



# MAKERS of VANCOUVER

No. 2 of The News-Herald Series



## HALFORD WILSON, YOUNG DYNAMO OF ENERGY IN VANCOUVER

Alderman Halford Wilson is known as a human dynamo of energy by his friends (and his opponents, too!) because of his seemingly boundless energy and the enthusiasm which he puts into every undertaking in which he is interested. Right now the aggressive campaign which he is waging in the bye-election for the provincial legislature is an example of the way he tackles whatever problem he faces. Win, lose or draw, his opponents will know that they have been in a real political fight when the ballots are counted next Monday night.

But of all his accomplishments and all of his interests nothing is dearer to his heart than his interest in Vancouver's civic airport. It is an indisputable fact that Halford Wilson, more than any one other person, has been responsible for the building up of Vancouver's Civic Airport which enjoys the distinction of being the finest airport on the whole Pacific Coast and the leading airport in Canada, both in facilities and in volume of traffic. It stands as a monument to Halford Wilson's splendid work as chairman of the Vancouver City Council's Civic Airport Committee.

It is only fitting, therefore, that, in picturing Alderman Halford Wilson, he should be seated in an airplane.

Halford Wilson not only deserves ranking as among the men who are making Vancouver, but he is also a Vancouver product, born here, attended school here and served his community. It is because he is convinced that he can still serve the city in an ever more effective manner that he has allowed his name to go before the public as a candidate for the Provincial Parliament at Victoria.

A native son of Vancouver, who attended Mr. Pleasant School and King Edward High School, Halford Wilson is the son of Rev. Canon G. H. Wilson, rector of St. Michael's Church, Mt. Pleasant.

After leaving King Edward High School, Halford Wilson went into the Royal Bank of Canada as a junior bank clerk and remained with the bank for eight years. In 1928 he left the bank to go into the insurance business.

He first began executive community work in connection with young people's work, becoming provincial president and later Dominion vice-president of the A. Y. P. A. His interest in civic affairs found an outlet in the Mt. Pleasant Ratepayers' Association. His position as secretary of this association gave him an insight into civic affairs. It was quite logical that he should sooner or later become a candidate for the City Council—and the first time he tested his strength at the polls he was elected as alderman for Ward 7—the youngest man ever elected to this body. This was in 1935, and he has been re-elected twice since then. On the council he has always been noted for his progressive views and the forceful manner in which he puts them over. He has developed a reputation for independence of thought and action and an unswerving determination.

Halford Wilson is an outstanding example of the force of youth and potentialities of the youth movement about which we hear so much these days. It is typical of him that he became a member of the Junior Board of Trade at its inception and has been an active member ever since.

Although his energies have, to a large degree, found a successful outlet in the development of the civic airport, he has been the leader in many other advanced ideas. He has concentrated, recently, upon a movement to develop False Creek as a harbor for small craft and coastal shipping, and has led the fight in the City Council against Oriental penetration into business which, he maintains, results in the lowering of living standards in this city. Among other progressive legislation in the City Council which he has fathered is the early closing bye-law for downtown stores, releasing clerks and assistants a half-hour earlier than previously.

How a young business man with so many civic interests can have any "spare time" is hard to understand, yet he has two private hobbies—stamp collecting and fishing. He is vice-president of the B. C. Philatelic Society. He is an active member of both the Junior and Senior Boards of Trade, and his early training in church work keeps him interested in this type of service too.

Halford Wilson is first and foremost for Vancouver, both in public and private activity. He has faith in Vancouver's

### (1) IMMIGRANTS LI

of assimilating  
the laws permeate  
high ratio of

have proved  
a very small  
so far as Br  
orientals in  
which the im

a group diff  
yet in almost  
fruits, mark  
industry, an

with the tra  
of a lower s  
own national  
that their s  
tion, but it  
by the orien  
cities of ex  
lower as a t  
the white po  
made by the  
of land, inc  
the per capi  
parks, roads  
of low asses  
density of p  
fishing boat

quota to be  
of each nati  
That no immi  
will increas  
basic percen

provided wit  
finger print  
acts be foll  
have recorde  
their finger  
data demande

made a crimi  
Canadian Nat

a passport s  
have photogr  
at all times  
papers.

difficulty  
country,  
prevent a

regards  
ation is  
, but in  
of  
conditions

we have  
zenship,  
e small  
farming

comparison  
acceptance  
n to our  
he impression  
ite popula-  
me spent  
ic neces-  
lerably  
that of  
contribution  
t by means  
capita than  
benefit from  
tion in houses  
eates a  
esidence on

aces, such  
population  
ominion.  
such entry  
e proposed

nd be  
ograph and  
statistics  
ation to  
e in Canada,  
pertinent

ada be  
not a

ed to carry  
passport to  
be carried  
realization

Following the above procedure we submit:-

(1) IMMIGRANTS LEGALLY ADMITTED.

Apparently recognizing from the first the difficulty of assimilation of oriental peoples into a white man's country, the laws permitting entry have carried restrictions to prevent a high ratio of oriental residents to white residents.

In regard to the Dominion as a whole these safeguards have proved satisfactory in that the total oriental population is a very small percentage of the total population of Canada, but in so far as British Columbia is concerned the concentration of orientals in this one Province has resulted in the very conditions which the immigration laws sought to avoid.

The result to-day is that in British Columbia we have a group difficult of assimilation into full Canadian citizenship, yet in almost virtual control of the Fishing Industry, the small fruits, market gardening, and greenhouse sections of the farming industry, and the retail sales of fruits and vegetables.

The national training of these immigrants in comparison with the training of our own youth, enables them by the acceptance of a lower standard of living to become unfair competition to our own nationals. We do not for one minute wish to convey the impression that their standard of living is below that of all our white population, but it cannot be denied that the proportion of income spent by the oriental on rent, food and clothing, the three basic necessities of existence, plus luxury expenditures, are considerably lower as a total group taken on a per capita basis, than that of the white population on a per capita basis. Further the contribution made by the oriental population to the cost of Government by means of land, income, and all indirect taxation is lower per capita than the per capita white population. While drawing the same benefit from parks, roads, fire and police protection their concentration in houses of low assessable value and on land of low assessment creates a density of population with a paucity of revenue, while residence on fishing boats gives almost entire immunity from taxation.

Our Solution to the Above:

The immediate setting of a quota for oriental races, such quota to be the percentage ratio borne by the present population of each national group to the total population of this Dominion. That no immigrant be accepted in such national groups if such entry will increase the ratio of that national group beyond the proposed basic percentage.

That all orientals be compelled to register and be provided with passports, such passport to have both photograph and finger prints thereon. That enforcement of the vital statistics acts be followed up and all oriental children on registration to have recorded as a protection of their right to residence in Canada, their finger print, or foot print, in addition to other pertinent data demanded.

That concealment of an alien illegally in Canada be made a criminal offence, and where the guilty party is not a Canadian National the penalty be deportation.

That all aliens admitted to Canada be required to carry a passport so long as they shall remain in Canada, such passport to have photograph and finger print identification, and to be carried at all times, and only surrendered in exchange for naturalization papers.

That arrangements be entered into with the oriental population to permit transfer of part of the oriental population to other Provinces of the Dominion as occupational pursuits in those other Provinces permit, such agreement to limit the racial populations in British Columbia to that number now registered as resident until the population of British Columbia shall have reached one million and a half people when such fixed number may be increased by agreement.

That right of re-entry into Canada of orientals who have left Canada, whether born in Canada or not, be limited to January 1st, 1940, except in the case of those Japanese now legally resident here who desire to secure leave of absence in the future, in which case they shall only be entitled to re-entry if they have secured a passport with photograph and finger-print identification.

The question of allegiance of orientals born outside Canada but now resident here should be definitely established. That residence in Canada in excess of two years shall require a binding oath of allegiance, without any reservations whatsoever, to agree to subject themselves to conscription by the state in case of war or emergency. In the event of failure to comply with this clause, arrangements to be made to leave Canada within an agreed time.

That no National of any country, having been accepted as an immigrant shall be entitled to re-entry to the Dominion if he left the Dominion and served in the Military, Naval, Air or intelligence services of his country of origin, further that any Canadian accepting service in the military, naval, air or intelligence service of a Foreign Power thereby relinquishes all rights and privileges of Canadian citizenship, and shall make application for re-entry into Canada as a citizen of the power in whose service he was employed.

That orientals be permitted to own or lease land, engage in commerce only to the same extent as is permitted a Canadian resident of the land of his or her national origin. \*

That all immigrants shall be required to attend classes in their place of domicile, or if not practical there should be a correspondence course, and in order to remain in the country must qualify on a certain minimum standard of requirements within a reasonable period, these to be based on minimum speaking, reading or writing of the English language, knowledge of responsibility and obligations of Canadian citizenship. No illiterate in the language of his own country to be admitted.

No oriental, (or other immigrant for that matter) to be permitted to contract his services for long term service, over and above a month to month basis without compulsory renewable clause.

Exceptions to the proposed regulations above suggested to be permitted in accordance with past usage to members of the diplomatic service, trade envoys, or commercial representatives permitted to enter as such and to remain only so long as so engaged.

(2) CANADIAN BORN ORIENTALS.

It is submitted that having been born in this country these people are entitled to fair and equitable treatment and to an opportunity to fill a place in the life of the country and to accept the full obligations of Canadian citizenship.

Two courses only appear open to us, (a) a callous disregard of the rights of the individuals born in this country of oriental parents, or, (b) alternatively a planned programme of opportunity and responsibility.

The contact of years in our Canadian educational institutions, with the consequent adoption of our customs and habits fits the Canadian born oriental for good Canadian citizenship, and an equality of opportunity could undoubtedly be worked out by a joint committee representing the Dominion and Provincial Governments and the Canadian born oriental.

Compulsory subjects in our school curriculums of biology and health would be of inestimable value to all pupils.

Reasonable opportunity in all pursuits to be open to Canadian born orientals, but no industry or pursuit, unless of minor importance and employing less than one hundred people in the Province to be permitted to pass into the control of orientals, or of our own nationals in the employ or control of orientals.

That Canadian born orientals on reaching the age of twenty-one be called upon to elect under oath their choice of allegiance.

That fishery licenses, entailing as they do the operators intimate knowledge of our coastal waters, be granted only to Canadian citizens, and to include naturalized citizens and Canadian born orientals who have elected Canadian allegiance.

That land ownership or lease, and ownership of natural resources be permitted Canadian born orientals only so long as used for their own benefit and not for the benefit of any one or more non Nationals of Canada.

That the question of the possibility of the complete assimilation of Canadian born orientals into the life of the Dominion be a matter of continuous study by research students of the University of British Columbia, and that the Federal and Provincial Governments provide the necessary funds for such research; further at least twenty per cent of students engaged in such research shall be Canadian born orientals.

That residence in the Orient for a period of three years or more except under permit of the Dominion Government individually issued, or for study at a recognized Oriental University, or as Commercial representative of Canadian Industry trading in the Oriental markets, shall be considered prima facie evidence of relinquishment of Canadian citizenship by Canadian born orientals.

### (3) OCCUPATIONAL PURSUITS BY INDUSTRIES.

While the 1931 census was the last Official Government census, the Vancouver Province newspaper on January 3rd, 1938, reports recent investigations indicate a Japanese population of 30,000 and a Chinese population of 22,000 in British Columbia.

Seven articles from the "Vancouver Daily Province" - "Orientals in B.C." by Bruce Hutchinson, based on data gathered at first hand by Dr. W.A. Carrothers, Chairman of the Provincial Economic Council, in a private capacity, for a book to be published this year are appended hereto. The closing lines of the first article are particularly significant

"FROM NOW ON, WHATEVER IS DONE ABOUT IMMIGRATION,  
BRITISH COLUMBIA FACES AN EVER INCREASING ORIENTAL  
POPULATION".

