

HOME MISSIONS SUPERINTENDENT (BUNT)

The Bob Stewart Archives	
The United Church of Canada, BC Conference	
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File/Vol.	1



HOME MISSIONS SUPERINTENDENT (BUNT)

April 22nd 1949

Rev. W.P. Bunt,  
Dept. Home Missions

Rev. N.W. Whitmore,  
1271 - 5th Avenue, North,  
Lethbridge, Alta.

Dear Mr. Bunt,

Dear Mr. Whitmore:

I have your letter of the 20th re the membership of Mrs. S. Shiko, and I am very glad to know that she has united with your Church. As for the Roll of the former Mission City Congregation, I have no idea where it is and would suggest that you communicate with Rev. Y. Akagawa in Winnipeg, telling him what has been done in respect of the membership of the above person. It may be that he is keeping some contact with his former members.

Yours most sincerely,

Rev. L. Donaldson

WPB/AM

However, Rev. Donaldson was the pastor of this church and I have entered the name in the roll. Please note the name in the roll. I am glad to have your confirmation.



1271-5<sup>th</sup> Ave. N.,  
First United Church,  
Lethbridge, Alta.,  
20 April, 1949.

Rev. W. P. Bunt, B.A.B.O.,  
Dept Home Missions,  
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Mr. Bunt, -

Re Japanese Congregation,  
Mission City, B.C.

Mrs. S. Shiko, formerly of  
above congregation, was received into our  
membership by transfer at Easter. I wrote  
Rev. D. Donaldson, at Mission, but he said  
he was unable to locate the membership roll  
and thought it most likely might be in your  
hands. Rev. Akagawa was the minister.  
However, Rev. Donaldson sent in good reports  
of Mrs. Shiko's work in the congregation and  
I have entered her name without waiting  
for an official transfer. If you have the  
roll, please note above transfer, and I would  
be glad to have your confirmation.

Yours very truly  
(Rev.) N. W. Whitmore



Morris, Manitoba.

September 3rd, 1945.

Rev. W.P. Bunt, B.A., B.D.,  
Superintendent of Home Missions,  
807 Dominion Bank Bldg.,  
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Mr. Bunt,

I have received your letter with much thanks.

We are all glad that the fighting has ceased, but we must prepare to face other difficulties.

It was said that approximately 50% of 1100 persons of our people who have resettled in this province since 1942 is believed to have requested repatriation to Japan after the war. Most of the people residing here now are doing well and getting along smoothly with their neighbours.

I have been told that the policy of the government of this province will to take into this province a 1000 more Japanese.

We will always remember the sympathies extended to our people by the United Church, who has done for us much in our difficult time since the outbreak of the war.

In the matter of the conference, I do not think a meeting at this time will of much advantage on account of the unsettled condition of the Japanese people, regarding repatriation etc. and definite plans could not be drawn out. Also, in view of the fact Mr. Shimizu has just recently moved with his family to the East, I would think it will be difficult for him to attend a meeting in B.C. this fall. Therefore, I propose that the conference of the workers be postponed until sometime next year when a more suitable plan can be discussed and formed.

If possible, I am planning to visit our people remaining in B.C. this fall, so if you have any suggestions I shall be glad to receive them.

Yours sincerely,

*Y. Akagawa*

HOME MISSIONS  
SUPERINTENDENT  
(BUNT)



HOME MISSIONS SUPERINTENDENT (BUNT)

April 5, 1943

April 5, 1943

Rev. I. Akagawa,  
Morris,  
Man.

Rev. D. B. Sparling,  
Morris,  
Man.

Dear Mr. Sparling: It was my intention to make a visit to you at Morris,  
but my time is so limited that it will be much  
more satisfactory to ask if you could pass on to  
Mr. Akagawa the letter which is enclosed herein?  
It has to do with a visit which I propose to make on  
my way West.

Thanking you, I remain

Yours most sincerely,

With kindest regards, I remain

Yours most sincerely,

WPB:HC

WPB:HC



HOME MISSIONS SUPERINTENDENT (BUNT)

April 5, 1943  
March 22nd 1943

Rev. Y. Akagawa,  
Morris,  
Man.

Rev. D.R. Sparling, B.A., B.D.,  
Morris, Dear Mr. Akagawa:

Dear Mr. Sparling: It was my intention to make a visit to you at Morris, but I find that my time is so limited that it would be much more satisfactory to me if you could meet me in Winnipeg. In one of your previous letters, you offered to drive in and pick me up on my arrival in Winnipeg, but Dr. Forey suggests that instead of my going out to Morris, we have our visit in Winnipeg.

