, and every vestage of property which the Japanese were not able to carry with them into the re-location centres. We cannot believe that the Dominion Government fully appreciates the effect that this Order-in-Council is producing among the Japanese people themselves, and among those who value civil liberty and freedom in this country, and we urge that the utmost consideration be given before proceeding with this sale. We believe that this forced sale should not be proceeded with in the case of the property of individual home owners, unless they themover 2..

selves request it." I have advised the Secretary of the General Council of the United Church that this matter is under your jurisdiction and that you would probably be replying directly on this phase of Japanese administration. Yours sincerely, HTP/HIM. (SIGNED) HUMPHREY MITCHELL

RESOLUTION OF THE EXECUTIVE OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

RE JAPANESE IN CANADA

w

In the light of the experience of the past year, in connection with the evacuation of the Japanese from the protected area in British Columbia, the Executive of the General Council decided to present the following resolution to the Prime Minister of Canada:-

We should, in the first place, like to express our appreciation of two matters in connection with the evacuation:

l. - The decent, humane attitude of the individual officers, who have been responsible for the personal contact with the Japanese people. From reports that have come to us and from the observation made by officers of our Church, we feel that the Canadian people have no cause to be ashamed of the actions of the representatives, who have been dealing with the Japanese.

2. - We should like to commend the Government and all the agencies concerned for the provision made for the medical and health care of these people. It is our opinion that this has been adequate and that the health of the various communities has been well looked after.

On the basis that all enemy aliens in Canada should be treated according to one principle, we regret that the Japanese group has received different and harsher treatment than that meted out to other alien enemy groups in Canada. We appreciate the fact that the gathering of large Japanese colonies in a particularly vulnerable area necessitated evacuation, but we feel that the methods employed - the mass evacuation, the concentration in large camps, the limits put on the movement from one place to another, the prohibition against owning or leasing land (all of which have been applied not only to Japanese nationals, but to thousands of Canadian-born Japanese) - are wrong. No other alien group has been so treated.

I - HOUSING:

We particularly wish to place before the Government the fact that in our judgment the housing of the Japanese people in all the re-location centres in British Columbia is deplorable. We recognize that haste was necessary, although we are not prepared to admit that a wiser provision could not have been made, but in any event, the present housing of these people is not such as can be considered to be in any way adequate, except as a very temporary measure. We regret to note that in spite of this there is no evidence that this situation is likely to be remedied.

II - EDUCATION:

We regret that no provision was made for public school education for many months after the Japanese had been moved away from the protected area. We would draw the attention of the Government to the fact that a very large percentage of these people own property in the Province of British Columbia, which property was paying taxes for education. They had contributed through the years of their residence in British Columbia, towards the building and equipment of schools which residence in British Columbia, towards the building and equipment of schools which residence in British Columbia, towards the building and equipment of schools which residence in British Columbia, towards the building and equipment of schools which residence in British Columbia, towards the building and equipment of schools which residence in British Columbia, towards the building and equipment of schools which residence in British Columbia, towards the building and equipment of schools which in most of their children attended, and now they were transferred to areas where there was no their children attended, and now they were transferred to areas where there was no their children attended, and now they were transferred to areas where there was no their children attended, and now they were transferred to areas where there was no their children attended, and now they were transferred to areas where their was not their children attended, and now they were transferred to areas where their was not their children attended, and now they were transferred to areas where their was not their children attended, and now they were transferred to areas where their was not their children attended, and now they were transferred to areas where their was not their children attended, and now they were transferred to areas where their was not their children attended, and now they were transferred to areas where their was not their children attended, and now they were transferred to areas where their was not their children attended, and now they were transferred to

We would also draw the attention of the Government to the fact that provision for secondary education is practically non-existent in these re-location centres, and such as does exist is for the most part carried on voluntarily by the Japanese people themselves at extremely high cost and under tremendous handithe Japanese people themselves at extremely high cost and under tremendous handicaps. We are not asking that this group of enemy eliens be selected for special

treatment, but we do want to emphasize that the chief sufferers from this lack of provision are all Canadian-born Japanese, who have every right to expect that they will be able to obtain the same secondary education as is given to every other Canadian.

III - PROPERTY:

We have noted with dismay that an Order-in-Council was passed authorizing the setting up of a Commission to proceed with the sale of all Japaneseheld property in the protected area, and that the definition of this is such as to
include the property of all individual Japanese, whether born in Japan or born in Canada, and that the proposal envisages the sale of the homes, the furniture, and every
vestage of property which the Japanese were not able to carry with them into the
re-location centres.

We cannot believe that the Dominion Government fully appreciates the effect that this Order-in-Council is producing among the Japanese people themselves and among those who value civil liberty and freedom in this country, and we urge that the utmost consideration be given before proceeding with this sale. We believe that this forced sale should not be proceeded with in the case of the property of individual home owners, unless they themselves request it.

IV - OCCUPATION:

We regret the fact that hundreds of Japanese will, now that the period of construction in the camps has come to an end, be without useful occupation. We realize that the Japanese people themselves have not been too eager to venture into new employment in parts of Canada unknown to them, although some have found employment in Alberta and Manitoba.

