



# Nisei

# AFFAIRS

Vol. 1, No. 8

TORONTO, CANADA

March, 1946

## THE PEOPLE ARE SOVEREIGN

← This

Important though the legal considerations concerning the orders in council on Japanese deportation may be, in the total scheme of our policy in the treatment of these people since the beginning of war in the Pacific, they have been over-shadowed by far, by political factors, which, though central to the issue, have received insufficient discussion and are still in need of clarification. Whatever the decision of the Privy Council on strictly legal points, the political pressures which prompted the Government to initiate its deportation scheme will persist unless liquidated by the concerted efforts of all people of good-will.

The appeal to the Privy Council must be viewed as another stage in our campaign to abrogate discriminatory laws. Should the orders be declared invalid, given assurance that the specific issue of forced deportation is satisfactorily settled, we shall go on to other matters. On the other hand, should the orders be upheld, a further job of mustering all available political power to bring about a change in Government policy, will have to be initiated. Whatever the legal decision, and whichever type of campaign, there is at this moment, as prelude to public information and political action, a basic need for political clarification.

Canada, without declarations like those of the United States and the United Nations, has no written guarantee to state formally that her people are sovereign. The history of our constitutional system, however, coming from another derivation, shows that the King who was once supreme, through a succession of decisive measures had his

powers curtailed, and though still nominally giving his assent and acting as the final executor of legislation, real political power is wielded by elected representatives in Parliament.

Theoretically this is substantially correct, but here again, factors enter which are not recognized in strict constitutional law. The conventions of our governmental system with its political parties, have an effect which are at the roots of all political policies. The division of Parliament into two chambers, one appointed and the other elected, and the superior position of the latter, and the importance of the party ties and discipline in securing unity of action in both houses, must be understood.

Again, the houses with their division on party lines, have the Government formed by the majority party, and the Opposition by the rest. It is precisely when one is in the opposition ranks that he is freest to voice the opinions of the people. While in opposition, the member may commend the Government on points he approves, but with equal freedom may criticise the flaws and injustices, without fear of a political crisis which will affect him adversely. Should an election be called, while he may lose his seat, his party may also win a majority and become the Government. Should he and his party be the champions of the people, they are more likely to attain this objective.

But there are difficulties for the member in power. Should Government policy prove distasteful, and should there be severe

(Continued on Page 9)

*Nikkei* 日刊新聞

A Journal of Opinion

published by

JAPANESE CANADIAN COMMITTEE FOR DEMOCRACY

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84 Gerrard St. Toronto, Ont.

IT IS UP TO OTTAWA . . . . . K.T.

The latest information on the deportation question has it that the Cabinet is giving serious consideration to the requests of the delegation from the Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians. They will also facilitate the appeal to the Privy Council and no forcible deportations will take place during the hearing.

On the surface to the casual person not closely in touch with this question, it may seem not a very significant fact, but behind is the result of "Democracy in Action". The thousands of letters and wires of protest sent in by ordinary people all across Canada crying out against the proposed deportation scheme, hammered at the conscience of our responsible government leaders. Take heed! Take heed! And they stopped and listened. From the original 10,347 involved, 6,000 Canadian-born persons are not deportable. Then too, the Supreme Court ruled that the wives of those deportable who did not sign are also not deportable. It is also felt that in view of this, the government will not try to break up families by sending only one parent to Japan. This will mean that the greater proportion of those originally involved are now not affected. By the time the Privy Council judgment is handed down

whether favourable to the government or to the Japanese Canadians, the conditions will be such that the government will find it unnecessary to forcibly deport anyone. This is as it should be and MUST be

If the Japanese are not to be deported, then the government is faced with the job of resettling and rehabilitating these same people across Canada. If the government wishes to hasten this program, then it should take heed to some of the obstacles in the way and remove them. The people of Japanese origin in Canada are very little different from any other people in Canada and restrictions placed upon them make them react much in the same manner. Unnecessary and unjust restrictions make unco-operative citizens.

In order for the government to have the co-operation of these people all orders-in-council preventing free movement, purchase of homes and property, etc. must be lifted. The money appropriated for the deportation of these Japanese should be used for a fairer rehabilitation grant. The government was prepared to give each adult deportee a sum of \$200 plus \$50 for each child should they return to Japan and are without means, then it certainly is not asking too much to grant a more generous sum than the present \$35 and \$12 that is being given to those who are rehabilitating themselves all across Canada.

