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Nikkei AFFAIRS

A Journal of Opinion
published by the

JAPANESE CANADIAN COMMITTEE
FOR DEMOCRACY

84 Gerrard St. E. Toronto 2, Ont.
December 16, 1946

Editorial Board

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Kunio Hidaka	Publications Director
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END OF EMERGENCY POWERS

Various spokesmen for the Government have announced that emergency controls retained after the ending of the war will be dropped before the meeting of Parliament early in the New Year. Already wage controls have been lifted and wage rates are open to free collective bargaining. Price controls are being systematically removed and increased consumer prices are reducing the value of the workers' dollar. Yet restrictions on persons of Japanese ancestry, allegedly introduced for security reasons are still retained - long after the passing of the emergency of war. It is our view that Government policy on these two latter items should have been switched: restrictions on Japanese should have been removed, and price controls should be retained. Otherwise, with present shortages, the upper limit of prices will not be the ceiling but the sky.

Restrictions on the civil rights of persons of Japanese ancestry, the denial of freedom of movement and free choice of residence, by being enforced long after the end of the war, and indeed two years after the rescinding of American restrictions on January 2, 1945, may be taken as proof that evacuating Japanese from their homes was prompted by considerations other

than military. The characteristic role of certain racist politicians followed consistently to this day shows that political considerations were foremost.

This brings to mind a basic question which should be thoroughly discussed. The fact that restrictions on civil rights are maintained even to this day is the Government's indictment of itself. It shows that the forced movements experienced by the Japanese and the present denial of free movement are unrelated to security measures and a violation of the established liberties of the subject. Since the uprooting and forced movement were unjustified added weight is given to the present claim that economic losses should be compensated. Unless restrictions are removed and losses compensated, Canada will have to bear the shame of being in the South Africa class as she is to be judged by her treatment of her citizens of Japanese ancestry.

RE-ESTABLISHMENT OUT OF HOSTELS

The closing of the Neys Camp, renamed "hostel", located in Northern Ontario and the removal of the Japanese inhabitants to Pingal and Farham has our endorsement. This is a belated remedy for an avoidable mistake made when Neys was selected as a distributing point for British Columbia evacuees. The severity of the winter, the poor facilities of prisoner-of-war camps, the restricted opportunities for employment outside of seasonal bushwork and the absence of school facilities in this region of evergreens, rock and muskeg should have been foreseen and weighed against the demand for labour in lumbering, a type of work for which only a small portion of the people were suited. With this recent transfer, it is hoped that the re-establishment of persons not yet independent will be facilitated.

A selective process has pervaded re-establishment and determined its speed and success. During the late Spring and summer of 1942, we remember, some single men and women and families moved to eastern provinces. In the main they were persons without excessive family responsibilities who consequently were free to strike out on their

(continued on page 5)

OPERATION RESETTLEMENT

By Buck Suzuki

Travel again? No never! Not for this person. In my experience, pleasure in travelling is so much a matter of luck. Because a clerk in the office of C.M.H.Q. London had forgotten to include my name on the list for the draft in time, had I not missed one of the worst tantrums the fickle and temperamental Atlantic had ever unleashed for the discomfort of soldiers on the sea? I didn't want to crowd my luck. That's now past history - water under the bridge. I'm home at last with my dear better half and a son who greeted his daddy for the first time with a sober little "hello" pronounced "ha-yo" or "ha-wo". What more could I ask for? Then and there I vowed I'd never travel again.

Maybe it was the influence of the thirty some odd thousand miles of travel-maybe it was nomadic fever inherited from my father who crossed the Pacific some forty years ago-then again it might have been the call of the west, my birthplace. Within a week of dropping my kit-bag and shedding my pack at home I was on the move. Why was I on this westward bound train? What I hoped to gain by this trip? My thoughts were far from being clear. The sway of the carriage the clack of wheels on railbrought back to me that old army feeling of being enroute to another posting.

In my jumbled thoughts the events from 1942 to the present-from Ontario to B. C. were playing "hide and seek". More vivid to me were Burma, Penang, Malaya and in those moments I'd allow my mind to indulge in the luxurious memories of dark palm trees crowned by thousands of fireflies in a tropical nite--or maybe the moonlite over the waters and beaches of some tropical island shores.

The train raced across the prairies and soon the foothills of Alberta heralded the approach of the majestic Rockies. Perhaps because of the anticipation of visiting the coast, perhaps because I had travelled this route once before--the snow covered peaks, the wooded slopes and the deep valleys with winding streams awakened no extra joyous thrill within me.

The Fraser River was shrouded in mist at Coquitlam. Only the topmost branches of the cottenwoods marked the river's bank. True to west coast tradition the fog hid

everything from Eastern eyes till the eleven o' clock sun persuaded her to lift her damp cloak and retire until nightfall.

In the old days Powell Street really began at Ernies didn't it? Well it still does, and the now quiet, almost deserted streets wend eastward till it blends with the rest of Vancouver. The familiar shops are still standing but the sign boards announce another name. No longer are there Nishi this and Higashi that but Wongs and Yips. The odour of Shoyu, miso and takuwan that was once exclusively Powell Street's is no more. The "B.O." of live fowl the slight odour of decaying fruit and vegetables and the odour of rancid cooking fats seem to have drifted in from Pender Street down Main to Powell and there taking root. The cobwebs and dust that accumulated in that period when Powell Street became no mans land still cover the display shelves and windows. The gaudy paint on door and window casings make a bold attempt to advertise new tenants.

Vancouver has grown in the past few years Sidewalks are over flowing with people. Shop windows are full of merchandise. Woodward's had already begun it's Christmas decoration. Christmas trees with bright lights adorn the show windows on the first floor.

One afternoon I rode the streetcar to the Stanley Park Area. As I looked over the Bay and across the Straits, the southern slope of Bowen Island was dimly visible through the afternoon mist. Tiny boats were making the bend around Pt. Grey. Ahead the boats was a tug towing several barges. I remember seeing a tug towing barges in '42 in almost the same location, I wonder if it was the same tug?

Both east and west of the Pacific Highway, the Fraser Valley too, is becoming more alive. The old dirt and gravel roads have been improved with coatings of gravel and asphalt. The larger acreages have been divided into smaller building plots. Each plot has a neat little house on a patch of cleared ground. Do you remember how neat the Nihonjin farms were from corner to corner even though some of the houses were not exactly mansions? These new people who have taken over the places we knew just

Continued on Page 3

(Operation Resettlement Cont.)

clear enough to build their neat little cottages.

Many of us who were evacuated east of the Rockies still dream of returning to the west coast. I too was one who clung to that dream all during the evacuation and later through the war. My biggest ambition was to return to my home at the earliest opportunity. As a veteran I am now free to go anywhere in Canada, even to B.C., but somehow my birthplace is not the same anymore. The old friends we knew are in a lot of cases moved elsewhere. These pioneer families who cleared virgin land with our fathers are now in the minority. The B.C. we knew in the past as our home is more alien to us than Ontario, Quebec or the prairie Provinces.

The wage standards are higher than in the rest of Canada but so is the cost of living.

The housing situation, too, is more acute than in any other provinces in Canada.

The anti-Japanese feeling has died down considerably in B.C. There is at present no way of gauging this decline of hostility towards Japanese Canadians as those at present on the coast are veterans of this war or those married to Chinese or Occidental Canadians. These people have experienced little or no discrimination.

This trip to the coast has cooled a lot of my eagerness to trek westward again. I have my new friends out here in Ontario. Few jobs are closed to me because of my racial origin. Why should I strive all over again in B.C. to attain nothing more than I had before the war. Just because of memories and maybe a little higher wage rate is it worth all the struggle of pulling stakes again and trudging westward? Still I might take a chance, who knows?

THE BADMINGTON GOODWILL PLAYERS

By Tats Harada

On the cold evening of December 2nd, when the judgment of the Privy Council, upholding the Canadian Government's deportation orders-in-council were given out and read across the Dominion, an unusual scene through the field of sports of two Canadian racial minorities took place.