Article three indicates that in competition with white Canadians fifty new Japanese workers, male and female, will enter the competitive labour market in British Columbia every month this year, during the year it is estimated competition in the labour market by Chinese will decrease by ninety-two (92) males, but increase by eight females.

Article four cites the following details in regard to occupation pursuits:

	<u>CHINESE</u>	<u>JAPANESE</u>
Fishing	-	19%
Farmers and Farm labourers,	18%	19%
Personal Service, Homes, Boarding-Houses, Hotels, restaurants, etc.	22%	10%
Commercial activities, own business.	8%	5%
Unskilled Labour, common labour in Mines, Lumbering, Railways, etc.	52%	25%
Lumber, Pulp & Paper.		22%

The seventh article is particularly commended to your attention as it so clearly demonstrates the tendency to control more of the primary resources and necessities of the Province. *Comment*

Industries or occupations controlled or in danger of control by orientals:

	<u>Chinese</u>	<u>Japanese</u>	<u>Total Oriental Control.</u>
Vancouver Is. Market gardens	75%		75%
B. C. Mainland " "	80%		80%
Greenhouse space,			50.15%
Fishing license,		18%	18%
Fish Salteries,		70%	70%
Small Fruit Farming		45%	45%

and in control of marketing.

Recent known Japanese acquisitions:

Copper property	Vancouver Island
Iron Deposits	Queen Charlotte Islands
Logging Camps	Vancouver Island
Pulp Timber	Vancouver Island

Assessed Value of Land owned by Orientals.....\$1,250,000.00.

Natural Resources acquired through Companies having White Canadian directors.....????????? Unknown

Membership of the Consolidated Cod Fishermen's Association for the year 1937, appended. It will be noted that Japanese members far outnumber the white members.

The price control methods of this association is a matter which has been the subject of a Vancouver City Council investigation.

The Japanese penetration of the fishing industry has been the subject of much able comment in the Dominion House of Parliament by  
Mr. Tom Reid, M.P. for New Westminster,  
and  
Mr. A. W. Neill, M.P. for Comox-Alberni.

White fishermen can instance numerous cases of abuse at the hands of Japanese when white fishermen are in the minority in any district. The sworn deposition of Jack Alder dealing with malicious damage is a sample of interference which is all too common.

Business Licenses Issued to Orientals in Vancouver City.

With characteristic racial patience the Oriental is gradually becoming a dominant factor in the business activity of Vancouver. Particular attention is directed to the increase in City licenses issued to Orientals during the past ten years, for example.

<u>Business</u>	<u>Japanese</u>		<u>Chinese</u>	
	1927 - 1937		1927 - 1937	
Candy, Fruit	58	80	18	16
Cleaners & Dyers	17	115	6	8
Dressmakers	7	44	-	-
Fish Dealers	6	18	2	2
Grocers	56	110	68	27
Green Grocers	0	21	60	118
Hawkers & Pedlers	1	4	75	157
Lodging Houses	79	129	11	11
Wholesale	19	23	13	14

Total Number of Licenses Issued to:	<u>Japanese</u>	<u>Chinese</u>	<u>Total</u>
In 1927	459	478	937
In 1937	795	644	1,439
	<u>336</u>	<u>166</u>	<u>502</u>

The following are the percentage increases in the ten year period.

Japanese	74%
Chinese	34.7%

Total Percentage increase - 53.5%.

Further evidence of the penetration of the Oriental into the commercial business of the City is shown below by giving a few examples of the licenses held by Orientals in relation to the total number of licenses issued to the trade:

Classification	Total No. of 1937 Licenses	JAPANESE		CHINESE		% of Orientals to Total
		No.	% to Total	No.	% to Total	
Boat Builders	14	4	28.571	-	-	28.571
Cleaners & Dyers	230	115	50.000	8	3.478	53.478
Dressmakers	83	44	53.012	-	-	53.012
Fish Dealers	45	18	40.00	2	4.444	44.444
Green Grocers	152	21	13.816	118	77.632	91.448
Grocers	691	110	15.919	27	3.907	19.826
Laundry Offices	48	3	6.250	40	83.333	89.583
Laundries	42	1	2.381	26	61.905	64.286
Poultry	21	1	4.762	7	33.333	38.095
Tailors	98	7	7.143	22	22.449	29.592
Hawkers & Peddlers	291	4	1.375	157	53.951	55.326

We append hereto, two statements prepared by the License Inspector, City of Vancouver, showing the above information segregated according to business carried on.

The competition of these licenses is in many cases unfair competition. Large families permit evasion of the Hours of Work Act and the regulations of the B.C. Department of Labour under and by virtue of the Provisions of the Minimum Wage Act are thus made of non effect inasmuch as many of these businesses operate as a family combine. Evasions of our laws governing sales on Sunday are flagrant and it would entail considerable staff and expense to stamp out these evasions; the standard of living and hours worked by these operators are such that they constitute unfair competition from every angle.

Small Fruits. The seventh article "Orientals in B.C." shows the Japanese controlling 45% of the small fruit farming of the Province. This forty-five percent control in the entire Province is so preponderant in the Fraser Valley area, adjacent to the Vancouver New Westminster market, practically half the entire British Columbia market, that the process of peaceful penetration in this area during the last twenty years has ousted the white fruit farmers from the control of the Industry. A sight not to be forgotten in this berry growing area is the entire Japanese family of father, mother, children of school age, some hardly of school age, engaged in the work of the farm, especially during the picking season.

Japanese female farm labour in harvesting, because of its efficiency, and low rate of pay, is driving white labour from this activity. Sworn deposition of Cline A. Hoggard, Farmer of Sea Island, B. C. is appended in support of this contention. Only those who have engaged in potato picking know the fatiguing nature of this work on the strongest constitutions. No white man can maintain a reasonable standard of living and compete on a basis of less than forty cents per hour.

The foregoing facts clearly indicate an ever increasing range of activities; it being apparent that in whatever line of endeavour entry is made gradual progress is made until the control passes to oriental hands. It would not require much stretch of the imagination to conceive of a British Columbia where natural resources and entire primary products of the soil passed within the next twenty to thirty years to oriental hands by the steady process of infiltration.

(4) EDUCATIONAL PROBLEMS OCCASIONED BY ORIENTAL POPULATION.

Education is financially supported in British Columbia by two main sources (1) Land taxation the local support (2) Provincial Aid from Consolidated Revenue Funds.

In view of the foregoing where the cost to a local district is low it does not mean that oriental children are only a drain upon the tax paying white population of that area, but are also a drain upon the entire white population of the Province.

We submit hereunder details from one City and two Municipal Districts to indicate this problem. The same problem exists throughout the Province wherever the Oriental has settled.

The following figures taken from the 66th annual report of the Public Schools of B.C. shows the Provincial situation:

<u>Total Provincial Enrollment</u>	<u>Total Japanese</u>	<u>Total Chinese</u>	<u>Total all Foreign Parentage.</u>
118,431	5,499	1,447	20,435

From the above it will be noted that:-

Japanese children represents 4.6 % of total school population.  
 " " " 26.8 % of total children of foreign parentage.  
 Cost per pupil on total enrollment is shown as \$76.25 per year.



(continued)

Total cost of educating 5,499 Japanese on above basis.....\$419,298.75

Total cost of educating 1,447 Chinese on above basis.....\$110,333.75

RICHMOND MUNICIPALITY.

A farming community in which is also situated the town of Steveston, a large salmon fishing centre, with canneries in this town and at other points on the waterfront. The area is part of the Delta of the Fraser River.

Dominion Bureau of Statistics show population figures as follows:-

POPULATION OF LULU ISLAND (Less Queensborough, suburb of New Westminster).

Nationality	1911	1921	1931	% increase 1931 over 1911
Japanese	843	1929	2811	240%
Chinese	562	352	451	20% decrease
Whites or others	1707	2545	4920	188%

This clearly indicates the potential outnumbering of whites in this area.

Total school population 1937, - 1,801 of which Japanese number 607. Percentage of Japanese children to total enrollment - 33.7%

School Taxes levied 1937 in Richmond.....\$50,482.19  
School Taxes levied against Japanese....\$1,771.00  
Voluntary contribution by Japanese.....\$2,500.00.....\$ 4,271.00

Percentage of total school taxes paid by Japanese - 8.5%

Thus the white population with 66.3% of the total enrollment are paying the cost of 91.5%.

In addition to the foregoing the Provincial Government pays to the Municipality a grant for Education at \$35,286.11 out of the revenues of the Province as a whole and almost entirely contributed by the white population.

It is interesting to note that of the total tax levy in Richmond by General Rates amounting to \$137,034.83, the Japanese property owners pay \$4,551.00 or only 3.3% of the total land tax, and yet are able to enjoy all the advantages made possible by a White tax paying Community.

Appended hereto is letter dated March 25th, 1938, from the Clerk of the Municipal Council of Richmond, together with Balance Sheet and Supporting Statements as at December 31st, 1937.

DISTRICT OF MAPLE RIDGE

Inland from Vancouver, B. C., about twenty-five miles, on the north bank of the Fraser River. - Small Fruit Area.

Total School Population, 1262, of which Japanese number 32.1 %

Total School Levy, \$31,736.23, of which Japanese levy is 11.03%

(continued)

This is a duplication of the situation at Richmond but is not as aggravated a situation as at Richmond as there is no large Japanese fishing population living on boats or in shacks constructed on piles driven into the river bottom.

Letter dated April 2nd, 1938, from the Clerk of the Municipal Council is appended hereto with additional details.

We would particularly draw your attention to his remarks regarding the low value of the building improvements made by the Japanese owners, also his remarks regarding attendance at Japanese schools after regular school hours. We will present this item later in our brief.

CITY OF VANCOUVER.

In this, the largest City of the Province, with approximately thirty-five per cent of the total Provincial population resident therein the Japanese and Chinese in the main live in districts almost entirely Oriental in population. The Japanese are in two main Districts. Along the waterfront of Burrard Inlet, East of Main Street, with the Chinese section almost immediately South, but extending westerly three blocks from Main Street as well as Easterly therefrom. The Japanese have populated to a considerable extent the area adjoining the south shore of False Creek East and West of Granville Street Bridge.

Attached is a statement showing the trend in the Oriental School population in Vancouver since 1928-29 to 1936-37.

From this you will note that while the Chinese school enrollment has increased from 1.5% to 1.8% of the total enrollment, the Hindus from .05% to .15% the Japanese have increased from 3.5% to 5.5% of the total school enrollment.

In percentages this means that the Chinese ratio has increased by 20% while the Japanese ratio has increased by 57.1%. The Hindus have a ratio percentage increase of 200% caused by a total increase in enrollment of 38 pupils. At present they are not a vital factor.

We would particularly stress this increasing enrollment as it was during a period of depression when the tendency of youth to remain in school for longer terms and in the higher grades was most marked; in other words while the ratio of white pupils to total population was increasing, the Japanese enrollment not only kept pace with this depression condition, but increased the percentage ratio of enrollment in eight short years by 57.1%. A continuation of this increase for a further thirty-two years would mean approximately 8.6% of the total Vancouver School enrollment in 1944-45 would be Japanese, 13.3% in 1952-53, 20.8% in 1960-61, and 31.5% in 1968-69.

In no more graphic way can we portray the effects of the present tendency than to indicate this situation, which may arise in Vancouver, the third largest City of the Dominion, viz. the possibility of one-third of the school population of this City being Japanese thirty years from now.

Strathcona School in Vancouver, a modern elementary school equipped with Auditorium and Gymnasium, is the largest elementary school in the City.

