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CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE CANADIANS

Report of the Sub-committee on Restrictions and Property Losses

October 26, 1946

The Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians at its meeting of September 10, 1946, appointed Mrs. Edith Fowke, Kinzie Tanaka and Kunio Hidaka as a sub-committee to investigate and report on present legal restrictions and the sale of property belonging to persons of Japanese ancestry after their evacuation in 1942.

The sub-committee met on September 16, 30, and October 8.

RESTRICTIONS

Legal restrictions imposed upon persons of Japanese ancestry in Canada by order-in-council and subordinate administrative orders are few in number but exceptionally far-reaching in scope and effect.

POWERS UNDER P.C. 946 OF FEBRUARY 5, 1943

Under this order-in-council the Minister of Labour or on his behalf the Deputy Minister and the Commissioner of Japanese Placement may:

> "make orders, rules or regulations respecting the conduct, activities or discipline of persons of the Japanese race ... , and may by order prohibit such persons ... , from engaging in any activities, employment or business, in Canada, from moving or travelling anywhere in Canada, from residing in any place in Canada or from associating or communicating with any persons, except subject to permit issued by or on behalf of the Minister and on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by him or by any person authorized to act on his behalf under these Regulations."

ORDER GOVERNING TRAVEL

Order No. 1 of July 30, 1943, issued by the Commissioner of Japanese Placement under authority of the above powers states that:

> "All persons of the Japanese race must obtain a Royal Canadian Mounted Police Travel Permit prior to:
>
> a) entering for any purpose whatsoever, a Protected Area anywhere in Canada,
> b) crossing any Provincial boundaries within Canada,
> c) a change of residence, which may be interpreted as taking place when a person moves himself or herself and/or their dependents to a new place of residence,
> d) travel for any purpose whatsoever, in British Columbia a distance of more than fifty (50) miles from their place of residence or for a period of over thirty (30) days.

"Subject to the foregoing regulations, a person of the Japanese race resident outside of British Columbia may travel upon visits of a temporary nature up to a period of thirty (30) days duration without obtaining a Royal Canadian Mounted Police permit."

ORDER PROHIBITING FISHING

Order No. 2 prohibits fishing by Japanese in the province of British Columbia or Pacific coastal waters without a permit from the Commissioner.

APPLICATION OF P.C. 946

1. PURCHASE OF PROPERTY

As a result of the powers granted the Minister of Labour under P.C. 946, persons of Japanese ancestry are required to secure a license from the Department of Labour prior to the purchase of property. While it may be conceded that licenses are not refused, nevertheless the department exercises unrestricted control over the issuances and no provision is made to appeal adverse decisions.

2. RESTRICTION ON MOVEMENT

Certain classes of persons were prevented from leaving British Columbia by an order issued June 1, 1946. The order was as follows:

RE: PLACEMENT AND SUSTENANCE ALLOWANCES FOR MOVEMENT TO POINTS EAST OF THE ROCKIES

Until further advised, placement allowances are to be paid to all Japanese relocating east of the Rockies except Single Japanese Nationals who signed for repatriation and Japanese National couples having no Canadian born children, and where both signed for repatriation, and where wife was born in Japan. These people will not be permitted to go east.

However, with the closing of the Interior settlements later in the year and the opening of hostels in eastern Canada, this order was no longer enforced.

3. COMPULSORY MOVEMENT TO HOSTELS

On June 28, 1946, some twenty sawmill workers near Tashme who wished to remain at their occupations protested against attempts to force them eastward, received the following order:

Pursuant to the powers and authorities conferred by Order in Council P.C. 946, and amendments thereto, I, the undersigned, T. B. Pickersgill, Commissioner of Japanese Placement, do order and require you, the above-named ..... and dependent children of Tashme, to proceed by passenger train of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company from its station at Hope, British Columbia, at the time of departure of that Company's passenger train scheduled to leave Hope, aforesaid, at the hour of 4:00 p.m., standard time, on Friday, 5th July, 1946, to the town of NEYS, direct, in the Province of Ontario, Dominion of Canada, and to report to Mr. J. S. Burns, Supervisor, Department of Labour, Japanese

Division, in the said town of Neys, immediately on arrival.

You will be provided with proper travel permit, railway passenger ticket and expense monies.

(signed) T. B. Pickersgill
Commissioner of Japanese Placement.

4. COMPULSORY RELOCATION FROM INTERIOR CAMPS

Despite claims of the eastward movement being voluntary, the following NOTICE was posted at Lemon Creek on June 25, 1946:

TO ALL RESIDENTS OF LEMON CREEK

All persons of Japanese origin, 16 years of age and over, are required to report immediately to the Administration Office.

Relocatable persons will be given an opportunity to express their desire as to where they wish to be transferred - Moose Jaw or Neys.

It is assumed that persons failing to report are content to be assigned to the particular re-location centre selected by this office.

(signed) B. C. Whitty
Supervisor.

5. TRAVEL FROM EASTERN TO WESTERN CANADA

The incident related below shows the type of discretion exercised by the Commissioner of Japanese Placement when issuing travel permits.

An application for permission to travel to British Columbia for organizational work was refused by the Commissioner who stated that:

"Our policy is not to grant travelling permits from Eastern to Western Canada except on compassionate grounds or on grounds of extreme business urgency .... "

When a request for re-consideration was entered because of the extreme urgency of the matter, the Commissioner replied as follows:

"We are of the opinion that the best interests are being served of those people of Japanese origin still residing in our B.C. settlement if arrangements are completed for their relocation at the earliest possible date. We believe that a visit to the settlements for the purpose which you have in mind, would only result in delayed relocation. We believe that such delay is not in the interests of people relocating.

"Our regional offices in the Eastern provinces have complete information on the descriptions of places and areas to which people may be planning to move, and can easily provide such information on request."

6. APPLICATION TO SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The New Canadian of August 10, 1946, reported that, although George Fukuyama had won the University of British Columbia Scholarship for the Kootenay District in the Junior Matriculation examinations, he was unable to use it because of the legal restrictions on residing in the coastal area.

In reply to an inquiry, President N. A. M. MacKenzie of the University of British Columbia stated there were two such cases this year and one last year.

7. NISEI VETERANS DENIED FISHING LICENSES

Tom Reid, M.P. for New Westminster, asked in the House of Commons for the number of applications from persons of Japanese ancestry for fishing licenses. It was revealed that two applications had been received.

Our information is that two Nisei Veterans applied and as yet have not been issued fishing licenses.

FAMILY ALLOWANCES DENIED

Although no provision is made in the Family Allowances Act to deny these payments to children of Japanese ancestry, these persons while residing in settlements and hostels have their applications rejected on grounds that health services and other amenities are provided.

This condition also applies to families in the settlements which are totally self-supporting. Any hospitalization provided is deducted from their accounts with the Custodian. As an example: a mother living in an independently rented house in New Denver had the application for her child's allowance refused on grounds that free health services were provided. However, when the child had his tonsils removed, the cost was deducted from the account with the Custodian.

At the hostel at Farnham, Quebec, a notice is posted to state that family allowances will be paid only after the family leaves the hostel. However, contrary to this statement, and also contrary to the philosophy and purpose of allowances, they have been considered in one instance at least, a part of wage payments. As an example: a man was offered $10.00 per month wages for thirty days work because arrangements would be made for him to receive $41.00 in family allowances.