Nevertheless, we believe that no real progress can be made in turning these thousands of "boarders" into producers until the present regulations in this regard are repealed. It is our belief that they should not be compelled as the only way of life to work for some other person or corporation, particularly when in too many cases they cannot in this way make a satisfactory living.

V - ENLISTMENTS:

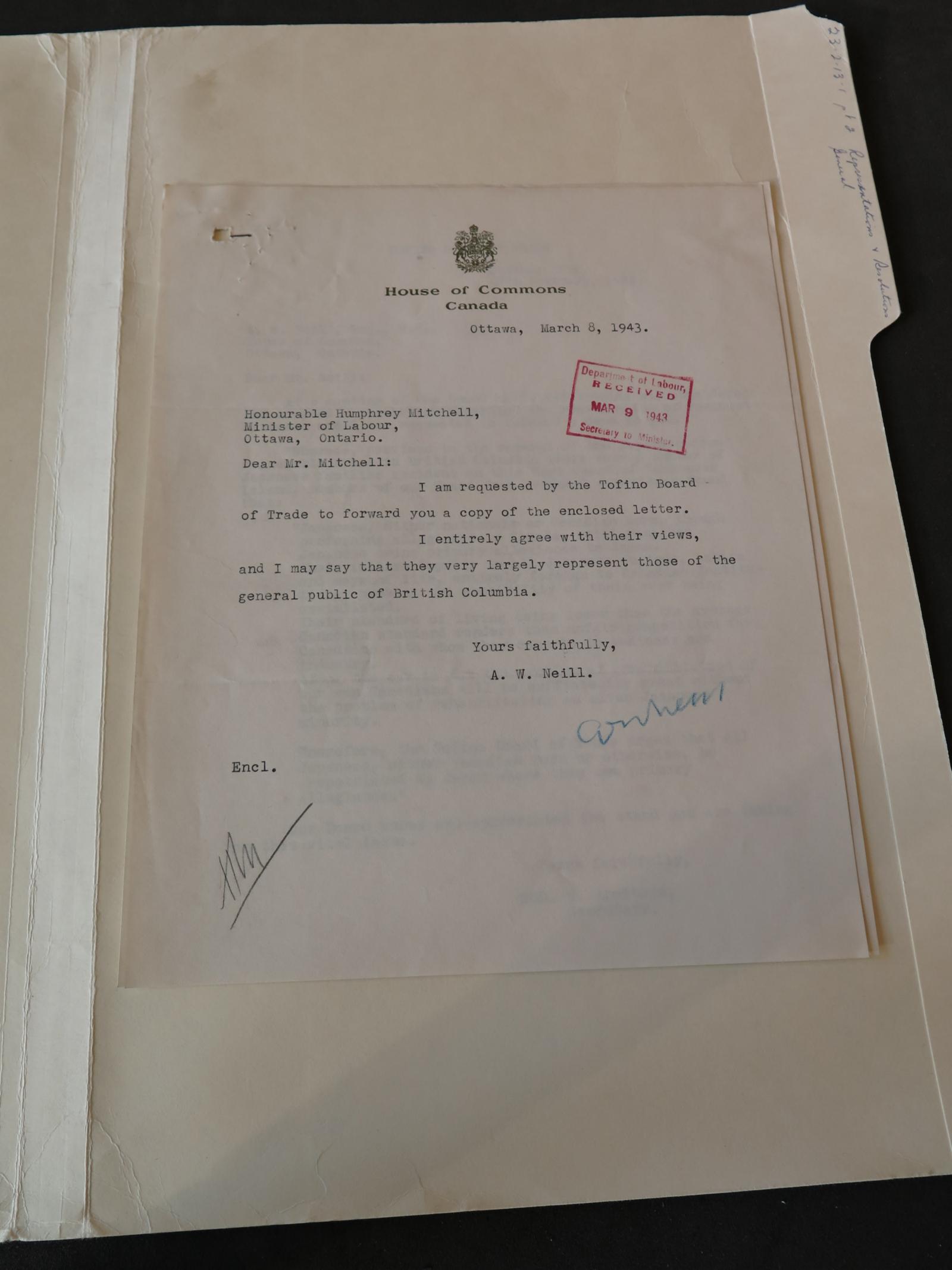
The Government of the United States allows American Japanese to enlist in the armed forces. If it is not possible to adopt a similar policy in Canada, we would suggest that consideration be given to the formation of some sort of Service Unit among the Canadian-born Japanese. This would be a great step in allaying the fears and suspicions, which inevitably arise when they are under the present regulations.

VI - SECOND GENERATION JAPANESE:

We would urge the Dominion Government to further the establishment of Committees representing the Nisei Japanese in all the re-location communities. We believe that the dependence on the older people, which was perhaps inevitable as representatives of the communities, is not in the best interests of Canada, and the younger generation should be encouraged to set up Committees which would and the younger generation should be encouraged to set up Committees which would be recognized by the Government as the representatives of Canadian-born Japanese in their dealings with them.

