

Mr. Ferdinando de Kobbe,
Consul for Spain,
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Sir:

We the Japanese of Rosebery, wish to extend to you our most hearty welcome, and express our great pleasure in your appointment as the Spanish Consul at Vancouver. We are very deeply gratified for the pains and trouble you are taking, to tour and inspect the remote sections of the interior for the benefit of the Japanese people, and this in spite of the extreme weather and the recentness of the long tiring journey from your country to Canada.

For the duration of the war, we are in the position whereby the assurance and the safety of our lives and property are solely under the protection of the Foreign Office of the country you are representing. It is therefore our sincere hope and wish that you will give us every aid and assistance that you can possibly render. We are taking the opportunity of this, your first visit, to bring before you the various problems with which we are faced here in Rosebery, and beg of you to take these matters up with the Canadian Government in order that they may be remedied.

As you have no doubt been informed, whether in Rosebery or in other centres, the people are divided into two classes; the ones who are dependent on their maintenance, and those who are dependent on their employment.

In regards to those on maintenance the amount of relief they are receiving is about the same as the rate of relief in British Columbia prior to the war. Even if the cost of living is the same as before the outbreak of war, the amount is only but sufficient for a person's existence. Taking this into consideration we feel it is only proper that the maintenance rate be increased proportionately to the increased cost of living. Knowing we are enemy aliens, we do not expect the same treatment as the Canadian citizens. However it is our firm belief that the Canadians who are prisoners of war in Japan have been given fair treatment. Also the Canadian civilians in Japan are treated exactly like her own peoples in accordance of the Japanese version of fairness to all. With this fact in mind, we firmly believe that even if we were to ask for the doubling of the maintenance it is not demanding too much. However with our