Dec. 5, 1944 Japanese Repatriation 20

CITY ARCHIVES
LOCATION 34 C 2
FILE NO. 20

THE JAPANESE PROBLEM

Discussed by Mayor J.W.Cornett at Y.M.C.A.,
Sunday, January 24th, 1943

Gentlemen:

Recent developments in the City Council in connection with the Japanese question may be interesting.

In September last, at my instigation, a resolution was introduced into the City Council asking that the Council request the Government of Canada to take in hand as one of its post war problems the matter of repatriating all persons in Canada of the Japanese race. The Government was asked at this early date to promise that in the peace negotiations to follow the war Canada's weight be used to bring about such repatriation, to the end that the Japanese problem which is now being settled as far as this city is concerned shall never recur.

The preamble of the Resolution sets out the reasons for this move. It reads:

"AND WHEREAS the experience of the last few decades has shown that assimilation of the two races is impossible;

AND WHEREAS as a necessary result of the action of the Imperial Japanese Government in making war upon our Empire, the Japanese population of Vancouver is being removed from the Coast of this Province;

AND WHEREAS the dislocations caused by the removal of Japanese from fishing, lumbering, agricultural and other

industries will be adjusted so that when peace comes we shall find that our own people are regularly carrying on all the activities which had formerly fallen into the hands of the Japanese:

AND WHEREAS it would be most unwise at a time when our own returned men will be seeking re-establishment in civil life, to permit the Japanese to return and repeat the process of infiltration into business and industry which had become such a source of irritation during the years immediately prior to the war;

AND WHEREAS for many years it will be impossible for persons of the Japanese race to expect to receive sympathetic consideration from our people and in their own interests it will be better for them to join their own countrymen in Japan." Then follows the resolution I have just read you.

I might say that after this resolution appeared in the newspapers, the Union of B.C.Municipalities, which is representative of all the municipalities in the Province, passed a similar motion.

Delegates from the Vancouver City Council attending the meeting of the Union of B.C.Municipalities at Kamloops voted for this resolution.

My resolution was subsequently introduced into Council but was passed in amended form.

The preamble of the amended resolution was the same as mine with the addition of one clause reading -

"AND WHEREAS the other Provinces of Canada have shown a dis-inclination to assume any portion of the burden of the present Japanese problem."

The resolution then follows, reading:

"THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this City Council do petition the Government of Canada to take in hand as one of its postwar problems the question of the repatriation of all Japanese-born persons resident in Canada; and the setting up of a tribunal to enquire into the loyalty of all Canadian-born persons of the Japanese race, with power to order the removal to Japan of any whose loyalty to this country is not definitely established; and that the continued residence in Canada of Canadian-born Japanese to be contingent upon the setting up of such tribunal and a fair distribution of their numbers among all the Provinces of Canada; and that such proportion shall be maintained."

This resolution was adopted by the Council. I did not support it.

On the face of it the resolution looks reasonable but let us examine it.

It suggests repatriation of Japanese-born resident in Canada only. Mr. A. W. Neill, Member for Alberni, who has consistently opposed the presence of Japanese in

Canada for a great many years, declares that the Canadian-born Japanese are more dangerous than the Japanese born, because the Canadian-born, while equally loyal to their racial origin, are so much better educated and in a position to be far more dangerous.

The setting up of a tribunal, to enquire into the loyalty of all Canadian-born persons of the Japanese race is unworkable in my opinion. White persons would have to go before the tribunal to prove that such and such a Japanese is disloyal. They might be able to prove it in the case of a few who have been caught by the police in subversive actions, but that would be a mere handful compared with those who are loyal to their country of racial origin. It would be an utter impossibility for white persons to distinguish between loyal and disloyal Japanese.

No doubt those permitted to remain would be asked to take an oath of allegiance to Canada, but what is the Christian oath to the great majority of Japanese. After Pearl Harbor one can not place much reliance in Japanese honor.

The suggestion that they be proportioned among the provinces and that this proportion be maintained is also unworkable.

It would take an army of officials to see that this was put into effect, and they would have to be carried

on the payroll indefinitely to see that the proportion between the provinces was maintained.

Let us look at this Japanese question realistically. It is all very well to be idealistic. We were very lenient with Germany after the last war and even loaned her money for reconstruction. We know now that was a mistake and we are paying for it today.

There is more than appears on the surface in this Japanese question. We made a mistake as long ago as 45 years in letting down the bars to the Japanese. It isn't often, as the Member for Alberni wrote me, that it is given to an individual and still more seldom to a nation, to correct the errors of the past. We made a mistake in allowing the introduction of these people in the first place and a long experience has shown they are un-assimilable. Apart from their loyalty to their racial origin and religion, the most obvious proof that they will ever remain an alien race is the fact that they do not intermarry with the whites, it being apparently equally repugnant to both races.

We have one racial problem in Canada now. Why start another with the Japanese. If we permit the Japanese to remain here, we will be starting an alien people amongst us that will always remain alien, like the negroes in the United States, with this difference, that

while the Japanese are even more prolific than the negroes, they have the ambition to dominate wherever they are located, and that means not only as a matter of personal ambition but each one as an agent of his beloved Emperor. Whereas the negro in the U.S. has no racial loyalty to any outside nation.

In stating this I am also repeating the expression of opinion of Mr. Neill, the Member for Alberni.

We have had 22,000 Japanese in British Columbia. Compare the birth rate with the white population, even for the past six months, and you will see it will not be long before the Japanese increase at an enormous rate, thus adding another serious obstacle to unity in Canada. Some time in the last century there were but 150 negroes in the U.S. Today there are thirteen million. How many million Japanese will there be in Canada in the year 2000, if we permit the Japanese to live and thrive here?

In this question charity begins at home. Our first duty is to our own people, to our men and women who will return from the war, and to the large number of Britishers who will come to Canada and especially to British Columbia after the war. Our workers and all of us have been pushed around enough in recent years. Let us be practical for once and decide we owe a duty to our own people.

The Japanese with their admittedly low standard of living have been a menace on this coast to our fishermen, our small fruit farmers, our loggers and workers in general. Why not give these people a break now and free them from this cut-throat competition.

There is something mighty significant behind Japanese immigration to Canada.

None will deny that Japanese immigration to North and South America in recent years has not been inspired by the Japanese government. A few years ago 200,000 Japanese were settled in Brazil. Thousands of others went to Mexico, British Columbia and other parts of the Western Coast of the two continents.

There is a uniform pattern behind all this. Listen to this. Younghill Kang, eminent Korean scholar and author, has taught comparative literature at the New York University for the past nine years. While in Japan he gained access to several documents and books secretaly distributed in Japan and made public by him for the first time. These documents and books show that Japan has a hundred-year plan which calls among other things for the domination of the Pacific Ocean. This plan was fed to the Japanese in 1901 and since then the Japanese have gone ahead methodically with their business of conquest.

