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SESSIONAL PAPER NO. 126

THURSDAY MAY 6 - 1943  
CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

RETURN TO AN ADDRESS OF THE HOUSE  
OF COMMONS, dated April 12, 1943 showing:

A copy of all agreements and letters  
between the dominion government and / or  
the British Columbia Security Commission  
and any provincial government dealing with  
the removal of persons of the Japanese  
race from their respective provinces.

The attached information has been received  
by the Secretary of State of Canada from  
the Department of Labour.

*W. A. M. L. L.*

Secretary of State of Canada.

Reference No. 267

Mover: Mr. Green

Dated: April 27, 1943.

NOTE  
THIS FILE MUST BE RETURNED  
TO THE CHIEF CLERK OF  
PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS  
Room 167, House of Commons.

27 PAGES

Year 1943

Reference No. 267

Date: April 12, 1943

Mover: Mr. Green

ORDER OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS


For a copy of all agreements and letters between the dominion government and/or the British Columbia Security Commission and any provincial government dealing with the removal of persons of the Japanese race from their respective provinces.

---

Ottawa, April 21, 1943

ANSWER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

Return attached hereto

  
Deputy Minister of Labour

The Under-Secretary of State,  
Department of the Secretary of State,  
O t t a w a

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OFFICE OF THE PREMIER  
Alberta

Edmonton, May 23rd, 1942.

Dear Sir:

re Proposed Agreement with the British  
Columbia Security Commission as to  
evacuation of Japanese

I have received from Mr. Taylor, the Chairman of the British Columbia Security Commission, a proposed agreement between such Commission and this Province.

This agreement at its foot contains a certificate signed by you "that the plan for the placement of certain persons of the Japanese race in the Province of Alberta, referred to in the foregoing agreement, and the said agreement have been approved by me".

Section 10 (4) of P.C. 1665, setting up the Commission, provides that any plan or plans for the evacuation and placement "shall be submitted to the Minister of Labour and put into operation by the Commission when approved by the Minister".

It is of importance in connection with the consideration of this agreement that the plan referred to, be submitted to the Government of this Province, and I shall, therefore, be obliged, if you will have a copy of same forwarded to me.

In this connection I may say that in my letter of March 27th last, addressed to the Right Honourable the Premier of Canada, I pointed out that in my opinion certain undertakings contained in the memorandum given by Mr. Taylor, Chairman of the Commission, were outside the scope of the powers of the Commission as set out in sections 10 and 11 of P.C. 1665.

These powers were extended by adding paragraphs (5) and (6) to section 10 under P.C. 2483 of March 27th, and a further paragraph (7) by P.C. 3213 of April 21st, but I do not consider that these extensions cover the objections raised in my letter as they do not extend the powers of the Commission so as to enable it to carry into effect the undertakings above mentioned.

Yours truly,

(Sgd.) William Aberhart

P r e m i e r

Honourable Mr. Humphrey Mitchell,  
Minister of Labour,  
OTTAWA, Canada.

C O P Y

Copy sent for the information of Mr. Austin C. Taylor.

Ottawa, June 5, 1942.

Honourable William Aberhart,  
Premier,  
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Mr. Premier:

Enclosed is copy of Order in Council P. C. 4615 of June 2, 1942 which approves of the draft form of agreement between the British Columbia Security Commission and the Province of Alberta in respect to the temporary movement of certain Japanese into your Province.

This is the agreement which was forwarded to you by the British Columbia Security Commission some days ago bearing its signature and my certificate of approval. The enclosed P.C. is to meet the request contained in your letter of recent date for approval of the agreement by His Excellency in Council.

I trust that you will now be able to have the agreement completed and returned to the Commission at an early date.

