





Newspaper  
clippings  
— General —

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DAVID SPENCER  
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LIMITED

## F. G. Shears Named Enemy Custodian

F. G. Shears has taken charge of the office of the Custodian of Enemy Property in Vancouver. He succeeds G. W. McPherson, who has returned to Ottawa. Mr. Shears has been in the office for the past few months and had previous custodian experience in Winnipeg.

Mr. McPherson came to Vancouver a year ago to organize the office when evacuation of the Japanese was started. While the B. C. Security Commission handled the actual evacuation, Mr. McPherson looked after protective custody of the property of the Japs. This involved care of personal effects, administration and rental of real estate, leasing and disposing of business and fishing equipment.

Fishing boats and autos have, for the most part, been disposed of, but cameras and radios are still held by the custodian.

## Transfers o



SUPPLY EXECUTIVE—C. L. Drewry (above) has been appointed director general of the Toronto office, department of munitions and supply. He is on loan from the Norwich Union Life Insurance Society, of which he is the manager.



## OTTAWA LISTS APPOINTMENTS

### Judges Smith and Wilson Promoted to Higher Courts

Mr. Justice Sidney Smith of the B.C. Supreme Court has been promoted to the Court of Appeal, and Judge John Owen Wilson, senior Cariboo County Court judge, to the Supreme Court, it was announced in a list of judicial appointments from Ottawa.

Mr. Justice Smith fills the vacancy caused by the death of the late Mr. Justice Fisher.

Mr. Justice Wilson fills the vacancy on the Supreme Court bench caused by Mr. Justice Smith's promotion.

The appointment to the Appeal Court was offered to Mr. Justice A. M. Manson, but, due to his added duties as head of the Mobilization Board, he declined.

#### WAS SAILOR.

A native of Banffshire, Scotland, Mr. Justice Smith went to sea at 14 and saw 15 years' service in the merchant marine and the Royal Navy. He obtained his master's certificate at 21 and was a lieutenant in the R.N.R. for the four years of the last war.

He began his legal career as a law student to the late W. Martin Griffin, K.C., and was called to the B.C. bar in 1919. He was made a partner in the firm which continued as Griffin, Montgomery & Smith until Mr. Justice Smith was appointed a judge



MR. JUSTICE SMITH

of the Supreme Court in 1940. In his practice he had specialized in admiralty and shipping law.

#### ON ADMIRALTY COURT.

In January, 1941, Mr. Justice Smith was appointed judge of the Admiralty Court and he will retain this office.

His lordship is a member of the Honorable Company of Master Mariners.

He was chairman of the com-

mittee set up by the Dominion Government for the disposal and sale of the Japanese fishing fleet. This task was completed about a year ago, and the committee was warmly commended in the House of Commons for its services. His lordship is chairman of a committee for the disposal and sale of Japanese real and personal property in Vancouver. He is also chairman of an advisory board which recommends to the government what should be paid for vessels which have been taken over by the navy.

His most notable trial was that of four youths who were sentenced to death for the murder of a Japanese storekeeper. A second trial resulted in their convictions for manslaughter and prison sentences.

#### SONS IN NAVY.

Mr. Justice Smith's eldest son, Alexander F. Smith, is a sub-lieutenant of the R.C.N.V.R. and is on loan to the Royal Navy for invasion duties. He is in England on a naval ship. The second son, David P. Smith, is an ordinary seaman of the R.C.N.V.R. who is training on H.M.C.S. Cornwallis near Halifax. A daughter, Dorothy, is in her second year at U.B.C.

A brother, Capt. J. Bisset Smith, is in charge of a C.P.R. troopship on the Atlantic. He was in command of the Empress of Asia at Singapore when she was sunk by the Japanese. He was awarded the O.B.E. for landing all his troops safely.

### Vancouver Judge Heads Japanese Property Board

Mr. Justice Sidney Smith has been named chairman of the advisory committee set up to dispose of urban Japanese property in British Columbia, it was announced today.

Mr. Justice Smith, a member of the commission set up to sell Japanese fishboats, was nominated by the Chief Justice of British Columbia, who was asked by Hon. Ian Mackenzie to appoint a chairman.

One more member remains to be named to the committee. Ald. Charles Jones was Monday appointed City of Vancouver representative.

A second advisory committee is being organized, at the request of Hon. Norman McLarty, custodian of alien enemy property and secretary of state.

The second committee will assist in disposal of rural property owned by Japanese.

Four members have to be named to it, and it is held probable that Japanese may have representation on both committees.

### Protest Ban On Japanese

TORONTO (CP)—The co-operative committee on Japanese Canadians Tuesday released the text of a letter dispatched to Prime Minister Mackenzie King, urging the Dominion Government to revoke orders restricting movement of Japanese Canadians and their right to acquire fishing licenses.

"Special restrictions were imposed upon Japanese Canadians as a wartime measure and because of fear of invasion by Japan," said Mrs. Hugh MacMillan of Toronto, committee secretary, in her letter to the prime minister. "The dangers which these special restrictions were designed to meet have long since passed away, and with them the justification for the continuance of the orders."

## COMMISSIONER



ALD. CHARLES JONES

On 3-man board to sell seized Japanese property here.

### 3-Man Board To Sell Jap Property Here

News of the appointment of a three-man commission by the Federal Government to dispose of Japanese-owned real estate in Vancouver was conveyed today to City Council by telegram from Hon. Ian Mackenzie.

The wire to Mayor Cornett stated that a Supreme Court judge, a representative of the City Council and a spokesman for Japanese interests will comprise the disposal board.

Mr. Mackenzie's request that the council nominate its representative was adopted, after aldermen stated they have agitated for months for the sale of these properties to white citizens.

Ald. Charles Jones, chairman of the City Council's properties' committee was named.

The message from the Minister made no distinction between properties owned by Japanese aliens, naturalized Japs or second generation Nisei.

Councillors interpreted the move as an indication that the Federal Government shares their belief that Japanese must not be permitted to return to Vancouver from evacuation centres.

"Their properties will never be re-occupied," said Ald. G. H. Worthington. "They will be dispossessed for all time and this is certainly a step in the right direction."

Ald. W. D. Greyell stated that the action is indicative "of the government's attitude in dealing with these people when the war is over."

Machinery to handle the sale has already been set up by the local deputy custodian of alien property, reported Ald. George Buscombe.

### CHARLES JONES ACTS FOR CITY

City Council today named Ald. Charles Jones, civic properties chairman, its representative on the three-man committee being appointed by the Dominion Government to dispose of Japanese property in Vancouver.

Aldermen were advised of the new federal committee in a telegram to Mayor Cornett from Hon. Ian Mackenzie, minister of pensions and national health.

Other members of the committee will be a Supreme Court judge and a representative of Japanese interests, the minister wired. He asked for an immediate telegraph reply regarding the council nominee.

#### NEW JAP POLICY.

Alderman George Buscombe, civic building chairman, who has agitated for reclamation of Vancouver's "Little Tokyo" for white occupancy, reported the local office of the custodian of enemy property is prepared to implement the new government policy.

Council members also saw in Ottawa move the forerunner of a policy of Japanese exclusion after the war.

"If these properties are disposed of it will be an additional argument against the reoccupation of Vancouver by Japanese," declared Ald. G. H. Worthington.

#### "ANOTHER STEP."

"It is another step in getting the Japs out of our country, and Vancouver must co-operate."

Ald. Willard Greyell thought the government is clearly showing its feeling towards Japanese when the war is over.

Many Japanese who have owned property in Vancouver have already agreed to dispose of their holdings, declared Ald. Buscombe, who has been in close touch with the situation.

"A good time to get rid of it" (Japanese property), commented Ald. G. C. Miller.



## Much to Investigate

In a field of activity as large as the Canadian war effort, a certain amount of waste and error was inevitable. In few instances, however, was error so patent and indefensible as in the management of the office of the Custodian of Alien Property. Almost since the beginning of its work, it has been the subject of controversy and protest, and there is good reason to believe that its purposes and intent were misunderstood, if not deliberately perverted, by those responsible for its administration.

The Secretary of State is nominally the Custodian of Alien Property, but the operating official is the deputy custodian, Dr. E. H. Coleman, Undersecretary of State. The custodian took over the Canadian property of enemy nationals on the outbreak of war, and by Order-in-Council, later assumed control of the property of illegal organizations, and of enemy aliens in Canada, both real and so-called.

The story of the custodian's handling of the properties belonging to the Ukrainian Labor-Farmer Temple Association is well-known. Of the 104 halls belonging to this organization, seventeen, were sold for a fraction of their real value. The official reason was that they were encumbered by mortgages or tax claims, but this was only partially true, as only six had any liability against them. In Calgary, for example, a hall and contents valued at \$15,850 were sold for \$1,500, and from that agent's fees and lawyers' fees, totalling \$485, were deducted, leaving just over \$1,000 for the owners. In Bienenfuit, Sask., a hall costing \$8,000, with a liability of only \$400 against it, was sold for \$860, and a mere \$55.59 was available after the agent's fees, and other items were deducted. A claims commission later awarded the sum of \$7,853.70, in full settlement.

Secretary of State Colin Gibson admitted in the House on Tuesday, that the deputy custodian ran a "private business" of his own, charging a 2 per cent commission on assets held, and paying out of this fund the salaries and expenses of his staff, without reference to Parliament. In fact, no report of any kind has been made to Parliament of the activities of the Alien Property Custodian, although similar information is readily available from his opposite number of the United States.

Of far less excusable character has been the handling of the property of the Japanese people displaced from British Columbia. These people were not enemy aliens in the ordinary sense of the word, except for a small number who have since been deported. The custodian took over virtually all the real assets of the Canadian Japanese—fishing boats, land, houses, and even personal property. The Japanese were given to understand that these would be held in trust, until they were re-located, and that these assets, or their value, would be available to help them get started in their new lives. This promise was ruthlessly violated. Virtually all the fishing boats were sold at a fraction of their value. Land and other assets went for a song, and there are cases where personal property was given away, to get rid of it. It should be remembered that in many instances this was done to native-born Canadians, whose sole crime was the accident of their ancestry.

It is probable that the Government gave the Custodian of Alien Property, and his deputy, legal authority to dispose of the properties seized under Order-in-Council, whether or not there existed a moral right to do so. A mere matter of injustice has never been a deterrent to this Government. The nation has a right to know who was responsible for this policy, and to whom, and for what, the properties were sold. The secrecy surrounding this matter is just cause for serious suspicion.

## Enemy Property Custodian Work Under Combined Opposition Fire

By F. C. MEARS

(Gazette Resident Correspondent)

Ottawa, February 18. — Protests from spokesmen of the three political groups on the Opposition side against the absence of full information about the work of the Custodian of Enemy Property warmed debate in the House today on a measure of Secretary of State Colin Gibson to continue in effect regulations for enemy property control and trading with the enemy.

But the protests went farther than that for Donald Fleming (P.C.—Toronto-Eglington) declared that included in the proposed measure was approval of regulations which carried with them "powers which no self-respecting Parliament can permit to be continued in time of peace." "The House," continued Mr. Fleming, "will rightly demand the fullest kind of report on operations under these sweeping regulations."

Then Gordon Graydon, prominent Opposition member, urged that the Minister (Colin Gibson) give the House complete information on the operations of the Enemy Property Custodian. "This is a public enterprise," said Mr. Graydon. "It belongs to the people who are entitled to the information, since we are spending public money on this matter."

M. J. Coldwell, C.C.F. Leader, got down to particulars. "Properties have been taken away from organizations and from individuals and have been sold," he said. "We should like to know something about the operation. Certain patents have been in the hands of companies which have been associated with Nazi organizations such as I. G. Farbenindustrie, and I should like to know what has become of the royalties due to Farbenindustrie from the Bayer Company which makes Aspirin in Canada and also what has been done about the Bren Gun concern."

E. G. Hansell, Social Credit spokesman, said that enemy pro-

perty matters were usually settled through treaties with foreign countries, but when the treaties were before Parliament for approval they were accomplished facts. "More often than not," he declared, "we put the cart before the horse, and instead of having an effective democracy we render it less efficient by doing it the treaty way."

"There is certainly not the same need for secrecy now that there was during the war," Col. Gibson, readily agreed, "but we do need these regulations in order to control enemy property that is in Canada, and also to enable us to continue investigations that have been going on ever since the war ended to locate enemy property that may have been skilfully hidden which was under the control of the enemy or their agents in Canada."

"When the Allied forces got into Germany," said Col. Gibson, "and had access to records there, information was secured which enabled

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 6.)

## 48 Hours at Home

An amazing event recently was the arrival of a young Canadian who was allowed 48 hours in this province, on a police permit, so that he might be ordained as a minister of the Christian church. Then he had to "get out of town"—to go east of the Rockies—or be picked up by the R.C.M.P.

The situation was completely justified in the minds of many British Columbians, and in the laws of Canada, by the fact that the young man had a brown skin—his father, also a Christian minister, was Japanese. It is difficult to appreciate, however, just how this treatment of Edward Yoshioka, a U.B.C. graduate born in Vancouver, differs from the treatment accorded certain races and religions in the European "police

states" which Canadians are so wont to piously deplore.

It is interesting to learn from a report issued by the federal department of labor that this whole sorry business of "relocation of the Japanese" is nearly over. It will be completed this summer.

The racists have succeeded. They have eliminated the "menace" of a sudden stab in the back from a beaten and whipped Japan. But the question is whether they have not, for the sake of ousting 15,000 "aliens"—two out of three born in Canada—from a population of a million, added fuel to the world's ominous race hatreds, and done real damage to the name of British Columbia in the view of fair-minded people throughout the world.



## WHITESIDE TO HEAD NEW BOARD ON JAP AFFAIRS

City Judge Summoned to Ottawa as Chairman of Commission Composed of Fraser Valley Representatives.

Judge David Whiteside will leave tonight by Canadian National Railways for Ottawa. He goes at the call of the Under-Secretary of State who telephoned him from the capital. The judge is to be chairman of a commission, composed of members from various parts of the Fraser Valley, to deal with some phase of Japanese affairs. Exactly what the functions of this body will be, he does not know. He assumes that the project will be fully explained when he gets to Ottawa and that the work of the commission will commence on his return at an early date.

The assumption is that the function of the commission will be to sell Japanese farm lands in the valley. These lands are at present in the hands of G. W. McPherson, custodian of alien enemy property, but his authority extends only to leasing them. It was recently announced at Ottawa that the lands will now be offered for sale, and that separate organization would be set up for that purpose.

## McLarty Has Faith In Jap Committees

Special to The Vancouver Sun

VICTORIA, Jan. 16. — Hon. Norman A. McLarty, K.C., Secretary of State in the Ottawa government, who has been holidaying here in recent days, told *The Vancouver Sun* today he has every confidence in the two advisory committees handling Japanese property affairs in B.C.

One is headed by Mr. Justice Sidney Smith, for the Greater Vancouver area, and the other by Judge Whiteside of New Westminster for the districts outside Vancouver.

The Secretary of State and his wife have been resting for some days at the Empress Hotel "luxuriating in this tropical climate." He also has conferred with Premier John Hart and other members of the B.C. government.

Mr. and Mrs. McLarty will leave Thursday evening for Vancouver, where Friday the secretary will address the Canadian Club before he entrains for Ottawa.

THE VANC

## W.P.T.B. SUSPECTED RACKET

### Ceiling Price Set For Auctions

To combat a racket which government officials believe to be widely prevalent in Vancouver, the Prices Board has issued a new order which establishes ceiling prices on goods sold at auctions or private sales.

The order covers many scarce articles, including binoculars, cameras, lenses, photographic equipment, sewing machines, washing machines, refrigerators, metal beds and springs, radios, stoves, typewriters and vacuum cleaners.

Sales of these articles by

dealers are already price controlled.

"It was necessary," said a Prices Board official, "to extend the order to include auctions and sales between private individuals."

It was pointed out that there has been strong suspicion that some unscrupulous dealers, in order to evade price ceilings, have removed goods from their stores, and under the name of some private citizen have offered them for sale at exorbitant prices.

Buyers, unable to obtain cer-

Royal City Pioneer

## DEATH CLAIMS D.E. MACKENZIE

NEW WESTMINSTER, Oct. 11. — Duncan Edwin "Eddie" MacKenzie, 75, one of New Westminster's and the Fraser Valley's best-known citizens, died Tuesday afternoon at his home, 103 Third avenue. He had been ill since last May.

Possibly more than anyone else in New Westminster, he had devoted his time and energy to the welfare of the community and was connected with numerous public, semi-public and fraternal organizations.

### HERE IN 1883.

Born in Kincardine, Ont., in 1869, he came to British Columbia with his parents in 1883 and settled at Clover Valley.

He was first a telegraph operator at Hope and later went into the grocery business with his brother in New Westminster. He was appointed market clerk in 1904.

He is survived by two sons, Cameron, New Westminster, and Capt. C. Duncan MacKenzie, overseas; three daughters, Mary and Margaret at home, and N.S. Lieut. Dorothy Mackenzie, Victoria; two sisters, Mrs. Robie L. Reid, Vancouver, and Mrs. Duncan MacLennan, New Westminster.

S. Bowell & Son are in charge of funeral arrangements.

He was a past master and treasurer for 40 years of Union Lodge No. 9, A.F. & A.M.; past illustrious potentate of Gizeh Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S.; B.C. representative of the Shriners' Hospital for Crippled Children. For 45 years he was a member of Royal City Lodge I.O.O.F.; a past grand master of that order, and he was the recipient of the Order of Chivalry, the highest award given by the Patriarchs Militant.

PASSES



D. E. MACKENZIE  
... well known in valley.

## Ukrainians Seek Property Return

Continuing a campaign for restoration of their property, alleged to have been seized and sold by the custodian of enemy property, the Ukrainians of Vancouver have set forth their case in a pamphlet which is being mailed to every member of Parliament in Canada.

The Ukrainians and Canadian descendants number about 500,000 persons in the Dominion. In 1940 they had 108 halls and community buildings valued at \$1,000,000. These were used as conservatories of music, choral societies, and the perpetuation of their folk lore, dances and Old World culture, they state.

Vancouver Hall at Pender and Hawks, once known as the Ukrainian Labor Farmer Temple, cost about \$26,000. It was sold for \$6000 by the custodian.

A committee formed for the return of the properties of the U.L.F.T.A., states that from its very inception, the organization had no affiliations with any political party, either in Canada or outside the Dominion; and that the constitution, statutes and decisions of its conventions have always been submitted to the proper authorities in Ottawa.



## 21,000 US Jap Placed in Jobs

WASHINGTON, March 16. — (AP)—More than 21,000 of the 112,000 people of Japanese ancestry removed from the West coast to relocation centres two years ago are now living and supporting themselves outside the centres, Secretary of Interior Ickes said today.

More than 19,000 the secretary said, have been granted indefinite leave to establish homes in communities scattered from the eastern boundary of the exclusion area to the Atlantic coast.

On seasonal leave, mainly as farm workers, are between 2000 and 3000 others, while an army battalion composed entirely of Americans of Japanese descent has already served in the Italian campaign.

Ickes said that of the employable men granted leaves, more are engaged in agriculture than in any other occupation.

Since British Columbia Security Commission began evacuating Japanese from the coast area after Pearl Harbor, some 7000 Japanese out of a total of 23,000 have moved under permit to eastern Canada, where they now completely self-support.

TUESDAY, JULY 6, 1942

### No Sale for Jap Property

Special to The Times

VANCOUVER, B. C., July 6.—

Vancouver citizens are not in a hurry to buy Japanese city property which has been put on the market by the secretary of state, acting as custodian of enemy property. Only a few inquiries are trickling in to real estate agents

handling the 167 parcels open for tender under the new act.

FOR  
ME

## Jap Evacuation On West Coast Upheld By Court

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 3.—

(AP) — The legality of the evacuation of the Japanese from west coast areas was upheld by the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals here in the first decision ruling on that point by a superior court.

In the case of Fred T. Korematsu, 23, Japanese who remained in San Leandro, Cal., to be near his Italian sweetheart, the court decided that the U.S. Government, while prosecuting a war, has the power to do everything necessary to carry it on successfully, even though in the exercise of those powers the government "temporarily infringes upon the rights and liberties of individual citizens."

Kamloops Mass Meet

## ASKS OTTAWA TO MOVE JAPS

(By Canadian Press.)

KAMLOOPS, March 27.—Several hundred persons, attending a public meeting Sunday to protest against the increase of the number of Japanese in the Kamloops district, passed a resolution that an area extending 50 miles in all directions from Kamloops be declared a restricted area, owing to "defense installations" here.

The meeting was under auspices of a joint committee representing City Council, the Board of Trade and the Canadian Legion.

The resolution was forwarded to Ottawa.

Principal speakers were G. H. Greer, president of the Kamloops Canadian Legion, who was chairman; R. H. Carson, Liberal Coalition M.L.A. for Kamloops, and Dr. R. W. Irving, chairman of the local national war finance committee.

Also on the platform were D. B. Johnstone, secretary, and R. W. Bourns, president of the Board of Trade, and T. Aldworth, chairman of a subcommittee which prepared the resolution.

### NO RACIAL HATRED.

Mr. Greer denied the legion, as a party to the meeting, was fomenting racial hatred. He said it acted in the interest of military security and for the men in the forces who would return to the district.

Carson said he favored a law which would forbid Japanese to own property in B.C. and he would also make it a crime for a man to act as a medium for Japanese to secure control of property.

Dr. Irving condemned those who bring Japs in for the sake of a few dollars.

## Farmers Ask Compensation

By ALEX SHAW

Daily Province Staff Correspondent.

MISSION, March 21.—Farmers of B. C. Coast Growers' Association are not satisfied that they have seen the last of the Japanese.

At the annual meeting at Mission Monday farmers who are leasing Japanese farms from year to year demanded they be given some government guarantee of compensation for expenditures they make in new planting such as strawberries.

There appeared to have been a lack of a common policy, some farmers having been compensated for plantings while others were not.

### JAPS HOLD SHARES.

A feeling, however, persists that the Japanese had not completely abandoned the hope of being able to return to their former holdings. They are prepared to fight many legal issues through the courts. It was not known what was paid for the land when taken over by the custodian.

Japanese who held shares in the Pacific Co-operative continue to do so. Recently the Co-operative executive made an offer to buy those shares, but no deal was made.

Representatives asked the appointment of a commission to inquire into educational costs and that this commission be asked to bring in a possible plan for the relief of land taxation to be introduced at the next session of the Legislature.



O. P. A. PROBING  
JAP RENTS HERE

Office of Price Administration officials here were probing stubbornly today into what has been described as one of the "hottest potatoes" in this area—the operation of Japanese-owned or leased hotels by Caucasian landlords.

High on the list of violators receiving O. P. A. attention are two Seattle hotels, which together have overcharged patrons approximately \$35,000 since the application of rent control to hotels July 1, 1942, officials disclosed.

Standard "alibi" of the white operators, according to B. C. Koepke, district rent director, is that they are operating the establishments "in the best interests" of Japanese evacuees, and find it impossible to do so profitably at the legal rate.

## Most Were Japs

Estimates indicate that 85 per cent of Seattle's hotels are leased or owned by Japanese. O. P. A. figures show that recently Japanese leased or owned 394 hotels, rooming houses and apartments. The Seattle Japanese Hotel Association roster lists 215 names.

Also involved by necessity in the confusion of conflicting interests is the War Relocation Authority, which is charged with the duty of assisting Japanese evacuees who request help.

Sketching the background which makes the problem so complicated, Dean C. McLean, in charge of the W. R. A. office here, said:

"The Japanese were evacuated in May, 1942, before there was rent control on, for that matter, any W. R. A. The Japanese were required to sublease their properties, obtain managers, seek the counsel of lawyers.

"The representatives of the evacuees were required to file rental rates with O. P. A. Rental rates and records previously kept by the Japanese were not readily available. The Japanese were scattered in relocation centers. Their records in some instances were stored in private homes or churches."

## 'Contrary to Facts'

A much-used excuse that records have been "lost or destroyed" is described bluntly by O. P. A. officials as "sometimes contrary to facts."

"The company representing one large Japanese hotel stated their records were unobtainable," declared Robert Finley, chief O. P. A. enforcement attorney, "and one of our men said flatly that he was tired of hearing that excuse."

"Continued pressing resulted in the discovery of the hotel's records in an open carton in the store-room."

This hotel, it was found, had been overcharging to the tune of approximately \$17,000. The O. P. A. is exploring courses of action to be followed.

The most lenient action, Finley said, will be to permit the offending hotel to refund overcharges to all available tenants and present the balance of the sum to the United States Treasury.