A friendly battle, the second since the meeting last spring, between members of the Chinese Missions Badmington Club and the JCCD Badmington Club was held at the Church of All Nations Gym. The visiting Chinese Canadian teams, displaying strength with their mixed doubles and ladies doubles defeated their opponents by a score of 10-5, and 4-1 respectively, while the stronger Japanese Canadian opposition in the men's doubles games threw the visiting team of slightly by a 2-3 win for the home team. A number of tough, hard battles were played between the two groups, which again resulted in a second win for the visitors. It is anticipated that stronger and improved battles are forthcoming when the teams meet again.

The following is an excerpt from a letter to the Editor of the United Church Observer received from a Canadian Intelligence Officer in Singapore, "I wish to congratulate you on the unprecedented gesture made in a recent issue of your publication by the full page of illustrations of Japanese Canadians and Chinese Canadians in an athletic tournament under U.C. auspices. It has gone the rounds of all the Canadian Nisei soldiers in this part of the world who have asked me to express to you personally their thanks for your kindness on behalf of their fellow-Canadians of Japanese ancestry. Most of these lads are members of adherents of the United Church of Canada."

The Chinese and Japanese Canucks have, by their actions, proven that even though their ancestral countries were in conflict since 1934 and during the Second Great World War, their ability to accept mutual friendship and understanding on the common ground of Democratic ideals is an active contribution toward the general welfare of Canadian racial minorities.

By J. A. Corry. Toronto: University of Toronto Press. 1946.

In this book, Professor J. A. Corry, Hardy Professor of Political Science at Queen's University, Kingston, presents for the non specialist reader, i.e. the freshman class a concise, comparative view of the governments of Great Britain, the United States, and Canada as a background for discussing recent developments in democratic government and assessing their significance, and for analysing the politics of democracy. Although it is not a book about government by order-in-council and bureaucracy, much of the discussion converges in a cool treatment of these heated topics, suggesting that there is no ground for either complacency or hysteria.

The last fifty years have witnessed an enormous increase in the activities of government. Changes of far-reaching importance have had to be made in the structure of democratic governments to carry these expanding functions. At the same time, the rise of European dictatorships have compelled us to think again about the foundations of our democracy.

The result of these events has been a general and widespread reconsideration of democratic creed and practice, and much stimulating discussion has been published as a result. However, it has been widely scattered in many books and journals, and a great deal of it has been couched in a technical idiom somewhat forbidding to the average reader, or the beginning student of government.

Mr Corry writes in no dry-as-dust manner, but in a lively, uninhibited style. His incisive wit, happy use of colloquialisms, and neat comment, are well calculated to interest the general reader and stimulate the student in the classroom.

(adapted from the publisher's announcement)

(Re-Establishment out of Hostels cont.)

own because no great risks were involved. They were, in most instances, able and self-reliant persons who also had some financial means upon which to depend should conditions prove adverse. Gradually as employment opportunities developed and as social acceptance improved, the varying degrees of less able persons moved out of the housing centres and were re-establish-

(As we look in Print Cont.)

which was later formalized with the adoption of definite and precise exchange ratios, now expounded in confusing and complicated demand and supply curves by the sophisticates of economics. Professor La Violette gives a more understandable description.

Some comments are to be made on the type of material gathered by the author. Individuals describe their own situation on various topics as understood by themselves. This type of presentation, unless amply supplemented by sociological theory does not assist one in an understanding of the assimilation process. As the study stands, the lay reader is left with the feeling of being confronted with a long column of figures ready for addition but without a total. Understanding would have been assisted had the author outlined the concepts to keep in mind for each phase of the discourse. It is hoped that the author will provide us with another book at some later date giving information about changes taking place in personality, in standards and values as a result of cultural integration.

ed.

As time passed pressure from the Government to move people from British Columbia became more direct and open, but more liberal assistance was also provided. The process in effect during this whole period of re-establishment, if explained in the language of economic theory, is covered best by marginal analysis. Its operation to the present has left in the camps and hostels only persons who because of the social conditions are in the category of sub-marginal workers.

The obvious conclusion is that the exact degree of sub-marginality of each remaining family and persons should be investigated and a subsidy provided to raise the person to the level of self-dependence. Otherwise the present unproductive type of dependence will continue. It is understood that the Department of Labour has interviewed each family with a view to judging their abilities and preferences. This should provide the basis whereby hostel inhabitant and government agency can work toward common goals.

Vol 2 #1

Nikkei AFFAIRS

A Journal of Opinion
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JAPANESE CANADIAN COMMITTEE
FOR DEMOCRACY

84 Gerrard St., E. Toronto 2, Ont.
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Editorial Board

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FULL CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP?

Canada has proclaimed a new Citizenship Act which now leads us to believe that the beginning of a new era has been brought about -- that one day its people will become less involved in matters of race and colour.

It is with questioning eye that we look at the situation today, for we see no indication that this Nation is about to give to all its people -- including that class of its citizens who, as members of certain Canadian racial minority groups, are confronted by many forms of racial prejudice -- the right to full elevation of citizenship, endowing to the social life of all, in the form of a Bill of Rights, a great blessing, so bequeathing them the right to enjoy in life that dignity which is so desired by all self-respecting men and women.

A NEED FOR RESTITUTION

Facts, concrete and to the point, here give lie to any statement that the Evacuees of Japanese ancestry who were so severely uprooted from the Pacific Coast, did not suffer any great material and financial losses.

The Japanese Canadian Committee for Democracy is now engaged in conducting a nation-wide "Economic Loss Survey of British Columbia Evacuees". The Survey in the Toronto area has now, for the most part, been completed. The tabulated results of this local survey, herein presented, give a potent picture of the extreme severity of the losses suffered by the Evacuees.

Each individual's statement of facts regarding his losses is set down with the full realization of importance that as full and accurate as possible information be given without either exaggeration or underestimation.

The survey discloses that amongst a coverage of approximately 1,800 people, the tabulated total of losses, which appear in this statement, covering only the following type of property: Real Estates (residential and business), Businesses, Farm Property, Fishing Boats and Fishing Gears, amounts to \$1,031,732.89. The estimated market value of these properties at the time of evacuation amounts to \$1,400,395.66. The Custodian's sale price, which covers vast majority of property listed, amounts to only \$351,334.86.

It is no wonder then, that this survey also discloses that approximately 46% of these people live in Toronto's poorest residential district.

When we compare the average Canadian's security of home and property, to the insecurity of British Columbia Evacuees now striving to re-settle in new surroundings without benefit of the fruit of years of toil, we cannot ignore this grave injustice.

(Continued on pg. 2)

DAMAGE WHILE YOU WAIT

By T.M. Kitagawa

This article is aimed at those who are fundamentally sound but who leave action to other people. It's the rare person who will give time from personal concerns to worry over and do something about the woes of strangers.

Hereafter, let me address myself to you who mean well, who weep for the misfortunes of others, who wonder sadly about the state of the world, yet who do nothing about it.

Have you a definition for "hypocrisy", "regimentation", "freedom", "equality"? Do you apply the words consistently, or do you use them in the two categories of "me" and "thou"? If you think it over carefully, and come to certain conclusion you will find an answer for much of today's confusion.

Quite naturally I shall confine myself to the case of the Japanese, henceforth to be called Canadian, but for purposes of delineation, I shall use the racial term. It is understood, in spite of whitewashers and slanderers, that the Japanese are not wholly saintly or totally evil. There is the usual mixture common to all mankind. Without going into the individual degrees of saintliness or villainy, intelligence of stupidity, talents and mediocrities, let's sum them all as "just people."

Since we are people, we react to life around us much as anyone else would in the same circumstances. Of course, there is a theory that colored people have less sensitivity to the finer appreciation of injustice, discrimination, hypocrisy. The disturbances in India, Africa, the protests of westernized Orientals and Negroes other Far Eastern peoples, seem to believe that assumption of insensitivity.