You remember the Russian war, Japan's grab of territory in the First World War, the rape of Korea,

the conquest of Manchuria, the sending of immigrants to North and South Americas and lastly, Pearl Harbor. In one book, "The Japanese Army and Navy" by Hirata, it is set out that Australia and New Zealand must be conquered by Japan and among other things, some of which have since been realized, that Seattle, Tacoma, Bremerton and other Puget Sound points must be attacked.

There were many other sensational ambitions set out in the secret documents that fell into Younghill Kang's hands.

What does it all mean? It means that we must face facts as they exist. We are confronting an enemy with an unquenchable thirst for conquest, who will stop at nothing to gain her ends. I firmly believe that the extensive movement of Japanese to this coast is part of that plan. Why were Japanese births recorded at the Japanese consulate? Is this not part of the pattern?

I could go on with a lot of other arguments to prove my point but I think this audience is as well acquainted with them as I am.

We thought the last war was a war to end all war. We were mistaken. We hope to achieve permanent peace in this war. We may be mistaken again. You cannot change Japanese character by signing of treaties. Why not be on the safe side and remove the danger from within our borders?

Forty-five years' residence in British Columbia shows that the Japanese cannot be assimilated into our way of life.

Writing me under date of January 8th last year, the Kyuquot Trollers Co-operative Association said:

"Our fishermen have had a good opportunity of taking note of the unfair business methods of the Japanese, their aggressiveness, and the pains they have taken to acquire an intimate knowledge of the Pacific Coast. The information they have been able to obtain as a result of their numerous activities in this Province has no doubt been made available to the military clique in Japan.

"For many years the white population of this province has been troubled by the problem presented by the rapid natural increase of the Japanese. The immediate situation has been bad enough, but we have been worried also by the situation as it will develop when our children and our grand-children will have to contend with the same problem on a very much larger scale. We do not like to think of them being obliged to put up with a large and ever increasing alien population whose standards of living will not be desired. In future years this alien population will spread to other parts of Canada and

"the problem will not be that of British Columbia alone."

I submit, Gentlemen, that the greatest problem facing Canada today, outside of the war, is that of a unified country. You know our great problem now is to bring Quebec in line with the rest of Canada in its conception of the war. Let us not complicate the problem further by adding a Japanese problem.

Some claim that our Canadian-born Japanese have Canadian ideals. Seeing that most of them have been educated in Japanese language schools, as well as in our own schools, that contention is debatable. But granted that they have grasped the Canadian idea of citizenship, might we not be doing Japan a great favor by returning them to that country to inculcate some of our ideals and thus offset the Japanese 100-year plan of world domination?

I hate the policies of the Japanese nation and dislike some of the methods of the Japanese in British Columbia but I do not hate the Japanese people in this Province. Before Japan went to war with Canada, I publicly urged fair treatment of the Japanese within our borders. They received that, and Canada has reason to be proud of the considerate treatment they were given in the process of evacuation from the Coast.

I am not prepared to say they would receive such

Oct. 5th, 1944 Japanese Repatriation

nice treatment following the war when our armed forces return, especially those men imprisoned at Hong Kong. This is not inciting any one to enmity against the Japanese, because it is said only between these walls to you in confidence, but it is something to think about. If half the atrocities attributed to the Japanese are true, and there is little doubt but they are, because the accusations have been made by reputable American and English journalists, then I am not so sure if there will not be bitter resentment against the Japanses in this Province. For their own sake, I think it would be better to repatriate them.

I agree with you that persecution of Canadian Japanese would be most unfortunate, but just try to return 10,000 Japanese to Vancouver after the war and see what will happen. Human nature is human nature despite high sounding dissertations on idealism.

In our own best interests and in the best interests of the Japanese, I am strongly of the opinion that the best thing for the Japanese after the war will be to return them to Japan. As Premier Smutz said in his radio address "Japan for the Japanese".

- - - - - -

Oct. 5th, 1944 Japanese Repatriation

20

Written by a Japanese, I think

Smithers, B.C.,
P. O. Box 13,
18th December, 1944.

His Worship,
Mayor of Vancouver,
Mayor Cornett,

Dear Sir:

In my opinion, you are one of the most broad-minded personalities that I have read about, paradoxically speaking, of course. Your recent statements to the press and over the radio revealing your views ~~that~~ of all persons of Japanese racial origin, whether Canadian born or otherwise is utterly and most certainly absurd. I can't imagine how you ever got into office to represent the people of Vancouver and to serve them faithfully for the coming term. Do you know that there are quite a number of Canadian born Japanese serving with the Canadian Army and His Majesty's Forces overseas, wherever they may be called upon to serve. I, for one, am one of those who has seen service both in Canada and overseas, and I might add that I was very proud to do my duty to my country, Canada, and not Japan, as you supposedly think. They are over there marching right along with the rest of the Canadians, and preserving the liberty that you and I and we people of Canada possess with blood and sweat and tears. Yes, while they fight that you may live and enjoy liberty, still you have the nerve to stand up and mouth such very foolish phrases as send them ALL back to Japan. Yes, send those back to Japan whose loyalty has been proven as pro-Japanese, but for those who have the red-white-and blue of Canadianism, perhaps not physically, but down deep, in the heart, at least, dear Mayor, have some measure of leniency for them. If such a law were passed that everyone, or anyone who was not a true blue Canadian and of Canadian blood should not be allowed to reside in Canada, what would we have in Canada but the only Canadians that can call themselves Canadians, the INDIANS. All of us, of foreign blood, Irish, English, Scotch, Russian, German or whatever blood or racial origin a person may be would have to get out and leave the Indians here, the only genuine CANADIAN. In the United States of America, you have a nation composed of various nationalities, people from everywhere on the earth. Just recently, the U. S. government has revoked the law which prevents Japanese-Americans from returning to their homes on the pacific coast. Yes, a very democratic act and an indication that the people of the United States have no intention of violating the fundamental rights of their constitution.

If I had a vote, Mr. Mayor, you certainly would not receive my support, because if I did, then I would not be upholding democratic ideals, I would not be voting for a government ~~by~~ of the people, by the people, and for the people.
I've had my say, now you reply and give me sound argument.

Joe Aida

EXK-70850 Gnr. C.A.A.

22nd December 1944

Dear Mr. Ingram:

I have your interesting letter of Dec. 18th referring to the Japanese and containing the suggestion that British Columbia citizens should settle the issue by a plebiscite.

I agree with you that the Japanese problem is largely a B.C. problem. I will remember your suggestion and give it some thought.

Thanking you for your letter and wishing you the Compliments of the Season,

I remain

Yours very truly,

Mayor

Henry Ingram, Esq.,
137 Rockland Rd. W.,
NORTH LONSDALE, B.C.

North Lonsdale P.O.
December 18, 1944

Mayor J.W. Cornett,
Vancouver B.C.

