

THE NEW CANADIAN

396 Powell Street

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A paper published by and for second generation Japanese in Canada, and devoted to their welfare as citizens of Canada.

Staff

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Challenge to the Community

OUR headline this week is "Local War Services Drive Over Top." That's the kind of headline we're really proud to publish, especially when we are told that our own division is the first in the city not only to fill its quota but to exceed it.

Through the good offices and the confidence of the Canadian Japanese Association, our community has shown in yet another way that we are solidly united behind Canada in her struggle today.

Now it's up to you and you and you to back up this gesture of the Association. It's simply up to you to dig into your pocket, to prove beyond a shadow of a doubt that this was no mere stage play.

There is no need to urge upon you why you are giving in this appeal. You are as conscious as we are of the needs of our men in the services and the debt each of us owes to them. And that, simply, is why we are sure you will do what you can.

Education and Understanding

PREJUDICE, it is well known, is a product of ignorance — a quality too often displayed both by Oriental Canadians and Occidental Canadians in any consideration of our "Oriental Problem."

That is why the gift made by the Japanese consul in the form of a substantial donation for the purchase of library volumes is one that is particularly worthwhile.

Japanese Canadian Citizens League officials have indicated that the funds thus available will be used to begin a section of the library devoted to books dealing with the immigrant problem in Canada, and especially with the Oriental phase of it.

This collection of books will be of inestimable value as an educational force not only to the Nisei, but also to any responsible citizen desiring to learn more than what he reads in the newspapers.

The study of the question from a scientific and factual point of view through recognized books will serve to broaden our understanding and increase our capacity for working out a reasonable solution.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Editor, The New Canadian.— Dear Sir: A few days ago, on route to the city by boat, I came across several Niseis engaged in a Japanese card game and talking all the while very loudly in Japanese. I immediately felt a funny reaction. And I could sense a similar reaction—of dislike and disapproval—among all the Occidentals on board too.

Why at a critical time in the history of Japanese Canadians couldn't we Nisei be more careful in our acts and language? Are Niseis such as these knowingly creating such a feeling, or are they purely ignorant of their conduct? If we want to play cards, why can't we play with ordinary cards, so that any Occidentals looking on could enjoy watching, and at

the same time might even have an opportunity to participate.

Morover, every Nisei today should know better than to utter any unnecessary words in Japanese at any time among Occidentals. Whoever we may be, we Nisei claim equal rights with our fellow Canadians. Then why should we do things which may cause people to differentiate us from our fellow Canadians?

We Niseis should endeavour to prevent any actions like the aforementioned, that may lead to harmful misunderstanding among our fellow Canadians. Remember always, fellow Niseis, this is our country, so it's up to each one of us to prove ourselves worthy, reasonable citizens.

—Nisei Bystander.

water 'neath the bridge

"that bubble, reputation . . ."

There is a story in the April issue of the GOOD HOUSEKEEPING magazine that is a scathing commentary on idle and malicious gossip that spreads like wildfire, how the innocent reputation of an innocent girl can be blasted to shreds by rumor of the cattiest sort.

Ancient Virgil says . . . and this is quoted beneath the story . . . "Rumour, of all evils the most swift. Speed lends her strength, and she gains vigor as she goes. She has a hundred tongues, a hundred mouths, a voice of iron."

Who amongst us have not suffered from this vicarious vice? Who amongst us have not known the helplessness of explanations that did not sound convincing to prejudiced ears? Yet we ourselves in one form or another indulge in gossiping about the frailties of others. This habit is the commonest of our human weaknesses. Time to look out for squalls and sudden upsets; when we begin to spread wild rumour around as gospel truth, "note to would-be-writers . . ."

Read best-sellers and despair. Shades of montmorency! How do they do it? How do they get that suspense that keeps your diaphragm all a-tremble; that keeps you from putting down the book? How do they portray the characters in such masterly fashion? What's the secret of describing vivid action, of tender, tear-raising flashes, of hilarious highlights? Hey, you Muse! Here I thump the typewriter with patient eagerness, and you just give me the goby. Is that nice? Is there anything I can do to entice you to my side, where you can guide my fingers into writing, say something like "Gone with the Wind"? Come on, do tell!