It enrolls -	total pupils --	1445	% of total enrolled (Nearest 1%)
Japanese.....		674	47%
Chinese.....		328	23%
Others (Mostly of Foreign Parentage)		443	30%

In one of the best residential districts of Vancouver there are enrolled in Kerrisdale elementary school 18 Japanese, in Point Grey Junior High School 6 Japanese, and in Magee High School, 3 Japanese. These are not all the orientals in this School, but we make this point to demonstrate the conditions under which this Japanese population lives while enjoying the best educational facilities of the City at the expense of the white population. All these children referred to above live in the area known as the Celtic Cannery area, at the foot of Blenheim Street, and we attach a photograph of the residences they occupy.

Educational costs in the City of Vancouver average \$91.00 per pupil per year, all of which, except \$12.00 per annum per pupil allowed by the Provincial Government in 1937 is borne by land and improvement taxation. These twenty-seven pupils thus cost the City of Vancouver approximately \$2,133.00 and the Provincial taxpayers as a whole a further \$324.00.

The land and improvement taxes paid to the City of Vancouver for the land and buildings they occupy as residences amounts to approximately \$333.73 in 1938.

The period of free education is grades 1 to 12, compulsory education being from age 7 to 15.

The average cost of 12 years education, from grades 1 to 12 in Vancouver City is \$1,000.00. With a constantly increasing ratio of orientals who, in a great majority of cases are not paying taxes of any appreciable amount, the burden on the white population of the cost of education of orientals alone is unjust, and some method should be devised to ensure that the oriental population assume the educational costs of their own children.

If the present rate of increase in Oriental school population continues it is only too apparent from the foregoing figures the ultimate burden which will be thrust on white taxpayers.

Wherever Japanese children are numerous it is the custom for the Japanese community to conduct Japanese language schools, usually held daily and commencing after the close of the public day schools.

In this connection I would point out that pupils in our public schools are not permitted to take courses in the night schools except by special individual permits.

It is felt by educationists that the present load undertaken by the pupils in our public schools is all that they should have to carry if they are to have the opportunity for recreation and other activities necessary to the growing child.

One can understand the natural desire of Foreign born parents to have their children receive some tuition in their national religion and possibly in the parents' language, and the traditions of their country of origin, but we believe that these schools conducted daily are not in the interests of the children themselves and to some extent nullify the efforts of our educational authorities to absorb these children into the Canadian national life. It is recommended that methods be devised to regulate the number of hours which may be spent by pupils in our public schools in the racial and religious schools operated for their benefit by their parents who apparently can afford to support such extra activity, but do not make an adequate contribution to the public education of their children.

It is our belief that when the children reach their teens there is a certain amount of revolt against the national school in addition to the public school, but the veneration of parents which is part of oriental life ensures continuous attendance.

We believe that these schools are a menace to Canadian national life, and are an indication of an unwillingness to assist in the assimilation of these nationals into our citizenship.

We understand that the Principals of our Commercial and other High Schools in Vancouver can certify to many instances of oriental youths, born and educated through the Vancouver schools leaving High School after graduation and proceeding immediately to the country of racial origin to enter the commercial life, having attained their training at the expense of Canadians.

Students permitted to enter Canada.

The status of student should be clearly defined to limit entry to bona fida university students from the Orient entering our universities on a students permit only for post graduate study.

-----  
VITAL STATISTICS

The figures set out below have been obtained from the Vancouver Health Department:

1937

<u>BIRTHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rates per 1,000 Population</u>
General	2,035	1,916	3,951	11.18
Japanese	119	126	245	28.75
Chinese	29	34	63	8.11

<u>NATURAL INCREASE</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rates per 1,000 Population</u>
General			1,159	4.57
Japanese			172	20.18
Chinese (decrease)			46	5.92

It will be noted that in the case of the Chinese there is a decided decrease in population each year, this may be attributed to the Immigration policy adopted in respect to Chinese by our Federal Government some years ago.

Owing to the fecundity of the Japanese race as shown in the table above, British Columbians are faced with a problem that commands an immediate solution by the powers dealing with such matters.

MARRIAGES.

Table 33 and 34 of the Sixty-fifth report of Vital Statistics of the Province of British Columbia for the year 1936 discloses the fact that out of an approximate Japanese population of 30,000 there were only Sixty-five registered marriages.

The number of marriages registered is so out of line with the average for the white population that it tends to support the argument that Japanese do not abide by the law requiring registration of all Births and Marriages.

NATIONAL DEFENCE.

We do not wish to stress this matter although it is vital to Canada as a nation, and especially to British Columbia with its long coast line on the Pacific, as such. Such comments are usually conducted in such a manner as to lead to a spirit of recrimination, however we cannot leave the subject without drawing attention to the danger to British Columbia in the event of hostilities with an Oriental Power or the Ally of an Oriental power from the doubtful loyalty to our country in such circumstances of such a large percentage of our population, which danger increases as the percentage ratio of the oriental races increases.

Attached hereto are reports showing the official 1931 census as it relates to orientals, a report of oriental immigration from the year 1930 to 1936, and a statement of births, and ratios of natural increase for the years 1936 and 1937.

These figures clearly portray the menace faced by the white population unless immediate and effective action is taken to control the percentage ratio of orientals in the Dominion, and more particularly in this Western Province in view of the facts herein adduced.

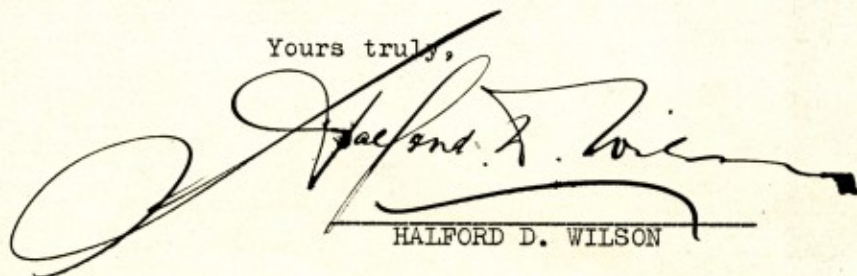
We are unable to see any effects in carrying out the ideas herein expressed which should lead the Imperial Japanese Government to protest on the grounds of discrimination. We seek no more rights to deal with our own fireside and those gathered round it than does that Government, in fact our attitude of tolerance and forbearance is the cause of our present difficulty. In this connection we close with quotation from the remarks of Sir Claude MacDonald, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., His Britannic Majesties Ambassador to Tokio, 1902-1912. -

"In Japan there is no such thing as reciprocity - a foreigner has no rights in Japan - although rights are nominally conceded to him by treaty. For example, a foreigner cannot become naturalized as a Japanese except by marriage into a Japanese family and the adoption of a Japanese name. Yet Japan demands from other countries the right of naturalization for her sons. No foreigner can own land in Japan and it has been repeatedly stated both in the Diet and out of it, that such foreign ownership 'WOULD BE A POLLUTION OF JAPANESE SOIL' ".

.....

The foregoing and the material attached hereto are respectfully submitted in the hope that it will be of some assistance to you in obtaining a proper understanding of the Oriental problem in British Columbia today.

Yours truly,



HALFORD D. WILSON

HARRY J. DeGRAVES

Documents Appended Hereto: -

- (1) Articles "The Oriental in B.C." by Bruce Hutchinson.
- (2) Statements prepared by City License Inspector.
- (3) Membership List, Consolidated Cod Fishermen's Association.
- (4) Deposition by Jack Alder (Fisherman).
- (5) Deposition by Cline A. Hoggard (Farmer).
- (6) Letter from Municipal Clerk of Richmond.
- (7) Letter from Municipal Clerk of Maple Ridge.
- (8) Letter from Assessment Office, City of Vancouver re  
Celtic Cannery.
- (9) Photographs of typical Japanese dwellings.
- (10) Copy of Report "White Canada Research Committee" (1938).
- (11) Trend of Oriental School population.
- (12) Average Catch of Cod fishermen.

-----

UBC Jp. Edn. Collection  
Kuni Shunzu Papers file 12-6

Documents Appended Hereof -

- (1) Articles "The Oriental in B.C." by Bruce Hutchinson.
- (2) Statements prepared by City License Inspector.
- (3) Membership List, Consolidated Cod Fishermen's Association.
- (4) Deposition by Jack Alder (Fisherman).
- (5) Deposition by Oline A. Hoggard (Barber).
- (6) Letter from Municipal Clerk of Richmond.
- (7) Letter from Municipal Clerk of Maple Ridge.
- (8) Letter from Assessment Office, City of Vancouver re  
Celtic Cemetery.
- (9) Photographs of typical Japanese dwellings.
- (10) Copy of Report "White Canada Research Committee" (1938).
- (11) Trend of Oriental School Population.
- (12) Average Catch of Cod Fishermen.

## COMMITTEE ON THE TREATMENT OF ALIENS AND ALIEN PROPERTY

## First Interim Report

(1) The standing Interdepartmental Committee on the Treatment of Aliens and Alien Property was set up pursuant to the terms of Minute of Council (P.C. 531) dated 14th March, 1938.

(2) The Committee is composed as follows :

E. H. Coleman, K.C., LL.D.,  
Under Secretary of State, Chairman

J. E. Read, K.C.,  
Department of External Affairs,

J. F. MacNeill,  
Department of Justice,

Inspector C. Rivett-Carnac,  
Royal Canadian Mounted Police,

F. C. Blair,  
Department of Mines and Resources,

W. G. Clark, C.M.G., LL.D., (D. M. Johnson,  
substitute)  
Department of Finance,

Colonel Maurice Pope,  
Department of National Defence,

D. J. Shuttleworth,  
Department of the Secretary of State,  
Secretary.

(3) Terms of Reference : The Committee's terms of reference are: to inquire into and report upon the treatment of aliens and alien property in time of war or emergency real or apprehended.

(4) General Observations : The Committee, in studying the problem referred to it, has recognized that

time ---



time may not permit the working out in precise detail of schemes for the internment of enemy aliens, since entirely different considerations would have to be taken into account in the event of War with certain countries. For example, if the enemy should be an Asiatic power, the work of any organizations to deal with the question of enemy aliens would be concentrated almost entirely in British Columbia, since the number of nationals of Asiatic powers who reside in other Provinces is almost negligible. It might be necessary, in that contingency, to recommend the internment of nearly all the enemy nationals, since it is recognized that public feeling in that section of Canada on the part of Canadian citizens and other Asiatics might render this course necessary, not alone to avoid danger of espionage and sabotage, but also for the protection of the person and property of enemy aliens.

On the other hand, if the enemy should be one of the European powers, or a combination of those European powers which, within recent years, have repudiated democratic or parliamentary systems of Government, it is realized that many of the nationals of those powers, who have come, within the last few years, to take up residence in Canada are, in effect, refugees. Some of these powers, by decree, have deprived some of their citizens or subjects of citizenship on account of racial and other considerations. In the event of war, therefore, the sympathies of these persons, in most instances, would not be with the powers of which they are, viewed from the technical point of view of Canadian law, deemed to be nationals.

It ---

It is recognized further that many of the immigrants who have come to Canada from Central Europe since the last war are persons engaged in farming operations and that few of these retain any deep attachment to their country of origin. Most of them have been very eager to become British subjects at the expiration of the period of residence required by the Naturalization Act. Many of those who have not yet become naturalized are people of limited education who are not likely to have the means to engage in hostile activities.

The Committee, therefore, has reached the conclusion that, in drawing up any scheme for dealing with the arrest and internment of enemy aliens, an effort should be made to ensure that the case of each enemy alien may be considered on its merits and that, when an enemy alien is quietly pursuing his regular avocation and is supporting his family, he should not be arrested or interned unless it becomes apparent that such action is desired to avoid any probability of espionage or sabotage. Another important consideration is that of expense. The cost of maintaining each interned alien will be a considerable item. For these reasons, it is the view of the Committee that, in drawing up a preliminary scheme, wide discretionary powers should be lodged in the officials designated to take steps in respect to the arrest and the internment of enemy aliens.

