

NATIONAL JAPANESE CANADIAN CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

MEETING OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Woodsworth House,
565 Jarvis Street, Toronto

March 15, 1949,
8.30 p.m.

A G E N D A

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ATTENDANCE
- III. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF MEETING #10 and #11, February 8, 1949,
and Feb. 22, 1949, respectively.
- IV. CORRESPONDENCE
 1. Mr. Angus MacInnis
 2. Division of Vital Statistics, Victoria, B. C.
 3. Insurance Companies
- V. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:
 1. Report on activities and recent developments in British Columbia.
 2. Letters of Congratulation to: Executive Secretary, George Tanaka,
National CCF (Mr. Angus MacInnis),
B. C. CCF (Mr. Harold Winch),
B. C. JCCA Chapter (Mr. Seiji Homma),
Vancouver Civil Liberties Union
(Professor Hunter Lewis),
Premier Byron I. Johnson.
- VI. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:
 1. Office Secretary's Salary,
 2. National Survey Project,
 3. Augmentation of Executive Committee.
- VII. OTHER REPORTS:
 1. Race Relations Institute,
 2. Civil Liberties Association,
 3. Brief to the Royal Commission on Prices.
- VIII. REMUNERATION FOR COMMITTEE WORK
- IX. NATIONAL OFFICE FINANCES:
 1. February Disbursements,
 2. March Requisition.
- X. ADJOURNMENT

MINUTES OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, MARCH 15, 1949

Vol. II, #12

The March meeting of the JCCA National Executive Committee was held Tuesday, March 15, 1949, 8.30 p.m., at Woodsworth House, 565 Jarvis St., Toronto.

- I. CALL TO ORDER - Acting Chairman, Mr. Kinzie Tanaka, called the meeting to order.
- II. ATTENDANCE:

Those Present - K. Tanaka, T. Kameoka, I. Uchida, S. Shinobu, N. Fujita, K. Hidaka, T. Sagara, T. Umezuki, K. Shimizu, M. Sato.

Absentees - P. Yamada, J. Ide, I. Kawajiri, E. Yamanaka, T. Tsuji, R. Obata.

The Committee was sorry to learn that T. Tsuji is confined to hospital.

- III. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF MEETINGS #10 and #11 -

MOVED and agreed that the Minutes of the Meetings held February 8, 1949, (Vol. II, #10) and February 22, 1949 (Vol. II, #11) be adopted as circulated.

- IV. CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Mr. Angus MacInnis - In accordance with the directions of this Committee, a letter was written to Mr. Angus MacInnis requesting his advice as to whether or not it would be expedient for us at this time to enquire of the Minister of Fisheries at Ottawa as to their intended policy on the matter of issuing fishing licences to Japanese Canadians after the revoking of Federal restrictions on March 31st. Mr. MacInnis' reply is that we should not raise this question now as he believes we would not get a satisfactory answer from the Government and the publicity would very likely cause the people who are interested in the fishing industry to oppose the issuing of licences. The problem would work itself out more smoothly if it is not presented at this particular time.

MOVED by S. Shinobu and seconded by T. Kameoka that we follow the advice received from Mr. MacInnis not to direct an enquiry to the Minister of Fisheries at this time. Carried.

2. Division of Vital Statistics - In response to our request, a comparative table of mortality and tuberculosis rates for Japanese and Occidentals in British Columbia from 1938 - 1947 has been received from the Division of Vital Statistics, Victoria, B. C. It was suggested that this table be duplicated for study purposes. In view of the high Tuberculosis rate indicated, it was felt advisable at some future date to promote study among our people on this problem.
3. Insurance Companies - To our letter of enquiry as to the facts relative to differences which we understand exists between premium ratings charged on policies issued to Japanese Canadians and the standard ratings, replies have been received so far from The Crown Life Insurance Company, the Manufacturers Life Insurance Company, and The Sun Life Assurance Company. It was felt advisable to adhere strictly to our policy heretofore stated to withhold publicizing the question of unequal insurance ratings until more facts are to hand.

V. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

(The Office Secretary, Norah Fujita, presented a resume of the reports which have been received to date from the Executive Secretary, George Tanaka, from British Columbia.)

Upon his departure from Toronto, the Executive Secretary went directly to Greenwood, B. C., to attend the B. C. Chapter JCCA Convention held February 26th to 28th. The Convention decided that their Provincial President, Mr. Seiji Homma, should accompany G. Tanaka to Vancouver and Victoria as the matters at issue there would be of prime interest to their constituents. They discovered on arrival in Vancouver that there was keen public interest in the matter of the Japanese Canadians' return to the Coastal Area after March 31st and the general status of their Japanese Canadian residents. Full and favourable publicity was achieved in all the newspapers, editorial opinions being especially favourable.

Among his many speaking engagements, the Executive Secretary has been asked to: address the St. John's United Church Forum, meet with executive members of University of British Columbia organizations, address the Vancouver Civil Liberties Union meeting at the Hotel Vancouver.