STATUS OF VETERANS

Veterans are experiencing the same legal disabilities as non-veterans. The Minister of Labour was petitioned by the veterans of Slocan City on June 24, 1946, for all privileges of Canadian citizenship, the return of their property, and all privileges, grants and pensions applicable to veterans, but received little consolation in the Minister's reply

which informed them that:

> "This department has at all times since location attempted to give the Japanese Canadian veterans special consideration and preference insofar as possible. As an example, the Department has recently removed all travel and residence restrictions on veterans of World War I and II and their dependents, except in cases of travel to and residence in the coastal protected area of British Columbia."

LOSS AND SALE OF PROPERTY

A number of sample case histories, collected by the Slocan Valley Nisei Organization, are appended to this report to indicate in some way the nature and extent of property losses.

Property was sold without consulting the owners and in almost all instances the owners claim that sales were made at prices far less than market value. It should also be noted that the total amount of relief payments was deducted from the price received for the property had the person been on relief.

The effect of this practice of deducting relief payments from assets with the Custodian was to force persons who were without employment to support themselves from their personal reserve. In keeping with this policy, persons while in British Columbia did not have free access to their own funds with the Custodian.

CONCLUSIONS OF THE REPORT

Following its investigation into legal restrictions and losses of property this sub-committee reports the following conclusions:

1. that equal citizenship rights should be extended to Canadians of Japanese ancestry. This means that the restrictions on travel, residence and occupations should be removed. Furthermore no obstacles should be put in the way of Japanese nationals becoming Canadian citizens;

2. that Japanese Canadians should be granted adequate assistance and loans where necessary to re-establish themselves; and until all such persons are re-established, accepted standards of housing, nutrition, education and wages should be enforced in hostels and settlements;

3. that a claims commission should be established to restore property where possible, to order restitution for losses where property cannot be restored, and to grant compensation for net loss in income as a result of evacuation.

The sub-committee recommends that the Co-operative Committee on Japanese Canadians accept the conclusions outlined above as a basis for its program of action.

Respectfully submitted,

KUNIO HIDAKA
EDITH FOWKE
KINZIE TANAKA

Case Histories Re: Property Losses

Re: Mr. O. Kamachi, Veteran
Regiment #228450
52nd Battalion

Occupation: Fishing and Farming
Lulu Island, New Westminster, B.C.
Fishing Boat: 28 ft. 7 ft. wide
Palmer Engine - 6 H.P.

I am a returned veteran, and did not suspect that the Custodian would touch my Personal Property. So I left my fishing boat at the foot of 19th Road, Lulu Island, New Westminster, B.C. in charge of my brother. Later he informed me that he was instructed by the Officer in Charge of Japanese Fishing, that regardless of whether it was a veteran's or not as long as the owner was of Japanese origin, they have the liberty of claiming my boat. Which they did forcibly without adequate or satisfactorily reply to my brother questionings.

When I was housed in the Hastings Park Manning Pool, I was informed by the Custodian official that a law was drafted by the Government that all Japanese Vessels were to be sold by the Custodian. At the same time I was informed that the price set on my boat was $86.00. Because of the ridiculously low price I made a strong protest, and did not accept the price named.

My farm at Langley Prairie, B.C., a berry farm consists of strawberries, 15 acres of land, with house, barn and packing house. This was valued at $3,000.00, but was sold by the Custodian for a price of $980.00.

My fishing net and net twine valued at $700.00 were sold at $292.00. My twine alone was worth $292.00. Because of the shameful low prices I refuse to accept the money and it still in the hands of the Custodian.

#12 Sixth Avenue
Bay Farm, Slocan, B.C.
March 7, 1946

My former residence at the time of evacuation was at the corner of Sixth and Columbia in Vancouver, B.C.

The house was worth approximately $2,000.00, which the Custodian sold for $1,250.00. My household chattels, worth $1,100.00, was sold for $227.00. These sales were made without any notification or consent. I have received none of the proceed of these sales.

Signed Y. Kosaka

My former resident before the war was at Hyde Creek, B.C. At the time of evacuation from my home at Hyde Creek, I was given only a two hour notice. Therefore I could do nothing with my household and immovable property.

During evacuation I was only allowed 1 suit case and one clothes bag to take with me. Therefore the rest of my belongings were left as it was.

Some time after evacuation, I was informed by the Custodian of Enemy Property that my properties were sold. The prices for these have been exceedingly low. The list of property sold by the Custodian included very little so I knew that a greater part of my property had been lost.

3 Elm Avenue
Lemon Creek
Slocan, B.C.
March 4, 1946

Signed Seizaburo MIYAKE
Reg. #09853

At the time of evacuation, I resided in Cumberland, B.C. There I received notice to proceed to Hastings Park within a week. I complied with only a suitcase and one clothesbag, which was all that I was allowed.

The sleeping quarters and food were very appalling.

After removal to Slocan, I was informed that my house valued at $500.00 was sold for the meagre sum of $15.00, and this without my consent.

Family's car valued at $600.00 was also sold for a measly sum of $365.00.

A-12, Bay Farm
Slocan, B.C.
March 7, 1946

Signed M. Uchida

At the time of our evacuation, Mr. Powell, a Haney Real Estate Manager, offered to sell my property and new house at the sum of $2,500.00, but I did not accept it.

At a later date, I was notified by the Custodian that they had sold both my lots and house for only $1106.00 without my consent.

2445 Lougheed Highway, Hammond, B.C.
Lot 3 of Lot D of lot 222, Municipality of Maple Ridge

Slocan, B.C.

Gytoku, Unta
Formerly of Hammond, B.C.

My home valued at $2,000.00 was sold by the Custodian for $1,000.00. Chattels valued at $300.00 were auctioned off at $60.50. These sales were made without my consent.

To my credit there should have been held a total of $1,060.50. From this amount I asked for $200.00 to be forwarded to me for use which the Custodian refused to comply.

#19 Fourth Avenue
Bay Farm, Slocan, B.C.
March 5, 1946

Yasukichi KOBORI

Prior to being evacuated from the Coast, I had two boats valued at $126.00. The cannery manager there sold them at the above amount and forwarded same to the Custodian. I wrote to the Custodian to forward the proceeds to me, but to date, have not received the sum.

The boat-building machinery was left in the care of the Custodian. I inquired numerous times what they had done with my machinery, but they have not even answered my letters.

Also there was a box of tools valued at $200.00. Since I was not able to bring that to Slocan, I deposited the box and its contents at the Vancouver Buddhist Temple. At a later date, through the B.C. Security Commission here, I asked for my tools to be forwarded as they were required, but as yet they have not complied with my request, nor given me any satisfactory answer.

A-2 Bay Farm,
Slocan, B.C.
March 7th, 1946

Signed S. Kobayakawa

On March 29, 1942, my husband was served orders to leave for road camp. Since our business establishment (rooming house) and household goods (which were taken over by the Custodian) were not disposed of, he did not go. For this reason, at a later date, he was sent to internment camp.

After I was evacuated to Slocan, I lived on maintenance. Upon the sale of my home by the Custodian, without my consent, the total amount of thirteen months' maintenance which I received prior to the time of the sale, was deducted from the proceeds. Since then, as I have no source of income, I have had to depend solely upon maintenance which is deducted from the proceeds of the sale of my property.

#5 First Avenue
Bay Farm, Slocan, B.C.
March 7, 1946

Signed M. Kitamura

My family was given only a twenty-four hours' notice to evacuate from New Westminster on March 28, 1942. Not only was this notice too sudden, but also my family was split in three; viz., I (father) was sent to Jasper Road Camp, my eldest son (Canadian-born) was sent to Ontario road camp, and my wife and children to Hastings Park Manning Pool.