Yours sincerely,

(SIGNED) HUMPHREY MITCHELL

WSB:pm

PRIVY COUNCIL  
CANADA

AT THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE AT OTTAWA

TUESDAY, the 2nd day of JUNE, 1942

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL:

WHEREAS by Order in Council dated March 4, 1942 (P.C. 1665), as amended by Order in Council dated April 21, 1942 (P.C. 3213), the British Columbia Security Commission was established with authority to enter into an agreement with the Government of any Province relative to the placement in such Province of persons of the Japanese race evacuated from the protected areas of British Columbia under the provisions of regulations authorized by said P.C. 1665, and relative to the removal of such persons from such Province upon the termination of the state of war now existing between Canada and Japan;

AND WHEREAS the aforementioned Commission is desirous of entering into an agreement with the Province of Alberta for the aforesaid purpose, in accordance with draft attached hereto;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Alberta, for greater certainty, has requested that the Governor in Council concur in the terms of the aforementioned agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, His Excellency the Governor General in Council, on the recommendation of the Minister of Labour, and under the authority of the War Measures Act, Chapter 206 of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927, is pleased to concur and doth hereby concur in the terms of an agreement to be made between the British Columbia Security Commission (acting in its capacity of agent for the Crown) and the Government of the Province of Alberta, in accordance with draft attached hereto.

(sgd.) A.D.P. Heeney,  
Clerk of the Privy Council.

The Honourable  
the Minister of Labour.

COPY

OFFICE OF THE PREMIER  
Alberta

Edmonton, June 16, 1942.

Dear Sir:

re Proposed Agreement with the  
British Columbia Security  
Commission

I duly received your letter of the 5th instant, with enclosures as mentioned, for which I thank you.

You did not, however, enclose a copy of plan, as requested in my letter of the 23rd ultimo.

When Colonel Gibson, of Ottawa was here on the 13th instant the Deputy Attorney General took the opportunity of mentioning the matter to him and he said that he would bring it to your attention, and would also have additional copies of the Agreement forwarded for necessary execution.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) William Aberhart

Premier

Honourable Mr. Humphrey Mitchell,  
Minister of Labour,  
OTTAWA, Canada.

C O P Y

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Ottawa, June 17, 1942.

Dear Mr. Henwood:

With reference to your conversation with Colonel Goodwin Gibson in connection with the matter of the Agreement between the British Columbia Security Commission and the Province of Alberta which has since been approved by Privy Council, my understanding from Colonel Goodwin Gibson is that you are somewhat in doubt as to the "plan" which is referred to in the Agreement prepared by the British Columbia Security Commission.

The plan referred to is the location of Japanese families on Alberta Sugar Beet farms and the Agreement itself constitutes the only formal document.

To arrived at the terms of the Agreement there were a number of telephone conversations between Ottawa and Vancouver but, as above stated, the formal document is the Agreement prepared and submitted to you.

If there is anything else necessary in this matter I shall be glad to hear from you.

Thanking you very much for your co-operation,  
I am,

Yours sincerely,

A. MacNamara  
Associate Deputy Minister.

Mr. Geo. B. Henwood, K.C.,  
Deputy Attorney General,  
Edmonton, Alberta.



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C O P Y

Ottawa, June 22, 1942.

Honourable William Aberhart,  
Premier of Alberta,  
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Mr. Premier:

Your letter of June 16th relative to the basic "plan" underlying the proposed agreement between the British Columbia Security Commission and your Province to cover the temporary placement in Alberta of certain persons of the Japanese race is acknowledged and my Deputy wrote to Mr. Henwood, K.C., your Deputy Attorney General on June 17th, on that subject, which letter no doubt you have since seen. In the event that it may not have come to your notice I enclose a copy for your information.

There is very little further that I can usefully say in amplification of that letter, other than that the plan to place, maintain, control and eventually remove these people was a conditional one, arrived at through the medium of conferences between the Commission, representatives of your Government and an association of the interested sugar beet farmers, followed by long distance conversations and telegrams passing between the Commission and our Department here.

The conditions of the plan, as the Dominion understands them, are fully set out in the authorized draft agreement now in your hands and the agreement as approved by him comprises the complete plan.

Trusting this is the assurance you require and thanking you very much for your cooperation, I am,

Yours very truly,

(SIGNED) HUMPHREY MITCHELL

WSB:AJ



C O P Y

BRITISH COLUMBIA SECURITY COMMISSION  
MARINE BUILDING  
VANCOUVER, B. C.