Dear Mr. Mayor

Allow me first to congratulate you on your recent re-election to the mayoralty. Secondly allow me to congratulate you on your determination to fight the return of the Japs to this area.

I have always thought that repatriation of the Japs or their retention in Canada should be decided by plebiscite and I'm taking the liberty of suggesting this course to you. The Jap problem is a B.C. problem and the B.C. citizens are the only ones who should decide it. Why should we out here on the coast submit to dictation from the east on this matter? What right has Quebec for example to tell us what we'll do about a purely B.C. affair? And that is what is happening for as sure as you are mayor for the third time, Quebec controls the Ottawa government.

I think the provincial government should hold a plebiscite and find out what the people think and when the result is known then we can really talk back to Ottawa. Here is the ideal subject for a vote. A

definite yes or no can be obtained on the question: Do you favor return of all of Japanese race to Japan?

Like you and thousands of others I have strong opinions in this matter and I hope you receive my plebiscite suggestion favorably. If the people of our fair province are given the opportunity to vote on this matter I am sure they will overwhelmingly favor complete repatriation. If the suggestion has your backing and comes from you it may be acted upon by the provincial authorities. I know they have no authority in this matter but the essential thing is to get the expression of the citizens of B.C. Then we can act to force Ottawa.

Wishing you the compliments of the season and success in your third term, I remain

Yours truly
Henry Ingram

137 Rochland Rd W.
North Lonsdale B.C.

Oct. 5th, 1944

The Oregonian

ESTABLISHED BY HENRY L. PITTOCK
An Independent Republican Newspaper

Published Daily, Except Sunday, by The Oregonian Publishing Company, Oregonian Bldg., 537 S. W. Sixth Ave., Portland 5, Oregon. Telephone AT 2121.

Sole ownership of The Oregonian resides in the H. L. Pittock Family and the Scott Company.

CAROLINE P. LEADBETTER, President — PALMER HOYT, Publisher

The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to the use for publication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited to this paper, and also the local news published herein. All rights of publication of special dispatches herein are also reserved.

National Advertising Offices—Paul Block and Associates, 400 Madison ave., New York 17, N. Y.; Palmolive bldg., Chicago 11, Ill.; General Motors bldg., Detroit 2, Mich.; 1420 Walnut street, Philadelphia 2, Pa.; Little bldg., Boston 16, Mass.; Chamber of Commerce bldg., Los Angeles 15, Cal.; Monadnock bldg., San Francisco 5, Cal.; 1411 Fourth Ave. bldg., Seattle 1, Wash.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES—By Mail in Oregon, Washington, Idaho and California north of Sacramento:

	1 Year.	6 Mon.	1 Mon.
Weekdays and Sunday	$11.50	$6.50	$1.25
Weekdays only	7.00	3.90	.85

(All other mail points by year: Weekdays with Sunday, $15.00; Weekdays only, $10.80; Sunday only, $6.00.)

By Carrier, Oregon, Washington and Idaho:

Weekdays and Sunday	$15.00	$7.50	$1.25
Weekdays only	10.20	5.10	.85

DECEMBER 19, 1944

The Challenge

Return of Japanese and Japanese-Americans to their homes and farms west of the Cascades and the Sierras should alarm no one. During the two years in which they have been detained in camps in the interior there has been ample opportunity for the army, the federal bureau of investigation and the war relocation authority to study thoroughly the records of each individual of Japanese ancestry, and to segregate the disloyal. Most of those who return will be American citizens. None but those certified as loyal will have restored to them the constitutional guarantees of liberty of residence and travel which were suspended by the war emergency order of January 2, 1942.

The necessity for detention of all persons of Japanese ancestry early in the war was apparent to military leaders. Ships leaving the Columbia river and other ports were being attacked by submarines. Signals were being flashed to sea from the beaches. There was imminent danger of sabotage of military installations and war industries. The FBI, striking on Pearl Harbor day, rounded up all those known to be loyal or suspected of being loyal to Japan. But federal agents could not be sure that some of our enemies were not still at large. Gen. De Witt has reported that when mass detention and evacuation were put into effect, signaling to the enemy ceased and submarine attacks declined.

The war department is satisfied that detention of loyal nisei and their alien parents—many of whom would gladly become citizens of the United States were they permitted—is no longer necessary or desirable. Of the original 115,000 persons of Japanese ancestry who were moved inland, hundreds of nisei have volunteered or more recently have been called into military service, hundreds have been released to work and establish new homes in other sections of the country, several thousand have been interned in the Tule Lake camp for the disloyal. Not as many will return as left in 1942. In the Hood River valley, approximately two-thirds of the land held by Japanese-Americans before the war has been sold to whites.

The feeling against the return of the Japanese, though they be citizens or aliens, is strong in some agricultural areas, as demonstrated by the formation of Oregon Anti-Japanese, Inc., at Gresham, and the Hood River American Legion post's removal of names of nisei in military service from the roll of honor in Victory Center. This page has stated, and none denies it, that the reason is more economic than patriotic. Barriers may be raised against the returning Japanese. The boycott is threatened against merchants in Hood River who deal with Japanese, and plans to prevent sale of land to nisei have been discussed.

We cannot approve such measures. Predictions that violence will be used against this racial minority are a challenge to the Americanism of every community and every resident of Oregon. The great law-abiding majority of Oregon citizens will not tolerate persecution of the Japanese or any other minority. They will not countenance the return of the Ku Klux Klan. It would be well for law enforcement officers, prosecutors and the courts to bear that constantly in mind.

The attitude of the evacuees when they return is as important as that of the white residents in determining whether or not we can learn to live in harmony and solve the economic and social problems which lie ahead. The nisei, in particular, are keenly aware of this. Their leaders say they are prepared to prove their Americanism by day-to-day relations with their white neighbors, as they proved their loyalty in battle. We think the people of Oregon will give them that opportunity.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING
PATRON-IN-CHIEF OF
THE BRITISH EMPIRE SERVICE LEAGUE

The Canadian Legion of the British Empire Service League

FRANK E. HAINES
Past--- REPRESENTATIVE OF THE U.S. ZONE
B. C. COMMAND

December 19th.1944

J.W.Cornett,Esq
City Hall
Vancouver,B.C.

Dear Sir;

Last June I attended the convention of the British Columbia Command and we spent a lot of time in acrimonious debate on the Japanese question.There was a minority group of Canadian veterans with sons in the service who very emphatically objected to the undemocratic utterances of some of their comrades,I was one of that minority.

The B.C.resolution calling for the mass deportation of persons of Japanese descent never was permitted to reach the floor of the Dominion convention and that was a very good thing.

In this enlightened country we have untold millions of citizens who on varied and various occasions stand up in public places and solemnly with their right hand on their heart repeat the Pledge to the Flag which closes with those lovely and inspiring words-With Liberty and Justice for All.