On May 12 of the same year my family was evacuated to Kaslo. There they were placed in a room 12' by 12' with another family - total number of occupant in that single room being twelve.

Moreover, for four months they were denied maintenance, even though they had no other source of income. Meanwhile, all the savings had been used up.

My personal effects and shop equipment valued at $960.00 were sold for $320.00, with a loss of $640.00.

I had contemplated relocating to Eastern Canada, but lack of accommodation and suitable placement made it impossible to do so.

My eldest son, Canadian-born, whose house, valued at $2800.00 at 1020 Queen's Avenue, New Westminster, B.C., was sold by the Custodian without his consent for only $1500.00.

18 Third Avenue,
Bay Farm, Slocan, B.C.
March 5, 1946

Bunshiro IWASA

Our property of 160 acres, house, farm buildings worth up to $20,000.00 sold without our knowledge and consent for 1/10 the value. All the farm equipments were included in the sales. Before we left we sold our cattle, horses and chicken (poultry) at a great loss, as we could not leave them as there was no one to look after them. It took us 24 years of hard labour to clear the land and make it productive.

We are not given free access to that money but it is doled out to us in small quantities which is barely enough to live on.

Slocan, B.C.

Tateishi

NAKASHIMA, Katsuji of Popoff

I am a veteran of the First World War. Therefore, I sincerely believed that I should be entitled to all the rights and privileges as a Canadian citizen. When the war with Japan broke out, my belief in Canada was completely shattered.

I was fisherman, owning a fishing boat and equipments. Fishing was my only means of livelihood. My boat, however, was taken away from me soon after the outbreak of the war and was sold without my consent at 1/3 the current value. The fishing equipments had to be sold at a remarkably low price since without the boat, the equipments were of no value to me whatsoever.

Believing that I would be able to return to my home in the near future, I left all my household goods and belongings in my home. In Slocan, I received from the Custodian a list of articles which, I do firmly believe, was far from being complete. Knowing that this list was not complete, I however signed this paper reluctantly and sent the same to the Custodian. As yet, I have not received from the Custodian what has become of the above articles.

Nobody could deny in the least the profound disappointment and grief arising from such inhuman treatment and injustice. The most important point is that I am a veteran of the First World War who should enjoy all the freedom, liberty and equality arising therefrom; but, can anyone believe that I was and am treated as such.

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A-4 -- SAKATA

Earning $100.00 to $150.00 a month before the war but since the evacuation, we were shipped out where you could hardly make your living with $13.00 a month, which is my supplement on account I'm a cripple after the accident I had in work for Commission.

- -

A-2 -- INOUYE, Veteran (Nanaimo)

Had to evacuate to Vancouver within 12 hours but since we had to pack, we were lucky to get two days. Even at that they had a soldier looking after every move you make.

Only thing we could pack in short notice was couple of suitcase and a clothesbag, leaving all the personal properties behind such as, "fishing net, boats, food supplies and even Net House." Leaving it in the hand of one of my friends, even sewing machine, since his wife wanted to make use of it. After reaching Slocan, we asked them to send the sewing machine but all we got for an answer was, to send $10.00 for all the freight charge, so far its been four years, but there's no sign of my machine including the $10.00 we sent over. (Coming back to evacuation).

We reached Vancouver on 21st, 1942. As soon as we docked, we were

fooled by couple of fellows saying that there's no room to board in city so we have to move into Hastings Park Manning Pool. We were told after week that we would be able to go out of Park to city, but even since up to Slocan City, we were confined in there like bunch of cattles.

- -

A-1 -- KAMACHI (Veteran)

We're Veterans but without consideration treated same as other Issei; of course I'm a Japanese but there's a limit to everything.

My means of livelihood, fishing boat, was taken by Custodian without my consent, sold it at mere price, not even sending the money for which they sold it.

Since we came here we get no supplement and not only that, we're ten in the family with only one house, cramped up like a sardine. Our eldest daughter was 15 years old weighing 117 lbs. before evacuation but since we got shipped out way in the interior, not only she lost happiness, she was confined to New Denver Sanatorium on account of lack of proper means of living which they gave us.

I'm a Veteran, wounded, which make me awkward to do any hard labour. How can I support my big family with just the allowance I get from Veteran's Pay.

I had a friend back home who is a German National. Even though he's a German he don't have to evacuate like us. He told us before we left that "What is the difference between German National and Japanese National".

- -

A-10 -- KINOSHITA

Right up to this minute I reside in Canada for a little over thirty years, while making my living I kept my Canadian Citizenship but since the outbreak of this war they don't consider you as a Canadian but as Enemy Alien.

When Deportation came there was no choice but to sign as Repat, for even a Naturalized have to take the same step as National.

Another thing, even though we get shipped back to our home land, our relatives were killed by atom bombs, so actually there's no place to go to.

MINUTES OF CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE CANADIANS

TIME - Dec. 29th, 1947 - 5.15 p.m.
PLACE - Mr. Finlay's study.
PRESENT - Brewin, Finlay, Fowler, Haslam, Obata, Tanaks & Boos.

REGRETS - From Ted Nichols who is out of town till Jan. 12th.

REPORT OF MR. BREWIN -

- Preliminary discussions and hearings proved very useful
- Procedure to be followed throught was outlined
- Various properties were visited during a conducted tour by a party including the Commissioner, Mr. Brewin and Mr. Tamaki.
- The Committee's scheme for filing claims has worked out very well, on the whole, greatly facilitating the handling of some 1,300 claims which have already been filed (totalling approximately five million dollars)
- Practically all these claimants have retained our legal advisoers (some 200 in Alta. and a very few in B.C. are the exceptions)
- Enormity of the task of hearing the claimants is now evident, the hearing of thirty claimants at Kamloops having taken one week.
- It is very necessary that satisfactory evidence of values be secured for presentation at the final hearings (B.C.'s J.C.C.A. has been asked to assimilate and analyse the claims; B.C. people are negotiating for the services of several available experts: Mr. Umaga sho has had considerable experience with valuations and knows conditions in the Fraser Valley very well; Prof. Farr, whose combined knowledge of economics and law would enable him to do a statistical and advisory job, analysing and interpreting trends; and a member of Pemberton's, who could give actual evidence of evaluations).
- Our solicitors deliberately raised as few points as possible for argument during the preliminary hearings and discussions, believing that the Commissioner would be more sympathetic if they were presented after the oral hearings during the finals in Vancouver. However, the Commissioner is now insisting on the inclusion of arguments re "a fair market value", etc. when hearings resume in January. He has suggested that Mr. Brewin be present at that time, and Mr. McMaster also is anxious for his assistance when consideration is being given to rulings on these crucial points.

During the discussion which followed, concern was expressed as to the necessity of ensuring that adequate evidence re valuations is prepared. Mr. Brewin's suggestion that $10,000. be set aside for this purpose was referred to the Finance Committee. In this connection, Geo. Tanaka presented a recommendation from the National J.C.C.A. Council that Mr. Umaga be paid at the rate of $75.00 per week for his services. Since it was felt that this is a reasonable amount, and Mr. Umaga's services are highly recommended, the Committee agreed that he should be one of the appraisers, but that the length of time for which we could employ him at this rate would depend on the total appraisal needs (when they can be established) and the proportion of the amount received in retainer fees which will be available for this

this purpose. (Geo. will so advise the National Council.)