When the colored peoples demand freedom and equality they mean just what the words say. They don't mean elegans or handouts or qualified concessions. They don't mean a conscience-stricken benevolence, or generous patronage, or neurotic indulgence. They do mean a self-respecting liberty, a parity of opportunities as human beings.

To equality they add this significant note; a chance to catch up with all that was denied to them of the advantages of Progress.

This last is the heavy debt owing to all the exploited peoples of this world. Unless repayment starts at once, the chances against peace become larger. Unless the withholders of freedom and equality return them freely, these will be collected with violence and hatred. The headlines in our newspaper, even after discounting them, prove it.

In recent years we have bandied the terms "regimentation", "freedom", "equality", until they have become unreal. Another word we like to use very much is "hypocrisy".

What is freedom?

Is it a selfishness or a selflessness? Is it still freedom, when liberty for some means bondage to others? Or does freedom need to be regimented the moment it becomes license, when it imperils the life and liberty of another? If freedom has limits, then what is regimentation? Is it a uniform standard to which we must conform or pay the consequences of violation? Doesn't it depend on the standard?

All countries, all peoples have certain laws that cannot be broken without penalty. Impartial, uniform laws are regimentation. Usually these laws are for the security of the people. Of course, some manage to get away with murder, as the saying is, but culprits caught red-handed usually get their just desserts. There are various limits to our freedom and no law-abiding citizen objects to them.

Politics and religion are supposed to be one's private privilege. It ceases to be freedom when they are used to deny freedom of worship or opinion to others. When regimentation is used to deny rights and liberties, used to conquer and vanquish, then we have wars. When freedom is mis-used we have economic exploitation,

(Continued on next page)

political skulduggery, racial discrimination, all ripe material for revolution.

The quality of freedom, the standard of regimentation depends on what you mean by those words.

The power to encourage the best for the most lies in your hands.....if you use that power to its fullest capacity. You cannot afford to be indifferent to this power when it was bought for you dearly with the lifeblood of people who had the courage to act on their convictions. You must demand the best from those you choose to be your representative for a sound and just government. When an injustice cries out to be rectified, don't leave it to a few to cajole you into action. Act, and at once; for if you hesitate, your indecision might cause irreparable damage. If you wait till after the injustice is committed before you act, think of the unnecessary suffering inflicted on innocent fold. One little damage that could have been prevented might well be the first link in a chain of horror. It has happened before, and can happen again, unless you are vigilant.

Our losses.....our homes, our businesses, personal treasures.....are insignificant when measured against the devastation in Europe, in Asia, except for one thing, which makes our losses smell more rotten than the havoc in vanquished countries. That one thing is: our losses occurred in countries where the flag of freedom flew, countries busy fighting the very thing that happened at home. The stink of hypocrisy is horrible.

The majority of the Japanese in Canada cannot afford the material loss they suffered through prejudice and evacuation. They are justified in their demand for reparation. Losses through personal failure has to be borne; losses shared with their fellow-men in a just cause can be borne; but who can bear such losses forced on a helpless minority by order-in-council, losses that have no justification anywhere!

These losses were the last indignity imposed on a people whose loyalty and integrity were impeached without evidence to the contrary. wjp were finger-printed, card-indexed, corralled and driven to scatter

far and wide. Deprived of rights denied participation in the country's danger, they were humiliated till they either succumbed to bitterness and abnegation, or they gained new strength to combat the threat to their existence as proud Canadian citizens.

It is shameful indeed that in a country whose principle is democracy, we must struggle so hard for common rights. This struggle is made no easier by all those who mean well, who want what we want, but who do very little about it. These negative qualifications apply to anyone of any race, including the Japanese.

There are many ways in which to act. Progressive action lies not only in organizational work, but in the day-to-day living of us all. It is very easy to condemn a troubling fault in everyone. It is so easy that it requires a strict restraint on our part, if we wish to be fair. Yet I would warn you against toleration, a conscious toleration that still implies a supercilious superiority in yourself, that still implies an inferiority in the other.

Here I could digress and split hairs on the definition of "equality", but let's leave that argument for some other time.

I would also suggest to you that a forthright unity of action toward the restoration of rights and liberties is not belligerence at all, not a chip on the shoulder; it is a much-needed co-operation toward the goal of brotherhood.

To know and guard our rights, to know and value freedom, to appreciate protective regimentation, to beware of and reject hypocrisy; this vigilance is the duty of citizenship. This vigilance is not a temporary state of excitement and fervour, to be forgotten after the first hullabaloo is gone. This vigilance is for life, the abiding passion of a free man; otherwise there is no point in our struggle.

Therefore, if you believe in these precepts, don't sit back and wait for someone else to do the work of translating them into action. Join in, contribute your effort without stopping to under-estimate the worth of your trying, for, little as it may seem to you personally, when added to a nation-wide campaign it becomes great.

ISSUE AFFAIRS

A Journal of Opinion
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EDITORIAL:

With respect to the property of persons of Japanese origin.....
..the government is prepared, in cases where it can be shown that a sale was made at less than a fair market value, to remedy the injustice. - Mr. King, Jan. 24th.

The gist of Prime Minister King's statement concerning the Japanese Canadians was more or less expected. The best that could be said of it was this: It gave us some hope that restitution will be made to ease the burden of our losses through evacuation.

However, satisfaction with his pronouncements is a matter of degree. Assuredly, we are gratified that the deportation orders are cancelled; we are thankful that, apart from possible local prejudice, there is nothing now to prevent us from buying a home, or farm, or starting a business; we are relieved to be rid of those special Japanese Registration Cards that marked us separate for these six years.

Nevertheless, there are several restrictions left which are wholly unnecessary. There will be no concerted trek back to the B.C. coast by those evacuees settled a thousand miles and more east of the Rockies. Government supervision of our right to travel, our right to live anywhere in this country is superfluous. The bogey of spying Japanese fishermen should be shown for its ridiculous unreality, for this unwarranted fear deprives our young fishermen from a familiar livelihood.

We do not quarrel with government assistance to those of our people still desirous of going to Japan, but we do quarrel with the inadequate help given toward a happier resettlement in different environment. We claim, also, a just restitution for all losses caused by the forced evacuation.

The Point of our Claim:

Sold at a loss: Here is the point of our claim for reparations. This phrase covers more than the unfair appraisal of real property. This phrase covers the loss of property and equipment sold at auction, or privately, or stolen, or unaccounted for. This phrase covers the loss of personal treasures of real or sentimental value, covers the lost labour of years.

These losses were not personal failures or shared national disasters, but an inflicted loss, unjustified, for which restitution we lean heavily on a generous interpretation of the Prime Minister's promise "to remedy". When we ask Mr. King to make good his word, we shall expect him to be just, considerate and generous.

Just as we expect justice from Ottawa, so we must be honest in setting down the figures in dollars and cents of our losses.

Our claims must stem from losses incurred solely on account of the evacuation. The dishonesty of one individual throws a dark shadow on the claims of honest men. No more and no less. It might be to our credit were we to forgive and forget these losses, but such a big hearted attitude, even if it were financially possible, could not erase the bitter doubt cast on the value of citizenship in Canada. The integrity of this nation cannot contain the poison engendered by a failure to rectify the moral injustice involved in our material law.

REPORT FROM THE JCCD EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE

A new experiment was tried by the JCCD at its meeting of the 21st of February at the Church of All Nations in Toronto. The Educational Committee feeling that the meetings heretofore have been too irregular and too business-like recommended to the Executive that regular monthly meetings be held with business conducted held at a minimum, and more emphasis placed on educational programs dealing with topics of general interest. Following this theme the experiment at the February meeting proved to be an interesting educational and social evening high-lighted by reports from around the world by our ex-servicemen. The informal talks covered experiences from basic training on through to postings across the seven seas via England, Africa, India, the States, etc. So interesting were the accounts that they continued on through the refreshment period. The veterans relating their experiences were Dave Watanabe, George Tanaka, Roger Obata, Jin Ido and Shei Omura.