Farmers all across our Dominion are crying for farm workers. If the government would encourage the Japanese by lifting all restrictive legislation and give them a fair rehabilitation grant, these people would gladly co-operate. This also holds true with the logging industry.

The Japanese people in Canada have been tied down now for four years by special restrictive legislation. They want only to be allowed to live as other Canadians, free citizens in a free country. They will work hard and will do their share to build this country if given an equal chance. It is up to Ottawa to give them that chance.

COMMITTEE ON FAR EASTERN DEMOCRACY

Toronto, Ont.

Draft Statement of Purpose

February 19, 1946

The Committee on Far Eastern Democracy has been formed in the belief that the duties of enlightened citizenship require a more widespread understanding of the issues at stake in the Far East and in the promotion of public awareness and concerted action in relation to these issues. Canada, in the years of war against the Axis tyranny, has gained new influence and authority in world affairs. This new position brings with it heavier responsibilities.

As a pacific power and as a member of the British Commonwealth this country has a vital interest in the future of Asia. World peace and the development of economic co-operation on an international scale alike demand a democratic solution of the problems of the Far Eastern people. Achievement of democratic nationhood through full independence will enable these people to develop their economies, expand their purchasing power and trade with us on a footing of equality. Denial of their legitimate, deep-rooted aspirations will mean for them the perpetuation of poverty in servitude; and for the world deepening depression, insecurity and heightened danger of a third world war.

One of the crucial facts of our time is the growing struggle for national freedom which embraces the overwhelming majority of the people of Indonesia, Indo-China and India. And one of the gravest perils to peace stems from the attempts of the colonial powers to maintain or re-impose by force the outworn system of colonial subjection; with its inevitable consequences of wretched poverty, starvation and disease, and perpetuation of deep-going causes of conflict and war.

In China, Japan and Korea, there is a crucial struggle going on between reactionary, semi-feudal elements attempting to maintain anti-democratic institutions and social relationships and between a vast movement of the people of these countries looking towards political liberties and a modern progressive society. On the outcome of this struggle depends in great part the peace of Asia and of the world. While Canada is not directly a colony-owning power, Canadian monopoly corporations

have investments in and a share in the colonial exploitation of the lands of South-East Asia, India and China. Moreover, as members of the British Commonwealth we are inevitably implicated in the policies pursued by the world's outstanding colonial power. This moral responsibility and national interest in the preservation of world peace combine to make it imperative for us to act for a democratic outcome to the issues of the Far East.

Only to the extent that our citizens give active, vigorous support of the principles upon which the United Nations Organization is founded will our national well-being and security be assured. Realization of the Four Freedoms must be the objective of our policies both at home and abroad. To this end the Committee affirms its adherence to the following aims:

1. Recognition of the right of colonial and semi-colonial people to complete national independence under governments of their own choice. Support of democratic independence movements in these countries; for example, Indonesia, French Indo-China and India.
2. Assistance to colonial and semi-colonial people in freeing themselves from economic exploitation and domination by big foreign corporations. Economic co-operation with the people of Asia to assist them in achieving full national freedom and economic well-being.
3. Co-operation in efforts to unify China under a fully democratic and representative government. Support of all efforts to establish fully democratic and progressive governments in Japan and Korea.
4. Strengthening Canadian democracy by combatting tendencies in our national life which promote imperialist policies abroad and restrict democratic liberties and national equality at home.
5. Support of the effective functioning of the U.N.O. and maintenance of Anglo-American-Soviet unity, for the fulfilment of political and economic democracy in the Far East.

LEGAL ASPECTS OF THE PROPOSED DEPORTATION

By Andrew Brewin, Counsel for the Co-Operative Committee on Japanese Canadians

First let me emphasize that the basic security of all of us, our freedom from fear rests squarely on the rule of law, established by the wisdom of our ancestors, bought by their blood, and the vigilance and sacrifice of freedom-loving persons in every generation.