## Rejected Raise Made

In a second instance, a real-estate firm representing an evacuated Japanese petitioned for the right to raise rates. The petition was rejected by Koepke.

Notwithstanding the rejection, Koepke said, it was discovered that the rates had been raised, and tenants were overcharged approximately \$1,000 a month for 17 months.

Biggest "headache" for the W. R. A., disclosed McLean, are Caucasian operators who sublease the properties and attempt to "milk" them.

McLean cited the example of a Pine Street hotel, which was allowed by its Caucasian sublessee to deteriorate to such an extent that at one time sewage was seeping out the front door.

Intervention by W. R. A., McLean said, resulted in voluntary termination of the sublease. The hotel is being remodeled.

## Japs' Rates Low

McLean described the situation as "extremely complicated, but one for which a solution must be found."

"It is an undeniable fact that the Japanese made available housing accommodations at greatly reduced rates due to their economic system," he continued. "Operating costs have increased a great deal."

"In many cases it has been possible for Caucasians to show a profit only because hotel occupancy has jumped to 100 per cent plus."

McLean declared the W. R. A. would not be a party to any "subterfuge" in the operation of Japanese properties.

"We are protecting the interest of Japanese who request it, but that doesn't mean we are going to maintain the violation of laws," he said. "These hotels must be run scrupulously as any other hotels, and we are prepared to give O. P. A. every assistance in seeing that they are."

Earlier action in the rent-reduction field has resulted in the refunding of \$10,855 in overcharges during December alone—largely from Japanese-owned transient hotels, Koepke announced.

Koepke stated that service men, including mailmen, war workers, and others, have been bound for fishing banks, fields or construction work, and overcharged consistently during December refunds, he went to tenants, and to the Treasury.

Chinese Buy  
Block, 100  
Lose Homes

More than 100 persons living at present in a corner block at Powell and Gore are faced with eviction within the next month unless steps can be taken to prevent their removal, The Vancouver Sun learned today.

The block, which consists of ground-floor stores and a rooming house upstairs, was former Japanese property taken over by the custodian of enemy property.

It was sold recently to a group of Chinese. Pemberton, Vancouver real estate firm, handled the deal.

## CHINESE BUYERS

Deed for the sale is now in the hands of the Secretary of State at Ottawa awaiting his signature. When the deed is returned signed the property then legally belongs to the Chinese group and they have already, according to residents, threatened eviction.

"They walked in on me here the other day," Mrs. Catharine Draper, 215 Gore, complained.

"About nine Chinese just opened the door and started wandering around looking through the rooms."

"They told me then they needed the space and that I would have to get out."

"If I could find any other place to move with my five children, I would certainly not live here. But I have tried and this is the best I can do."

At 268 Powell live Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Woodcock. Mr. Woodcock, 70, is almost blind. He is a veteran of three wars—South African, Boxer Rebellion and the First World War. Two sons, Pilot Officer William Woodcock and LAC. Arthur Woodcock, have died in this war.

"In the last month," Mrs. Woodcock said, "we have mailed out dozens of letter to places in the country for any kind of a home. We have had only one reply and that was to tell us there were no houses to be had."

## HOME FOR CHINESE

All of the tenants are of the opinion that the rooms are being taken over to accommodate the 300 Chinese facing eviction from their Shanghai Alley homes on September 1.

The stores are of typical Oriental construction inside with tiny airless rooms partitioned off.

An official of Pemberton told The Sun that his firm still collects rents and will do so until the signed deed is returned from Ottawa.

Royal Commission  
Opens Investigation  
Of B.C. Jap CampsEvacuees Declare  
Treatment "Not"  
Generous

Complaints by evacuee Japanese in British Columbia interior detainment camps that food allowances are too low and housing too congested will be investigated by a royal commission headed by Dr. F. W. Jackson, deputy minister of health and public welfare for Manitoba, it was announced in Ottawa today.

The commission, comprised of three men and a woman, has already begun its investigation, and left Vancouver this morning for Tashme, near Hope, where it will meet members of a Japanese "town committee."

## RETURNS WEDNESDAY.

Commissioners will return Wednesday and remain here until the start of the new year, then will make a complete personal investigation of each of the seven interior camps.

Members of the commission are Dr. Jackson, Dr. G. F. Davidson, executive secretary of the Canadian Welfare Council at Ottawa, W. R. Bone, administrator of social services for Vancouver, and Mrs. Mary Sutherland of Revelstoke.

The evacuee Japanese camps are at Tashme, Greenwood, Kaslo, Lemon Creek, Slocan City, New Denver and Sandon.

## 16,000 IN CAMP.

These camps once housed some 23,000 Japanese nationals, naturalized Japanese and Canadian-born Japanese, all of whom were evacuated from the vulnerable areas of British Columbia's coast as a protective measure shortly after Pearl Harbor. Many have since moved eastward.

The figure now stands at some 16,000.

George C. Collins, general superintendent of the British Columbia Security Commission, said today the formal complaints of treatment of the Japanese were sent to Ottawa by the "town committee" in each of the camps. Copies of each letter were sent to Mr. Collins and their similarity indicated that each committee had acted in co-operation with the others.

(Continued on Page 2.)  
See PROBE.

Japs Return  
To 'Normal' Jobs

Total of 31 former Pacific coast Japanese, working in a road camp near Revelstoke, are now being dispersed to "normal" jobs in British Columbia and Alberta, George E. Collins, general superintendent of the B.C. Security Commission said today.

The Japanese formed the major part of a road gang improving the Revelstoke-Sicamous section of the Trans-Canada Highway. They sought and were granted permission to accept other jobs.

Some will go to British Columbia logging camps outside of the protected area, others will go to farms in the north Okanagan district. A number will take jobs on Alberta sugar beet farms.

Those left in the camp are white machinists and mechanics.



## Japanese, Ottawa

Roy L. Codd writes in part:

In deferring final action on the Japanese question until the peace conference, the government follows the most logical course.

Any settlement it might announce now would only be regarded as further retreat and appeasement by the peddlers of race prejudice. It would be the starting point of many similar agitations.

Forcible redistribution of Japanese, however, well meant, would be no guarantee against recurrence of the present situation. The Jews whose racial characteristics are less obvious than those of Orientals, had distributed themselves through Germany, yet that did not hinder Hitler's campaign against them.

There could have been no successful compromise with Hitler on the race question and it is already evident that we have wasted time and money trying to appease similar activities in Canada.

The Japanese "problem" has been magnified and distorted beyond all reason. Russia, in dangerous proximity to Japan, has more

## Special Hearing

# UKRAINIANS ASK RETURN OF HALL

An application for return of its community hall, seized under the Defense of Canada regulations, will be made by the Ukrainian Labor Farmer Temple Association at a special hearing in Vancouver on December 8 before Judge McPhee, chairman of the federal commission appointed to investigate return of such property.

The association on Tuesday advised the City Council of the hearing and asked aldermen to support its application, regulations under which the hall was seized having been amended.

D. A. Freeman, secretary of Vancouver Civil Liberties Union, explained the Ukrainian association fears that instead of returning the community hall the custodian of enemy alien property will pay the sum which sale of the hall realized.

## SOLD TO CHURCH.

The building was sold to the Greek Orthodox Church for \$6000 and the association claims it cost \$26,000 to build, not counting voluntary labor supplied by members of the Ukrainian community.

Aldermen declined to pass a formal resolution asking the government to return the building but instructed Corporation Counsel D. E. McTaggart K.C., to draft a motion expressing the council's belief the Ukrainian community here should have a hall for its activities.

## LETTERS

[Briefly worded letters on any subject of public interest are welcome in this column. Letters must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer.]

## Jap Consul's House

Sir: We read every day of families being evicted from their homes, so I would like to know why the Japanese consul's house is boarded up and standing vacant?

Surely the health and comfort of our own people should come before any rulings, if such is the case.

Also I would like to know why after receiving permits to build homes, the owners are suddenly not allowed to finish them until the duration, and the houses (which were at the plastering stage) are allowed to deteriorate.

Vancouver. A HOUSEWIFE.

# Gov't to Sell Japs' Personal Property

Furniture and other household goods and personal effects left in Vancouver by Japanese evacuees will be sold, possibly by public auction, "in the reasonably near future" according to the office of the Custodian of Enemy Property.

"We are proceeding with our policy of orderly liquidation of all Japanese assets and furniture and other effects will be disposed of in due time as we get around to that part of the job.

"It will be in the reasonably near future but certainly not immediately as suggested in the Japanese newspaper, New Canadian," an official said.

The New Canadian, claiming reliable information, said that the auction sale is due to begin "almost immediately" and that it would start with the large quantities of goods stored in halls and institutions such as the Hompa Buddhist Church.

The custodian's office would give no estimate of the quantity or approximate value of the stored goods.

## Berry Farms

Sir: In the opinion of the writer, it is time some public notice were taken of discrimination and favoritism shown in the allocation of berry farms, now under the jurisdiction of the custodian of Enemy Alien property.

Having a rather large family of children who are accustomed to fruit picking and general farm work, I would be well able to make a successful job of contributing to the war effort, through production of one of the essential food items.

That is if I were able to secure allotment of a small farm. Such, however, is not the case. At the same time I see others secure more than one farm even though they can not take care of one, let alone two and three.

I hope to see sufficient public protest made to ensure in another season a more equitable administration of these properties and, as a natural consequence, a more satisfactory and efficient production of vital food products.

MRS. H. R. GRANT.

Mission City, B.C.



## Ukrainian Temple Restored to Group

Ukrainian Labor-Farmer Temple in Vancouver, seized in 1940 under Defense of Canada Regulations by the Dominion Government, has been restored to the association which bears the Temple's name.

Garfield King, spokesman for the association in Vancouver, said formal reopening of the hall will be held late this month.

The building and contents, which originally cost \$22,000, were sold to a Ukrainian church organization for \$6000, payable \$500 cash and the balance at \$50 a month. It was repurchased recently by the government for \$10,000 and reconveyed to the association.

## Would Bar Employment

## Valley Liberals Demand Ottawa Expel All Japs

(Special to The Daily Province.)

MISSION, Aug. 24.—Demand that all persons of Japanese ancestry be expelled from Canada after the war, and that at the end of the war, or sooner, all employers be forbidden to employ persons of Japanese ancestry, is embodied in a resolution passed by Fraser Valley Federal Riding Liberal Association at its annual meeting here.

The resolution also asks that, meanwhile, no person of Japanese ancestry be permitted to carry on business in B.C., either directly or indirectly, or to own land, lease, or to hold any interest in land, or in any corporate body.

It also specified that any such Japanese holdings be confiscated forthwith.

The resolution was moved by W. W. Strachan of Mission, and seconded by E. M. Handy of Dewdney.

## Ask Federal Aid

## Labor Supports Move to Restore Ukrainian Hall

A demand will be made to the Federal Government by the Vancouver Labor Council that the Vancouver Property of the Ukrainian Labor-Farmer Temple Association be returned to the owners.

The decision was made at the regular meeting Tuesday night following a motion by Fred McNeil, delegate of the Dock and Shipyard Workers Union, that "Council protest to the Federal Government demanding the return of the hall to the Ukrainian organization." The motion carried.

E. E. Leary, president, explained the temple cost \$26,000, and had been built through the sacrifice of Ukrainians who wished a place to carry out cultural pursuits.

The property was seized by the government as a war measure.

"The government has seen fit not to restore the property," said Mr. Leary. "Many of the Ukrainians are unionists."

"The government sold this property for \$5000. About \$1500 has been paid on it, and the government refuses to return it after the organization has been declared a legal one."

It was decided a delegation of union members interview a representative of the Custodian of Enemy Property, who is expected in Vancouver on December.

## Arrested In City

## Charge Jap Masqueraded As Chinese

An Oriental, charged by police to be a Japanese who for the past two years has masqueraded in Vancouver as a Chinese, was arrested early Sunday by city detectives and appeared in Police Court today for violation of the National Registration Act.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police, who laid the charge, assert that the accused is actually Shigeo Kinoshith, 33, and that he has been posing as Woo Sing Louis since the Japanese were evacuated from the Coast two years ago.

A National Registration card in the name of Woo Sing Louis was found in his possession when he was arrested by Detectives Peter Lamont and Kenneth McKay in a Chinese rooming house at 446 Keefer.

Officials said he had been working here as a truck driver and that he apparently changed his identity to avoid the evacuation order.

## Claim Over Million Dollar Income Lost To Valley In Jap Berry Farms

More than \$1,500,000 yearly income is lost to the Fraser Valley because of the unwise resettlement policy as carried out by the Custodian of Enemy Property in respect to berry farms vacated by Japanese, according to spokesmen of the B.C. Coast Growers' Association.

Two thousand acres have already been lost, it is claimed, and many more are threatened. Weeds have overgrown many berry patches and brush has begun to appear on land cleared for new raspberry planting.

Two delegates from the association told the convention of the B. C. Federation of Agriculture on Saturday that only 10 per cent of the tenants who have occupied Japanese berry farms have leases. The others operate under a seasonal contract and as a result don't know whether to go ahead with cultivation and new planting or not.

They stated that at least a three year lease was necessary to encourage these growers properly to look after their berry patches. In addition a compensation clause should be inserted in the lease to reimburse growers in the event of losses.

They explained that at least

two seasons are necessary to produce a berry crop and some such clause was necessary so that new acreage would be planted and thus continuity secured.

A resolution asking for this change of policy was presented to the meeting and endorsement of it promised.

The Coast Growers' Association is also asking that farmers be paid 12 cents a pound for strawberries this year and 14 cents for raspberries.

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COMMISSION REPORT RELEASED

# CANADA'S TREATMENT OF JAPANESE 'FAIR'

(By Canadian Press.)

OTTAWA, March 20.—A royal commission appointed to study provisions made for the welfare and maintenance of Japanese in interior B.C. settlements reached the "unanimous opinion" that the provisions made by the Canadian Government "are, as a wartime measure, reasonably fair and adequate," said the commission's report tabled in Commons.

The report, tabled by Labor Minister Mitchell, said the commission formed its opinion after "an extensive and thorough investigation of the welfare and maintenance" of the 23,000 Japanese moved out of the defense area in B. C. to temporary settlements elsewhere in the province.

## NO BASIS FOR COMPLAINTS.

During the investigation, the commission said, it found:

1. No evidence to substantiate complaints that new housing erected in the settlements by the B. C. Security Commission was of unsafe construction.

2. The productive work and special industries provided by the Security Commission for Japanese residents in the settlements have been developed to a commendable degree of efficiency.

3. The Security Commission is providing education for Japanese children in the settlements by making available instruction up to Grade VIII through teachers obtained from the higher-educated Japanese personnel of the camps; high school correspondence courses are supplied by the B. C. department of education.

## GOOD MEDICAL CARE.

4. An excellent program of medical care has been arranged, including hospitalization, medical and dental services.

5. The food provided in the settlements is sufficient to maintain health, proper growth and development.

6. A minimum of inconvenience and hardship exists under the present set-up of recreational facilities.

7. No complaints were received in respect to the Security Commission's policy of retaining liquid assets of Japanese to the extent of \$260 for each adult and \$50 for each child as a rehabilitation fund.

The commissioners said they found that "not a great deal more can be done" to provide productive work and special industries for residents of the settlements.

"From all information available your commission is assured that there is ample opportunity for employment outside the settlements for all employable Japanese," the report said.

## Intermarriage

Sir: A Mrs. Mildred Farhni is reported quoting a teacher thus: "If 100 of the best white boys were married to 100 of the best Japanese girls they would have a product of which Canada would be proud."

If a Canadian teacher is teaching such a thing when we are at total war with a ruthless and treacherous enemy she should be called to account in no uncertain manner.

The mischief at the back of such statements is the obvious ignorance of those responsible for this insult. Many people do not know, and I did not know it myself until it was explained to me by an educated Japanese some years ago, that Japanese despise the idea of marrying whites. They regard us as a mongrel race on account of our different colored eyes and hair of varying shades.

It seems that more education is needed in this country before an intelligent view of the Japanese problem can be taken.

EDITH M. PAGE.

Victoria, B.C.



RE-ELECTED for his fifth term, Mayor W. M. Mott said Thursday night the result of the election was indorsation of his plans for development of New Westminster. Included are plans for waterfront improvement. Mayor Mott will serve two years instead of one.



## 11 DAYS—WHERE WILL THEY SPEND TONIGHT?



They'd like a Christmas tree and presents, just like other kids, these four of the eight children of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. MacDougal, but they'd think Santa was pretty swell if he skipped all the trimmings and just gave them a home to live in.

Since December 13, when they were evicted

from their home, a former Japanese-owned store on Powell Street, the MacDougals have been homeless.

Huddled on a small cot in a room in a dilapidated apartment house at Main and Cordova Streets, where they spent Wednesday night, are Mr. MacDougal with Riah, 2; Gordon, 5; John, 14; and Jimmy, 10.

## Two Nights in Railway Station

## 8 Homeless Children Expect No Christmas

Thousands of Vancouver youngsters will be keeping their eyes on the chimney today and tomorrow hoping to get a sneak glimpse of Santa Claus, but there are eight little children, ranging from two to fifteen years old, who haven't even got a chimney for Santa to come down through.

For eleven days now they have been homeless, going with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. MacDougal, from rooming house to friends' homes and to the Great Northern Railway station, to get a night's lodgings.

Where they will spend tonight is a mystery to both their mother and father and officials of the National Housing Registry.

Unless luck comes to them, there will be no Christmas Eve scurrying to bed and running down the steps early in the morning to see what Santa left for little Riah, Gordon, John, Jimmy, Clarence, Bob, Donald and Alan.

There won't even be a tree, unless it's one in a park or on a boulevard, which seem to be the MacDougals' last resort.

A seven-room home, even if it were miles from city limits, would make a Christmas possible for these youngsters.

"We are quite prepared to leave the city of someone out of town had a place we could rent," Mrs. MacDougal told The Sun. "It wouldn't matter where it was as long it was somewhere the kiddies could be kept out of the rain, but we would like a place that was on the Great Northern run."

Mr. MacDougal, an employee of the Great Northern, had to take his family to the station for two nights, as there was no other place for them to go.

Mrs. MacDougal has been handicapped in finding a home by a poisoned leg, which has made walking about the city almost impossible.

"Christmas? There won't be any Christmas for our little ones," she remarked sadly.

FRIDAY, MAY 19, 1944

## COMMITTEE APPROVES ALL SALES

## Jap Property Sales in City Net Owners Near \$1,000,000

Nearly \$1,000,000 in Japanese real property will have been sold in Vancouver on completion of the federal government's compulsory sale order, it was indicated in preliminary sale figures released by G. W. McPherson, executive assistant, department of secretary of state.

Approximately half of the 464 parcels of property ordered sold have already been disposed of. This portion, said Mr. McPherson, represented the most valuable properties and brought "over \$600,000" to the Japanese owners.

Vancouver's "Little Tokyo," since it contains some of the poorer properties, is still largely in the hands of the Japanese but held by the Custodian of Enemy Property.

## 400 PARCELS ON SALE.

Some 400 parcels of Japanese property outside of Vancouver and including the Fraser Valley district have now been listed for sale, he said.

This includes a number of farm properties in the Fraser Valley, though a large portion of the Japanese farms were sold some months ago to the Soldier Settlement Board.

Household furniture, appliances and other chattels owned by the evacuee Japanese are now being sold at public auction, he said. Seventy auctions have already been held in Vancouver and in the Fraser Valley, bringing an average of \$1000 per auction.

This represents only a fraction of the total amount yet to be sold, he said. From 10 to 15 auctions a month are being held in the Fraser Valley.

Already sold are the Japanese fishing boats, autos, trucks, and virtually all of their business operations, said Mr. McPherson.

When the forced sale will have completed, many Japanese will have the cash but will be stripped of almost all their property and chattels.

The Japanese whose holdings were sold over their heads received "good" prices, Mr. McPherson said.

"Some people think they made good bargains when they bought

property, but we think the Japanese did not do too badly also," he said.

## ALL SALES APPROVED.

"It has been our aim to see that the owners received a fair and just price and every Vancouver sale had to be approved by the special Japanese committee under Mr. Justice Sydney Smith."

Both Mr. McPherson and F. G. Shears, Vancouver director of the custodian's office, spoke highly of the fairness insisted on by Justice Smith's committee, the New Westminster committee under Mr. Justice David White, and others who are assisting in the general liquidation.

If the Japanese owner of a property does not live in one of the seven B. C. Security Commission camps, he received the cash for his property, less any charge against it.

If he lives in a detention camp, the money is held for him in trust and may be released in limited amounts through the Security Commission, Mr. McPherson stated.

Up until recently the Japanese could have had sent to them such chattels as radios and other household effects, provided they paid the shipping charges.

Now everything, with the exception of personal and religious effects, is being sold. The general quality of their chattels is not high and is bringing auction prices accordingly, Mr. Shears explained.

C. G. MacNeil, M.L.A.

## Unions Oppose Move to Oust B.C. Japanese

By Daily Province Staff Correspondent

MISSION, Oct. 12.—Most labor union men in British Columbia are agreed that there should be no discrimination against the Japanese when this war is over, C. G. MacNeil, M.L.A., told an audience of 400 at a panel discussion on the Japanese problem in the Legion Hall Wednesday night.

Questioned on the attitude of the International Woodworkers of America, he admitted some locals had passed resolutions urging repatriation of the Japanese, but added:

"Their parent organization, with which they are affiliated and whose constitution they must obey, has voted to eliminate racial discrimination."

The meeting, which was addressed by four C.C.F. speakers and George Cruickshanks, Liberal, who represents the constituency in the House of Commons, heard the case history of Canada's Japanese, past, present and future.

## HITS "BIG BUSINESS."

Grace MacInnis, M.L.A., reiterated charges that big business had been largely responsible for the coming of the Japanese, while Dr. Norman Black explained a second cause was the crowded conditions on Japan's home islands.

Mr. Cruickshank declared it was his privilege as a member of the Liberal party to take issue with the government on any policy, a privilege that was not afforded to any member of the C.C.F. in the House of Commons.

His policy toward the Canadian Japanese was to move them out of the country and, if that were impossible, to settle them east of the Rockies.



## Given \$1 Million

### Fraser Valley Land Prices Raised 80 Percent

From The Vancouver Daily Province Ottawa Bureau

OTTAWA—The government will provide compensation totaling \$1,222,829 to Canadian citizens of Japanese origin who resided in B.C. in 1941 and whose properties were taken over and disposed of by the custodian of alien enemy property, Justice Minister Garson informed the Commons today.

He "tabled" the report of Mr. Justice H. I. Bird of the B.C. Court of Appeal, who was appointed as a royal commissioner in July, 1947, under the Inquiries Act.

Mr. Garson said the government's decision to provide compensation was in accordance with the commissioner's recommendations and, for this purpose, it will bring down at the present session a special supplementary estimate.

The government also will "carefully consider" 16 special claims which Mr. Justice Bird has dealt with, despite the fact they are outside the scope of his reference. These reports are presently before the treasury board, said Mr. Garson, and involve claims totaling \$150,000.

An official of the justice department said the Japanese already have received \$2,500,000 realized by the custodian of enemy property in the sale of the properties. The new sum will raise the total to \$3,622,000.

In his report, Mr. Justice Bird\* said:

The sales procedure adopted by the custodian was calculated to realize the fair market value of lands and buildings sold and the procedure was "scrupulously" followed in respect to every parcel of land sold.

Sales had been made with due regard to the best interests of the owners.

#### 'PILFERING' CITED

Some losses of chattel goods had resulted from "pilfering" from homes and even from government-owned warehouses.

The "very onerous" task imposed upon the director of the custodian's office at Vancouver was "competently" performed, despite the fact that it had to be performed in "an atmosphere of public hysteria induced by the war."

Claims arising out of the sale of Fraser Valley lands to the director of Veterans' Land Act are to be increased by 80 percent to attain "fair market value." (A total of 507 claims for \$1,838,162 were made in this connection. The sale of Fraser Valley lands was brought up in public accounts committee by opposition members some years ago, when it was asserted appraisal values placed on the land were ridiculously low.)

#### 1434 CLAIMS

Mr. Justice Bird's report dealt with 1434 claims relating to residential, farm and business properties, household effects, agricultural tools and equipment, stock in trade and trade fixtures, fishing vessels and equipment, etc.

These claims related to 7086 parcels of real and personal property.

The reports recommends payments to 1300 Canadians of Japanese origin.