It was announced to the members that one of the most important educational projects which the JCCD hopes to carry out is the organization of planned study groups. With this in mind, questionnaires were circulated in order to determine the subjects in which the members were most interested. The results were as follows:

Questionnaires returned at the meeting, 30. Art 7, Dramatics 3, Music 5, Public Speaking 4, Hobbycrafts 11, Anti-racial Discrimination Groups 5, Journalism 5, Trade Unions 5, Science & Engineering 4, Politics 3, Sports 13, Bridge(cards) 2. (Note, most members indicated more than one subject.)

Upon personal contact with members who filled in the questionnaires, it is hoped that study groups will be formed if the groups so desire.

The Educational Committee is planning for future meetings movies, guest speakers, panel discussions, debates and other programs selected to give the members interesting highlights of the day.

JCCD MEETING

Announcement: the next JCCD meeting to be conducted by the Educational Committee will be held at the Church of All Nations in Toronto, on Friday, March 21 at 8 PM.

The brief business period will be followed by a showing of films of educational and topical interest. The meeting will be concluded with a social period during which refreshments will be served.

JCCD Resolution Sent To Ottawa

The following resolution passed at the last JCCD general meeting on February 21, was addressed to members of parliament:

"Whereas the continuance of restrictions on the Japanese Canadians is contrary to the precepts of Canadian citizenship;

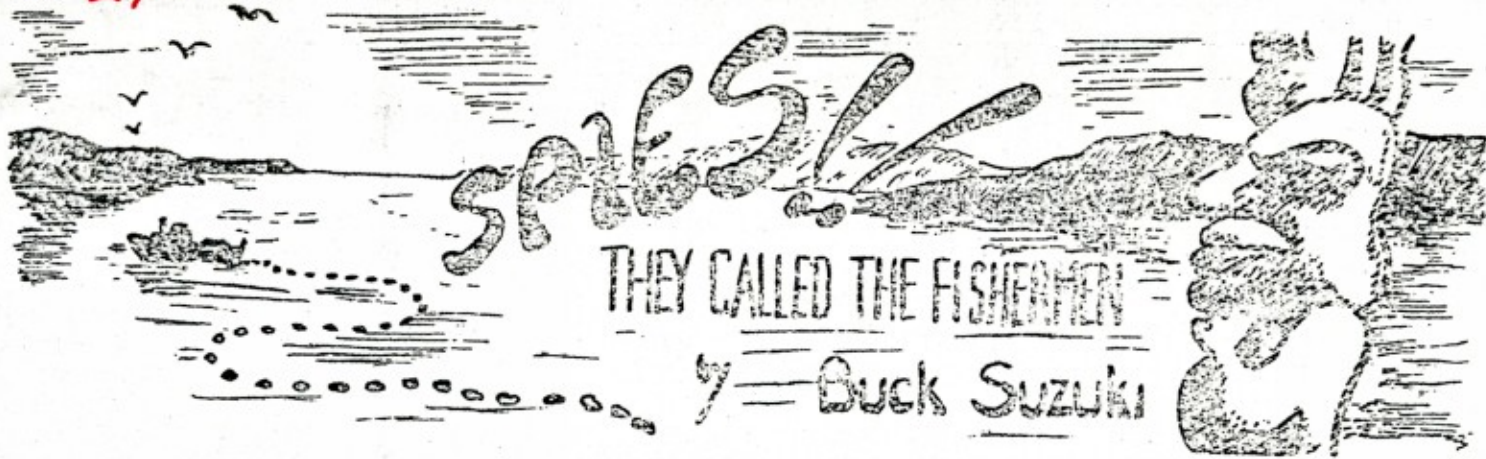
And whereas Canadians of Japanese ancestry represented by the undersigned organization have shown by their actions during wartime a willingness to co-operate with the government of Canada, and have now successfully re-established themselves in their local community:

Be it resolved that this meeting go on record to stress protest against loss of full rights and privileges of citizenship."

JCCD DANCE. The next JCCD dance will be held at the Labour Lyceum on Friday, April 4, 9 to 1 PM. Gene Douglas and his 5 Piece Orchestra will provide the music for an enjoyable evening of dancing.

DONATIONS gladly received from:

Eddie Nishimura.....	\$1.00
Norie Yamanaka.....	\$2.00
Frank Hatashita.....	\$6.00
Mrs Kane Tanaka.....	\$2.00
Rev. W. P. Fletcher.....	\$1.00
Takeo Oikawa, Oxdrift, Ont.....	\$2.00
H. M. Hayashi.....	\$2.00
H. W. Iwasaki, Verdun, P.Q.....	\$1.00
Mrs Hugh MacMillan.....	\$3.00
Mark Newton, Copper Mt., B.C....	\$5.00



In his recent statement regarding the future of evacuated persons of Japanese race, our Prime Minister specifically stated that no Japanese Canadian would be allowed to resume fishing on Canada's West Coast waters.

I, too, was once a fisherman.

Fond memories of this life on the water have remained fresh in my mind, through these years, first as an evacuee, then later in Canadian khaki, across the pale green North Atlantic, the Mediterranean, and the Indian Ocean. I found that all the oft-sung tropical paradises had nothing to compare with the place to which I hoped to return again.

Of course, our former life on the Coast was not always one of happiness, especially in recent years when ugly accusations were pointed at our little group, particularly at the fishermen.

BACK IN 1913:

There had been differences between Japanese and Occidental fishermen as far back as 1913. At that time the complaint was of non-cooperation on the part of the Japanese and the charge that the latter lowered the standard of living by cutting prices. But, little was done to bring about an amicable solution of this trouble. From the Occidental standpoint there was a good deal of truth in the charges, but what was not taken into consideration was the fact that the Japanese fishermen could speak very little English then, were not unionized, and had to face discrimination on the market. Also, the Occidental fishermen, while grumbling about the tactics of the Japanese, were themselves disunited.

This was when the West Coast fishermen were beginning to realize that they were not receiving a fair share of the profits of their toil. A united front was needed to stand against those who controlled the fishing industry. Because of non-cooperation the Japanese fishermen seemed to be a thorn in the sides of the Occidentals.

Affairs grew from bad to worse, and the Japanese fishermen were continually charged with non-cooperation, with lowering the standard of living. That the situation was not the outcome of the Japanese attitude alone made no difference in the all-out attack against this almost voiceless group. Coupled with the accusations mentioned above was a strong odor of racial discrimination.

..... (Ed. Note: It was brought out at a public meeting held last fall in Toronto, that the Japanese fishermen were strongly influenced by adverse authorities, were used to check the unity of the unions, were regarded as the "stabilizing element" in that industry. There were not enough articulate Niseis among the Japanese fishermen to outweigh that influence.!

RACISTS CARRY ON:

Everything was made to order for the aspiring politician to achieve popularity on the wave of anti-Japanese sentiments. In his enthusiasm he added a few more catch-words to round out the charges against the Japanese.

These charges culminated in bringing about a new fisheries regulations in 1920 whereby Japanese fishermen who had not been issued a license the previous years would

(Continued on next page)

not be eligible for one in that current year. In 1921 there was a further drastic cut of 15% in licenses issued. Then in 1922 a wholesale reduction of 40% was made with the arrangement that an annual reduction of 10% of the number of licenses issued was to continue until not a single Japanese fisherman was left in British Columbian waters.

Happily, these reductions were halted in 1925, but it left a deep-rooted suspicion that hindered the mutual settlement of basic differences between Japanese and Occidental fishermen.

Matters were not helped when Japan began her war of aggression in the Far East, and the term YELLOW PERIL was coined and circulated anew.

SPIES! SPIES!

Rumours gained credence that officers of the Imperial Japanese Navy were disguised as West Coast fishermen, carrying on 5th column activities for Imperial Japan.

It was alleged that Japanese fishermen were mostly reservists in the Japanese Navy and were busy charting the B.C. Coastal waters.