Would it be convenient for you to meet me in Dr. Cormie's office at 11 a.m., Monday, the 19th April, and then we can have several hours together before you would need to return to Morris, and before my train would be leaving Winnipeg for further West. I hope that this arrangement will be satisfactory to you.

With kindest regards, I remain

Yours most sincerely,  
Yours most sincerely,

WPB:HC



March 22nd 1943

Rev. D.B. Sparling, B.A., B.D.,  
Morris, Man.

Dear Mr. Sparling:

It was my hope to have spent a day with Rev. Mr. Akagawa, on my way east to the meeting of the Home Mission Board, but owing to illness I have had to postpone the date of my leaving here, with the result that there will be insufficient time to see him on my way east.

I wonder if you would be good enough to give him this information, and to say that I shall do my best to have a day with him on my way back to the coast. When I know definitely the date I shall write him from Toronto.

Thanking you,

I remain,

Yours most sincerely,

WPB/AM

HOME MISSIONS  
SUPERINTENDENT  
(BUNT)



Morris, Manitoba

Feb. 12, 1943

Rev. W. P. Bunt.

Superintendent of Home Mission  
The United Church of Canada  
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Mr. Bunt,

I have received your letter of 26th Jan. to-day  
and have found a cheque for \$100.00, which as a cost of living  
bonus for 1942. It was a quite surprise to me. I felt some  
hesitation to accept it in such a time as Home Mission herself  
having a hard time for last several years. Please convey my  
heartiest gratitude for it, on your occasion to write to Home  
Mission Board.

Your photograph is on the piano in our parlour,  
which we have received sometime ago with a great joy.  
It had been taken so well as the real likeness of yourself.  
We will keep it carefully with us forever as one of the most  
precious Christmas present, and your kind remembrance.  
Again we wish to express our hearty thanks for such a token  
of your good will.

It will be great pleasure for us, if we could see  
you here on your way through to Toronto, sometime the end  
of March. If you drop a line in a few days previously,  
we will make arrangement to wait for you at the station  
of Winnipeg.

We are having the extreme cold weather in here for last 2  
weeks, but we are keeping very well all the time. Please make your mind  
easy about us.

Yours sincerely

M. Akagawa.



January 26th 1943

Rev. Y. Akagawa,  
Morris, Man.

Dear Mr. Akagawa,

I am very pleased to be able to send you the enclosed cheque for \$100.00, which is a cost of living bonus for 1942.

You are very much in my mind during this cold weather, and I am wondering how you and Mrs. Akagawa are keeping. We are having the coldest weather in Vancouver in over thirty years, and the fuel shortage is creating some very serious problems. Schools are all closed and on Sunday quite a number of the churches held no services on account of insufficient fuel. It is a little milder today, and I am hoping that the worst of the weather is over.

On my way through to the Board meeting near the end of March, I am thinking of making a break in the journey at Winnipeg and of coming out to Morris just to pay a friendly visit to Mrs. Akagawa and yourself. As the time approaches and I know the exact date, I will drop you a line, so that you may know when to expect me.

I am wondering if you received a photograph which I sent you just before Christmas as a token of my goodwill and to convey the Season's Greetings.

With my very kindest regards,

I remain,

Yours most sincerely,

WPB/AM  
Enc.1

HOME MISSIONS  
SUPERINTENDENT  
(BUNT)



COPY TO MR. BUNT

Rev. J.A. Cormie, D.D.,  
441 Somerset Bldg.,  
Winnipeg, Man.

Dear Dr. Cormie:

Re Mr. Akagawa

I have your letter of February 4th. Regarding Mr. Akagawa's travelling expenses, on checking up the account, I find that the travel grant was not drawn for the first half of the year, while he was in British Columbia. We did pay \$25 in November, so he is still entitled to \$25 for the first half year, and another \$25 for the last six months. I am enclosing a cheque for \$50.

Re the bonus, this was sent in error to Mr. Bunt. He reported on salaries received by all the Japanese missionaries from their fields, and we sent cheques accordingly, but the one for Mr. Akagawa should have gone to you. The amount was \$100, cost of living bonus for the year.

Yours sincerely,

HC I have written Mr. Dorey about the matter of travel in the field allowance. He is now on his way to Japan, and I suggested that he should ask Dr. Dorey to make a recommendation in your case, because I know nothing of the field as you have to cover it. If you happen to be talking with Dr. Cormie soon, you might tell him that I have suggested. You and Dr. Cormie would be able to estimate the amount of travel you will be able to do over the twelve months period, and then he can give in a recommendation on that basis.