In view of the Commissioner's insistance on the clarification of the terms of reference when the hearings resume (and the possibility of his making rulings that would eliminate some claims and greatly reduce others), it was agreed that Mr. Brewin should make another trip to B.C. and assist in the presenting of our interpretation.

FINANCES

Interim Report - The Secretary reported that a total of $15,443.86 in retainer fees has been received to date. An additional $2,909.89 is on its way from B.C., and $201.86 is coming from Sask. Some $4,000. in retainer fees is unpaid, and it was decided that an effort to collect as much as possible of this amount should be made through provincial J.C.C.A. chapters. A complete report will be possible after Jan.15th, when all claims will have been filed.

Retainer Fees to Solicitors - Mr. Brewin's recommendation that a total of $5000.00 be paid now to our solicitors in proportion to the number of claims being handled by them, was referred to the Finance Committee. In the meantime, it was moved by Mr. Fowler, seconded by Mr. Haslam, and carried, that an advance of $1,000.00 each be made to our B.C. lawyers - i.e., $1,000.00 to Mr. McMaster and $1,000.00 to the firm of Norris & MacLennan.

Travelling Expenses - On motion Fowler/Haslam, expense accounts of $344.60 for Mr. Brewin and $185.77 for Mr. Tamaki (in connection with their attending the Dec. preliminary hearings) were approved for payment.

Request of B.C.- J.C.C.A. for payment of office expenses amounting to $200.00 a month in connection with the preparation of claims was passed on to the Committee by Geo. Tanaka. Having already approved a $300.00 allowance for this purpose in B.C., the Committee felt it could not make any further commitments at the present time.

Financial Statement - In order that our financial position may be clarified, the Finance Committee was requested (in cooperation with Mr. Brewin) to prepare a statement for distribution to J.C.C.A. Chapters and our provincial Committees, showing amounts received, amounts promised, and presenting an estimated spending budget.

AN INTERIM REPORT

It was agreed that this financial statement should be accompanied by an interim report on the situation as it stands after Jan. 15th, in order to bring key people across the country up-to-date.

DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES

The Secretary was requested to circulate copies of the minutes of each Committee meeting.

ADJOURNMENT - at 7.30 p.m.

CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE CANADIANS

MINUTES OF MEETING

TIME: Mon., Jan. 26th, 1948 - 5.00 p.m.
PLACE: Mr. Finlay's study.
PRESENT: Boos, Brewin, Finlay, Nichols, Tanaka(George), & Tucker.
REGRETS: Haslam, Fowler, & Watson.

FINANCES:

(a) Draft Budget - As minutes of the Finance Committee meeting (including a proposed Claims Fund Budget) had been circulated to all Cooperative Committee members, discussion of this matter proceeded immediately. Any reservations as to the wisdom of estimating that total returns would likely reach the $30,00. mark were removed when it was learned that, although remittances to date just total some $21,000., B.C. alone has collections of approximately $8,000. yet to remit. The Secretary reported that, on the request of the Finance Committee, airmail letters had been sent to each province, urging that final returns be made as soon as possible. A list of unpaid retaining fees has also been prepared and sent to each provincial J.C.C.A. Chapter, with a request that they cooperate by investigating the possibility of full or partial payments being made at this time.

Speaking to the proposition that $15,000. be ear-marked for solicitors, Mr. Brewin suggested that possibly as much as one half of this amount will be divided between the B.C. Lawyers - probably $3,000. to Mr. McMaster, who is doing the up-country work (with the assistance of a Mr. Leckie), and $3,000. to Morris & McLennan, who have been asked to oversee the valuation arrangements and conduct the cross-examination during the final hearings in B.C. This would leave $500. for incidental expenses. It was agreed that the working out of all provincial allotments and possible advances to the various solicitors should be left with Mr. Brewin, who assured the Committee that all these men clearly understand the financial basis on which they undertook the claims work.

MOTION - Nichols/Tanaka: That Mr. Brewin consider this as a first draft of the Claims Fund Budget, and proceed to arrange expenditures in terms of the amounts suggested. Carried.

MOTION - Nichols/Tucker: That George be authorized to advise the B.C. Japanese Canadian Citizen Association that their representations for payment of office expenses in excess of the $300. already alloted will be sympathetically considered when a detailed statement is received. Carried - in view of the great volume of work which the B. C. Chapter has done in the receiving and remitting of fees for claims.

(b) Salary of the Secretary - MOTION - Tanaka/Tucker: That the Secretary's salary be raised to $100.00 a month as of Dec. 1st, 1947. Carried.

(c) Typewriter Rental - In view of the continued need for a machine, it was agreed that this should be renewed.

MR. BREWIN'S REPORT:

Mr. Brewin then briefly outlined the following points of interest:
(1) The Commissioner proposed the appointment of Sub-Commissioners to take evidence of claimants in various centers across the country. However, he intends to open the hearings in each center, spend some time, and then turn the proceedings over to the Sub-Commissioners. Present plans indicate he will be in Alberta in March, Manitoba and Saskatchewan in April, Toronto in May and possibly Montreal in June - evidence to be fully taken by the end of June. Finally, evidence of valuations will be heard by the Commissioner in Vancouver.

(2) He has suggested the completion of a more detailed form than that prepared for filing the claims. This written presentation is intended to speed up the oral hearings, but it places an additional burden on our solicitors.

(3) The following points were discussed on the 9th and 10th:
(a) "Fair market value" - on which judgment was reserved.
(b) "Vested in the Custodian" - taken to mean by virtue of the order, and not actual physical possession.
(c) "Good will" - impossible to determine without reference to facts.
(d) "Accounts Receivable" - a definite ruling that such claims do not fall within the terms of reference.
(e) "Deductions re Commissions, etc." - impossible to consider such under present terms of reference, but the possibility of amendment to include them is being explored.

(4) Regarding valuations, it is definite that Mr. Yamaga will be available as an expert on Fraser Valley valuations. It is also planned to secure the services of a statistician, with an appropriate staff of valuators to collect details, to examine and analyse records of sales, and prepare other materials on values. It is hoped to secure the services of some experienced B.C. valuators also. Mr. McLennan has been requested to work specifically on this angle.

The National J.C.C.A. Committee has agreed to tabulate all the claims filed and classify them, thus greatly assisting in the preparation of valuation evidence.

BULLETIN

It was thought a little premature to release the draft budget at this time, as previously planned. Instead, it was agreed that information of a more general nature should be included in the forthcoming bulletin - such as number of claims, estimated total of the Claims Fund, etc., as well as a short review of this legal phase of the Committee's work.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE CANADIANS

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

TIME - Sept. 17th, 1948; 4:30 - 6:30.
PLACE - Office of Mr. Brewin
PRESENT - Boos, Brewin, Nichols & Tanaka

STATEMENT - A statement of receipts and disbursements to Aug.31st,1948, was reviewed, and it was noted that the balance of $ 11,350.74 shown is to be increased by $2,886.40 when final returns are received from Manitoba. Thus, there remains approximately $14,000.00 of the fund accumulated through the remittance of the 1% retainer fees.

When he talks with Mr. Virtue next week at the final hearings in B.C., Mr. Brewin will propose to him that since he is representing Alberta claims totalling roughly one-fifth of the claims, his share of valuation expenses will be $2,000, and of Mr. McMaster's services another $2,000.00. Accordingly, another additional $4,000.00 should be available from this source. With the income from retainers, this would total a possible $18,000.00

FURTHER EXPENSES - Mr. Brewin presented an estimate made by Mr. McMaster of further expenses in connection with valuations amounting to $15,000.00. An additional $10,000. should be available to cover his full-time work during the next 6-8 months. Mr. Brewin felt that the valuation figure might be pared to $6,000.00, but with the remaining expenses in connection with hearings yet to be held, it appears that approximately $25,000.00 will yet be necessary.