The B. C. Fishermen's Union executive has asked G. Tanaka to address their Convention to be held for one week beginning March 21st. Messrs. Sakamoto, Buck Suzuki and Seiji Homma were with him when he met with the Union executive. In view of the importance of explaining the resettlement process of the Japanese Canadians and the JCCA organization to the fishermen, the Executive Secretary has decided to stay over till the Convention and accept the opportunity to speak. He suggests that the occasion of his addressing the Fishermen's Union Convention is an opportunity to make public the policy of the JCCA through the Japanese Canadian press in the interest of the welfare and education of Japanese Canadian constituents.

In order to take into account the more current situation in British Columbia with regard to restrictions the Brief to the British Columbia Government was re-drafted in Vancouver. Professor Hunter Lewis of the Vancouver Civil Liberties Union has been giving great assistance in numerous ways, including this matter of the revision of the Brief.

The Following wire was received from the Executive Secretary on March 4:

"Following full publicity we achieved re restrictions in Sun and Province, dateline March 2nd, report verbatim following stated Sun report carried today dateline, March 3rd: "School Act Racial Ban to end - Victoria. British Columbia is wiping out another of its racial discriminations. An amendment to the School Act introduced in the Legislature Wednesday by Education Minister, W. T. Straith, revokes a former ban against Chinese, Japanese and Indians voting at school meetings in the rural districts. They will now have the right to vote if otherwise qualified and cannot be prevented from doing so on racial grounds."

A Long Distance call was received March 7th from the Executive Secretary informing us of:

the introduction of a Premier's Bill to grant the franchise right to Japanese Canadians and Indians by Premier Byron I. Johnson in the British Columbia Legislature that afternoon. Under date of March 11, 1949, a letter from Premier Johnson was received at the National Office

in acknowledgment of a note written to him by the Executive Secretary which states that the Premier fully expects that the Bill(#43) enfranchising Japanese Canadians will pass the House with very little difficulty.

Discussions have been held with Mr. R. J. McMaster on Property Losses Claims. Mr. McMaster informed the Executive Secretary that he is encountering considerable difficulty securing evidence on some categories of claims. It is the opinion of Mr. McMaster that Government Counsel will make a definite offer for settlement about the middle of April. If, and when, such should occur, Mr. McMaster will inform the Executive Secretary, G. Tanaka, who could fly to Vancouver immediately to get the facts and figures then stop off on the way back to meet with Provincial Chapter executives to explain the offer. If this trip is taken, it will be financed by the Co-operative Committee Claims Fund.

MOVED by T. Umezuki and seconded by T. Sagara that this Committee write a letter of appreciation to the Executive Secretary, George Tanaka, for the laudable work he is carrying out in British Columbia; and letters of gratitude and congratulation on the occasion of the Premier's introduction of the Franchise Bill to: the National CCF (Mr. Angus MacInnis), the British Columbia CCF (Mr. Harold E. Winch), B. C. Chapter of the JCCA (Mr. Seiji Homma), Professor Hunter Lewis of the Vancouver Civil Liberties Union.

Carried.

It was agreed, also, that a letter be dispatched from this Committee to Premier Byron Johnson when the Franchise Bill is finally passed in the British Columbia Legislature.

VI. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Office Secretary's Salary - K. Tanaka, reporting for the sub-Committee on the Office Secretary's salary, stated that in following out the instructions of the National Executive Committee, it has found that the financial state of the organization is satisfactory and, therefore, they recommend THAT \$226.70 of the 1947 - 48 Budget operating fund balance of \$1,052.45 be used for the purpose of the proposed adjustment of the Office Secretary's salary which will cover: retroactive adjustment back to November, 1948, and up to the end of the 1948 - 49 Budget period, August 31, 1949.

They found that the Receipts to the end of February on the 1948 - 49 Budget allocation are:

Ontario -	\$1,500.00	
Quebec -	600.00	
Manitoba -	<u>450.00</u>	TOTAL \$2,550.00,

and the amount requisitioned from the National Treasury for the six-months period to be:

Sept. -	\$316.33	
Oct. -	443.71	
Nov. -	500.00	
Dec. -	580.00	
Jan. -	500.00	
Feb. -	<u>600.00</u>	TOTAL - \$2,940.04.

The Sub-Committee met Tuesday evening, March 4, 1949, with the following members in attendance: K. Tanaka (Chairman), T. Sagara, T. Kameoka, K. Hidaka and N. Fujita (Office Secretary).

MOVED by K. Tanaka and seconded by T. Umezukii that the above recommendation of the sub-Committee be adopted. Carried.

2. National Survey Project - K. Hidaka reported that another meeting of the sub-Committee had been held on March 8, 1949, with the following members present: K. Hidaka (Chairman), T. Umezuki, I. Uchida, S. Shinobu, T. Tsuji, K. Tanaka. It is recommended that every person 16 years of age (or younger if working) should be covered by the survey. Also, that the punch card system and mechanical tabulation be utilized when compiling the results - International Business Machines have quoted the following prices re use of this method:
\$12.00 per M cards for punching (but depending on the number of questions in the questionnaire),
\$ 3.25 an hour for tabulating - 10 to 20M cards per hr.
(dependent on the number of punch holes).

