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JAPANESE CANADIAN CITIZENS
ASSOCIATION

1947, 1950

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MACMILLAN OFFICE APPLIANCES CO
WESTBORO - ONTARIO
MADE IN CANADA

Background Information Relative to Present JCCA Plans on the Claims Question

You will recall that under date of April 16, 1949, you received a letter from the Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians advising you that an offer on a method of settlement was received in connection with your property losses claims and that for the reasons stated therein it was recommended that the proposals of settlement be accepted. The National JCCA, at that time, considered this matter from all angles and felt that there was, unfortunately, no alternative under the present enquiry but to recommend acceptance of Counsels' recommendation to Claimants: it was Counsels' advice that a claimants' rejection of the Commissioner's proposal would likely necessitate individual hearing of each claim, prolonging the proceedings perhaps two or three years with the likelihood less would be gained for claimants, with some claimants receiving nothing, and with the added financial burden placed on claimants of paying a further assessment of perhaps $100,000 to cover additional costs. It was never intended, however, that any acceptance of the proposals should be considered as an end of our complaints respecting property losses claims. It was at that time reported to us that a great majority of Claimants who replied to the Co-operative Committee agreed, under protest, with their recommendation for acceptance.

The National JCCA has since fully realized that it would be necessary for the organization to continue to make every effort to gain for Japanese Canadian evacuees just restitution for the losses they suffered from the forced evacuation.

Since August of 1949, the National JCCA has given careful study to the question of future plans of the JCCA with regard to the matter and has consulted with legal counsel. While the Commissioner's Report is pending and has not been published, it is not a suitable time to make representations to the Government about the evacuation losses. However, the National JCCA has fully planned to make vigorous representation to the Government on the over-all claims question at a future appropriate date subsequent to the Commission submitting its full report to the Government and will deal specially with such matters as were outside the limited terms of reference.

Report on American Claims

In order that no stone is left unturned in the preparation of future plans on claims, the JCCA felt it wise to obtain as full information as possible on the Japanese American Claims. And arising from correspondence between the JCCA National Office and Mr. Mike Masaoka, National Legislative Director of the Anti-Discrimination Committee of the JACL in Washington, a meeting was arranged in Toronto on October 23rd between Mr. E. J. Ennis, Counsel for the Japanese American Citizens League; Mr. Mike Masaoka; and Mr. Andrew Brewin, Co-operative Committee Counsel for the Japanese Canadian Claimants; and Mr. George Tanaka, JCCA National Executive Secretary.

The Canadian members present at this meeting were informed by Mr. Ennis and Mr. Masaoka that very little information could be given to them on the work and proceedings of the American Evacuation Losses Claims as the investigation had not advanced beyond the stage of filing Claims and very little preparatory work had been carried out with regard to obtaining proof, evaluations and other important evidence to support the American claims.

Mr. Ennis, Legal Counsel for the JACL, was impressed with the method which has been adopted by Canadian legal counsel and the Co-operative Committee in obtaining general evidence to support the Japanese Canadian claims, where the co-operative efforts of legal counsel representing all Japanese Canadian Claimants has enabled the hiring of expert real estate evaluators, statisticians, etc., who have been able to obtain important evidence to support Japanese Canadian claims.

One outstanding difference was noted by Mr. Ennis and Mr. Masaoka with regard to the attitude of the respective Governments toward the question of Evacuation Losses Claims. In contrast to the reserved attitude of the Canadian Government to the case of Japanese Canadian Evacuation Losses claims, Mr. Ennis pointed out that the attitude of the Department of Justice in America, which is directly responsible for handling the Japanese American Evacuation Losses claims, has been entirely sympathetic. However, it was noted that the Department of Justice in America is able to place the responsibility of Evacuation directly upon the shoulders of the United States Army, a condition of placing Evacuation responsibility not possible in Canada.

Contrary to the belief held by some Canadian Claimants, the present American Claims Bill does not provide for a general indemnification claim based on general evacuation hardship.

The National JCCA, through its National Executive Committee, presented to the Third National Conference held in Lethbridge, November 4th to 7th, 1949, its recommendations and plans as to what future course of action the National JCCA should take with regard to this important question of evacuation losses claims. The National Conference studied this matter carefully and approved the preparation of the JCCA Brief on Evacuation Losses Claims, already undertaken by the Committee with the assistance of legal counsel, which it was proposed be presented to the Government at a future date.

The National JCCA Conference was of the opinion that the time of publication of the Commissioner's Report would be the opportune time for the JCCA and the Japanese Canadians to bring to the attention of the public the injustices of the forced evacuation and the losses suffered.

It is believed the Royal Commission will soon be concluding its hearings and will be submitting its full report to the Canadian Government. The National JCCA is, therefore, formulating its present plans with this consideration in mind and is at present finalizing its over-all plans and is completing preparation of its Brief. It is also expected that after the Commissioner's Report is tendered to the Government, the Government may take several weeks to study the recommendations.

We now have a report from Co-operative Committee legal counsel in Vancouver that the total recovery on personal claims (exclusive of Corporation claims) of some 1,300 claimants who retained the Co-operative Committee may exceed the amount estimated 9 months ago by some $ 150,000. From this you will realize that many favourable "settlements" have been made and also many "special awards" have been obtained from the Commissioner.

"The Claimants' total estimate of Fair Market Value of all property on which claims are made, after considering the reductions made on claim amounts at the time of Claimants' hearings and after excluding items claimed which were deemed to be outside the terms of reference, is approximately $ 4,488,000 (N.B., the total amount of Custodian's sale price of properties is included in this figure).

"The Custodian sold the properties (personal and real) to which these claims relate for approximately $ 1,663,000.

"The total of net claims for loss amount to approximately $ 2,825,000.

"On these claims, Claimants will probably recover approximately $ 840,000 or 50% more than the sale price.

"The total amount received by the claimants who retained the Co-operative Committee (including the sale price and the award) will be approximately $ 2,504,000, or 55.78% of the gross claimed value.

"Counsel advises that on a breakdown by Provinces there is very little variation in this percentage for each Province. For instance, for B.C. and Ontario where the bulk of the Claimants reside and in which Provinces three-quarter in value of the Claimants are to be found, the respective percentage of total recovery in relation to claim value (that is, including sale price and award) will be 57.41 and 56.03 respectively. The best recovery was made on V.L.A., cars, nets and boats in that order. Surprisingly enough, however, Vancouver City property, when sale price and award are totalled, represents 55.96% of claim value, or slightly better than the average for all properties."

Record of the Past Work of the JCCA Achieved for Claimants

It is felt that many Claimants would desire to know what the National JCCA, the Provincial JCCA's and the local JCCA's have accomplished during the past two years in working for the welfare of Japanese Canadians on Evacuation Losses Claims.

It has been acknowledged on many occasions by the Co-operative Committee and legal counsel for Claimants that without the valuable and very considerable contribution made by the JCCA organization toward assisting the Co-operative Committee and legal counsel, it would have been difficult to accomplish the submission of Japanese Canadian Claims to the Royal Commission to the extent achieved.

The National JCCA during the past two years has not overlooked the case of Claimants excluded under the present enquiry. In 1948, the JCCA assisted in the preparation of a brief on excluded claims which was presented to the Minister of Justice by the Co-operative Committee and the JCCA.

The National JCCA

Since September, 1947, the National JCCA has expended over $ 6,000 to pay for the services of necessary National JCCA office staff to enable the JCCA organization to function during many important periods in the past two years to work for and assist Claimants.

During the 5 months period from September, 1947, to January, 1948, the National JCCA Headquarters office assisted in the printing and distribution of Claims Forms and considerable informational and instructional material on filing claims printed both in English and Japanese. The National Office thus provided complete information and gave assistance in the filing of Claims to Claimants through JCCA channels and other media, and attended to a great volume of correspondence on Claims matters with Claimants.

From February, 1948, to December, 1948, the National JCCA attended to the printing and distribution of pre-Hearing Claims Forms, printed in English and Japanese, and provided expert assistance in completing the necessary special tabulation of over 1,300 claims. The National JCCA also directed the JCCA organization machinery which has made possible the providing of interpreters for Claimants in all the various local centres in each Province and also made possible the functioning of this machinery to provide assistance in the work of presenting evidence from Claimants to the Commission.

During April - May, 1949, the full time of the National Executive Secretary was taken up in making special trip across Canada to inform the JCCA Provincial and local Chapter executives on the various important points concerning the Commissioner's proposal of an over-all method of settlement, so as to provide Claimants with as clear and complete information as possible on the proposal and the Co-operative Committee's recommendation.

The Provincial JCCA's

From October, 1947, to May, 1949, the various Provincial Chapters across Canada have contributed through their Executive and Committee members a very great deal of voluntary time, personal and Chapter financial resources to assist Claimants in the presentation of their claims to the Commission. Provincial and local Chapters have paid for numerous expenses out of their treasuries to cover costs incurred in the renting of meeting halls, typewriters, etc., while giving assistance to Claimants.

Each Provincial JCCA Chapter during this period attended to the complete distribution of Claims Forms and related material to Claimants and organized the necessary Provincial JCCA machinery which has made possible, through the co-operation of local Chapters, providing assistance to Claimants in the filing of Claims and the preparation of important evidence for presentation to the Commission during the Claimant's hearings.

Thus, the Provincial JCCA Executive and Committee members gave many hours and days of their time to assist Claimants.

The Local JCCA'S

Similar to the contributions of time, effort, and personal financial resources which have been given by Provincial JCCA Chapter Executives, each local JCCA Chapter's executive and committee members have contributed their voluntary time to assist Claimants during the past two years. Through their efforts, it has been possible for Claimants to submit their Claims to the Commissioner and to provide important evidence for legal counsel with the minimum of confusion despite the language difficulty.

The Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians

It is appropriate at this time to acknowledge in appreciation the work of the Co-operative Committee whose membership mainly is comprised of Canadians other than Japanese who formed the Committee in 1943 for the express purpose of helping Japanese Canadians through their many difficulties since the evacuation.

The Co-operative Committee has held a great many meetings during the past 6 years, and in the course of working, each member of the Committee has acted faithfully and well in a desire to help Japanese Canadians and to correct the injustices which have been put upon them.

Noteable are the achievements of this Committee in combatting the many legislative discriminations: the outstanding examples are - the successful work against the Federal deportation law and gaining recognition from the Government on the question of Evacuation losses with the appointment of a Royal Commission.

The Co-operative Committee raised over $ 10,000 in their appeal for financial support made to hundreds of Caucasian Canadians across Canada and thus financed the greater part of the cost of its work in opposing the Federal deportation law against Japanese Canadians.

The JCCA also desires to acknowledge with appreciation the work, past and in progress, of legal counsel in all the Provinces, who consented to act on behalf of Claimants through appeal of the Co-operative Committee due to a desire to assist in correcting the injustices of the forced Evacuation.

Conclusion

The National JCCA in concluding this report on the work which has been accomplished for the welfare of Japanese Canadian Claimants, desires to extend at this time an opportunity to Claimants to submit their views and suggestions to the National JCCA on the Claims work. It is the desire of the JCCA organization to fully present the views of Japanese Canadian Claimants when making representation to the Government and to the public on their behalf. The organization therefore would appreciate receiving your individual comments, either directly by mail to the National JCCA Office or through your local JCCA Chapter organization.

Yours sincerely,

George Tanaka.

GEORGE TANAKA,
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損害賠償要求者各位

政府に対する損害賠償要求問題は、その過程が非常に微妙なる段階に到達しつつあることが、全加市協に明らかとなって来ました。晩香坡に於るロ－ヤル・コミッションの調査は今や終結に近づきつつあり、コミッションから政府への報告も近く提出されることと予期されて居ります。

過去九ケ月間に亘り、要求者の辯護士は、およそ千三百名の要求者の最善の利益を代表して働きつづけ、各々の要求に注意ぶかき考慮を払い、辯護士及び要求者の主張を裏付ける証拠によって得られる限りの賠償を得るためにコミッションの注意を喚起して来ました。

コミッショナーが解決の方法として提議した『オバー・オール・パーセンテージ』（總体的な歩合の尺度を定めて解決する方法）に関して要求者の間に起るかも知れない誤解をさけるために説明しておきたいことは、例えばフレザー・バレーの帰還兵土地局を通して売られた財産に関して、コミッションの平均した歩合は八〇パーセントであるが、この提案の下では、或る要求者は、要求者側の辯護士の評価者の報告に従って、カストデアンが売却した値段の恐らくは二〇〇パーセントを受けることになるかも知れないのに、他の者は多分五〇パーセントしか得られない者も出るだろうということであります。

要求者が彼等の要求に関して欲しているだけの十分な情報を受けなかったと感ずるであろうことを市協は知って居るのであるけれども、コミッショナーが要求者の辯護士に非公式に告げたところの、各々の要求者が、實際にどれだけの賠償を受けることになるかという詳細な点の成り行きを、要求者にお知らせすることが出来ませんでした。この情報はコミッショナーの報告が政府に提出されるまでは公表することが出来ないのであります。其の上に、晩香坡にあるコーペラチヴ・コミテーの辯護士は、調査進行に全くかかり切りで、全面的な報告をつくる時間がなかったのであります。然しながら今や市協としても、賠償問題の色々の点について市協がしている仕事に関して要求者各位にお知らせできる立場におかれて来ました。

先ず指摘しておきたいことは、現在の調査に関して要求者は、法律に従ってコーペラチヴ・コミテーに辯護を依頼しているという事であります。このコーペラチヴ・コミテーは一九四三年に、日系カナダ人を助けて、彼等が直面している色々な問題—立法上の差別、追放、移動損害の要

求等々――を是正するために、日系人以外の力ある多人たちによって組織された《2》
ものであります。そして全加市協は、日系人賠償要求者の立場の見を
彼等に知らせるために、コーペラチヴ・コミニテーと緊密なる相談をしな
がら行動して来たのであり、あらゆる方面から要求者の利益をはか
るために、コーペラチヴ・コミニテーと共の組織と機関を提供して来たのであります。
第三年度目の会計は監査が済んだので、要求者が支払った費用の
使途に関する会計報告は、要求者が彼等のために仕事をすることを
託律上で依頼しているコーペラチヴ・コミニテーから近々発表される筈
であります。そして此の理由から、市協は要求者とは、法律的な
資格の関係はないけれども、コーペラチヴ・コミニテーとは当事に緊密
なる関連を保って、要求者の最善の利益のために働らいている
ものであるという、市協の立場を明らかにして置きたいのであります。
更に市協は、積極的総務動の結果として目下力ナダ多人が蒙った
損害に関して、市協が現在もっている計画をも、この際、要求
者にお知らせしたいのであります。以下各項に分けてその詳細を
提示して、要求者各位の御考慮を希望いたします。

賠償要求に関する市協の方針並に関係ある背景的情報

一九四九年四月十六日、コーペラチヴ・コミニテーは要求者に手紙を送り、
賠償要求解決方法につきコミニヨナーから提議を受けたことを知らせ、その
手紙の中で述べてあった理由によって、提議された解決方法を受諾する
ことを勧告いたしました。その当時全加市協は、あらゆる角度からこ
の問題を考慮した結果、現在の調査よりすれば、残念ながら、
辯護士の要求者に対する勧告を受諾するよりほかないことを
進言することになりました。要求者がコミニヨナーの提議を
拒否する場合は、各々のケースについて個々のヒヤリング（審議）
が必要となって来るであろうし、仕事は永びいて多分三年乃至三年
はかかり、要求者の得るところはすくなくなり、その上に要求者の費用は恐らく
ないものも出て来るかも知れず、その上辯護士な依頼したのであります
更に十万弗もかかるであろうと
した。しかしながら、この提議を
する吾々の不満を、それで打ち切る
なかったのであります。要求者の
受諾することをコーペラチヴ・コミニテーに報告されました。
時吾々に報告されました。
爾来全加市協は、日系カナダ人が強制的総務動によって蒙った
損害に対する当面処の賠償を得ることに、あらゆる努力を続ける
必要のあることを一層感じたのであります。
一九四九年八月以来、全加市協は、この問題に関する市協今
後の方針について注意ぶかい研究をつづけ、辯護士と相談し