I note what you have written about the delay in getting your cheques, but I think that ultimately, you will receive them all right. Until the end of December, I am sending in your requisition from here, but when the new year begins, Dr. Cormie will be taking care of that, as always your home Missionary Society may be.

Please give my very kindest regards to Mrs. Akagawa and I am sure you and the very best wishes of Mrs. Bunt and myself go with you for happiness and success in your work.

I remain,

Yours most sincerely,



September 18th 1942

Rev. Y. Akagawa,  
Box 195,  
Morris, Man.

Dear Mr. Akagawa,

Just a line to acknowledge your letter of August 22nd, and to assure you that I shall always be very much interested in your work, even although for the time being you are working under another Superintendent of Missions. I am sure you will find Dr. Cormie a very good friend and a splendid Superintendent. He is now the senior Superintendent of all those in our Church. I am interested in knowing some of the things you have written about your field, and there is no doubt that it is a large one. However, as I recall the way in which you got around in the Fraser Valley, I know that you will not be wanting in diligence in the matter of seeking out and visiting your people in Manitoba. I can well understand that when the roads are bad you will not be able to get around and particularly if they are what we call "gumbo" which is a kind of mud over which it is absolutely impossible to drive. Your people will welcome, I know, the visits of Mrs. Akagawa and yourself in their homes and the Bible Study and Prayer Meetings, which you will hold with them. I do not think there is much more that you can do under the circumstances.

I have written Dr. Dorey about the matter of travel on the field allowance for you men who are using your cars, and I suggested that he should ask Dr. Cormie to make a recommendation in your case, because I know nothing of the field as you have to cover it. If you happen to be talking with Dr. Cormie soon, you might tell him what I have suggested. You and he together would be able to estimate the amount of travel you will be able to do over the twelve months period, and then he can send in a recommendation on that basis.

I note what you have written about the delay in getting your cheques, but I think that ultimately, you will receive them all right. Until the end of December, I am sending in your requisition from here, but when the new year begins, Dr. Cormie will be taking care of that, or whoever your Home Mission Conveher may be.

Please give my very kindest regards to Mrs. Akagawa and I can assure you that the very best wishes of Mrs. Bunt and myself are with you for happiness and success in your work.

I remain,

Yours most sincerely,

WPB/AM

HOME MISSIONS  
SUPERINTENDENT  
(BUNT)



P.O.Box 195,  
Morris, Manitoba,  
August 22nd, 1942.

Superintendent of Mission,  
United Church of Canada,  
807 Dominion Bank Building,  
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Mr. Bunt,

I have in hand your letter of June 26th which I was very pleased to receive.

Dr. and Mrs. Cormie visited us at our new home in Morris, soon after their return to Winnipeg, from their holidays.

Since our arrival, two months have already elapsed, during which time we have travelled over 3000 miles in order to contact our people who are scattered around in about 52 various villages. These villages are situated in an area of over 100 sq. miles.

There are about 200 families, and, totalling about 1050 persons. The nearest family from my home is living about 4 miles in the west, 9 miles in the east, 9 miles in the north, and 14 miles in the south. It is difficult to contact these people very often because of these long distances, and with the strict gas rationing. The roads too, are very muddy on raining days and not in good condition even at its best, as it is now. Therefore in the bad weather travelling maybe almost impossible to these distant villages and, I am afraid I may not be able to carry on work to any great extent <sup>during the winter</sup> as I am able to do now, but I am forever hopeful.

At present it is impossible to form or conduct any regular worship meetings, except for bible studies and prayer meetings in individual homes with perhaps two or three families. But there are many problems and difficulties of different natures which gives me much more opportunities to serve them. There are about 30 Christian families, numbering 80 persons in these areas.

The families with whom I have so far contacted are in good spirits and look healthier than when living in the coastal areas, and they are prepared to face hardships, to share their joys and sorrows as they come, with their neighbours.

I have received a cheque for \$60.00 from Dr. Dorey on August 1st.. The letter enclosed stated, "I have a request from Mr. Bunt for an advance of \$60.00 for you". Is this amount to cover part of my travelling expenses? Owing to delayed mail services I have not yet received any other mail from the Board of Home Mission. Disregarding the proximity of the point of mailing, all mail take at least two weeks to arrive, so I presume this is the delay in receiving my cheques for July and August.