(5) In the event of war, there should be vested in some authority power to take immediate steps for the arrest and detention of enemy aliens who may attempt to

leave ---

leave the country or in regard to whom there are reasonable grounds for suspicion. //

The Committee, therefore, recommends that as soon as any proclamation shall have issued under the War Measures Act, declaring that the conditions contemplated by section 2 of that Act have arisen, an Order-in-Council should be passed giving authority for the arrest and detention of enemy aliens. It is proposed that this power should be vested in the Commissioner, officers and constables of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and in such other persons as may be authorized by the Commissioner of the Police. It is proposed that in this first Order-in-Council there should be reassurance to enemy aliens who are quietly pursuing their ordinary avocations that they will not be interfered with unless there are reasonable grounds for suspicion or unless they contravene some law or regulation.

It is proposed also that provision be made in this Order-in-Council for the release, at the discretion of the police authorities, of enemy aliens who sign a form of undertaking set out in the Order-in-Council.

The draft form of the proposed recommendation to Council has been prepared and is attached as Appendix "A" to this Interim Report.

(6) During the last war it was found necessary to arrange for the establishment of internment camps in certain parts of Canada. In these camps, which, as a general rule, were remote from the large centres of population, enemy aliens were interned. In some cases they were employed in the construction of public works, for example, in the building of roads. They were, in accordance with

the ---

the usages of war, provided with quarters, clothing, rations and medical attendance and were paid a small allowance for their work, - 25 cents per day.

At the beginning of the last war, the internment operations were conducted entirely in the Department of Militia. At a later stage, a senior officer was appointed as Director of Internment Operations. The records indicate that at a still later period this Director reported to the Minister of Justice, rather than to the Minister of Militia. Subsequently, the Internment Branch and all its records were transferred to the Department of the Secretary of State of Canada. The internment records of the last war are still in the possession of the Department of the Secretary of State.

Since all, or practically all, of the persons interned are likely to be civilians, and would be looked upon as civilian prisoners of war, it is the view of the Committee that it may be desirable, at the outset, to provide for machinery similar to that set up in the later stages of the last war. Having regard to the fact that the records of the former Internment Branch are with the Department of the Secretary of State, that the Secretary of State administers the general Act relating to aliens, and that there is in that Department a Naturalization Branch which has all the records of aliens naturalized in Canada, it is felt that the appropriate Minister to whom the Director of Internment Operations should report is the Secretary of State.

On the other hand, the guarding, rationing and discipline of aliens interned are matters which, it is

felt ---

felt, in the first weeks or months of war at least, may best be provided for by military organization under the Department of National Defence. Since any scheme which may be worked out along this line will require the closest co-operation between the Director of Internment Operations, under the Secretary of State, the Department of National Defence and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, it is felt that the officer who should be selected as Director of Internment Operations should be an officer of experience and of senior rank in the Militia, and that he should be appointed by the Minister of National Defence. It is recognized by the Committee that a great deal of the success of the proposed scheme will depend upon the efficiency and good judgment of the officer selected as the Director of Internment Operations.

A draft recommendation has, therefore, been prepared and is attached as Appendix "B" to this Interim Report. This draft recommendation provides for such an officer, and for the commencement of his work, but the recommendation is being submitted in very general terms, since the detailed scheme as to the internment operations and as to the division of responsibility between the Departments concerned cannot be settled until the Director of Internment Operations has been appointed and has surveyed the general problem in the light of the conditions which may prevail at the commencement of hostilities.

(7) It was found necessary, in late October of 1914, to make provision for the registration of enemy aliens. It is felt that preliminary arrangements should be made

to ---

to set up machinery for such registration immediately any proclamation may be issued in respect to a state of war. This will involve the appointment of an officer who shall take charge of the arrangements for registration. This officer, in certain circumstances, might very well be the Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. It is felt, however, that in the event of war a very heavy burden might be thrown upon the Commissioner in connection with other activities, and that the draft recommendation should provide for the appointment either of the Commissioner, if he finds himself able to undertake this duty, having regard to his other responsibilities, or another official or officer who may possess qualifications for the work.

If the Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police can undertake the work, it is suggested that he should report in respect to this branch of his activities to his own Minister, the Minister of Justice. If, however, the Commissioner should feel that assuming the duties of Registrar General of Enemy Aliens would be too heavy a responsibility in addition to his other duties, it is suggested that the officer named should report to the Secretary of State of Canada. He will require to work in close cooperation with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. It would be expected that in many districts the local Registrar would be the senior officer either of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police or of the local Police. There may, however, be other districts where other officers of the Dominion Government, for example, immigration officers, customs officers, or postmasters may be available to act as local Registrars.

There ---

There may also be districts where it might be found convenient to appoint officials of the Provincial or Municipal Governments.

In order that immediate steps may be taken should emergency arise, a draft recommendation has been prepared and is submitted with this Interim Report, marked Appendix "C".

(8) It was the view of the Committee that, to avoid any injustices or the possibility of police officers being exposed to local prejudices, it was desirable to provide some machinery which would enable an enemy alien interned to have his case reviewed by an Appellate Tribunal. Accordingly, it is recommended that any enemy alien who is interned may appeal to an Appellate Tribunal, and that preferably this Appellate Tribunal should consist of a Judge. In most of the Provinces it may be possible to take advantage of the experience and services of the Judges of the District or County Courts. The draft form of the proposed recommendation has been prepared and marked as Appendix "D" to this Interim Report.

(9) It is not the view of the Committee that, under conditions as they prevail at present in Canada, it would be necessary to take immediate steps for the sequestration of enemy property, although such a course would no doubt have to be taken within a reasonable time after the commencement of hostilities. It would, however, be necessary in the first stages, to issue a proclamation prohibiting trading with the enemy, and prohibiting the transmission of any moneys or securities to the enemy. The terms of the suggestion are being carefully studied by the officers of the Department of Finance and it is

the ---

the opinion of the Committee that since any recommendation would be made by the Department of Finance, the precise terms of the recommendation should be drafted in that Department.

Information collected in the Department of the Secretary of State concerning the Orders relating to trading with the enemy and dealing in securities is being made available to the officers of the Department of Finance. The recommendation of such a proclamation would come from the Minister of Finance and would no doubt be based upon conditions as they existed when the emergency arose. If it is felt necessary that the Committee should consider the precise terms of any suggested Order-in-Council or proclamation, a further report on this point will be submitted. In the meantime, the Committee makes this reference in order that it may be clear that the subject is being examined by the Department of Finance and that that Department will be prepared to make a definite recommendation should an emergency arise.

The Secretary of State of Canada is the Custodian of Enemy Property, under the Treaty of Peace (Germany) Order 1920. While the staff formerly in the Custodian's Office has largely been disbanded, there are still in the Office two or three employees who have had experience in dealing with enemy property. The Solicitor to the Custodian has carefully studied the Orders made in the last war and, in the light of the experience which was acquired in dealing with this complicated question, has prepared material which will be of great assistance to the Committee in considering further recommendations in this respect. The Committee feels, however, that aside from a prohibition of trading with the enemy, and of the transmission of money or securities by enemy aliens, it

may ---



may not be necessary, in the very early stages of another war, to prepare a scheme in detail for dealing with enemy property in this country.

It is very desirable that great care should be taken in respect to the sequestration of the property of alleged enemy nationals. The Committee has ascertained that some investments have been made in Canadian securities by persons who, while they might be technically enemy aliens, are in fact refugees. The Custodian who might be named should, therefore, be given wide discretionary powers in order that he might take steps which would not unnecessarily embarrass people who may be supporting the Canadian cause in the event of a conflict.

(10) The Committee in submitting this report, respectfully suggests that the recommendations herein submitted may be approved in principle, but it desires permission to review the details of its recommendations from time to time and to submit such further reports as it may think desirable to make.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

  
CHAIRMAN.

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF CANADA

This copy is provided for research purposes only. Responsibility regarding questions of copyright that may arise in the use of this print is assumed by the recipient.

CALL NUMBER MA 27, III-B-5, Volume 32, File X-52  
COTE

DATE July 21, 1983

Cette copie a été préparée pour fins de recherche seulement. Le récipiendaire sera tenu responsable de toute infraction au droit de propriété de ce document.

It is very desirable that the Government of Canada should, therefore, be given wide discretionary powers in order that it might take steps which would not unnecessarily embarrass people who may be supporting the Canadian cause in the event of a conflict.

(10) The Committee in conducting this report,

respectfully suggests that the recommendations herein submitted may be approved in principle, but it desires permission to review the details of its recommendations from time to time and to submit such further reports as it may think desirable to make.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHIEF CLERK

SECRET

2nd June  
25th-May, 1938.

Sir,

I beg to refer to your letter of the 18th March, addressed to Major Macklin, relative to the Interdepartmental Committee on Orientals in British Columbia and to append hereunder the views of this Department on this problem from the aspect of National Defence.

1. Because of the problem they present with respect to internal security, and the protection of vulnerable points in time of war, the presence of a considerable number of orientals in British Columbia is a matter which, from the aspect of National Defence, cannot be viewed other than with concern.

2. The Census returns for 1931 indicate that there are some 24,000 persons of Japanese origin resident in British Columbia, of whom some 5,000 are men of military age owing allegiance to Japan. It is understood that accurate information is lacking as to the identity and domicile of many of these orientals, who, it is reported may have considerably increased in number since 1931. In any event the above figures are, in themselves, sufficient to make it expedient to draw up somewhat elaborate plans for the internal security of British Columbia in time of war. It will be realized that a considerable proportion of the troops presently in British Columbia will be required to furnish the garrisons necessary for the military defence of the coastal ports. This being so, the plans now being prepared for the guarding of the vulnerable points along the railways and elsewhere, call for the despatch of some 9 Militia units numbering upwards of 2,000 all ranks, from other parts of Canada.

3. During the Great War all enemy aliens, whom there was reason to fear might prove to be a danger to the community, were interned. Actually, in Canada, the course followed was to restrict internment to narrowest limits consistent with public safety and public sentiment. Consequently, all enemy aliens who were prepared to give an undertaking to obey the law and to pursue their peaceful avocations were exempted from internment.

F.C. Blair, Esq.,  
Director of Immigration,  
Jackson Building,  
Ottawa.

4. While the question has yet to be inquired into by the Committee on the Treatment of Aliens and Alien Property, it would appear doubtful if such a course of action could safely be followed with respect to Japanese nationals in British Columbia. Indeed, there seems to be little reason for any assurance as to the peaceful behaviour of even Canadian nationals of Japanese origin at a time when racial feelings will be aroused. It is therefore quite possible that action will be required (it seems possible that public sentiment will so demand) to restrain the activities and, consequently, the liberties of such Canadian nationals of Japanese origin whose sympathies may be deemed hostile to this country.

5. It is considered that the responsibility for the recognition and arrest of enemy aliens in time of war rests elsewhere than with the Department of National Defence. On the other hand, it would appear that on this Department will devolve the tasks of setting up such camps as may be required to quarter the internees, and to make provision for their administration and safe custody. It follows then that the Department of National Defence may some day find itself required to provide facilities for the detention of upwards of 10,000 persons in British Columbia alone. As experience shows that on an average the proportion of troops to internees is 1 to 5, it follows that the Department must hold itself in readiness to call out the considerable number of 2,000 troops for this duty.

6. Further, on the defence forces also falls the duty of ensuring the security of defence establishments and bases from which the Naval and Air Forces will operate their patrols. The presence of enemy aliens near these points is obviously undesirable as the greater the number of such persons the greater will be the precautions which will have to be taken. Consequently, it is desirable to prohibit, as far as it may be possible, the transfer to foreign nationals, without prior Government authority, of property adjacent to areas of military importance. Such areas are to be found at Sequimalt, Yorke Island, Prince Rupert, Bella Bella, Alliford Bay in the Queen Charlotte Islands, Winter Harbour on Vancouver Island.