てまいました。ここレヨナーは調査報告書を作成中であり、それがまだ発表されていないのに、移動抜害内延に関して政府た代表者を送りブリーフ(陳情書)を提出するのは適当な時期でありません。しかしながら、全加市協は、コミレヨンが政府に報告書を提出するのに引続いて代表者を送ってブリーフを提出し、将来適切なる時期に、政府に強硬なる申し入れを行い、特た制限された調査条件から除外されている内題なとを取扱うことに関し、十分なる計画を立てているのであります。

アメリカ側の賠償要求に関する報告

賠償要求に関する件のプランを同意するに至らや見落しがあるといけないので、市協ではアメリカ側の賠償要求についてで出まるがぎりの十分な情報を入手すべきだと考えて、全米市協事務やワシントンの交差委員会主事正岡マイク氏とレター紙を取り交わし、その結果として一九四九年十月サ三日、トロントで全米市協の顧問弁護士E.J.エニス氏、正岡マイク氏、コーペラグ、コミテーのブリューイン弁護士、全加市協の田中書記長が会合する取りきめをしました。この会合に出席したカナダ側の人々な、エニス、正岡両氏から、米国側の移動抜害賠償内題の成り行きについてな詳り出来ていなかったからであります。

全米市協の顧問弁護士エニス氏はコミテーが、日系カナダ人の要求を支持するという方針をとっていることに感謝し、あらゆる日系カナダ人要求者を代表する弁護士が、協同して仕事をすることにより、土地評価の重要な証拠を集めや評価その他に関する準備的な作業も詳り出来ていなかったからであります。

全米市協の顧問弁護士エニス氏は、カナダ側の弁護士とコーペラグ。コミテーが、日系カナダ人の要求を支持する一般的な証拠を集めるという方針をとっていたのでありますが、それは人要求者を支持する米国政府の態度について、大きな相違点のあることが、エニス、正岡両氏による話意されました。即ち、カナダ政府が、日系人の移動抜害要求に対して、日系米人の移動抜害を持っている米国政府当局者は、全く同情的であることが、エニス氏から指摘されましたが、それは、米国政府司法省は、損害賠償の責任を米陸軍に直接に負わせることが出来るのに反して、カナダ側では、そういう状態でなかったからであります。

カナダ側の米国側の賠償請求者は、損害賠償の支撃や困難にたいする一般的抜害賠償要求のことな、何ら考えていないのであります。

全加市協は、その全国執行委員会を通じて、九四九年七月
四日から七日にかけてストライキで開かれた第三回全国大会に、この重要なる
移動問題、要求協定に関し、将来如何なる行動をとるべきであるかに就いての計画と進言を提出しました。大会は市協の提出する問題を慎重検討して、すでに
弁護士の助言を得て毎月会に於て準備し、将来政府に提出することになっている、移動損害要求に関する市協のブリーフ(陳情書)を足認しました。大会はまた、市協が全国に亘るパブリック、キャンペーン(公衆にたいする運動)により、新聞や各種団体や個人の支持を求めて行おうとしている移動損害要求要求協定を足認しました。
市協全国大会は、ここにコンセンサスの報告が発表される時ここは、市協と日本の力ある人が、強制的総移動の不正義と、それによって蒙った損害に関し、パブリック(公衆)の注意を喚起するに最もよい機会であるという意見に一致しました。
ローヤル・コミッションは近く調査を終ろうとしている移動損害要求協定を力ある政府に提出することを信じます。ここで全加市協なこのことを心において現在の計画を進めて参ります。目下の全体に亘る仕上げにかかり、ブリーフの用意が完ろうとしつつあります。ここにコミナーの報告書が政府に提出せられたら、政府としてはその進言を検討するのに相当な日数がかかるかも知れないことも豫期されて居ります。

(注 市協が用意しているブリーフに関する大要をありますが、この項はまだ発表できる時期でないので英文にはのせてありません。従ってこのブリーフに関することはお親展として下さい)

市協の移動損害要求ブリーフは左の序文に於て総移動が途方もない大きな仕事であった事実と、それが甚だしく急遽行された事、政府の権利侵害や人道的考慮などする餘地かなりしなかったという事実に照し特別な注意を喚起し、二万三千の人々な、彼等の戦争歳月の間に強制的に立ちのかされ、その結果として被害を蒙ったことを指摘し、若し賠償が調査結果に限定されるならば、訴りにも少ない不十分なものであることを強調し、

(調査條件の範囲が限られていたことのために困難が起こること。
(資産評価に対する厳密なる法律上の証拠集めの困難さ。
(調査條件による、戦争を喪却された時に於ける公正なる市価決定に當つなすことを要求されている点。(適當なる市価決定に當つな、総移動のあらゆる影響を蒙らなかった協会を想像した市価を考慮すべきである事を西々は主張する。)

等々に言及して、移動損害に対する、公正なる賠償、一総移動の損害を補う一般的賠償(包含すべきである事を提議し、

(往時日の過失による総移動が行われたために起った極端なる歪曲の實例の數々

(現在の調査條件の下では賠償が不十分である事の實例の數々

等を附録として添付することになっています。そして、これな政府に提出すると共に全国に亘る公衆運動を行って広汎なる輿論の支持を求め、市協ローカルレベルの地方で運動する筈で居ります。

要求総額と賠償総額との比較及び割合などの実数

晩香坡にあるコーペラチヴ・コミテーの弁護士から、ごく最近に得た報告によると、コーペラチヴ・コミテーに弁護を依頼してきている約千三百名の要求者の個人的な要求になる賠償(会社関係の分を除く)は、九ヶ月前に比して約十五万弗以上増加するだろうと見積られていますが、これは多くの好い前例が続出がつき、又多くの特別賠償をコミテーから得たことを示すものであります。

その真正なる数字の内容を示すと次の如くであります。

(一)要求者の見積った公正なる市価の総額(要求提出に際して、多すぎるとしたもの)な、調査会の時に弁護士の提議を要求者が是認して、多すぎる額を減じ、また調査係件の範囲外と見られて除外された項目を取り去って、大体四百四十八万八千弗である。(アルバータ州のハーチュア弁護士扱いの分は(この中に含まれていない)

(註)この数字の中には カストゲアンの戦産売却処分価格も加えてある)

(二)右の要求に関連するカストゲアンの売却処分戦産(土地家屋及道具)は約百六十六万三千弗である。

(三)そこで、要求者の見積った市価から カストゲアンの売却価格を差引いた差額たる正味の賠償要求額な約二百八十二万五千弗である。

(四)この正味の要求額に対して要求者が受取るべき賠償額(要求者の見積った評価額の五五・七八パーセント)になるであろう。

(五)そこで、コーペラチヴ・コミテーに弁護を依頼している要求者が受取る総額は(カストゲアンの売却価格と賠償額を加えて)約二百五十万四千弗の五〇パーセント)を回収できるであろう。

(六)弁護士の報告によると、右の割合は例えば要求者の大多数が各位とそして、要求評価の四分の三を占めるビーレー州と大ンタリオ州では、売却価格と賠償額を合めた回収額の割合は、ビーレー州の五七・四一パーセントにたいし大ンタリオ州は五六・〇三パーセントである。最もよい回収が出来るのは帰還兵、土地局投いの農地、自動車、漁網、漁船という順位である。晩香坡市の戦産については、売却価格と賠償額を合計すると、要求額の五五・九六パーセントになって、有らゆる戦産の一平均よりも少し割合がよいことになる。

市協が元まで要求者のために成し遂げた仕事について

多くの要求者各位は、全加市協、各州市協及ローカル・チャプターが、過去二ヶ年間に総移動増害要求問題に関して、同家カナダ人のたかを知りたがっての石られることと思いますコーペラチヴ・コミテー及び要求者の弁護士に対し、有用なる多くの援助と共に、この要求をコミテーに提出して、今日までの成果を得ることが出来なかったであろうと、多くの機会に於て表明して居ります。

過去二年間に於て全加市協は、現在の調査係件から除外されている要求者のケースを決して看過ごすことはありません。一九四八年に市協は、コーペラチヴ・コミテーと市協から司法大臣に提出した除外されている要求者のブリーフ

作製を援助しました。次に全加州、ローカルの各市協がこまた仕事の大要をしるし具体的に示します。

△全加市協＝一九四七年九月以来三年間に亘り全加市協が要求者を援助するために市協本部で色々な仕事をした費用を見積ると大体行委員会はおびただしい度数の会議を開いて、各々の段階に於ける市協の進行を慎重に研究し、要求者を援助する市協の仕事を最善に導くために努力を拂いました。

一九四七年九月から一九四八年一月までの四ヶ月間に於て全加市協本部は、要求書やそれを記入する上に必要なる多くの資料を自ら印刷して配布しました。こうして全加市協本部は、市協の機関その他を通して要求書に関する完全なる情報を提供して、それを援助すると共に、要求者に對する多くの通信をも取扱ったのであります。

一九四七年三月から九四八年十二月まで全加市協は、調査の準備に使うのプリ・ヒーヤリング・クレームスの書式を自ら英文に印刷して配附し、千三百以上の要求に必要なる専門的なる分類表を作製しました。全加市協はまた、市協の機関を通して各州の各地センターに於ける要求者のための過辯を提供する取計いをなし、要求者から、コミシヨンに証拠を提出できるよう、市協の機関を通して援助しました。

一九四九年四月―五月には、全加市協は、ローカル市協の執行委員たちに、コミシヨナーか提議したオバー・オール・セットルメントの方法に関する色々な重要点を知らせ、コミシヨナーの提議とコーペラチヴ、コミテーの勧告案とを、出来るかぎりの、明確にして十分なる情報を要求者に與えることにつとめました。

△各州市協＝一九四七年十月から一九四九年五月まで、各州市協は、その役員及び特別委員会の人々の、多くの貴重なる時間と努力の奉仕とによそ、州市協の人員と財政両方面を勤労し、要求者が彼等の要求をコミシヨンに提出するまでを援助しました。州及びローカル・ケヤプターは、要求者を援助するために開いた集会のホール代やメイプライテングその他多くの費用を、彼等自身の会計から支出しています。この期間中に各州市協は、要求書式やそれに関連する材料を配布し、州及びローカル・ケヤプターの機関を必要に應じて組織し、要求者のその他の仕事を援助しました。こうして、州市協なる証拠の用意、要求者の要求書提出や、コミシヨンの調査会に提出すべき重要の役員や特別委員会の人々を、多くの時間と努力を要求者援助の為に捧げたのであります。

△ローカル市協＝州市協が提供した人員と財的援助は、各々のローカル市協の過去二ヶ年間を通して行われました。彼等の努力を通して要求者は、言葉の困難にもおうず、コミシヨンに要求を提出し、弁護士のたのに貴重なる証拠を提出することが出来たのであります。

△コーペラチヴ・コミテー＝コミテーについて此の際感謝と表明とをおきたいのであります。此のコーペラチヴ・コミテーは、去る一九四三年に、五人と云う少人数以外のカナダ人によって、組織されたものであります。

過去六ヶ年間にわたり、コーペラチヴ・コミテーは多くの會合を開き、その仕事の過程に於てメンバーの各々は、自己の人に課せられている不正義を是正して、彼等を援助するために、学生に誠實なる行動をとって

COPY FOR MISS MARGARET BOOS,
CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE.

JOINT STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE, NATIONAL JCCA AND THE TORONTO CLAIMANTS' COMMITTEE

Joint Meetings of the Committees were held on Saturday afternoon, Feb. 4th, and Tuesday evening, Feb. 7th, in order to effect the best possible co-ordination between the Committees in their common objective and to clarify questions pertaining to the Evacuation Losses Claims.

Various questions put to the Co-operative Committee at these meetings by the Toronto Claimants' Committee were satisfactorily answered.

On behalf of the Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians, Rev. J. M. Finlay, Chairman, proposed to the joint meeting that representatives from the Toronto Claimants' Committee, approved by the National JCCA, would be welcome to act as members on the Co-operative Committee. This proposal was unanimously accepted by the joint meeting.

The three Committees concluded their deliberations with the announced determination to work closely together and to make every effort to achieve the best possible results in working for the welfare of Japanese Canadian Claimants.

SIGNED: Co-operative Com. on Japanese Canadians,

National JCCA,

Toronto Claimants' Com.

GT/nf

Feb. 8, 1950.

be made available this month.

来たのであります。

立法上での多くの差別とコーペラティブ・コミテーが戦い、成果をおさめたものうち顕著なるものは、大多数の日系人追放を阻止したこと、総移動の損害賠償を政府に確認せしめて、ローヤル・コミシヨンを任命させたことであります。

コーペラティブ・コミテーは、カナダ全土にわたる多くの西洋人に訴えそ一万弗以上の人金を集め、日系カナダ人追放令に反対する仕事にかかった費用の、大部分の賦課負担をしてくれました。市協はまた、各州の辯護士たちが、強制的総移動の不正義是正の仕事をして貰いたいという、コーペラティブ・コミテーの要請を容れて、要求者のために行動することを承諾し、努力してくれたことをも感謝しておきたいのであります。

結び

全加市協は、日系人要求者の福祉のために成しとげて来た仕事に関する此の報告を結ぶにあたり、要求者各位にたのんで、賠償要求に関する全加市協の仕事について、各位の意見や提議を提出していただきたいと存じます。市協としては要求者に代って政府と會談して陳情し、公衆に訴える際には、日系人要求者の意見を十分に提示したいと市協は望しているのであります。そこで市協は、要求者各位が、個々の意見や批評を、全加市協に直接急ぎたき手紙(一日本人でも英文でもよろしいです)又は、市協のローカル・チャプターを通して、送ってくださいますようお願いするものであります。

敬具、

一九五〇年二月二十八日

全加日系市民協會　書記長　田中ジョージ

(A translation in the Japanese of letter to Claimants.)

Japanese Canadian

TELEPHONE: PLAZA 1253

JCCA

CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS:
84 GERRARD ST. E., TORONTO 2, ONTARIO

TO JCCA EXECUTIVES:

STATEMENT TO JCCA CHAPTERS ON MATTERS WHICH PERTAIN TO THE RECENT RELATIONS OF THE NATIONAL JCCA WITH THE TORONTO CLAIMANTS COMMITTEE

Due to the nature of the public statements recently made in the press by the Toronto Claimants' Committee and some of its members tending to cast disparagement on the present work of the National JCCA on the Claims issue and placing blame on the organization for the inability of this Committee to have its proposals accepted by Claimants' legal counsel, the Co-operative Committee and the National JCCA; the National Executive Committee of the JCCA is impelled at this time to give an explanation of the various factors leading to the recent termination of its close relations with this Toronto Claimants' Committee.

While the National JCCA can withstand unkind remarks, however much they may be considered an abuse of the right to criticize, when such remarks coming from the Toronto Claimants Committee with general statements relating to the important claims question are extremely unethical in character - in some instances not true statements - and cause some Provincial and local JCCA Chapters to have difficulties with and explanations to make to their membership, it is felt imperative that JCCA Chapters should know what has transpired in Toronto between the National Executive Committee of the JCCA, the Toronto Claimants' Committee and, also, the Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians.