.....(Ed. Note: It is reported in the Pacific Citizen, February 1, 1947, by Larry Tajiri, that when "American agents....pored over the infamous blueprints of Japanese aggression at the War Ministry in Tokyo...there (was) no report that the Japanese warmakers ever had, or hoped to have, an espionage network among the resident population of Japanese ancestry in the United States, Hawaii or Canada.)

It was also alleged that Japanese fishermen were observed taking the measure of depths with a sounding line; were charting tidal conditions and military installations on the coast; were building underground submarine bases with stores of provisions and ammunition.

Stories of this nature gained wide publicity even when discounted by reliable investigations.

At the height of this propaganda against the Japanese fishermen, I approached a group of prominent West Coast labour leaders, one of whom had actually made accusing statements in public. I pointed out how ridiculous it was to say that the Japanese fishermen would use such out-dated methods of charting waters when excellent maps, prepared by the British Admiralty, could be had for the small sum of seventy-five cents at any supply point for fishers and navigators. These charts furnished information, in minute detail, about the depth of waters, tidal variations, channel locations, restricted military areas on the coast, and even the different lighthouse signal spacings. If the Japanese wished to spy out and map these things, they had only to purchase a ready-made chart. Such information was that easily obtainable.

However, this labour leader said that he himself understood how perfectly ridiculous these charges were, but.....(and I'll give as near a verbatim reply as I can remember of that conference)...he stated that:

"This sort of propaganda served the purpose well. We have long endeavoured to win co-operation from your people, but to date we have failed. If you continue to carry on as at present you are a detriment to us. If we cannot win your co-operation by fair means then we must break you, and we intend to use every weapon at our disposal and break you."

SORRY ORIGINS OF RACE HATREDS:

So there is one of the origins of those stories of 5th column activities on the B.C. Coast. These stories were circulated for the purpose of breaking the Japanese fishermen, but they affected a much larger group of innocent people. Such stories are still believed to be authentic by a great many Canadians.

Yet, in spite of all this turmoil, I loved the sea and the life I led there. Those of us, among the former Japanese fishermen, who were younger had hoped to see these difficulties ironed out some day, but the attack on Pearl Harbour wrote an abrupt finish to such hopes.

Nisei AFFAIRS

A Journal of Opinion
published by the

JAPANESE CANADIAN COMMITTEE
FOR DEMOCRACY

84 Gerrard St., E. Toronto 2, Ont.
April 29, 1947

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- | | |
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Acknowledgment for art work: Cover
drawing by Miss Agnes Suzuki.

COMMON
GOOD

As long as such work remains the Japanese Canadian, while enjoying the quiet of undisturbed daily routine, must subordinate private pleasure to the common good. We shall not attain our ends until we have fought unselfishly for the other's struggle for some basic human right. In sharing the responsibility we can share in the pride of accomplishments.

In spite of repetitious slurs concerning our supposed uniformity of thought and action, we know our own differences, and have the sense to enjoy such differences. From the common ground of a common ancestry we tend to separate into groups, sometimes extremely opposite in view.

Far from the former "colonies" of coastal days, our separation becomes more pronounced, but instead of destroying co-operation, the very freedom of separation makes working together much easier. We recognize and respect the limitations of our differences, and put a higher value on our similarities.

RACIAL
ASSETS

With much of the fears and tensions of war gone from our lives, we realize more than ever the utter folly of repudiating everything and anything Japanese. We have been too sensitive about our racial assets, thus losing much of our heritage that was of immeasurable value as a contribution to the Canadian Mosaic. We must sift what is left of our cultural heritage, revive or re-adapt those arts and crafts which, other than being peculiarly Japanese, are timeless, changeless.

COMMON

When the tensions of the war years ease off into the steadier rhythm of normal living, there is a noticeable slackening in the pressure of united efforts toward a common cause.

CAUSE

Ever since the first war-induced orders restricted us a racial group apart, the majority of Japanese Canadians subdued their individual differences enough to cooperate. The end of war brought also the end of some trying barriers to equal citizenship with the rest of the Canadians.

However, the Omnibus Bill, now before the House in Ottawa, include extension of certain controls over us. Without going into the flimsy "justification" of these proposed controls, we know them to be unnecessary. What we wish to say is this: As long as such restrictions remain, the work of the J.C.C.D. is not finished.

Toronto will have its first major Folk Festival this summer under the guidance of the well-known originator of the Vancouver Folk Festival, Mrs. John T. McCay. This will give the Japanese Canadians their chance to display some of the grace and beauty of our arts and crafts; to join with some thirty-five other racial groups to devise a colorful pageantry of Canadian life.

In this project, within the larger division of racial stocks, the very differences within the Japanese group will distribute the work and responsibilities more evenly, so that all shall have a share in the final display.

Towards this harmony of effort we commend our readers. * * * * *

Vol 2 #4

Nikkei AFFAIRS

A Journal of Opinion published by the

JAPANESE CANADIAN COMMITTEE
FOR DEMOCRACY

84 Gerrard St., E. Toronto 2, Ont.
June 1, 1947

George Tanaka Chairman
Muriel Kitagawa Managing Editor

Acknowledgment for art work: Cover drawing
by Terry Adachi.

EDITORIAL:

Now that summer approaches, the natural turn of thought is toward a vacation from present duties. The resumption of such duties remains in our subconscious, and if we are sure of doing the same sort of work next term, then a preview is not necessary.

However, for the JCCD, a preview of future of its specific and immediate nature, has been confined to the problems facing the evacuated Japanese Canadians. Working with the Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians, the JCCD has contributed toward the solution of such crises as deportation and property loss claims.

As these immediate tasks are concluded, one might well ask: "What do we do next?"

There is much to be done yet, before the JCCD can say its work is done. Parallel with our work for the Japanese Canadians, has been our acute consciousness of the discriminations facing ethnic groups other than ourselves. We have felt the necessity of a wider scope of action than the course limited only to our fellow Japanese Canadians. We have felt that to be truly effective, our work must encompass not only the property loss claims of, or the legislated controls on the Canadians of Japanese race,

but also the discriminations suffered by the Negro and the Jew and other groups on various grounds of color, creed, and class.

To limit ourselves solely for our own advantage is selfish, narrow. Such self-preoccupation tends to make us intolerant, or indifferent to suffering other than our own. Such preoccupation antagonizes the chances we have for sympathy and understanding from those friends who have given time and effort to eradicate the present injustices inflicted on us.

If we are to be consistent in our struggle for our liberty, we must be aware of other similar struggles in other groups, integrate our efforts, co-ordinate actions, for in unity there is a potent and positive power. Through participation in Race Relations, through Adult Education, through inter-racial, inter-cultural sympathies we can share experiences, and shoulder our share of the total work.

Such participation on our part must be sincere. We must be rid of our own prejudices, whatever they may be, and believe in the brotherhood of man. Believing thus, we must work together unstintingly toward the complete eradication of discrimination and the prevention of the same. * * * * *

The Need for a National Council. - - -

There has been much discussion on the need for a national council of Japanese Canadian organizations. Aside from the workability of such a central executive agency, there is no doubt at all that the need is evident.

On the immediate issue of the Property Loss Claims, a fully co-ordinated program of action is imperative. Unified national action to support the Civil Liberties Associations in fighting discriminatory orders-in-council restricting the civil rights of the Japanese Canadian is also imperative.

Any future program of participation in the field of Inter-racial, Inter-cultural relations and Adult Education in Canada, will be more positive, more effective, if there is a national voice of the Japanese Canadians.

* * * * *

THE "SUN" ALSO RISES

Chairman
ag Editor

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An editorial in the November 15th issue of the Vancouver Sun charges that "pro-Japanese propaganda, directed from Toronto and other cities which have had no personal experience with the Jap problem has degenerated into a smear attack on British Columbians". It claims that the people of the province who are trying to settle a contentious national issue with justice to everyone, are being misrepresented.

We now find the editor of the Sun in a penitent mood and devoid of all his former racist flare; a result, no doubt, of the unequivocal expression on the part of the common man in British Columbia and across the Dominion that he will have no truck with fascist racist practices.

