

HOME MISSIONS SUPERINTENDENT (BUNT)

1/12

December 10th 1942

December 1st 1942.

Rev. N.D. McInnes, B.A., B.D., S.T.M.,
Secretary, Alberta Conference,
Jasper, Alta.

Dear Mr. McInnes,

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of November 24th addressed to Mr. Bunt. I regret he is at present out of the city, but your letter will have his personal attention on his return next week.

Yours sincerely,

Office Secretary.

would be of value regarding the Japanese up there, I would be glad to have it, although I cannot see any possibility of our being able to send a worker in even if one should be required.

With kindest regards,

I remain,

Yours most sincerely,

WPB/AM

December 10th 1942

Rev. N.D. McInnes, B.A., B.D., S.T.M.,
Jasper, Alta.

Dear Mr. McInnes,

Your letter of November 24th, which has already been acknowledged by my secretary, was on my desk when I returned recently to the office.

I hardly know what to say in reply to your suggestion that we try to secure the building at Red Pass, which for a time was used by the Japanese. I have not yet had an opportunity to discuss it with the Security Commission, but I shall do so in the near future.

Even if we could secure it, the problem of carrying on services with the ministers now available is a very grave one. As a matter of fact, our missionary at Birch Island, who travels north as far as Blue River, wrote me some little time ago on the same matter. He already has such a tremendous area to cover, that I hesitate to ask him to go as far as Red Pass, although I agree that we should be doing something there.

I appreciate your letter, and will see the secretary of the Commission at an early date and if we can secure the building, then we might find some way of giving services, possibly once a month, although as I have written above that will not be an easy thing to do under present conditions.

From what I hear, very little in the way of Christian work has been done among the camps up in that area. That is not altogether our fault, for in a joint meeting with the Anglicans, early in the process of the evacuation of the Japanese, their Bishop accepted responsibility for the work up yonder, and said they would bring a Mr. Savary out, from the east, to take care of it. They brought him out, but I think left him only a little while there, and then transferred him to Salmon Arm to work among the Japanese along the main line of the C.P.R. If you have any information that would be of value regarding the Japanese up there, I would be glad to have it, although I cannot see any possibility of our being able to send a worker in even if one should be required.

With kindest regards,

I remain,

Yours most sincerely,

WPB/AM

The United Church of Canada Alberta Conference

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November 24th, 1942.

Rev. W.P. Bunt, B.A., B.D.,
Superintendent of Missions for British Columbia,
The United Church of Canada,
807 Dominion Bank Building,
Vancouver, B.C.

My dear Mr. Bunt:

Dr. Fizzell, who has had medical supervision over the Japanese in the Red Pass - Blue River area and who is still residing at Blue River for the benefit of the remaining Japanese in that district, tells me that the building erected at Red Pass for a hospital and doctor's quarters would make an excellent church. Some months ago he made this remark to me, suggesting that when it was no longer needed in the Japanese work it might be wise for The United Church of Canada to obtain it. I saw Dr. Fizzell again yesterday and he mentioned the same thing. The building is not now being used since the Japanese have all been removed from Red Pass. The building is idle, and would no doubt be available for a reasonable sum. Since Red Pass is in British Columbia and very definitely a Home Mission area I felt that I should write to you about the matter.

I was in Red Pass the other day for an hour or so between trains. I regret that at the time I did not think of this building, for I would have had a few minutes to examine it. From what Dr. Fizzell tells me it is not large and is perhaps the building of best construction at the Red Pass Japanese camp. It is probably quite suitable for the congregation that might be built up in this small community.

I had a temporary license to perform a wedding in Red Pass on Saturday, and I was much impressed by the spirit of the people at the wedding ceremony. I felt they entered deeply into the true spirit of it. Of course a good deal of 'spirit' of another nature entered most of them following the ceremony. I felt at the time that the way might be open for some Christian work in the community if one of your Home Missionaries in the area had the time to spare. If the building mentioned could be obtained as a church it might be an incentive for the community to respond to Christian leadership. I expect the Security Commission could advise you if the building is available.