Then when the gathering is dispersed these said democratic citizens go right out into the world and practice race discrimination in its worst form.

This persecution of a minority is a disgrace to the Dominion of Canada and the United States of America and the disgrace is made worse when persons in high places make public utterance against constitutional law and order.

You will recall that in British Columbia there is a Branch of the Canadian Legion comprised of loyal comrades of Japanese descent who helped lick the Huns in the last war and your statement as quoted in the Press would even deport these gallant men.

The sneak attack at Pearl Harbour brought the great and majestic might of this Nation into the great conflict which had embroiled the British Empire,without this incident you might well have been enjoying total conscription for some time and furthermore you might have been on the losing side.

Having lived here for twenty years and being somewhat acquainted with the political experiences of this great country I should be inclined to think that for the British people all over the world,the attack at Pearl Harbour was the means of your gaining the most formidable fighting ally in this world and with it-inevitable Victory.

After this war is settled you will be able to look upon those persons who are descended from the Japanese and you will be priviliged to say to yourself 'There,by the grace of God,goes the man who made the world safe for Democracy'.

and should you feel ironic you might find yourself saying-There,by the grace of God,goes the damned fool who saved the world for Democracy.

The United States government has stated that loyal persons of Japanese extraction are being returned to the Pacific coast and we hope that a few misguided people who consider the economic situation paramount will not disgrace us.

I hope that Canada and more specifically British Columbia will not countenance any action which would endanger the civil rights and priviliges of an unfortunate minority.

I take great pleasure in inclosing an editorial from the pages of our leading newspaper-The Oregonian,read it slowly and thoroughly and then be man enough to change your mind.

Yours sincerely;
Frank E. Haines

Past Zone Representative,
United States Zone.
7207 SE Yamhill Street
Portland,16,Oregon

27th September 1944

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of September 22nd. I thank you for your frankness and the spirit in which it is written.

When the Japanese were resident in Vancouver, I did what my official duties dictated and what my inclinations were to give them every protection and fair treatment to which they were entitled as residents. Never at any time, however, did I think it advisable that 25,000 Japanese should congregate in British Columbia, the majority of them in Vancouver.

If you were an old resident of this Province you would knoe that for twenty-five years or more this Province has protested bitterly to Ottawa that the Japanese should be prevented from coming to this Province. The experience with them is that they did not assimilate with our people as do other immigrants. Their language schools, their dual citizenship and other things have clearly indicated that their first loyalty was to their Mother country.

In 1901 Japan drew up a crude map of conquest for world wide domination as outlined in "The Japanese Army and Navy" by Hirata. One of the objectives was the paralyzing of the West Coast of America. I am satisfied in my own mind that the big influx of Japanese into Canada since then was part of this plan.

Whether or not that be true, we all felt relieved when the Japanese were ordered away from the Coast. For the sake of our own safety in the future, I hope they are never permitted back to the Coast. Their places have now been taken by our own fishermen, lumbermen, agriculturalists, etc. with profit to themselves. The money these men make is now spent in Canada, instead or being sent back to Japan and there is more contentment and satisfaction among this class now that Japanese competition has been removed.

If in time we ever permit the Japanese to return to the Coast, they will again crowd out our white fishermen and workers into other lines.

W. H. Stratton, Esq.,
3968 S.W. Marine Drive,
VANCOUVER.

....

We will never have another chance like this to rid ourselves of what I think is a serious menace. But if we decide to permit Japanese Canadians to remain in Canada, I sincerely trust that they will not be allowed to settle in British Columbia. Let the rest of Canada do what British Columbia has had to do for so many years.

You are mistaken when you think I express these views purely from the standpoint of political exigency. As a matter of fact, I took the stand in the Legislature years before I ever sat in the Mayor's chair.

In a short letter like this, I cannot enter into a complete discussion of the Japanese situation but this will be sufficient to give you an idea of my views.

Yours very truly,

Mayor

3968 S.W. Marine Dr
Vancouver, B.C.
Sept 22/44.

Mayor Cornett.
Vancouver.

Dear Sir:- I suppose it would not alarm you much if I were to tell you that I would not vote for your re-election.

The fact of the matter is I have not yet voted in the city and I dont know how I shall vote. I have been fairly well impressed with your record so far as I have known it, but I certainly did not like the attitude you took on the Japanese question. It looked too much like a bid for votes when you saw that people's prejudices were rather against the Japanese.

Personally I have no special interest in the Japanese as such but I do feel that a Canadian citizen should be treated as a Canadian citizen whatever his racial origin. Race prejudice is one of the things against which we are fighting and I do hate to see it fed and en-

couraged by our leaders.

In the meantime I shall be watching with interest your attitude on various questions.

I am well aware that my vote is not going to make much difference one way or the other to you, but I feel that it is good for a public man to know how his attitude on critical problems affect people.

Sincerely yours
W. H. Stratton

28th August 1944

Dear Sir:

In answer to your letter of August 24th I do not know of any particular group studying the question you mention excepting perhaps the C.C.F. which is all on the side of retaining the Japs in B.C.

Mr. A. W. Neil, Member for Comox-Alberni, holds very definite views on the subject, but he is on the opposite side, being opposed to retaining any Japs in the Province. Sir Robert E. Holland of 1131 Beach Avenue, Victoria, is also interested in the Oriental question through long residence in the East.

Yours very truly,

Mayor

Wm. E.G.Crisford, Esq.,
2845 The Rise,
VICTORIA, B.C.

PERMANENT ADDRESS.
2845 THE RISE
VICTORIA, B.C.
W. E. G. CRISFORD

To His Worship,
Mayor Cornett,
of Vancouver B.C.

Hotel Grosvenor
Vancouver, Canada

august 24th 1944

Dear Sir:-

I am interested
in ethnical & biological phases
of racial migrations, & the effect
of emigration & immigration on
national outlook

I understand that you
are interested in orientals who now
form one of Canada's ethnic groups.

I am not a professor of anything.
Just an ordinary layman, who
believes that prevention is better
than cure, & , who, because I ~~do~~
lock my door at night, do not
imply that everyone is a crook, but
as a precaution against those

whose standards of ethics do not coincide with mine.

If you know of any discussion-groups who are interested in these subjects I would appreciate it, if you will kindly let me have their address.

I am from Victoria & staying in Vancouver for a few days.

I am

yours Truly,

Wm E. G. Crawford.

31st July 1944

Dear Sir:

On June 26th last I wrote to you drawing your attention to an attack made upon me as Mayor of Vancouver by the newspaper "The New Canadian", published in British Columbia, partly in the Japanese language, in the interests of Japanese resident in Canada.

I have had no acknowledgment from you or any intimation that you have taken any action to protect Canadians against future attacks of this nature.

I realize that you have been extremely busy in recent weeks but I would appreciate hearing from you in this regard at your earliest convenience.