Referring to the report, Mr. Garson told the House:

#### REFLECTS CREDIT

"Having regard to the facts and also to the difficulties encountered in eliciting the necessary information from many claimants who were not familiar with the English language, the monumental nature of the task with which the commissioner was faced at once becomes apparent.

"Only his unlimited patience and clear thought has made possible the report which reflects so

(Continued on Next Page)  
(See JAPANESE)

## Airliner Crashes:



## MONEY MAJOR PROBLEM

# 'Little Tokyo' First to Go When Slum Clearance Starts

Demolition of ramshackle houses and buildings in Vancouver's "Little Tokyo" on Powell street and in the rooming-house area south of Robson and west of Cambie will have priority on any slum clearance plan attempted here.

News from Ottawa of pending federal legislation providing \$20,000,000 for grants to municipalities to assist in slum clearance reawakened hopes of local town planners for removal of the city's "blighted areas."

They were quick to point out Vancouver's share of the grant probably will be too small to attempt any large-scale slum clearance but that it would be a "step in the right direction."

### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION.

A subcommittee of the semi-public post-war housing committee has given the old Japanese quarter and the Richards street rooming-house district top "priority."

This would involve purchase of all the property and would require millions.

It is proposed to replace the tottering houses with attractive low-rental apartments.

This phase will require formation of a limited dividend housing corporation, or authority,

under existing federal legislation, to construct the buildings on land cleared by slum reclamation.

It is feared Vancouver's share of the \$20,000,000 grant may not be large in view of the fact any "slums" here are not comparable to those of such cities as Montreal and Toronto.

High cost of slum clearance has already been discovered by the city committee. A preliminary study of a "specimen" block, the 800 block on Hamilton and Homer, revealed the land is assessed at \$88,775, and the buildings at \$43,000, a total of \$131,775. While the purchase prices probably would be lower, it would still be considerable.



JUDGE E. A. MCPHERSON

MONDAY, MARCH 20, 1944

## King Announces

# McPherson Chief Justice Of Manitoba

(By Canadian Press.)

OTTAWA, March 20.—Prime Minister King announces appointment of Chief Justice E. A. McPherson of the Manitoba Court of King's Bench as chief justice of the Court of Appeal for Manitoba, with the style and title of chief justice of that province.

He succeeds Hon. J. E. Prendergast, 85, who has resigned as chief justice.

Hon. Hugh Amos Robson, judge of the Court of Appeal for Manitoba, has been appointed chief justice of the Court of King's Bench.

Other appointments were:

H. A. Bergman, K.C., of Winnipeg, to be judge in the Manitoba Court of Appeal.

Judge Lucien Dubuc of the District Court of Northern Alberta, appointed chief judge of that court, a new position.

Judge J. L. Crawford of Northern Alberta District Court is retired, and J. C. McDonald, K.C., Edmonton, succeeds him.

Judge J. W. McDonald of Southern Alberta District Court made chief judge of that court, a new position.

R. M. Edmanson, K.C., Calgary, appointed judge of Southern Alberta District Court.

# Japs Plan Test Case To Stop Property Sale

By CLIFF MACKAY

Arrangements for taking a test case to court to upset or establish the Dominion government's right to force the sale of Jap-owned property are being sought today by a local firm of lawyers retained by the Japanese Property Owners Association.

J. Arthur MacLennan, of Norris & MacLennan, has asked for an interview with F. G. Shears, manager of the Vancouver office of the Custodian of Alien Enemy Property, who returned Monday from a conference of interested government officials in Winnipeg.

Failing an agreement, the Nipponese organization will choose its own case as soon as the Custodian steps over the line which it has drawn in defense of its alleged rights.

Mr. MacLennan told The Vancouver Sun that he had heard a rumor that the government would drop its program of compulsory liquidation. He has written the secretary of state for a definite ruling but has received no reply. "We don't want unnecessary litigation," Mr. MacLennan explained.

It was reported, however, that C. L. McAlpine, K.C., of the firm of Farris, McAlpine, Stultz, Bull & Farris, has been tentatively retained as counsel for a court fight.

The Japs have been advised not to try to intervene in sales of real estate owned by internees or persons in Japan. Neither will they contest the liquidation of property which is not paying its way.

Mr. MacLennan is prepared, however, to dispute the right of the government to sell holdings

of evacuees who left Vancouver voluntarily (but in compliance with federal order) and registered their real estate with the custodian as a protective measure.

He contends that the original order requiring evacuees to list their property with the Custodian as a protective measure gave the Japs a right which a subsequent order can not extinguish.

A secondary point of argument, he added, would be that the question is one of property and civil rights which the British North America Act reserves to the exclusive jurisdiction of provincial governments.

# Court Battle Looms Over Jap Property

Final instructions have been received by J. Arthur MacLennan, Vancouver barrister, to start legal proceedings to halt the custodian's sale of Japanese-owned property in Vancouver.

Mr. MacLennan told The Vancouver Sun today that he will send tomorrow or Monday three petitions to Hon. Norman McLarty, secretary of state, for the right to sue the government in the exchequer court.

These will be in the names of a Japanese national, a naturalized Japanese and a Canadian-born Japanese.

If leave is granted by the Secretary of State, the actions will be launched immediately in the exchequer court in Ottawa and may be tried there or at the fall sitting of that tribunal in Vancouver in September.

### SERIES OF QUESTIONS

Accompanying the petitions of right, will be a suggestion from Mr. MacLennan that the government place the whole matter before the exchequer court in a series of questions.

It is his contention that the custodian is not entitled to consider himself as the owner of the Japanese property and, therefore, has no authority to sell it.



## airview Hall On Jap Property

Former Japanese property is being considered as possible headquarters for a community centre in Fairview and Mount Pleasant districts, the committee in charge told a meeting Thursday night in Model School auditorium.

Existing school facilities will be also used according to the plans new being considered.

The Japanese property, a former church and a gymnasium, is under federal custody.

Included on the committee in charge are Gordon Shunaman, R. R. Smith, principal of Cecil Rhodes School; H. Gamey, principal, Simon Fraser School; Rev. A. J. MacLachlan, Fairview Baptist Church; Mrs. E. Ellis, Simon Fraser P.T.A.; Bob Coard, Pro-Rec; Mrs. J. Mason, Fairview Playground and Recreational Committee; Roy Douglas, Kimount Club; Albert Clark and James White, from Mount Pleasant Lions Club.

## Downright Slander

Sir: The statements made before the Junior Board of Trade by the prophecy mongering Elijah Baron that our heroic Russian allies are our spiritual enemies and will make war on us again, are nothing but downright slanderous and subversive, not only to Russia but to all the United Nations.

These predictions are made to cause disunity among the people and only aid the enemies of freedom; the quislings will applaud. The Bible has again been drawn through the mud of deception and distortion to cloak the personal dislikes of the false prophet.

Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to the gallant Russian people for shouldering so magnificently the far too heavy burden they have been called upon to bear in the march to victory, and they will play their part just as loyally in the peace to follow.

H. WEBSTER.

South Westminster.

## AROUND THE BUSH

Early this year The Sun noted the case of 100 employees of the government Custodian of Enemy Property in Vancouver who were not being paid the cost-of-living bonus. They, among all federal officials here, were accorded this distinction. Many times they had applied for redress, but without result.

The publicity disclosed a position which, of course, was indefensible. After some delay something was done about it. A new schedule of salaries was issued, to include payment of the bonus. But the new schedule provided cuts in the usual salaries. To the new scale were then added the cost-of-living allowance, which brought the pay up approximately to the previous figure.

It was a neat job all-round. But it contains no example for business firms to copy. Any commercial outfit that would attempt to beat the spirit of the regulations this way would quickly find itself in hot water. And with this same government.

## Settled for \$775 Fishboat Claim

Following a settlement for \$775, Mr. Justice Wilson in Supreme Court dismissed an action of Richard May, Alert Bay machinist, to recover \$1460 from Chosuke Nakamura, former wholesale fish buyer, of Telegraph Cove, and now a resident of Salmon Arm.

The secretary of state, as custodian of aliens, had given his permission to bring the suit, which arose out of services rendered by May to the defendant's fishboat. C. C. Bell was counsel for plaintiff, H. J. Sedgwick for defendant.

## JAPS VS. WHITES

Grant MacNeil, CCF, MLA, for Vancouver-Burrard, said in Victoria that Japanese had co-operated with Occidental Fishermen's Unions.

Championing the record of the Japs, Mr. MacNeil must have been referring to times and occasions other than 1900-1901, when the first fishermen's strikes occurred on the Fraser River.

The Japs had then arrived in numbers from their native land. The canneries had been paying 10 cents each for their sockeye and the fishermen, demanding 12 cents, went on strike. The Japanese not only did not support them, but continued to catch fish and sell them to the canneries at the old scale. The situation got so riotous that white fishermen seized Jap boats in the gulf, sank them and left marooned the Jap crews at Bowen Island. When the smoke of the strikes had cleared away the Japs were in actual possession of fishing operations at Steveston and retained supremacy for many years.

On the question of the franchise for the Japanese, a leading Japanese of Vancouver some years ago made this statement to The Sun: "It is a mistake ever to give my people the right to vote here. I mean it is a mistake, aside from the question of international rights or obligations. Our Japanese in British Columbia would vote as a group. That is, they would be available to follow the instructions of the consul or of some other leader and would think it smart to act in unison to swing an election one way or another. They would vote as a national unit, not as individual voters of this province or of the Dominion of Canada."

## Jap Custodian Criticized in Court Case

Policy of the Custodian of Enemy Property in "passing the buck" to tenants of "down-at-the-heel" former Jap-owned property, was criticized by G. E. McCrossan, K.C., during preliminary hearing of William Beretta, 630 East Georgia, on a false pretences charge. He was committed for trial by Magistrate Mackenzie Matheson on Tuesday on the charge of obtaining \$600 by false pretences from Mrs. Lillian Daniels.

Beretta is alleged to have got the money from Mrs. Daniels for the sale of furnishings and equipment of a rooming house, formerly owned by Japanese, at 504 Alexander.

The property was rented by the Custodian to Mrs. R. Blair for \$40 a month on the understanding that certain repairs be undertaken, including electrical and sanitary improvements. It is alleged that Beretta, having represented that he was acting for the tenant, sold the chattels to Mrs. Daniels, but failed to mention the repairs that had to be made. He also suggested, that the license be left in the name of Mrs. Blair until the end of the year.

City sanitary and electrical inspectors testified regarding improvements which had to be made, and Geoffrey D. Milson of the Custodian's office gave evidence regarding rental arrangements.

It was during cross-examination of Milson that McCrossan, defending Beretta, criticized the Custodian's office and declared that the Custodian had no right to rent property that does not meet with bylaw requirements.

Vancouver Sun  
Sept 15/43



## Voice Of The People •

### For Senior Citizens \$50 a Month

As possibly there are people who do not think that the old age pension is any concern of theirs, and that people do not and have not thought much about it, I would quote section 2 of the Senior Citizens Grants Act of the State of Washington, as set out in a compilation of the laws on the subject by the State Department of Social Security. It is as follows:

"On no other issue are the people of the State of Washington as well as our nation, as united as they are in recognition of the economic and social necessity of returning to our senior citizens. The (government) is willing to provide under the Federal Social Security Act, for those without resources and income. "It is therefore hereby declared to be the intention of this measure to provide for Washington's senior citizens over 65 as liberally as is possible under the terms of the federal social security act for securing matching funds."

Section 5 says: "Senior citizen grants shall be awarded on a uniform state-wide basis: (a) To each eligible citizen 65 years of age or over for the purpose of assisting him to meet his needs; provided, that such grant when added to his

income shall equal not less than \$50 per month."

I trust that the quoting of part of section 5 throws some good light on section 2, especially when one considers the terms "not less than."

D. A. Davidson.  
2636 11th Ave.

## TWO JAPANESE DIE IN CRASH

Two Japanese were killed and 12 others injured, one so seriously he was rushed to Vancouver General Hospital by ambulance, when a truck carrying them to a sawmill near Minto plunged from the road and overturned.

### DEAD:

Katsu Jiro Minomide.

Satiro Matsumura.

### IN VANCOUVER GENERAL HOSPITAL:

W. Matsujiro, internal injuries, fractured ribs.

Several others are still in hospital at Bralorne, near Minto.

The accident occurred Tuesday when the truckload of Japanese were en route from Minto to Devine's sawmill, where they were employed.

Minomide died instantly.

Matsumura, who suffered a broken neck, died in Bralorne Hospital 30 hours later.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24

## MANAGER



W. ALEX. EASTWOOD

## Name Eastwood To G.M. Post

W. Alex. Eastwood, Vancouver, former general manager of the B.C. Security Commission, has been named manager of General Motors Pacific Zone, it was announced today by E. J. Umphrey, director of sales. Mr. Eastwood was two and a half years with the Security Commission.

Native of London, Ont., and first World War veteran, Mr. Eastwood has held a number of responsible General Motors posts. He is former assistant general sales manager for Canada, Buick and Pontiac division.

He joined G.M.'s Chevrolet division at Winnipeg in 1920 and has held executive positions from B.C. to the Maritimes. He was assistant zone manager in Vancouver from 1924 to 1927. Before joining the Security Commission, Oxford, Eton and Cambridge

Names  
Traditional

## Canada To Get Share Of War Reparations

OTTAWA, Jan. 15.—(CP)—A travelling commission likely will be appointed soon to hear claims across the Dominion for German war reparations, it was announced last night.

The announcement was made after disclosure of a proposed international agreement which showed Canada was eligible for 3.5 per cent of total German assets that include investments and patents held by the custodian of enemy property here and 1.5 per cent of capital and industrial equipment, including ships, from the non-Russian area of the Reich.

Terms of the agreement were announced simultaneously in the capitals of the 18 signatory

powers. The agreement takes the form of a series of recommendations which will take effect, in so far as Canada is concerned, after it has been approved by the government.

Canada, which realized about \$104,000,000 in reparations after the First Great War, agreed with other signatories at a pre-Christmas conference in Paris that the approach to the reparations question should be different than in 1918.

Recently State Secretary Martin, custodian of enemy property, estimated that Canada held roughly \$1,000,000,000 worth of enemy assets of which presumably the majority would be of German ownership.

### WAIVES RIGHTS

Canada, along with the United States, has waived her claim to a substantial part of capital and industrial equipment. Only specific items mentioned so far are claims to hydrogen peroxide and hydrazine hydrate plant equipment used for pocket fuel and wanted by Canadian Arsenals, a crown company.

It is possible also that merchant ships and inland waterway craft may be claimed as reparations.

A register has been kept of various private reparations claims and this will be considered by the travelling commission before it sets out on a Canadian tour.



# Jap Farm Transfer Battled

Prospects of resettling B.C. veterans on Japanese farm lands in the Fraser Valley were jeopardized today by disclosure that Japanese owners will challenge the deal in court.

In protest against the transfer of the 769 farms to the director of the Veterans Land Act by the Custodian of Alien Enemy Property, the Jap nominee on Judge David Whiteside's rural advisory committee has resigned.

He is Yasutaro Yamaga, who "doesn't think the Japanese are getting fair treatment," but who denies that his withdrawal was dictated by pressure from his countrymen. (Last month the Jap newspaper reported that evacuees were exerting such pressure).

No successor to Yamaga has been appointed although Judge Whiteside's committee will be called upon later to assist in the disposal of rural holdings other than farms.

## PETITIONS-OF-RIGHT

Three petitions-of-right seeking to upset the Jap property liquidation in Exchequer Court are now being prepared by J. Arthur MacLennan for presentation within a few days to Hon. Norman McLarty, secretary of state.

Mr. MacLennan, solicitor for the Japanese Property Owners' Association, will suggest to Mr. McLarty, however, that a simpler method of testing the custodian's jurisdiction be adopted.

This would involve the reference of the broad underlying principles to the Exchequer Court to establish the rights of the various parties.

## IN ONE ACTION

The solicitor indicates that a better definition of the principles could be obtained in this manner than by a trial of private actions.

Failing that, Mr. MacLennan proposes to move on petitions to be made out in the name of a British subject of Jap racial origin and a Japanese national regarding the validity of sales of real estate in Vancouver.

A third petition, in the name of either a naturalized or Canadian-born Jap, would question the farm deal.

The three petitions might be consolidated in one action for purposes of the trial, the lawyer indicated.

## NOT THE 'OWNER'

Mr. MacLennan has advised the evacuees that, in his opinion, the Custodian is not entitled to regard himself as the owner of the farms and consequently could not have sold them legally to the Veterans' Land Act director.

The Custodian, it is claimed, merely had control and management of the agricultural lands.

The current issue of *The New Canadian*, published at Kaslo, records that the association's lawyers take an altruistic attitude.

"The question of remuneration is not our prime concern in this matter," according to a letter quoted from Norris and MacLennan. "We feel very strongly that the Government is unjust in this case and we are anxious to do everything we can to see that justice be obtained."

Nevertheless, the association is pursuing its campaign to raise a \$3500 fund for legal expenses.

Its secretary has collected \$1250 so far. Additional sums have been contributed by sympathetic Occidentals, the secretary declared.

## 7 Judges to Decide Fate of Japanese On Pacific Coast

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 19.—

(AP)—Military and civil government representatives jammed a small courtroom today and heard attorneys quote President Roosevelt and Abraham Lincoln as part of an attack on the constitutionality of the exclusion of Japanese from Pacific coast areas.

Seven justices of the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals sat en banc at the unusual hearing to determine the legal rights of Japanese citizens of the United States.

## MARINE AND SHIPPING

# 1100 Jap Fishing Vessels Sold at Cost of \$25,000

Costs and repairs to Japanese fishboats seized on this coast at the outbreak of war by naval authorities, as result of weather and other damage, was \$90,000, according to the report of the disposal committee, just tabled at Ottawa.

The report states that more than 1100 vessels were dealt with, and a business of approximately one and one-quarter million dollars was carried out, at a total official expense of less than \$25,000. This included surveyor and all other incidental costs.

Of the 1100 vessels 887 were sold through the committee, and the balance were turned over to the custodian of alien enemy property when the vessel disposal committee closed its doors a couple of months ago.

## AVERAGE PRICES.

The committee sold 53 seiners at an average \$5700 each; 57 trollers at something over \$1200 each; 64 packers for \$2275 each; 58 cod boats at \$740, and 625 gill-net boats at \$620.

The report estimates that over 90 per cent. of these boats found their way back to commercial fishing—this time in the hands of white or native Indian men.

Some very fine fishing vessels were taken from the Japanese, large, powerful, modern sea-going craft. The three finest were the Kuroshio, the Arashio, and the Howe Sound. They sold respectively for \$22,000, \$21,800 and \$21,000.

The committee, which consisted of Mr. Justice Sidney Smith, as chairman; Commander B. L. Johnson, D.S.O., R.C.N.; and Kishigo Kimura, is warmly commended for its work in handling the difficult situation. Commendation also is voiced for A. E. McMaster, executive officer in charge, and of the staff he developed.

The vessels were sold, first through voluntary negotiations direct between the owners and purchasers, with the committee organization as final arbiter; secondly, through compulsion. Some owners refused to sell.

and the committee then took charge and transferred the vessels to the custodian of enemy property.

The forced sales totalled 150 craft, which realized \$72,000. The official survey price set the value of these boats at \$60,000, and the committee had suggested \$70,000, so it is felt the Japanese owners obtained a very fair price through the channels of the custodian department.

## Jap Buildings Plan Proposed

A plan to rehabilitate Japanese property for white occupancy by progressively applying revenues from the holdings toward improvements demanded by civic by-laws, was proposed by Pemberton Realty Corporation Ltd. in a letter to the City Council on Monday.

The suggestion was referred to a special committee for a report.

The realty company reported it handles a number of Japanese properties, many of which do not comply with civic standards but which are actively sought for living accommodation.

It proposed appointment of an official to correlate requirements of civic by-laws and the fire marshal regarding habitation standards, and decide which improvements are most pressing in such structures.

This official would then apply all net rentals toward gradual improvement of each building or home.

It argued pressing needs could be met, quarters made safe and sanitary, and then less urgent repairs carried out as revenues were received to cover the cost.

## MUCH TOO TALKATIVE

Japanese are unusually vocal these fine Spring days. From Tokyo the gangster leaders are begging the people to put forth their utmost efforts because the outlook of the war is daily becoming more serious. Radio speakers threaten their own people who allow any emotional sympathies to interfere with their iron will to prosecute the war. Then they forecast an attack in force against the American continent.

Another kind of Japanese broadcast originates in this country. It comes from our evacuated former residents of Vancouver who are protesting that it is "undemocratic" for us to sell off their properties here during their enforced absence. The New Canadian's parting whine is that "in many cases this may well be the last straw which can be added to a war burden which has mounted higher and higher, and heavier and heavier upon the backs of Japanese Canadians since Pearl Harbor."

The fact is that Canada has treated her Japanese population with great decency and consideration. This "heavier and heavier" war burden they talk about is a pose, intended for propaganda purposes just as much as is their care to disassociate themselves from racial responsibility for what happened at Pearl Harbor.

But there is a curious and typical similarity between all that comes from Japanese sources, whether these emanate from Tokyo or the Kaslo camp. We dislike the tone of both of them.

## Must Conform

# Jap Homes Plan Vetoed By Council

Proposals for progressively improving Japanese property for white occupation by applying net rentals toward repairs, failed to find favor with the civic building committee on Monday.

Building Inspector Andrew Haggart declared he does not think it good policy to permit occupation of buildings until they conform to civic standards.

He pointed out most of the Japanese quarter is in No. 2 fire limits and that many of its buildings do not meet requirements.

Ald. G. H. Worthington contended such relaxations for Japanese holdings would discriminate against other property owners who are obliged to comply with all civic regulations before they are allowed to rent their buildings.



## ALL JAP CRAFT IN NEW HANDS

The custodian of enemy property has just heaved a sigh of relief, for one of his responsibilities has vanished—disposal of the Japanese fishing fleet.

When the special committee handling Japanese fishing vessels completed the major portion of this work and turned the balance over to the custodian, between 200 and 300 boats were left, between 700 and 800 having been sold to white or Indian fishermen.

The transfer of responsibility took place several months ago. Since then the number has been slowly whittled away by purchase and lease. Practically all the vessels were of small packer or ordinary gillnet type, not over 45 feet long, the majority being between 30 and 35 feet.

With another fishing season near, there has recently been a revival of the demand for boats, and the custodian sold and otherwise disposed of them until there were only about 35 serviceable craft left.

These included three 40-foot pickup boats and 32 gillnetters. This final flotilla was sold, in one deal, Nelson Brothers Fisheries Ltd. buying them. Nelson Brothers will charter them out to company fishermen, it is understood.

## Japs Fined \$50 For Making Beer

(Special to The Daily Province)

NELSON, Nov. 7.—Two New Denver Japanese, Yoshima Takahashi and Hirokihi Yamanko, were found guilty of manufacturing beer when they appeared before Stipendiary Magistrate William Irvine. Takahashi, who pleaded guilty, was fined \$50. A \$75 fine was imposed on Yamanko, who pleaded not guilty.

## URGE WORK ON JAP HOMES

Use of funds held by the custodian of enemy property to make habitable certain former Japanese-occupied premises now closed up was urged on city council Monday in a letter from Pemberton Realty Corporation Ltd. Ald. George Buscombe supported the proposal, which was referred to the city's property committee.

# Berry Growers To Ask 12-Cent Strawberry Price

**Petitioning Ottawa on Matter; No Action on Subsidy; Hold Annual Meeting; Told To Organize All Farmers.**

The Berry Growers Protective Association, which held its first annual meeting in Mission, Wednesday afternoon, February 10th, will petition Ottawa for a 12 cent ceiling on processed strawberries, in place of the 8 cent rate of last year.

The resolution and petition asked for 12.69 cents for the price of strawberries, in the face of rising costs. J. B. Shimek, manager of Pacific Co-op Union, pointed out that the cost basis for the petition had won the support of all growers. He felt that the price was fair in the face of circumstances; while not as high as some growers wished, it was better than last year.

The resolution will be forwarded to the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, which will meet in Vancouver presently.

Much discussion ensued on claims of leases of Japanese farms, over the discrepancies in the leases. The Dominion departments affected will be notified by the growers of the dissatisfaction in the failure to notify them of any alleged deadline to make claims, and the lack of a voice in settling the claims.

From a volume of correspondence in the matter of obtaining a subsidy to assist the growers to carry on, the governments do not consider berry growing as an essential industry. The subsidy has not obtained government support, even though the Trades and Labour Council, and CCF members of Parliament are strongly in favor of the move. Also it was pointed out

that berries have not yet been considered as a crop for export in 1943.