POSSIBLE SOURCES OF FURTHER REVENUE - The following suggestions were made by the Finance Committee for the consideration of the full Co-operative Committee at the earliest possible date:

1. That the Government be approached to share, as of Jan. 1st, 1949, the burden of expenses involved in providing the full-time services of Mr. McMaster and Mr. Hewer, since it would be to our mutual advantage to speed up the final hearings by retaining both these men.
2. That we ask the claimants for an additional advance of possibly ½% of their claims.
3. That a loan against recoveries be negotiated, the necessary sum of approximately $10,000. to be advanced by interested individuals.

PRIORITY RECOMMENDATIONS - The Committee recommends that of the balance on hand, the following allocations be made:

$ 4,000.00 - for valuations
$ 5,000.00 - a guarantee to Mr. McMaster for his work till the year end.
$ 1,000.00 - Mr. Brewin's travelling expenses for two trips to the coast.
500.00 - Mr. Best for intensive work during Toronto hearings resuming in Oct.
1,000.00 - Sundry expenses re hearings.

COLLECTION OF REMAINING SOLICITORS' FEES - It was suggested that some directive should be prepared for signature of the claimants, authorizing the Government to deduct the balance of their legal fees--possibly 5% to 10% of the recovery. (Solicitors have agreed to set their rates for services rendered in reasonable proportion to the amount recovered.)

INTERPRETERS - It was agreed that the rate of $10.00 per day for interpreters in connection with the remaining Toronto hearings, should be continued.

REFUND - A request from the B.C. J.C.C.A. that a rebate of one half the retainer fee paid by Mr. H. Isotani be made(on the recommendation of Mr. McMaster) was held over until the National J.C.C.A., which is now corresponding regarding this case, can O.K. a refund. This claim was withdrawn, but after considerable legal work had been done on it.

COMMITTEE MEETING - It was recommended that a meeting of the full Committee be held as soon as possible to consider the recommendations from this meeting and decide on future policy.

Secretary

CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE CANADIANS

MINUTES

TIME: Sept. 30th, 1948; 5:00 p.m.
PLACE: Carlton Church
CHAIRMAN: Rev. J. M. Finlay
ALSO PRESENT: Brewin, Fowler, Haslam, Nichols, Obata, Tanaka, Tucker & Boos.
MINUTES: of previous meeting were read and adopted on motion- Boos/Obata.
CORRESPONDENCE: A letter of thanks was read from Mrs. Compson for the honorarium received in connection with her secretarial work during Toronto hearings.
REPORTS:

(a) Geo. Tanaka - re Editorial Committee - Muriel Kitagawa has recently reported failure to secure the necessary co-operation in connection with compiling evacuation stories, and this work is now at a stand still. Regret was expressed that such a publication should not materialize..suggested that the attempt should not yet be abandoned, but the possibilities of personal interviews be explored. George Tanaka will consult Mrs. Kitagawa re undertaking this approach. If she consents, our Secretary will co-operate with her and the J.C.C.A. in contacting evacuees located in and around Toronto and arranging interviews.

At present the Committee is also negotiating with the Canadian Citizenship Council for the publication in its "Democratic Way" series of a popular reading pamphlet on the Co-operative Committee which Edith Fowke has agreed to write.

(b) Mr. Brewin - Having just returned from attending the opening sessions of the final hearings in Vancouver (Sept. 20-25), Mr. Brewin reported as follows:

.... Oral hearings are practically complete, with exception of Ontario
.... General evidence is now being given
.... Proposed procedure:
1. Evidence of Custodian
2. Corporation claims - to 15:11:48
3. Specific Categories- to 30:1:49
4. Review of individual cases by McMaster & Hunter, in light of findings -- joint recommendations to be made if possible, with review of disputed cases by Justice Bird.
(Following this plan, hearings might be completed next summer.)

.... Work of McMaster & staff is most encouraging.. conclusive evidence re 100% undervaluation of V.L.A. claims.. laxity in handling of net sales leaves us in strong position .. difficult to establish claims re urban property, as reputable valuators were retained .. chattel claims very difficult.
.... Justice Bird seems pleasant and fair, but has given no indication as to what his judgements may be .. however, some real recoveries likely.

FINANCES - Mr. Brewin reported that he had discussed the possibility of a government subsidy toward the expenses of this Committee in continuing to retain the services of legal and valuation experts throughout the period of the final hearings, thus facilitating their speedier completion. In his opinion, this assistance would enable us to strengthen our claims and realize greater recoveries. Mr. McMaster is drafting a letter to the Government, proposing a subsidy of $1,500. per month for the first six months of 1949, subject to our approval. After some discussion, it was moved (Haslam/Obata) that we approve this procedure of our Counsel, as outlined by Mr.Brewin. Carried. Further discussion of the principle involved led to a second motion (Fowler/Tanaka) "That we approved in principle of the request for Government assistance, without in any way prejudicing our position". Carried.
ADJOURNMENT - at 6:40 p.m. Next meeting to be called as soon as draft letter can be submitted for consideration and approval.

M K Boos Jas. M. Finlay

CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE CANADIANS

Minutes

TIME - Feb. 8th, 1949; 5:30 p.m.
PLACE - Carlton Church
PRESENT - Fowler, Haslam, Nichols, Obata, Tanaka, & Boos.
Regrets: Finlay & Tucker.

FINANCIAL REPORT - Remittances to date now total $13,277.91, including the $3,000.00 from Alberta.

FOLLOW-UP LETTERS - In view of the fact that remittances are still being received daily, it was moved - Nichols/Tanaka - that these letters be sent out as soon as remittances drop off. Carried.

SETTLEMENT PROPOSAL - A letter from Mr. McMaster was then read, outlining in detail a percentage basis proposal for settlement of all claims (other than D.V.L.A. and corporations) which the Government Counsel has presented to him for consideration. If the principle involved is accepted, and it is to be discussed with Col. Hunter, Mr. McMaster desires that Mr. Brewin be present. Mr. Brewin pointed out that if an adequate upward revision of the suggested percentages could be secured, a greater aggregate recovery would likely be achieved by accepting a settlement on this basis. It must, however, be recognized that the category set-up, of which we approved, provided for the review of each claim. However, in an informal discussion of the proposition it would be possible to discover how the Commissioner's mind is working, which would be an advantage, but having agreed to discuss the percentage basis, we would not then be in a position to reject the principle involved.

It was finally agreed, after much discussion, that Mr. Brewin should go immediately to Vancouver, discuss and explore possibilities of the proposed settlement, endeavouring to have the suggested percentages raised.

Announcement of any settlement, if one should be reached, regarding the categories listed, would be held until all claims have been settled.

ADJOURNMENT - 7:30 p.m.