August 1, 1942.

A. MacNamara, Esq.,  
Associate Deputy Minister of Labour,  
Parliament Buildings,  
O T T A W A, O n t a r i o.

Dear Sir:                    Re: Alberta Agreement.

The formal agreement between this Commission and the Province of Alberta forwarded by you to us on April 28th has now been signed by Mr. Alberhart, and was returned to us today.

There are only two executed copies of this agreement, one has been kept by Mr. Aberhart and the second is enclosed herewith pursuant to your request.

In view of the fact that Premier Bracken of Manitoba thought it unnecessary to have any formal agreement our understanding with that Province was expressed in an exchange of letters, copies of which are enclosed for your information. \*

Yours very truly,

BRITISH COLUMBIA SECURITY COMMISSION,

(Sgd.) A. M. Harper,

Legal Department.

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Encls.

*Copy* (X) 12

THIS AGREEMENT made in duplicate this 6th day of  
May, A. D. 1942,

BETWEEN:

BRITISH COLUMBIA SECURITY COMMISSION, a Commission  
established by the Governor-General-in-Council under  
the powers conferred by the "War Measures Act",  
(Hereinafter called the "COMMISSION")

OF THE FIRST PART:

AND:

HIS MAJESTY THE KING IN THE RIGHT OF THE PROVINCE OF  
ALBERTA, represented herein by the Honourable  
  
(Hereinafter called the "PROVINCE")

OF THE SECOND PART:

WHEREAS Order in Council dated March 4, 1942 (P.C.1665)  
as amended by Order in Council dated March 27, 1942 (P.C. 2483)  
and Order in Council dated April 21, 1942 (P.C. 3213) provides,  
inter alia,

- (a) for the establishing of the British Columbia Security Commission;
- (b) that said Commission shall plan, supervise and direct the evacuation from the protected areas of British Columbia of all persons of the Japanese race, determine all matters relative to the temporary placement of such persons (including power to vary or amend any placement order), for the continuation of the state of war now existing, pursuant to a plan or plans to be submitted to and approved of by the Minister of Labour for Canada;
- (c) that any such plan or plans, approved as aforesaid, may authorize the Commission to enter into an agreement with the Government of any Province relative to the placement in such Province of persons of the Japanese race, evacuated as aforesaid, and that any such agreement may provide

that any such persons will be removed from such Province upon the termination of the state of war now existing between Canada and Japan;

AND WHEREAS the Commission has submitted to the Minister of Labour for Canada a plan authorizing the Commission to enter into an agreement with the Province of Alberta for the temporary placement in certain areas in said Province of certain persons of the Japanese race evacuated as aforesaid, of which plan the said Minister has approved;

AND WHEREAS the Commission, in the exercise of its powers and at the request of the Province, has agreed to enter into these presents;

NOW THEREFORE THIS AGREEMENT WITNESSETH:-

1. The Commission agrees that it will send into the Province of Alberta only persons of the Japanese race who are agricultural workers together with the wives and families of such Japanese.
2. The Commission agrees that it will assume all responsibility for the movement of the said Japanese to the district in Alberta where they are to be placed, and will see that they are properly housed and provided for at the places in Alberta where they are to be temporarily settled.
3. The Commission will in conjunction with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police exercise strict supervision over such Japanese and their families during the entire period of their residence in Alberta, and in pursuance of the provisions of the said Order-in-Council will request the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to provide all necessary police protection in the districts in Alberta where such Japanese are placed for the maintenance of public security throughout the term of the residence of such Japanese in the said Province.
4. The Commission agrees that no members of the Japanese race moved on its orders into the Province of Alberta will become

a charge on the said Province or on any city, town, village or municipality therein, for relief, medical services, medicine or hospitalization or otherwise. Should any of such Japanese require hospitalization or medical care or dental care, and should they fail to pay for the same as required, the Commission will pay any amount which the Province or any such city, town, village or municipality may incur for such treatment.

5. The Commission further agrees to maintain supervision over such Japanese in order to insure that they will remain resident on the farms to which they are allocated and will not move into or reside in any city in Alberta or become a charge on any municipality in the said Province.