7. Consequently, from the point of view of guarding vulnerable points and from the obligation to administer and staff internment camps, there is every reason to desire a diminution in the number of orientals, especially Japanese, in British Columbia, or at least to ensure that the present number is not allowed to increase.

Yours very truly,

(L.R. LaFleche)  
Deputy Minister.

From: H.Q.S. 7368 Vol. 1.

L. R. LaFleche, Deputy Minister, Department of National Defence, to F. C. Blair, Director of Immigration, Jackson Building, Ottawa, Ontario.  
Microreel 629A, Provincial Archives of British Columbia being a copy of file 322.009 (D358) Directorate of History, Department of National Defence.

- 2 -

4. While the question has yet to be inquired into by the Committee on the Treatment of Aliens and Alien Property, it would appear doubtful if such a course of action could safely be followed with respect to Japanese nationals in British Columbia. Indeed, there seems to be little reason for any assurance as to the peaceful behaviour of even Canadian nationals of Japanese origin at a time when racial feelings will be aroused. It is therefore quite possible that action will be required (it seems possible that public sentiment will so demand) to restrain the activities and, consequently, the liberties of such Canadian nationals of Japanese origin whose sympathies may be deemed hostile to this country.

5. It is considered that the responsibility for the recognition and arrest of enemy aliens in time of war rests elsewhere than with the Department of National Defence. On the other hand, it would appear that on this Department will devolve the tasks of setting up such camps as may be required to quarter the internees, and to make provision for their administration and safe custody. It follows then that the Department of National Defence may some day find itself required to provide facilities for the detention of upwards of 10,000 persons in British Columbia alone. As experience shows that on an average the proportion of troops to internees is 1 to 5, it follows that the Department must hold itself in readiness to call out the considerable number of 2,000 troops for this duty.

6. Further, on the defence forces also falls the duty of ensuring the security of defence establishments and bases from which the Naval and Air Forces will operate their patrols. The presence of enemy aliens near these points is obviously undesirable as the greater the number of such persons the greater will be the precautions which will have to be taken. Consequently, it is desirable to prohibit, as far as it may be possible, the transfer to foreign nationals, without prior Government authority, of property adjacent to areas of military importance. Such areas are to be found at Esquimalt, Yorke Island, Prince Rupert, Bella Bella, Alliford Bay in the Queen Charlotte Islands, Winter Harbour on Vancouver Island.

7. Consequently, from the point of view of guarding vulnerable points and from the obligation to administer and staff internment camps, there is every reason to desire a diminution in the number of orientals, especially Japanese, in British Columbia, or at least to ensure that the present number is not allowed to increase.

Yours very truly,

(L.R. LaFleche)  
Deputy Minister.

SECRET

2nd June  
25th-May, 1938.

Sir,

I beg to refer to your letter of the 18th March, addressed to Major Macklin, relative to the Interdepartmental Committee on Orientals in British Columbia and to append hereunder the views of this Department on this problem from the aspect of National Defence.

1. Because of the problem they present with respect to internal security, and the protection of vulnerable points in time of war, the presence of a considerable number of orientals in British Columbia is a matter which, from the aspect of National Defence, cannot be viewed other than with concern.

2. The Census returns for 1931 indicate that there are some 24,000 persons of Japanese origin resident in British Columbia, of whom some 5,000 are men of military age owing allegiance to Japan. It is understood that accurate information is lacking as to the identity and domicile of many of these orientals, who, it is reported may have considerably increased in number since 1931. In any event the above figures are, in themselves, sufficient to make it expedient to draw up somewhat elaborate plans for the internal security of British Columbia in time of war. It will be realized that a considerable proportion of the troops presently in British Columbia will be required to furnish the garrisons necessary for the military defence of the coastal ports. This being so, the plans now being prepared for the guarding of the vulnerable points along the railways and elsewhere, call for the despatch of some 9 Militia units numbering upwards of 2,000 all ranks, from other parts of Canada.

3. During the Great War all enemy aliens, whom there was reason to fear might prove to be a danger to the community, were interned. Actually, in Canada, the course followed was to restrict internment to narrowest limits consistent with public safety and public sentiment. Consequently, all enemy aliens who were prepared to give an undertaking to obey the law and to pursue their peaceful avocations were exempted from internment.

F.C. Blair, Esq.,  
Director of Immigration,  
Jackson Building,  
Ottawa.

4. While the question has yet to be inquired into by the Committee on the Treatment of Aliens and Alien Property, it would appear doubtful if such a course of action could safely be followed with respect to Japanese nationals in British Columbia. Indeed, there seems to be little reason for any assurance as to the peaceful behaviour of even Canadian nationals of Japanese origin at a time when racial feelings will be aroused. It is therefore quite possible that action will be required (it seems possible that public sentiment will so demand) to restrain the activities and, consequently, the liberties of such Canadian nationals of Japanese origin whose sympathies may be deemed hostile to this country.

5. It is considered that the responsibility for the recognition and arrest of enemy aliens in time of war rests elsewhere than with the Department of National Defence. On the other hand, it would appear that on this Department will devolve the tasks of setting up such camps as may be required to quarter the internees, and to make provision for their administration and safe custody. It follows then that the Department of National Defence may some day find itself required to provide facilities for the detention of upwards of 10,000 persons in British Columbia alone. As experience shows that on an average the proportion of troops to internees is 1 to 5, it follows that the Department must hold itself in readiness to call out the considerable number of 2,000 troops for this duty.

6. Further, on the defence forces also falls the duty of ensuring the security of defence establishments and bases from which the Naval and Air Forces will operate their patrols. The presence of enemy aliens near these points is obviously undesirable as the greater the number of such persons the greater will be the precautions which will have to be taken. Consequently, it is desirable to prohibit, as far as it may be possible, the transfer to foreign nationals, without prior Government authority, of property adjacent to areas of military importance. Such areas are to be found at Maquamalt, Yorke Island, Prince Rupert, Bella Bella, Alliford Bay in the Queen Charlotte Islands, Winter Harbour on Vancouver Island.

7. Consequently, from the point of view of guarding vulnerable points and from the obligation to administer and staff internment camps, there is every reason to desire a diminution in the number of orientals, especially Japanese, in British Columbia, or at least to ensure that the present number is not allowed to increase.

Yours very truly,

(L.R. LaFleche)  
Deputy Minister.

From: H.Q.S. 7368 Vol. 1.

L. R. LaFleche, Deputy Minister, Department of National Defence, to F. C. Blair, Director of Immigration, Jackson Building, Ottawa, Ontario.  
Microreel 629A, Provincial Archives of British Columbia being a copy of file 322.009 (D358) Directorate of History, Department of National Defence.

- 2 -

4. While the question has yet to be inquired into by the Committee on the Treatment of Aliens and Alien Property, it would appear doubtful if such a course of action could safely be followed with respect to Japanese nationals in British Columbia. Indeed, there seems to be little reason for any assurance as to the peaceful behaviour of even Canadian nationals of Japanese origin at a time when racial feelings will be aroused. It is therefore quite possible that action will be required (it seems possible that public sentiment will so demand) to restrain the activities and, consequently, the liberties of such Canadian nationals of Japanese origin whose sympathies may be deemed hostile to this country.

5. It is considered that the responsibility for the recognition and arrest of enemy aliens in time of war rests elsewhere than with the Department of National Defence. On the other hand, it would appear that on this Department will devolve the tasks of setting up such camps as may be required to quarter the internees, and to make provision for their administration and safe custody. It follows then that the Department of National Defence may some day find itself required to provide facilities for the detention of upwards of 10,000 persons in British Columbia alone. As experience shows that on an average the proportion of troops to internees is 1 to 5, it follows that the Department must hold itself in readiness to call out the considerable number of 2,000 troops for this duty.

6. Further, on the defence forces also falls the duty of ensuring the security of defence establishments and bases from which the Naval and Air Forces will operate their patrols. The presence of enemy aliens near these points is obviously undesirable as the greater the number of such persons the greater will be the precautions which will have to be taken. Consequently, it is desirable to prohibit, as far as it may be possible, the transfer to foreign nationals, without prior Government authority, of property adjacent to areas of military importance. Such areas are to be found at Squimalt, Yorke Island, Prince Rupert, Bella Bella, Alliford Bay in the Queen Charlotte Islands, Winter Harbour on Vancouver Island.

7. Consequently, from the point of view of guarding vulnerable points and from the obligation to administer and staff internment camps, there is every reason to desire a diminution in the number of orientals, especially Japanese, in British Columbia, or at least to ensure that the present number is not allowed to increase.

Yours very truly,

(L.R. LaFleche)  
Deputy Minister.



1938

4. While the question has yet to be inquired into by the Committee on the Treatment of Aliens and Alien Property, it would appear doubtful if such a course of action could safely be followed with respect to Japanese nationals in British Columbia. Indeed, there seems to be little reason for any assurance as to the peaceful behaviour of even Canadian nationals of Japanese origin at a time when racial feelings will be aroused. It is therefore quite possible that action will be required (it seems possible that public sentiment will so demand) to restrain the activities and, consequently, the liberties of such Canadian nationals of Japanese origin whose sympathies may be deemed hostile to this country.

5. It is considered that the responsibility for the recognition and arrest of enemy aliens in time of war rests elsewhere than with the Department of National Defence. On the other hand, it would appear that on this Department will devolve the tasks of setting up such camps as may be required to quarter the internees, and to make provision for their administration and safe custody. It follows then that the Department of National Defence may some day find itself required to provide facilities for the detention of upwards of 10,000 persons in British Columbia alone. As experience shows that on an average the proportion of troops to internees is 1 to 5, it follows that the Department must hold itself in readiness to call out the considerable number of 2,000 troops for this duty.

6. Further, on the defence forces also falls the duty of ensuring the security of defence establishments and bases from which the Naval and Air Forces will operate their patrols. The presence of enemy aliens near these points is obviously undesirable as the greater the number of such persons the greater will be the precautions which will have to be taken. Consequently, it is desirable to prohibit, as far as it may be possible, the transfer to foreign nationals, without prior Government authority, of property adjacent to areas of military importance. Such areas are to be found at Esquimalt, Yorke Island, Prince Rupert, Bella Bella, Alliford Bay in the Queen Charlotte Islands, Winter Harbour on Vancouver Island.

7. Consequently, from the point of view of guarding vulnerable points and from the obligation to administer and staff internment camps, there is every reason to desire a diminution in the number of orientals, especially Japanese, in British Columbia, or at least to ensure that the present number is not allowed to increase.

Yours very truly,

(L.R. LaFleche)  
Deputy Minister.

1938  
From: H.Q.S. 7368 Vol. 1.

L. R. LaFleche, Deputy Minister, Department of National Defence, to F. C. Blair, Director of Immigration, Jackson Building, Ottawa, Ontario.  
Microreel 629A, Provincial Archives of British Columbia being a copy of file 322.009 (D358) Directorate of History, Department of National Defence.

- 2 -

4. While the question has yet to be inquired into by the Committee on the Treatment of Aliens and Alien Property, it would appear doubtful if such a course of action could safely be followed with respect to Japanese nationals in British Columbia. Indeed, there seems to be little reason for any assurance as to the peaceful behaviour of even Canadian nationals of Japanese origin at a time when racial feelings will be aroused. It is therefore quite possible that action will be required (it seems possible that public sentiment will so demand) to restrain the activities and, consequently, the liberties of such Canadian nationals of Japanese origin whose sympathies may be deemed hostile to this country.

5. It is considered that the responsibility for the recognition and arrest of enemy aliens in time of war rests elsewhere than with the Department of National Defence. On the other hand, it would appear that on this Department will devolve the tasks of setting up such camps as may be required to quarter the internees, and to make provision for their administration and safe custody. It follows then that the Department of National Defence may some day find itself required to provide facilities for the detention of upwards of 10,000 persons in British Columbia alone. As experience shows that on an average the proportion of troops to internees is 1 to 5, it follows that the Department must hold itself in readiness to call out the considerable number of 2,000 troops for this duty.

