

Rosebery, B.C.  
November 18, 1943

Pedro E. Schwartz, Esq.,  
Spanish Council General  
1185 Mitalife Street  
Montreal, P.Q.

Dear Sir:

We are submitting our grievances here hoping that you would be kind enough to assist us in taking the matter up with the proper authorities.

Of the Rosebery housing project there are 12 houses built alongside the highway and apart from other houses (#1 and #2 ranches) across Wison Creek. There are no water facilities to these 12 houses and the people living there must go down to the creek for their daily water which is quite a distance. It is quite a job for women and children and also dangerous during winter months. There was an incident last spring when large blocks of ice suddenly gave away, a man in his attempt to fill his buckets with water lost his footing and fell into the creek. He was nearly swept away by the swift current but saved only by clinging onto the nearby rock, his buckets being swept away.

Our committee have repeatedly asked the Security Commission for water facilities without avail.

When Mr. C.F. Swain was here as a supervisor he promised that he would transfer the pump used at #1 and #2 ranches to the 12 houses as soon as the proposed water supply system was installed at the former ranches. Unfortunately, a forest fire broke out since at the camp about 10 miles from here and the pump in question was taken away to be used there.

By the letters of Mr. Tanaka and Mr. Kondo, spokesmen for the Japanese Nationals, you are probably aware that we are anxious to have somekind of water system as soon as possible.

During October Mr. deKobbe came to New Denver and when we asked him to inspect the locality, he and Mr. Collin kindly visited and inspected the 12 houses and the creek. But contrary to our expectation Mr. Collin told us through Mr. DeKobbe that there will be no water supply system installed and suggested moving out to Harris Ranch.

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Recently we had a meeting of those who are directly concerned to discuss whether they would move to Harris Ranch or not. By the Following reasons they do not want to move out.

1. School children have to walk 4 miles daily going to New Denver and return.
2. Women also have to walk 4 miles for shopping. (Precarious condition of roads during winter months which makes it more difficult.)

We spent a considerable time and labour in keeping our houses in order and having gardens cultivated, so we too are declined to move out and especially so for those who have small children.

Should evacuees from other towns ~~not~~ move in, in case the present occupants moved out, the same complaint of lack of water facility would certainly arise.

We, therefore, would ask you to kindly take the matter up once more with the authority in relieving of our grievance. Your favourable is very much appreciated.

Yours truly,

Rosebery Japanese Committee.