"farewell, farewell to everything . . ."

Winter's slumber is over and now it's time to wake up again. Farewell, drowsy dreams, dreamed within the downy comforts of long nights beside a fire. Farewell wishful thinking of grand and glorious deeds performed within the closeted days of cold and snow. Farewell to all the long hours spent beside the three-tiered bookshelf.

Time is now for doing things, for going places, for sweat and toil in the fields among the growing grains, for active spending of our leisure time on sports of field and fairway; for hikes to tire the muscles, and picnics, to be bitten by mosquitoes, scraped by barnacles. Farewell, wintertime, for summer will be here, and I must go.

From midnight, April 12th, Phone
The New Canadian at PA cific 8431

Japan Pulls Its Belt Tighter

(From the Christian Science Monitor)

TOKYO. — From breakfast till bedtime, the Japanese face a baffling array of rules and regulations.

For the most part they accept these mounting barriers to their old ways philosophically, knowing as they do of their nation's wartime needs and problems.

When they do grumble a bit—over such things as foreign rice and oats being mixed in with the native product — it is much in the fashion of a man complaining about bad weather. It is futile, he knows, but even so, an escape valve.

A Japanese house is likely to be chilly these mornings. Regulations permit the use of only so much gas and electricity, around \$1.87 a month for each, and if formal warnings are ignored, a man may come around and cut the supply off.

Once up and about, after a sparing use of soap for washing, a Japanese has a breakfast much the same as it was, with the exception of the rice, which with the new year also went on the card system.

There is no difficulty about tea, but for those who prefer coffee, a mixture must suffice. The Government has ordered the price set so low that pure Brazilian coffee could be sold only at a loss. Therefore soy beans, roasted brown, are mixed in.

Sugar is rationed at the rate of one-half pound a person each month.

You need a shirt, or a pair of shoes, or a suit of clothes? Well, maximum prices hold good for all these necessities.

Shoes are made of sharkskin, for the most part, instead of leather, and cost a maximum of \$5.85 a pair.

The price-fixed suit, costing \$23 at the most, isn't all wool or cotton. For domestic consumption, 30 per cent. of what is called staple fibre

is added. This releases cotton for export and exports provide trade balances and gold.

Business at the office goes on usual during the morning, with a luncheon engagement coming at noon.

Perhaps a steak would be to your fancy. That would be all right, if good beef can be bought at 70 cents a pound, but costs of restaurant meals have been fixed at not more than 66 cents for lunch and \$1.10 for dinner. So steak is not on the menu.

Maybe you need a nail to repair something about the house. Nails are obtained by permit from the police. Off in one corner of your dwelling, though, there will be a box for odds and ends.

Bottle tops, string, rusty nail rags, scrap paper, pieces of glass—all these that might be of value deposited there for collection on a month. Such saving may not seem to amount to much when considered in terms of one family, but it counts for more with millions doing this bit.

Soap was just something else you buy until recently. Then one of the householder found the best soaps off the market with the best he could buy costing about 10 cents a cake. Other uses have been found for the oils and fats.

A neighborhood movie may be your liking after dinner. You will be there two hours and a half. The Government has said that is as long as a show may last.

This is a nation which has gone through almost four years of conflict in the China affair, a "new order" is in the making, and like other countries, the Empire faces increasing trouble with its imports and exports. This is the way the Japanese are trying to meet those problems.

Easter Highlights

at T. MAIKAWA

● CLASSIC CLIMAX . . .

in the new torso length jackets . . . smartest in beige . . . with guaranteed Palermo lining.

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In novelty checks, plaids and stripes to match any choice of skirts.

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CHARMERS . . .

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Truly unusual at \$1.95

T. MAIKAWA

369 Powell Street



The New Canadian

THE VOICE OF THE SECOND GENERATION



YAMA TAXI
SE 1414

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VANCOUVER, B. C.