For example he writes, "British Columbia has merely said that it refused to retain within its borders any proportion of Canadian Japs than our population justifies." And speaks about "the Japs who do return here".

This is a far cry from the voice of Roy W. Brown, editor of the Vancouver Sun, as expressed in a contribution to the Toronto Globe and Mail of December 22, 1943. Mr. Brown wrote, "British Columbia's coastal areas where the Japanese dug themselves in during a very busy period of 45 years, is rid of them and never will willingly take them back." He stated that he thought 99 per cent of the people of British Columbia wanted all people of Japanese blood "repatriated" at the end of the war. Many thousands of these people were born in Canada and are citizens, he stated, "but just the same B.C. people believe it better to face the issue now, at the end of the war, and send them all home."

NISEI AFFAIRS is pleased to see the marked change in the Vancouver Sun. This, no doubt, is a direct result of what the Sun chooses to call "pro-Japanese propaganda".

"CANADA AND THE JAPS"

(Excerpt from the Hamilton Spectator)

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The only thing that approaches the statute
(to distribute racial minorities) is a
little trick now being practised to save
the hides of some British Columbian poli-
ticians. This is a bit of unpublicized
pressure on Canadian Japs who are being
told that it would be better for them
either to go back to Japan or "distribute"
themselves around the country.

ational events,
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l part of the
n Germany, in
Poland and the
Axis. We see
the race-riots
have seen the re-

The only place in Canada where they want
to go is British Columbia, where they had
their homes and made their living before.
The Federal Government knows this, yet
doubts that British Columbia has its full
right in saying it won't allow them to re-
turn, because to the West Coasters they
represent a minority that deserves a clas-
sification apart from any other.

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But it would at least relieve us of the
stigma of a ludicrous hypocrisy if this
were admitted and treated openly, and if
it were also allowed that the real pres-
sure behind the Japanese Canadian "distrib-
ution" is for benefit for people like Ian
Mackenzie, Minister of Veterans Affairs,
the Vancouver politician who told the peo-
ple of his province - without reference to
any law or ruling - that there would never
again be a Jap west of the Rockies.

The way this pre-election pledge is being
lived up to is effective - and typical.

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VH 145
P3

... the soldiers is
the old woman who
We receive so many
that we don't know
comparing notes and

letters we've managed to draw up the following report on their doings.

There is a group of almost 20 boys in Calcutta trying to thumb a ride home. It'll be a nip and tuck race to beat St. Nick to their doorsteps, so they say, "No more letters please, because we'll be on the way." When they do get home they'll be entitled to a 20-day leave. A/Sgt. Jim Kagawa will be in charge of the group on its homeward journey. Albert Takimoto and Buck Suzuki may also join this group for home. Tomi Nishio who is pawing the ground impatiently waiting to get back to London just received a box of what appeared to be biscuits which was sent to him when he was in Debert many months past and which had only just caught up with him. "Little Joo" Takashima must be having a trying time attempting to retain his identity amongst a battalion of Chinese Canadian soldiers in England. It looks like he'll be the first home.

Fred Kagawa and Jin Ido are now in Delhi awaiting further instructions. George Obokata and Fred Nogami are in Poona while Frank Moritsugu is awaiting orders in Bombay. Harold Hirose on his way to Singapore found himself very popular with the pretty Chinese lassies on the Malay Peninsula. George Suzuki, Kumi Yoshida, Ernie Oikawa, Sid Sakanishi, and Jack Nishizaki are all in Singapore. Sgt. Yoshida is in charge of the printing of a weekly Japanese news sheet for the P.O. W.'s and internees in that area. Edgar Iwamoto is still posted in Saigon.

To show how confusing are the ways of the Army we print the following excerpts. From the Captain of the Canadian Intelligence corps in Calcutta: "As Oikawa has since left India en route to Canada and with the consent of the remaining Canadian-born Japanese under my command, I opened your parcel and it was shared by all present. There is no need to comment on the pleasure the "real" Canadian Chocolate bars gave to the boys." From Sgt. Oikawa in Singapore: "My application for demobilization was accepted (so I thought but upon arriving in Poona I

found out differently. We had an interview with the officer in charge of our force and evidently our services are still needed in the far east. The fact that we have signed for the duration and 1 year is a stumbling block which prevents us from protesting.

The third group of 5 sergeants, graduates of Vancouver's S-20 should be in Bombay by this time. They were held up in England because of inoculations. Sgt. Roy Matsui is posted in Canada.

On the home front we find that a few boys who were in training at Niagara are now in Brantford and should be discharged next month. One lone soldier, Masayuki Murakami, is stationed in the Exhibition Grounds in Toronto and all the boys who were stationed in Vernon have been discharged. The majority of the Nisei in uniform are at Ambleside Park in West Vancouver but not for long. Apparently a politician's word carries more weight than the Canadian Army so S-20 will pack its kits again and move to Vernon or Kingston.

AUTUMN SCENE of LEMON CREEK
by Kuniko Morishita, Grade 8.

(From Lemon Creek School "Scholastic")

The majestic mountains of the Solikirk were beginning to be dotted with bright colours of red, orange and yellow. This is the sign of autumn. Bright coloured trees appearing amidst the evergreen make the mountains surrounding Lemon Creek very beautiful. The ground is covered with assorted coloured leaves which look a carpet spread on the ground. Here and there the squirrels and chipmunks are chatting away. Some are gathering nuts for the winter.

The deep blue Slocan river rushes on its way while some leaves float gracefully along its ripples. It is very lonesome now because nobody swims in there.

The vegetables are beginning to wither. The many houses all lined up in neat rows are covered with sparkling frost in the chilly mornings. Some snow-capped mountains surround us. But what is it that is hiding our short autumn? Snow! It is falling gently to the earth and now our beautiful scenery has turned all white. It seems queer to have snow now, but I guess winter must be coming very early this year.

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Nikkei
AFFAIRS

A Journal of Opinion
published by the

JAPANESE CANADIAN COMMITTEE
FOR DEMOCRACY

Vol 1 #6

Card St., E. Toronto, Ont.
January 19, 1946

was the way of Germany under Hitler.

Senator Wilson: "I would not like to think that after Canada's endorsement of the Atlantic Charter and signing of the United Nations' Charter that we are about to violate those pledges."--"If the Japanese are sent to Japan they will be people sent with very bitter feeling towards Canada. Many will be left behind and they can't be blamed if they wonder why we talk about our love of equal privileges which are not applied to them."---"By being kind to these people we can leave our children a better heritage of truth and fair play."

Senator Roebuck: "The evidence is overwhelming that the consents for voluntary repatriation are utterly unreliable and were signed only under duress."---"The only Japanese who should be deported are those whose going is voluntary at the time of going, together with those convicted of disloyalty to Canada according to established Canadian law in properly constituted court proceedings."---"Non-co-operation with the government is being used as grounds for deportation of the Japanese. May I ask when non-co-operation with the government became a ground for deportation."---"I do not advocate a witch hunt among German and Italian Canadians, but I ask why are the Japanese singled out since the highest authority assures us no act of sabotage has been uncovered."---"If there is to be a tribunal to enquire into the loyalty of former enemy nationals, why should it be confined to the Japanese only."

The inspiring messages imparted by these people show how deep are the roots of democratic thinking that underlie the whole structure of Canadian society; This is also borne out by the recent Gallup poll where 86 per cent of the people in Canada are against racial barriers of any kind.

The war with Japan is passed and her war criminals are being justly punished. It is now time for the government of Canada to lift all restrictions imposed upon the Japanese Canadians during these past years and extend to them a helping hand to re-establish themselves as useful citizens of Canada. All they ask is to be respected and to be treated justly so that they too can be proud to be called Canadian.