Agreed that draft copies of the Survey Form, which has now been revised to comply with the requirements of mechanical tabulation, be now duplicated and distributed to the Provincial Chapters for their considered opinions and suggestions, K. Hidaka to compose a covering letter and 'outline of instructions to canvassers' to accompany them.

MOVED by K. Hidaka and seconded by M. Sato that the report of the sub-Committee on the National Survey be adopted. Carried.

3. Augmentation of Executive Committee - In order to bring the Nisei Executive Committee membership to the full strength of 14 members, a sub-Committee has been set up. K. Hidaka reported that the following persons had been contacted and had consented to stand for nomination: Messrs. Yosh Hyodo, Jack Oki, Kasey Oyama and Oscar Hatashita. K. Tanaka has received the consent of Mr. Fred Nogami, National Council member now living in Toronto, to stand for nomination to serve on the Executive Committee.

MOVED by T. Umezuki and seconded by T. Sagara that Fred Nogami be accepted as an Executive Committee member. Carried.

Agreed that Messrs. Yosh Hyodo and Jack Oki be invited to serve on the Executive Committee if the sub-Committee can obtain satisfaction from them of their regular attendance and willingness to assume full responsibility in the work of the Executive Committee.

In order to remedy the lack of female representation on the Executive Committee it was also agreed that we ask Mrs. Muriel Kitagawa and Miss Aya Suzuki to accept a place on this Committee.

The Office Secretary was asked to send a note to absentees requesting them to make every possible effort to attend more regularly and to notify the National Office beforehand on the occasions when they are unable to attend.

VII. OTHER REPORTS:

1. Race Relations Institute - A highly successful Institute was held Saturday, February 26th, 1949, at the Central YMCA in Toronto, both from the standpoint of attendance and high calibre of speakers and discussion. (See page 5, Vol. II, #11).

2. The Association for Civil Liberties (Toronto) - The National JCCA received an invitation to send a delegation to the organizational meeting of this Association on March 11th. Unfortunately, all the persons contacted had not been able to attend with the result that the National JCCA was unrepresented.
3. Canadian Welfare Brief to Royal Commission on Prices - Copies of this Brief, sent to us by the Co-ordinating Committee of Canadian Youth Groups, were circulated among the members present for their perusal.

VIII. REMUNERATION FOR COMMITTEE WORK - I. Uchida introduced the suggestion that K. Hidaka receive some remuneration for work he has done to date on the survey project. It was pointed out that this matter would have to be discussed on the basis of this Committee's policy relative to expenditure of time and effort by all members on Committee work and whether there should be considerations for remuneration. Much valuable voluntary work has been contributed by other Committee members to date without thought by them of remuneration.

Agreed that further discussion on this matter be left to the next meeting.

IX. NATIONAL OFFICE FINANCES:

The National Office Treasurer, N. Fujita, reported the Disbursements for February, 1949, as follows:

Receipts:

Feb. 21 - February requisition	\$ 600.00
Feb. 23 - Travel Expense refund - from Cooperative Committee General Fund	200.00

Disbursements:

Salary, Executive Secretary	\$ 233.00
" , Office Secretary & Extra Help	158.08
Supplies	125.89
Telephone & Telegraph	2.82
Rent	22.00
Equipment	4.85
Transportation	6.50
Travel expense	237.14
Bank Charges75
Literature	13.00

\$ 804.03

Cash Balance - in Bank ...	\$ 132.24
- Petty Cash	<u>50.00</u>

\$ 182.24

BREAKDOWNS:

Salary, Office Secretary - Extra office help, Feb. 7 - 11, N. Oikawa, \$24.75.

(continued)

Supplies - Stamps and express charges \$23.23, 32 M shts. mimeo paper \$70.72, 6 tubes Ink \$18.54, 1 roll corrugated \$6.30, 1 memo refill \$1.20, 2 spools Twine \$2.30, 2 rolls gummed tape \$.80, 2 stamp pads \$1.10, Paper clips \$.20, 6 colour pencils \$.60, Glue \$.45, 10 Scratch Pads \$.45.

Rent - Regular rental \$12.00

Donation to YMCA for use of committee rooms since Oct. \$10.00.

Equipment - 1 Perforator \$3.50, 1 rubber stamp \$.65, 2 Stamp rack strips \$.70.

Travel Expense - G. Tanaka Leamington trip, Jan. 22 - 24, \$37.14.

Special Western trip expense advance, G. Tanaka, covered by cheque from Co-operative Committee \$200.00.

Literature - 50 copies "Home Again" by Charles Grant \$10.00

Miscellaneous educational material \$3.00.

The Committee accepted the suggestion that the monthly Disbursement Statements should be duplicated and circulated at every meeting.

2. The following Requisition to the National Treasury was approved by the Committee to cover March requirements:

Executive Secretary's salary \$ 233.00

Office Secretary's salary 156.00

" " retroactive salary adjustment, Nov., Dec., Jan., Feb. 90.68

Petty Cash 50.00

Supplies, etc. 133.67

\$ 663.35

X. ADJOURNMENT - At 10.40 p.m. the meeting was declared adjourned.