M K Boos Jas. M. Finlay

TENTATIVE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Real Property	Gross Claim	Sold	Net Claims	Gov. Settlement Figure	Our Figure.
1. V.L.A 572	2,480,000 667,956 1,812,044	667,956	1,812,044 -	80%	= $544,400
				Average recovery-	$970
2. Rural Advisory 164	$847,342 325,817 521	325,817	521,000 -	15% 20%	48,871 + 16,000
3. Vancouver 239	$1,251,989 647 604	646,926	604,000 -	10% 15%	$64692 + 32,300
Chattels	Total Gross 120,000	$39	40,000 36,600 -	15% 25%	Sold 6475 + 3600
4. Nets and Fishing Gear				50% +15%	$21,045 1,800
5. Boats	$120,000	60,000	60,000	15%x25% of	9000 + 5000 + 15000
6. Cans.	$ 93,600	51,100	42,000	25%	12,785
Chattels					
7. Goods sold by auction	$267,000	90,544	177,000	15% 15% + 7%	13,500 6,000
8. Goods sold by tender	$240,289	94934	145,000	15%	$14,300
9. Lost, Recorded but now missing	$60,000	asking additional 15%		+	24,454. 9,000
10. Left with agent	38,500				7500
11. Acclaimed but not found	55,500			+	12,000 12,000
12. Abandoned	28,857 - 8%			10% +	1400 1400
13. Sold with real property				50%	$17,700

CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE CANADIANS

MINUTES

TIME- April 9, 1949; 2.30 p.m.
PLACE - Mr. Brewin's Office
PRESENT - Brewin, Haslam(Chairman), Nichols, Obata, Tanaka, Boos.
Regrets: Finlay, Fowler & Tucker.

FINAL SETTLEMENT PROPOSAL - Mr. Brewin read a letter just received from Mr. McMaster, outlining and commenting upon a proposed settlement just received from Justice Bird, with the request that our decision regarding it be made by the end of this month. With the exception of Vancouver property claims, it was found to follow closely the submission made by Mr. Hunter some weeks ago for discussion purposes, the proposed allowance of 10% having been cut to 5% by Justice Bird. Mr. McMaster would recommend acceptance of the settlement, with the exception of these claims. With regard to them, Mr. Brewin advised that he immediately wrote a strong protest to the Minister of Justice on hearing of the change, stating that he could not recommend such a settlement to these claimants. (It would cut recoveries on these claims from approximately $30,000. to $15,000.).

ADVICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL - Mr. Brewin then read a letter to our Committee, written in his capacity of general counsel, evaluating the government proposition and outlining his line of reasoning in recommending its acceptance, providing at least a 10% recovery can be effected on Vancouver properties. During discussion which followed, the following pertinent facts emerged:

- Offer re V.L.A. claims is quite satisfactory
- Our evidence can establish no higher recovery re cars and boats
- A better allowance may yet be arranged re a few chattel claims
- Our own valuator of Vancouver properties has concurred with some valuations, and would raise other by 10 to 15% mainly.(In addition, the Commissioner is quite satisfied with both the composition of the Advisory Board and its methods.)
- Consideration of special cases (re property in dead communitites, greenhouses, poultry farms, etc.) has been conceded by Justice Bird.

Considerable discussion led to the following motion: (Nichols/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." CARRIED.

PROCEDURE- Mr. Brewin pointed out that, although technically it is not necessary to consult individual claimants re the offer, it is most desirable that we devise some means of sampling the opinions of those primarily concerned in the settlement. Some time was spent in attempting to reach a democratic procedure, keeping in mind the time element and the necessity for keeping details of the proposition Strictly confidential during this negotiation period. Finally it was moved (Nichols/Obata) "That we proceed as follows:

(over)

(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 J.C.C.A. 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 time and 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. " CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT - at 4.45 p.m.

Jas. M. Finlay

MINUTES OF

CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE CANADIANS

TIME - May 9th, 1949; 5.15 p.m.
PLACE - Carlton Church
PRESENT - Brewin, Boos, Fowler, Haslam, Nichols, Obata, Tanaka & Trueman.

MINUTES - of previous meeting held April 9th and Finance Committee meeting of April 13th, already circulated, were approved as read, on motion : Boos/Nichols.

FINANCES - Statement of income and disbursements to date showed a balance on hand of $19,244.71.

There will be a refund of $29.38, being balance of advance made to George Tanaka re his cross-country trip in April. Some B.C. expenses will likely yet be submitted.

MOTION: Obata/Trueman: "That an advance of $3,000. be sent to Mr. McMaster, and that the account for $3,304.41 recently submitted by him, be paid, subject to the Finance Committee's approval". Carried.

PROGRESS REPORT - Mr. Brewin reported that our Counsel has been making every effort to secure further concessions from the Commissioner, and some improvements in the proposed settlement have been agreed upon.

The following report on replies to our April letter was made by the Secretary:

	Letters	At Meetings	
Letters returned	21		
Uncertain	3		
Wish property back	6		
Wish claim presented again	3		
Definite "no"	7	10	
Approval (with provisoes outlined)			
Individual letters	175		
At meetings		232	407

MOTION: Nichols/Tanaka : "That, on the assumption that the balance of replies as to claimants' views corresponds with those received to date, we instruct Mr. McMaster to notify the Commissioner and Government that a substantial majority wish to accept the proposed settlement, adding the following provisoes: -(a) a further protest as to the narrowness of the Commission's terms of reference and (b) dissatisfaction with the allowance on Vancouver properties." Carried. (Our Counsel is being instructed to negotiate for improvement re this category of claims.)

After further discussion, it was agreed that inquiries as to the possibilities of arranging hearings for dissatisfied individuals be ascertained.

APPRECIATION - of George's excellent work on our behalf was expressed by all.

ADJOURNMENT - at 6.30 p.m.

Dorothy Boos Jas. M. Finlay

CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE CANADIANS

MINUTES

TIME - Sept. 24th, 1949; 5;15 p.m.
PLACE - Carlton Church - Minister's Study.
PRESENT - Boos, Brewin, Finlay, Fowler, Haslem, Nichols, Tanaka, & Tucker.
Regrets - Fowler (out of town).

MINUTES - of previous meeting were circulated and approved.

PUBLICATIONS -
(a) An effort is again being made through the University to secure a graduate student to prepare a documented outline of this Committee's work.
(b) Edith Fowke advised that she is now ready to work on a pamphlet designed for popular reading. Although Dr. Kidd of the C.A.A.E. is out of town at present and is still to discuss the possibilities of publishing it through Ryerson's "Live & Learn" series, it was decided to ask her to proceed with the writing, the Secretary & Treasurer being empowered to act upon learning the approximate cost of the work involved. In the event that negotiations with Ryerson fail, it was suggested that the following organizations might be interested in co-sponsoring : Japanese-Canadian Citizens' Ass'n., Canadian Jewish Congress, Canadian Association for Adult Education, Canadian Citizenship Counsil, Fellowship of Reconciliation, Joint Labour Committee to Combat Racial Discrimination and the Civil Liberties Ass'n. Suggested that they undertake to sell quantities, rather than contribute toward the cost of producing same. Decided that selling price be 25¢. Agreed that Edith prepare a dodger for wide distribution and inquire re printing costs.
MOTION: "That this alternate plan be accepted in principle, subject to further developments." - Nichols/Tanaka.

BULLETIN - It was unanimously agreed that, due to the difficulty of maintaining our relationship with claimants, a Bulletin be prepared ~~and mailed~~ as soon as possible - with Japanese translation. Andrew Brewin agreed to prepare same, upon receipt of further word from Mr. McMaster, and Geo. Tanaka agreed to arrange for translation and mailing.