J. Fairburn of Clayburn was for the suggestion that berries be encouraged as a relief to the butter shortage. Homes, army camps, and in England, the practice is become more necessary.

The fight for the subsidy will continue according to J. Little of Matsqui, who was elected president of the organization.

K. Richardson of Mt. Lehman was elected secretary; and directors were E. Weidenhammer, Hammond; E. Balford, Hammond; Miss D. Kendall, Mission; C. W. Rodgers, Mission; J. P. Hansen, Mission; J. Larson, Whonock.

No clarification of the labor situation for the berry farmers has been obtained from the provincial government.

### Farmers Must Organize—

If farmers are to reap the benefits to which they are entitled, they must organize, stated Clem Willingale, president of the P.C.P.A. Mr. Willingale remarked that now in the time of crisis the farmer should organize, even in the face of sacrifice, as they all feel that if the Agricultural industry is to obtain the same returns as other industry, it will only be done through organization.

Mr. Willingale outlined the organization set-up of the P.C.P.A. and hoped that the berry growers, and all branches of agriculture would get together. He pointed out the recent success the poultrymen derived from organization, i.e., the present subsidy for the poultrymen.

The berry meeting was held in the Mission Legion Hall annex, Wednesday afternoon, with representatives from all parts of the Valley present.



## Conference View

# Move to Deport Japanese from Canada Opposed

While not mentioning Japanese by name, the B.C. Conference of the United Church, meeting at St. Andrew's-Wesley Church Monday, voiced disapproval to deport these people on a large scale.

A resolution adopted by the delegates urged consideration of the Christian attitude to Canada's minorities, and declared that proper handling of the matter was an extremely serious one for the future of Canada, for the unity and strength of the nation and for the value of her citizenship.

"Such proposals as to deport large numbers of people born in Canada, or who otherwise have acquired Canadian citizenship, is contrary to the Christian conscience and carries with it natural reactions in a deep threat to unity in Canada and of smouldering ill-will with promise of future wars from outside of Canada," the resolution said.

"We protest against the selling of private property by the government without the consent of the owners because the people belong to a particular race or are of a particular national origin, and against the application of the law of Canada in a different way with respect to persons due to difference of race or of national origin."

## LABOR RELATIONS.

Following a split over the application of the principle of collective bargaining to the United Church publishing house at Toronto during the morning session the conference on Monday afternoon passed a resolution presented by the committee on evangelism and social service.

The resolution reaffirmed the action of the general council of the United Church and the B. C. Conference of former years in endorsing the principle of collective bargaining, and expressed belief that this principle should be applied to the United Church publishing house at the earliest opportunity.

Other clauses referred back to the committee and subsequently adopted advocated that greater use be made throughout industry of labor-management councils, management councils, and that farmer and labor groups be given adequate representation on all war and planning boards.

# City to Consult Ottawa On "Little Tokyo" Scheme

Gradual conversion of Vancouver's former Japanese quarters into a heavy industrial district will be suggested to Ottawa next week at the instance of a special civic committee which today discussed the problem of remaking "Little Tokyo" for white occupation.

The proposal will be carried to Hon. Norman McLarty, minister of state, by G. W. McPherson, deputy custodian of alien enemy property here, who leaves for the capital next Wednesday.

It originated at today's session on a demand by Dr. Stewart Murray, city health officer, to "wipe out the whole damn district, because it is a health menace," and the plea of Ald. George Buscombe, chairman, against allowing Japanese to return there after the war.

## CONVERSION UNDER WAY.

Mr. McPherson explained the district is being converted for white use as quickly as possible, but he admitted the present policy of leasing and renting Japanese holdings is a temporary, not permanent solution.

ing Inspector Andrew

Haggart suggested the district be made into a general business and heavy industrial zone, as it is close to the waterfront and trackage.

He pointed out that the natural development of industry would gradually eliminate all dwellings in the area, which is zoned for heavy industry and in which houses can not be built without City Council permission.

Dr. Murray branded the district a "terrible place" from a health viewpoint and revealed that 14 premises have been placarded as unfit for human habitation. He said later that general deterioration of the old dwellings is conducive to disease and poor health.

## MANY LEASED.

Out of 240 Japanese properties in the quarter, 175 have been leased, Mr. McPherson reported. He said officials of his department follow a policy of co-operating with city building, wiring and health inspectors in advising the new tenants what repairs must be made.

Repair money must be deposited with the custodian or taken from rent payments, he explained.

Replying to Alderman Buscombe's demands for adoption of a policy under which Japanese holdings would be sold outright, Mr. McPherson pointed this would be a matter of Dominion Government policy depending the fate of the Japanese in Canada after the war.

# WAR HISTORIES' DEADLINES SET

OTTAWA (CP)—Orders have been issued at defense headquarters to end by March 31 compiling the official history of the Canadian Expeditionary Force in the First World War.

At the same time, historians working on the official accounts of the Canadian forces in the Second World War also were given a deadline. It was understood to fall within the next fiscal year, beginning April 1.

The moves were believed to be part of the economy program now being carried out by the government.

## LIMITED USE

The thinking behind them was believed to hold that the thousands of dollars needed for the staffs and other requirements would not be justified by the limited use of the documents as reference works.

Task of telling the story of the Canadians in the First World War was started shortly after the armistice with an objective of turning out 12 volumes. At the outbreak of the Second World War, only one had reached the public.

As for the histories of the second war, the orders directed the remaining time be directed to the compilation of popular rather than thickly-documented volumes.

# Demand for Jap Real Estate. Light

Demand for Japanese-owned real estate which is being sold by the Dominion Government has been very light so far, a canvass of some of the Vancouver real estate agents handling the Jap properties, revealed today.

Most of those questioned have from six to 12 inquiries on hand, mostly for dwellings, but potential purchasers have shown interest in several stores and one factory.

Quite a number of inquirers are looking at the outside of properties for themselves before asking the agents to arrange for interior inspection. Some people are expecting bargain prices.

Cash terms of sale and the 12-month period before buyers not occupying the premises can take possession, will be a deterrent to quick sale of many of the properties, some agents believe.

One firm has six inquiries on the board for Jap-owned dwellings in the Grandview area and another had inquiries about a factory and two dwellings in Hastings Townsite. A number of potential purchasers are tenants of Japanese property who have been awaiting the opportunity to buy.

There are 167 parcels in the first group of properties offered for sale by the Secretary of State, tenders for which will be accepted up to July 19. In the other two groups there are 167 and 130 parcels respectively and tenders for them will be opened later.

transportation of narcotics. Krupa has been serving a 90-day sentence for possession of marihuana cigarettes. Federal agents charged Krupa's 20-year-old valet, John Pateakos, was carrying an envelope of the cigarettes when arrested here.

# Order New Trial In Treason Case

CHICAGO, June 30.—(AP)—The first case of treason ever tried in Illinois collapsed Tuesday in the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, where three judges ruled unanimously that there had been serious errors in the proceedings and trial.

Three men were saved from death in the electric chair by the Appellate Court's opinion. Their wives were spared from 25 years' imprisonment and \$10,000 fines.

\* \* \*

The defendants, all middle-aged Chicago residents, who came to the United States from Germany after the first Great War, were Hans and Erna Haupt, Otto and Kate Wergin, and Walter and Lucille Froehling.

They were convicted of treason by a District Court jury last Nov. 14, accused of sheltering and assisting the Haupts' 22-year-old son, Herbert, who was one of the eight Nazi saboteurs smuggled into the United States aboard submarines one year ago. Young Haupt and five fellow conspirators were executed in Washington last Aug. 8.

The conviction of his parents and their friends was reversed by the Appellate Court today and their cases remanded for new trials.

Neckerchiefs worn by enlisted Navy men were first worn in the British Navy to mourn the death of Admiral Nelson.



# Japs Have Bluffed Ottawa, Commons Told

OTTAWA, June 30.—(CP)—A claim that Japanese in Canada had "put it over" the government and "blandished" with gifts some officials close to the government, was made in the House of Commons Tuesday night by Thomas Reid (Lib. New Westminster).

He made the claim during consideration of Labor Minister Mitchell's war appropriation items and the minister at once demanded that Mr. Reid be more specific.

Mr. Reid said he was not referring to labor department officials and he would give detailed information privately.

Discussion of the Japanese problem arose late Tuesday evening when Mr. Reid declared that this now was a problem and not alone for British Columbia, whose people, like the people of California, did not want the Japanese to be thrown back on their hands after the war.

## RENOUNCE JAPAN

He said, regarding Canadian-born Japanese, that the first step in solving their problem was to have them renounce completely their loyalty to Japan, and to prevent Japanese government authorities exercising any influence over them.

Mr. Reid spoke of future disposition of Japanese in Canada, on which there were two schools of thought — one favoring the return of those people to Japan and the other that they be allowed to remain. It was his view that they could not be assimilated. Even those born in Canada were looked upon by Japan as loyal subjects whose first allegiance was to the Japanese authority.

## ASK FOR DETAILS

Mr. Mitchell said Mr. Reid should be more explicit and say what government officials had been blandished with gifts.

"Wouldn't a trip to Japan be a gift?" asked George Cruickshank (Lib., Fraser Valley.)

Mr. Reid said it was not a member of the labor department, but it was an official and he could prove what he said. He promised to give the name to the minister privately. "It would not be nice to put his name on Hansard."

Open to Public

## JAP PROPERTY SALE SATURDAY

Property owned by evacuee Japanese now detained in British Columbia camps will be offered for sale to the general public on Saturday, following complete cataloguing by the office of the Custodian of Enemy Property in Vancouver.

In the meantime, while final arrangements have been made for this compulsory sale under a recent federal order-in-council, the Japanese owners are completing plans to fight the order by means of a test case.

Japanese Property Owners' Association, an organization composed of Japanese who hold property on the Pacific Coast and formed within the confines of the six detention camps, are now campaigning for funds for which to obtain legal assistance.

### FIRM ENGAGED.

The Vancouver firm of Norris & MacLennan will act for the Japanese and are expected to launch a test case soon after the first parcels have been sold.

The property will be sold by tender, the custodian of enemy property to be the sole arbiter. Upon him will rest the decision whether a tender is fair and may or may not be accepted by the Japanese owner.

All money thus obtained will be held for the Japanese until after the war.

Catalogues describing the properties are expected to be distributed among Vancouver real estate firms within the next few days. The real estate firms, it is expected, will thus play an important part in facilitating the forced sale. In addition to possessing a catalogue they will also be the medium for any additional property information required.

### MUST BE FOR CASH.

All tenders offered must be for cash, and a cheque for 10 per cent. of the amount offered must accompany each bid. Cheques which accompany tenders not accepted will be returned.

Properties to be offered will be sold subject to existing leases and encumbrances, if any, and will be sold without any warranty of location or condition of buildings or improvements.

Neither the highest nor any single tender may necessarily be accepted.

## Subversive Influence

Sir: Surely the remarks of Dr. Elijah Baron to the Junior Board of Trade constitute "subversive influence," an effort to undermine the unity of the Allies.

Even though Dr. Baron may hold certain views against Russian ideology, this is no time for him to express them publicly.

If I held such views as he, but did not wish to hamper our war effort, my intelligence and patriotism would restrain me and seal my lips.

In our dealings with Russia let us "judge not, that we be not judged."

Vancouver. R. V. CHAPMAN.

## ... By Their Deeds

Sir: Can it be ascertained as to why one, Dr. Elijah Baron, was chosen to address the Junior Board of Trade recently?

In this talk he proclaimed that the U.S.S.R. was our worst enemy, who would surely attack our country at some future date. Is it not true that such statements must be detrimental to the drive for funds to aid the gallant defenders of Russia at this time?

Let this canting hypocrite and false prophet understand that the U.S.S.R. is the only country in the world where the teachings of Jesus have been given a fair chance to succeed.

"By their deeds shall ye know them." West Vancouver. S. C. WHITE.

E, TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 1943

## U. S. JUDGE'S VERDICT

# Jap Evacuation "Violation Of Constitutional Rights"

(By Associated Press.)

SAN FRANCISCO, March 30.

The exclusion of American citizens of Japanese ancestry from the Pacific Coast is in effect deportation "within trial for their immediate imprisonment" and a violation of their constitutional rights, Judge William Denman of the U.S. Circuit Court declared.

"We are destroying their businesses, in effect, as if such citizens were enemy aliens," the jurist said in dissenting to the

majority vote of the court, which certified to the U.S. Supreme Court two cases testing the constitutionality of the exclusion order.

Judge Denman said American-born Japanese should no more be classified as "treacherous" because of Commodore Perry's than Americans of 90 years ago might be called treacherous because of Commodore's Perry's belligerent demonstration in Tokyo harbor, when he compelled Japan to open her commerce to Yankee clipper captains.

### PRISON THREAT.

"Under the threat of penitentiary sentences to these 80,000 American citizens who have relied on the right they believe the constitution gives them, we are driving them from their homes to internment camps not men alone, as with the deportation of the Dutch by the Germans, but their wives and children, without giving the latter the choice to remain in their homes," the judge said.

Judge Denman objected to the Circuit Court's procedure in certifying the two Japanese-American test cases to the Supreme Court, saying that the Circuit Court was fully able to decide the question.

The cases involved Rordon Kiyoshi Hirabayashi of Seattle and Minoru Yasui of Portland. Hirabayashi appealed from a conviction of curfew law violation and Yasui, former attache of the Japanese consulate in Chicago, from a penalty assessed for refusing to report to a relocation camp.

# 14 Jap inmates Of Essondale Back in Japan

Fourteen Japanese patients from Essondale Mental Hospital are back in Japan following weeks of "super-cautious" arrangements here by Japanese Division of Federal Department of Labor.

Twenty-six of the 58 Japanese patients at Essondale had asked to be repatriated to their homeland. Twelve were refused.

"We were extra careful in the handling of these people," said T. B. Pickersgill, head of the Japanese Division. "They had made their requests some time ago but just before they were to go I went out to the hospital with an interpreter and interviewed them all over again. We wanted to make sure they knew what they were doing."

None could leave without first being declared by doctors as mentally and physically fit to travel.

Mr. Pickersgill said 12 of the 14 were able to return to Japan along with relatives who were also being repatriated from Canada.

Those who were refused were turned down because they had no immediate relatives to go to in Japan.



## Selling of Japanese Property Does Not Mean Japs Banned

Indication that Japanese property in British Columbia may be sold does not necessarily mean that Japanese will not be allowed to re-establish themselves on the Pacific coast when the war is over, F. G. Shears, acting director of the custodian of enemy property office in Vancouver said Wednesday.

"A lot of people are assuming that because the property may be sold the Japanese will not come back. The indications are that if this property is sold it is to be done with a view toward this end, but on the other hand it could also mean that the Dominion Government prefers to have the property held for them in cash," said Mr. Shears.

Should the Japanese be allowed to return here it may be in the better interests of both the government and the Japanese to hand them a cash sum rather than return their property.

### NO POLICY CHANGE.

"As it stands now the only change in the situation is that the office of the custodian of enemy property now has the power to dispose of such property as he sees fit but so far our policy has not changed.

"Outside of disposing of the Japanese fishing boats, cars and trucks, virtually no other property has been sold. "What our future course will be depends on what orders we get from Ottawa."

The custodian here said he had known for some time that a three-man committee was to be set up, but what its functions will be and under what orders it will operate has not been disclosed.

The new committee will prob-

ably work in co-operation with the custodians office but it may be some time before any definite action is taken.

1943

## ds To War Veterans Property In Fraser Valley Will Now Be Taken Over

By TORCY ANDERSON.

From Daily Province Ottawa Bureau.  
(Copyright, 1943, by Southam Co.)

OTTAWA, June 19.—Veterans of the present war will have opportunity to farm many of the Fraser Valley properties formerly owned by Japanese. Another step in this direction has been completed with the transfer of 769 parcels of land in Fraser Valley now with the custodian's office in Vancouver to provincial supervisor under the Veterans' Land Act (1942).

The transaction was announced by the Secretary of State in a statement, G. Murchison, director of the Veterans' Land Act, said.

"Not all the parcels thus far acquired are of themselves suitable for veteran settlement. In some cases subdivision may be undertaken. In others it may be advisable to consolidate two or more parcels into one unit.

### NEED ALTERATIONS.

"In many cases it will be necessary to undertake extensive alterations to existing building or the erection of new homes of modest size but of enduring construction. The scarcity of building materials and expert labor at the present time are factors which make it necessary to postpone such a building program until conditions are more favorable.

"In the meantime the local administration of these lands will come under I. T. Barnet, provincial superintendent of the Veterans' Land Act and Soldier Settlement at Vancouver. Annual taxes levied by the local authorities will be paid in accordance with the provision of the Veterans' Land Act.

"I should like to emphasize that it is the intention to hold these lands for veteran rehabilitation purposes, and for this reason it is useless for any one to seek to establish a preferred position in this regard.

"Disposition of these lands is a matter upon which the men from British Columbia who are

at present scattered around the world on the fighting fronts will be given an opportunity to compete on equitable terms so far as it may be within the authority of the director and his representatives.

"I am confident that this policy will commend itself to and receive full support from the public at large."

## Jap Repats Sail May 27

Two former American troopships, Marine Angel and General Gordon, will be used to carry about 1500 Japanese repatriates from Vancouver to Japan at the end of this month.

Marine Angel is scheduled to leave May 27, the second vessel a few days later. The repats, all Japanese nationals, are leaving Canada voluntarily and at their own request.

T. B. Pickersgill, head of the Japanese division of federal department of labor, said today that the contingent will be made up of Japanese from various parts of British Columbia and Alberta. It will not be necessary to close any of the Japanese division's housing centres in the interior.



*Vancouver Sun Jan 23*

# Seized J

## War Veterans to Get First Choice

From The Vancouver Sun Ottawa Bureau  
**OTTAWA, Jan. 23.**—Japanese property seized in British Columbia is to be sold, with war veterans getting the preference in the purchase.

An order-in-council has just been passed authorizing the Custodian of Enemy Property to dispose of the Japanese property in British Columbia; under procedure similar to that which governed the disposal of the fishing and other vessels seized at the outbreak of war with Japan.

There are about 1400 properties involved, including real estate in Vancouver, Victoria, New Westminster and other cities and farm lands in the Fraser Valley and elsewhere. These will be offered for public sale but the Director of Soldier Settlement is to be given the opportunity to purchase any of the properties on behalf of soldier settlers. A fair price must be paid.

No confiscation is involved. The price obtained on the open market will be paid over to the Japanese owners.

British Columbia members of Parliament have been pressing for this action for some time, and Hon. Ian Mackenzie placed the matter before the cabinet. Tom Reid, M.P., for New Westminster, who has been in Ottawa as a member of the War Finance Committee, urged an early decision.

## U.S. to Deport 6000 Nisei

**SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 27.**—(AP)—Six thousand American-born Japanese will be deported within two months because of their avowed loyalty to Japan.

Rep. Dickstein (D., N.Y.), chairman of a house subcommittee which is holding hearings on immigration rules, said in an interview that the 6000 will be sent to Japan "as soon as shipping is available."

He reported that "several thousand" of the Nisei who

signed statements declaring their fealty to Hirohito, since have professed a change of heart.

He predicted these Nisei would open a court battle against deportation, and said they are asking their citizenship be restored.

He opposes restoration of their American birthrights.

"They knew what they were signing. It was carefully explained to them."

The deportation is planned under congressional legislation.

## Loyalty Commission On Japs May Never Be Appointed Now

Special to The News-Herald

**OTTAWA, Dec. 11.**—Some doubt is expressed in officialdom here that a Loyalty Commission to enquire into Japanese-Canadians will ever be appointed.

It is felt the Japanese problem is solving itself, by distribution of B.C.'s Japanese population across Canada.

In recent months thousands of Canadian-born Japanese who signed to go to Japan during the height of the tension in post-Pearl Harbor years, as the easiest way out, are changing

their minds. They now want to stay in the land of their birth.

Their cases are supposed to be reviewed by the Loyalty Commission. However, the days go on and there is no sign of this commission.

Some months ago it was said as many as 10,000 Japanese would be sent out of this country. Now the number has shrunk to 3,000.

Prime Minister King, as Minister of External Affairs, has always been opposed to any mass deportation of Canadian citizens.



## 'Disgraceful Stain'

By J. K. NESBITT

OTTAWA.

Ruling of the Privy Council in London that Canadian government orders-in-council which could force deportation of some thousands of Canadian citizens of Japanese ancestry to Japan, has the most influential eastern Canadian press editorializing that under no consideration must one natural born citizen of this land ever be sent unwillingly from its shores, driven into exile.

Prime Minister King, if he believes the press of Canada represents public opinion, must by now have come to the decision that deportation—actually it would be banishment in many instances—of any groups of Canadian citizens is repugnant to the mass of the Canadian people. Even in B.C., which is supposed to be a province of Jap-haters, there are very few newspapers that hold with this kind of deportation.

A study of eastern papers these days is interesting. Here are excerpts:

Ottawa Citizen: "—to deport this group would constitute an act of racial discrimination not in keeping with British traditions. Now, because of a war which was not of their making, and during which they committed no known act of sabotage, thousands of these Japanese are threatened with deportation to a country which for most is in no sense their homeland and where life for the time being is grim and difficult in the extreme. For Canada to carry out this deportation would make a mockery of United Nations idealism. It is to be hoped that instead of proceeding to act on its legal powers, the government will not only abandon the policy of compulsory deportation, but will remove the economic and political discriminations which now handicap Canada's citizens of Asiatic origin."

Toronto Star: "The government has all along been free and still is free to allow these people to remain in Canada. And the government should. Why should children born in Canada be sent to Japan? Why should the adults be sent back to Japan against their will, when there has been no evidence of widespread disloyalty among them? The Privy Council decision says Canada has the right to deport, but that does not say that Canada would be right in exercising the right. A right can be wrongly exercised and this is one of the cases in which it would be."

Ottawa Journal: "Not only does the liberty of a native-born Canadian appear to have been left at the mercy of the government of the

day, but even his right to continue to live in his own country. What this might mean in the case of politically unpopular persons is obvious."

Toronto Globe and Mail: "—under the order-in-council—the government will deport Canadian-born and naturalized Japanese, whose sole crime has been their racial origin. The legal right to do a thing does not necessarily give it any moral sanction. The deportation orders drown all affirmations of the security and protection of Canadian citizenship, and it is a shocking symbol of the abuse of power. The government would be well advised to repeal the orders forthwith and remove this disgraceful stain from the Canadian record."

As the eastern papers express horror at what is liable to happen to some thousands of Canadian citizens, they are also taking up the fight for Negroes. In Toronto, a colored University student was forbidden to take part in a whist tournament, because the American rules say no Negro shall play in such tournaments. In Nova Scotia a Negress refused to sit in a segregated corner of a theatre, insisting she had as much right as anyone else to sit anywhere there was room. She was ejected.

The most influential and powerful press of Canada, it appears, is not lacking when it comes to raising hue and cry about the organized and often politically inspired racial discrimination that is becoming too much part and parcel of this country's life.

## A Moral Issue

The first impression of the opinion of the Supreme Court (which is now to be appealed to the Privy Council) with respect to the validity of the three orders-in-council dealing with the Japanese is that it will weaken the policy of deportation. There is, of course, a difference between a judgment of the court which is binding and an opinion which may or may not inconvenience the Government but which, in actuality, decides nothing.

The opinion of the court is that the three orders are valid except for one clause which enables wives and children to be deported along with heads of families. The court is of the opinion that the wife and children under 16 years of age cannot be deported simply because the husband is so marked down. In practice this may well complicate matters considerably, although no doubt many dependents would prefer not to be separated from the head of the family.

Had the opinion of the court been against the orders, it would have been decisive. As it is, the question remains as it always has been, a moral and not a legal issue. As such it is of the first magnitude.

Before dealing with this aspect of the question it will be helpful briefly to recapitulate the facts. There are some 24,000 Japanese in Canada. They were asked in the spring of 1945 whether they desired to be sent back to Japan after the end of the war. A total of 10,347, comprising 6,844 adults and 3,503 children asked to be deported and of these 2,923 were Japanese nationals, 1,461 were naturalized Canadians, and 2,460 were native born Canadians. Before September 1, last, some 200 of these had changed their minds and so advised the Government. Subsequent to that date about 2,000 did so.

Against these figures, the present policy of the Government may be measured. It was decided not to deport any Canadian-born Japanese at all. Japanese nationals, however, were to be deported whether or not they changed their minds.

