

Jap Cases May Take 3 Years

KAMLOOPO — It may take more than three years to hear all the claims by Canadian Japanese against "unfair" disposal of their property during the war.

Mr. Justice Bird, a one-man royal commission, said it is quite likely the hearings alone will take three years followed by final argument by opposing counsel in Vancouver, and then disposal by the secretary of state in Ottawa.

It is thought the claims will number more than 3000, with total compensation requested ranging from \$10,000.000 to \$12,000,000.

The Japanese allege their property, disposed of by the Canadian of enemy property when they were evacuated from B.C.'s "forbidden areas" during the war, was sold at prices much below the "fair market value" at the time.

Another hearing will be held in Kamloops later, and the commission also will visit Lillooet, Vernon, Grand Forks and Nelson before moving east.



Reindeer Herder Reports Santa Will Ride Again

At the end of last year the government's great reindeer grazing reserve in the Northwest Territories.

Also he is a reindeer herder for Santa Claus—officially, of course. So, before making to Alaska to spend Christmas with his wife, he took a look around the far north to make sure all was well with the prospects for Christmas everywhere.

At the North Pole, Santa Claus is in fine shape, he says, and will be around on the night before Christmas to pay a call on all those who know there is a Santa Claus.

And his reindeer are conditioned for their long trip around the world.

So the outlook for Christmas as Charlie sees it is just as it has been down through the years.

Shock Kills Ontario Woman As Family Dies

TILSONBURG, Ont. (CP) — Mrs. Elmo Hoxey, whose husband and three sons were killed in a level-crossing collision, died from shock at the home of friends here.

The woman, severely shocked when advised of the tragedy, was found dead this morning by Mrs. Jack Chissey, sleeping in the same room.

Quentin C. W. Simlan said he would call an inquest into circumstances of the deaths of the four members of the Elton County family.

Victims of the collision between the truck and a Canadian Pacific Railway train were her husband, Elmo Hoxey, 42, driver of the truck, and his three sons, James, 23, William, 13, and George, nine.

Blast Injures Burnaby Man

BURNABY — Henry Stettman, 43, Napier, suffered severe burns to his face and left hand when a seal oil heater in his tailor shop at the rear of his home, exploded shortly before 5 p.m. Thursday.

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Steelworkers Refused Hall For Meeting

Meeting called by a group of employees of the strike-bound Dominion Bridge plant Thursday night was cancelled when the group was unable to obtain use of Hastings Auditorium.

A small group of plant employees arrived at the hall, accompanied by a policeman. They were met by union members and a discussion was held on the sidewalk. During the parley the hall caretaker appeared and refused to allow the hall to be used for a meeting, according to information received.

"RUMP MEETING"

Ben Paskin, secretary of United Steelworkers of America (CIO) Local 2658, said, "This was apparently an attempt of a couple of people to stage a 'rump' meeting. They were told that the employees of Dominion Bridge were union members and would decide their problem in a union way."

Spokesman of the employees who called the meeting said that presence of a police officer was "a precaution to prevent possible gate crashes." The meeting, he said, was "a sincere effort to obtain the true feeling of the majority of the employees on the question of who is prolonging the strike."

The strike at the Dominion Bridge plant has now lasted more than 16 weeks. The company and the union still seem to be quite far apart, said Mr. Baskin. "However we expect to have a meeting with them in the near future."

"Four weeks ago I suggested that a reasonable solution would be for the company to agree to arbitration and the men go back to work."

"The company has more or less refused arbitration which, to me, indicates fear of the outcome."

A LITTLE FINANCIAL assistance from "mom" and Brian Webster, three-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Webster, Lulu Island, became first contributor to Salvation Army's 1947 Christmas Cheer Fund. Keeper of this kettle is 83-year-old Sergeant H. G. Bansey, in the Salvation Army over 65 years. Mrs. Bansey has been a member 29 years. This is Salvation Army's Diamond Jubilee Year in Vancouver, 60 years of beneficent work and community service among needy citizens.

It Takes Time to Stop a Car King George's Students Learn

A motorist travelling 35 mph will go 38 feet in the three-quarters of a second it takes him to react to a danger signal.

Grade 12 students at King George High School learned this at a brake reaction detector demonstration Thursday. The demonstration was sponsored by the Junior Board of Trade and Vancouver Traffic and Safety Council.

Walter Marshall, president of the council, delivered a short address followed by demonstrations with automobiles.

Emphasis was placed on the fact that although most people realize it takes 30 feet to stop an auto travelling 20 mph, few can accurately gauge the distance.

After the demonstration students were given tables showing braking distance, reaction time and total stopping distance necessary for speeds from 10 to 60 mph.

The demonstration will be available on request to schools and groups after Jan. 1.

Former City Girl's Husband Awarded Russian Pension

The English husband of a former Vancouver girl is getting \$10 a month pension from the Russian Government.

He is Douglas Barber, former RAF flight lieutenant, son-in-law of Mrs. H. M. Brandt, 5787 Vine. He received the Medal of Valor, one of the highest Soviet decorations awarded non-Russians, which carries the pension.

He worked with the Russians during the Polish offensive. He was stationed in Canada in 1944 and spent six months leave in Courtenay, later returning to England.

He and his wife, the former Helen Brandt, expect to settle in Canada shortly.

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Are advised, that due to School Examinations PARADES For the week of December 13th are **CANCELLED**

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