Therefore, the following stated facts in detailed form are presented, commencing with the time last April, 1949, when the Co-operative Committee made its recommendation to claimants for the acceptance of the Commissioner's proposal on a method of settlement:

Recommednation of the Co-operative Committee to Claimants on Acceptance of the Commissioner's Proposal in April, 1949

On Saturday, April 9, 1949, a meeting of the Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians was held in Toronto with the following members of the Committee present: Mr. Brewin, Mr. Haslam, Mr. Nichols, Miss Boos, Mr. Roger Obata and Mr. George Tanaka.

While the Co-operative Committee had met previously on several occasions to give careful thought to the Commissioner's proposal on a method of settlement, the final decision of the Committee to accept legal counsel's advice and to recommend to claimants that they would be well-advised to accept the Commissioner's proposal was made at this meeting of the Committee.

The following stated motion is quoted from the Minutes of the Co-operative Committee meeting held on April 9, 1949, 2.30 p.m.:

"Considerable discussion led to the following Motion:

MOVED by Mr. Nichols and seconded by Mr. G. Tanaka THAT, on the advice of our legal counsel, we refer the Government's offer for a settlement to the claimants with a recommendation that it be accepted, with the following provisions:

(a) That every effort will be made to have the proposed recoveries on Vancouver claims at least doubled;
(b) That we reserve our objection, maintained throughout the proceedings, to the narrow terms of reference under which the Commission has operated.

Motion CARRIED unanimously."

During first discussion on this important question, it was pointed out by Mr. Brewin that it is most desirable that the Co-operative Committee devise some means of sampling the opinions of the claimants in the Commissioner's proposal.

The Co-operative Committee felt that every attempt should be made to reach a democratic procedure in obtaining the views of claimants keeping in mind, also, the time element and the necessity for keeping details of the proposal strictly confidential during this negotiation period. The Committee, thereupon, resolved the following Motion:

"MOVED by Mr. Nichols and seconded by Mr. Obata THAT we proceed as follows:

(a) That a confidential document be prepared by Mr. Brewin, and mailed to each claimant, outlining the settlement offer and the reasoning that leads us to recommend its acceptance; that the covering letter advise of claimants meetings in various centres, requesting a written indication of opinion if attendance at a meeting is impossible.

(b) That George Tanaka make the necessary arrangements to visit as many centres as soon as possible, to personally brief all Provincial JCCA officers on the proposed settlement and speak at meetings whenever this can be arranged.

(c) That every effort be made to secure results of meetings held and correspondence received by April 30th.

(d) That expenses of all the necessary office work involved, as well as the National Secretary's travelling expenses, incurred in arranging for and attending these cross-country meetings be paid from the Claims Fund, the Finance Committee to meet early in the week and draw up a budget for anticipated expenses."

Motion CARRIED unanimously.

Following the meeting of the Co-operative Committee, the next two days, Sunday and Monday, April 10th and 11th, 1949, the National Executive Committee of the JCCA held special emergency meetings to consider the Commissioner's proposal on a method of settlement and the recommendations of claimants counsel and the Co-operative Committee advising claimants to accept this proposal.

The National Executive Committee, after giving this important matter very careful and searching thought terminated their discussions at their meeting on April 11, 1949, with the following stated Motion:

"MOVED by T. Umezuki and seconded by T. Tsuji
THAT although we are not satisfied with the settlement proposal for property claims received from the Government, after hearing and studying the recommendation of Claimants' Counsel, we are of the opinion that there is no alternative than to endorse the recommendation of acceptance as formulated by the Co-operative Committee with the following reservations:

1. The offer with respect to Vancouver Properties is too low,
2. The Terms of Reference are too narrow,
3. Some special cases which if settled under the proposed formula would be clearly inadequate should be given individual consideration."

Those voting in favour of the Motion: S. Shinobu, Y. Hyodo, T. Kameoka, G. Tanaka, T. Umezuki, T. Tsuji and N. Fujita.

K. Tanaka in the Chair.
Contrary Votes: R. Obata, K. Hidaka and J. Oki.
Abstained: I. Uchida.

Since Mr. Roger Obata is now taking a prominent part in the activities of the Toronto Claimants' Committee and with Mr. Kunio Hidaka are the only Nisei on this Committee, both having resigned from the National Executive Committee of the JCCA - Mr. Obata, particularly, with a public statement - the foregoing report of the Minutes recording Motions of the Co-operative Committee and the National Executive Committee of the JCCA should be noted with regard to Mr. Obata's attitude on the Claims issue at these Committee meetings.

From a written statement made on February 7, 1950, by the Co-operative Committee signed by Rev. J. M. Finlay, Chairman, to a joint meeting of the following Committees: the Toronto Claimants' Committee, the National Executive Committee of the JCCA and the Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians, the following excerpt is quoted (the full statement is given elsewhere in this report):

"In view of the dissatisfaction expressed by spokesmen for a group of Toronto Claimants on Saturday, Feb. 4, 1950, the Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians feels it advisable to make the following statement:

2. Throughout the proceedings the Committee has worked in close co-operation with the National JCCA and its representatives across Canada and, in particular, with its National Executive Secretary who has been of great assistance. Representing the National JCCA, George Tanaka and Roger Obata have been active members of the Committee and have agreed with all decisions made."

At no time up till Feb. 4, 1950, has Mr. Obata indicated to the Co-operative Committee a reversal of his position, as a member of the Committee, made at the meeting on April 9, 1949.

At the Third National JCCA Conference held in Lethbridge, Alberta, Nov. 4th to 7th, 1949, the delegates considered a statement received from Mr. Obata urging upon the Conference that the JCCA should keep in close touch with claimants and know their views. The National Executive Secretary reported that the National Executive Committee had already considered this to be desirable and had suggested to the Toronto JCCA Chapter to assist Toronto claimants in re-organizing their local Claimants' Committee. The Toronto JCCA Chapter in December, 1949, assisted the Toronto claimants by convening a meeting of claimants. Forty Toronto claimants attended this meeting, and subsequent to this meeting, a Committee of Toronto Claimants was appointed.

During the month of January, 1950, a number of meetings were held between the Claims sub-Committee of the National Executive Committee and the liaison group of the Toronto Claimants' Committee.

At the initial meeting when Mr. Roger Obata and Mr. Kunio Hidaka, representing the Toronto Claimants Committee, met with the National JCCA Claims sub-Committee, they were informed in detail (at their request) of the JCCA plans on future action on the Claims issue and of the JCCA Claims brief. They took an extremely critical attitude toward the JCCA plans, but upon request for suggestions for improvement, failed to make any contribution.

On January 15, the Toronto Claimants' Committee convened a meeting of Toronto claimants. The attendance at this meeting numbered 30 out of a total of some 200 Toronto claimants. A resolution was proposed by the Toronto Claimants' Committee to this meeting which voiced the opinion that:

1. The Commissioner had not made a satisfactory investigation and that therefore the claimants were of the opinion they could not agree to the amount of the Commissioner's awards based on his investigations.

2. On the basis of the amount the Commissioner is about to recommend as awards, the claimants are of the opinion that the general evacuation losses will be an enormous amount, therefore, it is desirable to start action on general evacuation losses claims.

Following this meeting of claimants, these points were thereupon incorporated in a letter to claimants drafted by the Toronto Claimants' Committee, which the Committee proposed the JCCA National Executive Committee consider to have mailed to claimants under the sponsorship of the JCCA organization from the Toronto Claimants Committee. A copy of this letter, roughly translated from the Japanese, reads as follows:

"On April 16th last year, the Co-operative Committee dispatched letters to the claimants regarding the recommendation of Commissioner Bird on an over-all settlement, and many of you indicated agreement although not quite satisfied as there was no other alternative. After that, we claimants living in the Toronto district considered ways of correcting this condition and were considering the way of settlement which would be satisfactory to most of us. But we had no opportunity of letting you know of our ideas.

"Last December, the Issei-bu of the JCCA persuaded claimants that in considering this evacuation loss problem representations from claimants should be included, and we have organized a claimants' committee of the Toronto district. If possible, it was our hope to organize the claimants in a national association but to carry out such a project the time was so short and the Toronto district claimants numbering 205 have organized a committee. With your understanding on this point, we ask complete co-operattion from the claimants.

"The recommendations from Commissioner Bird will be presented within a few weeks and although we have claimed a total of about six million dollars, only $925,000 will be reported as loss. This was based on the percentage of over-all settlement which although not satisfactory has been accepted. But we cannot under any circumstances accept such a settlement. When this report is presented to the Government, it will be publicized. This will be the time we claimants should offer our total efforts to appeal to the public, to the Government, and to the members of Parliament in order to correct this settlement amount. This will be the only chance and if we miss this opportunity, there will not be another chance to make such an effort.

"At the meeting of claimants of the Toronto district, two resolutions were passed:

1. Commissioner Bird has not made satisfactory investigations and therefore we cannot agree to the amount of the awards based on such investigation. We ask the full amount of the claims.

2. We have discovered even under incomplete investigation relating to the Custodian, that there was a $925,000 loss. In consideration of this fact, we come to the conclusion that the general evacuation loss will be an enormous amount. Therefore, we shall start action on general evacuation losses claims.

"Under these two resolutions, we have decided with the co-operation of the JCCA to start an all-out campaign by:

1. Sending a representative to Ottawa and petitioning the Government, Members of Parliament and any other authority.

2. Getting in touch with the other Caucasian organizations; such as, the Ukrainians, Jewish groups, Civil Liberties Associations, and ask them to support our campaign.

3. Asking religious organizations for support.

4. Issuing a pamphlet setting forth the hardships and losses of the Japanese evacuation.

5. Compiling a brief and distributing it widely.

6. Publicizing in newspapers and magazines re evacuation losses.

7. In co-operation with JCCA chapters, ask municipal officials to send wires to local M.P.'s.
8. Asking other Caucasian organizations to wire M.P.'s.

9. Attempt radio program for propaganda.

"This will require an expense budget of $5,000 and when claimants receive their awards, they will be asked to pay in relation to their award. In the meantime, the Joint Committee will take the responsibility for raising the $5,000 in loans.

"We ask the claimants to: first, accept the above resolutions; second, approve the method of raising the expenses involved.

"A reply is requested in two weeks time as this is an important matter and whether action is started or not depends on your answer.

"If you can organize a claimants committee in your district, it would facilitate action in the future, and would facilitate communication with claimants. We would ask you to send us the names and addresses of your committee presidents and secretaries."

Discussion which took place during several meetings of the National JCCA sub-Committee on Claims with the Toronto Claimants Committee on their proposed letter to claimants were reported to the regular monthly meeting of the National Executive Committee held on January 22.

The National Executive Committee, after careful consideration of this matter, decided that it would not be wise for the National JCCA to submit the Toronto Claimants' letter to claimants under JCCA mailing as the opinions expressed by the Toronto Claimants Committee in their letter were not considered wise in statement, being also in

effect contrary to the advice of legal counsel and the Co-operative Committee.

However, the National Executive Committee felt it would be willing to incorporate in a JCCA letter to claimants the essence of the views of the Toronto Claimants' Committee provided the National JCCA have the right to make comments on these views if it is deemed necessary. Should this proposal be unacceptable to the Toronto Claimants' Committee, it was the opinion of the National Executive Committee that the alternative was to have the Toronto Claimants' Committee mail their letter under their mailing to claimants. Eventually, it was decided on the latter course that each would mail their own letter to claimants.

The following Requests of the Toronto Claimants' Committee were Presented to the Co-operative Committee on January 20, 1950, by the National JCCA

1. That the Toronto Claimants' Committee desires to have representation on the Co-operative Committee.

2. That a meeting of the Co-operative Committee be held in the near future and at that time, representatives of the Toronto Claimants' Committee be in attendance. The purpose of the meeting to discuss the whole evacuation claims question.

3. That they desire to know what further charges would be assessed claimants.

The Co-operative Committee informed the National JCCA that it would be willing to have individuals from the Toronto Claimants Committee act on the Committee provided they are appointed by the National JCCA. The Co-operative Committee stated that it could not accept members from a local group as the Co-operative Committee was a national organization representing claimants across Canada.

The Co-operative Committee suggested that the National JCCA convene a meeting of the Co-operative Committee, the National Executive Committee of the JCCA and the Toronto Claimants' Committee. Joint meetings of the three Committees were then held on Saturday, Feb. 4th, and Tuesday, Feb. 7th.

At the joint meeting held on February 4th, over two hours of the meeting time was unnecessarily taken up by various members of the Toronto Claimants Committee who desired to inform the Co-operative Committee of evacuation stories expressed as follows:

(a) Introductory Speech on behalf of the Claimants Committee by Mr. Takashima,
(b) Statement on General Evacuation Conditions by Mr. Mineoka,
(c) Statement on Farm Property by Mr. Shin,
(d) Statement on Principle Involved in Accepting the Commissioner's Proposal by Mr. Ozawa,
(e) Statement re Treatment of Fishermen at time of Evacuation by Mr. Mio,
(f) Summary by K. Hidaka.

During the latter part of this joint meeting, K. Hidaka of the Toronto Claimants' Committee questioned the Co-operative Committee on various matters. The general tenor of these questions and statements gave the impression to the members of the Co-operative Committee that the Toronto Claimants Committee found it difficult to place full confidence in the Co-operative Committee.

On adjournment of this meeting at 6.00 p.m., it was decided that a further joint meeting of the Committees be held on Tuesday, Feb. 7th.

While this condition of joint effort in meeting was still in progress, a statement by the Toronto Claimants' Committee, through its Secretary, was issued to the Continental Times paper on Sunday, Feb. 5th, and was published on Tuesday, Feb. 7th, stating that the Toronto Claimants' Committee had time and again sought the co-operation of the National JCCA but had continually been refused such co-operation.

At the joint meeting of Committees held on Tuesday, Feb. 7th, a decision was arrived at by the three committees to work together in the future, as expressed in the public statement issued to the press, as follows:

> "Joint meetings of the Committees were held on Saturday afternoon, Feb. 4th, and Tuesday evening, Feb. 7th, in order to effect the best possible co-ordination between the Committees in their common objective and to clarify questions pertaining to the Evacuation Losses Claims.
>
> "Various questions put to the Co-operative Committee at these meetings by the Toronto Claimants' Committee were satisfactorily answered.

"On behalf of the Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians, Rev. J. M. Finlay, Chairman, proposed to the joint meeting that representatives from the Toronto Claimants' Committee, approved by the National JCCA, would be welcome to act as members on the Co-operative Committee. This proposal was unanimously accepted by the joint meeting.

"The three Committees concluded their deliberations with the announced determination to work closely together and to make every effort to achieve the best possible results in working for the welfare of Japanese Canadian Claimants.

SIGNED: Co-operative Com. on Japanese Canadians,
National JCCA,
Toronto Claimants' Committee. "

The National JCCA, at this meeting, brought to the attention of the Toronto Claimants' Committee their statement criticizing the JCCA publicly on February 7th, and requested that since this statement was not true, that it be rescinded. The Chairman of the Toronto Claimants' Committee, Mr. Takashima, stated that they would not publicly withdraw this statement as it was a matter of past incident.

At this meeting, the Co-operative Committee submitted the following statement:

"In view of the dissatisfaction expressed by spokesmen for a group of Toronto Claimants on Saturday, February 4th, the Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians feels it advisable to make the following statement:

1. At each stage the Committee has carefully considered any question affecting the interests of Claimants who retained it and <u>unanimous</u> decisions have finally been reached after full discussion of matters involved.

2. Throughout the proceedings the Committee has worked in close co-operation with the National JCCA and its representatives across Canada and, in particular, with its National Executive Secretary who has been of great assistance. Representing the National JCCA, George Tanaka and Roger Obata have been active members of the Committee and have agreed with all decisions made.