FINANCES-
(a) Financial Statement for the period from Sept., 1948 to Aug. 30, 1949 and a detailed analysis of expenditures were distributed and studied.
MOTION: Nichols/Tanaka - "That the Financial Statement for 1948-49 be accepted as submitted, and the expenses incurred therein be approved."Carried.
(b) The Secretary reported a great decrease in the volume of work and suggested that her honorarium be discontinued. MOTION: Nichols/Haslam: "That the honorarium be reduced to $25.00 per month." Carried.

REPORT OF LEGAL COUNSEL - Mr. McMaster reports that he has been quite success full in getting recognition for special cases; he feels details may be cleared up by the year end. If basic figures are ready by then, the Judge will report, giving general reasoning and a schedule of applicable amounts. Government will then decide as to payment of monies. Suggested procedure:
(a) That we collect all solicitors accounts before then and submit them to a reputable legal firm for consultation as to their adequacy.
(b) That the percentage deduction necessary be worked out.
(c) That we secure services of a chartered accountant to work out a feasible plan for presentation to Govt. in the hope that some deduction scheme may be worked out.
MOTION: Nichols/Tanaka: "That Mason & Foulds check solicitors' accounts and P.S. Ross & Sons be asked to prepare the information re claimants." Carried.

ADJOURNMENT: at 7:30.p.m.

Jack Boos Jas. M. Finlay

CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE CANADIANS

94 Homewood Ave., Apt.28,
January 15th, 1950.

Dear Committee Member:

I have just been asked by George Tanaka to bring to the attention of the Co-operative Committee a request from the recently organized Toronto Claimants Committee. An excerpt from his letter is being included with this notice of meeting, in order that the time at our disposal on ~~Wed.~~ Jan. 20th may be utilized to the best advantage. We plan to meet in Mr. Finlay's study at 5:00 p.m.; if you are not able to be present, will you please contact me or Mr. Finlay, so that we will know your mind in this matter.

" The Toronto Claimants Committee has recently contacted the National Executive Committee, informing that they would like to hold a meeting with our JCCA committee. A joint committee meeting was therefore held with a representative group from both committees. At this meeting, which was held on Friday, Jan. 6, the Toronto Claimants Committee expressed the desire to the National JCCA Executive Committee that it would like the following three points to be given consideration:

1. That they desire to have representation from the Toronto Claimants group 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 would be to discuss the whole evacuation claims question.
3. That they also desire to know what further charges would be assessed claimants over and above the 2% already assessed.

"Our National Executive Committee in Toronto, at its meeting held Jan. 8th spent considerable time in considering this whole question and concluded that, under the circumstances, it would be the wisest course of action to submit a recommendation to the Co-operative Committee that the submission of the Toronto Claimants Committee be given the fullest consideration."

Perhaps I should also add for your information that there has been a difference of opinion over the claims question among members of the National JCCA. In a recent issue of the New Canadian a public statement of resignation was made by Roger Obata and Jack Oki in this connection. At present Roger and Kunio Hidaka , who has also resigned from the Executive Committee, are actively associated with the Toronto claimants who recently held a Claimants meeting and elected a twelve-man committee, which includes Roger and Kunio.

Latest word from Andy Brewin is to the effect that possibly two months more work is yet to be done.

Sincerely,

K. K. Shoyama.

SECRETARY

CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE CANADIANS

Minutes of Meeting

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.)

MINUTE - 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 p.m.". Carried.
MOTION: Brewin/Haslam - "That we plan for an evening meeting on Friday, Feb. 24th at 8:00 p.m. " 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 satisfied that 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 such letters from the JCCA 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 8:05.

Jas. M. Finlay
M. L. Boos

CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE CANADIANS

Minutes

TIME - Feb. 24th, 1950; 8:00 p.m.
PLACE - Carlton Church.
PRESENT - Brewin, Boos, Fowler, Haslam, Hidaka, Nichols, Obata, Takashima, Tanaka, Tucker, Umezuki. (Mineoka, an observer.)
Regrets - Finlay.

MOTION: Nichols/Tanaka - "That Fred Haslam chair this meeting". Carried.

MINUTES - of meetings held February 15th (5:15 & 6:00 p.m.) were circulated and approved as amended, on MOTION: Boos/Nichols.

CORRESPONDENCE:
(a) Okinawa Committee - containing a request for support of their efforts to secure immigration to Canada for residents of Okinawa. MOTION: Nichols/Tanaka - "That we determine whether this matter has been brought before the Department of Immigration, and, if not, that we do so." Carried
(b) R. J. McMaster - submitting a $2,133.39 account covering disbursements from August 27,1949 to February 15, 1950 (mainly salary payments to Mr. Leckie) and advising of additional expenses totalling approximately $5,840.47. Financial report to date showed that our cash balance has dwindled to $2,387.91. MOTION: Nichols/Fowler - "That we authorize payment of $2,000.00 with respect to this account (subject to its being checked and approved by the Finance Committee(and, in view of our financial position, ask the Finance Committee to give thought to ways and means of meeting it." Carried.

REPORT TO CLAIMANTS - The Secretary reported that several members had recently suggested the preparation of such a report, outlining the present situation, reviewing some background and indicating the direction of our future action. General agreement that it would serve to clarify the thinking of claimants at this time. MOTION: Fowler/Tanaka - "That such a brief, but comprehensive statement be prepared, to bring the claimants up to date regarding action already taken, together with future plans of the Co-operative Committee." Carried. Agreed that, if possible, whatever information on valuations can reasonably be supplied, be included Also agreed that this sub-committee include: Boos, Tanaka, Tucker and Fowke (if available).

FUTURE PLANS - Chief concern of Toronto Claimants' Committee was stated to be in future action plans of this committee and the JCCA. A public campaign has been suggested, and the JCCA has outlined plans for rather extensive political action. Mr. Brewin emphasized that he strongly recommends no public campaign whatsoever until the Commissioner's Report has been filed. In addition, he made the following suggestions:
1. That carefully prepared public statements be held in readiness.
2. That plans for action thereafter be flexible - adapted according to Government action. Our concern should be to do nothing that would jeopardize securing maximum recovery for our claimants from Gov't.

Although we have consistently protested the narrow terms of reference, no radical alterations are likely to be made at this stage. The Commissioner's findings have substantially vindicated the claims made; we will press for their implementation at once, plus 5% interest from the date of claim. In addition, we will urge consideration of claims outside the terms of reference.

Hartley Fowler expressed concern lest action of this committee and the JCCA conflict at this crucial time. Andy Brewin was of the opinion that the JCCA's proposed campaign is in line with our thinking, and George Tanaka gave assurance that, as in the past, so in the future the JCCA intends to consult and act in accordance with the advice of our legal counsel. H. Fowler then summed up this discussion: (a) that we wait till Commissioner's Report is made; (b) that a committee should be framing flexible material; (c) that the matter of timing should be stressed and (d) that continued co-operation is essential (all action should be cleared beforehand, and worked out together).

Mr. Mineoka expressed agreement with suggestions re timing, preparation of a statement of facts for release, and full co-operation with the JCCA. Kunio Hidaka emphasized the desirability of co-operation and unified actio

In answer to a question as to the extent of this committee's responsibility to claimants asked by E.M. Nichols, A. Brewin replied that we have a specific responsibility till claimants have received their cheques and debts incurred by us are paid. In addition, we ought to press for whatever is in the general interest of claimants- with particular reference to claims outside the terms of reference of the present Commission. In short, if the Government fails to carry out its proposals properly, a widespread campaign would then be necessary. In his opinion, the Government's attitude will be that the Commissioner's Report is final; that, in view of the Commissioner's ruling re "fair market value" which, upon conferring, our counsel in the various provinces decided must be accepted, we do no have sufficient evidence to challenge his findings.