The right to live in peace, unmolested and free from imprisonment or punishment or forcible interference when no crime has been committed, is the most fundamental of our civil liberties. It is a liberty which must be asserted against the Executive, against the Government itself. Under our system of freedom under the law, no man can be deprived of liberty or exiled except by due process of law. No function which the Courts exercise is of greater importance than the protection of this right and British courts have not shrunk from calling on the Government itself, nay the Crown itself, to show that any interference with this fundamental liberty is fully justified by the law of the land.

What is the application of this principle to the situation for which 10,000 Canadians by birth or adoption or residence, find themselves today. Having committed no crime--for has not the Prime Minister himself assured us that no acts of sabotage or disloyalty have been laid at the door of the Japanese Canadians--these innocent people are to be exiled to a country to which they have no tie except that of racial origin. Is any punishment for crime more severe than to send away from their homes and their country, men and women and children, to a country which most of them do not know; the language of which many of them do not know; a country ravaged by war and defeat, in the extremity of economic distress.

So seriously did the framers of our law regard the exile of citizens as a weapon of tyranny, that the Habeas Corpus Act of Charles II's day expressly singles out for severe punishment, the exile of any person unless having been convicted of felony he asks in open court to be transported--as an alternative to capital punishment. And even in this extreme case, transportation ceased to be used as a means of punishment

more than 100 years ago. The penalty upon anyone guilty of exiling a subject beyond the realm was 500 pounds together with deprivation of all offices of honour or emolument for life, and an express provision that the King could not pardon an offender. It may be of interest to you to know that this law was brought into Canada by the earliest settlers and is still the law unrepealed, unless indeed the Orders-in-Council which we have impugned are to be regarded as an implied repeal of the Habeas Corpus Act.

It might be suggested that the Orders-in-Council do not purport to deport anyone who did not show his disloyalty in war time by signing a request to be sent to Japan at the time when we were at war with Japan. As a matter of fact the Orders do extend beyond those who signed requests. Japanese nationals and naturalized citizens of the Japanese Race who are found by a Government appointed Commission to have been disloyal or failed to co-operate with the Government during war time, may be recommended for deportation and deported.

I would like to deal briefly with these requests. Of a shameful business, nothing has been more shameful than the use of these requests. A mass of evidence has been collected to indicate that these requests, if not signed under physical coercion, were signed under circumstances which made the exercise of any free will impossible. The forms used themselves indicate clearly the desire of the Government that they be signed. They are headed "Government of Canada". They have written at the bottom "approved by the R.C.M.P., recommended by the Commissioner of Japanese placement". A note is attached that all persons sixteen years of age and over are required to sign a separate declaration.

Before presentation for signature all the details were filled in. Those responsible for getting the signatures were told to get as many as they could. Some of them told the persons who were to sign that refusal to sign would be regarded as "unco-operative". So that they were damned if they signed, and damned if they didn't. Many of those who signed had been deprived

(Continued on Page 5)

of their property and were living in what were politely called Re-Settlement Camps. It is no coincidence that in these camps a high percentage signed and in Ontario and other places, where no such conditions of pressure existed only a small percentage, signed. Privileges were extended to those who signed which were denied to those who refused to sign. Those in British Columbia who signed were permitted to retain their jobs and stay in the Province. Those who refused to sign were able to be sent from their homes and their families to "ghost cities", in Eastern Canada where conditions of employment were strange and awesome. On the other hand Japanese Canadians who had come to Eastern Canada were told in some instances that if they signed they could return to British Columbia and see ill and aged parents. I am even told that in one camp that those who signed were transported in comfortable buses--those who did not sign were herded into trucks.

Some were told that the requests were revocable as indeed they were on their face, until the Government by Order-in-Council purported to make the requests, irrevocable.

I repeat that of a shameful business no aspect is more shameful than the attempt to justify the proposed deportations on the pretense that these documents indicated disloyalty.

If that is so, who is more guilty of encouraging and conniving at disloyalty than the Government which secured these signatures from a harried dispossessed minority? The documents are illegal from the word go. They purport to invite citizens who owe allegiance in time of war to His Majesty's enemies. I do not know what departmental officials prepared these forms. Whoever it was, was utterly ignorant of the elementary principle of law that no one can in wartime elect to change his allegiance from the King to his enemies.

So much for the forms. Were these Orders-in-Council authorized by Parliament, by the elected representatives who in our democracy are supreme and can alone exercise or delegate legislative authority.

It is true enough that by review of the emergency of war, Parliament does delegate to the Government wide law making powers.