We trust in your prayer for us and our work.

Yours very sincerely,

*Y. Magawa*

*Travel on  
field*

HOME MISSIONS  
SUPERINTENDENT  
(BUNT)



June 26th 1942

Rev. Y. Akagawa,  
Morris, Manitoba.

Dear Mr. Akagawa,

I was very glad yesterday, to receive the telegram telling of your safe arrival at Morris, and I hope that you had an enjoyable trip all the way through.

Probably you have not yet been able to see Dr. Cormie, as I understand he was to be away for a few weeks, but I would suggest that you arrange to make his acquaintance just as soon as you can. He will be able to give you the wisest suggestions as to how you should carry on your work, and while you are still a member of the British Columbia Conference, yet you will be working under Dr. Cormie, or whoever may be the Home Mission Convener, in the Presbytery where most of your work lies.

As I said to you before leaving here, your work now will be once more of a pioneering nature, and for that reason it will be quite different to what you have more recently been doing in the Fraser Valley, at the same time I have every confidence in your ability to carry on such work in a very worthwhile way, and I am sure that you and your wife will be worthy representatives in Manitoba of that which is best in the life of our Japanese Christians. I hope that you will find friendliness in your contacts with our Canadian people and especially with our United Church folk, as you go around amongst your own people in Manitoba.

Those of us who have known you in British Columbia will not forget you, and of course owing to the uncertainty of the present arrangements regarding the Japanese in Canada, it may be that at some future date you will again be working here in British Columbia.

I have had Mr. Shaw and Mr. Cox make a careful inventory of everything that is in the new church at Mission, and a copy of it is being filed here in my office and a copy given to the Home Mission Convener of the Westminster Presbytery. I have done this so that we may take the best care possible of the things which were left in the church. May I say again that I was much impressed by the beauty of that fine little church, as well as of the splendid way in which it was planned, and it is a great tribute to your leadership as well as to the faithful and sacrificial support of the undertaking on the part of your people.

I shall be glad to hear from you at any time and if at any

HOME MISSIONS  
SUPERINTENDENT  
(BUNT)



Rev. Y. Akagawa

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time I can be of service, please do not hesitate to write me.

With my very best wishes to Mrs. Akagawa and yourself,

I remain,

Yours most sincerely,

WPD/AM

HOME MISSIONS  
SUPERINTENDENT (BUNT)



THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS  
The United Church of Canada

REV. JOHN A. CO  
SUPERINTENDENT

P.O. Box 195

Morris, Man.

June 25<sup>th</sup> 1942

Dear Rev. W. P. But,

First of all we express our hearty  
thanks and sincere appreciation  
for you have done for us through  
all these years and for our  
departure the coast to here.

I left home for here Morris  
Manitoba at the noon on Thursday  
11<sup>th</sup> inst and arrived here last  
night. 24<sup>th</sup>. and settled in the  
house which was provided by  
the Home Mission. The house is very  
large for us and well furnished  
but there is no drinking water.

Until the end of September we will  
<sup>be able to stay</sup> stay. After then where shall we

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HOME MISSIONS SUPERINTENDENT (BUNT)



THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS  
The United Church of Canada

REV. JOHN A. CO  
SUPERINTENDENT

more do not know yet.

On the way to here we spent one Sunday at Grand Forks, met quite numbers of our people those evacuated from coast to there. In Grand Forks about 300 in person were already settled. Four days we were tied up at Leekbridge Delta.. on account of bad weather and heavy road. But it made for me good chance to meet more than hundred our people, they are working on beet farms.

Soon after we reached at Winnipeg called at United Church office and get the information to there. Dr. Tormie is not in Town till the middle of July, but I made arrangements

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HOME MISSIONS SUPERINTENDENT (BUNT)



THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS  
The United Church of Canada  
THE CONFERENCE OF MANITOBA

REV. JOHN A. CO  
SUPERINTENDENT

to meet Mr Graham, Security Commission  
on tomorrow he will can give  
all the location where our people  
is and some instruction to me.  
I did not meet any Japanese  
at here yet but one family  
who live about 80 miles East  
away from here. After I settled  
try to do my best for all of our  
people scattered around in  
Manitoba. under His guidance.  
Please pray my work and for  
these people

Yours Sincerely

Y. Akagawa

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HOME MISSIONS SUPERINTENDENT (BUNT)



THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS  
The United Church of Canada  
THE CONFERENCE OF MANITOBA