3. This Committee has full confidence in the legal counsel retained to represent Claimants and is of the opinion that the most effective services possible have been rendered - in particular, by Mr. R. J. McMaster of Vancouver, who has had the major responsibility for presenting cases of Claimants to the Commissioner.

4. Some objection has recently been expressed to the method of procedure adopted by the Commissioner; namely, the fixing of percentages in respect to various categories and the hearing of special cases where special evidence was available. This Committee is convinced that this procedure which was adopted was definitely in the interests of Claimants, although some of the percentages fixed were not satisfactory to Claimants counsel. In such cases, Counsel made every effort to have percentages raised, but final decision rested with the Commissioner.

   All Claimants were consulted by letter, and of those expressing their opinions by letter, or at meetings, an overwhelming majority approved of the method proposed with varying degrees of dissatisfaction.

5. Claimants with special claims have repeatedly been invited to get in touch with Counsel, and many have done so.

6. Findings of the Commissioner may be reported shortly. This Committee will urge the Government to implement his findings by prompt payment, with interest on all claims from the date of sale. In addition, it will press for special consideration of claims outside the terms of reference which for this reason were rejected by the Commissioner.

7. With regard to specific requests made through the National JCCA:

   (a) <u>Re Representation</u> - It was suggested that additional representatives of Claimants be added to the Co-operative Committee. At its meeting on January 20th, it was agreed that such would be welcome provided that they be appointed by and represent the National JCCA.

7. (b) Re Further Costs - Claimants were assessed 1% of their claims and most of them have made this payment. A further 1% has been paid by a considerable number. We hope no additional assessment will be necessary.

The balance of expenses will be paid on a percentage basis out of claims allowed, in accordance with retainers signed by each claimant represented by the Committee. It is not possible to determine exactly how much will be required from successful claimants for this purpose.

All expenses and legal fees will be submitted to independent counsel for checking. In addition, a statement by the Committee's auditors for the period, Sept. 1st, 1947, to August 31st, 1948, has been submitted: audited statements for the period from Sept. 1st, 1948, to August 31st, 1949, will be made available this month."

Also, at this meeting, it was intimated to the Toronto Claimants Committee by the Co-operative Committee that perhaps two of their members could be approved by the National JCCA to act on the Co-operative Committee. Subsequently, the Toronto Claimants' Committee informed the National JCCA by letter that it desired five members to act on the Co-operative Committee.

The National Executive Committee considered this number to be too great and replied to the Toronto Claimants' Committee that they would be willing to approve one Issei and one Nisei member from the Committee to act on the Co-operative Committee. (In this matter, it is considered that Mr. Obata who is already a member of the Committee, would retain his position as such). In effect, three members of the Toronto Claimants' Committee would act on the Co-operative Committee. K. Hidaka and S. Takashima were accepted from the Toronto Claimants' Committee on the Co-operative Committee.

At a meeting of the National Executive Committee held February 12th, 1950, the Committee recognized the futility of continuing holding meetings with the Toronto Claimants' Committee as they were time-wasting to the JCCA. The National Executive Committee therefore decided that it s relations with the Toronto Claimants' Committee should be dissolved.

In the opinion of the National Executive Committee, it was futile to expect to work with the members of the Toronto Claimants' Committee on a basis of trust: it was often evident from their antagonistic and critical view of the efforts of the JCCA that they held no appreciation of the work of the JCCA in the preparation of its claims Brief and the general over-all plans on future action.

At a meeting of the Co-operative Committee held on February 15, 1950, the National JCCA proposed to send a letter to claimants. Excerpts from the Minutes of the Co-operative Committee meeting are given:

"Co-operative Com. on Japanese Canadians - Minutes of Meeting (Part II)

TIME - Feb. 15th, 1950; 6.00 p.m.
PLACE - Carlton Church.
PRESENT - Boos, Brewin, Finlay, Haslam, Hidaka, Nichols, Tanaka, Takashima, Tucker & Umezuki. (Messrs. Mio, Ozawa & Shin were received as observers for this meeting, on Motion - Brewin/Tanaka).
MINUTES - The following excerpt from Minutes of 5.15 meeting was read: "MOTION: Brewin/Tanaka - "That we accept Mr. Takashima and Mr. Hidaka as members of the Co-operative Committee on the recommendation of the National JCCA." Carried."

TIME OF MEETINGS - MOTION: Nichols/Haslam - "That this meeting adjourn at 7.00 pm Carried.

"NATIONAL JCCA LETTER TO CLAIMANTS - A draft letter which the National JCCA proposes to send to all claimants was submitted for approval, with the request for our mailing list of claimants. Mr. Brewin stated that, having studied the draft, he is satisified such a letter would do no harm to the general cause of claimants. George Tanaka pointed out several minor changes in wording which have been suggested. It was agreed that if, after further study, any member wishes to have further changes made, he should contact George within the next two days.

"MOTION: Nichols/Brewin - "That this Co-operative Committee accept the JCCA proposal, that a statement principally as set before us be sent to claimants, and that our mailing list be made available for this purpose." Carried.

"TORONTO CLAIMANTS COMMITTEE LETTER - Kunio Hidaka advised that the Toronto Claimants Committee has a letter which it wishes to send out to all claimants. During discussion which followed the advisability of communications being sent by the Co-operative Committee was pointed out. Agreed that, while they would not be in the same category as those from the National organization (and thus representing a wider point of view), any submissions from a claimant or group of claimants in writing would certainly be considered by this Committee.

"NATURE OF CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP - In conclusion, the Chairman outlined briefly the history of this Co-operative Committee, pointing out that when the original Committee was dissolved in 1947, an Advisory Committee consisting of twelve original members, plus a new Secretary and the Legal Counsel, was set up. Although some members have held executive positions in other organizations, their membership on this Committee has been on an individual basis. To-night two Toronto claimants, representing a point of view, have been added.

ADJOURNMENT - moved at 7.05."

A further meeting of the Co-operative Committee was held on Friday evening, February 24th, 1950.

Those present were: Mr. Haslam, Mr. Nichols, Miss Boos, Miss Tucker, Mr. Brewin, Mr. Fowler, Mr. T. Umezuki, Mr. G. Tanaka, Mr. R. Obata, Mr. K. Hidaka and Mr. S. Takashima.

During the greater part of this meeting, discussion centred on the question of future political action on the claims issue.

Mr. Brewin stressed the great importance of proper timing with regard to any action which is taken in representations to the Government and public action.

It was the general consensus of the meeting that properly co-ordinated action is necessary in any future action on the Claims issue. The National JCCA Executive Secretary assured the meeting that the JCCA organization fully desired to co-ordinate its plans on this matter with the Co-operative Committee.

It was Mr. Brewin's opinion that with respect to certain lines of approach in making representations to the Government and taking public action on the Claims issue, the National JCCA would be better suited to take responsibility rather than the Co-operative Committee since it is an organization directly representing Japanese Canadians. However, it was felt that the Co-operative Committee should also take an active part in this matter.

A Motion was proposed by Mr. Roger Obata that a sub-committee be appointed to take full charge of directing organized future action on the Claims issue.

Mr. Fowler expressed disagreement to Mr. Obata's motion in that he felt the Co-operative Committee could not compel any other organization, such as the National JCCA, to carry out work on this question in any way that is felt desirable by the Co-operative Committee.

Mr. Fowler then proposed a Motion that a sub-committee be appointed to take responsibility in planning Co-operative Committee future action on the Claims issue. This Motion was unanimously Carried.

The Acting Chairman, Mr. Haslam; and the Chairman, Mr. Finlay; were requested to appoint members to act on the sub-committee.

Mr. K. Hidaka then brought to the attention of the Co-operative Committee a letter drafted by the Toronto Claimants' Committee which they desired to have mailed to claimants by the Co-operative Committee.

This letter which was read out by Mr. Hidaka to the meeting is quoted as follows:

"Draft Letter to Claimants by the Toronto Claimants' Committee

1. Out of claims totalling $6 millions, payments of $925,000 may be expected. Are you satisfied with this amount?

2. Outside of Special Cases, there is no compensation for Vancouver property, other than return of commission. Are you satisfied with this proposed settlement? There is the danger of leaving a record which would indicate unjustified claims on the part of claimants.

3. At one time you indicated acceptance of the Commissioner's offer, but if you are now unprepared to accept it, please state your reasons.

4. In the above matter, Toronto claimants voiced their dissatisfaction with the proposed settlement at a meeting held on January 15th. They decided to secure the attitudes and opinions of other claimants in Canada on this matter by using the machinery of the JCCA.

5. After 40 days of fruitless negotiations with the National JCCA, we must report that we were unable to gain their co-operation in this matter.

6. Finally after a joint conference of our three organizations, namely, the Co-operative Committee, the National JCCA, and the Claimants Committee, our Committee has gained representation, as a committee, on the Co-operative Committee.

7. We would now like to know whether we have your support as a Claimants Committee in any representation we may make to the Co-operative Committee. Are we your authorized representatives and may we undertake work on your behalf?

8. Toronto claimants have endorsed the Claimants Committee's plan to conduct a public campaign in the following manner:

   (a) To draw up a brief on evacuation losses with statement of claimants' position on the Commissioner's report.
   (b) To publish a pamphlet for mass distribution describing all facts and circumstances of evacuation.
   (c) To gain newspaper and periodical press support, and have them publish news stories and articles.
   (d) To use radio time.
   (e) To arrange delegation to interview Cabinet and M.P.'s.
   (f) To enlist the support of organizations and ethnic groups, such as Ukrainian, Jewish, Civil Liberties, etc.
   (g) To enlist the support of churches and religious organizations.
   (h) To contact local Japanese Canadian organizations, have them wire and write their M.P.'s and the Government.
   (i) To work through JCCA Chapters and have them contact mayors, municipal councils and other local officials, request that they wire and write their M.P.'s and the Government.

9. We are of the opinion that this is our last opportunity to present our case before the Canadian public. We must make full use of every possible means within our means to gain favourable support in this campaign.

10. Should you have additional suggestions, please advise us.

11. In order to facilitate communication between claimants, please make an effort to form Claimants Committees in your local areas, and advise us of the name and address of your chairman and secretary.

12. We estimate that $5,000 will be required for the campaign. It has been proposed that the Claimants Committee, Toronto, be empowered to borrow this amount, and that payment be made later on a pro rata basis from final awards.

13. Because time is pressing, where there is additional information which shows that property had higher valuation than the selling price, please have claimants send this material to us at the earliest opportunity."

NATIONAL JAPANESE CANADIAN
CITIZENS ASSOCIATION,
84 Gerrard Street East,
Toronto 2, Ontario.

NOTICE OF JOINT MEETING OF COMMITTEES
on Evacuation Losses Claims

To the Members of the following Committees:
Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians,
JCCA National Executive Committee,
Toronto Claimants' Committee.

Dear Committee Member:

A joint meeting of the above-mentioned Committees will be held this Saturday afternoon, Feb. 4, 1950, commencing at 1.00 p.m. at the Central YMCA, 40 College Street, Room 3 (second floor).

This meeting is being convened by the National JCCA on the suggestion of the Co-operative Committee to provide an opportunity to the Toronto Claimants' Committee to discuss fully with the Co-operative Committee the matter of Evacuation Losses Claims.

A G E N D A

Chairman - Lucien Kurata (Chairman of the National JCCA Executive Committee)

1. Resume of past proceedings.

2. Brief Report by National JCCA re Future Plans on Claims Question:
   (a) Representation to Government,-
   (b) Public Campaign.

3. Statements from members of the Toronto Claimants' Committee to the Co-operative Committee presented by R. Obata.

4. General Discussion:
   (a) Questions by the Toronto Claimants' Committee to the Co-operative Committee.
   (b) Report on Plans of Toronto Claimants' Committee.

THE NATIONAL JCCA,

per: GEORGE TANAKA.

GT/nf

be made available this month.

Following the reading of this letter to the meeting, Mr. Fowler expressed the opinion, the letter was an unethical piece of writing as it was a complete negation of the spirit of co-operation which had been shown in the discussions of the Committee with regard to taking co-operative action on the Claims issue.

Referring to point 5 and 8 (i), Mr. Fowler stated that the letter criticized the National JCCA and at the same time proposed to enlist the co-operation of the JCCA local Chapters. He stated this to be a very unethical and irresponsible statement to make as it proposed, in effect, to go behind the back of the National JCCA after having criticized it to obtain the help of the local Chapters.

Mr. Brewin stated that point 1 of the letter, in his opinion, an irresponsible statement. The Toronto Claimants' Committee had no authority whatsoever to inform claimants that total claims would amount to 6 million dollars and that payment of awards could be expected to amount to 925,000 dollars. He himself did not know what these figures would be. And, especially, he felt it was ridiculous to ask the claimants whether they were satisfied with these amounts as it was not possible for claimants to know how they felt on this matter until the amount of their individual awards is made known by the Government.

Mr. Nichols referred to point 6 of the letter and stated that the Toronto Claimants Committee had no right to assume that they were now represented on the Co-operative Committee. He stated that the members of the Co-operative Committee were acting on the Committee as individuals and not as representatives of organizations.

The acting Chairman, Mr. Haslam, reiterated this point and stated that Mr. Hidaka and Mr. Takashima, while they may represent a point of view, that of the Toronto Claimants Committee, they were nevertheless considered by the Co-operative Committee to be members of the Committee as individuals on the same basis as the other members.

Mr. George Tanaka stated to the meeting that with regard to point 5, notwithstanding the fact that the National Executive Committee of the JCCA had held a number of meetings with the Toronto Claimants Committee and had not been able to effect any agreement with them, it was his opinion that point 5 of the letter was not a true statement and was contrary to the spirit of trust which has heretofore prevailed in the Co-operative Committee.

Mr. Nichols proposed the Motion that the Co-operative Committee should not mail the Toronto Claimants' Committee's letter to claimants. This Motion was seconded by Mr. Brewin and the Motion was Carried by a majority vote of all the Caucasian members of the Committee and Mr. Tanaka and Mr. Umezuki.

Mr. Hidaka thereupon requested to the Committee, on behalf of the Toronto Claimants' Committee, the use of the Co-operative Committee's mailing list to mail their letter to claimants.

Mr. Nichols proposed the Motion seconded by Mr. Fowler that the Co-operative Committee mailing list be not given to the Toronto Claimants Committee. The Motion was Carried by a majority vote of all the Caucasian members of the Committee and Mr. Tanaka and Mr. Umezuki.

The meeting adjourned at 11.00 p.m.

It is felt the Toronto Claimants Committee, by their actions as a committee and by the actions of the individual members of the Committee, in their relations with the Co-operative Committee during the past two months period, gave a very bad impression to the Caucasian members of the Co-operative Committee. While they have expressed words of appreciation when facing the Co-operative Committee members at meetings, they have never, by their actions, indicated to the Caucasian members of the Co-operative Committee a true spirit of appreciation of the work they have done in the past six years for Japanese Canadians.

The National JCCA will continue to work on the Claims issue with the Co-operative Committee on a basis of trust and belief of the faithfulness of its Caucasian members to help Japanese Canadian claimants to the fullest practicable extent possible.

March 13, 1950.

GEORGE TANAKA,
National Executive Secretary.

5.