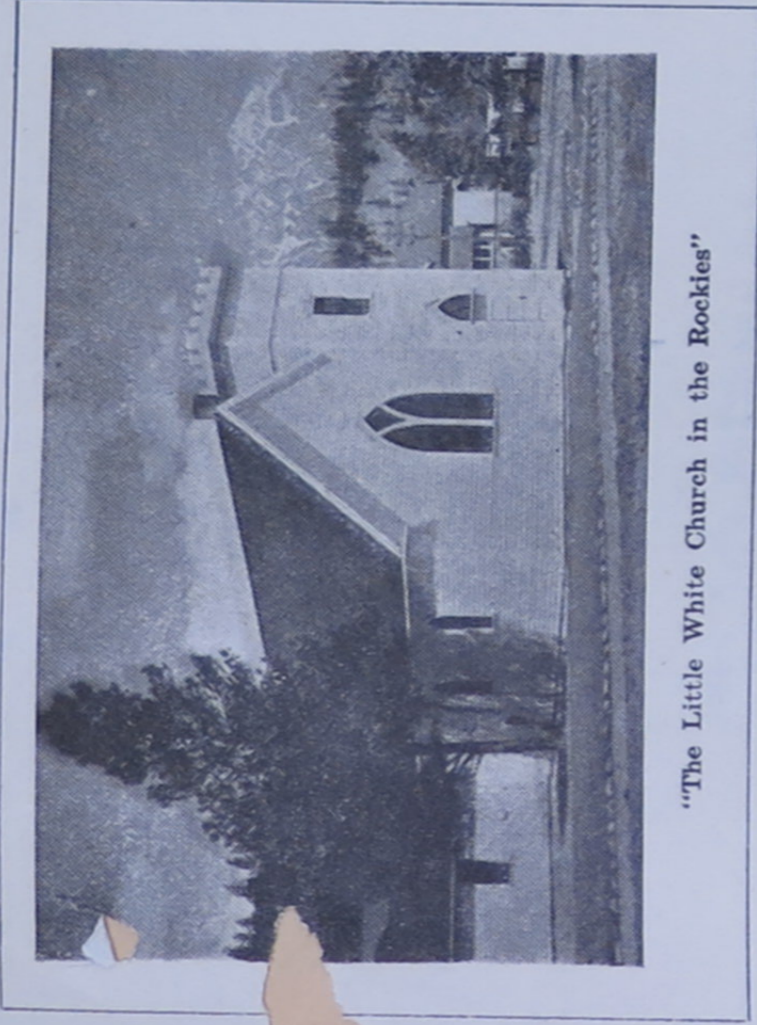
With best wishes, I remain,
Sincerely yours,

N. D. McInnis

The United Church of Canada
Jasper National Park

REV. N. D. McINNIS, B.A., B.D., S.T.M.,
Minister

July 20th, 1942.



"The Little White Church in the Rockies"

Rev. W.P. Bunt, B.A., B.D.,
Superintendent of Missions,
807 Dominion Bank Building,
207 West Hastings Street,
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Mr. Bunt:-

I have your letter of the 18th with reference to the Japanese camps in the Jasper - Blue River area.

I am sorry that the Anglican minister of Jasper is away at present, for he would be able to tell me if there is an Anglican man at work among the Japanese in this area. He told me some time ago he expected there would be one, but my impression is that any such arrangement has not yet been completed.

As far as I can learn the situation in the camps here is presenting some difficulties. There seems to be some unrest among the Japanese people, and some of their reported actions have been making it embarrassing for the persons in charge of these camps. I suspect that a number of the Japanese are arousing others to take advantage of any weaknesses in the administration. I believe that if Mr. McWilliams is the right type of man - and he certainly appears to be from what you have said regarding the high confidence in which he is held by all - he could do much to help the entire spirit of the camps. My own feeling is that such a visit as you suggest should be arranged if at all possible. Dr. Dorey told me in May he expected one of the Japanese ministers of our Church would likely be sent to this area, but perhaps it has not been possible to make such arrangements.

I am sure that Mr. J.H. Mitchell, who is in charge of the Japanese project in this region, and whose address is Red Pass Junction, B.C., will be glad of any help Mr. McWilliams can give. I shall be glad to assist Mr. McWilliams in any possible way.

With all best wishes, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

N.D. McInnis

Jasper

July 18th 1942

Rev. N.D. McInnes, B.A., B.D., S.T.M.,
Jasper, Alta.

Dear Mr. McInnes,

Are you acquainted with what has been done by the Church of England among the Japanese in the camps up in your area? When talking over what ought to be done amongst the evacuated Japanese we have withheld sending anyone into these camps, because the Anglicans said that they would put a man in. Recently, I have heard that the spirit and morale of the men are very low, and requests have come for Rev. W.R. McWilliams to take a trip through the camps. Mr. McWilliams was one of our missionaries in Japan for about twenty-three years, and has been of untold value to us here in British Columbia during the last two years. He has the confidence of the Government, and of the Police, of the B.C. Security Commission, and of the Japanese, and I would like to know what you would think of his spending a couple of weeks among the men up in the Japanese Camps. If it would appear to be worth while, I think we could arrange to have him make such a trip.

With my kind regards,

I remain,

Yours most sincerely,

WPB/AM



The United Church of Canada
Jasper National Park

FOR USE ON SLEEPING AND PARLOR CARS

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D. E. GALLOWAY, ASSISTANT VICE-PRESIDENT, TORONTO, ONT.

HAVE YOU TELEGRAPHED FOR HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS?
PLAY SAFE BY WIRING AHEAD

SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS PRINTED ON THE BACK HEREOF, WHICH ARE HEREBY AGREED TO

TO Rev. Mr. McInnes Apr. 3, 1942 19

STREET AND NO.

Jasper, Alta.