6. Further, on the defence forces also falls the duty of ensuring the security of defence establishments and bases from which the Naval and Air Forces will operate their patrols. The presence of enemy aliens near these points is obviously undesirable as the greater the number of such persons the greater will be the precautions which will have to be taken. Consequently, it is desirable to prohibit, as far as it may be possible, the transfer to foreign nationals, without prior Government authority, of property adjacent to areas of military importance. Such areas are to be found at Esquimalt, Yorke Island, Prince Rupert, Bella Bella, Alliford Bay in the Queen Charlotte Islands, Winter Harbour on Vancouver Island.

7. Consequently, from the point of view of guarding vulnerable points and from the obligation to administer and staff internment camps, there is every reason to desire a diminution in the number of orientals, especially Japanese, in British Columbia, or at least to ensure that the present number is not allowed to increase.

Yours very truly,

(L.R. LaFleche)  
Deputy Minister.

4. While the question has yet to be inquired into by the Committee on the Treatment of Aliens and Alien Property, it would appear doubtful if such a course of action could safely be followed with respect to Japanese nationals in British Columbia. Indeed, there seems to be little reason for any assurance as to the peaceful behaviour of even Canadian nationals of Japanese origin at a time when racial feelings will be aroused. It is therefore quite possible that action will be required (it seems possible that public sentiment will so demand) to restrain the activities and, consequently, the liberties of such Canadian nationals of Japanese origin whose sympathies may be deemed hostile to this country.

5. It is considered that the responsibility for the recognition and arrest of enemy aliens in time of war rests elsewhere than with the Department of National Defence. On the other hand, it would appear that on this Department will devolve the tasks of setting up such camps as may be required to quarter the internees, and to make provision for their administration and safe custody. It follows then that the Department of National Defence may some day find itself required to provide facilities for the detention of upwards of 10,000 persons in British Columbia alone. As experience shows that on an average the proportion of troops to internees is 1 to 5, it follows that the Department must hold itself in readiness to call out the considerable number of 2,000 troops for this duty.

6. Further, on the defence forces also falls the duty of ensuring the security of defence establishments and bases from which the Naval and Air Forces will operate their patrols. The presence of enemy aliens near these points is obviously undesirable as the greater the number of such persons the greater will be the precautions which will have to be taken. Consequently, it is desirable to prohibit, as far as it may be possible, the transfer to foreign nationals, without prior Government authority, of property adjacent to areas of military importance. Such areas are to be found at Esquimalt, Yorke Island, Prince Rupert, Bella Bella, Alliford Bay in the Queen Charlotte Islands, Winter Harbour on Vancouver Island.

7. Consequently, from the point of view of guarding vulnerable points and from the obligation to administer and staff internment camps, there is every reason to desire a diminution in the number of orientals, especially Japanese, in British Columbia, or at least to ensure that the present number is not allowed to increase.

Yours very truly,

(L.R. LaFleche)  
Deputy Minister.

4. While the question has yet to be inquired into by the Committee on the Treatment of Aliens and Alien Property, it would appear doubtful if such a course of action could safely be followed with respect to Japanese nationals in British Columbia. Indeed, there seems to be little reason for any assurance as to the peaceful behaviour of even Canadian nationals of Japanese origin at a time when racial feelings will be aroused. It is therefore quite possible that action will be required (it seems possible that public sentiment will so demand) to restrain the activities and, consequently, the liberties of such Canadian nationals of Japanese origin whose sympathies may be deemed hostile to this country.

5. It is considered that the responsibility for the recognition and arrest of enemy aliens in time of war rests elsewhere than with the Department of National Defence. On the other hand, it would appear that on this Department will devolve the tasks of setting up such camps as may be required to quarter the internees, and to make provision for their administration and safe custody. It follows then that the Department of National Defence may some day find itself required to provide facilities for the detention of upwards of 10,000 persons in British Columbia alone. As experience shows that on an average the proportion of troops to internees is 1 to 5, it follows that the Department must hold itself in readiness to call out the considerable number of 2,000 troops for this duty.

6. Further, on the defence forces also falls the duty of ensuring the security of defence establishments and bases from which the Naval and Air Forces will operate their patrols. The presence of enemy aliens near these points is obviously undesirable as the greater the number of such persons the greater will be the precautions which will have to be taken. Consequently, it is desirable to prohibit, as far as it may be possible, the transfer to foreign nationals, without prior Government authority, of property adjacent to areas of military importance. Such areas are to be found at Esquimalt, Yorke Island, Prince Rupert, Bella Bella, Alliford Bay in the Queen Charlotte Islands, Winter Harbour on Vancouver Island.

7. Consequently, from the point of view of guarding vulnerable points and from the obligation to administer and staff internment camps, there is every reason to desire a diminution in the number of orientals, especially Japanese, in British Columbia, or at least to ensure that the present number is not allowed to increase.

Yours very truly,

(L.R. LaFleche)  
Deputy Minister.

1938

From: H.Q.S. 7368 Vol. 1.  
L. R. LaFleche, Deputy Minister, Department of National Defence, to F. C. Blair, Director of Immigration, Jackson Building, Ottawa, Ontario.  
Microreel 629A, Provincial Archives of British Columbia being a copy of file 322,009 (D358) Directorate of History, Department of National Defence.

From: H.Q.S. 7368 Vol. 1.

L. R. LaFleche, Deputy Minister, Department of National Defence, to F. C. Blair, Director of Immigration, Jackson Building, Ottawa, Ontario.  
Microreel 629A, Provincial Archives of British Columbia being a copy of file 322.009 (D358) Directorate of History, Department of National Defence.

- 2 -

4. While the question has yet to be inquired into by the Committee on the Treatment of Aliens and Alien Property, it would appear doubtful if such a course of action could safely be followed with respect to Japanese nationals in British Columbia. Indeed, there seems to be little reason for any assurance as to the peaceful behaviour of even Canadian nationals of Japanese origin at a time when racial feelings will be aroused. It is therefore quite possible that action will be required (it seems possible that public sentiment will so demand) to restrain the activities and, consequently, the liberties of such Canadian nationals of Japanese origin whose sympathies may be deemed hostile to this country.

5. It is considered that the responsibility for the recognition and arrest of enemy aliens in time of war rests elsewhere than with the Department of National Defence. On the other hand, it would appear that on this Department will devolve the tasks of setting up such camps as may be required to quarter the internees, and to make provision for their administration and safe custody. It follows then that the Department of National Defence may some day find itself required to provide facilities for the detention of upwards of 10,000 persons in British Columbia alone. As experience shows that on an average the proportion of troops to internees is 1 to 5, it follows that the Department must hold itself in readiness to call out the considerable number of 2,000 troops for this duty.

6. Further, on the defence forces also falls the duty of ensuring the security of defence establishments and bases from which the Naval and Air Forces will operate their patrols. The presence of enemy aliens near these points is obviously undesirable as the greater the number of such persons the greater will be the precautions which will have to be taken. Consequently, it is desirable to prohibit, as far as it may be possible, the transfer to foreign nationals, without prior Government authority, of property adjacent to areas of military importance. Such areas are to be found at Esquimalt, Yorke Island, Prince Rupert, Bella Bella, Alliford Bay in the Queen Charlotte Islands, Winter Harbour on Vancouver Island.

7. Consequently, from the point of view of guarding vulnerable points and from the obligation to administer and staff internment camps, there is every reason to desire a diminution in the number of orientals, especially Japanese, in British Columbia, or at least to ensure that the present number is not allowed to increase.

Yours very truly,

(L.R. LaFleche)  
Deputy Minister.

4. While the question has yet to be inquired into by the Committee on the Treatment of Aliens and Alien Property, it would appear doubtful if such a course of action could safely be followed with respect to Japanese nationals in British Columbia. Indeed, there seems to be little reason for any assurance as to the peaceful behaviour of even Canadian nationals of Japanese origin at a time when racial feelings will be aroused. It is therefore quite possible that action will be required (it seems possible that public sentiment will so demand) to restrain the activities and, consequently, the liberties of such Canadian nationals of Japanese origin whose sympathies may be deemed hostile to this country.

5. It is considered that the responsibility for the recognition and arrest of enemy aliens in time of war rests elsewhere than with the Department of National Defence. On the other hand, it would appear that on this Department will devolve the tasks of setting up such camps as may be required to quarter the internees, and to make provision for their administration and safe custody. It follows then that the Department of National Defence may some day find itself required to provide facilities for the detention of upwards of 10,000 persons in British Columbia alone. As experience shows that on an average the proportion of troops to internees is 1 to 5, it follows that the Department must hold itself in readiness to call out the considerable number of 2,000 troops for this duty.

6. Further, on the defence forces also falls the duty of ensuring the security of defence establishments and bases from which the Naval and Air Forces will operate their patrols. The presence of enemy aliens near these points is obviously undesirable as the greater the number of such persons the greater will be the precautions which will have to be taken. Consequently, it is desirable to prohibit, as far as it may be possible, the transfer to foreign nationals, without prior Government authority, of property adjacent to areas of military importance. Such areas are to be found at Esquimalt, Yorke Island, Prince Rupert, Bella Bella, Alliford Bay in the Queen Charlotte Islands, Winter Harbour on Vancouver Island.

7. Consequently, from the point of view of guarding vulnerable points and from the obligation to administer and staff internment camps, there is every reason to desire a diminution in the number of orientals, especially Japanese, in British Columbia, or at least to ensure that the present number is not allowed to increase.

Yours very truly,

(L.R. LaFleche)  
Deputy Minister.

A Evacuation of Japanese  
Correspondence, Reports, etc.  
Re..d/1938/44

Reel 629A.

Handwritten notes and markings in the top right corner, including a large red '1' and some illegible scribbles.

4. While the question has yet to be put into the Committee on the Treatment of Alien Property, it would appear doubtful if such a course of action could safely be followed with respect to Japanese nationals in British Columbia. Indeed, there seems to be little reason for any assurance as to the peaceful behaviour of even Canadian nationals of Japanese origin at a time when racial feelings will be aroused. It is therefore quite possible that action will be required (if deemed desirable) to restrict the activities and, consequently, the liberties of such Canadian nationals of Japanese origin whose activities may be deemed hostile to this country.

5. It is considered that the responsibility for the recognition and arrest of enemy aliens in time of war rests with the Department of National Defence. It would appear that on such occasions as the evacuation of enemy aliens, and so forth, the Department of National Defence may have a lead in itself required to provide facilities for the detention of upwards of 10,000 persons in British Columbia alone. An experience shows that on an average the proportion of troops to interned is 1 to 5. It follows that the Department must hold itself in readiness to call out the considerable number of 2,000 troops for this duty.

PRODUCED BY:  
CENTRAL MICROFILM BUREAU  
Dept. of PROVINCIAL SECRETARY  
VICTORIA, B.C.

6. Further, on the defence forces also falls the duty of ensuring the security of defence establishments and bases from which the defence forces will operate their tactics. The presence of enemy aircraft near these points is obviously undesirable as the greater the number of such operations the greater will be the damage which will have to be taken. Consequently, it is desirable to hold, as far as it may be possible, the transfer of foreign nationals, without prior Government sanction, of property adjacent to areas of military importance. Such areas are to be found at Vancouver, Yukon Island, Prince Rupert, Bella Bella, Kitlova Bay in the Queen Charlotte Islands, and other points on Vancouver Island.

7. Consequently, from the point of view of guarding vulnerable points and from the obligation to administer and staff internment camps, there is every reason to desire a diminution in the number of aliens, especially Japanese, in British Columbia, or at least to ensure that the present number is not allowed to increase.