We argued with some force, I think, that Parliament never for a moment delegated the power to exile Canadian citizens and that, in any event, the purported exercise of these powers months after hostilities had ceased, was in no way required by or connected with emergency of war. Parliament did indeed delegate to the Governor-in-Council, the power to make orders for deportation in time of war. But deportation of disloyal aliens and the exile of unoffending citizens are two entirely different things. The one power is recognized by international law, the other is not only beyond the constitutional power of the Congress of the United States, it is something never found necessary in the gravest emergency by the Parliament of Great Britain, it is a power never recognized or claimed by civilized nations. It is a fact that one of the very charges for which Nazi War Criminals are being tried in Nuremberg and are to be tried by Canadian Judges in Tokyo is the deportation of civilians on racial grounds. The solemn charter of the United Nations upon which these charges are based, refer to this as a crime against humanity.

If we are not to lose all sense of right or wrong, are we to tolerate or permit ourselves, actions which in principle cannot be distinguished from the crimes for which we propose to execute our enemies who have justly been stigmatised as enemies of the human race. Can it be denied that the Orders-in-Council do provide for the deportation of civilians on racial grounds? In the Order, the words Canadian born or naturalized of the Japanese Race stand out again and again.

Racial discrimination is a poison which our courts as well as our legislatures have declared to be against public policy. The solemn pronouncements of statesman in every country of President Roosevelt, Mr. Churchill and Mr. Stalin and many lesser men that racial discrimination is a cause of war and must be banished forever.

Canada is a country of minorities. There is no racial group in Canada which is not a minority and that includes the Anglo-Saxons. The future greatness of Canada depends upon the unity of many different groups in a vigorous Canadianism. We must encourage Canadians to feel a pride in being Canadians.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

To the JCCD: Jan. 5, 1946

Today I got my Christmas parcel from the JCCD. Like the rest of the group who are still in India and South East Asia, I'd read about the plan from odd issues of the New Canadian we chanced to see, Nisei Affairs and personal letters.

Unlike the larger proportion of the gang who left India homeward about a month ago, I happened to be around to open up happily the parcel that culminated from the hectic work described in EM's "All in a Day" in Nisei Affairs #4. So the Brylcream for my budding coiffure; the fruit cake, the life savers and the gum for my ever-loving, ever-hungry tapeworm; the Xmas stocking for the Christmas spirit all hit the spot here.

The neat diary in which I can pen my innermost thoughts (oh boy!), the shaving cream for my tough beard, the toothpaste for my storeteeth, and cigarettes for my drug habit.

I could seemingly go on and on. Honestly, it's impossible trying to express the depth of my gratitude to all of you people at home who went to all the time and trouble and expense just to bring a feeling of home and Christmas to us in India.

How well you have succeeded! Most of us out here have found it difficult to get into the Christmas spirit in a country where there are no sleighbells in the snow, no Christmas trees in the houses or Santa Claus in the toy departments. But to get parcels from somewhere in Canada, with contents that show the kindly touch of those who think of us seem to make it all well for us. And somehow I find it easy to remember that there is a Santa Claus somewhere in this trouble-ridden world full of mistrust and anxiety for the future.

So thanks again everybody from an undeserving guy in India--and I hope your Christmas was as swell a one as the one you made for me.

Gratefully,

Sgt. Frank Moritsugu, Calcutta, India.

Dear Editor: - - - - - Feb. 20, 1946

The little magazine which you edit on Nisei Affairs comes to my desk and I am interes-

ted in looking through it from time to time and I am certainly interested in the cause it represents. Having lived in British Columbia for quite a number of years, I know something of the difficulties that there are in establishing public opinion which will be fair to the Japanese. I say that as a prelude to what is to follow, because I would not want you to think that I am in any way antagonistic to Nisei Affairs -- on the contrary the very opposite.

The main purpose of this letter, however, is to say that the article "Religion in the Schools" by tmk will probably not win any friends for the cause, but rather the opposite. I think we cannot afford to have articles in this magazine at this time that are likely to antagonize some of our best supporters. The writer of the article, of course, is entitled to have her own opinion and to express it, but I question the wisdom of using Nisei Affairs as the medium of its expression.

The article itself is either very one-sided or based on a very unhappy experience or both.