JAPANESE CANADIAN CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

JCCA

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84 GERRARD ST. E., TORONTO 2, ONTARIO

5.
Japanese Canadian Citizens Association
1941, 1950

TO JCCA EXECUTIVES:

STATEMENT TO JCCA CHAPTERS ON MATTERS WHICH PERTAIN TO THE RECENT RELATIONS OF THE NATIONAL JCCA WITH THE TORONTO CLAIMANTS COMMITTEE

Due to the nature of the public statements recently made in the press by the Toronto Claimants' Committee and some of its members tending to cast disparagement on the present work of the National JCCA on the Claims issue and placing blame on the organization for the inability of this Committee to have its proposals accepted by Claimants' legal counsel, the Co-operative Committee and the National JCCA; the National Executive Committee of the JCCA is impelled at this time to give an explanation of the various factors leading to the recent termination of its close relations with this Toronto Claimants' Committee.

While the National JCCA can withstand unkind remarks, however much they may be considered an abuse of the right to criticize, when such remarks coming from the Toronto Claimants Committee with general statements relating to the important claims question are extremely unethical in character - in some instances not true statements - and cause some Provincial and local JCCA Chapters to have difficulties with and explanations to make to their membership, it is felt imperative that JCCA Chapters should know what has transpired in Toronto between the National Executive Committee of the JCCA, the Toronto Claimants' Committee and, also, the Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians.

Therefore, the following stated facts in detailed form are presented, commencing with the time last April, 1949, when the Co-operative Committee made its recommendation to claimants for the acceptance of the Commissioner's proposal on a method of settlement:

Recommednation of the Co-operative Committee to Claimants on Acceptance of the Commissioner's Proposal in April, 1949

On Saturday, April 9, 1949, a meeting of the Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians was held in Toronto with the following members of the Committee present: Mr. Brewin, Mr. Haslam, Mr. Nichols, Miss Boos, Mr. Roger Obata and Mr. George Tanaka.

While the Co-operative Committee had met previously on several occasions to give careful thought to the Commissioner's proposal on a method of settlement, the final decision of the Committee to accept legal counsel's advice and to recommend to claimants that they would be well-advised to accept the Commissioner's proposal was made at this meeting of the Committee.

The following stated motion is quoted from the Minutes of the Co-operative Committee meeting held on April 9, 1949, 2.30 p.m.:

"Considerable discussion led to the following Motion:

MOVED by Mr. Nichols and seconded by Mr. G. Tanaka THAT, on the advice of our legal counsel, we refer the Government's offer for a settlement to the claimants with a recommendation that it be accepted, with the following provisions:

(a) That every effort will be made to have the proposed recoveries on Vancouver claims at least doubled;
(b) That we reserve our objection, maintained throughout the proceedings, to the narrow terms of reference under which the Commission has operated.

Motion CARRIED unanimously."

During first discussion on this important question, it was pointed out by Mr. Brewin that it is most desirable that the Co-operative Committee devise some means of sampling the opinions of the claimants in the Commissioner's proposal.

The Co-operative Committee felt that every attempt should be made to reach a democratic procedure in obtaining the views of claimants keeping in mind, also, the time element and the necessity for keeping details of the proposal strictly confidential during this negotiation period. The Committee, thereupon, resolved the following Motion:

"MOVED by Mr. Nichols and seconded by Mr. Obata THAT we proceed as follows:

(a) That a confidential document be prepared by Mr. Brewin, and mailed to each claimant, outlining the settlement offer and the reasoning that leads us to recommend its acceptance; that the covering letter advise of claimants meetings in various centres, requesting a written indication of opinion if attendance at a meeting is impossible.

(b) That George Tanaka make the necessary arrangements to visit as many centres as soon as possible, to personally brief all Provincial JCCA officers on the proposed settlement and speak at meetings whenever this can be arranged.

(c) That every effort be made to secure results of meetings held and correspondence received by April 30th.

(d) That expenses of all the necessary office work involved, as well as the National Secretary's travelling expenses, incurred in arranging for and attending these cross-country meetings be paid from the Claims Fund, the Finance Committee to meet early in the week and draw up a budget for anticipated expenses."

Motion CARRIED unanimously.

Following the meeting of the Co-operative Committee, the next two days, Sunday and Monday, April 10th and 11th, 1949, the National Executive Committee of the JCCA held special emergency meetings to consider the Commissioner's proposal on a method of settlement and the recommendations of claimants counsel and the Co-operative Committee advising claimants to accept this proposal.

The National Executive Committee, after giving this important matter very careful and searching thought terminated their discussions at their meeting on April 11, 1949, with the following stated Motion:

"MOVED by T. Umezuki and seconded by T. Tsuji
THAT although we are not satisfied with the settlement proposal for property claims received from the Government, after hearing and studying the recommendation of Claimants' Counsel, we are of the opinion that there is no alternative than to endorse the recommendation of acceptance as formulated by the Co-operative Committee with the following reservations:

1. The offer with respect to Vancouver Properties is too low,
2. The Terms of Reference are too narrow,
3. Some special cases which if settled under the proposed formula would be clearly inadequate should be given individual consideration."

Those voting in favour of the Motion: S. Shinobu, Y. Hyodo, T. Kameoka, G. Tanaka, T. Umezuki, T. Tsuji and N. Fujita.

K. Tanaka in the Chair.
Contrary Votes: R. Obata, K. Hidaka and J. Oki.
Abstained: I. Uchida.

Since Mr. Roger Obata is now taking a prominent part in the activities of the Toronto Claimants' Committee and with Mr. Kunio Hidaka are the only Nisei on this Committee, both having resigned from the National Executive Committee of the JCCA - Mr. Obata, particularly, with a public statement - the foregoing report of the Minutes recording Motions of the Co-operative Committee and the National Executive Committee of the JCCA should be noted with regard to Mr. Obata's attitude on the Claims issue at these Committee meetings.

From a written statement made on February 7, 1950, by the Co-operative Committee signed by Rev. J. M. Finlay, Chairman, to a joint meeting of the following Committees: the Toronto Claimants' Committee, the National Executive Committee of the JCCA and the Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians, the following excerpt is quoted (the full statement is given elsewhere in this report):

5.
Japanese Canadian Citizens Association
1947, 1950

"In view of the dissatisfaction expressed by spokesmen for a group of Toronto Claimants on Saturday, Feb. 4, 1950, the Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians feels it advisable to make the following statement:

2. Throughout the proceedings the Committee has worked in close co-operation with the National JCCA and its representatives across Canada and, in particular, with its National Executive Secretary who has been of great assistance. Representing the National JCCA, George Tanaka and Roger Obata have been active members of the Committee and have agreed with all decisions made."

At no time up till Feb. 4, 1950, has Mr. Obata indicated to the Co-operative Committee a reversal of his position, as a member of the Committee, made at the meeting on April 9, 1949.

At the Third National JCCA Conference held in Lethbridge, Alberta, Nov. 4th to 7th, 1949, the delegates considered a statement received from Mr. Obata urging upon the Conference that the JCCA should keep in close touch with claimants and know their views. The National Executive Secretary reported that the National Executive Committee had already considered this to be desirable and had suggested to the Toronto JCCA Chapter to assist Toronto claimants in re-organizing their local Claimants' Committee. The Toronto JCCA Chapter in December, 1949, assisted the Toronto claimants by convening a meeting of claimants. Forty Toronto claimants attended this meeting, and subsequent to this meeting, a Committee of Toronto Claimants was appointed.

During the month of January, 1950, a number of meetings were held between the Claims sub-Committee of the National Executive Committee and the liaison group of the Toronto Claimants' Committee.

At the initial meeting when Mr. Roger Obata and Mr. Kunio Hidaka, representing the Toronto Claimants Committee, met with the National JCCA Claims sub-Committee, they were informed in detail (at their request) of the JCCA plans on future action on the Claims issue and of the JCCA Claims brief. They took an extremely critical attitude toward the JCCA plans, but upon request for suggestions for improvement, failed to make any contribution.

On January 15, the Toronto Claimants' Committee convened a meeting of Toronto claimants. The attendance at this meeting numbered 30 out of a total of some 200 Toronto claimants. A resolution was proposed by the Toronto Claimants' Committee to this meeting which voiced the opinion that:

1. The Commissioner had not made a satisfactory investigation and that therefore the claimants were of the opinion they could not agree to the amount of the Commissioner's awards based on his investigations.

2. On the basis of the amount the Commissioner is about to recommend as awards, the claimants are of the opinion that the general evacuation losses will be an enormous amount, therefore, it is desirable to start action on general evacuation losses claims.

Following this meeting of claimants, these points were thereupon incorporated in a letter to claimants drafted by the Toronto Claimants' Committee, which the Committee proposed the JCCA National Executive Committee consider to have mailed to claimants under the sponsorship of the JCCA organization from the Toronto Claimants Committee. A copy of this letter, roughly translated from the Japanese, reads as follows:

"On April 16th last year, the Co-operative Committee dispatched letters to the claimants regarding the recommendation of Commissioner Bird on an over-all settlement, and many of you indicated agreement although not quite satisfied as there was no other alternative. After that, we claimants living in the Toronto district considered ways of correcting this condition and were considering the way of settlement which would be satisfactory to most of us. But we had no opportunity of letting you know of our ideas.

"Last December, the Issei-bu of the JCCA persuaded claimants that in considering this evacuation loss problem representations from claimants should be included, and we have organized a claimants' committee of the Toronto district. If possible, it was our hope to organize the claimants in a national association but to carry out such a project the time was so short and the Toronto district claimants numbering 205 have organized a committee. With your understanding on this point, we ask complete co-operattion from the claimants.

5. Japanese Canadian Citizens Association 1941, 1950

"The recommendations from Commissioner Bird will be presented within a few weeks and although we have claimed a total of about six million dollars, only $925,000 will be reported as loss. This was based on the percentage of over-all settlement which although not satisfactory has been accepted. But we cannot under any circumstances accept such a settlement. When this report is presented to the Government, it will be publicized. This will be the time we claimants should offer our total efforts to appeal to the public, to the Government, and to the members of Parliament in order to correct this settlement amount. This will be the only chance and if we miss this opportunity, there will not be another chance to make such an effort.

"At the meeting of claimants of the Toronto district, two resolutions were passed:

1. Commissioner Bird has not made satisfactory investigations and therefore we cannot agree to the amount of the awards based on such investigation. We ask the full amount of the claims.

2. We have discovered even under incomplete investigation relating to the Custodian, that there was a $925,000 loss. In consideration of this fact, we come to the conclusion that the general evacuation loss will be an enormous amount. Therefore, we shall start action on general evacuation losses claims.

"Under these two resolutions, we have decided with the co-operation of the JCCA to start an all-out campaign by:

1. Sending a representative to Ottawa and petitioning the Government, Members of Parliament and any other authority.

2. Getting in touch with the other Caucasian organizations; such as, the Ukrainians, Jewish groups, Civil Liberties Associations,and ask them to support our campaign.

3. Asking religious organizations for support.

4. Issuing a pamphlet setting forth the hardships and losses of the Japanese evacuation.

5. Compiling a brief and distributing it widely.

6. Publicizing in newspapers and magazines re evacuation losses.

7. In co-operation with JCCA chapters, ask municipal officials to send wires to local M.P.'s.
8. Asking other Caucasian organizations to wire M.P.'s.

9. Attempt radio program for propaganda.

"This will require an expense budget of $5,000 and when claimants receive their awards, they will be asked to pay in relation to their award. In the meantime, the Joint Committee will take the responsibility for raising the $5,000 in loans.

"We ask the claimants to: first, accept the above resolutions; second, approve the method of raising the expenses involved.

"A reply is requested in two weeks time as this is an important matter and whether action is started or not depends on your answer.

"If you can organize a claimants committee in your district, it would facilitate action in the future, and would facilitate communication with claimants. We would ask you to send us the names and addresses of your committee presidents and secretaries."

Discussion which took place during several meetings of the National JCCA sub-Committee on Claims with the Toronto Claimants Committee on their proposed letter to claimants were reported to the regular monthly meeting of the National Executive Committee held on January 22.

The National Executive Committee, after careful consideration of this matter, decided that it would not be wise for the National JCCA to submit the Toronto Claimants' letter to claimants under JCCA mailing as the opinions expressed by the Toronto Claimants Committee in their letter were not considered wise in statement, being also in

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Japanese Canadian Citizens Association
1947, 1950

effect contrary to the advice of legal counsel and the Co-operative Committee.

However, the National Executive Committee felt it would be willing to incorporate in a JCCA letter to claimants the essence of the views of the Toronto Claimants' Committee provided the National JCCA have the right to make comments on these views if it is deemed necessary. Should this proposal be unacceptable to the Toronto Claimants' Committee, it was the opinion of the National Executive Committee that the alternative was to have the Toronto Claimants' Committee mail their letter under their mailing to claimants. Eventually, it was decided on the latter course that each would mail their own letter to claimants.

The following Requests of the Toronto Claimants' Committee were Presented to the Co-operative Committee on January 20, 1950, by the National JCCA

1. That the Toronto Claimants' Committee desires to have representation on the Co-operative Committee.

2. That a meeting of the Co-operative Committee be held in the near future and at that time, representatives of the Toronto Claimants' Committee be in attendance. The purpose of the meeting to discuss the whole evacuation claims question.

3. That they desire to know what further charges would be assessed claimants.

The Co-operative Committee informed the National JCCA that it would be willing to have individuals from the Toronto Claimants Committee act on the Committee provided they are appointed by the National JCCA. The Co-operative Committee stated that it could not accept members from a local group as the Co-operative Committee was a national organization representing claimants across Canada.

The Co-operative Committee suggested that the National JCCA convene a meeting of the Co-operative Committee, the National Executive Committee of the JCCA and the Toronto Claimants' Committee. Joint meetings of the three Committees were then held on Saturday, Feb. 4th, and Tuesday, Feb. 7th.

At the joint meeting held on February 4th, over two hours of the meeting time was unnecessarily taken up by various members of the Toronto Claimants Committee who desired to inform the Co-operative Committee of evacuation stories expressed as follows:

(a) Introductory Speech on behalf of the Claimants Committee by Mr. Takashima,
(b) Statement on General Evacuation Conditions by Mr. Mineoka,
(c) Statement on Farm Property by Mr. Shin,
(d) Statement on Principle Involved in Accepting the Commissioner's Proposal by Mr. Ozawa,
(e) Statement re Treatment of Fishermen at time of Evacuation by Mr. Mio,
(f) Summary by K. Hidaka.

During the latter part of this joint meeting, K. Hidaka of the Toronto Claimants' Committee questioned the Co-operative Committee on various matters. The general tenor of these questions and statements gave the impression to the members of the Co-operative Committee that the Toronto Claimants Committee found it difficult to place full confidence in the Co-operative Committee.

On adjournment of this meeting at 6.00 p.m., it was decided that a further joint meeting of the Committees be held on Tuesday, Feb. 7th.

While this condition of joint effort in meeting was still in progress, a statement by the Toronto Claimants' Committee, through its Secretary, was issued to the Continental Times paper on Sunday, Feb. 5th, and was published on Tuesday, Feb. 7th, stating that the Toronto Claimants' Committee had time and again sought the co-operation of the National JCCA but had continually been refused such co-operation.

At the joint meeting of Committees held on Tuesday, Feb. 7th, a decision was arrived at by the three committees to work together in the future, as expressed in the public statement issued to the press, as follows:

"Joint meetings of the Committees were held on Saturday afternoon, Feb. 4th, and Tuesday evening, Feb. 7th, in order to effect the best possible co-ordination between the Committees in their common objective and to clarify questions pertaining to the Evacuation Losses Claims.

"Various questions put to the Co-operative Committee at these meetings by the Toronto Claimants' Committee were satisfactorily answered.

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7. (b) Re Further Costs - Claimants were assessed 1% of their claims and most of them have made this payment. A further 1% has been paid by a considerable number. We hope no additional assessment will be necessary.

The balance of expenses will be paid on a percentage basis out of claims allowed, in accordance with retainers signed by each claimant represented by the Committee. It is not possible to determine exactly how much will be required from successful claimants for this purpose.