6. The Commission further agrees that should the school authorities of any municipality or school district in Alberta object to the presence of Japanese children in the public schools maintained by such authorities the Commission will provide such education for the said Japanese children as in its opinion is requisite under the circumstances.

7. The parties hereto declare that it is their desire that persons of the Japanese race who are moved by the Commission to Alberta as aforesaid will be employed by residents of Alberta at the regular contract rate for labour and for any other farm or agricultural work at the prevailing rate in the district in which such Japanese are placed, and that each head of a Japanese family so placed will be provided with a house suitable for habitation by said family throughout the year, including a suitable garden plot with each such house, and that said family shall be permitted to improve such house for winter use and occupy the same until such time as their employment is finally terminated. The parties hereto contemplate that the employment of such Japanese in certain areas will be intermittent by reason of the nature of the farm labour in which they will be employed, but that wherever possible the Japanese workman and his family, between seasons and until their employment is finally termi-

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nated as aforesaid, shall be permitted to occupy a house upon or in vicinity to the lands on which he is or has been employed.

8. The Commission will make orders respecting the conduct, activities and discipline of the Japanese removed by them into the Province of Alberta and will request the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to enforce such orders throughout the term of residence of such Japanese in Alberta.

9. The Commission may exercise its power to vary or amend any order of placement made pursuant to this agreement and agrees that when, in the opinion of the Council of any municipality in which Japanese are placed pursuant hereto, it is in the best interests of such municipality that said Japanese be moved the Commission will cause them to be moved therefrom within a reasonable period of time.

10. The Commission agrees to remove or to have removed from the Province, upon the termination of the state of war now existing between Canada and Japan, the Japanese temporarily placed or maintained within the Province pursuant to the terms of this agreement as requested so to do by the Province.

11. The expression "Japanese" or "persons of the Japanese race", where used herein, shall be deemed to include such persons moved into the Province of Alberta by the Commission as are of Japanese origin.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF British Columbia Security Commission has caused these presents to be executed on its behalf by Austin C. Taylor, its Chairman, and the Honourable William Aberhart, B. A., Premier and Minister of Education has hereunto set his hand on behalf of the Province.

SIGNED on behalf of the  
British Columbia Security  
Commission by Austin C.  
Taylor, Chairman, in the  
presence of )

BRITISH COLUMBIA SECURITY COMMISSION  
By (Sgd.) Austin C. Taylor  
Chairman.

SIGNED on behalf of the  
Province of Alberta by the  
Honourable Wm. Aberhart

in the presence of

)  
)  
) (Sgd.) William Aberhart  
)  
)  
)

(Sgd.) Geo. B. Henwood (?)

I certify that the plan for the placement of certain persons of  
the Japanese race in the Province of Alberta, referred to in the  
foregoing agreement, and the said agreement have been approved by  
me.

Minister of Labour.

Sgd. Humphrey Mitchell



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May 29, 1942.

Honourable John Bracken,  
Premier, Province of Manitoba,  
Legislative Buildings,  
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Dear Mr. Premier:

Enclosed please find Agreement in duplicate, between this Commission and your Province, which has been duly approved by the Honourable Minister of Labour for Canada.

I trust this Agreement contains the undertakings desired and would be pleased if you would have the authorized Minister of your Government execute the Agreement and have the original returned to us.

Kindly attach a certified copy of your Provincial Order-in-Council authorizing your Minister to execute the Agreement.

Yours sincerely,

"AUSTIN C. TAYLOR"

---

Austin C. Taylor, Chairman,  
B. C. Security Commission.

AMH/AJ  
Encls. 2

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA

CANADA

OFFICE OF THE PREMIER

Winnipeg.

June 23, 1942.

Mr. Austin C. Taylor,  
Chairman,  
B. C. Security Commission,  
Marine Building,  
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Mr. Taylor:

Your letter of May 29, 1942, enclosing proposed agreement in duplicate between the B. C. Security Commission and His Majesty the King in the right of the Province of Manitoba, reached me in due course. I was somewhat surprised to receive such a formal document after the very clear understanding we had in connection with your work in this Province.