Deputy Minister

4. While the question has yet to be inquired into by the Committee on the Treatment of Aliens and Alien Property, it would appear doubtful if such a course of action could safely be followed with respect to Japanese nationals in British Columbia. Indeed, there seems to be little reason for any assurance as to the peaceful behaviour of even Canadian nationals of Japanese origin at a time when racial feelings will be aroused. It is therefore quite possible that action will be required (it seems possible that public sentiment will so demand) to restrain the activities and, consequently, the liberties of such Canadian nationals of Japanese origin whose sympathies may be deemed hostile to this country.

5. It is considered that the responsibility for the recognition and arrest of enemy aliens in time of war rests elsewhere than with the Department of National Defence. On the other hand, it would appear that on this Department will devolve the tasks of setting up such camps as may be required to quarter the internees, and to make provision for their administration and safe custody. It follows then that the Department of National Defence may some day find itself required to provide facilities for the detention of upwards of 10,000 persons in British Columbia alone. As experience shows that on an average the proportion of troops to internees is 1 to 5, it follows that the Department must hold itself in readiness to call out the considerable number of 2,000 troops for this duty.

6. Further, on the defence forces also falls the duty of ensuring the security of defence establishments and bases from which the Naval and Air Forces will operate their patrols. The presence of enemy aliens near these points is obviously undesirable as the greater the number of such persons the greater will be the precautions which will have to be taken. Consequently, it is desirable to prohibit, as far as it may be possible, the transfer to foreign nationals, without prior Government authority, of property adjacent to areas of military importance. Such areas are to be found at Esquimalt, Yorke Island, Prince Rupert, Bella Bella, Alliford Bay in the Queen Charlotte Islands, Winter Harbour on Vancouver Island.

7. Consequently, from the point of view of guarding vulnerable points and from the obligation to administer and staff internment camps, there is every reason to desire a diminution in the number of orientals, especially Japanese, in British Columbia, or at least to ensure that the present number is not allowed to increase.

Yours very truly,

(L.R. LaFleche)  
Deputy Minister.



Confidential Report to Council  
on  
The Oriental Problem in Canada.

263-38(4)  
file date  
27/12/43  
but must  
have been  
written for  
1938 Commission  
on Immigration

I. The Interdepartmental Committee on Orientals in Canada was instructed to examine and report to Council on the problem created by the presence in British Columbia of a large and constantly increasing population of persons of oriental birth or racial origin. Particular attention was to be devoted to the question of Japanese immigration. In pursuance of these instructions the Committee has examined with care statements by Members of Parliament, press reports, and communications from individuals and organizations interested in this problem. In addition the Committee has had before it a considerable body of material collected and classified in its Interim Report by the Board of Review which was appointed to investigate charges of illegal entries on the Pacific Coast.

II. As a result of this study it has become apparent that the problem divides itself naturally and inevitably into two broad divisions. These can best be stated in the interrogative form:

- A. What can or should be done about future oriental immigration?
- B. What can or should be done about the orientals already in Canada?

There is, of course, an intimate relationship between the two aspects of the problem but as the first question

is more complicated than the second, and as an answer

to the former will tend to facilitate the discovery of a solution for the latter, it has been deemed appropriate to devote this first report to a consideration of

"What can or should be done about Oriental Immigration?"

III. The facts may be simply and quickly stated. There are approximately 46,000 Chinese and 28,000 Japanese in Canada. The Chinese Immigration Act of 1923 put an end, for all practical purposes, to the entrance of Chinese into Canada and the Chinese population of this country is in fact declining at a rate of approximately 1,000 per annum. This rate may be expected to increase during the next few years as a result of the high average age of the Chinese population and of the national characteristic which moves all Chinese exiles to return home to die. The Japanese population of Canada, on the other hand, is growing rapidly (with a birth rate of approximately 35 per 1,000) and this trend is accelerated by the admission of 133 Japanese immigrants (taking the ten year average) per annum. Some 95% of the Japanese but less than 60% of the Chinese residents of Canada are domiciled in British Columbia. As a result of these facts, the anti-oriental agitation in British Columbia is directed primarily against the Japanese although hostility against the Chinese might be expected to revive at once should the present trend in the population of that group be reversed. (1)

---

(1) Eventually, of course, as the native-born Chinese residents come to maturity a gradual increase will commence. But that will be many years in the future as, due to the small number of females in the Chinese community the current birth rate is only 6 per thousand.

IV. The antipathy of the people of British Columbia towards the orientals in their midst is based on facts or beliefs which may be broadly summarized as follows:

- A. The orientals are not physically or culturally assimilable and the Japanese population is increasing at an alarming rate.
- B. As a result of the influx of orientals the white residents of British Columbia are faced with economic competition, which, because it is based on low standards of living, they cannot meet.
- C. Large oriental communities are growing up which are a menace to Canadian social and moral standards.
- D. Orientals admitted as agricultural labourers or domestic servants do not remain in the occupations for which they have been admitted but quickly appear as competitors in other fields.
- E. A large Japanese population in British Columbia will be an element of danger in time of war and may provide opportunities for espionage in time of peace.

Whatever the justice or accuracy of some of these beliefs, and that is a subject upon which the Committee will comment in a later report, there can be no doubt that they are widely and strongly held throughout British Columbia. It may, however, be stated here that, in the opinion of the Committee, there is a sufficient element of truth in certain of these views to present a very real problem and to make it desirable for the Dominion Government to consider seriously the possibility of ameliorative action.

V. While the Committee is of the opinion that the annual increase by immigration is a comparatively

minor element in the general oriental problem in British Columbia, there can be no doubt that this annual influx does add to the magnitude of the problem, and it is, moreover, a strong factor in producing the psychological condition that is prevalent in British Columbia today. It has been made very clear, particularly through the evidence secured by the Board of Review, that the barring of further immigration from the Orient would produce a psychological result in British Columbia altogether out of proportion to its actual and numerical effect on the growth of the oriental population in the Province. For these reasons, the Committee believes that an essential factor in any final solution of the problem under review is provision for the definite discontinuance of the admission of Orientals to Canada as immigrants.

VI. In order to achieve this end it will be necessary to terminate or radically revise the present Immigration Arrangement with Japan. <sup>(1)</sup> It is the opinion of the Committee that this result may be obtained without injury to the good official relations existing between the two countries. The Committee moreover, has taken cognizance of the fact that the Government has been charged with discriminating against Chinese and in favour of Japanese. This charge arises out of the difference in the Canadian immigration laws and regulations applicable to Japanese and Chinese. In this respect, the Committee has noted the opinion expressed

---

(1) For present law and practice see Appendix to this Report, page 10.

by the Prime Minister in the House of Commons on the 17th of February, 1938, when he said:

"May I say that I agree with the view expressed by the right hon. leader of the Opposition ... that so far as China and Japan are concerned, the citizens of these countries deserve like treatment in matters of this kind. I do not think there is any reason why the one people should be favoured more than the other\*."

In the same speech, the Prime Minister emphasized the harm that had been done to Canada in the eyes of Chinese by the passage of the exclusion act (Chinese Immigration Act) of 1923. He added the following:

"My belief is that the question of oriental immigration is best settled by agreement, if it can possibly be settled in that way, rather than by exclusion acts, which are offensive in the eyes of oriental peoples. There is no single measure, I think, more likely to arouse the indignation of a people than that an act, which is avowedly an exclusion act, should be enacted against them by another country."

VII. In view of the considerations set forth in the preceding paragraphs, the Committee believes that a method of exclusion should be found which would apply equally to Japanese and Chinese and which would be acceptable to the Governments of both these countries.

VIII. In pursuance of this object, the Committee has examined and compared the methods of control over oriental immigration employed by the United States, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and other countries. Many of the methods employed in these countries and a number of original suggestions have been considered with a view to their applicability to the Canadian problem. Language tests, permit systems, methods of discrimination in practice but not in law, have all been examined with care. The Committee has come finally

to the conclusion that the proposal described in the following paragraphs offers a straightforward, a highly effective and a mutually acceptable method of attaining the desired result.

IX. The Committee suggests that the Government consider negotiating an agreement with China and a new or revised agreement with Japan on the following lines. Canadians desiring to enter Japan (or China) for residence must belong to certain specified professional or business categories and Japanese (or Chinese) desiring to enter Canada for residence must also belong to one or other of the same categories. Application for admission should be made to official representatives in Canada or Japan (or China) of the country to which entrance is desired. These representatives will either approve or refuse the application. Each application will be decided upon after an investigation by the appropriate authorities into the circumstances under which the applicant proposes to live and work. Admission should be for a stated period which may be extended following a new application. There should be no admission for permanent residence. Residence in Japan (or China) or Canada should not be counted as residence for purposes of establishing domicile for immigration purposes or for acquiring naturalization. The categories should consist of the following:

1. Businessmen engaged in import and/or export trade on a substantial scale.
2. Priests or Missionaries or Teachers.
3. Physicians, Surgeons and Dentists.
4. Engineers and technicians.
5. Banking or insurance managers.
6. Tourists and travellers.

7. Wives and minor children under eighteen of persons admitted in the foregoing categories.
8. Students.
9. Actors and Actresses.

This list of categories would, of course, be subject to negotiation, but it is probable that it would eventually be settled approximately as outlined above. This would result as follows:

- A. There would be no permanent Japanese or Chinese immigration.
- B. Japanese in Canada will no longer be able to bring wives and children to the Dominion.
- C. The number of Japanese (or Chinese) in the above categories who would be temporarily admissible to Canada would be very small. For example, the number of Japanese (of Chinese) physicians, surgeons, dentists, bankers, insurance managers, who would desire to come to Canada would be limited by the fact that few if any white Canadians would employ orientals of this type. Thus there would be little interference with vested interests in this country.
- D. The classes of Canadians who in practice go to the Orient would all fall within the categories named.
- E. The whole agreement would be on a basis of absolute equality, thus "saving the face" of all concerned.

X. In approaching Japan with a view to the negotiation of such an agreement, Canada would be on strong ground. It could be pointed out that for at least eight years Japanese immigrants have enjoyed favoured treatment by Canada. During this period when Canadian immigration regulations excluded all European labour from the Dominion, Japanese agricultural labourers and domestic servants have been admitted. Economic conditions with which the Japanese Government will be acquainted (vide the Japanese on British Columbia relief rolls) have now made it essential <sup>end</sup> that steps be taken to/the influx of Japanese labour.

The Dominion is anxious to attain this end by mutual and reciprocal agreement rather than by unilateral action, and is prepared to negotiate an agreement on a basis of absolute equality and reciprocity.

XI. It will be easier to make a similar agreement with China, for in that case, Canada will be offering something for nothing. In place of the present exclusion act, the new Agreement will offer fair and reciprocal treatment with an opportunity for a few Chinese to enter the Dominion for temporary residence under favourable terms.

XII. It is anticipated that under the terms of such an agreement few orientals would enter Canada in any one year, and these would not be admitted for permanent residence. <sup>(1)</sup> The type of person admitted to Canada would, under such an Agreement, be an economic asset to the Dominion in contradistinction to the "coolie" type that has been admitted under the present arrangement with Japan. The new Agreement could quite properly be presented to the people of British Columbia as marking the definite end of oriental immigration - immigrants being by definition persons entering a country for permanent residence.

---

(1) Consideration should be given to the advisability of including in the agreement an understanding that children born to Japanese or Chinese in Canada, or to Canadians in the Orient would acquire the nationality of their parents and not that of the land of their birth. This condition already exists in the oriental countries and it could be brought about in Canada by including in the Bill embodying the Agreement a statement that this arrangement is to be effective "notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any other Act." This would cover the variation from the principle embodied in the Naturalization and Canadian Nationality Act.



XIII. It is submitted that action of this nature would

- a. be accepted with acclaim by the people of British Columbia and, by removing the fear of continued immigration, would allow more time and improve the atmosphere for the solution of the problem of the orientals already in Canada.
- b. probably be acceptable to the Japanese.
- c. be received with gratification by the Chinese.
- d. remove from Canada the reproach that has been directed against this country because of its unilateral exclusion of the Chinese.
- e. preserve the right of admission to Japan and China for all, or almost all, Canadians who may desire to use it.