All expenses and legal fees will be submitted to independent counsel for checking. In addition, a statement by the Committee's auditors for the period, Sept. 1st, 1947, to August 31st, 1948, has been submitted: audited statements for the period from Sept. 1st, 1948, to August 31st, 1949, will be made available this month."

Also, at this meeting, it was intimated to the Toronto Claimants Committee by the Co-operative Committee that perhaps two of their members could be approved by the National JCCA to act on the Co-operative Committee. Subsequently, the Toronto Claimants' Committee informed the National JCCA by letter that it desired five members to act on the C -operative Committee.

The National Executive Committee considered this number to be too great and replied to the Toronto Claimants' Committee that they would be willing to approve one Issei and one Nisei member from the Committee to act on the Co-operative Committee. (In this matter, it is considered that Mr. Obata who is already a member of the Committee, would retain his position as such). In effect, three members of the Toronto Claimants' Committee would act on the Co-operative Committee. K. Hidaka and S. Takashima were accepted from the Toronto Claimants' Committee on the Co-operative Committee.

At a meeting of the National Executive Committee held February 12th, 1950, the Committee recognized the futility of continuing holding meetings with the Toronto Claimants' Committee as they were time-wasting to the JCCA. The National Executive Committee therefore decided that it s relations with the Toronto Claimants' Committee should be dissolved.

In the opinion of the National Executive Committee, it was futile to expect to work with the members of the Toronto Claimants' Committee on a basis of trust: it was often evident from their antagonistic and critical view of the efforts of the JCCA that they held no appreciation of the work of the JCCA in the preparation of its claims Brief and the general over-all plans on future action.

At a meeting of the Co-operative Committee held on February 15, 1950, the National JCCA proposed to send a letter to claimants. Excerpts from the Minutes of the Co-operative Committee meeting are given:

"Co-operative Com. on Japanese Canadians - Minutes of Meeting (Part II)

TIME - Feb. 15th, 1950; 6.00 p.m.
PLACE - Carlton Church.
PRESENT - Boos, Brewin, Finlay, Haslam, Hidaka, Nichols, Tanaka, Takashima, Tucker & Umezuki. (Messrs. Mio, Ozawa & Shin were received as observers for this meeting, on Motion - Brewin/Tanaka).
MINUTES - The following excerpt from Minutes of 5.15 meeting was read: "MOTION: Brewin/Tanaka - "That we aocept Mr. Takashima and Mr. Hidaka as members of the Co-operative Committee on the recommendation of the National JCCA." Carried."

TIME OF MEETINGS - MOTION: Nichols/Haslam - "That this meeting adjourn at 7.00 pm Carried.

"NATIONAL JCCA LETTER TO CLAIMANTS - A draft letter which the National JCCA proposes to send to all claimants was submitted for approval, with the request for our mailing list of claimants. Mr. Brewin stated that, having studied the draft, he is satisified such a letter would do no harm to the general cause of claimants. George Tanaka pointed out several minor changes in wording which have been suggested. It was agreed that if, after further study, any member wishes to have further changes made, he should contact George within the next two days.

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"MOTION: Nichols/Brewin - "That this Co-operative Committee accept the JCCA proposal, that a statement principally as set before us be sent to claimants, and that our mailing list be made available for this purpose."
Carried.

"TORONTO CLAIMANTS COMMITTEE LETTER - Kunio Hidaka advised that the Toronto Claimants Committee has a letter which it wishes to send out to all claimants. During discussion which followed the advisability of communications being sent by the Co-operative Committee was pointed out. Agreed that, while they would not be in the same category as those from the National organization (and thus representing a wider point of view), any submissions from a claimant or group of claimants in writing would certainly be considered by this Committee.

"NATURE OF CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP - In conclusion, the Chairman outlined briefly the history of this Co-operative Committee, pointing out that when the original Committee was dissolved in 1947, an Advisory Committee consisting of twelve original members, plus a new Secretary and the Legal Counsel, was set up. Although some members have held executive positions in other organizations, their membership on this Committee has been on an individual basis. To-night two Toronto claimants, representing a point of view, have been added.

ADJOURNMENT - moved at 7.05."

A further meeting of the Co-operative Committee was held on Friday evening, February 24th, 1950.

Those present were: Mr. Haslam, Mr. Nichols, Miss Boos, Miss Tucker, Mr. Brewin, Mr. Fowler, Mr. T. Umezuki, Mr. G. Tanaka, Mr. R. Obata, Mr. K. Hidaka and Mr. S. Takashima.

During the greater part of this meeting, discussion centred on the question of future political action on the claims issue.

Mr. Brewin stressed the great importance of proper timing with regard to any action which is taken in representations to the Government and public action.

It was the general consensus of the meeting that properly co-ordinated action is necessary in any future action on the Claims issue. The National JCCA Executive Secretary assured the meeting that the JCCA organization fully desired to co-ordinate its plans on this matter with the Co-operative Committee.

It was Mr. Brewin's opinion that with respect to certain lines of approach in making representations to the Government and taking public action on the Claims issue, the National JCCA would be better suited to take responsibility rather than the Co-operative Committee since it is an organization directly representing Japanese Canadians. However, it was felt that the Co-operative Committee should also take an active part in this matter.

A Motion was proposed by Mr. Roger Obata that a sub-committee be appointed to take full charge of directing organized future action on the Claims issue.

Mr. Fowler expressed disagreement to Mr. Obata's motion in that he felt the Co-operative Committee could not compel any other organization, such as the National JCCA, to carry out work on this question in any way that is felt desirable by the Co-operative Committee.

Mr. Fowler then proposed a Motion that a sub-committee be appointed to take responsibility in planning Co-operative Committee future action on the Claims issue. This Motion was unanimously Carried.

The Acting Chairman, Mr. Haslam; and the Chairman, Mr. Finlay; were requested to appoint members to act on the sub-committee.

Mr. K. Hidaka then brought to the attention of the Co-operative Committee a letter drafted by the Toronto Claimants' Committee which they desired to have mailed to claimants by the Co-operative Committee.

This letter which was read out by Mr. Hidaka to the meeting is quoted as follows:

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"Draft Letter to Claimants by the Toronto Claimants' Committee

1. Out of claims totalling $6 millions, payments of $925,000 may be expected. Are you satisfied with this amount?

2. Outside of Special Cases, there is no compensation for Vancouver property, other than return of commission. Are you satisfied with this proposed settlement? There is the danger of leaving a record which would indicate unjustified claims on the part of claimants.

3. At one time you indicated acceptance of the Commissioner's offer, but if you are now unprepared to accept it, please state your reasons.

4. In the above matter, Toronto claimants voiced their dissatisfaction with the proposed settlement at a meeting held on January 15th. They decided to secure the attitudes and opinions of other claimants in Canada on this matter by using the machinery of the JCCA.

5. After 40 days of fruitless negotiations with the National JCCA, we must report that we were unable to gain their co-operation in this matter.

6. Finally after a joint conference of our three organizations, namely, the Co-operative Committee, the National JCCA, and the Claimants Committee, our Committee has gained representation, as a committee, on the Co-operative Committee.

7. We would now like to know whether we have your support as a Claimants Committee in any representation we may make to the Co-operative Committee. Are we your authorized representatives and may we undertake work on your behalf?

8. Toronto claimants have endorsed the Claimants Committee's plan to conduct a public campaign in the following manner:

   (a) To draw up a brief on evacuation losses with statement of claimants' position on the Commissioner's report.
   (b) To publish a pamphlet for mass distribution describing all facts and circumstances of evacuation.
   (c) To gain newspaper and periodical press support, and have them publish news stories and articles.
   (d) To use radio time.
   (e) To arrange delegation to interview Cabinet and M.P.'s.
   (f) To enlist the support of organizations and ethnic groups, such as Ukrainian, Jewish, Civil Liberties, etc.
   (g) To enlist the support of churches and religious organizations.
   (h) To contact local Japanese Canadian organizations, have them wire and write their M.P.'s and the Government.
   (i) To work through JCCA Chapters and have them contact mayors, municipal councils and other local officials, request that they wire and write their M.P.'s and the Government.

9. We are of the opinion that this is our last opportunity to present our case before the Canadian public. We must make full use of every possible means within our means to gain favourable support in this campaign.

10. Should you have additional suggestions, please advise us.

11. In order to facilitate communication between claimants, please make an effort to form Claimants Committees in your local areas, and advise us of the name and address of your chairman and secretary.

12. We estimate that $5,000 will be required for the campaign. It has been proposed that the Claimants Committee, Toronto, be empowered to borrow this amount, and that payment be made later on a pro rata basis from final awards.

13. Because time is pressing, where there is additional information which shows that property had higher valuation than the selling price, please have claimants send this material to us at the earliest opportunity."

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SECOND JOINT MEETING OF COMMITTEES

On Evacuation Losses Claims

CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE CANADIANS
JCCA NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
TORONTO CLAIMANTS' COMMITTEE

(Convened by the National JCCA)

Place: Canadian Legion Hall,
22 College St., Toronto.

Date: Feb. 7, 1950,
Time: 7:00 p. m.

A G E N D A

Chairman - Mr. Jin Ide

1. Statement from the Co-operative Committee

   - Discussion

2. Statement from the Claimants' Committee

   - Discussion

3. Statement from the National JCCA

   - Discussion

4. Request to the Claimants' Committee to specify their criticisms and/or comments on the past work of the Co-operative Committee and Claimants' Counsel.

...period from Sept. 1st, 1948, to August 31st, 1949, will be made available this month.

Following the reading of this letter to the meeting, Mr. Fowler expressed the opinion, the letter was an unethical piece of writing as it was a complete negation of the spirit of co-operation which had been shown in the discussions of the Committee with regard to taking co-operative action on the Claims issue.

Referring to point 5 and 8 (i), Mr. Fowler stated that the letter criticized the National JCCA and at the same time proposed to enlist the co-operation of the JCCA local Chapters. He stated this to be a very unethical and irresponsible statement to make as it proposed, in effect, to go behind the back of the National JCCA after having criticized it to obtain the help of the local Chapters.

Mr. Brewin stated that point 1 of the letter, in his opinion, an irresponsible statement. The Toronto Claimants' Committee had no authority whatsoever to inform claimants that total claims would amount to 6 million dollars and that payment of awards could be expected to amount to 925,000 dollars. He himself did not know what these figures would be. And, especially, he felt it was ridiculous to ask the claimants whether they were satisfied with these amounts as it was not possible for claimants to know how they felt on this matter until the amount of their individual awards is made known by the Government.

Mr. Nichols referred to point 6 of the letter and stated that the Toronto Claimants Committee had no right to assume that they were now represented on the Co-operative Committee. He stated that the members of the Co-operative Committee were acting on the Committee as individuals and not as representatives of organizations.

The acting Chairman, Mr. Haslam, reiterated this point and stated that Mr. Hidaka and Mr. Takashima, while they may represent a point of view, that of the Toronto Claimants Committee, they were nevertheless considered by the Co-operative Committee to be members of the Committee as individuals on the same basis as the other members.

Mr. George Tanaka stated to the meeting that with regard to point 5, notwithstanding the fact that the National Executive Committee of the JCCA had held a number of meetings with the Toronto Claimants Committee and had not been able to effect any agreement with them, it was his opinion that point 5 of the letter was not a true statement and was contrary to the spirit of trust which has heretofore prevailed in the Co-operative Committee.

Mr. Nichols proposed the Motion that the Co-operative Committee should not mail the Toronto Claimants' Committee's letter to claimants. This Motion was seconded by Mr. Brewin and the Motion was Carried by a majority vote of all the Caucasian members of the Committee and Mr. Tanaka and Mr. Umezuki.

Mr. Hidaka thereupon requested to the Committee, on behalf of the Toronto Claimants' Committee, the use of the Co-operative Committee's mailing list to mail their letter to claimants.

Mr. Nichols proposed the Motion seconded by Mr. Fowler that the Co-operative Committee mailing list be not given to the Toronto Claimants Committee. The Motion was Carried by a majority vote of all the Caucasian members of the Committee and Mr. Tanaka and Mr. Umezuki.

The meeting adjourned at 11.00 p.m.

It is felt the Toronto Claimants Committee, by their actions as a committee and by the actions of the individual members of the Committee, in their relations with the Co-operative Committee during the past two months period, gave a very bad impression to the Caucasian members of the Co-operative Committee. While they have expressed words of appreciation when facing the Co-operative Committee members at meetings, they have never, by their actions, indicated to the Caucasian members of the Co-operative Committee a true spirit of appreciation of the work they have done in the past six years for Japanese Canadians.

The National JCCA will continue to work on the Claims issue with the Co-operative Committee on a basis of trust and belief of the faithfulness of its Caucasian members to help Japanese Canadian claimants to the fullest practicable extent possible.

March 13, 1950.

GEORGE TANAKA,
National Executive Secretary.

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Japanese Canadian

TELEPHONE: PLAZA 1253

JCCA

CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS:
84 GERRARD ST. E., TORONTO 2, ONTARIO

COPY

February 28, 1950.

Dear Claimant:

It has become apparent to the National JCCA that we are approaching a very delicate stage of proceedings on the matter of Claims with the Government. We believe the Claims Hearings in Vancouver before the Royal Commission are now coming to an end and it is expected that a report will be submitted to the Government by the Commission in the not too distant future.

During the past 9 months, legal counsel for claimants has been fully engaged in representing the best interests of some 1,300 Claimants and each claim has been carefully considered, and brought to the attention of the Commission for the fullest possible amount of restitution that legal counsel's and Claimant's supporting evidence will obtain.

In order to prevent any possible misunderstanding among some Claimants regarding the Commissioner's over-all percentage proposal on a method of settlement, the following interpretation of his average percentage proposal is made, e.g., on Fraser Valley property sold through Veterans Land Act Administration, the Commissioner's average percentage finding is 80%. It should be noted that under this proposal, some Claimants may receive perhaps as much as 200% and others perhaps 50% of the Custodian's sale price of their property, depending upon Counsel's independent valuation advice.

The JCCA has realized that Claimants may have felt that they have not received as full information as could be desired on their claims, but it has been difficult for both the Co-operative Committee and the JCCA to report in detail the progress of each individual claim in terms of the actual amount of awards the Commissioner is granting as he has indicated to Claimants' Counsel, this information cannot be made public before his report is submitted to the Government. Further, the Committee's Counsel in Vancouver has been fully engaged on the proceedings and has had no time to make full reports. However, the JCCA is now in a better position to inform the Claimants of the many aspects of the present JCCA work on Claims which has not heretofore been clearly determined to enable a full report to be made to Claimants.

While it may be pointed out that with regard to the present enquiry, Claimants have legally retained the Co-operative Committee which is the organization composed of Canadians other than Japanese formed in 1943 to help Japanese Canadians overcome the various problems with which they were faced - Legislative Discrimination, Deportation and Evacuation Losses Claims - the National Japanese Canadian Citizens Association has been acting in close consultation with the Co-operative Committee in order that the views of Japanese Canadian claimants may be known to this Committee and, also, that the machinery of the JCCA organization shall be available to assist the Co-operative Committee and legal counsel to ensure the best effort of all concerned are directed together for the welfare of Claimants.

The second year's end audited, financial report on the expenditures of monies paid by Claimants will soon be published by the Co-operative Committee who have been legally retained by Claimants to act on their behalf. And for this reason it is desirable to state that although the JCCA has no legal status with Claimants, it has continually worked in their best interests in close co-operation with the Co-operative Committee.