Yours sincerely,

E.R. McLean, General Secty.,

The Ontario Religious Education Council.

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WEEP, CANADIANS!

(Headline: RULE SOME JAPS DEPORTABLE)

The Cabinet stands white-washed.  
The judgment reads in banner headlines:  
"Japs Deportable!"

Weep, Arcadians!  
The bitter tears of 1755  
you shed in vain.  
Evangeline will mourn again for Gabriel;  
Gabriel will die again, calling:  
"Evangeline!"

Weep, ye murdered Jews;  
Ye homeless of this Earth!  
The total of your suffering is not enough  
To pay the price of liberation!

Weep, Canadians!  
For now it seems you need the blood  
Of one billion colored men  
To bring Christ back to earth again!

.....Dana  
(Toronto, Feb. 20, 1946)

RESETTLEMENT OF JAPANESE CANADIANS

The following is the result of a consensus of opinion by twelve Japanese Canadians who have lived for the past three years in Eastern Canada and who have taken an active part in Nisei organizations which have, in the main, been set up for the following reasons: to fight for a one hundred per cent Canadian Citizenship, to combat increasing Government restrictions on civil rights, to educate and seek the co-operation of the Canadian public in matters pertaining to the Japanese Canadian minority problem.

Factors which influence the opinion that, insofar as the Japanese Canadians are concerned, the dispersal and resettlement movement to the midwest and eastern Canada can be viewed on a basis of permanency, as a successful resettlement of Japanese Canadians. (The reasons for arriving at this conclusion are based on first-hand knowledge gained through contact with the relocatees during the past three years and going through the same experience as one of them.)

The Success of Dispersal as seen by the following factors which have contributed to permanent resettlement:

(a) Ability to overcome local prejudice during wartime:

The Japanese Canadians were forced to move out of British Columbia and resettle in eastern Canada at a period when wartime racial prejudice was at its height. Most easterners had never before seen a Japanese Canadian 'til our arrival. And yet, after a short period of association with us, they found nothing that could form a basis of prejudice against us. Because of our Canadian education, environment and outlook, our thinking being thoroughly Canadian, we were able to fit in with the local community and city life in the east.

(b) Ability to take an active part in Canadian movements such as working class unions and political conscious groups:

Because we are a Canadian racial minority, and through our experience under conditions uncommon to the average Canadian who enjoy full civil rights, we have come to understand very sharply the problems and evils of race prejudice, not as they affect us

as a group of Japanese Canadians, but as an undermining of one of the greatest wish to take part in Canadian movements and thinking which indicate a better democracy in the making. Therefore we seek to take part in working class organizations such as unions and political groups.

(c) Ability to take part in the Christian church life of the community:

Since dispersal, the Nisei are not influenced by parental religions. They take the Christian faith and are under the Christian influence of the church and the young people of the church. They take an active part in local community church life and have not only received the benefits of friendship of the Christian young people but have been instrumental in educating them on the problems of the Japanese Canadian minority and have had support and encouragement from them.

It can be said that the above shows that the Japanese Canadians have proven and so substantiated their stand, maintained while living in British Columbia prior to "Pearl Harbour", that they are and always have been, one hundred per cent Canadian.

(d) Ability to qualify for all types of employment on an equal basis with other Canadians:

The Japanese Canadians have found great fields of opportunity in the matter of work which are in great contrast to the very limited field of work they had while living in British Columbia.

They have experienced in British Columbia a foreign type of caste system which was used against them in the matter of working in pulp mills and other basic industries. While being employed in such industries and even though the Japanese Canadians' work happened to be the same as the white Canadian fellow employees, they were forced to work at a lower wage. At that time the Japanese Canadians could not see a way out of this highly unsatisfactory situation because of its long instituted standing.

Such a situation now would be intolerable to them and would be a great contrast to their present opportunities of equality of

(Cont'd on page 9)

TWO REVOLUTIONS IN JAPAN . . . . . By K. Inoue

(Conclusion)

In its content, the present revolution in Japan is a "bourgeois democratic" revolution at a new stage. America supports this revolution insofar as she tries to liquidate the feudalistic forces in Japanese capitalism in her endeavor to make a rival imperialism harmless. Here lies the secret of the puzzling American reforms in Japan as well as its limits. This point will be discussed more in detail later.