REV. JOHN A. CORMIE, D. D.  
SUPERINTENDENT OF MISSIONS

441 SOMERSET BUILDING,  
WINNIPEG, MAN.

Statement the Travelling expenses

for Gasoline + Oil	49 <sup>67</sup> / <sub>100</sub>
.. Auto Camps	24 <sup>00</sup> / <sub>100</sub>
Ferry + Toll gate	2 <sup>75</sup> / <sub>100</sub>

In total

\$76 <sup>42</sup>/<sub>100</sub>

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THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS  
The United Church of Canada  
THE CONFERENCE OF MANITOBA

REV. JOHN A. CORMIE, D. D.  
SUPERINTENDENT OF MISSIONS

441 SOMERSET BUILDING,  
WINNIPEG, MAN.

June 25, 1942

Rev. W.P. Bunt,  
807 Dominion Bank Building,  
Vancouver,  
B.C.

Dear Mr. Bunt:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of June 22nd to Dr. Cormie who is away on vacation at the present time. He will not be back until sometime in July, but should be here before Mr. Darby arrives. The matter will have to await his return.

Mr. Akagawa arrived yesterday and I set him on his way to Morris, where he is to reside for the present, with a letter of introduction to Rev. D.B. Sparling our minister there. I understand the home which has been secured for him is one of the nicest in Morris and I hope he will find everything congenial.

Yours sincerely,

*Mary R. Horn*  
Secretary to Dr. Cormie.





C.D. 1R

# CANADIAN PACIFIC TELEGRAPHS

*World Wide Communications*

W.D. NEIL, GENERAL MANAGER OF COMMUNICATIONS, MONTREAL

W MAWN A240 7

MORRIS MAN 25 307P

REV W H BUNT 572

DOMINION BANK BLDG HASTINGS ST E VANCOUVER

SAFELY ARRIVED HERE IN MORRIS YESTERDAY AFTERNOON

Y AKAGAWA

1942 JUN 25 PM 1 34 ✓

THE BOARD OF MISSIONS  
The United Church of Canada  
THE CONFERENCE OF MANITOBA

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HON. MISSIONS SUPERINTENDENT (BUNT)



THE BOARD OF MISSIONS  
The United Church of Canada  
THE CONFERENCE OF MANITOBA

REV. JOHN A. CORRIE, D. D.  
SUPERINTENDENT OF MISSIONS

441 SOMERSET ST. W.  
WINNIPEG, MAN.

June 18, 1942  
June 10th 1942

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Rev. W.P. Bunt, B.A., B.D.,  
Dominion Bank Building,  
Vancouver,  
B.C.

This is to certify that Rev. Y. Akagawa is a Minister in good standing of the United Church of Canada, and a member of the British Columbia Conference. For many years he has been a faithful and efficient pastor on various Japanese Missions in this Province. He has been designated to work among the Japanese people engaged in the beet growing industry in Manitoba, and he is commended to the Christian Fellowship of United Church ministers and people as he travels from British Columbia to Manitoba. Mrs. Akagawa is accompanying him on this trip, as well as a boy for whom they are providing a home.

I have already written you to say that I have rented a house in Morris, Man., 40 miles south of Winnipeg, at a rental of \$25. The house is furnished so that it will be unnecessary for him to bring furniture. This will take care of him for the summer and perhaps for a year. By that time the whole situation may be clarified.

Yours very sincerely,  
Superintendent of Missions.

*John A. Corrie*

WPB/AM

HOME MISSIONS SUPERINTENDENT (BUNT)



THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS  
The United Church of Canada  
THE CONFERENCE OF MANITOBA

REV. JOHN A. CORMIE, D. D.  
SUPERINTENDENT OF MISSIONS

441 SOMERSET BUILDING,  
WINNIPEG, MAN.

June 13, 1942

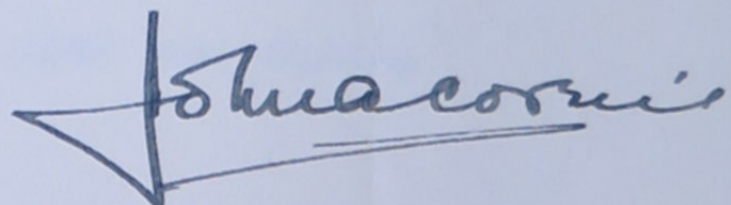
Rev. W.P. Bunt, B.A., B.D.,  
Dominion Bank Building,  
Vancouver,  
B.C.