Yours very truly,

Mayor

Hon. Louis S. St. Laurent,
Minister of Justice,
OTTAWA, Canada.

J.W. CORNETT
MAYOR

MAYOR'S OFFICE
VANCOUVER, B.C.

13th July 1944

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of July 12th re the Japanese Internment Camp at Tashme.

I thank you for your interest in this matter and the accompanying suggestion. My feelings in the matter are that it would be better for both the Japanese resident in Canada and fir Canadians generally if they all were sent to Japan after the war.

Yours very truly,

Mayor

J. M. R. Romilly, Esq.,

No address

13th July 1944

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of July 12th re the Japanese Internment Camp at Tashme.

I thank you for your interest in this matter and the accompanying suggestion. My feelings in the matter are that it would be better for both the Japanese resident in Canada and fir Canadians generally if they all were sent to Japan after the war.

Yours very truly,

Mayor

J. M. R. Romilly, Esq.,

No address

Vancouver B.C.

12 July 1944

Mayor Cornett,
City Hall,
Vancouver B.C.

Dear Sir,

In company with a large number of people in Vancouver, you do not want the Japanese to return to this city to re-establish a "Little Tokio," after peace comes.

If the Japanese are not expelled from Canada under a peace treaty, - or if a differentiation is made between Japanese of Canadian citizenship - and some are permitted to remain - then it is certain that they will be returning to Vancouver so long as the Japanese internment camp of Tashme continues in operate.

Tashme is located on the farm of the late Mr Trites, I believe. It is therefore a temporary affair, with huts erected to house the internees.

These people will want to get to some place where they can trade, and carry on their normal pursuits, and they will certainly head for Vancouver when freed from internment.

Those Japanese who have been spread through the Province in smaller towns, and many in old mining "ghost towns," will have re-established themselves in these places, and be inclined often to remain where they are. So too with the Japanese who have gone East to the prairies or Ontario and Quebec.

But there is nothing to keep them at Tashme - indeed they would be obliged to leave, - and, as I have said, they will promptly make for Vancouver.

It should therefore be the policy of Vancouver to have this internment camp of Tashme broken up, and the Japanese there sent to interior towns, and to the prairies and Eastern Canada. Tashme, by reason of its temporary character, is the danger point.

Yours truly,

J. M. R. Romilly

11th July 1944

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of July 10th re the Japanese question. I notice your argument in favor of retention of the Japanese in Canada follows the line of similar letters on the same subject which I have received from you.

I am still of the opinion which I held previously, that it will be in the best interests of Canada and the Japanese now resident in Canada that they be returned to the land from which they originated. In this I am thinking of what our Japanese problem will be in say fifty years from now if we leave these people here and also of what the problem of the Japanese themselves will be if they attempt to return to British Columbia after the war.

My recent visit to the East convinces me that they are not wanted there. In fact, the East will do all in its power to return them to British Columbia after the war. I don't think this Province deserves to have this burden tacked permanently on to it. I am still firmly of the opinion that in the best interests of everyone, it will be well for these people to go back to the land from whence they originated.

Yours very truly,

Mayor

John Godwin, Esq.,
1 Aberdeen Block,
84 Lonsdale Avenue,
NORTH VANCOUVER, B.C.

THE VANCO

B.C. Convention

Junior Chamber Opposes Jap Repatriation

(By Canadian Press.)

PENTICTON, June 27.—Delegates at the annual convention of British Columbia Junior Chambers of Commerce rejected today a resolution recommending deportation of all people of Japanese ancestry after the war.

birthplace of Caen in Normandy, and seeing that Caen is very much in evidence just now, might I be allowed a little space in your paper with regard to the lady.

When she left Caen in the French stage coach "Diligence," she carried a small basket under her cloak, which contained food for the journey to Paris, July 12, 1793. Her aim was the assassination of Robespierre, but on the way changed her mind to that of Jean Paul Marat. Arriving in Paris the morning of Friday the 13th she purchased for a mere pittance a large dinner knife at the Palaise Royale. No dagger was used in the assassination of Marat that warm summer evening.

Accused before the Revolutionary Tribunal, and condemned to the guillotine, her simple reply to Fouquire-Tinville, the public prosecutor, was: "Better that 100,000 should live, than one." On July 17 she paid the supreme sacrifice.

J. Dalyiel Thomson.

PATON REBUKED

Sir: I wonder if J. A. Paton, M.L.A., were sitting in my chair looking at what I have been studying the last few minutes if by chance he would not feel like curling up and hiding beneath the carpet?

Before me I have a copy of the Regina Leader-Post June 19 also a News-Herald June 22 issue in which Mr. Paton criticizes a previous editorial "Japs and Common Sense." Does he mean that all the Japs who landed on this continent were a part of this so-called advance army to take over the Pacific coast?

If so he is rebuked by a statement in the Post which says, "Captain Richard K. Mazuta, Japanese - American from Hawaii, led a battalion composed of nearly 100 per cent Americans of Japanese descent in the great Allied assault on Cassino, Italy. He is pictured in hospital, recovering from shrapnel wounds in right leg and arm."

What are his post-war plans for these patriotic American Japanese?

Marvin A. Larson.

LOCAL TALENT

Sir: Have we no talent that can be expended by the Radio Studios, many of the programs are very poor and boring. We seem to have plenty of cowboy performers, who all sing in a melancholy tone and finish with a yodel. Cannot we do better than this.

H. Jackson.

To meet this condition business firms are to be allowed to charge their losses back to the profits they might have enjoyed in the previous year and forward to the succeeding three years.

"This will permit a firm to charge losses which it may encounter in the first post-war year against the profits of the last war year," Mr. Ilsley explained.

"It will give such a firm the further assurance that losses which it incurs in the period of converting and expanding its business may be made a first charge on the profits of the succeeding three years when it may hope to be reaping some of the results of its enterprise."

Special allowance for maintenance and repair work was given in recognition of the necessity during the past two years of delaying repairs because of the shortage of materials and labor. Deferred maintenance had an effect of inflating profits which were subject to taxation.

MAY BE CHARGED BACK

Under the proposed amendment one-half of the expenses of this type incurred in a period to be fixed by order-in-council may be charged back to the income of a previous fiscal period not earlier than the fiscal period ending in 1943.

In the case of both the deferred maintenance and the increased depreciation allowance

work not directly related to immediate production.

These restrictions are removed under the budget proposals and expenses may be charged against the current year and capital expenditures written off over a three-year period.

DOUBLE DEPRECIATION

Discussing the intention to allow double depreciation on capital expenditures in some future period, Mr. Ilsley said the time would come when, on short notice, it would be necessary to tell business the time was ripe to put into effect post-war plans.

Present taxation rates were discouraging to new business and a prudent course for business to follow would be to delay new ventures until a new level of taxation was established.

Allowing increased depreciation would enable the taxpayer to recover part of his capital when earnings were good and enable him to transfer some of his income from a period when war taxes continued in effect to a period when taxes might be lowe Here was nothing in the proposal which allowed incon to escape taxation.