In the first five months, since the surrender, we have seen how the political and economic machine of the feudal capitalism which has been carefully fostered since the first revolution, fell into pieces.

1. The military apparatus which sucked the blood and tears of the Japanese people has been removed. Prominent exponents of military fascism are arrested as war criminals, though many have managed to escape. The Army and Navy, which were the worst evils of Japanese politics, are now eliminated as a positive political factor.

2. Most of the evil laws and regulations which controlled thought and political activities have been abolished. Thus freedom of speech, press and religion was established for the first time.

3. Secret organizations and the Japanese Gestapo which terrorized the Japanese people have been dissolved, although there are still remnants terrorizing the democratic activities of the Japanese people.

4. A plan was formulated to dissolve the Zaibatsu (monopoly capitalists) which had closely co-operated with all the aggressions of the Japanese militarists. According to the present plan, the Zaibatsu families will be ordered to hand over all their shares which will be sold on the open market, with the Zaibatsu receiving the proceeds in Government bonds. If this plan could still be changed, under the pressure of the people so that the undertakings of the Zaibatsu would be brought under the control of a real democratic

government, the elimination of the Zaibatsu as an active political and economic factor might become more effective.

5. For the first time, the Japanese Government is forced to introduce an agrarian reform. However, the published plan is far from realizing the spirit of the American directive which ordered a complete liquidation of the feudalistic conditions in the rural areas. Nevertheless, many absentee landowners would be forced to give up their lands for the benefit of the landless tenants. The feudalistic method of paying rent, i.e., in kind, the land aristocrats as a whole would experience a great weakening, and will gradually lose their control over the peasants.

6. The thorough elimination of undemocratic bureaucrats and fascists is undertaken by the last purge decree.

7. Labor union activities have been revived. The recent Japanese Diet reluctantly passed a labor law which guarantees the basic rights of the working class.

8. The electoral laws were revised, and the electoral age has been lowered. The most important change is that Japanese women were given for the first time, the right to vote, as well as to hold office by election.

9. The foundation of the absolute monarchy still lives merely on the ideology which has been hammered by official propaganda into the heads of the people for hundreds of years. Even this ideology is very much diluted. Shintoism, which made the emperor a living god, has been abolished as a state religion. Today, the status of the emperor is such that he himself declared in his New Year's message that he was neither sacred nor divine.

Such is a rough summary of the content which has been initiated and must be realized by the second revolution.

(From J.A.C.D. News Letter)



(Continued from Page 7)

employment in the east.

Also, in British Columbia, because of employer prejudice which they have known ever since leaving school, there was very little that was open to them in the white collar and skilled work field. They were thus forced to take a labouring type of work irregardless of their abilities and training for higher type of work.

In contrast, the Japanese-Canadians who have resettled in the east are employed in such work as the following which was not generally opened to them in British Columbia:

Electrical Engineer	Stenographer
Commerical Artist	Bookkeeper
Salon Photographer	Salesgirl
Photo Finisher	Hairdresser
Accountant	Social Worker
Machinist	Laboratory Worker
Electrical	School Teacher
Radio Technician	Plastic Worker
Electronic Technician	Printer
Lawyer	Woodworker

The examples of employment cited are ones which the Japanese-Canadians are now successfully employed in eastern Canada and which have for the most part never been open to them in British Columbia. It can be seen that the obvious conclusion is that the majority of Japanese-Canadians are not likely to have any inclination towards a return to British Columbia because of this contrast in employment opportunities.

It can be seen that the Japanese-Canadian relocees have been able to make some progress in the matter of re-settlement even though they are handicapped and very much disturbed by the second class type of citizenship which they have been forced to accept.

In conclusion, it may be safely stated that Japanese-Canadians now dispersed and settled in the east, will not mass themselves in large communities as was the case in British Columbia and which was one of the reasons for criticism levied against them in the past leading to prejudice on racial and economic lines

(Continued from Page 1)

public criticism, the issue may threaten the very existence of the Government. Defeat on a vote, without prior understanding that a vote of confidence was not implied, by convention requires the resignation of the Government. Faced at all times with this possibility, when meeting an unpopular issue, the Government member finds himself in a difficult position. Should he consider the matter of sufficient importance, he may break with his party, or, he may use his influence in caucus to have the Government on its own initiative, change its policy to something more acceptable. But party discipline is a powerful influence and backbenchers rarely exert their due importance except in insignificant details. When the "whips are put on" they never fail to respond.