This leaves the large group of Canadian citizens of Japanese birth. If these elected a year ago to be returned to Japan but changed their minds before September 1, the Government would not proceed against them. But if the change occurred after that date, the Government would do so. The Government, therefore, still proposes to invade and set aside Canadian citizenship.

The Supreme Court's decision does not touch the real issue, which has nothing to do with the law. The Government of Canada has the legal right, according to the Supreme Court, to proceed with its deportation policy. No court can give it the moral right to do this, and the Court was not asked to consider, and could not consider, the wisdom of doing it.

The evil of the Government's attempt to do it has been evident to Parliament and to a great part of the people from the beginning. They have understood that this attempt does not involve only a few Japanese Canadians but every citizen of this nation, for the Government has undertaken to deport Canadian citizens. If it can deport Canadian citizens of Japanese origin, it can deport citizens of any origin. The precedent which the Government is trying to establish here jeopardizes all racial minorities in a nation of minorities. It strikes at the root of our citizenship.

Why is the Government doing this? Not certainly in obedience to the will of the Canadian people as represented in Parliament but under pressure from a small minority on the Pacific coast. Parliament clearly indicated to the Government its hostility to the whole deportation policy. It compelled the Government to withdraw Bill 15, its new emergency powers act, last autumn and to delete from it the very clause which would enable the Government to put the deportation policy into effect. Thereupon the Government, in defiance of Parliament's obvious will, proceeded to pass the Japanese orders—in-council under the terms of War Measures Act a few days before it lapsed. Apart altogether from the moral wrong involved in the policy itself, the Government has undertaken a grave constitutional precedent in doing something, by a flimsy technical expedient, which Parliament had implicitly forbidden it to do.

The fact that this expedient has been upheld in part as legal does not alter these facts in the least. If the Government will pause now and consider where these facts lead it will admit its mistake and cancel its deportation policy altogether. There is no reason why Japanese-Canadians should not return to Japan if they desire to do so; nor any reason why Japanese nationals should not be deported for just cause, after fair trial under our peacetime statutes. But if, under all the circumstances, the Government deports those unwilling to go and innocent of any offense, if it repeals by order-in-council the basic rights of citizenship, it will merit the gravest censure of Parliament and the people.



## M'NEIL DENIES HYSTERIA HERE

(By Canadian Press.)

VICTORIA, Feb. 6.—The post war Japanese problem so far as Vancouver and the lower mainland is concerned, will be far worse than before Pearl Harbor, C. Grant MacNeil (C.C.F., Vancouver-Burrard) told the Legislature. Before the war there were 8000 Japanese in Vancouver. It is expected 16,000 will attempt to return there when peace is declared, he said.

Mr. MacNeil resented the eastern attitude that evacuation of Japanese from the coastal areas was due to hysteria on the part of the people of this province. It was a necessary military precaution, he asserted. Japanese communities were unpredictable and they shouldn't have been given the opportunity to paralyze industry.

Of the 23,000 Nipponese in the province, 13,400 were born in Canada, most of them in British Columbia, while 9600 were born in Japan. Of the latter 2400 were naturalized. There were 9000 males over 16 years. Of the total Nippon population 7900 were gainfully employed and 15,100 dependents.

### OPPOSITION BITTER.

There had been very bitter opposition at relocation of the Orientals in other parts of Canada, and it was undesirable to place them in communities not wanting them, he continued. Care had been taken to avoid any pretext by which the Japanese Government could inflict atrocities on Canadians now interned across the Pacific.

British Columbians should appreciate that the utmost care has been taken to avoid epidemics during the mass evacuation, and the B. C. Security Commission should be commended for the way it was carried out.

"To have herded them about with bayonets would have required military forces," he continued. "We couldn't safely have adopted Hitler tactics."

### BIG PROBLEM HERE.

"The post-war Japanese question will create a serious problem, particularly for Vancouver. There will be pressure from other provinces to have Japanese in their midst returned to the Coast. The Nipponese themselves expected to return; what assets they had were on the Coast.

There will be difficulty in policing them and less anxiety about curtailing their civil liberties. As yet, there is no indication the Dominion Government will accept responsibility for them."

The understanding between other provinces and the Dominion was that those provinces would not be saddled with the Japanese now in their midst, but would be moved back to the Coast, Mr. MacNeil added. So far as British Columbia was concerned, the problem could not be settled on a basis of racial hatred, but on one of the general welfare of Canada as a whole.

### URGES COAL PLANNING.

The question should be approached in a businesslike way, coolly and rationally. Most of the returning Japanese will be impoverished and on relief. They have been displaced as fishermen. Returning Canadian service men will have to be taken care of and nothing should be done to inflame racial hatred.

Talk of repatriation at this time was inadvisable, Mr. MacNeil thought. United Nations' leaders in the south Pacific islands were trying to cultivate friendship of the natives in those isles. Nothing should be said or done that would give Japanese military authorities the opportunity to tell those natives that discrimination was being practiced here.

"The rest of Canada does not understand the Japanese question in British Columbia," Mr. MacNeil said. "The problem must be settled on a basis of lasting peace and the principles of the Atlantic Charter must apply."

## Joins Sam Cahoon Real Estate Firm

W. E. (Bill) Anderson, formerly of New Westminster, and the past four years chief administrator of the Fraser Valley Section of the Custodian of Enemy Property (Japanese Section) has joined the staff of the Sam Cahoon Real Estate and Insurance firm in Haney.

During his term with the Government Department he became familiar with all points of the Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows district, which will serve him well in his new capacity as real estate agent.

Mr. Anderson was born and raised in New Westminster, and became one of the Provinces' best known athletes, he specialized in lacrosse, became well known with the Salmonbelly and Richmond lacrosse clubs. In 1934 he was voted the most valuable player in the provincial lacrosse circles of the senior leagues, and awarded the R. L. Maitland Trophy. Athletes for this trophy are selected by the clubs, approved by the B.C. Lacrosse Commission.

The trophy is annual award donated by the late Hon. R. L. Maitland, and is recognized as one of the highest awards in provincial athletic circles.

Mr. Anderson resides on 8th Avenue, is married and has two children and is the son-in-law of the late Sam Cahoon.

## Kaslo Would Keep Japs

NELSON, Oct. 7.—The Kaslo City Council has passed unanimously a resolution of protest to the Security Commission, minister of labor and the Prime Minister urging that Japanese evacuees who are content at the Kaslo centre be left in their present homes, until permanent ones are

found for them on the prairies or in the east.

Kaslo business men approached the council at its last meeting urging the adoption of the resolution. Coming of the Japanese to Kaslo had brought increased prosperity to the region.

## Jap Newspaper Hits Mackenzie

NELSON, Oct. 2.—The slogan "No Japanese from the Rockies to the sea," raised by Pensioner Minister Mackenzie at his recent nominating rally in Vancouver, was scored editorially by the New Canadian as typical of "continued race-mongering from the province," serving to make more difficult the carrying out of the dispersal program, announced in August by Prime Minister King.

Such race-mongering, the paper charged, "aggravates the fear and uncertainty of the people themselves, who were uprooted from their homes, although guiltless of any crime, and it increases the suspicion and hostility of other localities east of the Rockies, whose acquaintance with these evacuees may be derived from reading flaming Fascist headlines."

## Seattle Cleric Would Bar Japs From Coast

SEATTLE, Oct. 6.—The Rev. William J. Getty, Seattle clergyman, told a Young Men's Democratic Club meeting he considered it "a disgrace for the nation to allow the Japanese to come back to live on the Pacific Coast."

"If the government can take our young men and women and send them into the Pacific to face death, torture and atrocity at the hands of the Japanese, surely it can at least take American-born Japanese and send them back to Japan with the statement: 'Go there and build the things you say you like so much here.'"

not be accomplished for many years, consequently it can not be an immediate answer.

### FORESEES CONDITIONS.

"Long after the Japanese Government capitulates there may be sporadic fighting in the hundreds of islands now occupied by Japanese troops. It may take years to mop them up, and repatriation will not be permitted until after that is accomplished," he continued.

Visualizing Allied army occupation of Japan proper with economic confusion, Japanese ordered to feed their own people and share in restoration of Chinese centres, Mr. MacNeil said that Canada could not create a refugee problem in Japan and would have to maintain repatriated Nipponese until they were absorbed in the peace time life of Japan.

Of the 13,400 Canadian-born Japanese, 4000 were children, 2500 of whom were eligible for elementary education and demanded it, added the Burrard member. The Federal Government was responsible for their education and was not attempting to evade that responsibility.

But, he pointed out, separate schools now were being set up, financed by the province and under Japanese teachers.

There should be proper co-operation between Ottawa and British Columbia whereby the Federal Government assumed a fair share of the cost of education. Japanese children should be Canadianized and their education conform to British Columbia standards. They are wards of the state.

He suggested the Dominion furnish necessary funds to bring this about, that immediate steps be taken to fix responsibility for the solution of the entire Japanese problem with the Dominion Government, that the Legislature should suggest to Ottawa a program of relocation and economic absorption now, and make recommendations to the federal authorities dealing with Japanese assets.

If Japanese assets are sold and the money forwarded to the evacuated Nipponese they might stay where they are. Otherwise, such assets on deposit here will attract them back to the coast, he said.



## PROBE

In Ottawa today, Labor Minister Mitchell said the methods of administration as carried out by the British Columbia Security Commission are not an issue and that the enquiry relates solely to the policies adopted for the welfare of the Japanese.

### "TOO GENEROUS."

Ottawa officials admitted that while they had received sufficient complaint to warrant an enquiry, they had also received complaints from British Columbia that "provisions made are, if anything, too generous."

Labor Minister Mitchell said that the probe was launched after complaints submitted from the Spanish Consulate—through their protecting power—that "the provisions already made for their welfare are not as generous as they have a right to expect under established international practices."

In addition to the food and shelter complaints, it is believed the Japanese are protesting also against forced sale of their Pacific Coast properties.

Mr. Collins explains the Japanese receive maintenance allowances "in relation to relief rates paid by the Provincial Government in the area where they are located."

"In other words, they get the same food money that white persons on relief get, less the cost of shelter and fuel."

The Japanese evacuees receive their food allowance every month in cash, and in every camp except Tashme, they spend their allowance as they choose at stores operated by white merchants. The Security Commission, he said, does not operate stores.

### FOOD ALLOWANCES.

"If they want to buy caviar at the first of the month, then they have to get along as best they can for the rest of the month," said Mr. Collins.

Food allowances paid amount to:

For one person (regardless of sex or age), \$12.

For two persons, \$23.

For three persons, \$29.

From then on \$5 is paid for each additional member of the family. Children are counted as adults in the food allowance rates, said Mr. Collins.

### FREE SHELTER, FUEL.

"The Japanese are provided with free shelter and fuel and when you take into consideration the maintenance rates are the same as the rates paid for white relief recipients."

Shelter for the evacuee Japanese consists of accommodation for eight to ten Japanese, depending on the number of children in the group.

Each house consists of two rooms and two bedrooms divided by a common kitchen. If there are two families to a house, they use the same kitchen facilities.

Heating in each house consists of a central heater and heat from the cookstove. Heat reaches the bedroom on either side of the kitchen over the top of the partitions. These are constructed so that they do not reach the ceiling.

### HOSPITAL FACILITIES.

Hospital facilities are provided free of charge in all camps. Modern, well-equipped hospitals have been built in each camp.

Entertainment and amusement is provided for the younger Japanese children through the schools maintained in each camp. The schools teach Occidental subjects only.

## Eastwood Quits Security Post

Alex Eastwood, well-known Vancouver auto man, has resigned from the B.C. Security Commission and has accepted a position with General Motors Ltd. here. Mr. Eastwood has been with the Security Commission since the spring of 1942 as general manager.

Efforts of George Collins, superintendent B.C. Security Commission, to obtain a decision from Ottawa on the B.C. Japanese question were set back by the political crisis.

Mr. Collins, who returned from Ottawa today, said he had been well received, but could not get a definite statement of government plans for the Japanese.

## No Licenses for Japs

TORONTO, Nov. 17.—(CP)—Toronto Police Commission today ruled that no business licenses will be granted to Canadian-born citizens of Japanese, German or other origin whose country is at war with the Dominion.

## Former Jap Consul's Home Ransacked

Burglars ransacked the former home of the Japanese consul, 3351 The Crescent. Sections of a fireplace and several panes of glass had been made ready to move.

Since the opening of hostilities the house has been in charge of the Custodian of Enemy Property.

## Counsel Asks Injunction On Vancouver Action

# Jap Property Sale Said Unlawful

OTTAWA, May 30.—(CP)—J. A. MacLennan of Vancouver, solicitor for a group of Japanese residents of Canada, argued before Mr. Justice J. T. Thorson in the Exchequer Court Monday, that sale of the property of Japanese in Canada was a violation of their civil rights and was unconstitutional.

Mr. MacLennan, acting for four Japanese, owners of residential property in Vancouver, asked that orders-in-council giving the custodian of enemy property the right to sell property of Japanese resident of Canada be declared unconstitutional.

As an alternative he sought an injunction preventing the sale of the property.

The Crown, represented by F. P. Varcoe, deputy minister of justice, opposed the application.

Mr. MacLennan said he considered the removal of the Japanese from the B.C. coastal area a war measure which was "well taken," but the property they had left should be available to them when the "protected area" restrictions were removed and the Japanese allowed to return.

"The government had a duty to step in and protect the property, but that is as far as it goes," he said.

### CONTRACT IMPLIED

Forms signed by the Japanese when they turned the property over to the custodian said the transfer was voluntarily and it implied a contract with the Crown.

"The property is rented at a profit and there is no necessity for its sale," he said. "It doesn't add one iota to the war effort."

Mr. Varcoe had previously argued that the case was improperly taken against the Crown and should have been directed against the custodian because he was a statutory officer and not an agent of the Crown.

He listed a number of cases to establish that the orders-in-council passed under the War Measures Act were constitutionally sound and said that the orders had not made the Crown a trustee of the property.

## Payment to Germans Is "Headache" to Aspirin Firm

LONDON, Ont., March 8.—(CP)—Mr. Justice G. A. Urquhart reserved judgment in Supreme Court following hearing of a suit by the Bayer Co. of Canada to have cancelled an existing contract with two German firms. Evidence was that the company was paying terms of the contract at the rate of approximately \$100,000 annually to the custodian of alien property in Canada.

John H. Rodd, solicitor for the company, maintained that the declaration of war with Germany in September, 1939, rendered the contract null and void.

## Can't Find a Home

Sir: What has happened to our Vancouver and our Prices and Trades Board?

I am a soldier in Canada's Army, a married man with three children. Owing to ill-health my wife was sent back east by doctor's orders. On arriving back in Vancouver on January 9 we find ourselves unable to obtain shelter after living here for 18 years.

Applying to National Housing Registry, I was referred to a gentleman who is buying up property of the late Japanese. He offered me my choice of two, three and four-room suites for the low rent of \$22, \$27.50 and \$35, in the poorest section of our fair city, where rents at one time did not exceed \$10 per month.

We are just \$1.50 a day men, not \$1.50 per hour.

Vancouver. ONLY A PRIVATE.



# Most Japs Evacuated From British Columbia Hope Eventually To Return To Work On Coast

(Special to The Daily Province)

LETHBRIDGE, May 16.—Most of the Japanese evacuees in Alberta would return to British Columbia's coastline immediately if they were permitted to do so, according to spokesmen for nearly 3500 Japanese who came to southern Alberta sugar beet farms as evacuees from the neighboring province.

They explained at interviews that while announcement of the policy to spread Japanese across the Dominion and "the hostile attitude towards us along the coast" had convinced some Japanese that they will not be permitted to return en masse to coastal areas, "many of us are still anxiously hoping that we will be allowed to go back to the Coast."

They added that many Japanese feel "there is a special discrimination against us. The Germans and other enemy aliens in Canada were not forced to leave their property and it was not sold."

The feeling of many Japanese evacuees also is that they should no longer be "tied" up to the land where they are allocated.

Asked where the majority of evacuees in Alberta would go if freedom of movement was granted them, the spokesman replied: "Naturally nearly all of us would eagerly go back to the

Coast and try to re-establish ourselves there in our former occupations.

"There is no doubt that by far the vast majority of Japanese evacuated from the Coast want to go back there.

"The climate is much more favorable than on the prairies and the fishing, lumbering and fruit farming industries for which we are fitted are located there."

While showing interest in beet raising and steadily improving the quality of their work, Japanese evacuees in southern Alberta have no desire to remain indefinitely in beet work.

"We've been doing beet work for four years now and many of us are not used to it yet," explained Kiyoshi "Frank" Omoto, 21-year-old Vancouver-born Japanese whose family operated a confectionery store at 315 Powell street before being evacuated from Vancouver.

He attended King Edward High School in Vancouver and is leaving for Japan next week as a voluntary repatriate with his parents, two sisters and brother.

Many of the 1600 Japanese who are leaving for Japan as voluntary repatriates this month, "would stay in Canada if they thought they had a chance of returning to the coast and get-

ting their property or businesses back," he stated. He voiced bitterness against the seizure and sale of Japanese property along the coast by the custodian of enemy alien property.

## VISITED JAPAN

His father, Yosoya Omoto, came to Canada in 1917, and his mother a few years later.

In 1936 the whole family went to Japan for four years, the children attending school there until their return to Vancouver. Kiyoshi hopes to find a position in the Japanese Government service as an interpreter or in business.

He explained that many of the Japanese leaving this country as voluntary repatriates want to go to the land of the rising sun because they feel they may be able to find a better future by re-establishing themselves there than they can expect in Canada east of the Rockies.

Other Japanese admitted that among their fellow countrymen who were moved from coastal regions were "some" who hoped that Japan would win the war and felt confident it would until the very day Japan capitulated.

## BITTER AT SALE

"Our people are not angry at Canada for evacuating us from the Coast," explained a young Japanese man born and educated at New Westminster. "They feel

that the government considered it necessary to order us away, and we are not complaining about the order.

"But many Japanese families are bitter over the way their property at the coast was sold, and they feel they have been cheated and robbed of the savings of a life time work when they lost small businesses, or fine fruit farms or the chance to continue living by fishing as well as their homes. They feel they can never again establish themselves in Canada and live as they did before."

Several of the Japanese evacuees claimed their property at the coast had been sold "so cheap that it was almost given away."

In packing for the journey to Japan, many of the repatriates are taking sewing machines and radios, as well as large supplies of canned vegetables and canned fruits.

Some families are trying to purchase electric washing machines to take with them.



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TORONTO, THURSDAY, MAY 16, 1946

SECOND SECTION

## B.C. Jap Says \$10,000 Life's Work Sold For \$1,400

### ASKS WHY CANADA DIDN'T SELL GERMANS' PROPERTY

Special to The Star

Lethbridge, May 16—Large numbers of the 1,600 Japanese who will be leaving Canada shortly as voluntary repatriates are planning to start a new life when they set foot on the land of the rising sun.

While they fear "it may be hard for us in Japan for a few years," many of them feel "we will be better off there than by remaining in Canada if we are forbidden to return to British Columbia's coast line.

So Little Left

In interviews many of the voluntary repatriates explained they are not enthusiastic about leaving Canada, "but we have so little left for us here that it is almost nothing. Our homes and farms and businesses in British Columbia were sold by the custodian of enemy alien property at such low prices that they were practically given away.

"In Japan we will at least have relatives and friends and may be able to start up small businesses. Some who speak English well may be able to find good positions in the government service."

Spokesmen explained that, if given the opportunity, most of the Japanese would return to Canada's Pacific coast from which they were evacuated for security reasons, and that many of them are still hoping they will be allowed to do so.

Some of those wishing to be repatriated, they added, "have had all their property at the coast sold out, cannot re-establish themselves there and have given up all hope of ever being allowed to live permanently in British Columbia. They admitted that among 23,000 Japanese who were evacuated from British Columbia coastline were some who desperately hoped Japan would win the war and that until the very day Japan capitulated "a few" were confident Japan would triumph.

"Our people are not angry at Canada for evacuating us from the Pacific coast," explained a Vancouver-born Japanese. "They feel that the Canadian government considered it necessary to order us away and we cannot complain about the order.

"But many Japanese families are bitter over the way their property at the coast was sold and they feel they have been cheated and robbed of the savings of a lifetime's work. They lost small businesses or fine fruit farms or the chance to continue living by fishing as well as their homes. They feel they can never again establish themselves in Canada and live as before."

Many Japanese feel "there is a special discrimination against us. The Germans and other enemy aliens in Canada were not forced to leave their homes and occupations, and their property was not sold."

One Japanese who lived in British Columbia for 23 years before being evacuated to southern Alberta early in 1942 feels that the sale of his property near Mission, B.C., "practically destroyed the fruits of his work in Canada.

Established Farm

After working in the fishing and lumbering industries in British Columbia he decided to establish a fruit farm for himself and chose a spot near Mission. Slowly he cleared the land and brought it into production until he had a 15-acre fruit farm and poultry ranch. It provided "a reasonably good living" for his large family as they all worked together. Shortly before Pearl Harbor they completed a \$5,000 home and furnished it.

"We were sitting on top of the world," one of the 11 children in the family explained. "But the war came and we were ordered to leave.

We were advised not to take much furniture with us because we would be returning to our home shortly."

Many months later, state members of the family, they were informed that their home and farm had been sold for \$1,400. "It was worth at least 10 times that," they claimed.

Both parents and several of the children have since been working in southern Alberta beet fields to maintain themselves. Officials of the Japanese division of the federal department of labor explain that the family has never asked nor accepted government relief.

Another evacuee who claims his property was sold far below its real value is a Japanese who operated a 10-acre fruit farm and chicken ranch near Westminster for over 20 years. He claims that at pre-war prices his property was worth at least \$7,500, but that he was given only \$1,970 for it.

Repatriates have been told that they may liquidate their property in Canada and obtain the equivalent value in Japanese currency after their arrival in Japan, official instructions advising them "if your property has been turned into cash prior to your embarkation you are required to turn over the proceeds to the Canadian authorities, who will provide you with an acknowledgment of the amount at your credit. By arrangements with the United States authorities a credit of an equivalent amount in Japanese currency will be immediately established with the Bank of Japan and will be available to you upon your arrival in Japan. Bank of Japan representatives will be available at port of debarkation in Japan to make yen payments."

Financial Assistance

Provision has been made to extend financial assistance to repatriates, the Canadian government to advance to repatriates "the difference between the amount possessed and \$200 where the person is 16 years of age or over and does not possess at least \$200, and the difference between the amount possessed and \$200 plus a further amount of \$50 for each dependant where there are one or more dependants under 16 years of age and the person does not possess a total of \$200 plus \$50 for each dependant."



*New Herald Feb 3/45*

## 'Province-wide Petition Soon, To Oust Japs'

A province-wide petition, demanding assurance from the dominion government that all Japanese will be returned to Japan at the war's end will soon be circulated, according to Alex Paton, M.L.A.

Mr. Paton made the disclosure Friday night, at a convention meeting of the Vancouver South Progressive Conservative association, which for the third time, elected Howard Green, M.P., by acclamation, as its federal candidate. Meeting was held in Legion Hall, 42nd and Yew.

Mr. Paton said plans for the petition originated at a meeting Thursday night, in Orange Hall, Lulu Island, attended by representatives of the Fishermen's Union, farmers, fruit growers and native Indians.

### 'CAME AS WAR PARTY'

"The Japanese came here originally as a war party, and must be sent home on those grounds," he said.

"Names for the petition will be sought from Alaska to the southern border of B.C."

Mr. Green, in his acceptance speech, endorsed aims of the petition as expressed by Mr. Paton.

He criticized the federal government's reinforcement policy for overseas troops and called for Canada's closer co-operation within the British Commonwealth.

## Repatriate Japs

Public meeting sponsored by the Japanese Repatriation League will be held at Richmond High School Gymnasium, Cambie Station, Lulu Island, 8 p.m. Thursday.

Speakers representing farmers, poultrymen, and the fishing industry, will include, R. M. Grauer, Mayor J. W. Cornett, Charles E. Hope, J. A. Paton, M.L.A., and Tom Reid, M.P.

by drilling operations but results so far have not justified the work as a commercial proposition.

*New Herald Feb 21/45*

## FROM THE SUN'S FILES

### Twenty Years Ago

*Van Sun Feb 2/45*

Feb. 2, 1925.—"I have for years been opposed to the reception of Asiatics," said Judge D. Grant in dealing with the application of a Japanese for naturalization today, "and I propose to maintain that attitude. I have nothing against the Japanese but we cannot assimilate them and they will eventually cause trouble. . . . Once a Japanese, always a Japanese."