It was desirable that fi should be able to use the p war refund from their ex profits for expansion at proper time, but this time w differ with various business, Ilsley said.

It was not considered prac to make the refunds avai on a selective basis and

1 Aberdeen Block
84 Lonsdale Avenue
North Vancouver
July 10th 1944

Dear Mayor Cornett

I notice by to days Province that you are still trying to get the Council to adopt a resolution to repatriate Canadian Japanese after the War

Was while you were away in the East recently two of our different Churches the Baptists & the Anglicans held their annual Conferences. The Baptists went on record totally opposing this repatriation as un British & also un Christian. The Anglicans gave a splendid report on the Christian work among the Canadian Japanese so you will see that the best & most thoughtful people are against this wicked business of race

hatred, now you & other Politicians often say then folks cant be assimilated, well now I am sending you a Photo of a little Vancouver born Canadian Japanese who was a member of our St James Anglican Church boys & a fine member of our Church, now look at this Boy two months with his little Brother Canadian & do you mean to tell me as a Father & Canadian & I take it you belong to some Church purely that you intend for the sake of playing Politics send this lovely little chap away to an heathen land that he has never known, why it would be the biggest disgrace ever known

You have not taken into account that God & his Church have got something to say in this matter, why if the Church in Canada was to keep silent & let such an outrage take place who would ever support missionary

work in future

You & I know very well but
borne that these people are not
responsible for War coming about
so why vent our spite on them

Why dont we talk about the
Germans if we want repatriation
they have proven to be a Nation
of Savages. The latest Press reports
give the figures that they have
murdered in cold blood 1,750,000
Jews alone, then they have murdered
Poles & Czechs also & Russians by
the thousands

You cant show me in borne
anywhere in Brit Law. Rule
Tradition or Principle where you
find any authority for punishing
innocent people for what they
are not responsible for

You dont see Mr Churchill
or the Lord Mayor of London
going around saying we must
send the Germans out of England
after the War. no they want them

before the last War & will be after this one as long as they keep out Laws

You speak about these people as if they were a lot of Criminals instead of decent Citizens. a little time back in the Press I saw that the head of the R.C.M.P. said not one worry thing as ever been known against these people. this Photo of this Boy is positive proof that if the Politicians will keep their tongues still & support the Church work among these people it would be more Christ like than trying to get Votes out of the sorrows that have befallen these Canadians of Japanese descent

Repatriation would show we were a bunch of hypocrites & did not believe in our Christianity

There [illegible] are Canadians the same as Germans & Italians & Chinese & the other races among us & Canada will never become a great Nation while we have Politicians

who are always seeking their own interests & Political advancement out of other peoples sorrows

When you spoke at the Canadian Legion Hall Burnell a few weeks ago there were 40 Canadian Japanese who fought in the last War for us members of it, surely if people fight for your Country Hall Burnell they got a right to live in it

As a Christian Man I say that these people have as much rights to live in this Country as you & I have

I have discovered that under International Law you can repatriate Canadian born people any way so join up with us Church folks Hall Mayor in spreading the Gospel of Love & let us banish War & Race hatred from the Earth. I was twice Overseas last War & its no picnic. my second Son is nearly 4 years overseas with the Air Force to, Canada ought to be the home for millions of all races like the U. N. O. so let us be Builders & not Wreckers. trust you enjoyed your visit East. please return me the Photograph

Yours Sincerely
John Godwin

26th June 1944

Dear Sir:

I wish to draw your attention to a libellous and subversive attack upon me in the June 10th issue of "The New Canadian". "The New Canadian" is a newspaper published at Kaslo, B.C., partly in Japanese and partly in English, by Japanese persons resident in Canada most of whom were removed for reasons os public safety from the Pacific Coast to interior points after Canada declared war on Japan.

I am informed by my counsel that the statement carried at the top of the front page of "The New Canadian", copy of which is enclosed, reading "No matter what the lyrics, Vancouver's Mayor blows a Nazi tune", constitutes a libellous and criminal offence.

In view of the fact that the Japanese in this country are now under surveillance of the Dominion Government, I think the matter of which I complain should be dealt with by your Department, and I am suggesting that you take such action as you deem proper in the public interest.

Public officials, as you know, are fair subjects for criticism and are frequently abused, but when the Mayor of one of the major cities of Canada is accused of being a Nazi sympathizer by a newspaper published in the interested of Japanese resident in Canada, thousands of whom still owe allegiance to our enemy, Japan, I think it is time such a newspaper is supressed in the public interest or the publisher interned.

The Japanese attack on me has aroused much indignation on the Coast. As an indication of public opinion, I am enclosing one editorial comment from "The Vancouver Sun".

Yours very truly,

Hon. Louis S. St. Laurent,
Minister of Justice,
OTTAWA, Canada

MAYOR

encs.2

COPY

June 23rd, 1944

Dear Mr. Cornett:

How are you going to get rid of the Japanese?

I have thot of something which might work if handled with enough secrecy. Might.

When the mail of the Japanese began to be censored, it came to me very indirectly that there was nothing too mean or too vile that they wrote about the Canadians.

When you consider how tenderly and honorably they have been handled on this continent and then remember Hong Kong and Bataan, it makes me see red!

Why not get those letters photographed on microfilm, then when the war is over and say, Joe Nagasaki says he is a native born loyal Canadian, his letter could be shown where he spoke to his friends as "Us Japanese" and said even if defeated today, some day they would get revenge.

Exit from Canada.

Do you know there were only 40,000 negroes ever brought to the U.S. as slaves? There are now 12,000,000. With 23,000 to start, how long before there are 12,000,000 Japanese in Canada?

If all but the few loyal ones were sent away, the rest might be absorbed, especially if scattered over the country.

With best wishes,

The Mother of a Canadian Soldier.

My name is immaterial.

ALBERTA DEFINITELY DOESN'T WANT JAPS

VANCOUVER, June 7.—(CP)—Whatever happens to Japanese in Canada after the war, Alberta doesn't want them, Mayor Andrew Davison of Calgary told Mayor J. W. Cornett here Tuesday. "I don't think there's any place in Canada for them," Mayor Davison said.

June. 23/44

Dear Mr. Cornett,

How are you going to get rid of the Japanese? I have just of something which might work if handled with enough secrecy. Might.

When the rid of the Japanese began to be rumored, it came to me very indirectly that there was nothing to mean as to vile that they were about the Canadians.

When you consider our Tenderly and honorably they have been handled in this continent and

the remember
Hong Kong and
Bataan, it makes
me see red!

Why not get these
letters photographed
on microfilm. Then
when the war is
over and say, the
Nagaki says he
is a native born
loyal Canadian
his letter would be
shown where he
spoke to his
friends as "his
Japanese" and said
even if defeated
to-day, some day
they would get
revenge.