Dear Mr. Bunt:

I have your letter of June 10th and note  
that Rev. W. Ogura will come to Manitoba in place of Rev.  
N. Akagawa.

I have already written you to say that I have  
rented a house in Morris, Man., 40 miles south of Winnipeg,  
at a rental of \$25. a month. The house is furnished so that  
it will be unnecessary for him to bring furniture. This will  
take care of him for the summer and perhaps for a year. By  
that time the whole situation may be clarified.

Yours very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. A. Cormie". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J".



June 13, 1942.

Rev. J.A. Cormie, D.D.,  
Winnipeg, Man.

Dear Dr. Cormie:

In my letter to you of the 10th. inst. there is an error. Instead of the name "Rev. Y. Ogura" in the first line, the name "Rev. Y. Akagawa" should appear.

I was delighted to get your recent letter telling of a house having been found for Mr. Akagawa at Morris, and I was able to get this word to him the morning that he left. However, he will first report to your office in Winnipeg.

Mr. Akagawa is the "dean" of our Japanese pastors, having been for over thirty years in B.C. He has done a fine, solid type of work out here, and is a gentleman for whom I have a high personal regard.

With good wishes,

W.P.B.

HOME MISSIONS SUPERINTENDENT (BUNT)



THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS  
The United Church of Canada  
THE CONFERENCE OF MANITOBA

REV. JOHN A. CORMIE, D.D.  
SUPERINTENDENT OF MISSIONS

441 SOMERSET BUILDING  
WINNIPEG, MAN.

June 9, 1942  
June 10th 1942

Rev. John Cormie, D.D.,  
441 Somerset Building, B.A., B.D.,  
Winnipeg, Man. Bank Building,  
Vancouver,

Dear Dr. Cormie,

*Okagawa*  
Rev. Y. Ogura who has been designated to work among the Japanese people in Manitoba is leaving here by motor on the morning of the 11th inst., and I have asked him to proceed to Winnipeg and report to you on arrival.

Your two letters of June 4th are just to hand. I was out I have suggested that owing to the uncertainty of the future of the Japanese people, and the lack of permanency regarding evacuation plans that he should try and get along with temporary facilities for a few weeks, at the same time he will be guided by your judgment in the matter. For Mr. Akagawa housing is so bad down here that it is impossible to find a place in Winnipeg. With my very kindest regards, the Japanese in Manitoba live in the Red River Valley I have chosen Morris as the most suitable location. There is a I remain, house in Morris, the only unoccupied house in the place or in the neighborhood, which is available at \$25. a month. Yours most sincerely, ed it. It will be available until the fall at least and perhaps for a longer period. By that time, if necessary we will find some other place. Mr. Akagawa will therefore not require to have his furniture shipped in the meantime.

There is no difficulty about the roads.

I am sorry that I am leaving Winnipeg on Tuesday WFB/AM next and will be away for three or four weeks. I am disappointed that I will not likely be here to help him get established but will leave directions in the office and our minister Rev. D.B. Sparling of Morris will give him every help. He will find Mr. Sparling a very brotherly minister.

If he can be here by June 16th I will see him myself but in any event will get in touch with him as soon as possible after my return. If there is any way in which I can help him I hope he will be sure to let me know.

Yours very sincerely,

*Shusaku*

HOME MISSIONS  
SUPERINTENDENT  
(BUNT)



THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS  
The United Church of Canada  
THE CONFERENCE OF MANITOBA

REV. JOHN A. CORMIE, D. D.  
SUPERINTENDENT OF MISSIONS

441 SOMERSET BUILDING,  
WINNIPEG, MAN.

June 9, 1942

Rev. W.P. Bunt, B.A., B.D.,  
Dominion Bank Building,  
Vancouver,  
B.C.

Dear Mr. Bunt:

Your two letters of June 4th are just to hand.  
I was out of the city over the week end hence the delay in replying.

I have just yesterday found a place for Mr. Akagawa. Housing is so bad down here that it is impossible to find a place in Winnipeg. As the majority of the Japanese in Manitoba live in the Red River Valley I have chosen Morris as the most suitable location. There is a furnished house in Morris, the only unoccupied house in the place or in the neighborhood, which is available at \$25. a month and I have secured it. It will be available until the fall at least and perhaps for a longer period. By that time, if necessary we will find some other place. Mr. Akagawa will therefore not require to have his furniture shipped in the meantime.

There is no difficulty about the roads.

I am sorry that I am leaving Winnipeg on Tuesday next and will be away for three or four weeks. I am disappointed that I will not likely be here to help him get established but will leave directions in the office and our minister Rev. D.B. Sparling of Morris will give him every help. He will find Mr. Sparling a very brotherly minister.

If he can be here by June 16th I will see him myself but in any event will get in touch with him as soon as possible after my return. If there is any way in which I can help him I hope he will be sure to let me know.

Yours very sincerely,

*John A. Cormie*

*Copy for  
Mr. Akagawa*

HOME MISSIONS  
SUPERINTENDENT (BUNT)



June 4th 1942

Rev. J.A. Cormie, B.A., D.D.,  
441 Somerset Building,  
Winnipeg, Man.

Dear Dr. Cormie,

Since writing you this morning Mr. Akagawa has been in to the office and while he is ready to leave next week, he wants to make sure of the road conditions between here and Winnipeg before starting out. He would also like to know where he will probably live, and if it will be necessary for him to ship his heavy furniture, such as stoves, chairs, tables etc.etc. If it were at all possible to secure accommodation with the heavy furniture provided, it would be much better, inasmuch as the present set-up for the work among the Japanese may not have much permanence.

I would like also to add that they are taking care of a 12 year old boy, who is an orphan, and so accommodation for three people would be required. Could you let me have a reply in the early part of the week.

With kind regards,

I remain,

Yours most sincerely,

WPB/AM



June 4th 1942

Rev. J.A. Cormie, B.A., D.D.,  
441 Somerset Building,  
Winnipeg, Man.

Dear Dr. Cormie,

Dr. Dorey wrote me from your office the other day regarding the sending of Rev. Y. Akagawa to Manitoba, and so I presume that you are fully acquainted with the content of his letter.

I have applied to the Security Commission for the necessary document, enabling Mr. Akagawa to leave for Manitoba, and I presume that he will get away the beginning of next week. I shall direct him to report to you in Winnipeg and await your instructions as to the next step he should take. Mr. Akagawa is the senior of our Japanese Pastors and has been in Canada for over thirty years. For a number of years past he has worked among the agricultural Japanese in the Fraser Valley, and is a very faithful pastor and a great one to get around amongst the people. He seems to carry the confidence and respect of his people to a high degree, and I would say that he is one of our most effective Japanese pastors. He has a car of his own, a Dodge, about a year old, and will be in a position to move amongst his people in Manitoba. They have one daughter, a graduate nurse, but it is not likely that she will be with her parents, so that there will be just Mr. Akagawa and his wife.

I shall be very glad to hear from you from time to time as to how things are going with him and his work in Manitoba.

With kind regards,

I remain,

Yours most sincerely,

WPB/AM

HOME MISSIONS SUPERINTENDENT (BUNT)



THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS  
The United Church of Canada  
THE CONFERENCE OF MANITOBA

REV. JOHN A. CORMIE, D. D.  
SUPERINTENDENT OF MISSIONS

441 SOMERSET BUILDING,  
WINNIPEG, MAN.

June 3rd 1942

Attention- Mr. F. J. Meade

B.C. Security Commission,  
Marine Building,  
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Sirs,

Re Rev. Y. Akagawa

I have today received a letter from Dr. George Dorey, to the effect that the above minister, whom we have designated for work in Manitoba, should leave as soon as possible, to begin work there. Dr. Dorey advises that he should live at Morris, and that he will need his car. I am therefore, in the name of the United Church of Canada, applying for the necessary permit, which will enable Mr and Mrs. Akagawa to proceed to Manitoba at an early date, and to secure the release of his car, and the necessary permission for him to drive from here to Manitoba.

If you will advise me as to the next step to be taken, I will pass the instructions along to Mr. Akagawa.

Yours most sincerely,

Superintendent of Missions.

WPB/AM

Very best regards

Yours sincerely

John A. Cormie

Say amen & let the work

be done but I have to go to the office

HON. MISSIONS SUPERINTENDENT (BUNT)



THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS  
The United Church of Canada  
THE CONFERENCE OF MANITOBA

REV. JOHN A. CORMIE, D. D.  
SUPERINTENDENT OF MISSIONS

441 SOMERSET BUILDING,  
WINNIPEG, MAN.

June 1. 42

My dear Percy

In reply to your wire. There are  
over 800 Japanese in Manitoba - and there will be  
1000 -

How many are our people I can't tell but  
Mr Takagawa can certainly visit them all.

He should live at Morris and roam around  
among them all. He will need his car and should  
come as soon as possible

Mr Cormie has the matter in hand. The  
representative of the B.C. Sec Com Mr Mahan is  
a good United Church man.

