

U. BC Archives. Yakaichi Umeyama

Yakaichi Umeyama's Collection 18-1. Letters 17-4

Deposited from Chiyo Umeyama in Slocan City 8/6/42. 17-8.

- writing in common kitchen after 10 PM. because crowding precludes earlier.

- living in the hall.

- everyone up by 6:30 AM.

- kitchen & dining room combined is too small for all in house so must wait till 9 PM to prep breakfast.

- "some people complain that Hastings Park better as didn't have to cook meals in a hot kitchen

- no beds ready when arrived now have double decker bunks. she's her mom in bottom, majority on top; Betty's Bobby in single double decker.

- food a little more expensive than Van. bread 9-10¢ / loaf. groceries 2-3¢ higher. meat pretty high; tomatoes 35¢ / lb. milk same price eggs cheaper

- no electricity but wiring being installed

- water stopped temporarily.

- Dear Tak 16/6/42

- we are still staying at the big room containing five families. The place has so small a stove that we cannot cook there so we come about a block away... to

SLOCAN

cook's eat our meals.

June 25/42 - 3 families all 6 children still in the room. 2 with 5 children

- one fam. Goto went from Strawberry Hill to ^{city} but was sent back. sus. children all girls except one boy of fifteen

∴ 13 children + 4 adults in 1 room

- have electricity now. Light out 11:30.

June 28/42 - current only 9 - 11:30 PM.
- stuff stays in storage.
- Sewing machines in main room with other waiting electricity → screw or led cross

July 4/42 - mosquitoes numerous.
- carpenter came Mon but no lumber.
- the ones that come to menfolk get better treatment here

July 7/42 - reiterates that fams to men get things fixed up much better than menless fams.
- ~~see~~ hall is at least cooler than upstairs rooms.

- Shio has a little garden in "one of white peoples yard" nappa onion radish lettuce beets & carrots. - lady lends her pose. Tomatoes ~~are~~ plants bought from Doukobous.

- Doukobous peddlers avoid center of town as store owners get mad.

- school for ch start July 6. 2PM - 4PM.

- picked blueberries

July 9/42 - Canned goods more expensive

- relief allowance \$~~16~~6.90 / wk.
- applied for sewing job - no work yet

July 13/42 - Sunday school

July 20/42 - difficulty in sugar ration

- cooks separately from her M from now
- bunkhouse - old skating rink
- mail from ^{post} office
- 2 blks of downtown
- 2 groc stores, one butcher shop; 1 p.o.
- 1 store on highway & meat, groc
- & gasoline. Beer & gas; packages.
- school next to highway store
- high school next door.
- 3 1/2 children using regular
- school in summer months.

July 23/42 - no undertaker → Wilson
missory pg 3

- funeral service in dance hall
where she stayed for a week on
her arrival.
- Jps & whites. & Angicans in
conducting.
- new arrivals in tent houses.

Aug 5/42 - men arriving from the
road camps by the railroad
* in tents 2 miles from Slocan

- off relief when office learned
husband working.
- reports that those men who came
first; got jobs; plumbers; electrici-
ans are putting their friends in
whether they know the work or not

- strike - wht foreman not very good
used abusive language & threats
so men quit wth demanding comm.
fire him. - foreman fired. *

Aug 16 - cost of living high - hard to keep
going out relief. - office won't
give anything till HQ ok's it.
social worker ask questions &
said would call Vancouver.

Miss
Moscrop
Aug 18
letter

"Everybody who saw the place says ours
are the worst place. They name it
No 2 Hastings Park & its worse than
Hastings Park as we have to cook our
own meal in same room we
sleep in & we can see the people
in the toilet while we cook &
eat as the said toilet is right
at the back of our so-called kitchen"

- complains of noise by gamblers at night

- hopes will get to Kago as sees
some children ~~there~~ in Slocan
as bad influences. "lots of
people are "gambaliya" - you
know & they don't co-operate" ...
"I'd rather go to a place where there
are less ppl and more white people!"

* "Anyway the people seems too busy
thinking about where to live & how
to eat & clothe themselves with
so little money, to worry about
school year."

Aug 18 - showed Moscrop husband's letter
about agreement re children's
allowances - Moscrop says she
will take all responsibility if
HQ oppose & told Miss Darling
see to Mr Hartly to pay
relief cheque.

- Mr Sato urges Chijo's husband to come to
Slocan City as lots of work "and up you

want to work for people, you can do much more here than to stick to the New Cdn which is running only for the Commission."
- Iate says can get a house much quicker if husband there.

Aug 19 - will get a house as soon as the people in the tents get theirs. *

Sept 1/42 - speaks of envy of others that she can get things from husband in Van.

3 { - own house for fam of 5 = 1 bedroom & 1 kitchen
"In any case you get houses by "kugli bikini" so you can't be sure where you'll get."

Tomatoes 60¢/lb. corn 35¢-40¢/dozen, even from Donk. - garden no good. - few green tomatoes not eaten by slugs.

- wants gumboots. "streets are full of water" when it rains

Sept 2/42 - gets letters 3 days after mailing
Sept 9/42 - Van. seems to prefer sending mail & parcels esp money by friends.

Sept 9 - budget - spend ^{all} relief money on food; pay for milk extra
→ \$32 - \$33. (~~WAAWAAWAAWAAWAA~~)
for food.
- eat more here than in Van

Sept ? * - Wants to go to Kaslo as school open, better organized.

Sept 28? 1942 - Grace MacDunn visit to Hlocan packed hall 5:30, rest white.

? about high school - many want in school board not sure. or 4 or 5 vacancies.

- notes the presence of radios in the camp.*
- wants him to buy a get deal with him.

Oct 4 - Arguean school in the morning.
- relief getting harder to get.

* Mrs MacInnes is concerned re housing & school problems. Promises to ~~bring~~ urge Legation to hurry with it.
& inform the former Citizen's League

11/10/42 - All children start school "last Tuesday"
go Tues & Thurs. 2PM - 3:30 or 4PM.
at missionaries home.

(Chigo's brother)

~~the~~ "Frank" to Umazuki 4/7/42
Takayasu

- doing betwork in Santos

① "They" wanted but when, wouldn't give any other open job until this order was filled → promised preference for jobs in the fall.

② Friends decided to do it: Didn't want to stay behind. Of original 140 only 8 didn't come South.

③ black flies.

- softball
- local people "all very nice types."
some staring & curious? 's
surprise at English speech.
Scots, Fr Can & Belgians