While I have not taken occasion to go into the matter exhaustively, my impression is that in wartime the Dominion Government or its agent, the B. C. Security Commission, has the power to send B. C. Canadian citizens of Japanese origin to any place in Canada. For the Dominion Government or its agent, the B. C. Security Commission, to ask the consent of the Manitoba Government to the establishment of Japanese in the Province of Manitoba we took as a courtesy to us, and to elicit our co-operation. The courtesy we appreciated and our co-operation we have not withheld.

I take it that this proposed agreement expresses your recognition that the Commission does not expect the Manitoba Government to co-operate in any movement which might not be handled in a manner unfair to the Province and its municipalities.

Consequently, in the agreement your Commission makes several covenants. But you do not propose in the agreement that the Province of Manitoba should enter into any covenants whatever.

From your standpoint we cannot see what merit attaches to our entering into an agreement which contains no covenants upon our part. From our standpoint we cannot see merit in signing the agreement, first because we are willing to accept your gratuitous undertakings and second because if you do not keep your covenants, we should have to get the consent of the Attorney General of Canada before we could enter suit against your Commission should such a desire ever be contemplated. Your Commission having no assets in Manitoba and in all matters being deemed to be an agent of the Federal Crown, we should in effect be seeking

June 23, 1942.

a legal remedy against the Government of Canada. We think that in the event of any difficulty - which by the way we do not expect - we could seek recourse to better advantage by making public protest or by withholding co-operation.

Therefore, we cannot see that there is any practical purpose to be served in our signing the agreement. In any event we have no legal authority to pass an Order-in-Council approving such an agreement.

So far as we are concerned, it will be quite satisfactory to us if you will write us setting out that the Commission in bringing B. C. Japanese to Manitoba proposes to send only persons of the Japanese race who are agricultural workers, together with the wives and families of such Japanese; that it will assume all responsibility for the movement of the said Japanese to the district in Manitoba where they are to be placed, and will see that they are properly housed and provided for at the places in Manitoba where they are to be temporarily settled, etc. etc., as set out in the proposed agreement. I shall be glad to acknowledge such a letter; and in my acknowledgment I will state that it is our desire that persons of the Japanese race who are moved by the Commission to Manitoba will be employed by residents of Manitoba at the regular contract rate of labour, etc.

In this way the arrangement verbally discussed with different ones of your officials and accepted by us can be covered, we think, quite satisfactorily by an exchange of letters.

Yours very truly,

"JOHN BRACKEN".

June 30, 1942.

Honourable John Bracken,  
Premier, Province of Manitoba,  
Legislative Buildings,  
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Dear Mr. Premier:

Your letter of the 23rd instant regarding the proposed agreement between this Commission and your Province was duly received.

The agreement referred to was forwarded to you for execution as a matter of course as other Provinces insisted upon having a formal undertaking by this Commission approved by the Dominion Government, covering the guarantees of this Commission in connection with hospitalization, relief, and removal after the war, etc. We felt that your Government might wish such an agreement as a matter of record for the assurance of the people of your Province that the Dominion Government guaranteed the removal of any Japanese placed in Manitoba by this Commission. However, it is very pleasing to us to note that your Province does not insist upon such a formality.

As suggested in your letter it is quite satisfactory to us to have our understanding set forth in an exchange of letters, and we would be pleased therefore, to have you accept this letter as setting forth the agreement between us as follows:-

- (1) That we propose to send to Manitoba only Japanese persons suitable for agricultural work, together with their families.
- (2) That we will assume all responsibility for the movement of said Japanese to the districts in Manitoba where they are to be placed and will see that they are properly housed and provided for at the places in Manitoba where they are temporarily settled.
- (3) In conjunction with the R.C.M.P. we will exercise supervision of such Japanese in Manitoba for the maintenance of public security during the term of their residence in Manitoba.
- (4) We agree that no such Japanese will become a charge on your Province or on any city, town, village or municipality therein, for relief, medical services, medicine, hospitalization or otherwise. We agree to reimburse your Province or any city, town, village or municipality therein the amount actually expended for hospitalization, medical or dental care provided to any such Japanese should the Japanese fail to pay for same as required.