*Van Sun Feb 2/45*

## RICHMOND FORMS 'BAN JAPS' LEAGUE

### Cheap Labor Lobby Trying to Get Them Back, Says Tom Reid

Powerful interests are working for the return of the Japanese to British Columbia, Tom Reid, MP for New Westminster, warned Thursday night in an address to fishermen, farmers and business men at Steveston.

"There are those who do not know the Japs as we know them and honestly believe they can be educated into good citizenship," he said. "And there are those who want them back simply because they provide cheap labor and cheap goods."

### THROUGHOUT B.C.

Mr. Reid was addressing a meeting called by residents of Richmond municipality to formulate a future policy in regard to the Japanese, who, before the war, dominated the fishing and farming industries.

Outcome of the meeting was a decision to organize an association throughout B.C. to fight for exclusion of Japanese from the province.

"The Japanese are not Canadians," Mr. Reid said, "and never can be, any more than a Japanese born in Scotland can ever be a Highlander."

### 'INVASION' MOTIVE

Alex Paton, MLA, declared that the Japanese could not be excluded from B.C. on strict racial grounds.

"Those are the tactics of Hitler," he said.

But he added, "We must prove, and it can be proven that right from the beginning the Japanese came to B.C., not as colonists, but as invaders with evil intent."

Frank Assu, secretary, Native Brotherhood of B.C., cited the low standard of living adopted

by the Japanese fishermen as precluding competition from either white or Indian fishermen.

Reeve R. M. Grauer, of Richmond, and several other speakers, gave instances of improved conditions in the district since the Japanese evacuation.

### ONE DISSENTER

There was only one dissenter to the general view that Japanese should be banned from B.C. after the war.

He was Col. H. E. L. Lyon, of Richmond, who told the gathering that "regardless of what you say, you are against the Japanese purely for economic reasons."

"But the Japanese were not to blame for your past hardships," he said. "It is the economic and business system that should be blamed."

"We preach democracy and freedom, yet we attempt to tell the Japanese where they must live. If we do this, we at home are sabotaging the very ideals our boys overseas are fighting for."



Can't Ignore B.C. Says  
New Jap Commissioner

Thomas B. Pickersgill, whose appointment as Commissioner of Japanese Placement was announced by Labor Minister Mitchell in Ottawa today, doesn't approach his new job with any set ideas about the "very complicated" Japanese problem. He says he's drawn a "tough assignment."

Nevertheless, he made two important statements today during an interview with **The Vancouver Sun** at the Vancouver head offices of the B.C. Security Commission.

First, he said that it is impossible to ignore the opinions of the people of this province who have been dealing with the Japanese problem for many years while the rest of Canada is unaware of it.

His second statement reflects a difference in his attitude towards Japanese Canadians and Japanese nationals.

"I do not feel quite as sympathetic," he said, "towards the Japanese who have resided here a number of years and yet didn't obtain Canadian citizenship."

"I'm not saying, however, that every Japanese national should be deported."

"There might be good and sufficient reasons why some particular Japanese national didn't take out citizenship."

"Those reasons would have to be investigated by the tribunal

which the Prime Minister proposes to establish to determine the loyalty of individual members of the Japanese community."

Mr. Pickersgill intends to continue in his post as Associated Director of National Selective Service for Farm Labor in Western Canada.

But, detailed work in this regard must be deputized.

Mr. Pickersgill will spend most of his time in Vancouver administering the affairs of the B. C. Security Commission.

Entries

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(Slocum) 113  
ernoll) 116  
3oy) 113  
ivewright) 116  
nez) 116  
(McGrief) x113

Coppernoll) 116  
Martinez) 116  
(o Boy) 113

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Custodian Director Tells  
Story of Japanese Estate

CUSTODIAN

Hearing of 1,400 individual and 10 corporation claims by Japanese against the Dominion Government opened at the Court House today.

Mr. Justice Bird is commissioner for the hearing. Col. J. W. G. Hunter, Toronto, is presenting the case for the Dominion, assisted by Darrell Braidwood of Vancouver.

Japanese depositions have already been heard.

'Vital Secrets'  
At Stake  
In Plane Hunt

WINNIPEG (CP) — The Winnipeg Tribune said two missing naval attaches sought in northern Manitoba after disappearance of a plane "are believed to have been in possession of documents of information vital to North America's Arctic defence."

The paper said such a belief had been expressed by observers at search headquarters.

"They point to the fact that though the search is now in its second week its scope and magnitude are widening," the paper said.

Crib Tourney

Special to The Daily Province  
SOOKE — Plans for a second cribbage tournament will be discussed at a meeting of the Sooke Cribbage League Tuesday at 8:00 p.m. in the Community Hall.

6873 Count T (Slivewright) 115  
6865 Franklin D (Sundquist) 115  
6857 Ashes Only (No Boy) x110  
6858 Sword Dance (Gomez) 120  
6806 Golden Belt (No Boy) 112  
6879 Red Chalk (No Boy) 120  
6879 Pomplm (Moncrief) x112

x—Apprentice Allowance Claimed.

Glenn MacPherson, Ottawa, is specially appointed counsel acting for the Dominion in corporation claims. He will be opposed by T. G. Norris, K.C., of Vancouver.

General evidence was opened by the Dominion today. Frank G. Shears, director of the Custodian's office here, first witness, will give testimony on the method of handling Japanese assets following establishment of protected areas in B.C.

"Often, assets which have been declared were moved by the Japanese, or sold by them," Mr. Shears told the commission.

He explained this created accounting and identification problems. He told of exhaustive instructions given investigators, and said the immediate concern was to make real property bear revenue.

Mr. Shears said that an Order-in-Council, P.C.469, on January 19, 1943, gave the Custodian power to liquidate, sell or otherwise dispose of Japanese property," Mr. Shears explained. "I had no instruction to implement it, but it was reasonable to suppose that such action was contemplated."

The hearing is expected to continue for several weeks.



# Japs Entered B.C. Via Underground

## Route

By B. A. McKELVIE.

ONE of the most spectacular conspiracy cases in the history of British Columbia was tried in 1931, but the full significance of it was not appreciated at the time by the public.

It resulted in the deportation of 1500 Japanese who had illegally entered this country; uncovered a big organization with tentacles extending into the Canadian immigration service, the British consulate at Yokohama and throughout British Columbia and Japan, and resulted in the tightening up of birth registrations in this province.

Official records show that the detection of this underground railway was due to the brilliant work of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and especially to the efforts of the late Detective-Sergeant Lorne J. Sampson, who with Detective-Corporal D. L. McGibbon and Detective J. A. Bordeaux uncovered the evidence, bit by bit, and with the assistance of R. L. Maitland, K.C., now attorney-general of B.C., carefully pieced it together.

Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett, now Lord Bennett, but then Prime Minister of Canada, also figures in the story, for it was his quick perception that measured the tremendous extent and danger of the conspiracy. He was looking over some Mounted Police statements and reports at Ottawa early in 1931 when his attention was caught by one of Detective-Sergt. Sampson's reports upon illegal entry of Japanese.

Without loss of a moment the Prime Minister picked up a telephone and called Mr. Maitland in Vancouver, informing him that he was convinced that there was a large irregular influx of Japanese into Vancouver and asking Mr. Maitland to act as counsel for the Mounted Police in tracking down the organizers of the traffic.

### Case Carefully Built—Arrest Made

Detective-Sergeant Sampson, after conferring with Mr. Maitland, intensified his efforts to uncover the evidence of conspiracy.

Patiently, little by little, he gathered facts. It was an enormous task, particularly so in tracing the manner in which the ring operated in Japan, but finally the case was completed and arrests were made.

Fred Yoshi, a sleek, well-educated Japanese, had been official interpreter for the Immigration service at Vancouver for many years. He was trusted implicitly by his superiors, but he was the mainspring of the whole underground machine.

The system largely depended for its success upon the use of forged birth certificates, borrowed naturalization papers and illegal entry forms. Tokichi Tanaka, living on Lulu Island, operated a birth certificate plant. Here Japanese, born in Japan, could obtain British Columbia birth certificates.

Under the vital statistic registration laws of British Columbia at that time registrations of births could be made at any time without penalty. This had been necessary in pioneer days when it was difficult for residents of remote districts to get to registration points to record births.

The astute Japanese crooks discovered the loophole in the law and took advantage of it. The Japanese applying for a birth certificate would appear before a notary and declare that he had failed to register the birth of a child many years before in order to give color to the proceedings.

The birth certificate could then be made available for bringing in another Japanese from the Orient under the name appearing on the certificate. Similarly, citizenship papers were used, while the system was varied by fraudulent use of immigration permit forms.

Under the "Gentleman's Agreement" be-

tween Canada and Japan, a limited number of new immigrants were permitted to come to Canada each year.

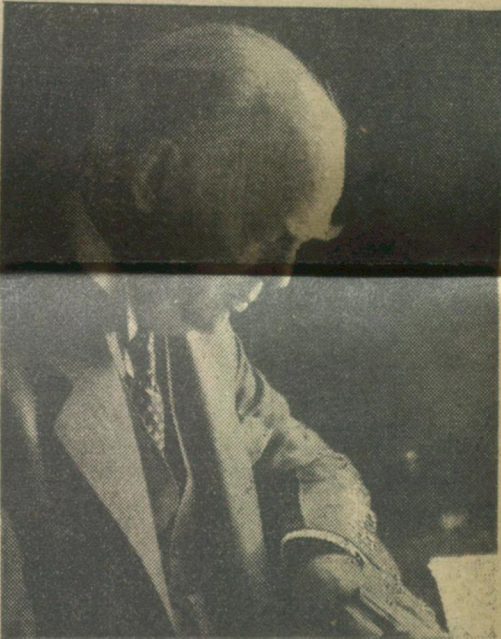
There is a record of those entering the Dominion under this category, but just how many arrived by the underground will never be precisely determined. Mounted police, following the discovery of the plot rounded up and deported 1500.

It was a tremendous undertaking that confronted the police.

The maze was bewildering, but they kept at it and gathered evidence to arrest Yoshi.

Mr. Maitland in leading the prosecution, showed that the key man in Japan was Kunzio Mochizuki, a mysterious individual, who was in direct touch with Yoshi, and that a Japanese working in the British consulate at Yokohama, named Maruyama, apparently was also in the organization. Among others connected with Yoshi's activities were Miyasaki and Jinno—known only by those names—also resident in Japan.

Typical of the evidence was the story told by Krimatsu Suzuki, located by the police at Merritt. He said that before com-



Lord Bennett, then Prime Minister, speeded the enquiry.

ing to Canada he was advised by another Japanese, Sakurada, that it was possible to obtain "papers" to gain him entry.

Suzuki was taken by his friend (actually Sakurada was his brother who had been adopted by a family of that name) to see Mochizuki in Yokohama.

Probing to discover the whole extent of the plot, Mr. Maitland tried to get details of the instructions issued by Mochizuki, but met with but little assistance from Japanese witnesses.

In answer to his question about the mysterious Mochizuki, Suzuki only answered:

"I don't know very much about the case. Mr. Sakurada mostly handled the matter."

But persistent examination won from the witness the admission that he obtained from Mochizuki a "citizen paper of Canada," for which he paid the Yokohama gangster 100 yen. The "paper" bore the name of Kazue-

man Sawada, and it was under that name that he entered Canada.

From Mochizuki's office Suzuki went to the British consulate, where he saw Maruyama and received from him a certificate, paying 15 yen to that individual for it.

Now provided with a document purporting to establish him as a citizen of Canada and a certificate from the British consulate, Suzuki had no difficulty in getting passage for Vancouver.

Yoshi used to meet the incoming boats at Victoria to act as interpreter for the immigration inspectors. It was on the boat that Suzuki met Yoshi and handed him the "citizenship paper." He never saw it again, although, according to official testimony given by immigration inspectors, the holder of such a certificate should not have been deprived of it. It had done its work, however, and Yoshi evidently wished to keep it for future use.

Two days after landing in Vancouver Suzuki met Yoshi on Powell street and gave him \$50. Asked why he had done so, he said it was in accordance with the instructions given by Mochizuki at the time he obtained the false documents.

The extent to which the gang had operated may be judged from the fact that it was in 1921 that Suzuki arrived at Vancouver and it was ten years later that Yoshi was arrested and the organization was broken up by sending Yoshi to penitentiary for 2½ years.

At the time of his arrest, July 3, 1931, by Sergeant Sampson, search was made of Yoshi's office at 373 East Cordova street, and documents, diaries, telegrams and correspondence were seized. These proved very enlightening.

### Diary Disclosed Far- Reaching Operations.

A diary item, November 1, 1927, read: "Gave a letter of introduction to Matsui, Yoshida, Yeguchi, also gave him a paper of Hazueman Sawada." Here, apparently, was the "citizenship paper" that had served to effect the entry of Suzuki six years before going out on another illegal entry job.

Some sort of code was used in telegrams between Yoshi and his confederates in Japan, such as "one piece shipped." In stressing the importance of such cryptic phrases, Mr. Maitland informed the court, "a lot of them have a meaning all their own."

In a letter to Maruyama, the man in the British consulate, Yoshi said: "Consult Jinno; your fee 150 as usual."

Business was good. In a letter from another of the gang in Yokohama named Miyasaki, Yoshi was instructed: "Send me four or five naturalization certificates as soon as possible."

There were many damaging statements found in the pages of the diaries. From them it was also learned that Mochizuki had visited British Columbia in 1922—probably on the business of the gangsters—and held a conference with Yoshi. He extended his visit to include trips to Prince George and elsewhere in B.C.

The mysterious character of Mochizuki was increased when J. R. Nicholson, who led the defense, asked the interpreter at the hearing if the name "Mochizuki" did not really mean the words, "Mochi zuki—rice cake mountain." The interpreter said that such words would rather mean "hope."

Yoshi was convicted; so was Tanaka and a number of others, and as a result of the discovery of the plot, Mr. Maitland, who was then a member of the B.C. cabinet, brought about a change in the birth registration laws by the legislature.



## Pastors Deny Discrimination Against Japs

"Canadians have not discriminated against Japanese in this country," Rev. J. Dinnage Hobden told the B.C. Conference of United Church ministers today in St. Andrew's-Wesley Church.

Rev. Hobden denied an open letter to all ministers of the United Church, published in the press, stating that "Japanese have been discriminated against ever since landing in Canada."

### BLAME ON JAPS

"I agree that the Japanese should have full citizenship rights, but in matters of education, the church, and certainly the fishing industry, they have not been discriminated against," he said, asking that the open letter not be accepted by the conference.

Mr. Hobden drew the support of Rev. F. Frances Stevens, of West Vancouver, who said the open letter was distributed without the knowledge of the conference.

"It puts all the blame for the Japanese situation in Canada upon the white population and omits to mention that much of the blame belongs to the Japanese themselves for not accepting the Canadian way of life, shutting themselves up instead."

### LIQUOR COMMISSION

The conference refused to endorse the letter, but passed resolutions urging the government to "reimburse Japanese in Canada who have suffered financial loss through their relocation by authorities."

The conference restated a demand that "the Provincial Government appoint a Royal Commission to inquire into the manufacture of liquor, its sale, the effect of its use on public life with all facts to be published and made available to the citizens of British Columbia."

## North Shore Member Deplores "Persecution" of Japanese

VICTORIA, Feb. 14.—Warnings that racial hatreds "will become a disease that will destroy us," were sounded in the House, Tuesday, during the debate on the speech from the throne.

Mrs. D. G. Steeves, C.C.F. member for North Vancouver, at the same time deplored "senseless persecution" of Japanese born in Canada as contrary to all tenets of civilization.

"In Canada," she said, "hysterical feelings of hatred are being aroused between French and English, between Jew and Gentile, between Oriental and white Canadians."

"The white race will have to

purge itself of this disease or it will have no future."

Mrs. Steeves also criticized the British Columbia Government for refusing to grant the franchise to East Indians, Chinese, North American Indians and Canadians of Japanese ancestors.

"This is an indication of decay in our social system," she told legislators when she resumed the debate on the throne speech.

"The white race must purge itself of such ideas or the future will be dark. All peoples can make valuable contributions to a better world."

### PRESENT OPERATOR FINED \$50

## FORMER JAP LODGINGS 'NOT FIT FOR HUMANS'

E. C. Thompson, operator of a rooming house at 376 Powell, was fined \$50 by Magistrate Mackenzie Matheson Monday for an infraction of the health bylaw.

In fining the defendant His Worship expressed the belief that former Japanese room-

ing houses were "in a filthy condition and not fit for human habitation."

Counsel for Thompson told the court his client had taken over the premises in 1941 and had since that date been waging a relentless war on vermin.

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 1946

## Canada's Japanese

HON. Gordon Wismer, British Columbia's attorney-general, has been pressing upon the Dominion authorities the desirability of presenting a bill to the federal Parliament to clarify the situation with respect to people of Japanese blood resident in Canada. The situation no doubt needs clarifying but it is doubtful if Mr. Wismer's suggestions would help much. On the contrary, the legislation he asks for would be subversive and dangerous.

Mr. Wismer suggests that the orders-in-council looking to the deportation of Japanese from Canada and presently to be tested before the Privy Council should be embodied in legislation. He asks, in addition, that a law be passed excluding people of Japanese blood permanently from the coastal region of British Columbia.

There is little in Canada's treatment of her Japanese problem that can give any cause for satisfaction and much that Canadians should blush over. And Mr. Wismer's suggestions would simply serve to accentuate and perpetuate a wrong instead of remedying it.

It was probably necessary, early in 1942, to hustle the Japanese residents away from the Coast. We did not know them and we lacked or thought we lacked the time and means to investigate them. There seemed to be a possibility of invasion and for safety's sake the Japanese were evacuated, no distinction being made between Japanese nationals and Canadian-born and no attempt being made to determine who was loyal and who was not.

We assumed that they were all disloyal. Later we found we were wrong and quite a number of young Nisei were taken into His Majesty's forces and gave good service. Though no evidence has been adduced of any disloyal act, we continue to assume mass disloyalty and on that assumption the deportation orders-in-council are based. Why should such an obvious error be embalmed in legislation?

The deportation order does not touch, or need not touch people of Japanese blood born in Canada, except those under 16 whose parents are subject to deportation. But the law barring them from the Pacific Coast which Mr. Wismer asks would touch them. How could Canada, whose Parliament is even now considering a Citizenship Bill which defines Canadianism, accept such an act. It would negative the Citizenship Bill while the ink noting the Governor-General's assent was still wet upon it. The Citizenship Bill defines Canadian citizenship. Mr. Wismer's bill would say that Canadian citizenship counts for nothing where racial prejudice is concerned.

All this is not saying that there is not merit in the protest that before the war there was too great a concentration of Japanese in British Columbia. The concentration here was greater than anywhere down the Coast. The Japanese evacuated from Washington, Oregon and California have now largely returned and though there were some objections at first these have now evaporated and old relations are being resumed. It could be so in British Columbia, but not if we have so great a concentration as before. The government's policy of scattering the Japanese across Canada is a proper one and one with which the Japanese themselves would do well to fall in line.

There is no danger in using persuasion. But there is danger—not to the Japanese any more than to Canadians of other blood—in passing a law rooted not in justice but in racial dislike.



*Van Daily Province. 22 Jan. 1946.*

## Ottawa Argues Exiling Japs 'Clearly in Sovereign Power'

By REGINALD HARDY  
From Daily Province Ottawa Bureau.  
(Copyright, 1946, by Southam Co.)

OTTAWA, Jan. 22. — "It is clearly within the sovereign power of a state to deport or exile or banish aliens or subjects or citizens and to deprive them of citizenship or nationality acquired by naturalization under the laws of the state, and to make such necessary ancillary

arrangements as may be required."

Thus argues the Dominion Government in a factum prepared by the attorney-general of Canada for submission to the Supreme Court of Canada this week at the hearing to test the validity of the government's orders-in-council for the deportation of Japanese.

The government argues the question of validity of the orders-in-council is solely one of interpretation and application of the War Measures Act and the National Emergency Transitional Powers Act.

### B.N.A. ACT NOT INVOLVED.

It says no question of constitutionality under the British North America Act or any other imperial enactment is raised.

"Parliament has authority to legislate to confer subordinate legislative authority to enact these orders-in-council.

"Parliament clearly could have enacted the provisions of the orders-in-council directly."

Of deportation, it says: "The fact that external arrangements with other countries may be necessary to carry out such legislation does not affect its legal operation within the state.

"In any event, in the present external arrangements with the government of the country receiving the persons deported are not necessary. They are deported and their acceptance is imposed upon Japan as an act of war through the supreme command of the Allied powers of which Canada is a member."

### OPPOSING BRIEF

Meanwhile, written argument of the Co-operative Committee on Japanese-Canadians, contesting the validity of the orders-in-council, was to be submitted to the court today by the committee's solicitor, F. A. Brewin of Toronto.

This brief argues the deportation order contravenes Canadian law, imperial statute and international law. It contends the order-in-council of last December 15, which empowers the minister of labor to issue deportation orders against Japanese-Canadians, goes beyond the constitutional power of an order-in-council.

"The word 'deportation' is not apt to describe the sending to Japan of Canadian citizens who were either born in Canada or born in other parts of the world and naturalized in Canada and who have no connection with Japan other than that of 'race.'"

"Deportation is the return of an alien to the country whence he came and not the exile or banishment of a citizen to an alien country."

## Fishing Gear Worth \$10,000 Lost in Fraser River Blaze

Fishing nets and other gear the blaze broke out. Everything valued at between \$7000 and \$10,000 were destroyed in a fire of undetermined origin in the old Japanese schoolhouse, near Caltic boat yards, south of Blenheim, at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday. The building is owned by B.C. Packers Ltd.

The nets belonged to S. J. David and Walter Hoey, brothers, and Stanley, Norman and Charles, sons of S. J. Hoey.

The gear belonged to the Hoey brothers, fishermen, of 6988 Blenheim, fishermen for Nelson Brothers. The building was badly damaged inside but not completely destroyed. The tar and oil-soaked nets burned like tinder.

Walter Hoey put a net in the building, which housed about 30 nets, about 10 minutes before

## BC Jap Evacuees Aided In Claims

TORONTO, March 10.—(CP) —Japanese-Canadians presenting claims for losses caused by their evacuation from the west coast will be aided by the cooperative committee on Japanese-Canadians. Andrew Brewin, legal counsel for the committee, will go to Ottawa today to confere with State Secretary Gibson on setting up methods of investigating claims.

## TO CLOSE JAP KASLO CAMP

Japanese evacuation camp at Kaslo, B.C., will be closed down, George Collins, British Columbia Security Commission head, said today.

The camp's population of 810 Japanese men, women and children has already been notified of the commission's intention, but actual closing will take several months.

This closure reduces the number of Japanese interior housing centres to five. Kaslo is the second camp to be closed in the past year.

It has been made possible by substantial eastern movement of former Pacific Coast Japanese who have been housed in British Columbia interior camps since shortly after Pearl Harbor.

Mr. Collins said accommodations for 100 Japanese interested in logging have been found at Midway, B.C., while C. P. R. has offered to employ a number on Kettle Valley track work.

The B. C. Security Commission logging and bushwork operation at Kaslo is being shut down. Most of the centre's employable males worked on this.

The commission has now built up a complete fuel supply, said Mr. Collins.



## British Hang Ex-City Jap For Treason

HONG KONG. — (Reuters)—  
Kanao Inouye, Canadian-born  
Japanese interpreter, twice tried  
and sentenced to death, was  
hanged here Monday. His re-  
quest to appeal to the Privy  
Council against a death sentence  
for treason was rejected by the  
court on Aug. 11.

Inouye, known as "Slap Hap-  
py," was sentenced to death for  
atrocities by a war crimes court  
but the conviction was quashed  
when he claimed British nation-  
ality.

Later he was sentenced to  
death for high treason by the  
British Supreme Court and sen-  
tence was upheld by the Court of  
Appeal.

Inouye once attended school  
in Vancouver, at King Edward  
High School. His father served  
with the Canadian Army in the  
First World War, and was  
awarded the Military Medal.

He was described by former  
POW's as the most sadistic of the  
officials at the Hong Kong camp.