MEMORANDUM Office of the Prime Minister Referred from the Prime Minister's office to the Minister of Labour, the Custodian of Enemy Property, and to External Affairs. RECEIVED MAR 15 1943 Secretary to Minister. 1 Knoherry H. R. L. Henry Private Secretary , March 15, 1943 ---- TOHULETT' Vancouver, B. C. Dear Madam: The Prime Minister has asked me to acknowledge your letter of March 9th, in which you express concern for the treatment of Canadian Japanese, and their satisfactory rehabilitation in the past-war period. Mr. King wishes me to let you know that your representations in this matter will be brought to the attention of his colleagues for their information and consideration. Yours faithfully, H. R. L. Henry Private Secretary ARH/PM

1723 Pendrell, Vancouver, B.C March 9, 1943. To the Right Hon. McKenzie King, and Mr. Ian McKenzie, House of Parliament, Ottawa, Ont. Dear Sirs: I am writing you as a citizen concerned about the maintenance of democratic rights, and recognition of the minority groups in this country to share in all our rights and privileges. My immediate concern is for the satisfactory rehabilitation of the Canadian Japanese. While well aware of the reasons for the removal of the Japanese from the Coastal Defence area for the duration, we in the West are anxious that plans be made for a permanent solution. First I should like to protest against the Orderin-Council providing for the sale of Japanese property. While I feel it will be in the interests of Canada as a whole that the Japanese be allocated to those areas where they can best fit into the economic and social life of the country without being concentrated in any one locality, I think this method of disposition of the property is quite unjustified. Surely some exchange of peroperty from other areas could be made with the consent of the Japanese themselves. Certainly the decision to dispose of properties should be well considered, and dealt with by the House of Commons. Many Canadians in the West have had only friendly relations of the Japanese and look upon them as good neighbours. That their good will be maintained and that they be given the rights and responsibilities contingent upon Canadian citizenship is essential to the establishment of harmonious community life in the future. I would therefore urge you to consider the importance of maintaining those democratic rights within the country for which we are fighting abroad. Yours faithfully, "Mrs. Mildred Fahrni".



TOFINO BOARD OF TRADE Tofino, B.C. 27th February, 1943. A. W. Neill, Esq., M.P., House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario. Dear Mr. Neill: At a meeting of the Board held last evening was considered and adopted a resolution regarding the repatriation of resident Japanese and I was requested to forward a copy to you. "Whereas, previous to the removal of the Japanese from vulnerable areas in British Columbia there were a number of Japanese families resident on this West Coast of Vancouver Island, members of our Board from personal experience found that: "Japanese, either nationals or Canadian born, though professing allegiance to Canada, still remained Japanese owing primary allegiance to Japan. Their intense loyalty to all Japanese customs, habits and ways of life, entirely foreign to Canadian Institutions, prevent the possibility of their ever being Their standard of living being lower than the average Canadian standard renders them unfair competition for Canadians with whom they compete in business and After the war is won the problem of rehabilitation of our own Canadians will be sufficiently great without the problem of rehabilitating an alien Japanese minority. Therefore, the Tofino Board of Trade urges that all Japanese, either Canadian born or otherwise, be repatriated to Japan where they owe primary allegiance." Our Board knows and appreciates the stand you are taking on this vital issue. Yours faithfully, SGD. W. Armitage, Secretary.



The Right-Honorable,
The Prime Minister of Canada.
O T T A W A. Ont.

VICTORIA. B.C.
9th January. 1943.

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Sir,

At the Annual General Meeting of the Victoria Auxiliary, Canadian Forestry Corps, (Overseas Fund), Registered under the War Charities Act, held on Friday 8th January, 1943, the following Resolution, was regularly moved, seconded and carried unanimously.

WHEREAS the military and naval staffs on this Pacific Coast, together with a number of well-informed officials have for many years repeatedly warned of the danger to the security of British Columbia, owing to the settlement of large numbers of Japanese within the strategic areas of this Province.

And whereas the present Federal Minister of Pensions and National Health, the Hon. Ian Mackenzie, has recently publicly stated that as far as he is concerned no Japanese would ever again be allowed to come to B.C.

BE IT RESOLVED that this meeting of the wives and mothers of Canadian soldiers now serving overseas, do protest the foolish and uncalled for remarks of G.E. Trueman, the Ontario member of the B.C.Re-Placement Commission. Particularly we resent his inference that the "White People" of this Province in any way differ from other Canadian citizens or are open to criticism by an outsider, we also refute his statement that Japanese, (whose country is now at war with this Dominion) have any rights or grievances whatever.

Be it further resolved, that this meeting urgently requests the Right Honthe Prime Minister of Canada, and the Dominion Government to remove this official, who lives two thousand miles from the Pacific Coast and is apparently ignorant of the very dangerous situation now exisiting in British Columbia and that he be replaced on the Commission by some individual well-versed in the Japanese problem as it affets this vitally strategic area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Hon Minister of Pensions and National Health and the Federal member for the City of Victoria, R.W.Mayhew Esq. **.

Yours truly,

Jean Well.

(Mrs.) (Jean Webb)
Hon. Secretary,
Victoria Auxiliary, C.F.C. (Overseas Fund).