Thanks for your wire - Sorry I could  
not hear Mr Mahan but I was on the train.

Bill Mac Allbright is looking after the Out  
Camp.

Very best regards

Yours sincerely,  
J. A. Cormie

Boy and I glad to be on the  
last lap but I have to go to Ottawa for Wednesday



THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS  
The United Church of Canada  
THE CONFERENCE OF MANITOBA

REV. JOHN A. CORMIE, D. D.  
SUPERINTENDENT OF MISSIONS

441 SOMERSET BUILDING,  
WINNIPEG, MAN.

May 29, 1942

Rev. W.P. Bunt,  
Dominion Bank Building,  
Vancouver,  
B.C.

Dear Mr. Bunt:

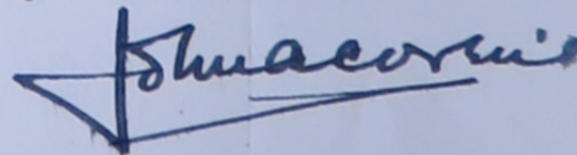
I have only this morning received a statement of the location of the Japanese in Manitoba. The number allocated to farmers, mostly in the sugar beet area, is 828 distributed in 47 different localities in three different Presbyteries. The largest group at any point is at Letellier, where there are 74. They run from that all the way down to 2. There are in the Immigration Hall unallocated 87. The total number in this province to-day is 915 and another 90 or 100 are yet to come. We will have here about 1000 persons.

It is difficult to select the most convenient location for a missionary. I think Morris is the place and I am making inquiry regarding accomodation to-day. In some ways Winnipeg would be a more convenient place but the cost of living is very much greater than Morris. A large number of the Japanese here are in a French settlement living in French homes and the commissioner's representative tells me are attending the Catholic Church if they are Christian.

Will you please let me know the name of the Missionary likely to come to Manitoba and when we might look for him. I understand a change has been made since we talked about Mr. Nomota when we were in Toronto.

When I was at the Presbytery of Superior the other day I learned that there are approximately 450 Japanese working on highway construction and lumber camps in the eastern end of this conference approximately 600 miles east of here and was informed that this summer that number would be increased to 3000. I have written to the Chairman of the Security Commission for confirmation of this. I would be glad if you would take the matter up with the commission. The district referred to lies between Schreiber on the west and White River on the east.

Yours very sincerely,



HOME MISSIONS  
SUPERINTENDENT  
(BUNT)



THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS  
The United Church of Canada  
THE CONFERENCE OF MANITOBA

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REV. JOHN A. CORMIE, D. D.  
SUPERINTENDENT OF MISSIONS

441 SOMERSET BUILDING,  
WINNIPEG, MAN.

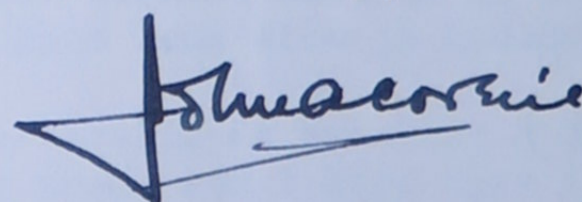
May 16, 1942

Rev. W.P.Bunt, B.A., B.D.,  
807 Dominion Bank Building,  
Vancouver,  
B.C.

Dear Mr. Bunt:

I have your letter of May 11th and hope to write you definitely before long about a place for the Japanese Missionary to live. I have to be out of town for the first two days of the week but will get busy at this as soon as I return.

Yours very sincerely,



HOMES MISSIONS SUPERINTENDENT (BUNT)



May 11th 1942

Rev. J.A. Cormie, D.D.,  
441 Somerset Building,  
Winnipeg, Man.

Dear Dr. Cormie,

In the matter of sending one of our Japanese Ministers to the Settlement in Southern Manitoba, I am writing to ask if it is possible for you to make enquiry as to what would be the logical point at which the missionary should live.

The matter of housing accommodation for the missionary is a vital factor and I would appreciate your looking into it as soon as possible and advising me as to what you have been able to accomplish.

We are having considerable difficulty in securing a house for our missionary in the Southern Alberta area, and I hope that there will not be that difficulty in the Manitoba area.

If you could let me have some definite word within the next week or so, it would be much appreciated.

With kindest regards,

I remain,

Yours most sincerely,

WPB/AM

HOME MISSIONS SUPERINTENDENT (BUNT)