Exit from
Canada.

Do you know
there were only
40,000 requests ever
brought to the
U.S. as slaves? There
are now 12,000,000.

with $3,000 to start
over here before
there are 12,000,000
Japanese in Canada?
To all but the
brave loyal ones
were sent away.
the rest might
be absorbed
especially if
scattered over the
country.

With best wishes
for the success of a
Canadian soldier.

Any name is
immaterial.

STATEMENT BY MAYOR CORNETT

The statement printed in a Japanese newspaper published at Kaslo, B.C., the present home of many Japanese removed from the Pacific Coast for military reasons, that Vancouver's Mayor "blows a Nazi tune" is a libel and its publication is a criminal offense, according to an opinion received by Mayor Cornett yesterday from his Counsel, Dugald Donaghy, K.C.

"In view of the fact that the Dominion Government, for the safety of the state, has found it necessary to exercise control and surveillance over the Japanese and their activities, appropriate measure should be taken by the Government by interning or otherwise dealing with the Japanese publisher in order to prevent this Japanese newspaper from publishing further subversive attacks upon public officials", Mr. Donaghy told the Mayor."The appropriate action in this case would not be the institution of proceedings in the courts" , Mr. Donaghy stated in the considered opinion given to the Mayor.

Mr. Donaghy advised Mayor Cornett that in his opinion the Government should take action to prevent public officials from subversive attack by Japanese at the moment resident in Canada.

The Mayor stated that in view of the opinion expressed by his Counsel, he is forwarding a copy of the newspaper, which is printed partly in Japanese and partly in English, to the Minister of Justice for his information with a request that he take such action as he deems proper in the public interest.

-30-

Vancouver, 24th June 1944

Draft

The Mayor stated that in view of the opinion expressed by his Counsel, he is forwarding a copy of the newspaper,which is printed partly in Japanese and partly in English, to the Minister of Justice for his information with a request that he take such action as he deems proper in the public interest.

24th June, 1944

Draft - direct from Mr. Donaghy's writing [illegible]

The statement printed in a Japanese newspaper published at Kaslo, B.C., the present home of many Japanese removed from the Pacific Coast for military reasons, that Vancouver's Mayor blows a Nazi tune is a libel and its publication is a criminal offence. According to the opinion received by Mayor Cornett yesterday from his Counsel, Dugald Donaghy, K.C.

In view of the fact that the Dominion Government, for the safety of the State, has found it necessary to exercise control and surveillance over the Japanese and their activities, appropriate measures should be taken by the Government by interning or otherwise dealing with the Japanese publisher in order to prevent this Japanese newspaper from publishing any further subversive attacks upon public officials or otherwise; and the appropriate action in this case would not be the institution by Mayor Cornett of proceedings in the Courts, stated Mr. Donaghy in the considered opinion given by him to the Mayor.

Vancouver,
June 24th, 1944

C.D. 1R

CANADIAN PACIFIC TELEGRAPHS

World Wide Communications

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

RA A206 18

1944 JUN 17 AM 6-41

MH MONTREAL QUE 17 908A

CHAS SUTHERLAND 141

MAYOR SEC CITY HALL VANCOUVER

WILL TAKE CARE OF THE NEW CANADIAN JAPANESE NEWSPAPER WHEN

I RETURN ON WEDNESDAY ADVISE THE PRESS BOYS

J W CORNETT

THE VANCOUVER SUN: Thurs., June 15, 1944

NO EXCUSE FOR IT

"New Canadian" ought to be suppressed. This is the Japanese newspaper, now issued in Kaslo, and allowed by the government to live with the apparent objective of keeping up morale amongst Canadian Japanese.

Instead of applying itself to constructive policies "New Canadian" has developed into a mere rag of corrupt propaganda, abuse and libel. Mayor Cornett is the latest victim and for the attack against him there was not the slightest justification, except that the Jap editor did not like something the Mayor had said.

Articles in "New Canadian" are censored, but only from the standpoint of whether the contents are subversive to the war effort. The censors are not advisers on questions of fact or propriety.

This Japanese paper, as at present operated, can serve no useful purpose to Canada-at-war. That is reason enough to have the government order it dropped. There is the additional reason that it is a waste of good, white paper and of time and attention of busy postal and censorship authorities.

THE VANCOUVER DAILY PROVINCE, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 1944

"NEW CANADIAN" CRITICIZED

'Nazi' Charge Against Mayor Arouses Civic Officials' Ire

Civic circles are indignant today over a paragraph in The New Canadian, newspaper for Canadian-born Japanese, attributing Nazi tendencies to Mayor Cornett.

Some aldermen favor a protest to the B.C. Security Commission (in charge of Japanese camps in B.C.), other believe the mayor should sue the paper for libel. Acting-Mayor John Bennett prefers to ignore the reference entirely.

"No matter what the lyrics, Vancouver's mayor blows a Nazi tune," asserts a paragraph in the upper right hand corner of the front page of The New Canadian's June 10 issue.

STORY AS BASIS.

It refers to a news story on the same page reporting how the City Council declined to vote on Mayor Cornett's resolution urging repatriation of all Japanese after the war, and postponed a decision until all members of the council were present.

"Cornett conducts race baiters," a headline to the story declared.

A copy of the paper has been forwarded by airmail to Mayor Cornett, now in Montreal at the annual conference of Canadian Federation of Mayors and Municipalities.

Friends of the mayor have obtained legal opinion that the paragraph is libelous.

During a war it is libelous to attribute the characteristics of the enemy to any citizen, according to legal opinion.

"I think the mayor or the council should protest to the Security Commission," declares Ald. Price.

"If any of our people made that kind of a statement in Japan now it would be just too bad. Circulation of such scurrilous material should be prohibited.

Ald. H. L. Corey believes the Japanese should realize they are hurting their own cause by such remarks.

TREATED TOO WELL.

"They are taking advantage of the liberal attitude this country has taken toward them," he asserts.

"It shows how far we have retained freedom of speech when Japanese are allowed to write such things about the mayor," observed Ald. W. D. Greyell.

"It certainly wouldn't be tolerated in Japan."

THE VANCOUVER SUN: Wed., June 14, 1944

Council Roused

B.C. Jap Paper Calls Mayor Cornett 'Nazi'

Possible demand for the suspension or suppression of the New Canadian "to save newsprint" was foreseen today at City Hall in a storm over the Jap newspaper's allegedly libelout reference to Mayor Cornett.

In itis current issue the publication carries a front page paragraph in black type saying: "No matter what the lyrics, Vancouver's mayor blows a Nazi tune."

The statement obviously concerns His Worship's recent offer of a resolution asking the City Council to record its opinion that Japs ought to be repatriated after the war.

MAYOR IN EAST

The mayor is in the East to attend a municipal convention but lawyers said that his description as a "Nazi" is grounds for a libel action.