The JCCA desires at this time to report to you on the present plans of the JCCA regarding its work for Japanese Canadians who suffered losses asa result of the forced evacuation. The following detailed reports under various headings are therefore submitted for your consideration:

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Background Information Relative to Present JCCA Plans on the Claims Question

You will recall that under date of April 16, 1949, you received a letter from the Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians advising you that an offer on a method of settlement was received in connection with your property losses claims and that for the reasons stated therein it was recommended that the proposals of settlement be accepted. The National JCCA, at that time, considered this matter from all angles and felt that there was, unfortunately, no alternative under the present enquiry but to recommend acceptance of Counsels' recommendation to Claimants: it was Counsels' advice that a claimants' rejection of the Commissioner's proposal would likely necessitate individual hearing of each claim, prolonging the proceedings perhaps two or three years with the likelihood less would be gained for claimants, with some claimants receiving nothing, and with the added financial burden placed on claimants of paying a further assessment of perhaps $100,000 to cover additional costs. It was never intended, however, that any acceptance of the proposals should be considered as an end of our complaints respecting property losses claims. It was at that time reported to us that a great majority of Claimants who replied to the Co-operative Committee agreed, under protest, with their recommendation for acceptance.

The National JCCA has since fully realized that it would be necessary for the organization to continue to make every effort to gain for Japanese Canadian evacuees just restitution for the losses they suffered from the forced evacuation.

Since August of 1949, the National JCCA has given careful study to the question of future plans of the JCCA with regard to the matter and has consulted with legal counsel. While the Commissioner's Report is pending and has not been published, it is not a suitable time to make representations to the Government about the evacuation losses. However, the National JCCA has fully planned to make vigorous representation to the Government on the over-all claims question at a future appropriate date subsequent to the Commission submitting its full report to the Government and will deal specially with such matters as were outside the limited terms of reference.

Report on American Claims

In order that no stone is left unturned in the preparation of future plans on claims, the JCCA felt it wise to obtain as full information as possible on the Japanese American Claims. And arising from correspondence between the JCCA National Office and Mr. Mike Masaoka, National Legislative Director of the Anti-Discrimination Committee of the JACL in Washington, a meeting was arranged in Toronto on October 23rd between Mr. E. J. Ennis, Counsel for the Japanese American Citizens League; Mr. Mike Masaoka; and Mr. Andrew Brewin, Co-operative Committee Counsel for the Japanese Canadian Claimants; and Mr. George Tanaka, JCCA National Executive Secretary.

The Canadian members present at this meeting were informed by Mr. Ennis and Mr. Masaoka that very little information could be given to them on the work and proceedings of the American Evacuation Losses Claims as the investigation had not advanced beyond the stage of filing Claims and very little preparatory work had been carried out with regard to obtaining proof, evaluations and other important evidence to support the American claims.

Mr. Ennis, Legal Counsel for the JACL, was impressed with the method which has been adopted by Canadian legal counsel and the Co-operative Committee in obtaining general evidence to support the Japanese Canadian claims, where the co-operative efforts of legal counsel representing all Japanese Canadian Claimants has enabled the hiring of expert real estate evaluators, statisticians, etc., who have been able to obtain important evidence to support Japanese Canadian claims.

One outstanding difference was noted by Mr. Ennis and Mr. Masaoka with regard to the attitude of the respective Governments toward the question of Evacuation Losses Claims. In contrast to the reserved attitude of the Canadian Government to the case of Japanese Canadian Evacuation Losses claims, Mr. Ennis pointed out that the attitude of the Department of Justice in America, which is directly responsible for handling the Japanese American Evacuation Losses claims, has been entirely sympathetic. However, it was noted that the Department of Justice in America is able to place the responsibility of Evacuation directly upon the shoulders of the United States Army, a condition of placing Evacuation responsibility not possible in Canada.

Contrary to the belief held by some Canadian Claimants, the present American Claims Bill does not provide for a general indemnification claim based on general evacuation hardship.

5. Japanese Canadian Citizens Association

The National JCCA, through its National Executive Committee, presented to the Third National Conference held in Lethbridge, November 4th to 7th, 1949, its recommendations and plans as to what future course of action the National JCCA should take with regard to this important question of evacuation losses claims. The National Conference studied this matter carefully and approved the preparation of the JCCA Brief on Evacuation Losses Claims, already undertaken by the Committee with the assistance of legal counsel, which it was proposed be presented to the Government at a future date.

The National JCCA Conference was of the opinion that the time of publication of the Commissioner's Report would be the opportune time for the JCCA and the Japanese Canadians to bring to the attention of the public the injustices of the forced evacuation and the losses suffered.

It is believed the Royal Commission will soon be concluding its hearings and will be submitting its full report to the Canadian Government. The National JCCA is, therefore, formulating its present plans with this consideration in mind and is at present finalizing its over-all plans and is completing preparation of its Brief. It is also expected that after the Commissioner's Report is tendered to the Government, the Government may take several weeks to study the recommendations.

We now have a report from Co-operative Committee legal counsel in Vancouver that the total recovery on personal claims (exclusive of Corporation claims) of some 1,300 claimants who retained the Co-operative Committee may exceed the amount estimated 9 months ago by some $ 150,000. From this you will realize that many favourable "settlements" have been made and also many "special awards" have been obtained from the Commissioner.

"The Claimants' total estimate of Fair Market Value of all property on which claims are made, after considering the reductions made on claim amounts at the time of Claimants' hearings and after excluding items claimed which were deemed to be outside the terms of reference, is approximately $ 4,488,000 (N.B., the total amount of Custodian's sale price of properties is included in this figure).

"The Custodian sold the properties (personal and real) to which these claims relate for approximately $ 1,663,000.

"The total of net claims for loss amount to approximately $ 2,825,000.

"On these claims, Claimants will probably recover approximately $ 840,000 or 50% more than the sale price.

"The total amount received by the claimants who retained the Co-operative Committee (including the sale price and the award) will be approximately $ 2,504,000, or 55.78% of the gross claimed value.

"Counsel advises that on a breakdown by Provinces there is very little variation in this percentage for each Province. For instance, for B.C. and Ontario where the bulk of the Claimants reside and in which Provinces three-quarter in value of the Claimants are to be found, the respective percentage of total recovery in relation to claim value (that is, including sale price and award) will be 57.41 and 56.03 respectively. The best recovery was made on V.L.A., cars, nets and boats in that order. Surprisingly enough, however, Vancouver City property, when sale price and award are totalled, represents 55.96% of claim value, or slightly better than the average for all properties."

Record of the Past Work of the JCCA Achieved for Claimants

It is felt that many Claimants would desire to know what the National JCCA, the Provincial JCCA's and the local JCCA's have accomplished during the past two years in working for the welfare of Japanese Canadians on Evacuation Losses Claims.

It has been acknowledged on many occasions by the Co-operative Committee and legal counsel for Claimants that without the valuable and very considerable contribution made by the JCCA organization toward assisting the Co-operative Committee and legal counsel, it would have been difficult to accomplish the submission of Japanese Canadian Claims to the Royal Commission to the extent achieved.

The National JCCA during the past two years has not overlooked the case of Claimants excluded under the present enquiry. In 1948, the JCCA assisted in the preparation of a brief on excluded claims which was presented to the Minister of Justice by the Co-operative Committee and the JCCA.

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The National JCCA

Since September, 1947, the National JCCA has expended over $ 6,000 to pay for the services of necessary National JCCA office staff to enable the JCCA organization to function during many important periods in the past two years to work for and assist Claimants.

During the 5 months period from September, 1947, to January, 1948, the National JCCA Headquarters office assisted in the printing and distribution of Claims Forms and considerable informational and instructional material on filing claims printed both in English and Japanese. The National Office thus provided complete information and gave assistance in the filing of Claims to Claimants through JCCA channels and other media, and attended to a great volume of correspondence on Claims matters with Claimants.

From February, 1948, to December, 1948, the National JCCA attended to the printing and distribution of pre-Hearing Claims Forms, printed in English and Japanese, and provided expert assistance in completing the necessary special tabulation of over 1,300 claims. The National JCCA also directed the JCCA organization machinery which has made possible the providing of interpreters for Claimants in all the various local centres in each Province and also made possible the functioning of this machinery to provide assistance in the work of presenting evidence from Claimants to the Commission.

During April - May, 1949, the full time of the National Executive Secretary was taken up in making special trip across Canada to inform the JCCA Provincial and local Chapter executives on the various important points concerning the Commissioner's proposal of an over-all method of settlement, so as to provide Claimants with as clear and complete information as possible on the proposal and the Co-operative Committee's recommendation.

The Provincial JCCA's

From October, 1947, to May, 1949, the various Provincial Chapters across Canada have contributed through their Executive and Committee members a very great deal of voluntary time, personal and Chapter financial resources to assist Claimants in the presentation of their claims to the Commission. Provincial and local Chapters have paid for numerous expenses out of their treasuries to cover costs incurred in the renting of meeting halls, typewriters, etc., while giving assistance to Claimants.

Each Provincial JCCA Chapter during this period attended to the complete distribution of Claims Forms and related material to Claimants and organized the necessary Provincial JCCA machinery which has made possible, through the co-operation of local Chapters, providing assistance to Claimants in the filing of Claims and the preparation of important evidence for presentation to the Commission during the Claimant's hearings.

Thus, the Provincial JCCA Executive and Committee members gave many hours and days of their time to assist Claimants.

The Local JCCA'S

Similar to the contributions of time, effort, and personal financial resources which have been given by Provincial JCCA Chapter Executives, each local JCCA Chapter's executive and committee members have contributed their voluntary time to assist Claimants during the past two years. Through their efforts, it has been possible for Claimants to submit their Claims to the Commissioner and to provide important evidence for legal counsel with the minimum of confusion despite the language difficulty.

The Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians

It is appropriate at this time to acknowledge in appreciation the work of the Co-operative Committee whose membership mainly is comprised of Canadians other than Japanese who formed the Committee in 1943 for the express purpose of helping Japanese Canadians through their many difficulties since the evacuation.

The Co-operative Committee has held a great many meetings during the past 6 years, and in the course of working, each member of the Committee has acted faithfully and well in a desire to help Japanese Canadians and to correct the injustices which have been put upon them.

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Noteable are the achievements of this Committee in combatting the many legislative discriminations: the outstanding examples are - the successful work against the Federal deportation law and gaining recognition from the Government on the question of Evacuation losses with the appointment of a Royal Commission.

The Co-operative Committee raised over $ 10,000 in their appeal for financial support made to hundreds of Caucasian Canadians across Canada and thus financed the greater part of the cost of its work in opposing the Federal deportation law against Japanese Canadians.

The JCCA also desires to acknowledge with appreciation the work, past and in progress, of legal counsel in all the Provinces, who consented to act on behalf of Claimants through appeal of the Co-operative Committee due to a desire to assist in correcting the injustices of the forced Evacuation.

Conclusion

The National JCCA in concluding this report on the work which has been accomplished for the welfare of Japanese Canadian Claimants, desires to extend at this time an opportunity to Claimants to submit their views and suggestions to the National JCCA on the Claims work. It is the desire of the JCCA organization to fully present the views of Japanese Canadian Claimants when making representation to the Government and to the public on their behalf. The organization therefore would appreciate receiving your individual comments, either directly by mail to the National JCCA Office or through your local JCCA Chapter organization.

Yours sincerely,

George Tanaka.

GEORGE TANAKA,
National Executive Secretary

5.
Japanese Canadian Citizens Association
1941, 1950

National JCCA Bulletin #1
84 Gerrard St., East
Toronto 2, Ont.
Tues., Sept. 17, 1947

The National Executive Committee held their inaugural meeting on Monday, Sept. 15, 1947. The following have consented to act on the committee: Issei - Rev. K. Shimizu, S. Sasaki, T. Kameoka, S. Shinobu, E. Kagetsu; Nisei - K. Tanaka (Chairman), Rev. Tak Tsuji, Norah Fujita, Jack Oki, Roy Shinobu, Muriel Kitagawa, Jin Ide, Kay Shimizu, Henry Ide, Louis Suzuki (Treasurer for Committee). Note: it is expected that Canadians of non Japanese extraction will be approached to act on the committee in an advisory capacity.

Sub-Committees: Committee on National Organization Constitution: - George Tanaka, Roger Obata, Kinzie Tanaka, Norah Fujita, Jack Oki, and Louis Suzuki.

Committee on Publicity - Chairman, Jack Oki.

Committee on National Organization Fund Drive Campaign - Roger Obata, Jack Oki (National Treasurer - Hiroshi R. Okuda).

Duties of the National Treasurer On the matter of the duties of the National Treasurer, the National Executive Committee at their first meeting arrived at the following decision: The National Treasurer shall be responsible for all National Fund obligations from each Provincial Chapter organization. He shall also be responsible for all special donations to the National JCCA which shall be placed in a special reserve fund. He shall also open a bank account in his city for the National JCCA funds. He shall receive directly from each Provincial Chapter organization their respective National Fund obligations (Provincial Chapters please note).

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the changes, the commissioner, Mr. Justice Bird of the British Columbia Court Appeals, will be able to hear claims that the property of Japanese was disposed of for less than a fair market value.

He will also be able to hear claims that personal property vested in the Custodian was lost, destroyed or stolen while under the control of the Custodian or a person appointed by him.

On reading the above press report this office contacted Mr. Brewin for his opinion on the matter.

We report the following memo received:

September 15, 1947

" My office telephoned to-day to the Minister of Justice and were informed that the text of the Order-in-Council amending the terms of reference would not be available until Wednesday or Thursday.

I have had a letter from Mr. MacLennan of Norris & MacLennan to the effect that the Exchequer Court action brought by the Japanese Canadian claimant has been dismissed and further expressing Mr. MacLennan's opinion that no appeal could successfully be taken.

In my opinion any consideration of boycotting the Commission is premature, furthermore my offhand opinion is that any such action would be unwise, and I would not at this stage be prepared to advise the Japanese Canadian Committee or the Co-Operative Committee to proceed with boycott. It would appear that the amendment to the terms of reference removes the main objection which was made to the original terms, namely, the necessity of proving a lack of care on the part of the Custodian. I do not believe that public support could be obtained in any effort to get the terms of reference further widened at this stage, and I think it would be too much to expect those claimants who may have some reasonable prospective success, to forego the right to present their claims.

I believe that your Committee should disassociate themselves from the view taken by the Toronto claimants and should advise the Toronto claimants to reconsider what seems to have been a hasty decision. I would further suggest that as soon as the amended terms of reference are available to us later this week, plans should be made forthwith to present claims as efficiently and vigorously as possible.

F. A. Brewin "

On the Exchequer Court Action brought by Japanese Canadian property owners, we report the following letter received by Mr. Brewin from Norris & MacLennan, Barristers, Vancouver, B. C.

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We thank you for the information contained in your letter of the 8th instant and wish to advise you that on August 28th last the Honourable Mr. Justice Thorson gave Reasons for Judgment in dismissing the claims of the Japanese Petitioners.

The main ground was that the Custodian is not a servant of the Crown and therefore no Petition lies in the Exchequer Court against the Crown by way of Petition of Right.

The Learned Judge was requested to deal with the validity of the Orders in Council in the event that the Court should come to the conclusion that the Petition of Right did not lie because the Custodian was not a servant of the Crown and he did deal with that aspect at Page 14 of the Reasons for Judgment.

In view of the line of decisions beginning with in Re George Edwin Gray and Fort Frances Pulp and Power Co. and continuing with the reference re Chemical Regulations and Administrative Orders and culminating in reference re Persons of Japanese Race (with which Mr. Brewin is so familiar) it seems clear that no redress from any Court can be expected arising out of the sale of Japanese properties. In our opinion it is now immaterial whether objections were made to the sale of the properties by way of Petition of Right or by way of action against the Custodian as the result would be the same. We do not see any ground for appeal arising out of these Reasons for Judgment and propose to advise our clients accordingly.

