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Correspondence

FOLDER NO.

72-8

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ORIGINAL ORDER



1190 West 12th Ave.,  
Vancouver, B. C.,  
December 11, 1937.

The Canadian Japanese Association,  
329 Gore Avenue,  
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Sirs:-

Through the courtesy of your Association I have received a number of copies of the "Tokyo Gazette", a paper, according to the inscription on the front cover, "Published Monthly by the Foreign Affairs Association of Japan." The paper gives information, from a Japanese point of view, of various matters connected with the war now being waged by Japan in China.

The purpose of this letter is, first, to advise you that I am not interested in getting Japan's point of view in her war on China. I consider Japan wholly in the wrong. Her attack on China, in my opinion, amounts to mass murder of a people who have never been known to make war on another nation.

My second reason for writing you is that I regret exceedingly that Canadian citizens of Japanese origin should condone their fatherland in an act of unprovoked aggression. Japan's attack on China is condemned by every democratic country in the world. Japan today has associated herself with the Fascist nations and stands for everything that I and every lover of democracy abhors and detests.

On many occasions I have declared my high regard for the Japanese in Canada. I have maintained at all times that when born or naturalized here they were entitled to all the rights and privileges of citizens, and also that they should assume all the duties and obliga-



tions of citizens. I should like to continue to maintain that position. The action of the Canadian Japanese Association in supporting Japan in what is considered by 99% of the Canadian people as unprovoked aggression, makes it very difficult for me to hold that position. I am anxious to carry on the fight for the extension of the full rights of citizenship to all Orientals resident in Canada. I am anxious that the people of Japanese origin should dwell among us in harmony and happiness. I am anxious to retain the contacts and the friendships I have made with the people of Japanese origin in British Columbia. I am anxious to build a free Canada for a free people. This can only be done if we denounce any and every form of aggression -- British Aggression as well as Japanese aggression.

In concluding, may I say that this letter is written in all friendliness and all good will. I hope the future attitude of Canadian Japanese will justify my high regard for them. I hope also that the Japanese people will be able to retain that feeling of kindness to me which on many occasions they have expressed.

Yours for peace and goodwill to all people.

Angus MacInnis,  
M.P. for Vancouver East.

Yours sincerely,

T. Umegaki



Organized August 6th, 1920

Phone Highland 2189

P. O. Box 1064

*Affiliated with The Trades and Labor Congress of Canada,  
Vancouver, New Westminster and District Trades and Labor Council*

# Camp and Mill Workers' Federal Labor Union No. 31 Vancouver and Vicinity

Employment Service

544 Powell Street,  
VANCOUVER, B. C.

March 11 1937.

Mr. Angus MacInnis, M. P.

Dear Sir;

I have just read an article in the  
"Vancouver Daily Province" denoting that  
Thomas Reid, MP . for New Westminster will fill  
with the Committee a hundred-page brief designed  
to head off any effort to enfranchise B. C.  
Oriental.

Will it be possible for you to obtain  
for us a few copies of this brief in question.

In regard to this what would be the best  
step for us to take.

Thanking you for your past support  
and kindness.

We are,

Yours sincerely,

*T. Umezaki*



O t t a w a, Ontario,  
March 17, 1937.

T. Umezuki, Esq.,  
Camp and Mill Workers' Federal Union,  
544 Powell Street,  
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Mr. Umezuki:

Your letter of March 11th to hand.

In reference to Mr. Reid's brief to the Franchise and Elections Committee - I will try and get you a copy. I am not sure yet whether the brief will be printed in the reports of the Committee. However, I will try and get a copy for you. I will also send you the reports of the Committee for the days when the matter of the Oriental franchise was discussed.

I don't know if it will be necessary for you to take any definite steps at this time. You could, however, go over the report carefully and prepare a statement in rebuttal. I do not think that would be a very difficult thing to do.

I shall see you on my return to Vancouver.

Yours sincerely,

Angus MacInnis,  
Member for Vancouver East.

AM:T.



O t t a w a, Ontario,  
March 24, 1937.

T. Umezuki, Esq.,  
Camp and Mill Workers' Federal Union,  
544 Powell Street,  
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Mr. Umezuka:

In further reference to my letter of March 17th, I am enclosing under separate cover report of the Special Committee on Elections and Franchise Act Nos. 9 and 10. I am also enclosing under separate cover a type-written draft of Mr. Reid's brief to the Committee. This will give you Mr. Reid's and Mr. Neill's evidence before the Committee. If you would like to have further copies of this number - I believe I could get them for you.

Your Committee could examine this report and prepare whatever rebuttal may be called for. I do not think that there would be anything to be gained by placing further evidence before the Committee at this time. When amendments are again proposed to the Franchise Act, I rather think it would be in order to include an amendment giving the vote to Canadian born Orientals in federal elections. However, there is time enough to consider that point as I do not think there will be any amendments proposed this year.

Yours sincerely,

AM: T.

Angus MacInnis.