Kinzie Tanaka Chairman
Irene Uchida Member

DEEP DEMOCRATIC INSTINCTS

If the 24,000 Japanese in Canada could have attended the mass meeting held recently in Toronto, they would have come away with their spirits uplifted and their hearts instilled with a new consciousness of Canadian democracy. Those who were privileged to be there experienced an inner feeling of a nature that perhaps they have never felt before, and certainly not during the past six years of war. Two senators from Canada's upper House, the publisher of a national weekly paper and a brilliant Jewish Rabbi extended their hand of friendship with capable and inspiring addresses. They were there at this meeting to lend their support to the ever growing protest of public opinion across Canada against the discriminatory treatment of Canadians of Japanese ancestry.

Rabbi Feinberg: "The Japanese comprise only one-half of one per cent of the population of Canada, but as the trembling instrument of the Jews who were slaughtered, I will champion to my last breath the cause of any group, no matter how small, who are being persecuted or penalized because of their race, color or creed."---"The ghost of Hitler still walks in Canada. The thing for which Hitler stood has been inscribed on the orders-in-council which punish little children for crimes they couldn't commit."---"As a Jew I speak with authority. The wrong being contemplated against the Japanese here may be like a whisper that may send an avalanche of evil, precedent

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is unfortunate that so many Niseis do not know what the score is.

About ten days ago approximately twenty Niseis left here for Canada via England. Why they went back, whether they were ordered back, or asked to be sent back, I do not know. I would have liked to see them before they left, but unfortunately by a few hours we missed them. I will drop a line from Singapore on arriving there. In the meantime, my salams to you and thanks again. If you will send next issue to Calcutta address, it will be forwarded.

H-45195 Sgt. F.N. Nogami
L.F.B.U. Base, Box 10207, Calcutta
- - - - -

Dear Editor:

Greetings from England. I want to thank you very much for "Nisei Affairs" which I received the other day.

Well, I am going to tell you a little about myself. I actually came from Vancouver and enlisted at Toronto in July, 1940. I was stationed at Toronto a little while and afterwards stationed at Camp Borden until early in 1941. I have been over here ever since. Of course I have been to many different places.

Nearly 5½ years away from home. As a matter of fact, when I first came to this country, I did not like it very much, but I am getting used to customs and climate, etc. But we are still suffering from shortage of food and seems to me that most of the civilians cannot get what they want, not because of money, but because of coupon systems. Rationing and coupon system are very good indeed and work marvellously. Sometime we hear black-market incidents in the daily paper, but those are happening in every country -- I think.

This is a very short letter, but I shall write a longer one next time. I hope you will give me some news of Niseis' activities.

B-94983, C.S.M., F. Yamamoto
Can. Military H.Q., Can. Army Overseas

NA Vol 1 #6 Jan 1946

Nisei Affairs is very glad to welcome home a group of eighteen Nisei servicemen who returned from duty in India on February third.

In the spring of 1945 when the war in Europe was drawing to a close and attention of the world was turned to the war in the Pacific, the Canadian Army and Government finally let down their barriers to Nisei enlistment. The need for interrogators and interpreters was urgent so Japanese Canadians were invited to enlist for this special work. Prior to this the policy of the government was not to accept Nisei enlistments although hundreds had repeatedly attempted and were rejected ever since the beginning of the war in 1939. It has been felt that the reason for this government policy was political rather than military.

In the fall of 1944 a Captain in the British Imperial Army was sent from India by Lord Louis Mountbatten to recruit a number of Canadian Nisei for intelligence work for the South-East Asia Command. Upon arriving in Canada he expected to request the Canadian army for certain number of Nisei soldiers for this work. However he was greatly surprised to learn that Japanese Canadians were not accepted in the army. This state of affairs made his mission very difficult for it meant that he would need to approach individuals and interest them to enlist in the British Army. This he attempted to carry out but the fact that any who enlisted would leave Canada as a civilian and return as a civilian and only be in uniform while serving in the British Army, made those who were approached very cautious and reluctant. The Captain was informed that the Nisei would be very glad to enlist and go to India if they were allowed to join the Canadian Army first. This seemed a reasonable request and so Ottawa authorities were approached, and there he struck a brick wall. Politics said no. For the following six months he repeated requests and finally after pressure from London, England, was brought to bear on Ottawa, consent was given. Six valuable months were lost just because of this unjust and senseless policy.

In the summer of 1944 just prior to the arrival of the British Captain, a Lieutenant in the Canadian Army Intelligence was working on a plan to influence the Ottawa authorities to accept Nisei enlistments. He was very interested in the Canadian Japanese and considered it very unjust that they were not accepted in the army. He learned that although hundreds had attempted to enlist, because the policy was no, no record of these attempts were kept. Believing this very unfair, he worked on a plan to have applications recorded so that they would be filed for future reference. Special application forms were printed for the specific purpose of recording the desire for enlistment by Japanese Canadians, hoping, of course, to influence the Minister of National Defense and others to have the policy changed.

With the collapse of Germany the Department of National Defense was required to consider Canadian Army personnel for the Pacific. Realizing that interrogators and interpreters were needed in the intelligence corps and with the added pressure from London, permission was given to recruit 150 Nisei for this special work. A portion of this group was immediately sent to India to serve under British Command while the remainder took their basic and advanced language training in Canada. While these boys were still studying in Canada, the atomic bomb violently blasted Japan into submission. The ending of the war with Japan did not mean that competent Japanese language personnel would not be required. On the contrary their services were very much in need for the difficult period of occupation.

This highly specialized training is conducted in Vancouver, B.C., the one-time home for many of these lads. They graduate as sergeants and hope for promotion. It is quite a coincidence that as these eighteen Nisei landed in New York after returning from India, a similar number of graduates from Vancouver were travelling across Canada to be sent to the far east for occupational duty. So Nisei Affairs finds it saying "welcome home" and "bon-voyage" in almost the same breath.

Canada's Nisei Soldiers by K.T.

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I am well to a friend - Olive Pannell

The Japanese Canadians lost one of their best friends in the east when Olive Jean Pannell passed away in Toronto, on January 8th. She was the wife of Mr. Raymond Pannell, and both husband and wife, from the early days of 1942, did everything in their power to ease the lot of the evacuees, especially those who came to Toronto.

I did not know her until March, 1942, when she wrote me a letter full of friendship and hope. She had met my brother at the Carlton Street United Church, and through him heard of the confusion and tragedy of evacuation on the West Coast. Mrs. Pannell was Vancouver-born, and lived there for 16 years when her family moved east. Revealed in that first letter was a common ground between us in our love for the snow-capped Lions, for digging in the garden. She wrote to say we were welcome to take shelter in their home if and when we came to Toronto, that though the house wasn't large, they would manage somehow. That is how we came to depend on the Pannells until we actually arrived in Toronto.

As the train sped towards Union Station in the early hours of June 5, 1942, we were tense with worry. Then, who should come aboard at West Toronto Station but the Pannells. They introduced themselves in a most cheerful and friendly fashion, putting us at ease. Mrs. Pannell had a low, happy chuckle that I will hear every time I think of her. That morning she said: "We thought.....it might be better if we just rode into the city with you.....in case there are any nosy reporters around. Yesterday the papers made quite a fuss about the T's, and they reported that another family was coming in this morning.....that's you folks. You shouldn't be bothered by such things the moment you step off a train, so I thought Ray and I...that's my husband... would sort of....you know....pilot you past."

They they helped carry the infant Twins, and guided us down into the Station, where my brother was waiting with Mr. Finlay and the young Pannells.

Coming as we did from a West turned hostile, into a city that made it clear we were unwelcome, the thoughtfulness of these

our hearts. At once we were included into a circle of friends as casually as if we had known them for years. Then for almost four years we enjoyed a delightful and deepening friendship with one of the most intelligent and understanding women we have ever met.

In her passing we lost not only a dear friend, but the Japanese Canadians lost a fearless champion. I mention the Japanese in particular, but to Olive Pannell all races were one people. Discrimination of any kind or degree was a challenge she took up in the face of many obstacles.