June 30, 1942.

- 2 -

- (5) We will maintain the supervision of such Japanese to prevent their movement from the districts in which they are placed in your Province.
- (6) We agree to provide education for Japanese children should the school authorities of any municipal or school district of your Province object to their presence in your public schools.
- (7) We expect the people of Manitoba to employ such Japanese persons at the regular contract rate for labour and to provide the Japanese with suitable housing accommodation for use throughout the year with a garden plot, with permission to the Japanese to improve any such house as they see fit, and although not employed for the whole year by the farmer on whose property they are placed, that they may occupy any such house for the whole year.
- (8) We agree to make such Orders respecting the conduct, activities and discipline of such Japanese that may be necessary and to request the R. C. M. P. to enforce same.
- (9) We agree that when in the opinion of any council or Municipality of your Province it is considered in the best interests to remove any such Japanese persons, this Commission will cause them to be moved therefrom within a reasonable length of time.
- (10) We agree to remove from your Province any Japanese placed therein through this Commission upon the termination of the state of war now existing between Canada and Japan.

We believe this letter covers all the points previously discussed and would be pleased to have your acknowledgment and confirmation of our understanding.

Yours very truly,

"AUSTIN C. TAYLOR"

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Austin C. Taylor, Chairman,  
B. C. Security Commission.

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PROVINCE OF MANITOBA

CANADA

OFFICE OF THE PREMIER

Winnipeg.

July 13, 1942.

Mr. Austin C. Taylor,  
Chairman,  
B. C. Security Commission,  
Marine Building,  
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Mr. Taylor:

I beg to acknowledge your favor of the 30th ultimo. Your letter sets out substantially the understanding which we had arrived at through our correspondence and conversation with the representatives of your Commission.

While we have no machinery for fixing the rate of wages to be paid to agricultural workers, it is naturally the desire of the Government that the Japanese who are in the Province under your supervision should receive rates of pay which are not out of line with the normal rates prevailing in the districts where they are employed.

Again assuring you of our desire to extend to your Commission every reasonable measure of co-operation, I am,

Yours very truly,

"JOHN BRACKEN".

COPY

ONTARIO  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR  
Office of the Minister

TORONTO,  
March 5, 1942.

Dear Humphrey:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 28th instant referring to the question of Japanese labour.

I have not as yet placed your letter before my colleagues because I wanted to have a better understanding as what is contemplated.

For your information, while it is true we have a number of camps along the unfinished portion of the Trans-Canada Highway between Schreiber and White River, which could be made ready very promptly we have no camp equipment for cooking or sleeping. Most of the equipment we have was loaned to the Military Department at the beginning of the war.

The Provincial Government has no machinery or equipment to construct a highway. During the past number of years we have been letting our highway work by contract, the contractor providing their own equipment, except, of course, picks, shovels and small machinery, such as is being used on the highway north of Sault Ste. Marie by the war conscientious objectors.

Before placing the matter before the Cabinet again I would be glad if you would give me the following information: Will Japanese brought in to do such work as you suggest be considered as internees; what action will be taken in the event of any of them leaving the work and going to other parts of Ontario; Is it the intention of the Federal Government to remove them from Ontario at the conclusion of the war? I am assuming the Federal Government intends to bear the expenses, including wages, of these Japanese.

After receiving this information I will then place the matter before the Premier and the Cabinet.

Yours sincerely,

(sgd.) Peter Heenan,  
Minister of Labour.

Honourable Humphrey Mitchell,  
Minister of Labour,  
Parliament Buildings,  
OTTAWA, Ontario.

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Ottawa, March 7, 1942.

Dear Peter:

Thanks very much for your letter of March 5th in reply to my inquiry of February 28th on the question of the use of Japanese labour in provincial camps between Schreiber and White River.

On the question of cooking and sleeping equipment we are prepared to borrow this from the Department of National Defence.