PRESENT LAW AND PRACTICE GOVERNING THE  
ADMISSION OF CHINESE AND JAPANESE

Chinese immigrants now admissible to Canada are limited to merchants. Chinese non-immigrants are limited to diplomatic and consular officers, their suites and servants; and students. In practice the following are granted temporary entry under bond or permits - Chinese in transit, visitors, tourists, actors, actresses, teachers and priests.

Under the Japanese Arrangement the following classes and numbers of Japanese nationals are admissible (subject to the applicable provisions of the Immigration Act and Regulations) as immigrants:-

- (a) Wives and unmarried children under eighteen years of age of Japanese established in Canada;
- (b) Agricultural labourers.
- (c) Domestic servants (male or female)
- (d) A maximum of 20 officials or clerks of a type not available in Canada required by substantial Japanese companies engaged in international trade.

The total of the above classes may not exceed 150 per annum and the average number of females may not exceed 50% of the total.

The Japanese Arrangement applies only to Japanese nationals. A Japanese who is a Canadian citizen may secure the admission of his wife and unmarried children under eighteen (if British subjects) since they are not controlled by the Japanese Arrangement, but are admissible under the general Immigration regulations.

The admission of Japanese non-immigrants is limited only by the Immigration Act.

to the former will tend to facilitate the discovery of a solution for the latter, it has been deemed appropriate to devote this first report to a consideration of

"What can or should be done about Oriental Immigration?"

III. The facts may be simply and quickly stated. There are approximately 46,000 Chinese and 28,000 Japanese in Canada. The Chinese Immigration Act of 1923 put an end, for all practical purposes, to the entrance of Chinese into Canada and the Chinese population of this country is in fact declining at a rate of approximately 1,000 per annum. This rate may be expected to increase during the next few years as a result of the high average age of the Chinese population and of the national characteristic which moves all Chinese exiles to return home to die. The Japanese population of Canada, on the other hand, is growing rapidly (with a birth rate of approximately 35 per 1,000) and this trend is accelerated by the admission of 133 Japanese immigrants (taking the ten year average) per annum. Some 95% of the Japanese but less than 60% of the Chinese residents of Canada are domiciled in British Columbia. As a result of these facts, the anti-oriental agitation in British Columbia is directed primarily against the Japanese although hostility against the Chinese might be expected to revive at once should the present trend in the population of that group be reversed. (1)

---

(1) Eventually, of course, as the native-born Chinese residents con-  
maturity a gradual increase will commence. But that will be in  
years in the future as, due to the small number of females in the  
Chinese community the current birth rate is only 6 per thousand

IV. The antipathy of the people of British Columbia towards the orientals in their midst is based on facts or beliefs which may be broadly summarized as follows:

- A. The orientals are not physically or culturally assimilable and the Japanese population is increasing at an alarming rate.
- B. As a result of the influx of orientals the white residents of British Columbia are faced with economic competition, which, because it is based on low standards of living, they cannot meet.
- C. Large oriental communities are growing up which are a menace to Canadian social and moral standards.
- D. Orientals admitted as agricultural labourers or domestic servants do not remain in the occupations for which they have been admitted but quickly appear as competitors in other fields.
- E. A large Japanese population in British Columbia will be an element of danger in time of war and may provide opportunities for espionage in time of peace.

Whatever the justice or accuracy of some of these beliefs, and that is a subject upon which the Committee will comment in a later report, there can be no doubt that they are widely and strongly held throughout British Columbia. It may, however, be stated here that, in the opinion of the Committee, there is a sufficient element of truth in certain of these views to present a very real problem and to make it desirable for the Dominion Government to consider seriously the possibility of ameliorative action.

V. While the Committee is of the opinion that the annual increase by immigration is a comparatively

minor element in the general oriental problem in British Columbia, there can be no doubt that this annual influx does add to the magnitude of the problem, and it is, moreover, a strong factor in producing the psychological condition that is prevalent in British Columbia today. It has been made very clear, particularly through the evidence secured by the Board of Review, that the barring of further immigration from the Orient would produce a psychological result in British Columbia altogether out of proportion to its actual and numerical effect on the growth of the oriental population in the Province. For these reasons, the Committee believes that an essential factor in any final solution of the problem under review is provision for the definite discontinuance of the admission of Orientals to Canada as immigrants.

VI. In order to achieve this end it will be necessary to terminate or radically revise the present Immigration Arrangement with Japan. <sup>(1)</sup> It is the opinion of the Committee that this result may be obtained without injury to the good official relations existing between the two countries. The Committee moreover, has taken cognizance of the fact that the Government has been charged with discriminating against Chinese and in favour of Japanese. This charge arises out of the difference in the Canadian immigration laws and regulations applicable to Japanese and Chinese. In this respect, the Committee has noted the opinion expressed

---

(1) For present law and practice see Appendix to this Report, page 10.

by the Prime Minister in the House of Commons on the 17th of February, 1938, when he said:

"May I say that I agree with the view expressed by the right hon. leader of the Opposition ... that so far as China and Japan are concerned, the citizens of these countries deserve like treatment in matters of this kind. I do not think there is any reason why the one people should be favoured more than the other".

In the same speech, the Prime Minister emphasized the harm that had been done to Canada in the eyes of Chinese by the passage of the exclusion act (Chinese Immigration Act) of 1923. He added the following:

"My belief is that the question of oriental immigration is best settled by agreement, if it can possibly be settled in that way, rather than by exclusion acts, which are offensive in the eyes of oriental peoples. There is no single measure, I think, more likely to arouse the indignation of a people than that an act, which is avowedly an exclusion act, should be enacted against them by another country."

VII. In view of the considerations set forth in the preceding paragraphs, the Committee believes that a method of exclusion should be found which would apply equally to Japanese and Chinese and which would be acceptable to the Governments of both these countries.

VIII. In pursuance of this object, the Committee has examined and compared the methods of control over oriental immigration employed by the United States, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and other countries. Many of the methods employed in these countries and a number of original suggestions have been considered with a view to their applicability to the Canadian problem. Language tests, permit systems, methods of discrimination in practice but not in law, have all been examined with care. The Committee has come finally

to the conclusion that the proposal described in the following paragraphs offers a straightforward, a highly effective and a mutually acceptable method of attaining the desired result.

IX. The Committee suggests that the Government consider negotiating an agreement with China and a new or revised agreement with Japan on the following lines. Canadians desiring to enter Japan (or China) for residence must belong to certain specified professional or business categories and Japanese (or Chinese) desiring to enter Canada for residence must also belong to one or other of the same categories. Application for admission should be made to official representatives in Canada or Japan (or China) of the country to which entrance is desired. These representatives will either approve or refuse the application. Each application will be decided upon after an investigation by the appropriate authorities into the circumstances under which the applicant proposes to live and work. Admission should be for a stated period which may be extended following a new application. There should be no admission for permanent residence. Residence in Japan (or China) or Canada should not be counted as residence for purposes of establishing domicile for immigration purposes or for acquiring naturalization. The categories should consist of the following:

1. Businessmen engaged in import and/or export trade on a substantial scale.
2. Priests or Missionaries or Teachers.
3. Physicians, Surgeons and Dentists.
4. Engineers and technicians.
5. Banking or insurance managers.
6. Tourists and travellers.

7. Wives and minor children under eighteen of persons admitted in the foregoing categories.
8. Students.
9. Actors and Actresses.

This list of categories would, of course, be subject to negotiation, but it is probable that it would eventually be settled approximately as outlined above. This would result as follows:

- A. There would be no permanent Japanese or Chinese immigration.
- B. Japanese in Canada will no longer be able to bring wives and children to the Dominion.
- C. The number of Japanese (or Chinese) in the above categories who would be temporarily admissible to Canada would be very small. For example, the number of Japanese (of Chinese) physicians, surgeons, dentists, bankers, insurance managers, who would desire to come to Canada would be limited by the fact that few if any white Canadians would employ orientals of this type. Thus there would be little interference with vested interests in this country.
- D. The classes of Canadians who in practice go to the Orient would all fall within the categories named.
- E. The whole agreement would be on a basis of absolute equality, thus "saving the face" of all concerned.

X. In approaching Japan with a view to the negotiation of such an agreement, Canada would be on strong ground. It could be pointed out that for at least eight years Japanese immigrants have enjoyed favoured treatment by Canada. During this period when Canadian immigration regulations excluded all European labour from the Dominion, Japanese agricultural labourers and domestic servants have been admitted. Economic conditions with which the Japanese Government will be acquainted (vide the Japanese on British Columbia relief rolls) have now made it essential <sup>end</sup> that steps be taken to/the influx of Japanese labour.



The Dominion is anxious to attain this end by mutual and reciprocal agreement rather than by unilateral action, and is prepared to negotiate an agreement on a basis of absolute equality and reciprocity.

XI. It will be easier to make a similar agreement with China, for in that case, Canada will be offering something for nothing. In place of the present exclusion act, the new Agreement will offer fair and reciprocal treatment with an opportunity for a few Chinese to enter the Dominion for temporary residence under favourable terms.

XII. It is anticipated that under the terms of such an agreement few orientals would enter Canada in any one year, and these would not be admitted for permanent residence. <sup>(1)</sup> The type of person admitted to Canada would, under such an Agreement, be an economic asset to the Dominion in contradistinction to the "coolie" type that has been admitted under the present arrangement with Japan. The new Agreement could quite properly be presented to the people of British Columbia as marking the definite end of oriental immigration - immigrants being by definition persons entering a country for permanent residence.

---

(1) Consideration should be given to the advisability of including in the agreement an understanding that children born to Japanese or Chinese in Canada, or to Canadians in the Orient would acquire the nationality of their parents and not that of the land of their birth. This condition already exists in the oriental countries and it could be brought about in Canada by including in the Bill embodying the Agreement a statement that this arrangement is to be effective "notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any other Act." This would cover the variation from the principle embodied in the Naturalization and Canadian Nationality Act.

XIII. It is submitted that action of this nature  
would

- a. be accepted with acclaim by the people of British Columbia and, by removing the fear of continued immigration, would allow more time and improve the atmosphere for the solution of the problem of the orientals already in Canada.
- b. probably be acceptable to the Japanese.
- c. be received with gratification by the Chinese.
- d. remove from Canada the reproach that has been directed against this country because of its unilateral exclusion of the Chinese.
- e. preserve the right of admission to Japan and China for all, or almost all, Canadians who may desire to use it.

PRESENT LAW AND PRACTICE GOVERNING THE  
ADMISSION OF CHINESE AND JAPANESE

Chinese immigrants now admissible to Canada are limited to merchants. Chinese non-immigrants are limited to diplomatic and consular officers, their suites and servants; and students. In practice the following are granted temporary entry under bond or permit: - Chinese in transit, visitors, tourists, actors, actresses, teachers and priests.

Under the Japanese Arrangement the following classes and numbers of Japanese nationals are admissible (subject to the applicable provisions of the Immigration Act and Regulations) as immigrants:-

- (a) Wives and unmarried children under eighteen years of age of Japanese established in Canada;
- (b) Agricultural labourers.
- (c) Domestic servants (male or female)
- (d) A maximum of 20 officials or clerks of a type not available in Canada required by substantial Japanese companies engaged in international trade.

The total of the above classes may not exceed 150 per annum and the average number of females may not exceed 50% of the total.

The Japanese Arrangement applies only to Japanese nationals. A Japanese who is a Canadian citizen may secure the admission of his wife and unmarried children under eighteen (if British subjects) since they are not controlled by the Japanese Arrangement, but are admissible under the general Immigration regulations.

The admission of Japanese non-immigrants is limited only by the Immigration Act.