When a few "prominent citizens" of Toronto met to discuss and deplore the threatened influx of evacuees, Mrs. Pannell tackled Mayor Conboy himself, then the Mayor of Toronto. Before this, both Mr. and Mrs. Pannell had roused the Carlton Street United Church to action by reading to the members of that church some letters I had written her describing the process of evacuation, the confusion in Vancouver, the state of Hastings Park Pool as I had seen it. Thereupon, with leadership and encouragement from the minister, Mr. James Finlay, a band of people stood ready to give help whenever we should need it.

That initial preparedness, spurred on by Mrs. Pannell, gradually became the spearhead of the protests against injustice arising all over the country. These separate voices, crying out in the wilderness independently of the Pannells, snowballed into the significant movement today when so many decent Canadians demand justice and the rest of Canada waits to see the results of the Toronto group's action against deportation.

Canada is now roused to action proving that the inherent love of justice in the people needed only a spokesman to be heard across the country. I know that once Mr. Finlay heard from Mrs. Pannell certain facts of the evacuation, he needed no further encouragement to cry out in thunderous protest against "man's inhumanity to man". He is the first minister to preach those challenging sermons concerning the plight of the Japanese in Canada, to bring out the crusading spirit in those Christians who heard him. For a long time it seemed

February 3, 1946

Nisei Servicemen who returned home from
India via New York on the Queen Elizabeth

Pte. HIGA, G.Y.	.....	Lethbridge, Alta.
" HOITA, M. B.	.....	Toronto, Ont.
" IMADA, T.	.....	Taylor Lake, B.C.
" KAGAWA, W.J.	.....	London, Ont.
" KAYAHARA, T.S.	.....	Fletcher, Ont.
" MAIKAWA, T.	.....	Toronto, Ont.
" MATSUO, J.M.	.....	Newton Siding, Man.
" MIYASAKA, J.Y.	.....	Hamilton, Ont.
" NISHIO, T.	.....	Montreal, Que.
" OIKAWA, K.	.....	Hamilton, Ont.
" SAITO, P.E.	.....	Brandon, Man.
" SASAKI, H.W.	.....	Winnipeg, Man.
" SHIMIZU, K.J.	.....	Toronto, Ont.
" SUZUKI, G.	.....	Winnipeg, Man.
" SUZUKI, J.	.....	London, Ont.
" TAKEYASU, F.M.	.....	Hamilton, Ont.
" TAKEUCHI, R.A.	.....	Winnipeg, Man.
" UCHIDA, M.D.	.....	Guelph, Ont.

The following are the recent graduates of
S-20, Japanese Language School in Vancou-
ver who will be shortly taking up occupa-
tional duties in the Pacific:

Sgt. ADACHI, D.	.....	Toronto, Ont.
" HASEGAWA, G.	.....	" "
" IMAI, S.	.....	" "
" INOSE, J.	.....	Montreal, Que.
" ITO, K.	.....	" "
" KITAGAWA, K.	.....	Toronto, Ont.
" MATSUBUCHI, F.	.....	Montreal, Que.
" NOBUTO, M.	.....	" "
" OBATA, R.	.....	Toronto, Ont.
" OHASHI, G.	.....	" "
" OKI, J.	.....	Hamilton, Ont.
" OMURA, S.	.....	Toronto, Ont.
" SAKAMOTO, A.	.....	" "
" SATO, J.	.....	Montreal, Que.
" SHINTANI, G.	.....	Toronto, Ont.
" YAMASHITA, T.	.....	" "
" YATABE, M.	.....	" "

A C K N O W L E D G M E N T

J.C.C.D. gratefully acknowledge the fol-
lowing donations:

Miss Hattie Kunitomo
Miss Agnes Suzuki
Miss Mary Suzuki

Toronto, Ont.
" "

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NA
9/2/46*

clear enough to build their neat little cottages.

Many of us who were evacuated east of the Rockies still dream of returning to the west coast. I to was one who clung to that dream all during the evacuation and later through the war. My biggest ambition was to return to my home at the earliest opportunity. As a veteran I am now free to go anywhere in Canada, even to B. C., but somehow my birthplace is not the same anymore. The old friends we knew have in a lot of cases moved elsewhere. Those pioneer families who cleared virgin land with our fathers are now in the minority. The B. C. we knew in the past as our home is more alien to us than Ontario, Quebec or the prairie Provinces.

The wage standards are higher than in the rest of Canada but so is the cost of living.

The housing situation, too, is more acute than in any other provinces in Canada.

The anti-Japanese feeling has died down considerably in B. C. There is at present no way of gauging this decline of hostility towards Japanese Canadians as those at present on the coast are veterans of this war or those married to Chinese or Occidental Canadians. These people have experienced little or no discrimination.

This trip to the coast has cooled a lot of my eagerness to trek westward again. I have my new friends out here in Ontario. Few jobs are closed to me because of my racial origin. Why should I strive all over again in B.C. to attain nothing than I had before the war. Just because of memories and maybe a little higher wage rate is it worth all the struggle of pulling stakes again and trudging westward? Still I might take a chance, who knows?

Buck Suzuki "Operation Resettlement" p 3 NA.

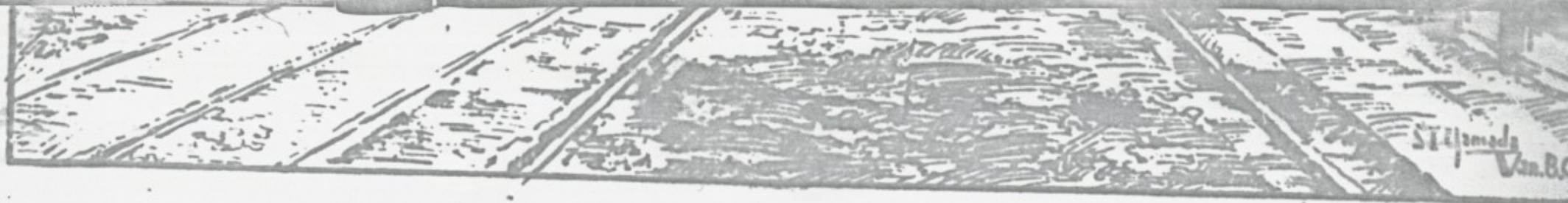
Vol 1 #10 Nov/Dec 1946*

On the cold eve the judgment of holding the Canadian orders-in-c read across the through the field an racial minority

A friendly battle meeting last spr the Chinese Miss the JCCD Badkingt Church of All Na Chinese Canadian with their mixed bles defeated t of 10-5, and 4-1 stronger Japanese the men's doubles team of slight home team. A nu tles were played which again resu the visitors. I stronger and imp coming when the to

The following is to the Editor of t er received from Officer in Singap ulate you on the made in a recent i by the full page anese Canadians an an athletic tourna. It has gone the ro Nisei soldiers in who have asked n sionally their thand behalf of their fe nese ancestry. Mo members of adherent of Canada."

The Chinese and J their actions, pro their ancestral coun since 1934 and dur World War, their friendship and unde non ground of Democr ive contribution; to



powell st knows

by mark n toyama

powell st knows
all about those
who limp, run, stagger or walk
criss-cross, stop and talk
for echoes of laughter
whispers of pain
odor of burnt toast
exotic scent of chow mein
dissolve into the street in mid-
night rain
that's how
powell st knows

powell st knows
and loves the light skip

of children as they trip
to school and their studies
a lovely eye
when yellow and white are
buddies
powell st knows

powell st knows
of a youth in a room
dark, dreary and dank
a two by four tomb
and can tell by his weakening
tread
that god again forgot
his daily bread
powell st knows

powell st knows
and shudders and hates
dwellers by satan's gates

the reeling squaw in drunken
stupor falls
and tries to beat
her fists to pulp
on the wet concrete
and sobs
powell st knows

powell st knows
it is fifth avenue
main street wall street and park
avenue
serves
as the centre of a social scheme
longs to be the nucleus of a
grander dream
and yet
yoshio and yaeiko's fanciful feet
truck on down a wondering
street
light fantastic
to a jitterbug beat

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(from
N. Cdr)