We propose to pay .25¢ per hour and have those placed in the camps provide their own board. This rate would justify a good deal of hand work such as could be done with small tools which it was hoped your highway department could supply. If it was necessary to rent machinery the Dominion would pay the cost.

You ask if the Japanese would be considered as internees. The answer is no.

The Honourable Minister of Justice has authority to pass regulations governing the actions of enemy aliens. In respect to these Japanese labour camps it is proposed to pass regulations requiring that men stay in camp unless given permission by the Mounted Police to leave,

You ask in regard to removal from Ontario at the conclusion of the war. Obviously it is too early to say what the general policy will be in regard to Japanese after the war; nevertheless any representations by provinces in this regard would have to be given serious consideration.

The action already taken restrict very materially the freedom of Japanese enemy aliens or Canadians of Japanese racial origin. For example they cannot acquire property nor lease land nor acquire growing crops.

You ask in regard to expenses and it is the intention that the Dominion Government should pay the expenses although we thought you would be willing to allow us the use of the camps; loan us sufficient equipment and tools as you have and supply engineering advice.

I am of the opinion mutually satisfactory arrangements can easily be worked out if the Province of Ontario could agree to the purpose in plan.

Yours very truly,

(sgd.) Humphrey Mitchell,  
Minister of Labour

Honourable Peter Heenan,  
Minister of Labour,  
Province of Ontario,  
TORONTO.



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Ottawa, April 2, 1942.

Dear Peter:

As I understand you want something in the nature of an authoritative statement which might be used in the legislature immediately, I have as requested in your letter of April 1st initialled a memorandum which you sent me respecting Japanese labour and return same herewith.

The British Columbia Security Commission is the operative commission in connection with this matter and is the authority authorized by order in council to enter into agreements such as you have in mind.

I am sending a copy of the memorandum to Major Austin Taylor, asking him to prepare a formal agreement along this line and send it to you in triplicate, one copy to be retained by you, one after completion to be returned to the British Columbia Security Commission and one to be returned to this office for filing.

I may say that similar agreements are being entered into with the Provinces of Alberta and Manitoba and it is just as well to have them all made in the same way.

May I again express my appreciation for the co-operation being extended to us by the Province of Ontario and by you and your Department in assisting us to deal with this national problem.

Yours very truly,

(sgd.)  
Humphrey Mitchell,  
Minister of Labour.

Honourable Peter Heenan,  
Minister of Labour for Ontario,  
Toronto, Ontario.

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COPY  
c/c sent to: Mr. L.J. Trottier,  
Hon. Mr. P.M. Dewan.

OTTAWA, May 19, 1942.

The Honourable Peter Heenan,  
Minister of Labour,  
Parliament Bldgs.,  
TORONTO, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Heenan:

With reference to the Japanese labour to be used on sugar beet farms and at other agricultural work in Ontario, I am enclosing for your information copy of P.C. 3903, dated May 11, 1942, in the third and fourth paragraphs of which you will note that provision for the placing of these agricultural Japanese is made a part of the larger plan for the recruiting of farm labour as covered by special agreement last year and now, by this P.C., authorized to be continued for the present fiscal year.

It was deemed preferable to handle it in this manner rather than have a multiplicity of agreements and regulations. The originals of the attached agreement have already been executed by the Honourable Mr. Dewan and myself under date of May 12th.

As the agreement does not specifically mention the Japanese workers nor provide for the special housing accommodation, policing and other care which will be necessary in their case, I propose that you and I cover that part of the problem, on behalf of our respective governments, by an exchange of letters.

My understanding of our written and verbal exchanges to date is (1) that the Dominion will arrange for the transportation (including meals and care en route<sup>1</sup> of the Japanese referred to in P.C. 3903, from wherever they may be in Canada to the location of the agricultural work to be provided for them in Ontario, and for their<sup>1</sup>return transportation out of the Province at the termination of their respective employments and will pay the full cost thereof; (2) that the Province will supply and supervise the employment subject to the terms of the above mentioned agreement; (3) that the Dominion will supply and pay for adequate policing supervision of said Japanese during their sojourn in the Province; (4) that the province will arrange for adequate housing accommodation for said Japanese workers and such of their dependents as by our mutual agreement are allowed to accompany or follow them, and in such cases as the Unemployment Insurance Commission or its qualified representative approves of alterations or repairs to existing accommodation or the erection of additional accommodation, the Dominion will fully pay for same; (5) that the Dominion undertakes that none of said Japanese shall become a charge upon the Province or any of its municipal corporations for hospitalization or medical or dental care; (6) that in other respects the terms of the aforesaid agreement of May 12, 1942, shall apply fully to the employment of said Japanese unless otherwise subsequently agreed to in writing between the Minister of Labour for the Dominion and the Minister of Labour for the Province.