*Vancouver - Richmond Review - March 6/1946*

## NOTICE TO PERSONS HOLDING JAPANESE GOODS

The Secretary of State of Canada, acting in his capacity as  
Custodian, under or by virtue of the Revised Regulations Respecting  
Trading with the Enemy (1943) hereby gives notice:

**THAT ANY PERSON HAVING IN HIS OR HER POSSESSION FUR-  
NITURE OR OTHER CHATTELS, OR OTHER PROPERTY OF ANY  
KIND BELONGING TO PERSONS OF THE JAPANESE RACE, IS  
REQUIRED TO FURNISH PARTICULARS OF SUCH PROPERTY TO  
THE CUSTODIAN IMMEDIATELY.**

Any person who fails to furnish the prescribed particulars as  
required by these Regulations shall be guilty of an offense under these  
Regulations.

**SUCH INFORMATION IS TO BE GIVEN IN WRITING TO THE UN-  
DERSIGNED NOT LATER THAN 12 O'CLOCK NOON, MARCH 23, 1946.**

Dated at Vancouver, B.C., this first day of March, A.D. 1946.

THE CUSTODIAN,  
506 Royal Bank Building,  
675 West Hastings Street,  
Vancouver, B.C.



## READERS VOICE THEIR OPINION

### Japanese in B.C.

*Editor, The Sun: Sir,—*The federal members should be congratulated on the stand they have taken on the Japanese question. It appears that Elmore Philpott is not very well informed by his column of August 19. He should have interviewed some of the custodians and got first-hand information.

When war came, a lot of the Japanese walked out of their shacks (not houses) and left a lot of their household articles. They did not lock up. When questioned about this, they said "We will be back, we don't care." They expected to win the war.

The largest asset the Japanese had was their boats; but they were well paid for them, as a lot were old. The fishermen that bought them had their troubles with the old ones.

The writer of this letter has been connected with the Japanese since 1894, when a small number came to the North Arm of the Fraser and started to fish. By 1900 they practically had control of the Fraser, and a few years later they were fishing the whole coast—from the American boundary to Alaska. The white men and Indians had to like it.

The Jap never was a good citizen. There is an old saying that a Jap never dies in British Columbia. Papers pass on to another new Jap just out from the homeland. There is no way to trace them, as they all look alike to the license inspectors.

I have asked all Japs that I have come in contact with what they would do if war should come between Japan and America. They all said "We would go back to Japan and fight."

They have made their word good by their treatment of prisoners of war and nurses that have disappeared out of hospitals. The Red Cross parcels of the unfortunate prisoners of war never got to them, and they starved to death.

Their barbaric treatment has been proven by their trials in Japan recently, and by testimony of reliable eye-witnesses who have returned to this country.

They hung one Jap recently who was born in British Columbia for the treatment he gave prisoners, which was so cruel it could not be published in the press.

We do not want any more Asiatics here. This is a white man's country, and let us keep it so.

OLD NET BOSS.

## McMASTER NEW PORT MANAGER

Alfred Erwin McMaster, general manager of War Assets Corporation, and formerly general manager of the Powell River Co., has been appointed Vancouver's new port manager.

Hon. Lionel Chevrier, minister of transport, announced in Ottawa today that Mr. McMaster will succeed K. J. Burns when the latter retires at the end of the year.

Mr. McMaster, who is 62, has held many government posts since the outbreak of the war. He joined the department of munitions and supply in 1943 as special assistant to the financial adviser.

### FUEL CHIEF

Later he became successively associate wood fuel controller, associate financial adviser and liaison officer with the labor department. He was also assistant coordinator of controls, a member of the Industries Control Board, and the Canada-U.S. Production Committee.

In 1945 he was appointed vice-president and general manager of War Assets Corporation, with headquarters in Montreal.

Mr. McMaster was born in Perth, Ont., and started his career as a freight clerk with the CPR at Port Arthur. Later he joined the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, becoming general agent at Prince Rupert in the boom days.

### WITH SHIP FIRM

He later became secretary-treasurer of the Port Arthur Shipbuilding Co., and in 1918 entered the pulp and paper business as secretary-treasurer of Whalen Pulp and Paper Co.

Shortly afterward he joined the Powell River Co., first as resident manager, and then as general manager from 1926 to 1936.



ALFRED E. McMASTER



Parliament hold a secret session this crisis was refused last night by Prime Minister Mackenzie King.

## Sale of Jap Lands Argued

Sale of 741 Japanese owned properties to the Veterans Land Act Administration in 1943 for \$836,256, was under fire today before Mr. Justice H. I. Bird. Robert J. McMaster, counsel for many of the Canadian Japanese claimants before Mr. Justice Bird's Royal Commission, drew evidence that Y. Yamaga resigned from the advisory committee on properties because of the VLA negotiations.

Frank G. Shears, director in Vancouver for the custodian of enemy alien property after Pearl Harbor, testified that he did not remember that the committee valued the farm property at \$1,258,563. He did recall that W. G. McPherson, executive secretary to the custodian (Secretary of State), suggested that the committee consider a price of \$1,000,000 less 10 percent for cash. The deal was closed at \$835,256, which was \$10,000 less than the Soldiers' Settlement valuation of 1942, he said.

Assessed value of the property sold was \$1,225,000. Canada is the greatest producer of asbestos in the world.

## Sale of Hats

## Denies Olympic Charges

Canadian athlete at the games did poorly because of improper training by Robert of the Canadian squad.

# Councillors Declare Jap Orders Valid

## Deportation Upheld by Privy Council

LONDON, Dec. 2—(CP)—The Privy Council in a judgment handed down today declared the Canadian government's orders for the deportation of Japanese from the Dominion were valid.

The council's judgment dismissed the appeal against deportation made by the Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians.

The appeal was against the deportation orders imposed on Japanese Canadians resident in Canada and British-born Japanese who requested repatriation. It was supported by the Attorney-General of Saskatchewan.

The Privy Council said that deportation could properly be applied to non-Canadians under Canadian law.

The appellants argued that at the date of passing the National Emergency Transitional Powers Act there was no emergency to justify continuation of the powers in question.

## NOT VAGUE

"This contention found no favor in the Supreme Court of Canada and Their Lordships do not accept it," the Privy Council said.

"One remaining matter relied upon by the appellants should be mentioned: 'First it was said that the words 'of the Japanese race' were so vague as to be incapable of application to ascertained persons. It is sufficient to say that in Their Lordships' opinion they are not."

The Privy Council's judgment was handed down by Lord Wright. The case, which opened July 16, was argued for four days before Viscount Simon and four other law lords.

F. A. Brewin, a Toronto lawyer, argued the appeal against the Supreme Court of Canada ruling and said Canadian legislation did not delegate to the Governor-General-in-Council the power to deport British subjects whatever their racial origin.

## POWER OF PARLIAMENT

Dominion government representatives argued that the 10,000 of the 24,000 Japanese in Canada who had signed their desire to go to Japan before the war ended, should not be allowed to remain in Canada.

They said also that the deportation of about 500 Japanese nationals would be in the national interest.

Orders permitting the Canadian Labor Minister to order the Japanese to be deported were passed under the War Measures Act and were continued by the Transitional Act assented to December 18, 1945.

On the orders generally the Privy Council said that in an emergency, "the interests of the Dominion are to be protected and

Please Turn to Page Two See "Japanese"

# Jap Claim Probe 'Ho Not Terms Scored By East Group

TORONTO. —(CP)—The Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians Friday issued a statement denouncing the terms of the order-in-council appointing a commission to investigate Japanese Canadian property claims as "so restricted as to be worse than adequate."

## IMPOSSIBLE BURDEN

The statement said the terms imposed "an impossible burden on claimants. Before the commissioner can recommend a cent of compensation, he must be satisfied that the custodian has failed to use reasonable care in disposing of the properties."

"The claimants never have based their case for compensation on the lack of care by the custodian. In these circumstances of wholesale evacuation it was inevitable that market values should be abnormally low and the major losses sustained were caused by the government's policy of enforced evacuation rather than by any lack of care by the custodian."

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# JAPANESE

Continued from Page 1

It rests with the Parliament of the Dominion to protect them. What those interests are the Parliament of the Dominion must be left with considerable freedom to judge."

The judgment added: "It is not pertinent to the judiciary to consider the wisdom or propriety of the particular policy embodied in the emergency legislation. Determination of the policy to be followed is exclusively a matter for the Parliament of the Dominion and those to whom it has delegated its powers."

Gordon Wismer of Vancouver, Attorney-General of British Columbia, argued that orders-in-council authorizing deportation should be put into effect "even if certain sections (of the orders) were considered beyond the power of Canada."

Mr. Wismer closed the case for the Dominion government. Associated with him were Frank Gahan and H. E. O'Donnell, KC, of London.

Labor Minister Mitchell announced in the Canadian Commons last August that his records showed that 6892 Japanese adults had voluntarily signed requests for repatriation covering a total of 10,632 persons. Later, 4527 cancelled their requests which also covered their 1788 dependents.

Mr. Mitchell said at that time that no deportations would take place until the privy council's judgment was handed down.

He added that up until that date, 3150 Japanese who had asked to go had been sent to Japan and that others were expected to leave shortly.

## DEPORTATION ORDERS

Under the orders as originally passed, Labor Minister Mitchell was given authority to deport:

1—Japanese nationals who still were being held in internment under the Defense of Canada Regulations at September 1, 1945, and also Japanese nationals who had requested repatriation to Japan.

2—Naturalized British subjects of the Japanese race who requested to go to Japan and who did not revoke such request prior to September 1, 1945.

3—Canadian-born Japanese who asked to be sent to Japan and who did not revoke such request before an order for deportation was issued.

4—The wives and children of those deported. (This clause was disallowed by the Supreme Court of Canada.)

Another order provided that naturalized British subjects deported would lose their status as British subjects or Canadian nationals. A third order provided for the establishment of a commission to investigate the advisability of deporting some Japanese who have not signed their desire to go to Japan.

# Mr. Justice Bird Appointed To Investigate Loss Claims

OTTAWA, July 23 (CP).—State Secretary Gibson announced today that Mr. Justice Henry Irvine Bird of the Supreme Court of British Columbia has been appointed a commissioner under the Inquiries Act to investigate claims of loss by Japanese-Canadians who were evacuated from British Columbia protected areas during the war.

His terms of reference were defined under two headings:

1. That by reason of the failure of the Custodian of Enemy Property to exercise reasonable care in the disposition of the real and personal property vested in him, the amount he received for such property was less than the market value at the time of disposition.

2. That by reason of the failure of the custodian to exercise reasonable care in the management of personal property, such property was lost, destroyed or stolen but no claim shall be considered in respect of property lost, destroyed or stolen while under the custody, control or management of any person, other than the custodian, appointed by the owner of the property.

Mr. Gibson said the commissioner "has been authorized to examine all into all such claims and make a report to the Governor-in-Council (the Cabinet) setting forth the claims which, in his opinion, are well founded and the amount which, in his opinion would fairly and reasonably compensate the claimant for failure of the custodian to exercise reasonable care."

The Japanese, now scattered across Canada, would be required to submit all claims in writing, verified by statutory declaration, to the Office of the Custodian, 506 Royal Bank Building, Vancouver, "and in due course the commissioner will give public notice of the time for filing claims and for the hearing of evidence."

Mr. Justice Bird's appointment capped a situation which developed into one of the sharpest committee controversies of the recent session of Parliament.

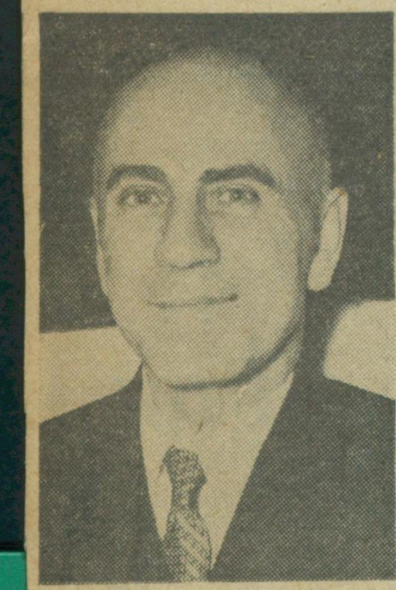
The storm was contained largely within the Commons' committee on public accounts which, among other things, was informed at one stage by a representative of Japanese-Canadians that their claims of financial loss would probably run to something like \$5,000,000.

Prolonged questioning developed among opposition members, particularly as to the deal under which

the Veterans' Land Act bought from the custodian 10,000 acres of the Japanese lands for prices considerably lower than the assessed values. Twelve of the plots, at least, were later sold for considerable profits to non-veterans. Prices charged veterans were cost prices.

The committee recommended appointment of a commission of some sort to probe Japanese losses.

COMPLIMENTS OF K.W.V.I.



DR. E. H. COLEMAN, Under-Secretary of State, was among the nearly 500 persons who left Montreal yesterday afternoon for Halifax on two Canadian National Railways boat specials. They will sail later in the week on the Cunard White Star's Aquitania which brought home the last contingent of Canadian soldiers from overseas Tuesday. Dr. Coleman, photographed just before the departure of the special train, plans to spend three weeks in the United Kingdom on Dominion Government business.—CNR Photo.

was greeted by his mother in the Alsatian dialect on his last trip home in 1920 and was unable to remember his childhood tongue.

# Japanese Inquiry Terms Criticized

TORONTO, July 25 (CP).—The Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians today issued a statement denouncing the terms of the order-in-council appointing a commission to investigate Japanese Canadian

property claims as "so restricted as to be worse than inadequate."

"In fact," the statement added, "the terms are practically useless."

The statement said the terms imposed "an impossible burden on claimants. Before the commissioner can recommend a cent of compensation, he must be satisfied that the custodian has failed to use reasonable care in disposing of the properties."

"The claimants never have based their case for compensation on the lack of care by the custodian. In these circumstances of wholesale

evacuation it was inevitable that market values should be abnormally low and the major losses sustained were caused by the Government's policy of enforced evacuation rather than by any lack of care by the custodian."



# Evidence B.C. Japs' Lands Resold at 816 P.C. of Purchase

WARREN BALDWIN

Vancouver, May 20 (Staff). — The Veterans Land Act administration sold land purchased from the Japanese in British Columbia at prices representing 816 per cent and 706 per cent of the prices paid, it was disclosed today before the Public Accounts Committee of the Commons.

Gordon Murchison, director of the Veterans Land Act and Soldiers' Settlement Board, appeared before the committee to explain original appraisal of the Fraser Valley land by the board and the subsequent deal through which it acquired land from the custodian of enemy property (Secretary of State) for \$414,000 less than assessed value.

He declared emphatically that no profit had been made by his department on the resale of lands to the Canadian war veterans; that it had been resold "at the cost to the director, the price paid to the custodian."

But Mr. Murchison did give the committee two examples of profits made in resale of land to non-veterans. By inviting bids from the public the department had re-

ceived \$2,000 for land which had been purchased from Canadian-Japanese at \$245 and \$3,050 for land purchased for \$433.

No accounting of these profits had been made to the custodian who was acting for the Japanese-Canadian owners and, so far as he knew, there had been no move to hand back any of the money.

There are still 400 parcels of land which will be sold to the public if veterans do not take them up, and Mr. Murchison admitted he was hoping to make further profits.

Veterans Affairs Minister Ian Mackenzie did not appear at today's committee meeting. He announced in the Commons last week he intended to demand that the committee call George McCullagh, publisher of The Globe and Mail to substantiate charges made in an editorial in connection with the Japanese land deal.

Today Mr. Mackenzie was in the hands of his dentist and unable to be present either in the House or committee. He said he had not changed his attitude but was considering what action he should take.

If Mr. Mackenzie was not present there was a full attendance of the committee itself to hear Mr. Murchison's explanation.

The Veterans Land Act director admitted the government had passed a blanket order-in-council not only authorizing the Soldiers' Settlement Board to make an appraisal of all Japanese land but power to veto any other sale. While this order was in force there had been no possibility of sale to any other party.

The appraisal made in 1942 under these conditions had not taken into account valuations or prices paid for adjacent land but had made its valuation on the basis of war hazards.

The appraisal at that time had not been made with the idea of purchase, Mr. Murchison claimed, but in order to set a price at which the government might compensate the Japanese owners who had been forced off the land by the evacuation order.

In 1943 the same Soldiers' Set-

tlement Board, by this time tied in with the Veterans Land Act administration and the Department of Veterans Affairs, entered the picture as a prospective purchaser, and he admitted that from that point on he was out to get the best deal for his department in its negotiations with the custodian for the Japanese.

He admitted to Donald M. Fleming (PC, Toronto-Eglinton) that he had based his offer on a one-year-old appraisal despite the fact that the Japanese peril had abated and in face of advancing values of land in that period.

"Your offer was substantially less than your own appraisal," Mr. Fleming suggested.

"I was seeking to make the best buy I could and I made the best deal I could," Mr. Murchison replied.

"So far as the interests of the owners were concerned you left that to the custodian?" Mr. Fleming asked.

"Yes sir," was the reply.

To Arthur L. Smith (PC, Calgary West) Mr. Murchison admitted no account had been taken of land values from the standpoint of real estate sales in the original appraisal, but insisted that this appraisal had been fair and equitable to the Japanese.

Finally he admitted to Mr. Fleming that by adjusting taxes and rentals his department had induced the custodian to accept an offer of \$850,000 for the land, which they had already refused as too low. This had been done by jacking the offer up to \$850,000, but stipulating that they should get a larger share of the rentals.

"It was the same offer in different language," Mr. Murchison agreed.

Documents tabled with the committee today revealed that the Japanese representative on the custodian's committee, Y. Yamaga, had resigned during negotiations because he was afraid the negotiations were going to "bring unfair results to the Japanese owners."

To support his argument that the coastal regions of British Columbia had been in a "position of some peril" when the Soldiers' Settlement Board of Canada, under his direction, had made the appraisal of the Japanese land, Mr. Murchison submitted a memorandum from service intelligence officers. The memo referred to the Japanese attack on Dutch Harbor, the occupation of Kiska and Attu and the shelling of Estevan Point on Vancouver Island.

"These conditions," Mr. Murchison told the committee, did not impress me into taking an optimistic view of British Columbia real estate.

The government in 1942 had been in the position of having no one to survey or appraise Japanese land and had turned the job over to the Soldiers' Settlement Board, then under Mines Minister T. A. Crerar. Mr. Murchison explained that problems which had arisen in connection with the appraisals made had been the question of available manpower to keep these types of small farms in shape.

"We did not appraise the property from the standpoint of speculative land values. We appraised it to determine what in our judgment was the value of these properties having regard to the hazards of the time; to find a safe index on which to determine the equity of the Japanese owners. Altogether, 939 prop-



Mrs. MacArthur Listens to War Crimes Trial—Mrs. Douglas MacArthur (top, middle) holds earphone as she attends International Military Tribunal in Tokyo to listen to proceedings and get a glimpse of Hideki Tojo, Japanese Premier at time of Pearl Harbor attack.

erties had been valued at that time."

The director emphasized in his remarks to the committee the confidence that had always been placed in the "rugged honesty" of the men of his department who did the job. They had behind them a great fund of personal knowledge on land values and they had undertaken the job "in a spirit of realism, justice and equity for all parties concerned." In his opinion, they had dealt with the Japanese owners "justly and equitably."

In view of the hazards which you outlined," Mr. Smith asked, "did you find any depreciation in the value of land in the Fraser Valley? Weren't the values of land actually advancing in the Fraser Valley?"

"We hadn't entered the market at that time," Mr. Murchison replied. "We didn't pay any attention to the sale of other lands in the district. We were dealing with the equity of the Japanese, having regard to the government's problems."

"Isn't one of the main grounds for valuation prices obtained for other land in the district?" Mr. Smith asked.

Mr. Murchison: "It is one of them."

Mr. Smith: "But you discarded it?"

Mr. Murchison: "I didn't say that."

Mr. Smith: "But you did discard it."

Mr. Murchison: "I wasn't taken into account."

The Order-in-Council under which these appraisals were made was passed in June, 1942. It gave the Soldiers' Settlement Board power to make appraisals on all the Japanese lands and to refuse or approve any purchase, sale or lease. By January, 1943, the Veterans' Land Act administration had been set up and it had been decided to purchase a large part of the land for the settlement of war veterans.

Since the department could not enter the picture in the words of Mr. Murchison as "both judge and jury" some of the sweeping powers given to the Soldiers' Settlement Board were revoked.

"I would not be so naive," Mr. Murchison volunteered, "as not to admit that the Department of Soldiers' Settlement and the Veterans' Land Act were in a good strategic position for acquiring some of these lands."

In 1943 the Fraser Valley block and a few outside parcels had been selected and the offer made to the custodian on the basis of the valuation made a year before. These lands had been appraised at \$867,021 and Mr. Murchison said he had no apologies to offer for making a purchase offer of \$750,000. By this time, he explained, he was not acting on behalf of the Japanese.

The Fraser Valley deal was negotiated between the advisory committee appointed by the custodian and Mr. Murchison's own advisory committee. The custodian's committee was composed of Judge David Whiteside of New Westminster, D. E. McKenzie, J. J. McLell and K. W. Wright, council for the custodians office, and G. W. McPherson, executive assistant to the secretary of state.

I. T. Barnett, district superintendent

was different. One parcel of 78 acres which cost the director \$4,725 had been sold to the Westminster priority for \$5,500. This was a private deal and no opportunity was given for outside bids.

Bids were invited on a second parcel of land for which the Veterans' Land Act administration paid \$245. It was sold to the highest bidder at \$2,000.

Tenders were invited on a third parcel which the director described as undeveloped bush lots. For this the Veterans' Land Act administration had paid \$433. Sale price was \$3,050.

The minutes of the advisory committee of a meeting on March 18, 1943, reveal that the Soldiers' Settlement representative, Mr. Barnett, had agreed to a committee stipulation that if the department made any profit on the land deal the excess should be paid back to the custodian for distribution to the Japanese owners.

Mr. Murchison today admitted no accounting had been made to the custodian for the profit on these lands sold to non-veterans. He could not say whether anything of the kind would be done. That was a matter of government policy.

"You have no indication that it will be done?" Mr. Fleming asked.

"Not at the moment," replied the director.

Mr. Murchison explained that these lands which had been sold to non-veterans and any that might be sold in future represented the "least attractive." They were the left-overs.

"If they are the least attractive, judging by the prices you have received so far, you are going to do pretty well on the deal," Mr. Fleming suggested. "You are going to make a profit."

"I certainly hope so," replied the director. "I would be glad to be in that position."

er of the Soldiers Settlement Board, acted for the most part as negotiator.

Minutes of the advisory committee meetings produced today show that the \$750,000 offer was countered by a suggestion that \$90,000 should be the price. Mr. Barnett raised his offer first to \$80,000, then \$825,000, and finally to \$850,000 which was accepted.

However, Mr. Fleming obtained an admission from Mr. Murchison today that the \$850,000 offer was really about \$825,000 as readjustments had been made in rentals to be received by the SSB and taxes to be paid between the last two offers. (The difference between these figures and the price of \$836,000 less about \$25,000 for rentals is accounted for by the withdrawal of certain parcels due to title difficulties).

Mr. Murchison brought the picture up to date by stating that there had been 604 sales of land to veterans and there were still 400 more available.

The parcels had been subdivided and juggled around, the main reason, according to the director, why it would be difficult to supply the committee a clear comparison between purchase from the custodian and sale to the veterans.

He repeated twice, however, his emphatic statement that "sales made to veterans were at the prices paid by the director."

Three outside sales had been made, however, and here the picture



## JAPANESE CLAIMS HEARINGS

# Fishermen Switched Net Price Tags

Charge that fishermen entered net houses and switched price tags on nets of evacuated Japanese, then bought them at reduced prices, was made today at

Police

... still more shocked by the vastly increased amounts obtained by the Veterans' Land Act administration when it resold the land to veterans.

This was erroneous. The editorial should have read:

... still more shocked by the vastly higher amounts obtained by the Custodian of Enemy Property when he sold parts of the land to private bidders.

## B.C. Private Land Sales Far Above Ottawa Price

By WARREN BALDWIN

Ottawa, May 12 (Staff).—Fraser Valley farms which the Canadian government had arranged to purchase in its \$800,000 land grab from evacuated Japanese, later sold to private purchasers at as much as 10 and 13 times the government price, according to official records presented to the Public Accounts Committee today.

The land was purchased for Canadian war veterans at two-thirds of the assessed value but evidence today indicated that the actual value in competitive sale might have been more than twice the amount paid.

There were a few lucky Japanese owners of farms whose properties were withdrawn from the 1943 deal between the Soldiers Settlement Board and the Secretary of State. These properties were sold later by the regular tender method and brought collectively \$82,183 instead of a price of \$38,867 which the government would have paid.

Before the committee this morning Frank G. Shears, director of the office of the custodian of enemy property in Vancouver, admitted increase in land values during the period between the sales could not possibly have accounted for the wide difference between the price paid by the government for Fraser Valley land and the price the public was ready to pay.