MARCH 28, 1941.

Rupert Japanese Back War Effort

(Prince Rupert Daily News)

PRINCE RUPERT, B.C. — With the resident Japanese Fishermen's Association yet to be heard from, the sum of \$9,126 was pledged by Japanese Canadian residents of this city and district according to figures released last week by the War Savings Campaign Committee.

Of this amount \$6,020 was subscribed by pledges in the district and \$3,052 was collected in cash. The city residents pledged a total of \$3,106, of which \$768 was in cash.

Mr. K. Miwa and Mr. D. T. Abe, officials of District No. 2 Fisherman's Association and Messrs. Yamanaka, Suga, Tsunura and H. Machida of the Prince Rupert Japanese Association have been responsible for the gratifying success.

Everywhere they went the canvassers received a cordial and sympathetic welcome. From the number of pledges and the amounts it is evident that the Japanese of this district are wholeheartedly behind Canada's war effort.

'Full Rights To End Oriental Problem'

VANCOUVER. — Canada's oriental problem can be solved only in one of two ways — either to drive them out of the country, or to extend to them the full rights of British citizenship. Charles J. Woodsworth, ip writer for the Vancouver Daily Province, told some 80 young people of the "Town Meeting" class at the Y.M.C.A. Tuesday night.

Few people in Canada, he said, would choose the method of wholesale deportation which could only be compared to Jewish persecution in Germany or of Armenians in Turkey.

"In my opinion the best solution would be first to recognize the Gentlemen's agreement and set up in its place a reciprocal agreement whereby preventing absolute exclusion of Japanese; and secondly to give those who are ready here the full rights of citizenship, allowing every one an equal opportunity in the economic field," Woodsworth declared.

In the manner the standard of living would be raised to the same level as of other Canadians," he continued.

In a one-hour address, the speaker outlined the history of immigration, pointing to the difference between the Chinese and Japanese.

Local War Services Drive Over Top

Newsbriefs

First Generation Women Form Red Cross Group

VANCOUVER. — Joining the younger generation in the work of the Red Cross, first generation women in the Japanese community this week organized their own work group to carry on knitting and sewing.

Some thirty members have already been enlisted and will meet Tuesday of each week. Membership is open to any woman wishing to join.

Captain of the group is Mrs. K. Shimo-takahara, and treasurer, Mrs. T. Komiyama. In charge of sewing are Mrs. T. Yasunaka and Mrs. K. Tomiyama, while Mrs. T. Nishikawara and Mrs. S. Nose will supervise knitting.

Japanese Clinic Well Established Institution

VANCOUVER. — Pointing to a sharp decline in deaths from tuberculosis in the local committee as an indication of the value of the social service work being carried out by the Japanese Clinic, Executive Chairman Mrs. T. Hyodo stressed to the Clinic's annual meeting that the institution is now not only well-established, but is expanding the scope and nature of its activities. Mrs. Hyodo was re-elected to head the executive committee.

Justice For Issei in Event of U.S.-Japan War

LOS ANGELES.—L. B. Schofield, assistant attorney-general at Washington, D.C., gave an official assurance to the Central Japanese Association that first generation Japanese, although legally aliens, would be accorded equitable treatment under the law as permanent residents. He discounted unfounded rumours of mass deportation to concentration camps.

Consul Donates Large Sum For J.C.C.L. Library



Library Donor

Some fifty or sixty volumes will be added to the expanding library of the Japanese Canadian Citizens League as a result of a generous gift of \$200 from Kenji Nakauchi, consul in Vancouver for the past year and a half, who leaves shortly to assume a similar post in Los Angeles.

These books will form the nucleus of a new section of the library, to be known as the Nakauchi Library, and to be added to from time to time whenever funds are available.

Canadian Japanese Association Donates \$2000 to Underwrite Quota

VANCOUVER.—The Canadian Japanese Association, Tuesday, forwarded to the Canadian War Services Fund a cheque for \$2000, as a contribution from the Japanese community to Greater Vancouver's current \$300,000 appeal.