Aldermen were incensed, however, at what they branded as "saucy abuse."

A protest to the B.C. Security Commission was favored by Ald. Jack Price.

"Surely there ought to be some limits to which they can go," he objected. "Any citizen ought to be able to take a position on a public question without exposing himself to cheeky nsults."

Ald. G. H. Worthington demanded disciplinary action.

"The city should ask the Security Commission or the Department of Internal Affairs, or both, to take cognizance of that sort of insolent propaganda," he declared. "This sort of thing proves that these people can't be assimilated here."

JAPAN DIFFERENT

He contrasted the "plenteous accommodation" provided for Japs by the Dominion government with the "miserable conditions" of Canadians interned in Japan.

"If a group of Canadians tried to get away with that sort of thing in Japan," observed another civic official," they would soon be looking down the rifles of a firing squad."

7th June 1944

Dear Sir:

Your letter of June 5th to Mayor Cornett re the Japanese question was received and read by His Worship an hour or two before he left for the East.

The Mayor did not have time to reply but requested that I acknowledge receipt of your letter.

Yours truly,

Secretary to the Mayor

John Godwin, Esq.,
#1 - 84 Lonsdale Avenue,
NORTH VANCOUVER, B.C.

1 Aberdeen Block
84 Lonsdale Avenue
North Vancouver
June 5th 1944

Dear Mayor Cornett

I think it is greatly to be regretted to see you again treading out in a campaign of race hatred again with reference to the Canadian Japanese, it was a big enough disgrace to the City with Ex Ald Wilsons dirty work long before any War was thought about & him the Son of an Anglican Minister, a nice example of our Christianity to show to these people.

I would like to ask you Mayor Cornett where in British Law, Rule, Tradition, or Princple can you find any authority for persecuting innocent people you can find any, these people have been lawfully admitted to the Country ~~this~~ 40 or more years ago & last War where Japan was an Ally there was not a word said against

these people & many of them fine Vancouver
fought for Canada & was 30 years after when
another generation have been born & brought
up here & have been good loyal & law abiding
citizens then you & a few others to play Politics
have no more vision or conception of British
fair play than to want to send them away
to an heathen Land they have never known

I presume the bonus you have no
interest in the winning of people for
Christ & the Church or you would not pursue
this evil course, you can't have much respect
for the Churches work among these people
when you want to destroy the work of years
by sending them away to Japan, these
people have never done you or Canada any
harm & they could not help a War coming
about, why don't you talk about our own
rotten Canadians who were selling Scrap
Iron to Japan for the Japanese Gold & helping
to bring War about & there you want to
make these poor people the Goats another

thing what is the use of talking about the Atlantic Charter & the Four Great Freedoms

I say that pm & Esc old Wilson are doing more to destroy the Christian Faith among these people by your lack of repatriation than anything I know

I say & all the good Christian people of the City who love God & His Kingdom once say the same that the only decent thing we can do after the War is to restore these people to their former Homes & Business in Vancouver & BC. pm tells us in a way as if these people were a lot of criminals. they have as much rights to remain in Canada as pm or I have, to do what pm want is to sow the seeds of another War 30 years hence

Please dont copy Hitler & his evil work look at the awful sorrow his race hated has brought about

Yours Sincerely
John Godkin

Hope you have a pleasant trip

Post Mr Bennett

THE

CROWN LIFE INSURANCE CO.

BRANCH OFFICE FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA
ROGERS BLDG., VANCOUVER

BRENTON S. BROWN
PROVINCIAL MANAGER

J. J. KENNY, C.L.U.
SUPERINTENDENT

Queen Charlotte City, 29th March 1944

Mayor Cornett,
City Hall,
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Sir:-

During the last year I have been approached by several parties on the Coast to have a petition prepared for their signatures requesting that no japs be allowed on the Coast after the war, in fact it is their opinion that they are a race which will never mix with the whites, and should be removed from Canada altogether.

I am the Coast Representative for the Crown Life, have my own boat and during the Summer months I call at all the logging and fishing camps as far North as Port Hardy and occasionally go as far as Rivers Inlet. A week ago I decided to take a trip to the Queen Charlotte Islands on the S.S.Comosun and will probably be up here a month or six weeks. It was my intention to give you a call on the phone before leaving to get your opinion as to the advisability of having a petition signed in connection with this jap question, and my reason for phoning to you was because I understood you were taking quite a decided stand in the matter.

Personally, I think now is the time to give Ottawa the picture as to the feelings of the people up this coast, but as you have undoubtedly given the jap question much thought, will know much better than me as to whether a petition will do any good.

If you think it a good plan and will have three copies of a petition sent to me addressed to F.N.Ballard, C/o - S.S.Comosun, Queen Charlotte Islands, to catch the boat leaving Vancouver on or about April 5th, I shall get all the signers I can and leave a copy at each of the following places, Queen Charlotte City of Skidegate Inlet, at Port Clemens for Masset Inlet and at the Kelly Logging camp on Cumshewa Inlet.

THE

CROWN LIFE INSURANCE CO.

BRANCH OFFICE FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA
ROGERS BLDG, VANCOUVER

BRENTON S. BROWN
PROVINCIAL MANAGER

J. J. KENNY, C.L.U.
SUPERINTENDENT

Then,when I return to Vancouver about the end of April, I shall get some other copies and take along with me in my boat while on my Summer trip and leave copies at the most populated centres.

I have been covering the camps and small places on the coast as far North as Rivers Inlet for nearly seven years and am quite well acquainted. If you wish to have any information regarding myeslf, please telephone Mr.Brenton S.Brown, Provincial Manager for the Crown Life Insurance Company.

In covering this territory as I have done, one must hear many expressions of opinion and I can assure you that the people are bitter and I believe that if the japs are allowed to return to this coast there will be trouble.

As to the wording of the petition, you know much better than I do as to what can be done regarding the japs who have been born in Canada or have become Canadian citizens, therefore will better know how it should be worded. If it could possibly be arranged to get rid of them entirely, I think we would have a better country to take that course.

If you think a signed expression of the people will do no good, please drop me a line to the address as given and I shall forget about it.

Yours very truly,

F.N.Ballard,
Coast Representative.

P.S. I have made arrangements with the Purser on the S.S.Camosun to look after my mail if addressed as suggested.

FB

5th April, 1944

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of March 29th re the exclusion of Japanese from the Coast of British Columbia after the war.

I am heartily in favour of this proposal and would not hesitate to sign such a petition as you propose circulating. As Mayor of Vancouver, however, I would not like to father the petition as such action might be misconstrued by the Government which has the safety of our prisoners of war to consider as well as the protection of all classes resident in the country.

I hope you will be successful in obtaining the views of the people in the territory you cover.

Yours truly,

:T Mayor

F. N. Ballard, Esq.
Crown Life Insurance Co.
Rogers Building
470 Granville St.
Vancouver, B. C.