The list of 41 properties withdrawn from the government purchase because titles could not be cleared in time was given to the committee today and provided the first comparison between the prices which the Japanese were forced to accept for their land and the price they could have received if it had been sold in the regular manner by public tender.

For these 41 properties the Canadian government was going to pay \$38,867 in 1943. After getting an independent appraisal of \$73,312, the office of the custodian, by inviting tenders, sold the properties for \$82,183. The largest number of the sales were made in 1944; some in 1945 and a balance of six in 1946.

Mr. Shears testified there had been only a gradual increase in prices between 1943 and 1944, though they had jumped substantially in 1945 and 1946.

In a few cases the price received later from private buyers was only about 25 per cent higher than the price which was to be paid by the government, which took over the land for settling Canadian war veterans. One lot was sold for \$3,000, while the government price had been \$2,184. There was another lot sold for \$3,250. The government was going to pay \$1,068 for that.

The government appraiser had valued another parcel at \$161. The government price was \$158. An independent appraiser valued it at \$1,442 and the purchaser offered and paid \$1,500.

The lowest price offered by the government on a single lot was \$25. It was appraised at \$250 and

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Chop Suey Restaurant, 158 E. ... beating. Miss sometimes Kneller," manslaughter the elder man's death trial for alleged to the couple. The pl 21, has b Mah, Ch lian Wa original- loving w Page 3).

**Armed Jap, 2 Youths Arrested**

Three alert police officers nipped potential crime in the bud early today when they arrested three youths sitting in a car at 18th and Cambie.

Searching the youths, Constables R. Round, R. Dunning and Sergeant Fred Loughheed found two loaded automatics and one unloaded gun, and a silk stocking, possibly for use as a mask in the back seat.

One of the youths, all approximately 22 years old, is a Japanese with a previous criminal record both here and in Winnipeg.

They all face a minimum charge of illegal possession of firearms.

**Off-Duty Constable Nips Theft Plan**

An alert police officer, off duty, Constable Lisle Nairn, thwarted an alleged car theft plan late Thursday when he arrested two youths in the 2800 block E. Hastings.

Nairn, on his way home from a show, spotted the pair and took them into custody. Charged with attempted car theft are a 16-year-old and a youth, 18, of the 2700 block E. Pender.

**Empire Motors has in stock, right now, parts for every vehicle the Ford**

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EVACUATION CASE CITED IN OTTAWA

B.C. Jap Received \$6.36 For Goods Valued at \$723

OTTAWA, May 9—(CP)—The Commons public accounts committee investigating the disposal of properties of Japanese evacuated from the defense area of British Columbia during the war had before it today a statement of one Japanese who valued the chattels he left at \$723.45, and when they were sold he received \$6.36.

F. E. Jaenicke (CCF, Kindersley) submitted a list of chattels owned by Naochi Karatsu of Whonnock, B.C. The chattels were sold under the direction of the custodian of enemy property in Mission, B.C. The list was prepared by Karatsu in the presence of an official of the custodian's office before he was evacuated.

G. Shears, director of the custodian's office in Vancouver, who was giving evidence before the committee, said the presence of his official would indicate the correctness of the goods listed, but not the owner's valuation.

The probable explanation, Mr. Shears said, was that much of the chattels had been stolen. The receipt from the auction sale of the chattels was \$10.40, according to letters filed, and the expense involved was \$4.04, leaving the \$6.36 which was paid the owner.

Mr. Shears said there were individual cases where owners of chattels had been substantial losers, but he thought the number was limited and was largely due to thefts and vandalism. There were 22,000 Japanese moved and some 1700 parcels of property handled.

He agreed to telegraph his office to have this particular file sent to him.

The committee decided to go thoroughly into these and other similar claims, although it was explained the government has under consideration reimbursing those Japanese who suffered from thefts and vandalism.

Vancouver Sun. 9 May '47

B.C. Jap Claims Will Be Probed By Commissioner

Ottawa, May 13 (CP).—The government is planning to appoint a commissioner to investigate claims of Japanese evacuated from the defense area of the British Columbia coast during the war, Labor Minister Mitchell said tonight. It is expected a selection soon will be made.

The commissioner will investigate claims of the Japanese that the real estate and chattels they were forced to leave behind were wastefully disposed of by the custodian of enemy properties and other government agencies.

The Commons Public Accounts Committee for several days has been investigating the methods by which the assets of the Japanese were looked after and sold.

Dr. E. H. Coleman, Undersecretary of State in charge of enemy property, made a statement before the committee followed by Frank G. Shears, director of the Vancouver office of the official custodian.

When the information that a commissioner was to be appointed became more definite today, W. H. Golding (L, Huron Perth) suggested it might not be necessary to pursue the questioning of Mr. Shears further.

However, Donald Fleming (PC, Toronto Eglinton) said appointment of a commissioner would in no way affect the work of the committee, appointed to probe the accounts of the custodian of enemy property. The commissioner would just investigate Japanese claims.

The Fraser Valley land was definitely not stolen by the government. The Department of Veterans Affairs paid the custodian acting for the Japanese \$836,000 for it, approximately \$414,000 less than its assessed value and possibly about half its real value.

Mr. Shears told Mr. Fleming today the custodian's office had the dual function of protecting the property of Japanese-Canadians and obtaining the best possible prices for any property of goods sold. He would not commit himself under questioning to saying that the best possible price had been received for the Fraser Valley tract.

It was also disclosed in evidence that the books of the custodian in Vancouver have not been audited since October, 1943. Plans for another audit were put into motion about seven weeks ago around the time that the Japanese issue was being discussed in the Commons.

Ian Mackenzie Demands Publisher Be Summoned

(Continued From Page 2, Column 3.)

occupied by persons of the Japanese race. I wish unequivocally to deny the charges which appear in this editorial.

"Valuations made of these former Japanese lands were based on conditions which existed immediately prior to the outbreak of the war. The appraisals were made in the early summer months of 1942 when the war was at its blackest for the Allied cause. No one knew at that time how long the war would last, but the fact that these lands have any value for the re-establishment of Canadian veterans of World War II is because Canada and her allies won the war, a fact which The Globe and Mail seems to ignore so far as Japanese nationals are concerned."

Mr. Tucker was interrupted with cries of "order," and Mr. Speaker Fauteux asked him to confine himself to stating his question of privilege briefly.

"I am not reading any part of the newspaper at all. I am referring to this editorial which appeared in The Globe and Mail," Mr. Tucker replied.

"This matter is before a committee, Mr. Speaker," Gordon Fraser (PC, Peterborough West) protested. "This is a question of privilege. An actual attack was made on the honesty of the Department of Veterans' Affairs and the other ministers, and surely I am entitled on a question of privilege to draw attention to it," Mr. Tucker retorted.

Mr. Mackenzie—Hon. members opposite do not like it.

A. C. Casselman (PC, Grenville-Dundas)—Somebody else does not like it.

Here the Speaker again rose. "Hon. members know that the Speaker is responsible for seeing that the members abide by the rules. I would ask hon. members to allow the Speaker to do that. I would suggest to the hon. member that if he looks at the rules of the House he will notice that they say that under privilege a member should be as brief as possible. I would suggest that the hon. member state his question of privilege and give his explanation as briefly as possible."

"I intend to be as brief as I possibly can, Mr. Speaker, and at the same time make my meaning plain," Mr. Tucker continued, "I will say this. I have been assured by the director under the Veterans' Land Act that all former Japanese lands acquired by him and sold to veterans have been sold at sufficient only to cover their actual cost to him. No profit whatever has been made by the Veterans' Land Act administration on the transactions. There are no grounds for the suggestion in the editorial that the lands were resold to the veterans by the Veterans' Land Act administration at 'vastly increased amounts.' No evidence was submitted to the public accounts committee to this effect, and I protest against such a baseless accusation being made. The facts surrounding the purchase of these lands from the official custodian and their resale to veterans are readily available to the public accounts committee."

Mr. Fleming interrupted on a point of order: "The matters to which the hon. member is referring are matters which at present are being reviewed by the standing committee on public accounts. The evidence has not been completed. The hon. gentleman is referring to something that will have to come before the committee in the way of evidence, probably next week. The evidence the hon. member is giving now is evidence which should be given before the committee."

"Well, Mr. Speaker, may I proceed with my statement?" Mr. Tucker asked, but was stopped by loud protests.

"I would ask the hon. members to remain silent," the Speaker urged. "They will realize that the hon. gentleman who has the floor is referring to an article which appeared in a newspaper and which apparently contained statements which are contrary to the facts. I believe it is in the interests of the public, and particularly in the interests of the veterans, to know exactly what the administration intends to do. So I believe it is in the best interests of all that the hon. gentleman be permitted to make his statement."

Mr. Tucker: "The facts surround-

ing the purchase of these lands from the official custodian and their resale to veterans are readily available to the public accounts committee, and the Department of Veterans' Affairs would welcome the most searching inquiry. Until this has been done I suggest that in fairness to the public servants involved no such charges, impugning the fairness and honesty of those public servants, should have been given such wide publicity."

As Mr. Tucker took his seat, Minister of Veterans Affairs rose.

"Seeing that I was personally lacked this morning in the editor in question in The Toronto Globe and Mail," he declared, "I think is my right as a member of free and unfettered parliament rise on a question of privilege intend, Sir, to ask the standing committee on public accounts what is now investigating questions relating to do with the administration the custodian of alien enemy property to subpoena George McCulla, the editor of The Toronto Globe and Mail, to substantiate if he can—a he cannot—the vile, foul, malicious, meretricious statements contained in that editorial."

This brought the Calgary member to his feet.

"I also rise to a question of privilege," Mr. Smith announced. "Speaking as a member of the public accounts committee, to inform members of this House that under the able chairmanship of the member for Halifax (Gordon Isnor) the committee is quite capable of carrying on its affairs without direction from the minister or his quacious assistant."

Mr. Mackenzie: "My hon. friend apparently is unacquainted with the rules of parliament, which provide that any member of the Commons private member or minister, has the right to appear before any standing committee of this House and make an appeal to that committee because a committee is only a creature and servant of parliament and the committee then decides."

Mr. Smith: "Then appear before the committee and make application we will hear you."

Property of City Japs Sold For \$1,000,000

By DICK SANBURN

From The Vancouver Daily Province Ottawa Bureau

OTTAWA—Japanese-owned property in Greater Vancouver, which had an assessed value of \$1,183,313, was sold by the enemy property custodian for \$1,004,785, it was stated today by Frank G. Shears, Vancouver, director of the Vancouver office of the custodian of enemy property.

Mr. Shears appeared today before the public accounts committee of the Commons, and outlined his work during and since the evacuation of Japanese from the British Columbia protected area.

The urban property in Greater Vancouver mentioned included 466 sales, and while the appraised value of the property was only \$915,600, it actually sold for \$1,004,785.

Mr. Shears gave similar figures for the sale of 700 odd Japanese farms in the Fraser Valley district. In this case, the total assessed value was \$1,250,900. An appraisal made by the Soldiers' Settlement Board placed the value at \$847,878, and the farms were sold for \$836,256, about two thirds of the assessed value.

The Japanese fishing fleet was now entirely disposed of, said Mr. Shears. The official custodian handled only a small part of these transactions, the boats being sold through a special separate committee, with 950 boats being sold for \$1,400,000. The custodian handled only about 180 boats left over, the poorest ones.

**SELLING CHARGE**

Speaking of Japanese goods and chattels sold at public auction, Mr. Shears said that about 21 per cent of the value of articles sold was charged against the Japs as cost of selling.

Auctioneers' fees, advertising costs, and the expense of collecting, packing and unpacking the goods went into this 21 per cent.

Mr. Shears, speaking of the individual urban properties sold, said he believed they had been given a "fair, unbiased appraisal." Nine hundred properties in this urban category were sold for \$1,750,000, and in "only a handful" of cases did the accepted tender fall below the appraisal valuation.

**AMIDTS VANDALISM**

The witness admitted that there had been theft and vandalism and cited the home of the Japanese counsel. When the custodian finally moved in to take over the property, leaded glass windows had been stolen, windows and doors, grates and electrical fixtures had been taken away. There had been no prosecutions.

Many complaints had been made by Japanese owners, both about having their property sold off, and about the prices received. "It would appear that many of these claims are greatly exaggerated," said Mr. Shears.

JAPANESE (Continued from Page 1)

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## Judge David Whiteside, New Westminster, to Retire

NEW WESTMINSTER, Jan. 18.—Judge David Whiteside, judge of the New Westminster County Court and one of this city's best-known and most highly respected citizens, will retire February 7.

His retirement ends a 44-year association with the legal profession of B.C.

He plans to devote his life to his home and garden on the Walker road, Coquitlam.

Representative of the Royal City in the Legislature from 1916 to 1924, he succeeded the late Judge F. W. Howay as judge of the County Court seven years ago.

### OSGOODE HALL GRADUATE.

He graduated from Osgoode Hall, Toronto, in 1895, and after practicing law in Shelburne, Ont., came to Rossland in 1899.

He was admitted to the B.C. bar in 1902 and moved to Grand Forks, where he entered partnership with the late J. A. Macdonald, K.C., former Liberal leader for the province and afterwards chief justice of the Court of Appeal.

For the next eight years he carried on practice alone. On his appointment as registrar of joint-stock companies in 1910 he moved to Victoria.

### ENTERED PARTNERSHIP.

In 1912 he resigned to enter the law firm of his brother, W. J. Whiteside, K.C., and Henry L. Edmonds, K.C.. In 1925 the law firm of McQuarrie, Whiteside and Duncan was established. When the late W. G. McQuarrie was appointed to the Court of Appeal the partnership was carried on with Alex S. Duncan.

During the last war, when the prohibition vote was taken, he went overseas as member of a three-man commission with Fred Pauline, Victoria, and Charles Nelson, New Denver, to investigate the soldiers' vote. Prohibition became an established law of the province as a result of the commission's report.

Judge Whiteside was appointed a King's Counsel in 1921.



JUDGE DAVID WHITESIDE.

## McLarty Urges 'Police Force' For World Peace

Succinctly describing the enemy as "The German maniac and the yellow rats of the Pacific," Hon. Norman McLarty, secretary of state for Canada, urged establishment of an international police force to maintain world peace, in a brief address at a Canadian Club luncheon meeting, in Hotel Vancouver, Friday.

Handicapped by a throat infection, the noted cabinet member was only able to speak for 10 minutes, before an audience that overflowed the Hotel Vancouver's Mayfair Room. He had been asked to speak on "Canada, New World Power," but was forced to confine his remarks to a short opinion on the needs of world peace.

This generation already had "two strikes" against it, he said. The last war had been fought to end all wars, but peace treaties had proved their futility.

"Oh, what value is a declaration of thought," he asked, "without a police force to back it up? It is like a city bylaw without a body to enforce it."

### ENFORCE CHARTER

"What is needed after this war is an international police force, strong enough to enforce, if you will, the Atlantic Charter and the sanctions the peace parley will draw up. That is the only way to stop a recurrence of war."

Touching on Canada's future, he declared the present and postwar development of Russia as an economic and political power provided great opportunities for this country and the United States.

"We are in a position," he said, "to take advantage not only of our geographic position, but of having a great neighbor and of being part of a great commonwealth."

"In this regard you in British Columbia are, perhaps, more fortunate than any other part of Canada."



WALKER. — Hon. Norman McLarty, secretary of state for Canada, will be guest speaker at a luncheon meeting of the Canadian Club, in Hotel Vancouver, at 12:15 today. He will speak on "Canada, New World Power."



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## AIR GO ROUND



GEORGE POWELL, CHAIRMAN  
B.C. PRODUCTS BUILDING-  
-HOWDY!



MAYOR CHARLES JONES  
... the council's choice.

## BRITISH CARDINAL ENJOYS 'STRANDING'

An English prince of the Roman Catholic church with red hair, steel-rimmed glasses and an infectious chuckle, reached Vancouver today for a reunion with two other cardinals.

Bernard Cardinal Griffin, 48, Archbishop of Westminster and Britain's leading Catholic prelate, arrived via T-CA at noon—21 hours later than he had originally been expected.

"Just imagine," Cardinal Griffin laughingly told James Cardinal McGuigan of Toronto at the airport, "I was stranded over night at Medicine Hat, of all places!"

He said it was a nice little city but could not help chuckling over the name.

Cardinal Griffin and his secretary, Rt. Rev. Cuthbert Collingwood, slept a few hours in a hotel in the Alberta city before being awakened at 4 a.m., to catch a train for Lethbridge where they boarded a Vancouver-bound plane.

The third member of the long-planned reunion group of pre-

lates, Norman Cardinal Gilroy of Australia, is arriving this afternoon via Great Northern from Seattle.

Most Rev. W. M. Duke, Archbishop of Vancouver, and several B.C. priests, went with Cardinal McGuigan to greet Cardinal Griffin at the airport.

## TO TOUR CANADA

Last year in London, Cardinal Griffin was host to Cardinals McGuigan and Gilroy shortly after they and other archbishops were made cardinals at a consistory in Rome.

The three cardinals will leave Sunday night via CPR on a cross-Canada tour.

## Ald. Jones Chosen Acting Mayor

## Veteran Official in Civic Affairs Has Long Record of Service

Ald. Charles Jones, 66, who has served Vancouver as alderman and as civic official and employee for 36 years, will become acting mayor of the city commencing Sept. 1. He will fill that office, vacated by the death of Mayor McGeer, until year's end. From now until the end of August, Ald. George Miller, the city's senior alderman, will continue as acting mayor.

Whether the new acting mayor will receive the salary Vancouver now pays her mayors (\$7500 yearly) has not yet been decided. A new mayor will be elected

at municipal elections in December. He will serve during the whole of 1948, the balance of the term won in December, 1946 by Mayor McGeer.

City Council chose the new chief magistrate and set date of the by-election at a 45-minute secret caucus in the mahogany room at City Hall Friday afternoon. Formal ratification of their decisions came at regular meeting of council following the caucus.

The new acting mayor was nominated by Ald. R. K. Gervin, his nomination seconded by Ald. Charles Thompson.

Ald. Jones, who lives at 575 North Boundary Road, has been in the city's service since 1907. Born at Whitby, Cheshire, England, January 19, 1881, he is of Welsh descent.

## HERE IN 1904

He came to Vancouver in 1904 and was married here to Emma Collyer. They have no children.

The new acting mayor, a director of the Union of B.C. Municipalities, is considered by his colleagues on city council and by civic officials alike, an expert on municipal affairs. His interests outside civic affairs are split between gardening and amateur sport.

He joined City Council as alderman in 1940, has served continuously since then. His present aldermanic term expires the end of this year.

He has served his entire time on council under the banner of the Non-Partisan Association.

He entered the service of the city, in the city treasurer's office, January 2, 1907. After a short time he entered the contracting business for 18 months, rejoining the treasurer's office in 1909.

From there he went to the city accountant's office, then served as city license inspector for 21 years, from 1910 to 1931. From 1931 to 1935 he served as city clerk.

## THE Weather

Synopsis—Skies are mostly clear throughout B.C. except in the Kootenays and along the west coast of Vancouver Island. Fine weather is expected for the weekend.

Vancouver and vicinity, Lower Fraser Valley and Georgia Strait—Clear today and Sunday. Little change in temperature.

Victoria and vicinity—Clear.

West Coast Vancouver Island—Sunday overcast in the morning, clearing in the afternoon.

North Coast and Queen Charlottes—Overcast in the morning becoming cloudy in the afternoon.

Okanagan, Lillooet, South Thompson and Cariboo—Clear.

Kootenay and North Thompson—Clear Sunday.

Prince George and Bulkley Valley—Clear Sunday. Ground frost tonight.

Northern B.C.—Sunday cloudy, widely scattered showers.

|                  | Min. | Max. |
|------------------|------|------|
| Montreal         | 68   | 83   |
| Toronto          | 64   | 82   |
| North Bay        | 62   | 85   |
| Port Arthur      | 61   | 73   |
| Kenora           | 75   | 93   |
| Brandon          | 64   | 93   |
| Saskatoon        | 56   | 67   |
| Prince Albert    | 55   | 66   |
| North Battleford | 55   | 66   |
| Swift Current    | 46   | 69   |
| Medicine Hat     | 49   | 73   |
| Lethbridge       | 46   | 59   |
| Calgary          | 46   | 56   |
| Edmonton         | 51   | 61   |
| Kamloops         | 47   | 77   |
| Penticton        | 44   | 74   |
| VANCOUVER        | 51   | 72   |
| Victoria         | 52   | 67   |
| Cranbrook        | 46   | 60   |
| Crescent Valley  | 49   | 77   |
| Prince Rupert    | 48   | 63   |
| Prince George    | 32   | 68   |
| Seattle          | 53   | 72   |
| Portland         | 59   | 65   |
| Spokane          | 53   | 61   |
| Chicago          | 75   | 94   |
| Frisco           | 54   | 74   |
| Los Angeles      | 53   | 81   |
| New York         | 68   | 88   |

## Dr. B. F. Keillor Retires at 66

Dr. Benjamin F. Keillor, Canadian Pensions Medical examiner for more than 29 years, retired on his 66th birthday. He has been head of the Canadian Pensions Commission in B.C. since 1931.

George C. Derby, DVA Western Regional Administrator, presented the retiring official with a travelling bag on Friday at a farewell party in Shaughnessy Hospital.

Dr. Keillor was born on an Ontario farm and graduated in medicine from the University of Toronto. He served overseas from 1915 to 1918 in the Royal Army Medical Corps and the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps.

## Congress May Aid Tourists

American tourists will be able to take \$500 worth of Canadian goods home with them next year if a move introduced in Congress is passed this spring.

This news was brought to Vancouver by Russell E. Singer, executive vice-president of the American Automobile Association, who is here attending the western conference of the association.

## RESTRICTED TO \$100

Americans he said, for 50 years had been restricted to taking home \$100 worth of Canadian goods. Prospects for passage of the change are good.

"It would mean a tremendous increase in the tourist profit to the merchants of Vancouver and will lead to a more favorable trade balance between U.S. and Canada."

Mr. Singer said that Canadian Government business interests should consider the automobile tourists their "best asset" and take steps to provide good roads, accommodation and food.

## Eades Named BCER Wage Arbitrator

J. Edwin Eades, city barrister and veteran labor arbitrator, has been named chairman of a board of conciliation in a wage dispute between the BCER and 2500 car crewmen, members of the AFL Street Railway Union.

Mr. Eades, who was twice chairman of conciliation hearings that settled BCER wage disputes in previous years, said a preliminary meeting of the three-man board will be on Monday to consider procedure.

The two other members of the board are Douglas Dewar, financial expert who served in Ottawa as wartime dollar-a-year man in foreign exchange and price control, and Alexander Bevis, president of the AFL International Typographical Union in Vancouver. Mr. Dewar was chosen by the company, and Mr. Bevis by the union.

H. P. Melnikow, director of the Pacific Coast Labor Bureau, San Francisco, will conduct the union's case before the board. Dr. Lawrence P. Jack, general secretary of the BCER, will present the company brief.

## Picnics

SUNDAY — Airforce Association, Branch 176, Canadian Legion, at Bear Creek. Meet at headquarters at 10:30 a.m.

SUNDAY—Shell Oil Co., staff at Bowen Island.

SUNDAY—Canadian Legion, Branch 44, Bowen Island.

AUG. 27 — American Legion, Outpost No. 7, at "Terra Nova," end of River Road, Sea Island, at 6 p.m.

AUG. 31—Former residents of Brandon, Manitoba, Duck Pond, Stanley Park.

## Meetings

Richmond Kiwanis—Monday, 7 p.m., in United Church, corner No. 3 Rd. and Steveston Highway.

Point Grey Kiwanis—Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Quilchena Golf Club. Speaker: William Myrdock, "The New Trimmer."

## Spot Cash

1935 Plymouth deluxe coach, perfect condition, original owner. Principals only. BA----

Cash on the line — that's what this ad meant to the owner when he advertised his car for sale. You can get cash for your car too — just list it in automobiles for sale.

## Province Classified

PA 4211



Province  
12/9/47

# VANCO

VANCOU



MR. JUSTICE BIRD  
Powers widened

## Japanese Probe Broadened

OTTAWA — Justice Minister Ilsley announced today that the order-in-council providing for an inquiry into the disposition of the property of Japanese on the West Coast had been broadened to meet with suggestions made by the public accounts committee in its report at the recent session of parliament.

Under the changes the com-  
missioner, Mr.  
Cowd