This sum is \$200 in excess of the quota for the Japanese community. The original objectives set by the industrial and commercial committee for the Oriental community was \$3,200 of which the Japanese section was to raise \$1800, and the Chinese \$1400.

Segregate Mr. Wilson Suggests Student

Alderman Wilson's suggestion that Vancouver Oriental residences be segregated was condemned in a survey of student opinion conducted through a questionnaire on social barriers by the Student Christian Movement at the University of B.C.

Out of 77 students, 63 disagreed flatly with the alderman's stand. One of them suggested that Mr. Wilson himself should be segregated. The plan was branded as undemocratic and compared to Hitler's anti-Semitism.

The money will be spent upon books relating in general to the immigrant question, and to the problem of Japanese in Canada and the Pacific Coast States.

Expressing appreciation of the gift, National JCCL president Harry Naganobu said that it would be impossible to estimate the far-reaching influence for good that the gift might have upon the Nisei in Canada.

Meeting Monday night, the Board of Directors of the Association decided to fire its big gun in the campaign by donating from its own treasury.

A campaign to raise the funds from the community to repay the Association will be undertaken immediately, with a meeting of delegates from various city organizations called for tonight at the Nippon Club.

Officials from the industrial and commercial division, possibly Chairman E. S. Robinson, city librarian, are expected to address the meeting.

SURPLUS FOR FUND.

In the event that less than \$2,000 is raised, the Association will assume the loss, but any surplus realized will be turned over to the War Services Fund.

It is expected that the organization used in the annual welfare drive will again be called upon for the canvassing of the city for contributions to the fund. The Canadian Japanese Association will then be the headquarters for the campaign in the Japanese community.

Forwarding the cheque to Mr. Robinson, Bunji Hisaoko, president of the Association said that the Japanese community was conscious of a deep sense of indebtedness to Canada for the benefits which the country has provided. "We would be remiss in our duty," he said, "were we unwilling to accept cheerfully these small burdens in the service of our army and our country."

Weir Says Language Classes In Order

VICTORIA. — Hon. G. M. Weir, Minister of Education, said Monday that investigation of applications for Japanese and other foreign language classes in the province has shown generally that they are quite in order.

Where there is any doubt temporary licences are being granted, subject to withdrawal at any time.

Dr. Weir said that instruction must not involve the teaching of anything that might be construed as subversive to Canada.

Steveston Lass, Fairview Lad Bussei Oratorical Titlists

VANCOUVER. — Captivating the critical judging committee and brushing aside a round of vulgar, contemptible heckling, a vivacious young girl from the fishing town of Steveston, Machiye Ikari, swept through the fifth annual Bussei League oratorical contest Sunday at the Hompa Temple, to lead both men and women's sections with a high score of 432 points out of a possible 500.

Tying on points with Masakazu Hori, also from Steveston, Kazuo Ohashi, fluent 20-year old Fairview youth, was finally awarded the championship in the men's section with 408 points.

A packed audience again greeted the nine speakers in the annual event, which according to judges reflected in every way an improvement



(Photo Courtesy Columbia Studio)
KAZUO OHASHI MACHIYE IKARI

over last year.

It was again unfortunately marred by a crude display of heckling, with which a number of individuals exhibited their boorishness and ill-breeding.

Kimiko Nakamura, Fairview YWBA, and Misao Hatanaka, Hompa YWBA, placed second and third among the young women, and Yoshikua Nishimura, Tompa YMBA, was third in the men's section.

Rev. R. Tachibana delivered the judges' opinions, while Takeo Kitamura, Bussei League president, made the presentations.

Speaking on the topic, "Happiness is Found at Hand," Miss Ikari told her listeners that happiness must be sought through struggle and courage, and the exercise of moral virtue.

Ohashi keyed his address with a plea to the Nisei to establish for themselves a worthy goal, and to strive with whole heart and mind for its accomplishment. (See page 5).