The result is a situation where the Government may call a vote at any time and count on its supporters for endorsement, no matter how repulsive. The alternative is dissolution and a direct appeal for a mandate through a general election.

In simplified terms, by devious methods, we have established the sovereignty of the people; but in the first stage at least, we have the supremacy of the party in power. Although the will of the people has an opportunity for expression through elections at rare intervals, concerted pressure can be exerted at all times in favour of more acceptable policies. By letter and deputations, the public can make known its attitude. The old practice of petitioning the King has changed, with democratic development, to petitioning the Government who for all practical purposes is the authority. But once Government policy is decided and announced, some ministers of the Crown are fearful of admitting errors because of possible criticism. They prefer to receive criticism for maintaining their policy than approval after a desired change.

Japanese deportation and the restriction of personal and civil rights are items which have roused the ire of Canadian people. Throughout the country there is a deep sense of the whole scheme being wrong, and more letters have reached members of

(Continued on Page 10)

J. C. C. D. NEWS

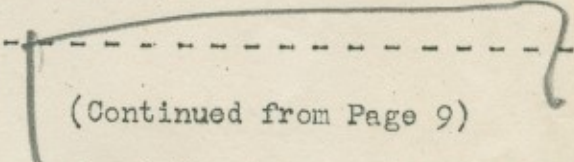
In line with the J.C.C.D. educational committee program, two documentary motion pictures were shown at the Church of All Nations, Friday, April 5th. A gathering of some 160 members and friends were privileged to see a first showing in Toronto of a National Film Board picture titled "..... of Japanese Descent".

The film was produced by Leon Shelley of Vancouver, B.C. for the Dept. of Labour. Taken fully in Kodachrome, the camera catches the beauty of British Columbia's interior where the Canadians of Japanese descent were evacuated. The picture shows very admirably the constructive side of "Ghost Town" life and the results of the Dept. of Labour's program of settling the Japanese evacuees in the interior settlement towns. People in the audience recognized many familiar faces and familiar scenes, friends, and places that they had so recently left behind to start life anew in the east. If the whole evacuation was as beautiful and peaceful as the picture reveals, there should be no complaints, but, of course, the camera could not catch all the heartbreaks and disruption that the uprooting of 23,000 persons would bring.

A documentary film titled "The City" was also shown. This picture was produced in the United States in 1939 and has been a consistent favourite for educational programs. The picture reveals the effects of the concentration of industries in many of our cities resulting in congested and unhealthy living conditions for the people. In contrast, modern town planning and decentralization of industry, is shown what can be achieved in lovely homes and healthy surroundings. This picture is certainly food for thought.

The J.C.C.D. has underway an intensive membership drive and educational program. The recommendation of the Citizenship Defence Committee for all interested Issei to join the J.C.C.D. has resulted in over

twenty applications for membership being received at the above meeting. This is quite a history making step in the organization for it reveals the first concrete move towards Issei-Nisei co-operation in working for our common welfare. The committee is planning a special Issei section of the organization to work on problems and programs that they are ably fitted for. Mr. T. Kameoka has been appointed temporary Issei secretary for the membership drive.



(Continued from Page 9)

parliament and the Government on this than any previous issue for a long time. Honest and clear-sighted people agree with current American opinion in stating that evacuation and the subsequent treatment of the Japanese was "our greatest wartime mistake". Like other mistakes, these people want them corrected.

Since the mistake arose from political considerations, the remedy must be by political means. The problem of our time, posed in general terms in the introduction of this article, is to find ways and means to effect changes in Government policy. Adjustments must be made in Japanese affairs in harmony with the expressed will of the people, but in such a way as to not jeopardize the political fortune of any member of parliament. This is not an issue for an election, but one which requires the expression of the will of the sovereign people of Canada by direct communication with their members of parliament and Government, to rescind deportation orders in council and all infringements of personal and civil liberties. There need be no hesitation, nor fear of criticism, for only approbation is due any effort to accede to the will of the people. There will be reassurance, without detracting in any way from the constitutional doctrine of the supremacy of parliament, that for political purposes at least, the Government believes that the people of Canada are sovereign.