

Had to evacuate on March 21st, 1942, about a week after the Nationals received their orders to leave for road camp. Did not have any time whatsoever to pack all our belongings. Told to take only necessities - one clothes bag and one suitcase per person. Left our belongings with the cannery watchman, Mr. Snider, who promised to take good care of them. Had lots of canned goods and other food supplies stored, enough to last throughout the year (since it was an isolated place and these things were hard to get, we used to get a full year's supply at a time). All these were stored, including beds, sewing machine, chairs, tables, clothing, and other household goods. The watchmen gave us a receipt for the rice but would not give us one for the other goods. After getting into Hastings Park sent various letters to this watchman asking to have goods transferred but he denied having these - just the rice for which we held receipt. However, after various attempts, two boxes finally arrived, that was sometime during the end of September. These were filled with broken dishes, plates, old boat fixtures, etc. - nothing of value was sent. Had even sent a list of goods that we desire but none of these were forwarded. The missionary, Miss Lang, who was up at Skeena River at that time, came around to tell us that just essentials could be taken, all unnecessary goods would be thrown away if taken. Those who listened to her took only a few things and those who ignored her took all they could and thus benefited.

On March 23rd, 1942 arrived at Hastings Park. During the train trip had only two meals a day. However, since most of us had lunches packed this supplemented, so did not hunger. On the last day, however, we had our last meal at 8 a.m. - being told that we would arrive at our destination at 1 o'clock - therefore, we threw away our stale lunches, which we had previously packed from home. We did not reach Vancouver until six o'clock that evening so had to dig up our stale lunches and had to eat that. Had to wait for hours in a room before R.C.M.P. with whips rounded us up like a bunch of cattle and started checking our baggages, and registering us. Around nine o'clock we had our supper which consisted of a few pieces of balogna. Hastings Park was unorganized at this time. That night after getting our baggage sorted out we slept in a small horse stall - with horse dung and horse hairs all over the walls and floors. Could not sleep with the smell of amonia in the air. The toilet facilities were very poor - a line of hastily constructed toilets without partitions whatsoever, had to sit back to back with one another; also no heating - cold at night - so took sick. Lost clothes bag - sent to Greenwood by mistake. Took some time before this was forwarded to us. A week before leaving Vancouver had to purchase a sewing machine because the one left at Cassiar, Skeena River, was not sent to us.

Arrived in Slocan in September, 1942. Cold on train with heavy fog. Had four or five days' meals at the Rink.

(Cassiar Cannery, Skeena River, B.C.)

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Mrs. Kimi SAKAMOTO

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Our property, house, farm buildings (such as barns, chicken house) was sold without our consent by the Custodian. We were offered \$3,500.00 cash before evacuation but refused the offer as the house alone was worth that much. The custodian sold it for less than \$1,500.00. Our house was newly built, electricity put in and everything modernized on the farm. All our house and farm furnishings sold at an auction at outrageous prices. It took us twenty three years of back breaking work and hardships to clear the land and make it productive.

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KAJIURA

I registered under custodian one radio, house furnishings and three cameras. They sold my radio which is worth \$125.00 for \$29.00 without my knowledge or consent. I have as yet not received a cent from the Custodian. I wrote and asked about my three cameras and house furnishings but they claim they cannot locate them.

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YOSHINO