PLACE

The best bound train if convenient
will you meet me. W.P. Bunt

SENDER'S PERMANENT ADDRESS:

with them if permission is given me to visit the camps.

If there are any suggestions you would care to make or any information you could give me I shall be glad to hear from you.

The enclosed copy of my letter to Dr. Cochrane outlines more fully the situation as I see it.

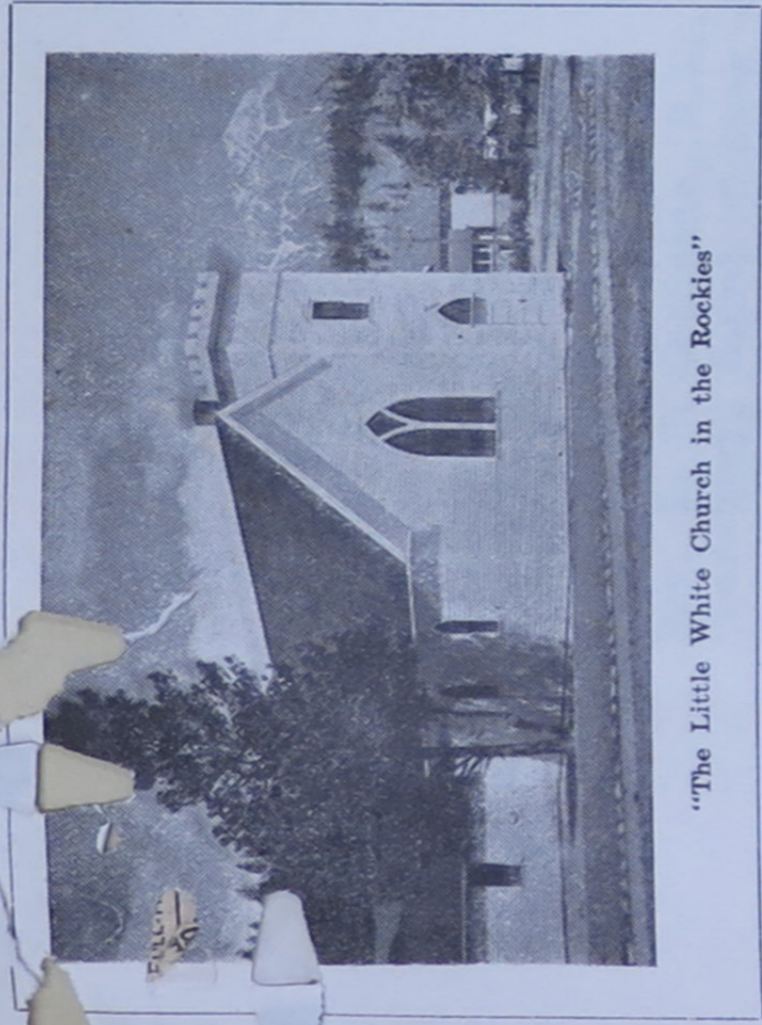
With all best wishes, I remain,

Sincerely yours,
N.D.M. James

The United Church of Canada
Jasper National Park

REV. N. D. McINNES, B.A., B.D., S.T.M.,
Minister

March 20th, 1942.



"The Little White Church in the Rockies"

Rev. W. P. Bunt, B.A., B.D.,
Superintendent of Missions,
British Columbia Conference,
The United Church of Canada,
807 Dominion Bank Building,
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Mr. Bunt:-

I am sorry that I did not have long to chat with you the other day when you were at Jasper en route to Vancouver.

I have been giving some thought to the whole question of the Japanese people who are being brought from the Pacific Coast area to camps in the Geikie - Red Pass - Blue River region. Dr. Cochrane tells me that the Japanese ministers of our Church will not be allowed to accompany their people, and it seems to me that in some way the Church should keep touch with the members of the Japanese congregations. As I am the nearest minister I shall be glad to do whatever I can. I have written some of the Japanese ministers along the coast asking if they could let me have the names of members of their congregations who are being removed to this area so that I might be able to get in touch with them if permission is given me to visit the camps.

If there are any suggestions you would care to make or any information you could give me I shall be glad to hear from you.

The enclosed copy of my letter to Dr. Cochrane outlines more fully the situation as I see it.

With all best wishes, I remain,

Sincerely yours,
N. D. McInnes

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Rev. R. B. Cochrane,
(continued)

I am sending a copy of this letter to Rev. W.P.Bunt, Superintendent of Missions for British Columbia. I am asking if he will write me if there is any way in which I can help him and the Japanese ministers in their effort to help the Japanese people who are now in this vicinity or will later be brought here.

I shall be glad to hear from you if there is any way in which I can serve the Home Mission Board in this matter.

It was a pleasure to see you yesterday, even if only briefly. We shall look forward to your being with us on some future occasion. The next time you come west to the Coast this route perhaps you will be able to stay over for a week - end or even for a period in the middle of a week.

With all best wishes, I remain,

Sincerely yours,