.....over

I might add that while it is my understanding that the terms of the agreement shall apply, insofar as possible, it is also my understanding that it is the intention of our two governments that the placing of the Japanese in Ontario is to be for the duration of the war and, with that in mind, so far as possible the employment to be supplied shall be of a continuing nature and the housing accommodation will be such as may be readily convertible into winter housing wherever same may be necessary.

If these understandings meet yours, will you please confirm same at your earliest convenience so that final arrangements may be completed.

I am forwarding a copy of this letter for the information of the Honourable Mr. Dewan, Minister of Agriculture, and Mr. L.J. Trottier, Chief Commissioner of the Unemployment Insurance Commission.

Yours sincerely,

(sgd.) Humphrey Mitchell,  
Minister of Labour.

WSB

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Certified to be a true copy of a Minute of a Meeting of  
the Committee of the Privy Council, approved by  
His Excellency the Governor General on the 11th,  
May 1942.

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The Committee of the Privy Council, have had before them a report, dated 7th May, 1942, from the Minister of Labour, representing that an amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) has been made available from the War Appropriation (1942-43) for the purpose of permitting the Dominion to assist the Province of Ontario to execute a plan for recruiting, transporting to, and placing upon farms within the Province, during the fiscal year 1942-43, Labourers, male and female, suitable for farm work, who are available in other provinces and in the urban centres of said Province, to the end that a threatened curtailment in agricultural production essential to the national war effort may be averted;

That it is deemed expedient that the Minister of Labour be authorized, on behalf of the Dominion, to enter into an agreement with the Province of Ontario setting forth the conditions under which the aforementioned assistance may be given and under which Dominion expenditure in respect thereto may be administered, pursuant to draft agreement attached hereto; and

That, as a part of the activities under the aforesaid plan, it is proposed to employ certain of the persons of the Japanese race, moved from the restricted areas of Canada, as labourers on sugar beet farms and at other agricultural work in the Province of Ontario and it is deemed expedient that, in addition to the \$100,000 referred to in paragraph 1 above, the Minister of Labour be authorized to expend from the moneys allotted to the Department of Labour from the War Appropriation 1942-43 for the movement, placement, housing and care of said persons, an amount not in excess of \$15,000 to provide necessary housing accommodation, policing, and/or other care for such of the said persons as may be moved into said Province and employed under the terms of said agreement.

The Honourable  
The Minister of Labour.

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DATE JUL 22 1976

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The Committee of the House of Commons... have had before them a report... from the Minister of Labour... the total year 1975-76... and giving some terms within the province... provinces and in the urban centres of said provinces... production essential to the national effort may be... That it is deemed expedient that the Minister of Labour be authorized, on behalf of the Dominion, to enter into an agreement with the Province of Ontario... the conditions under which Dominion expenditure in the... should not be administered, pursuant to such agreement... That, as a part of the activities under the... it is proposed to employ certain of the... persons of the Japanese race, moved from the restricted areas of Canada, as laborers on sugar cane farms and in other agricultural work in the Province of Ontario and in other... is deemed expedient that, in addition to the \$1,000,000... letter in paragraph 1 above, the Minister of Labour be authorized to expend from the amount allotted to the Department of Labour from the \$1,000,000... for the movement, placement, housing and care of said persons, an amount not in excess of \$10,000 to provide necessary housing accommodations, clothing, and other... care for each of the said persons as may be moved from said Province and employed under the terms of said agreement.

The Honorable  
The Minister of Labour