MOTION: Fowler/Nichols---"That a sub-committee be appointed to prepare our public relations effort regarding the Commissioner's Report, for release after it has been filed, including any necessary representations to Government." Carried.(Choice of personnel left with J.Finlay & F.Haslam)

REPORT RE JCCA LETTER - G. Tanaka reported having received a request from approximately 400 Virtue claimants to cease any public project, as outlined in a recent news release from the JCCA. As a result of consultation with Brewin & McMaster, the JCCA will seriously reconsider its plans.

TORONTO CLAIMANTS' COMMITTEE LETTER - After copies were circulated, K.Hidaka read the letter and requested that it be sent out on behalf of the Toronto Claimants' Committee. Comments:

Nichols: "It is contrary to the policy discussed all evening, and to the spirit achieved in this Committee."

Fowler: "It would be detrimental for any group to send out such statements; they don't hold water. ..Unethical action is suggested."

Brewin: "It is not possible to now reject the method of dealing with claims which we agreed to accept. In addition,

1. Such a letter would be harmful to the interests of our claimants.
2. It contains inaccurate statements.
3. This committee should not undertake to send out letters for local (claimant groups.

Hidaka: "So far as our committee knows, this is a true statement. We made an effort to work with JCCA through a Joint Committee, but failed."

MOTION: Nichols/Brewin - "That the request to send out this letter now presented be refused." Carried. K. Hidaka then requested the use of our mailing lists for this purpose. MOTION: Fowler/Nichols- "That the list be not available." Carried.

NEXT MEETING - When Committee reports are ready. Adjournment moved at 10:50 p.m.

Jas. M. Finlay

E.M. Nichols

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE CANADIANS HELD MONDAY, MARCH 13, 1950

Time - 5.30 p.m.

Place - Carlton Street Church, Toronto.

ATTENDANCE:

Those Present - E. M. Nichols (in the Chair), F. A. Brewin, R. J. McMaster, K. Hidoka, G. Tanaka, R. Obata, T. Umezuki, F. Haslam, J. M. Finlay, Mr. Mineoka, Mr. Takahashi, N. Fujita (as recording secretary in absence of Miss Boos).

Regrets Received - Mr. Fowler, Miss Boos, Miss Tucker.

Nature of the Meeting - Ruled that this be considered a special meeting called to meet with Mr. McMaster, Legal Counsel, who is stopping in Toronto for a few days en route to Ottawa, and that any decisions made be sent as recommendations to the next regular meeting of the Committee. Also, ruled that information given at this meeting is not to be broadcast in any way whatsoever until formally considered at another meeting.

Report from Mr. McMaster - Mr. McMaster, reporting on the Claims work, stated that with the exception of a few cases on which he has reserved judgment, the Commissioner has determined the amounts of the individual awards which have been entered on "green sheets". About 80 cases have yet to receive final ruling. At present there is checking being carried on between the Custodian and Claimants Counsels on the amounts of the awards and the final figures will be attached to the Commissioner's Report to the Government.

The latest information as to date of filing of the Commissioner's Report is April 15, 1950.

Tabulation of Claims - A tabulated report of claims figures under the categories of types of property has been prepared by Mr. McMaster for the Committee, the summary sheet of which was distributed for reference purposes to the members present, to be returned at the end of the meeting.

The Summary was tabulated by Provinces and showed:

Under "B" - Gross claims as amended at the hearings,
" "C" - Gross sales by Custodian,
" "D" - Recovery awards to be recommended,
" "E" - Total recovery made up of Custodian sales and recommended awards.

(Net claim may be determined by subtracting "C" from "B")
(See schedule attached.)

The report, as prepared by Mr. McMaster, covers from 1050 to 1100 claims, nearly all individual claims placed through the Co-operative Committee, exclusive of corporation claims.

Mr. McMaster advised that the Committee not release the Claims Report figures to the general public and that even these figures to be made available to claimants at this point should be carefully considered.

Question was raised by R. Obata as to the 6 million dollar figure as total claim amount released under date of April 6th, 1949. It was believed that they were probably figures from the Custodian's office at the time of discussion of the percentage basis and would include Mr. Virtue's cases and perhaps the corporation claims.

E. M. Nichols asked whether the Government brought forth many special cases. Mr. McMaster replied that very few were brought forth which he felt was a result of change in Government counsel. The Commissioner himself, however, did cut down on a few.

Mr. McMaster advised that special cases other than Vancouver property submitted by Claimants counsel as special cases included about 15 Steveston cases, 1 or 2 Prince Rupert cases and some on Vancouver Island.

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4. What was the Commissioner's reaction to special evidences presented?

   Answer - He varied on the individual cases.

5. Was Fraser Valley property evaluated?

   Answer - Yes, Fraser Valley property was appraised by farm appraisers.

6. Were special cases submitted on VLA?

   Answer - The Commissioner did hear some cases outside of specialized green houses, bulb houses and chicken farms.

7. Were appraisals made on other urban properties other than Vancouver and other real property other than VLA?

   Answer - Urban property in the Valley was appraised where possible. On the Island and Prince Rupert, expenses would have exceeded any hope of recovery. In Prince Rupert, the Custodian had used the only two recognized firms up there. Also, the same situation existed on the Island. We found the Commissioner did have sympathy for some of these cases. We did send one appraiser to Courtney and in a few other special cases but in general, we considered it not advisable.

8. There is some fear amongst some of the claimants that this will mean the end of the claims issue, would that be so?

   Answer - Possibly, under the present attitude of the Government. I feel it would be inadvisable to jeopardize the claimants getting what they will get on their claims now. Some will be reasonably compensated. We have to recognize that the Government had to be pushed to make the terms of reference as they are. And the present Government is the same as that which drew up the terms of reference.

Clarification requested by Mr. McMaster on the Following Points:

(a) Disposition of the files.

(b) How to go about advising individual claimants as to amount of their awards.

(c) What policy to follow in charging persons who want their claim reviewed. Mr. McMaster considered that such persons should assume personal responsibility for attendant expenses.

Appreciation to Mr. McMaster

Mr. Finlay expressed on behalf of the Committee appreciation to Mr. McMaster for his attendance at the meeting and information received, and further, that the Committee would like to reassure him of their appreciation of the spirit and thoroughness with which the task was being carried out.

Adjournment at 7.00 p.m.

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J.C.C.A. CLAIMS - SUMMARY re ALL PROPERTY

"A" PROV.	"B" CLAIMED	"C" GROSS SALES	"D" RECOVERY	"E" TOTAL RECOVERY	"F" % TOTAL REC. TO CLAIMS
B.C.	1,549,217.47	607,847.79	277,370.68	885,218.47	57.14%
Alta.	584,221.27	158,697.28	124,211.62	282,908.90	48.42%
Sask.	17,611.95	5,888.25	5,191.40	11,079.65	62.91%
Man. (incl. Ft.Wm.)	595,019.22	203,875.96	150,882.99	354,758.95	59.62%
Ont. (Toronto)	1,523,356.07	604,916.81	248,660.86	853,577.67	56.03%
Que.	219,385.58	82,068.21	34,266.70	116,334.91	53.03%
1050 in 1100 cases →	4,488,811.56	1,663,294.30	840,584.25	2,503,878.55	55.78%

GROSS RECOVERY (D) IS 50.53% OF GROSS GOVERNMENT SALES (C)