We are heartily in accord with your advice that the Japanese-Canadians should make the best of the Commission.....

Yours sincerely,

NORRIS & MacLENNAN, Per: JAM

George Tanaka
National Executive Secretary, pro-tem

COPY FOR MISS MARGARET BOOS,
CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE.

JOINT STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE,
NATIONAL JCCA AND THE TORONTO CLAIMANTS' COMMITTEE

Joint Meetings of the Committees were held on Saturday afternoon, Feb. 4th, and Tuesday evening, Feb. 7th, in order to effect the best possible co-ordination between the Committees in their common objective and to clarify questions pertaining to the Evacuation Losses Claims.

Various questions put to the Co-operative Committee at these meetings by the Toronto Claimants' Committee were satisfactorily answered.

On behalf of the Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians, Rev. J. M. Finlay, Chairman, proposed to the joint meeting that representatives from the Toronto Claimants' Committee, approved by the National JCCA, would be welcome to act as members on the Co-operative Committee. This proposal was unanimously accepted by the joint meeting.

The three Committees concluded their deliberations with the announced determination to work closely together and to make every effort to achieve the best possible results in working for the welfare of Japanese Canadian Claimants.

SIGNED: Co-operative Com. on Japanese Canadians,

National JCCA,

Toronto Claimants' Com.

GT/nf

Feb. 8, 1950.

STATEMENT FROM THE CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE CANADIANS

In view of the dissatisfaction expressed by spokesmen for a group of Toronto Claimants on Saturday, February 4th, the Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians feels it advisable to make the following statement:

1. At each stage the Committee has carefully considered any question affecting the interests of Claimants who retained it and unanimous decisions have finally been reached after full discussion of matters involved.

2. Throughout the proceedings the Committee has worked in close co-operation with the National JCCA and its representatives across Canada and, in particular, with its National Executive Secretary who has been of great assistance. Representing the National JCCA, George Tanaka and Roger Obata have been active members of the Committee and have agreed with all decisions made.

3. This Committee has full confidence in the legal counsel retained to represent Claimants and is of the opinion that the most effective services possible have been rendered - in particular, by Mr. R. J. McMaster of Vancouver, who has had the major responsibility for presenting cases of Claimants to the Commissioner.

4. Some objection has recently been expressed to the method of procedure adopted by the Commissioner; namely, the fixing of percentages in respect to various categories and the hearing of special cases where special evidence was available. This Committee is convinced that this procedure which was adopted was definitely in the interest of Claimants, although some of the percentages fixed were not satisfactory to Claimants counsel. In such cases, Counsel made every effort to have percentages raised, but final decision rested with the Commissioner.

   All Claimants were consulted by letter, and of those expressing their opinions by letter, or at meetings, an overwhelming majority approved of the method proposed, with varying degrees of satisfaction.

5. Claimants with special claims have repeatedly been invited to get in touch with Counsel, and many have done so.

6. Findings of the Commissioner may be reported shortly. This Committee will urge the Government to implement his findings by prompt payment, with interest on all claims from the date of sale. In addition, it will press for special consideration of claims outside the terms of reference which for this reason were rejected by the Commissioner.

7. With regard to specific requests made through the National JCCA:

   (a) Re Representation - It was suggested that additional representatives of Claimants be added to the Co-operative Committee. At its meeting on January 20th, it was agreed that such would be welcome, provided that they be appointed by and represent the National JCCA.

   (b) Re Further Costs - Claimants were assessed 1% of their claims and most of them have made this payment. A further 1% has been paid by a considerable number. We hope no additional assessment will be necessary.

   The balance of expenses will be paid on a percentage basis out of claims allowed, in accordance with retainers signed by each claimant represented by the Committee. It is not possible to determine exactly how much will be required from successful claimants for this purpose.

All expenses and legal fees will be submitted to independent counsel for checking. In addition, a statement by the Committee's auditors for the period, Sept. 1st, 1947, to August 31st, 1948, has been submitted: audited statements for the period from Sept. 1st, 1948, to August 31st, 1949, will be made available this month.

CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE CANADIANS,

per: REV. J. M. FINLAY, Chairman.

February 7, 1950.

NATIONAL JAPANESE CANADIAN
CITIZENS ASSOCIATION,
84 Gerrard Street East,
Toronto 2, Ontario.

NOTICE OF JOINT MEETING OF COMMITTEES
on Evacuation Losses Claims

To the Members of the following Committees:
Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians,
JCCA National Executive Committee,
Toronto Claimants' Committee.

Dear Committee Member:

A joint meeting of the above-mentioned Committees will be held this Saturday afternoon, Feb. 4, 1950, commencing at 1.00 p.m. at the Central YMCA, 40 College Street, Room 3 (second floor).

This meeting is being convened by the National JCCA on the suggestion of the Co-operative Committee to provide an opportunity to the Toronto Claimants' Committee to discuss fully with the Co-operative Committee the matter of Evacuation Losses Claims.

A G E N D A

Chairman - Lucien Kurata (Chairman of the National JCCA Executive Committee)

1. Resume of past proceedings.

2. Brief Report by National JCCA re Future Plans on Claims Question:
   (a) Representation to Government,-
   (b) Public Campaign.

3. Statements from members of the Toronto Claimants' Committee to the Co-operative Committee presented by R. Obata.

4. General Discussion:
   (a) Questions by the Toronto Claimants' Committee to the Co-operative Committee.
   (b) Report on Plans of Toronto Claimants' Committee.

THE NATIONAL JCCA,

per: GEORGE TANAKA.

GT/nf

be made available this month.

CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE

SECOND JOINT MEETING OF COMMITTEES

On Evacuation Losses Claims

CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE CANADIANS
JCCA NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
TORONTO CLAIMANTS' COMMITTEE

(Convened by the National JCCA)

Place: Canadian Legion Hall,
22 College St., Toronto.

Date: Feb. 7, 1950,
Time: 7:00 p. m.

A G E N D A

Chairman - Mr. Jin Ide

1. Statement from the Co-operative Committee

   - Discussion

2. Statement from the Claimants' Committee

   - Discussion

3. Statement from the National JCCA

   - Discussion

4. Request to the Claimants' Committee to specify their criticisms and/or comments on the past work of the Co-operative Committee and Claimants' Counsel.

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CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE

STATEMENT FROM THE CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE CANADIANS

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CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE CANADIANS,

per: REV. J. M. FINLAY, Chairman.

February 7, 1950.

JAPANESE CANADIAN CITIZENS ASSOCIATION 1947, 1950

JAPANESE CANADIAN CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
1947, 1950

(1)

二次大戦中日系カナダ人の為のコーペラティブ・コミッティーと
ナショナル・ヘルプ・コミッティーとの合同会議
一九五〇年二月七日

一、本委員会は日系カナダ人の為の全国的協同組織の結成を目的とするものである。

二、本委員会は日系カナダ人の為の全国的協同組織の結成に関する具体的方法を研究し、その結果を日系カナダ人全体に報告し、その承認を得ることを目的とするものである。

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(A translation in the Japanese of the Statement from the Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians presented to the Second Joint Meeting of the following Committees: The Co-operative Com., National JCCA, Toronto Claimants' Com., held Feb. 7, 1950, at the Canadian Legion Hall, 22 College St., Toronto)

五、要求者にして特別要求ある者は弁護士と相談する事を
毎三すすめたし、多くの者はこれに応じて其の手続きをした。
六、コミレヨナーの調査結果は近く報告されるであろう。協同委
員会は政府に対し、彼の調査結果を実行し、有らゆる要求にたいし
賣却が行われた日からの利子を附して速やかに支払いをなすことを
主張するであろう。その上に、調査係争の範囲外にあるため
コミレヨナーから調査することを拒否された要求に対しても特
別な考慮を払うことを要請するであろう。
七、全加市協を通して行われた特別な申込みに関しては。
(エー) 代表者に就て――要求者の代表を更に協同委員会に
加えることが提議された。一月三十日の委員会では、全加市協たよって指名
された、これを代表する者であることという修正で之を歓迎することに賛同した。
(ビー) 今後の費用に就て――要求者は彼等の要求額に対する
一パーセントの費用を割當てられた大部分の者は之を支拂うた。次の
一パーセントの割當は、各要求者が協同委員会に辯護方を依頼
これ以上の割當てな必要でないだろうと望んでいる。
残りの費用は、各要求者が協同委員会に対する
した時にきめた通りに、賠償額を基礎とした率合によって
支拂うことになっている。これがどの位の額たなるかを八ツキリ
と決定することは、まだ出来ない。
右の如き費用と辯護士料は、協同委員会とは関係のない独立の
弁護士に提示して比較調査して世貰うことになっている。
尚一九四七年九月一日から一九四八年九月三十日までの協同委員会の
會計監査報告は民に提出した通りであり、一九四九年九月一日から
一九四九年八月三十一日までの監査報告書は今月中に得られる
筈である。

一九五〇年二月七日

日系人のためのコーペラティヴ・コミテー
委員長 J・M・フィンレー 牧師

JAPANESE CANADIAN CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
1947, 1950

日系人のためのコーペラティヴ・コミテーよりの聲明書

二月四日土曜日の會合に於て、トロントの損害賠償要求者クループの代辯者たちから不滿足が表明されたので、日系人のためのコーペラティヴ・コミテー（協同委員會）では以下の聲明をしたがよいと考える。

一、要求者から依頼を受けている協同委員會は、仕事の各段階に於て、要求者の利益に影響する如何なる問題と言えども注意深き考慮を拂い關聯を全面的に討議したのち滿場一致の決定をして來たのである。

二、協同委員會はその全過程に於て、全加日系市協及び力ナダ全土に亘る州並にローカル、ナヤプターと緊密なる協力のもとに仕事を進めて來たのである。特に全加市協の書記長からな大きな援助を受けた。全加市協を代表する田中ヒョージ、小畑ローヤー兩氏は協同委員會の委員として活動して來たし、決定されたる總ての事項に贊同もして來たのである。

三、協同委員會は、要求者を代表するために依頼してある辯護士を全的に信任して居り、彼等が可能なる限りに於て最も效果的に仕事をしてくれることを信ずる。特にウアンクーヴアーのR・J・マクマスター氏は、要求者のケースをコミションナーに提示してこれを處理するという主要の責任を持って來た。

四、コミションナーが採用した解決方法、即ち各種別に就てのパーセンテージ定め及び特別な証據が得られる場合の特別ケース入に對する調査に關して、最近或る人々から反對が表明されたが、採用された此の解決方法は要求者にとって決定的に利益あるものであることを、協同委員會は確信する。

尚この中には、要求者の辯護士としても不滿足なものがあったのであるが、辯護士なしパーセンテージを引上げることに有らゆる努力を拂ったが最後の決定權はコミションナーにあった。要求者總てに對しては手紙で相談したのであるが、手紙による返事又は會合を通して發表された意見の絶對多數は提議されたのであった。

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National JCCA Bulletin #1
84 Gerrard St., East
Toronto 2, Ont.
Tues., Sept. 17, 1947

The National Executive Committee held their inaugural meeting on Monday, Sept. 15, 1947. The following have consented to act on the committee: Issei - Rev. K. Shimizu, S. Sasaki, T. Kameoka, S. Shinobu, E. Kagetsu; Nisei - K. Tanaka (Chairman), Rev. Tak Tsuji, Norah Fujita, Jack Oki, Roy Shinobu, Muriel Kitagawa, Jin Ide, Kay Shimizu, Henry Ide, Louis Suzuki (Treasurer for Committee). Note: it is expected that Canadians of non Japanese extraction will be approached to act on the committee in an advisory capacity.

Sub-Committees: Committee on National Organization Constitution: - George Tanaka, Roger Obata, Kinzie Tanaka, Norah Fujita, Jack Oki, and Louis Suzuki.

Committee on Publicity - Chairman, Jack Oki.

Committee on National Organization Fund Drive Campaign - Roger Obata, Jack Oki (National Treasurer - Hiroshi R. Okuda).

Duties of the National Treasurer On the matter of the duties of the National Treasurer, the National Executive Committee at their first meeting arrived at the following decision: The National Treasurer shall be responsible for all National Fund obligations from each Provincial Chapter organization. He shall also be responsible for all special donations to the National JCCA which shall be placed in a special reserve fund. He shall also open a bank account in his city for the National JCCA funds. He shall receive directly from each Provincial Chapter organization their respective National Fund obligations (Provincial Chapters please note).

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On reading the above press report this office contacted Mr. Brewin for his opinion on the matter.

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F. A. Brewin "

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We are heartily in accord with your advice that the Japanese-Canadians should make the best of the Commission.....

Yours sincerely,

NORRIS & MacLENNAN, Per: JAM

George Tanaka
National Executive Secretary, pro-tem

Japanese Canadian

TELEPHONE: PLAZA 1253

JCCA

CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS:
84 GERRARD ST. E., TORONTO 2, ONTARIO

COPY

February 28, 1950.

Dear Claimant:

It has become apparent to the National JCCA that we are approaching a very delicate stage of proceedings on the matter of Claims with the Government. We believe the Claims Hearings in Vancouver before the Royal Commission are now coming to an end and it is expected that a report will be submitted to the Government by the Commission in the not too distant future.

During the past 9 months, legal counsel for claimants has been fully engaged in representing the best interests of some 1,300 Claimants and each claim has been carefully considered, and brought to the attention of the Commission for the fullest possible amount of restitution that legal counsel's and Claimant's supporting evidence will obtain.

In order to prevent any possible misunderstanding among some Claimants regarding the Commissioner's over-all percentage proposal on a method of settlement, the following interpretation of his average percentage proposal is made, e.g., on Fraser Valley property sold through Veterans Land Act Administration, the Commissioner's average percentage finding is 80%. It should be noted that under this proposal, some Claimants may receive perhaps as much as 200% and others perhaps 50% of the Custodian's sale price of their property, depending upon Counsel's independent valuation advice.

The JCCA has realized that Claimants may have felt that they have not received as full information as could be desired on their claims, but it has been difficult for both the Co-operative Committee and the JCCA to report in detail the progress of each individual claim in terms of the actual amount of awards the Commissioner is granting as he has indicated to Claimants' Counsel, this information cannot be made public before his report is submitted to the Government. Further, the Committee's Counsel in Vancouver has been fully engaged on the proceedings and has had no time to make full reports. However, the JCCA is now in a better position to inform the Claimants of the many aspects of the present JCCA work on Claims which has not heretofore been clearly determined to enable a full report to be made to Claimants.

While it may be pointed out that with regard to the present enquiry, Claimants have legally retained the Co-operative Committee which is the organization composed of Canadians other than Japanese formed in 1943 to help Japanese Canadians overcome the various problems with which they were faced - Legislative Discrimination, Deportation and Evacuation Losses Claims - the National Japanese Canadian Citizens Association has been acting in close consultation with the Co-operative Committee in order that the views of Japanese Canadian claimants may be known to this Committee and, also, that the machinery of the JCCA organization shall be available to assist the Co-operative Committee and legal counsel to ensure the best effort of all concerned are directed together for the welfare of Claimants.

The second year's end audited, financial report on the expenditures of monies paid by Claimants will soon be published by the Co-operative Committee who have been legally retained by Claimants to act on their behalf. And for this reason it is desirable to state that although the JCCA has no legal status with Claimants, it has continually worked in their best interests in close co-operation with the Co-operative Committee.

The JCCA desires at this time to report to you on the present plans of the JCCA regarding its work for Japanese Canadians who suffered losses asa result of the forced evacuation. The following detailed reports under various headings are therefore submitted for your consideration: