FILE No. 23-2-3-14

VOL. NO.

FILE NO.

RECORD GROUP 27

VOLUME 647

FILE 23-2-3-14

DEPARTMENT OF L

SUBJECT JAPANESE

SUB-SUBJECT PLACEMENT &

FILE TITLE RE-ESTABLISHME
JAPANESE RE

THIS COVER MUST NOT

(1) DATE LEFT CENTRAL RECORDS	(2) PURPOSE FOR WHICH REFERRED (IF PURPOSE FOR WHICH REFERRED CANNOT BE EXPRESSED IN ONE LINE ADD MEMO TO FILE AND ENTER HERE "WITH MEMO")	REFER FILE TO	ENTER DATE TO BRING FORWARD WHEN REQUIRED	USER'S INITIAL TO SHOW ACTION COMPLETED	DATE RETURNED TO CENTRAL RECORDS
MAR 11 1946	AS REQUESTED	Pammette	Apr 15	AJ	MAR 27 1946
APR 15 1946	BROUGHT FORWARD	Pammett	4/5	AP	APR 15 1946
APR 30 1946	AS REQUESTED	Pammett	Pa	AP	MAY 2 1946
May 10/46	BROUGHT FORWARD	Pammett	15/5	AP	MAY 10 1946
MAY 1946	AS REQUESTED	Pammett	Pa		MAY 13 1946
May 15/46	BROUGHT FORWARD	Pammett	Pa	AP	MAY 15 1946
MAY 21 1946	AS REQUESTED	Pammette	Pa		MAY 25 1946
MAY 25 1946	WITH NEW MAIL	Pammett	Pa		MAY 29 1946
MAY 30 1946	AS REQUESTED	Pammett	Pa	AP	MAY 30 1946
JUL 9 1946	AS REQUESTED	Pammett	Pa	AP	JUL 10 1946
JUL 29 1946	WITH NEW MAIL	Pammett	Pa	AP	JUL 30 1946
OCT 3 1946	WITH NEW MAIL	Pammett	Pa	AP	OCT 3 1946
Oct 10/46	BROUGHT FORWARD	Pammett	Pa	AP	OCT 11 1946
G.W. Wilson	a Req	Nov 8/61	84.	10.	NOV - 8 1961

1.
10-43

IMPORTANT—DO NOT FAIL TO NOTIFY RECORDS WHENEVER A FILE IS PASSED DIRECT TO ANOTHER BRANCH

FILE NO. 23-2-3-14

CHARGED OUT	TO	RETURNED
OCT 3 [redacted]3	~~Pamunkey~~	OCT 3 1946
Oct 10, 46.	~~Pamunkey~~	OCT 11 1946
Nov. 8/61	Wilson G.W.	

TO: CENTRAL REGISTRY,
Room 7, Conf. Bldg.

Please place attached on file

23-2-3-14

H.T. Pammett.

P.A.

B.F.

March 6, 1947.

to: Colonel R. H. Davidson,
Assistant Commissioner of
Japanese Placement.

With reference to the attached correspondence from Mr. Trueman, the Department is not prepared to go in for a program of financing land purchases for Japanese. Certainly, the Government, having already undertaken to consider claims by Japanese that their property was sold at less than fair market value subsequent to their evacuation from the Coastal Area, will hardly be disposed, I think, to go into a land settlement program at this time.

As I have already advised, we are prepared to consider any special situation in the case of a large family group, to give assistance within limits in order to get them established in accommodation outside our hostels.

A. H. Brown.

Att.

L.C.
12/3/47

TO: CENTRAL REGISTRY,
Room 7, Conf. Bldg.

Please place attached on file

23-2-3-14

H.T. Pammett.

P.A.

B.F.

March 5, 1947.

to: Mr. A. MacNamara,
Deputy Minister.

Re: Y. Yoshimura - Loan to purchase land.

Mr. Trueman submits a request from an evacuated Japanese for a loan to assist him in buying some land near Bradford, Ontario, for the purpose of truck gardening.

I haven't any thought of opening up on grants or loans of this nature at the present time, except in the way of enlarged placement grants for the disposition of large family groups remaining in our hostels.

Have you any views to the contrary on this point?

A. H. Brown.

Att.

4/3/47

O t t a w a,
October 30, 1946.

Mr. G. E. Trueman,
Placement Officer,
Japanese Division,
Department of Labour,
24 Adelaide St. E.,
Toronto 1, Ontario.

Dear Sir:-

I wish to acknowledge your letter of October 29 concerning the possibility of a Government Loan to Mr. K. Edamura #02311 to assist him in handling the mortgage on property which he has purchased.

It is doubtful whether any Government Loan is available for this purpose, as the National Housing Act provides loans only for persons building homes. You might get more definite information, however, from the Toronto Office of the Central Housing and Mortgage Corporation, Continental Building, 371 Bay Street, Toronto, Elgin 2154.

Yours very truly,

HTP:MS

A. MacNamara.

31/10

TO: CENTRAL REGISTRY,
Ro[redacted] 7, Conf. Bldg.

Please place attached on file

23-2-3-14

H.T. Pammett.

P.A.

B.F.

CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

JAPANESE DIVISION

24 Adelaide St. E.,
Toronto 1, Ontario,
October 29, 1946.

Mr. A. MacNamara,
Ottawa, Ontario.

Attention: Mr. H. T. Pammett

Re: Government Loans

There is in Toronto now a Japanese National by the name of Kanichiro EDAMURA #02311 who has recently purchased property at 164 Brock Street. The total cost of the property amounts to $2800.00 against which price, cash has been paid to the extent of $1200.00. A mortgage of $1700 has been taken out; this mortgage bears interest at 6%.

Although Edamura is earning $30.00 per week working for the Star Novelty Company, 263-65 Queen Street W., Toronto, since he has quite a substantial family to support, he is very anxious to get a mortgage less than what he is now paying.

I promised him that I would try to find out for him if any Government Loans are available for situations such as he faces.

May I not have word from you soon giving me what information you may have on the subject.

Ernest Trueman

G. E. Trueman
Placement Officer.

GET*HO

6 of 1700
100
17
6
$102 a year interest $1500 Salary a year

Ottawa, October 3, 1946.

Mr. Haruo Kimoto,
3657 De Bullion Street,
Montreal 18, P.Q.

Dear Sir:

I wish to acknowledge your letter of September 23, concerning the possibility of securing a loan from the Dominion Government to assist you in purchasing a rooming house in Montreal.

We have made an investigation on this matter and regret to advise that it is impossible to grant your request at this time. The Placement Officer at Montreal is, however, prepared to give you every possible assistance in getting re-established with your family on a satisfactory basis.

Yours very truly,

A. MacNamara

HTP/BC

Crossindex with
23-2-3-5-1
Copy to Beaudet

2

23-2-3-14

CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

JAPANESE DIVISION

276 St. James St. West,
Montreal, Que.

October 2, 1946.

Mr. H. T. Pammett,
Department of Labour,
Ottawa, Ontario.

We wish to acknowledge your letter of September 25th regarding request of Mr. Haruo KIMOTO, 3637 De Bullion St., Montreal, requesting a Government loan of $5,000.00.

Haruo KIMOTO #11968 arrived in Montreal on September 4, 1945 from Kaslo, B.C. Upon arrival he was immediately placed as an auto mechanic. He has earned and is still earning approximately 80¢ per hour, and his average salary per week rates about $35.00. We have had considerable correspondence on this man, and due to the fact that he came out to Montreal alone, he promised to send maintenance to his wife and four children who remained behind in ghost town. On several occasions the Welfare wrote and threatened to discontinue payment of maintenance to his family, as Kimoto very often skipped months before sending the required maintenance he had promised for their support. In fact just lately Mr. M.L. Brown of Vancouver requested us to investigate and take steps to have his wages garnished, should he continue to refuse maintenance for his family.

Following this request, we had quite a discussion with Kimoto in this office and it was decided at the time that it would be in our favour to bring his family to Farnham. We felt it would be easier for us to draw the money out of Kimoto for their support at the Hostel rather than through the welfare back in New Denver. Kimoto then again promised that he would pay the required amount for their keep at the Hostel. His family was then called out and they arrived here on July 22, 1946. Two weeks after that date, room and board was billed to Kimoto but up to the present time we have received nothing but excuses as to why he should not pay.

As a matter of fact Kimoto went so far as to write a personal letter to Mr. Pickersgill, copy of which I am enclosing for your perusal, and also our reply to same. It might be well to mention that we have felt, from our several discussions with Kimoto, that his idea is to acquire as much as possible from the Government as long as the Government is supporting the Japanese welfare. We do not doubt for one moment that this is his idea in requesting a loan of $5,000.00.

COPY

276 St. James St., W.,
Montreal, Que.,
September 19, 1946.

Lt.-Col. R.H. Davidson,
238 Sparks Street,
Ottawa, Ontario.

ATTENTION: Mr. J. F. MacKinnon, Vancouver, B.C.

Re: Haruo KIMOTO #11968

Your letter of September 13th along with attached copy of letter from Haruo Kimoto is hereby acknowledged. It is indeed with great surprise that we read the complaints registered by Kimoto.

It might be well tomention here that we have a file about an inch thick on Kimoto's case while his wife and children were in project town. It has always been quite an effort to draw money from Kimoto and would seem that there is no exception now that his family is at the Hostel. Some time ago we received word from the Welfare manager at Slocan stating that his wife and children would be cut off maintenance if he did not forward money regularly. At the time I had quite a discussion with him in the office, and we came to an agreement that he would call them out to Farnham Hostel and pay room and board for them at that point. According to the rules set up by Head Office charges are 60¢ for adults from the age of six up, and 30¢ from the age of 6 months to 6 years.

As Kimoto has been permanently employed since he arrived here in Montreal at an average rate of $35.00 per week, we do not hold a slightest doubt that he can pay lodgings of this family. From our various talks with Kimoto we have always been under the impression that his idea is to acquire as much as possible from the Government as long as the Government is supporting Japanese welfare.

Our plan is to force Kimoto to pay for the lodgings at the Hostel or take his wife and family somewhere else. Other people had been able to find rooms and housing in Montreal. Since he has been in this district for over a year we feel that no exception should be made in his case. So, if agreeable to you, we shall proceed with this action. Your advice on the matter would be greatly appreciated.

J. O. BEAUDET
Placement Officer

MTO:mt

CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

JAPANESE DIVISION

Under no circumstances do we give our approval to this request unless both Vancouver and yourselves see Kimoto's case in a different light than we do. Kimoto has been permanently employed in Montreal since he arrived, and we feel that he should have at least sufficient ahead of him, since he was living here alone for the past year with very little expense other than his lodgings.

We would appreciate hearing what you have decided in this case.

M. D. O'Connell
FOR J. O. BEAUDET
Placement Officer

MTO:mt
Encl.

c.c. Mr. J. F. MacKinnon
c.c. Lt. Col. R.H. Davidson

COPY

3637 De Bullion,
Montreal 18, P.Q.,
Sept. 9, 1946.

Pickersgill, Esq.,
Dept. of Labour,
506 Royal Bank Bldg.,
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Sir,

May I take your precious time off for a few moment to ask you a few questions.

My families relocate from Rosebery Housing centre about a month ago, at present in Farnham Hostel under Dept. of Labour care. Mr. Beaudet representative of Labour Dept. said I have to pay a board for them, but when he told us that 6 yrs and over have to pay same as adults the rate here is 60¢ per day and 30¢ for under 6 yrs. I have my wife and 4 children. At this rate it will cost me $72.00 a month to keep them in hostel. I have no objection in paying board but, I think this rate is ridiculous. The time they were receiving maintenance, they were getting only $39.00 a month. If the Government thinks $39.00 a month is enough to feed and cloth them it is only logical that they should not charge any more than maintenance. I am living in Montreal and it cost me at least $50.00 a month to live just to board, This would cost me $122.00 a month. I am getting an average of $35.00 a week, so you could imagine what would be left for us to wear. I have been here already a year and still unable to find a accommodation for my family account of short of cash. In order to obtain a so called flat here person have to have at least $1000 - $1500 cash, but at the rate I am going now I will never get a chance to accommodate my wife in Montreal.

Talking to Mr. Beaudet will get me knowwhere, so I am writing to you, to find out the fact.

As aforgoing circumstances please inform me in your earliest convenience.

Yours truly,

Haruo Kimoto

Ottawa, September 25, 1946.

Mr. J. Oscar Beaudet,
Quebec Placement Officer,
Japanese Division,
Department of Labour,
276 St. James St., W.,
Montreal, P.Q.

Dear Sir:

We have received a letter from Mr. H. Kimato, 3637 De Bullion Street, Montreal 18, Quebec. This man claims to be Canadian born aged 35 and the father of four children.

He is requesting a government loan of $5,000 to enable him to purchase a house which he can use as a rooming house, repayable in three years' time.

Would you please send us full information on this family and any comments you care to make on his request.

Yours very truly,

HTP/RM

A. MacNamara.

TO: CENTRAL REGISTRY,
Room 7, Conf. Bldg.

Please place attached on file

23-2-3-14

H.T. Pammett.

P.A.

B.F. 10/10

Department of Labour
SEP 25 1946
To:
DEPT LABOUR
YOU HANDLE
YOUR COMMENTS
SEE ME PLEASE
NOTE & RETURN
GET FILE TO ME

3637 Lle Bullion,
Montreal 18, Que.
Sept 23/46.

A. MacNamara Esq.,
To Dept. of Labour,
Ottawa.

Dear sir;

May I take this opportunity in asking you to help and cooperate with me regarding the accommodation for my family.

I am writing this letter to know, whether it is against your policy (Dept. of Labour) in giving me a financial aid.

I am a Canadian born age 35 father of four youngster, considered Canadian in every way, except that I am of Japanese Origin. On account of difference in colour, when the war broke out, we were forced out from the defence area, and placed in the interior of B.C. so called Ghost Towns

Our pioneers have been established in the B.C. coast for fifty

years, on account of this war our foundation have been wiped out completely so have lost everything. Some cash I had when my business was sold were completely gone pending the internment in the Ghost Town.

When the Siggregation proble arise, naturally I wanted to remain in Canada, is the reason of my being here. Have obeyed and trying to obey the Gavernment's policy in every way so far. I am reglet to state that it was my mistake in coming out here without sufficient cash, but what can I do I had to get out from the B.C. and nobody wants me in the rural district on farm I should say with four youngster. I am suffering and my head is turmoil unable to get any financial aid in this foreign province.

Of all the good years I have lost already and a forgoing circumstance, I wonder why the Dept of Labour take any steps in giving me a financia aid. I will repay in monthly or yearly instalment plan. I am really

ashamed I had to mention such things but I beg from bottom of my hearts you coned do something about it. I do realize it is part of your responsibility too, to give me a necessary aid when it is mostly needed. It might be a problem not worth bothering to you, but it is a life + death to me, so please help me won't you.

You might thinking the Japs are not cooperating with the Government in Eastern relocation, such is far from the point, majority are account of this drawback is the reason for try to remain in the B.C.

I have been here a year now, able to obtain a fair wages. but not enough to save any. Family came to Farnham Hostel 2 months ago. During the year time was looking for the suitable accomodation for my family but unable to find any account of short of cash. Housing here is really a racket now, have to pay 3 or 4 times the values of furniture in order to rent a place. will come

up to $1500 to $2000. in most cases, the houses are in such great demand that even you pay that sum, the chance to get is once in blue moon. Even for new places or empty flats, one have to pay $300. just for so called key money. When you have four youngster it is almost impossible to rent, the landlords are so fussy these days. So if this letter will give me any results I am intending to buy a cheap flat and it seems to be the only solution.

Mr Beaudet here representing the Dept. J Labour. is pressing me to get a place for the family here. and I won't blame him, after I have been here for a year, but what can a person do, when he got only few hundred dollars.

There must be some way that you could help me, and you have to otherwise I will be never be able to reunite in the family way with my family. If you are a married man, I am sure you will understand.

Maybe you could back me up, so I may be able to loan a money from the bank. It might be foolish to think such thing but what I really want to do is to start a kind of boarding house, so my wife could work in while I will be able to continue my present job. This way I could repay the loan I say about $5000. in 3 years time anyway. I am positive of it and will do it.

Once again I am asking you from the bottom of my heart. Please help me, won't you.

I remain,
Yours most truly.
T. Kimiato.

23-2-3-14

Ottawa, August 28, 1946.

Mr. G. I. Hatashita,
President,
New Denver Concord Society,
New Denver, B.C.

Dear Mr. Hatashita:

Your letter of July 29th petitioning the Minister of Labour to increase the Placement Allowance to $300 per couple was duly received.

It is not considered possible to increase the allowance at this time, but the difficulty which you mention in setting up household establishments, and your representations, will be kept in mind.

Yours very truly,

A. MacNamara.

EL/L

Rec 29.8.46

Deliver to: Miss Lorentsen

Room: .....

From: A. MacNamara

Room: .....

Remarks: You might draft suitable letter to the petitioners.

9

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

DEPUTY MINISTER'S OFFICE

OTTAWA, August 21st, 1946.

MEMORANDUM

Mr. A. MacNamara.

At the present time these Japs get $120. per couple, or $50. for a single person over sixteen and $20. for each child, as a grant which is paid to them when they go out on a placement. This amount is designed to support these people until they get their first wages, etc., and for incidentals.

I think it would be better to limit the placement allowance at this amount, and to be prepared, in the case of people who are without funds, and who require the same in order to set up housekeeping on their own, to pay for certain necessary household equipment.

A. H. Brown.

Deliver to: Mr. Brown

Room: .....

From: A. MacNamara

Room: .....

Remarks: Please advise.

New Denver, B. C.
July 29, 1946.

To The Office Of Minister Of Labour,
Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Sirs:

On a number of previous occasions, it has been brought to the Honorable Minister's notice, that, the Placement Allowance as it is applicable at present, is not sufficient to re-establish most of the families still residing in Government Hostels throughout the Provinces.

Needless to state our eagerness to rehabilitate ourselves, but in view of the high cost of household commodities, the amount allowed at present, one hundred and twenty dollars per couple, is hardly sufficient for the purpose.

May we request the Honorable Minister's consideration of this fact, and, if at all possible, the amount be increased to three hundred dollars per couple, and others pro rata, as we have previously requested.

That we present this petition is the unanimous wish of all the families who relocated to the various Hostels East of Rockies.

Yours respectfully,

New Denver Concord Society,

Pres. G. J. Katsuhitas.....

Sec'y. N. Higashiyama.....

X/

OTTAWA, July 29, 1946.

Mr. H. Shiga,
c/o Mr. R.H. Davis,
Fonthill, Ont.

Dear Sir:

I wish to acknowledge your letter of July 26, concerning relocation and re-establishment of Japanese from British Columbia, and with particular reference to your desire to purchase a fruit orchard and greenhouse.

I regret that it is impossible for this Department to consider at the present time granting you a loan to assist you to purchase a farm, but we are prepared to do everything within our power to assist you in getting satisfactorily settled in your chosen occupation, including the issuance of a license to purchase or lease property when you are ready to do so.

Yours very truly,

A. Namara.

HTP:FD

Jr
3-7-1

Jim Brown

Has the time arrived to consider making resettlement loans to Japanese?

This man wants a loan to help buy a fruit farm to resettle his family.

No. I don't think so yet.

FROM		TO
	Minister	
	Asst. to Minister	
✓	Secy. to Minister	
	Deputy Minister	
	Secy. to Deputy Minister	
	Accountant	
	Administrative Officer	
	Annuities	
	Can. Vocational Training	
	Central Registry	
	Clippings	
	Ind. Prod. Co-op. Board	
	Industrial Relations	
	Information Division	
	Japanese Division	✓
	Labour Gazette	
	Legislative Research	
	Library	
	National Employment Service	
	National Registration	
	National War Labour Board	
	Personnel	
	Research & Statistics	
	Solicitor	
	Stenographers Pool	
	Supplies	
	Translators	
	Technical Personnel, W. B.	
	Unemployment Insurance	
	Welfare Clinic	

23-2-3-14

Foothill, Ont.,
July 26, 1946.

Department of Labour
JUL 29 1946
To:
DRAFT LETTER
YOU HANDLE
YOUR COMMENTS
SEE ME PLEASE
NOTE & RETURN
GET FILE FOR ME

Mr. A. Mac Namara,
Dept. of Labour,
Ottawa.

Dear Sir:

Your circular letter dated July 18, asking for co-operation of all Canadians of the Japanese race to assist in the relocation and re-establishment of those still remaining in B.C., was read with much interest, especially the part stating licence may be obtained for the acquisition of real property.

Here in the heart of Niagara Peninsula, I have had a good opportunity to acquire experience

in fruit farming. I have made a careful observation of its management.

I have been in business before the evacuation, but since coming out here I began to feel compelling attachment to the land. Fruit farming and greenhouse operation have appealed to me tremendously. It is my fervent hope to own such farm as soon as possible.

A friend of mine with three grown-up sons and two daughters is another enthusiast in fruit orchard and in rose culture. They have had an ample experience in such line at Smith Nursery at Jordan, Ont.. They too are looking forward to acquiring their own orchard.

Only drawback in each case is the matter of capital. Your reference to the re-establishment led me to think that the material aid in the form of loan may prove to be a greatest incentive in order to hasten relocation. Mutual trust and understanding will be increased and will bring about more prompt and ready acceptance of the dispersal program. I think the loan of such nature made to an individual upon his own merit, will not only contribute toward re-establishment, but will, at the same time, minimize the employment problems. Such farms will require helps and will be able to absorb many families.

Our parents who are very old and infirm are still in

New Denver, B.C. It is absolutely impossible for me to call them out here under the present circumstances. However, upon acquiring my own land, it will be possible for me to send for them immediately to live with my family.

A loan of $5000 at 3% per annum, with payments spread over 20 years will enable many of us to realize our ambition in our newly adopted localities. To my thinking, a fruit farm properly managed cannot fail to meet the required payments. A fully competent operator will be able to retire his loan much sooner. But for the sake of initial expenditures, which are unavoidable, an easy 20 year term will be of almost a necessity.

settlement on a farm is more or less permanent and from the standpoint of dispersal it is most desirable. I think that your encouragement in this direction will be met with great acclaim by those who are really concerned with the problems of re-establishment.

I shall be very glad if you would be kind enough to write me your opinion upon this matter.

As to my reference, I wish to refer you to Mrs. Booth, placement officer, Vancouver, B.C..

Yours very truly,
Hajime Shiga
c/o R. H. Davis
"The Silo"
Foothill, Ont.

July 18/46

TO: CENTRAL REGISTRY,
Roo[redacted]7, Conf. Bldg.

Please place attached on file

23-2-3-14

H.T. Pammett.

P.A.

B.F.

PETITION

To:

The Rt. Hon. W. L. McKenzie King,
Prime Minister of Canada,
Ottawa, Canada.

From:
B. C. Citizenship Defence Committee.

The petition of the British Columbia Citizenship Defence Committee humbly sheweth:

That the present revised amount of relocation allowance is far from being sufficient for the following reasons:

1. Incidental to expulsion from the coastal defence area, our homes were virtually uprooted, and the financial losses inflicted by this evacuation order were immeasurably great. Moreover, our assets which were transferred to the Custodian of Alien Property on the solemn understanding that the same would be fully protected were sold at ruinous prices. Such being the case, however, the federal government has so far failed to take any measure to consider granting us reparation or reimbursement for losses sustained.

2. The amount recoverable from relocation allowance is hardly sufficient for the purpose of purchasing absolutely essential household furniture and utensils.

3. The rehabilitation amount as recommended by the Royal Commission at the time of the survey in the ghost towns in 1944 was $520.00 for a couple, $260.00 for a single person, and $50.00 for each ~~in~~dependent.

Wherefore, we, the British Columbia Citizenship Defence Committee, do hereby humbly petition that the present amount of the relocation allowance be increased to such a level as approved by the Royal Commission.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Dated the day of June, A.D. 1946.

B. C. Citizenship Defence Committee.

Chairman

DEPT. OF LABOUR
CHECKED
JUL 30 1946
CENTRAL REGISTRY

COPY

Department of Labour,
RECEIVED
JUL 12 1940
Secretary to Minister.

THE JAPANESE-CANADIAN QUESTION

BE IT RESOLVED:-

1. That persons of Japanese ancestry now resident in Canada should be treated in accordance with Christian and Democratic principals.

2. That Orders-in-Council regarding the deportation of persons of Japanese origin should be recinded.

3. That only those who now wish to go to Japan should be sent.

4. That any charged with disloyalty should be given a fair trial as provided for in the Naturalization and Immigration Acts.

5. That those against whom no charges of disloyalty have been brought should be given citizenship rights as soon as possible.

6. That the restrictions on purchase of property and freedom of movement be removed immediately, so as to enable those who have re-settled to become established in normal life and that financial restitution be made to those whose property was confiscated.

TO: CENTRAL REGISTRY,
Room 7, Conf. Bldg.

Please place attached on file

23-2-3-14

H.T. Pammett.

P.A.

B.F.

P E T I T I O N

To:

The Honourable Humphrey Mitchell,
The Minister of Labour,
Ottawa, Canada.

Department of Labour,
RECEIVED
JUL 9 1946
Secretary to Minister.

From:
B. C. Citizenship Defence Committee.

The petition of the British Columbia Citizenship Defence Committee humbly sheweth:

That the present revised amount of relocation allowance is far from being sufficient for the following reasons:

1. Incidental to expulsion from the coastal defence area, our homes were virtually uprooted, and the financial losses inflicted by this evacuation order were immeasurably great. Moreover, our assets which were transferred to the Custodian of Alien Property on the solemn understanding that the same would be fully protected were sold at ruinous prices. Such being the case, however, the federal government has so far failed to take any measure to consider granting us reparation or reimbursement for losses sustained.

2. The amount recoverable from relocation allowance is hardly sufficient for the purpose of purchasing absolutely essential household furniture and utensils.

3. The rehabilitation amount as recommended by the Royal Commission at the time of the survey in the ghost towns in 1944 was $520.00 for a couple, $260.00 for a single person, and $50.00 for each independent.

Wherefore, we, the British Columbia Citizenship Defence Committee, do hereby humbly petition that the present amount of the relocation allowance be increased to such a level as approved by the Royal Commission.

re Jap relocation

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Dated the day of June, A.D. 1946.

B. C. Citizenship Defence Committee.

Chairman

TO: [redacted] CENTRAL REGISTRY,
Room 7, Conf. Bldg.

Please place attached on file

23-2-[redacted]-3-14

H.T. Pammett.

P.A.

B.F.

MEMORANDUM

Office of the Prime Minister

Ottawa, June 5, 1946.

Referred from the Office of the Prime Minister to the Minister of Labour.

G.J. Matte,
Private Secretary.

Ottawa, June 5, 1946.

Department of Labour,
RECEIVED
JUN 6 1946
Secretary to Minister.

Reverend R.W. Hardy, B.A.,
2526 West 2nd Avenue,
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Sir:

I wish to acknowledge the letter which you addressed to the Prime Minister on the 29th of May, embodying resolutions which were passed at a recent conference of the United Church of Canada.

In Mr. King's absence the individual resolutions are being referred to the Ministers of the Government most directly concerned with the matters to which they relate.

Yours sincerely,

re Japanese repatriation

G.J. Matte,
Private Secretary.

AB
8-6-46

COPY

7. This Conference demands that equal treatment with all other residents and citizens of Canada be accorded all persons of Japanese descent in Canada. It urges upon the Government of Canada the claims of such persons of Japanese descent who have suffered direct financial loss through their relocation by the Government, to recompense by the Government for such loss.

TO: CENTRAL REGISTRY,
Room [redacted] Conf. Bldg.

Please place attached on file

23-2-3-14

H.T. Pammett.

P.A.

B.F.

MEMORANDUM

Office of the Prime Minister

Ottawa, May 30, 1946.

Referred from the Office of the Prime Minister to the Minister of Labour.

G.J. Matte,
Private Secretary.

Department of Labour,
RECEIVED
MAY 30 1946
Secretary to Minister.

Ottawa, 30th May, 1946.

Honourable Angus MacInnis, M.P.,
House of Commons,
Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Mr. MacInnis:

On behalf of the Prime Minister I wish to acknowledge your letter of the 23rd of May, in which you urge that careful consideration be given to the petition by the Slocan Valley Nisei Organization regarding an increase in the amount of the placement allowance for persons of Japanese origin moving from Relocation Centres in British Columbia.

This matter will be brought to the attention of the Prime Minister upon his return. In the meantime, however, I am referring your letter to the Minister of Labour.

Yours sincerely,

G.J. Matte,
Private Secretary.

2/3/6/46

C O P Y

House of Commons
Canada

Ottawa, Ontario,
May 23, 1946.

The Right Honorable W.L. Mackenzie King,
Prime Minister of Canada,
O t t a w a.

Dear Mr. King:

I have been informed by the Slocan Valley Nisei Organization that they have petitioned the Government to increase the amount of the placement or rehabilitation allowance for persons of Japanese origin who move from the Relocation Centres in British Columbia, to settle in provinces east of British Columbia.

I believe that because of the circumstances surrounding the removal of the population of Japanese origin from their homes on the Pacific Coast, that the amounts mentioned in their petition are fair and reasonable - that is $520 for a married couple; $260 for a single person and $50 for each dependent plus railroad fare, travelling expenses and limited freight on household goods. It is not only desirable that as large a number as possible of these people should be helped to settle in provinces east of British Columbia, but it is desirable that they should establish economic and social roots wherever they may settle. To the extent that they do get settled satisfactorily, will the desire or necessity of returning to the Pacific Coast be diminished.

I do urge that you give the request of the Nisei Organization careful, and I hope, favorable consideration.

Yours sincerely,

(sgd) Angus MacInnis.

AM-T

23-2-3-14

Ottawa, May 27, 1946.

Mr. H. W. Herridge, M.P.,
House of Commons,
O t t a w a.

Dear Mr. Herridge:

I wish to acknowledge your letter of May 23 enclosing petition from the Slocan Valley Nisei Organization on the subject of relocation allowances, which petition is returned herewith. The petition was sent to various Departments and officials in Ottawa. My letters of May 1 and May 10 in reply to yours of April 29 and May 4 referred to this same question and explained our position.

The petition attempts to connect alleged claims for property losses at the time of evacuation with this Department's programme of relocation and dispersal. I would point out, however, that Japanese property has been under the control of the Custodian of Enemy Alien Property, and there is no connection with this Department. We are concerned only with carrying out the Government's policy of dispersing and resettling Japanese evacuees across Canada.

Our placement allowances have recently been doubled to give the relocees some reasonable security until they get settled down in their new homes and receive their first pay cheques. They are in no sense to be considered as compensation for alleged property losses during evacuation.

Yours sincerely,

HTP/RS

Resettlement
allowances
Japanese

Ottawa, May 27, 1946.

Mr. Angus MacInnis, M.P.,
House of Commons,
O T T A W A.

Dear Mr. MacInnis:

I wish to acknowledge your letter of May 23, concerning the petition from the Slocan Valley Nisei Organization for grants of $520 per couple, $260 per single person and $50 per child upon relocation.

The Slocan City area is a Segregation Centre for Japanese who volunteered for repatriation to Japan a year ago, and it is interesting to note that they have now reversed their minds and are willing to relocate eastward, but only on their own stipulated terms. Self-supporting employment has been available to these people for the last four years in a wide variety of occupations in which they could have helped the war effort, both in British Columbia and elsewhere in Canada, but they consistently refused to move out for this purpose.

The Organization is mistaken in its reference to the Report of the Royal Commission on Japanese Welfare in 1944. The Commission at no place in its Report made any recommendations that Japanese should be granted rehabilitation allowances, but having received complaints that Japanese in the settlements who had liquidated assets were not given cash maintenance while in possession of their own assets, the Commission investigated these complaints. The Commission approved the policy which the Department had been following of paying cash maintenance to Japanese whose liquidated assets did not exceed $520 per couple, $260 per single person plus $50 for each dependent. It was considered that the amounts of their own assets thus left with the Japanese would facilitate their subsequent relocation or repatriation. A copy of the main Report is enclosed.

.....2

The petition attempts to connect alleged claims for property losses upon evacuation with the Department's programme of dispersal and relocation. I would point out, however, that Japanese property has been under the control of the Custodian of Enemy Alien Property, and has no connection with this Department. We are concerned only with carrying out the Government's policy of dispersing Japanese across Canada.

Our placement allowances have recently been doubled ($120 per couple, $45 per single person and $25 per child) to give the relocees some reasonable security until they get settled down in the east and receive their first pay cheques. The allowances are part of an intensified campaign to get the relocatable Japanese resettled satisfactorily and are supplemented by grants for free transportation and travelling expenses, hostel accommodation, and continued aid where necessary in their new communities until they are able to stand on their own feet. But these allowances are in no sense to be considered as compensation for alleged property losses during evacuation.

Yours sincerely,

HTP/RS

TO: CENTRAL REGISTRY,
Room 7, Conf. Bldg.

Please place attached on file

23-2-3-14

H.T. Pammett.

P.A.

B.F.

23-2-3-14

House of Commons
Canada

May 25, 1946.

Department of Labour
RECEIVED
MAY 27 1946
Secretary to Minister.

Dear Humphery:-

The enclosed as you will see by the envelope was addressed to me but I think it is intended for you. In any case you will have received a similar letter.

Sincerely,

Mackenzie King

MEMORANDUM

Minister of Justice

Ottawa,.....May..24th..1946.....

Referred to:

The Minister of LABOUR

by

the Minister of Justice.

Ls. St St.L.

House of Commons
Canada

Ottawa, Ontario
May 23, 1946.

Honorable Louis S. St. Laurent,
Minister of Justice,
O t t a w a.

Dear Mr. St. Laurent:

I have been informed by the Slocan Valley Nisei Organization that they have petitioned the Government to increase the amount of the placement or rehabilitation allowance for persons of Japanese origin who move from the Relocation Centres in British Columbia, to settle in provinces east of British Columbia.

I believe that because of the circumstances surrounding the removal of the population of Japanese origin from their homes on the Pacific Coast, that the amounts mentioned in their petition ~~is~~ are fair and reasonable - that is $520 for a married couple; $260 for a single person and $50 for each dependent plus railroad fare, travelling expenses and limited freight on household goods. It is not only desirable that as large a number as possible of these people should be helped to settle in provinces east of British Columbia, but it is desirable that they should establish economic and social roots wherever they may settle. To the extent that they do get settled satisfactorily, will the desire or necessity of returning to the Pacific Coast be diminished.

I do urge that you give the request of the Nisei Organization careful, and I hope, favorable consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Angus MacInnis.

AM-T

re placement allowance for Japs

30/5/46

StL/TB.

OTTAWA,
May 24th 1946.

Personal

Angus MacInnis, Esq., M.P.,
House of Commons,
O t t a w a

Dear Mr. MacInnis:

I have your letter of May 23rd, concerning the placement of persons of Japanese origin.

This matter is being handled by the Department of Labour and I am referring your letter to my Colleague the Minister of that Department.

Yours sincerely,

House of Commons
Canada

Department of Labour,
RECEIVED
MAY 24 1946
Secretary to Minister.

Ottawa, Ontario
May 23, 1946.

Honorable Humphrey Mitchell,
Minister of Labour,
O t t a w a.

Dear Mr. Mitchell:

I have been informed by the Slocan Valley Nisei Organization that they have petitioned the Government to increase the amount of the placement or rehabilitation allowance for persons of Japanese origin who move from the Relocation Centres in British Columbia, to settle in provinces east of British Columbia.

I believe that because of the circumstances surrounding the removal of the population of Japanese origin from their homes on the Pacific Coast, that the amounts mentioned in their petition ~~is~~ are fair and reasonable - that is $520 for a married couple; $260 for a single person and $50 for each dependent plus railroad fare, travelling expenses and limited freight on household goods. It is not only desirable that as large a number as possible of these people, should be helped to settle in provinces east of British Columbia, but it is desirable that they should establish economic and social roots wherever they may settle. To the extent that they do get settled satisfactorily, will the desire or necessity of returning to the Pacific Coast be diminished.

I do urge that you give the request of the Nisei Organization careful, and I hope, favorable consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Angus MacInnis.

AM-T

THE MINISTER WISHES TO
SIGN LETTER IN REPLY

House of Commons
Canada

Department of Labour,
RECEIVED
MAY 24 1946
Secretary to Minister.

Ottawa, May 23, 1946.

Honourable Humphrey Mitchell,
Minister of Labour,
O t t a w a.

Dear Mr. Mitchell;

For your information I enclose a petition received from the Slocan Valley Nisei Organization having regard to certain adjustments in allowances for resettlement east of the Rockies. I would appreciate having your views on the requests made, and information as to what is in effect at the present time.

I would appreciate your returning to me the enclosed petition after your perusal of same.

Sincerely yours,

Herbert W. Herridge

H.W. Herridge,
Member for Kootenay West.

HWH/GH.
ENCL:

THE MINISTER WISHES TO
SIGN LETTER IN REPLY

D

Ottawa, May 23, 1946

My dear Colleague:

With reference to your letter of May 18 and the petition from the Slocan Valley Nisei Organization, I return the petition herewith along with a copy of the report of the Royal Commission appointed under P.C.9498, and copy of a letter which I wrote to Mr. H. W. Herridge, M.P. on May 1.

Yours sincerely,

Honourable Paul Martin, M.P.,
Secretary of State,
Ottawa.

Indep

THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF CANADA

OTTAWA, May 18th, 1946.

Department of Labour,
RECEIVED
MAY 21
Secretary to Minister.

My dear Colleague:

I would appreciate having your comments and advice in connection with the attached petition, as I understand it is a matter coming under the jurisdiction of your department.

Will you please return the petition together with your reply?

Yours sincerely,

Paul Martin

Paul Martin.

Honourable Humphrey Mitchell,
Minister of Labour,
Ottawa, Ontario.

:G

TO: CENTRAL REGISTRY,
Room 7, Conf. Bldg.

Please place attached on file

23-2-3-14

H.T. Pammett.

P.A.

B.F.

MEMORANDUM

Office of the Prime Minister

Ottawa, 11th May, 1946.

Referred from the Office of the Prime Minister to the Minister of Labour, without acknowledgment.

G. J. Matte,
Private Secretary.

Slocan, B. C.,
April 26, 1946.

Department of Labour
RECEIVED
MAY 1 1946
Minister.

The Office of the Prime Minister, and
The Rt. Honourable W. L. MacKenzie King, Esq.,

and with the Honourable Minister's leave, beg to present this Letter of Petition, relative to the notices made public to all eligible relocees of Japanese Racial Origin regarding the allowance for resettlement east of the rockies.

According to declarations made by the Supervisors of respective housing projects, and also by The Commissioner of Japanese Placement, T. B. Pickersgill, Esq., the Canadian Government increased the allowance for placement to $120.00 for married couple, $45.00 for a single adult, $15.00 for each child apart from the railroad fares, travelling expenses and limited freight on household belongings. We appreciate the government's kind consideration in increasing the allowances; however, after considerable thought was given to this matter we find the amount far from sufficient. When the Japanese people were forced to leave their homes by the order of the Canadian Government the majority of them lost or disposed of their household goods at a very great loss. Those disposed through the Custodian of Enemy Alien Property, and credit recovered thereby, were only nominal amount compared with the actual recoverable value. When a family moves from one locality to another, and endeavors to establish a home the first problem confronted is a shelter and necessary household furnitures and utensils such as:-

For a couple

Dinette Suite	$ 75.00
Closet and set of drawers	75.00
Bed and Beddings	120.00
Stove	80.00
Heater	30.00
Fuel (for 1 month)	15.00
Rent (for 1 month)	40.00
Maintenance (for 1 month)	35.00
Water rates	2.00
Electricity deposit	5.00
Kitchen utensils	26.00
Miscellaneous (drapes, blinds, Linoleum, etc.)	50.00
TOTAL	$553.00

The above figures clarify the insufficiency of the government's present placement allowance. The rehabilitation amount set by the Royal Commission at the time of their survey here in 1944 was $520.00 for couple, $260.00 for single persons, and $50.00 for each dependent.

Therefore we do hereby petition that the placement allowance be increased to a minimum as set by the Royal Commission.

Respectfully, your petitioners,

SLOCAN VALLEY NISEI ORGANIZATION

Slocan City Chairman _____

Bay Farm Chairman _____

Popoff Chairman _____

Lemon Creek Chairman _____

re resettlement arrangement

AB
15-5-46

TO: CENTRAL REGISTRY,
Room 7, Conf. Bldg.

Please place attached on file

23-2-B-14

H.T. Pammett.

P.A.

B.F.

MEMORANDUM

Minister of Justice

Ottawa, May 11, 1946.

Referred to: George G. Greene, Esq.,
Private Secretary.

for Maurice Dernier

Private Secretary.

Slocan, B. C.,
April 26, 1946.

Department of Labour,
RECEIVED
MAY 13 1946
Secretary to Minister.

The Office of the Minister of Justice, and
The Honourable Minister L. St. Laurent, Esq.,

and with the Honourable Minister's leave, beg to present this Letter of Petition, relative to the notices made public to all eligible relocees of Japanese Racial Origin regarding the allowance for resettlement east of the rockies.

According to declarations made by the Supervisors of respective housing projects, and also by The Commissioner of Japanese Placement, T. B. Pickersgill, Esq., the Canadian Government increased the allowance for placement to $120.00 for married couple, $45.00 for a single adult, $15.00 for each child apart from the railroad fares, travelling expenses and limited freight on household belongings. We appreciate the government's kind consideration in increasing the allowances; however, after considerable thought was given to this matter we find the amount far from sufficient. When the Japanese people were forced to leave their homes by the order of the Canadian Government the majority of them lost or disposed of their household goods at a very great loss. Those disposed through the Custodian of Enemy Alien Property, and credit recovered thereby, were only nominal amount compared with the actual recoverable value. When a family moves from one locality to another, and endeavors to establish a home the first problem confronted is a shelter and necessary household furnitures and utensils such as:-

For a couple

Dinette Suite	$ 75.00
Closet and set of drawers	75.00
Bed and Beddings	120.00
Stove	80.00
Heater	30.00
Fuel (for 1 month)	15.00
Rent (for 1 month)	40.00
Maintenance (for 1 month)	35.00
Water rates	2.00
Electricity deposit	5.00
Kitchen utensils	26.00
Miscellaneous (drapes, blinds, linoleum, etc.)	50.00
TOTAL	$553.00

The above figures clarify the insufficiency of the government's present placement allowance. The rehabilitation amount set by the Royal Commission at the time of their survey here in 1944 was $520.00 for couple, $260.00 for single persons, and $50.00 for each dependent.

Therefore we do hereby petition that the placement allowance be increased to a minimum as set by the Royal Commission.

Respectfully, your petitioners,

re resettlement allowances.

14/5

SLOCAN VALLEY NISEI ORGANIZATION

Slocan City Chairman M K Toba

Bay Farm Chairman [illegible]

Popoff Chairman M S Sato

Lemon Creek Chairman [illegible]

Ottawa, May 10, 1946.

Mr. H. W. Herridge, M.P.,
House of Commons,
OTTAWA.

Dear Mr. Herridge:

I have your letter of May 4th.

I believe I have already covered in my letter to you of May 1st, the matters touched on in the petition from the Japanese Committee at Slocan City enclosed with your letter.

The Department does not propose to withhold assistance for movement from British Columbia to all persons who may be subject to deportation. Neither, on the other hand, will such assistance be given indiscriminately to all persons who are subject to deportation. Each case will be considered on its merits.

Yours sincerely,

(SIGNED) HUMPHREY MITCHELL

amacc

House of Commons
Canada

Ottawa, May 4, 1946.

Department of Labour,
RECEIVED
MAY 6 1946
Secretary to Minister.

Honourable Humphrey Mitchell,
Minister of Labour,
O T T A W A.

Dear Mr. Mitchell:

For your information I enclose a copy of a petition I have received from the Japanese Central Committee of Slocan District, Slocan City, B.C.

I would be pleased to be informed of the Government's attitude towards the requests made in this petition.

Sincerely yours,

Herbert W. Herridge.

H.W. Herridge,
Member for Kootenay West.

HWH/GH.
ENCL:

THE MINISTER WISHES TO
SIGN LETTER IN REPLY

Mr. H. W. Herridge, M.P.,
House of Commons
Ottawa, Cana da

The Humble Petition of the Japanese Central Committee of Slocan District SHEWETH THAT:

WHEREAS prior to evacuation, we had our own ways and means of earning our living without depending to any marked degree on government's assistance;

AND WHEREAS at the outbreak of war, we accepted evacuation from the coastal defence area as one of the exigencies of war, thereby giving up our employment upon which our livelihood was dependent;

AND WHEREAS no measures were taken by the federal authorities to reimburse us, innocent evacuees, for losses incidental to expulsion from our former homes, and most of our assets either remained in the hands of or were unlawfully sold by the Custodian of Alien Property;

AND WHEREAS, much as we wish to co-operate with the government's policy of dispersal and relocation to eastern provinces, we who are subject to deportation under the authority of the Order-in-Council, p.c. 7355, namely the Japanese Nationals who signed for repatriation, and the Naturalized Canadians who did not revoke such request prior to midnight, September 1st, 1945, are denied the resettlement which is however provided to those people legally resident in Canada;

AND WHEREAS without such concent we would hardly be able to co-operate however eager we may be;

Therefore, we, the Central Japanese Committee of Slocan District do HUMBLY PETITION;

THAT the permanent resettlement to be allowed to us who voluntarily acquiesce in the suggestion of the federal authorities that we settle in designated provinces or places;

THAT affective steps be taken to provide such rehabilitation fund;

THAT ample assurance be given of employment and housing.

AND YOUR PETITIONERS, AS IN DUTY BOUND, WILL EVER PRAY.

DATED the 19th day of April, A.D. 1946.

(sgd) W. Shikalanis
" E. Nishioka
" S. Tawaski
" S. Nehibai

Copy in
23-2-2-10

OTTAWA, May 1, 1946.

Mr. H.W. Herridge, M.P.,
House of Commons,
OTTAWA.

Dear Mr. Herridge:

I have your letter of April 29th.

re petition from

I would point out, in the first instance, that the Japanese at the Slocan City Centre, according to my information, consist chiefly of Japanese who applied for repatriation to Japan and it is interesting to note the suggestion now put forward by their Committee that they are willing to consider relocation outside B.C. but only on the terms proposed in their petition.

Self-supporting employment has been available to all these people both in British Columbia and elsewhere in Canada over the period of the past four years and in view of the extent of free services which have been offered in the settlements, there has been no necessity for persons willing and capable of work to draw on their own resources for a living.

In view of the difficulties in finding housing accommodation in all parts of Canada, our relocation officers have advised the wage earners in the various settlements who desire to relocate to take employment offered in the eastern areas and to plan to bring their families east at a later date as and when suitable accommodation can be found and the wage earners are settled in satisfactory employment. We have plenty of suitable opportunities for employment in almost every area in Canada as far east as the Province of Quebec.

At the same time, our placement officers are making every effort to find types of employment which

2....

carry housing accommodation with them. Most of this type of employment is found in rural areas.

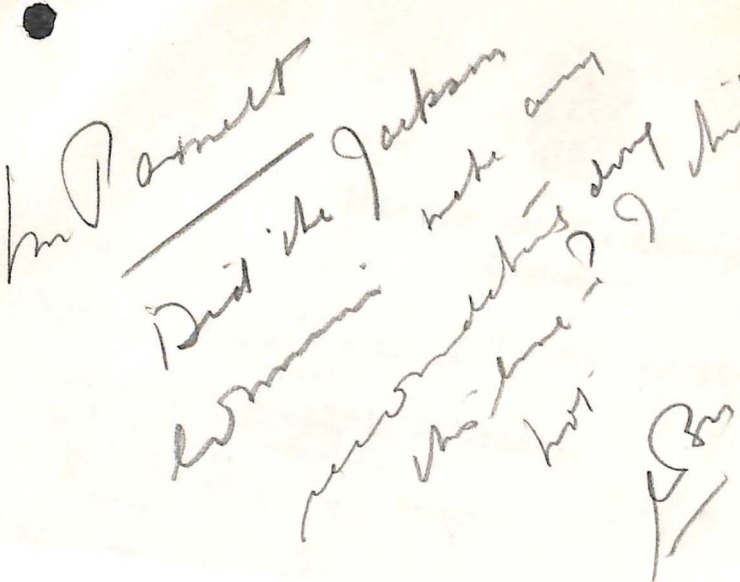
The Committee are evidently mistaken in their reference to the rehabilitation grant recommended by the Royal Commission of 1944. This Commission headed by Dr. Jackson, Deputy Minister of Health and Welfare for the Province of Manitoba and which included as members Dr. George Davidson, present Dominion Deputy Minister of Welfare, Mr. Bone, Commissioner of Welfare for the City of Vancouver, Mrs. Mary Sutherland of your own Province were appointed to investigate and report on the health and welfare conditions in the settlements.

The Commission at no place in its report made any recommendations that Japanese should be granted a rehabilitation allowance but having received complaints that Japanese in the settlements who had liquid assets were not given a cash maintenance while in possession of liquid assets of their own for this purpose, the Commission dealt with this complaint. On such inquiry, the Commission approved the policy which the Department had been following of paying cash maintenance to Japanese whose liquid assets did not exceed $520 per couple; $260 per single person plus $50 for each dependent. It was considered that the amounts thus left with the Japanese would facilitate their subsequent relocation.

As you will appreciate, it does not follow that either the Commission or this Department has ever recommended or established the re-establishment allowance of the amounts mentioned. The Department does provide free transportation, maintenance en route and a grant of $120 per couple plus additional amounts for dependents of persons moving east into employment as well as specific employment, however. Possibly you would like to have a copy of the Jackson Commission Report which I am enclosing herewith.

Yours sincerely,

Enc.



To the Editor of the Times
Sir

House of Commons
Canada

Ottawa, April 29th, 1946.

Department of Labour,
RECEIVED
APR 30 1946
Secretary to Minister.

Honourable Humphrey Mitchell,
Minister of Labour,
O T T A W A.

Dear Mr. Mitchell;

For your information I enclose a copy of a petition I received yesterday from the Japanese Central Committee of Slocan District, Slocan City, B.C.

I would appreciate it very much if you would inform me of your attitude towards the request made in this petition.

Sincerely yours,

Herbert W. Herridge.

H.W. Herridge,
Member for Kootenay West.

HWH/GH.
ENCL:

THE MINISTER WISHES TO
SIGN LETTER IN REPLY

M[illegible] H. W. Herridge M.P.,
House of Commons,
Ottawa, CANADA.

The Humble Petition of the Japanese Central Committee of Slocan District SHEWETH;

THAT we appreciate greatly the Dominion'Government's consideration in increasing our Relocation Allowance as publicized by our respective Supervisors.

THAT in 1942 the government order compelled us to be uprooted from our homes at the coast resulting a serious financial loss to us.

THAT the various restrictions were forced to abandon or to dispose of all our furniture and many other things at very low prices and are now living under most trying conditions, or left possessions in the care of The Custodian of Enemy Alien Properties, believing their assets to be fully protected for them until their return, found to their greatest disappointment that the Custodian disposed of most of their possessions at prices far below the actual value of these goods.

THAT in living in the Interior Housing project we were compelled to spend all our means even if we had any remained.

THAT the provincial Relief Statistic (pre-war figures) will prove that the people of Japanese origin, who were assisted by the Government have been very few showing that we endeavour to be good citizen - not wards to the Government of Canada.

THAT spite of the above fact we are compelled to petition the government to increase further our allowance; as it is of an absolute necessity to us in order to re-establish ourselves as the revised Relocation Allowance is far from sufficient in re-establishin ourselves.

THAT much as we wish to co-operate with the government's policy of dispersal and relocation to eastern provinces, we would hardly do so.

AND THAT the rehabilitation amount as approved by the Royal Commission at the time of their survey herein 1944, and the Custodian was $520.00 for a couple $260.00 for a single person and $50.00 for each dependent.

WHEREFORE, we, the Japanese Central Committee of Slocan District do HUMBLY PETITION;

THAT the government of Canada will increase the Placement Allowance to such a minimum as approved by the Royal Commission.

THAT ample assurance be given of employment and housing.

AND YOUR PETITIONERS, AS IN DUTY BOUND, EVER PRAY.

DATED the 21st day of April A.D. 1946.

JAPANESE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF SLOCAN DISTRICT.

SLOCAN CITY, B. C.

TO: CENTRAL REGISTRY,
Room 7[redacted]Conf. Bldg.

Please place attached on file

23-2-3-14

H.T. Pammett.

P.A. B.F.

Kindly leave covering memo with letter

already B.F.

DEPARTMENT OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE

CANADA

Department of Labour,
RECEIVED
APR 30 1946
Secretary to Minister!

Forwarded from the Office of the Minister,

To George G. Greene,
Private Secretary to the
Minister of Labour,
Ottawa.

April 29, 1946.

D. Emerson
Private Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE
APR 27 1946
Secretary of State

Honourable Paul Martin,
Secretary of State,
Ottawa, CANADA.

The Humble Petition of the Japanese Central Committee of Slocan District SHEWETH;

THAT we appreciate greatly the Dominion Government's consideration in increasing our Relocation Allowance as publicized by our respective Supervisors.

THAT in 1942 the government order compelled us to be uprooted from our homes at the coast resulting a serious financial loss to us,

THAT the various restrictions were forced to abandon or to dispose of all our furniture and many other things at very low prices, and are now living under most trying conditions, or left possessions in the care of The Custodian of Enemy Alien Properties, believing their assest to be fully protected for them until their return, found to their greatest disappointment that the Custodian disposed of most of their possessions at prices far below the actual valued of these goods.

THAT in living in the Interior Housing project we were compelled to spend all our means even if we had any remained.

THAT the provincial Relief Statistic (pre-war figures) will prove that the people of Japanese origin, who were assisted by the Government have been very few showing that we endeavour to be good citizen - not wards to the Government of Canada.

THAT spite of the above fact we are compelled to petition the government to increase further our allowance; as it is of an absolute necessity to us in order to re-establish ourselves as the revised Relocation Allowance is far from sufficient in re-establishing ourselves.

THAT much as we wish to co-operate with the government's policy of dispersal and relocation to eastern provinces, we would hardly do so.

AND THAT the rehabilitation amount as approved by the Royal Commission at the time of their survey herein 1944, and the Custodian was $520.00 for a couple $260.00 for a single persons and $50.00 for each dependent.

WHEREFORE, we, the Japanese Central Committee of Slocan District do HUMBLY PETITION;

THAT the government of Canada will increase the Placement Allowance to such a minimum as approved by the Royal Commission

THAT ample assurance be given of employment and housing,

AND YOUR PETITIONERS, AS IN DUTY BOUND, EVER PRAY.

DATED the 21st day of April A.D. 1946.

JAPANESE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF SLOCAN DISTRICT.

SLOCAN CITY , B. C.

T. Shibatani
T. Sawasaki

MEMORANDUM

Minister of Justice

April 29, 1946.

Ottawa,.....

Referred to: Geo. G. Greene, Esq.,
Private Secretary to the
Minister of Labour,
OTTAWA, Ont.

J. L. Beaudry

Private Secretary.

Honourable L. St. Laurent,
Minister of Justice,
Ottawa, CANADA.

Department of Labour,
RECEIVED
APR 30 1946
Secretary to Minister.

The Humble Petition of the Japanese Central Committee of Slocan District SHEWETH;

THAT we appreciate greatly the Dominion Government's consideration in increasing our Relocation Allowance as publicized by our respective Supervisors.

THAT in 1942 the government order compelled us to be uprooted from our homes at the coast resulting a serious financial loss to us.

THAT the various restrictions were forced to abandon or to dispose of all our furniture and many other things at very low prices, and are now living under most trying conditions, or left possessions in the care of The Custodian of Enemy Alien Properties, believing their assest to be fully protected for them until their return, found to their greatest disappointment that the Custodian disposed of most of their possessions at prives far below the actual valued of these goods.

THAT in living in the Interior Housing project we were compelled to spend all our means even if we had any remained.

THAT the provincial Relief Statistic (pro-war figures) will prove that the people of Japaneseorigin, who were assisted by the Government have been very few showing that we endeavour to be good citizen - not wards to the Government of Canada.

THAT spite of the above fact we are compelled to petition the government to increase further our allowance; as it is of an absolute necessity to us in order to re-establish ourselves as the revised Relocation Allowance is far from sufficient in re-establishing ourselves.

THAT much as we wish to co-operate with the Government's policy of dispersal and relocation to eastern provinces, we would hardly do so.

AND THAT the rehabilitation amount as approved by the Royal Commission at the time of their survey herein 1944, and the Custodian was $520.00 for a couple $260.00 for a single persons and $50.00 for each dependent.

WHEREFORE, we, the Japanese Central Committee of Slocan District do HUMBLY PETITION;

THAT the government of Canada will increase the Placement Allowance to such a minimum as approved by the Royal Commission.

THAT ample assurance be given of employment and housing.

AND YOUR PETITIONERS, AS IN DUTY BOUND, EVER PRAY.

DATED the 21st day of April A.D. 1946.

JAPANESE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF SLOCAN DISTRICT

SLOCAN CITY, B. C.

M. Shikatani

A. Sawaski

[illegible]

[illegible]

TO: CENTRAL REGISTRY,
Room 7, Conf. Bldg.

Please place attached on file

23-2-3-14

H.T. Pammett.

P.A.

B.F.

Slocan, B. C.,
April 26, 1946.

Department of Labour,
RECEIVED
MAY 11 1946
Secretary to Minister.

The Office of the Minister of Labour, and
The Honourable Minister Humphrey Mitchell, Esq.,

and with the Honourable Minister's leave, beg to present this Letter of Petition, relative to the notices made public to all eligible relocees of Japanese Racial Origin regarding the allowance for resettlement east of the rockies.

According to declarations made by the Supervisors of respective housing projects, and also by The Commissioner of Japanese Placement, T. B. Pickersgill, Esq., the Canadian Government increased the allowance for placement to $120.00 for married couple, $45.00 for a single adult, $15.00 for each child apart from the railroad fares, travelling expenses and limited freight on household belongings. We appreciate the government's kind consideration in increasing the allowances; however, after considerable thought was given to this matter we find the amount far from sufficient. When the Japanese people were forced to leave their homes by the order of the Canadian Government the majority of them lost or disposed of their household goods at a very great loss. Those disposed through the Custodian of Enemy Alien Property, and credit recovered thereby, were only nominal amount compared with the actual recoverable value. When a family moves from one locality to another, and endeavors to establish a home the first problem confronted is a shelter and necessary household furnitures and utensils such as:-

re Jap placement allowances

For a couple

Dinette Suite	$ 75.00
Closet and set of drawers	75.00
Bed and Beddings	120.00
Stove	80.00
Heater	30.00
Fuel (for 1 month)	15.00
Rent (for 1 month)	40.00
Maintenance (for 1 month)	35.00
Water rates	2.00
Electricity deposit	5.00
Kitchen Utensils	26.00
Miscellaneous (drapes, blinds, linoleum, etc)	50.00
TOTAL	$553.00

FALSE

The above figures clarify the insufficiency of the government's present placement allowance. The rehabilitation amount set by the Royal Commission at the time of their survey here in 1944 was $520.00 for couple, $260 for single persons, and $50.00 for each dependent.

Therefore we do hereby petition that the placement allowance be increased to a minimum as set by the Royal Commission.

Respectfully, your petitioners,

13/5

SLOCAN VALLEY NISEI ORGANIZATION

Slocan City Chairman _____

Bay Farm Chairman _____

Popoff Chairman _____

Lemon Creek Chairman _____

FB
leave attached report with this letter.

Vancouver, B.C.,

January 14, 1944.

The Honourable Humphrey Mitchell,

Minister of Labour,

OTTAWA, Ontario.

Sir:-

I have the honour to submit herewith, the Report of Your Royal Commission appointed pursuant to Order in Council P.C. 9498 to investigate the welfare of Japanese in the Interior Settlements of British Columbia.

I have the honour to be,

sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd.) F.W. Jackson, M.D.,

Chairman.

Royal Commission to investigate welfare of Japanese in the Interior Settlements of B.C.

FWJ/DS

"Royal Commission on Welfare of Japanese"

13/5

REPORT OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION APPOINTED PURSUANT TO ORDER-IN-COUNCIL, P.C. # 9498, TO ENQUIRE INTO THE PROVISIONS MADE FOR THE WELFARE AND MAINTENANCE OF PERSONS OF THE JAPANESE RACE RESIDENT IN SETTLEMENTS IN THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Pursuant to the provisions of P.C. Number 9498, of December 14th, 1943, which reads in part as follows:-

> " The Committee of the Privy Council have had before them a report, dated December 9th, 1943, from the Minister of Labour, representing with reference to Order-in-Council, P.C. 946 of February 5th, 1942, which empowers the Minister of Labour to make provision for the maintenance and welfare of the persons of the Japanese race evacuated from the protected areas of British Columbia, that it is deemed advisable that an inquiry be made into the present provision made for the maintenance and welfare of persons of the Japanese race resident in settlements in the interior of British Columbia under the administration of the Department of Labour, by the appointment of a Commission for an immediate inquiry into such matters and to report thereon to the Minister of Labour in respect thereto."
>
> " The Minister therefore recommends that Dr. F.W. Jackson, Deputy Minister of Health and Public Welfare, Province of Manitoba, Dr. G.F. Davidson, Executive Secretary, Canadian Welfare Council, Ottawa, W. R. Bone, Administrator of Social Services, City of Vancouver, and Mrs. Mary Sutherland, Revelstoke, B.C., be appointed Commissioners under Part I of the Inquiries Act, to inquire into the provision made for the welfare and maintenance of persons of the Japanese race resident in the settlements in the Province of British Columbia under the administration of the Department of Labour and to report thereon to the Minister of Labour, together with such recommendations as to further measures to be taken with regard thereto as the Commission deems advisable and that Dr. F.W. Jackson be the Chairman of such Commission; "

Your Commissioners so appointed met in Vancouver on December 20th and extended their investigations and hearings over the period to January 12th, 1944.

At the first meeting held in the offices of the British Columbia Security Commission, 360 Homer Street, Vancouver, the organization of Your Commission's activities and the method of procedure for Your Commission's inquiry were discussed and determined.

Mr. George Collins, Commissioner, B.C. Security Commission, was invited to be present to outline the administrative policy in respect to the care of the persons of the Japanese race resident in the Interior Settlements. It was decided to proceed to Tashme immediately to obtain a picture of the general conditions, and to become acquainted with the problems likely to be encountered. A letter was sent to all Settlements inviting their Japanese Camp Committees to appear before Your Commission and make representations in writing respecting matters of complaint. It was agreed that these meetings would be informal and would be held in camera, but that the written brief and the transcript of discussion at the time of presentation should be certified and signed for the Japanese Camp Committee. These form appendices B and C, 8 to 15 inclusive.

Based on the experience gained on the visit to Tashme, the following procedure for investigation of other camps was decided upon as generally applicable:-

1. Discussion on camp management with the camp supervisor,
2. Meeting with the Japanese Camp Committee,
3. Investigation of all situations alleged by the Japanese Camp Committee to be undesirable, and visits to all parts of the Settlement accompanied by members of the Japanese Camp Committees,
4. A final discussion with the Settlement executives.

Your Commission from the beginning was aware of the difficulty of finding an adequate "yardstick" by which to appraise the welfare and maintenance of the persons of the Japanese race resident in the Interior Settlements.

It was agreed that the following criteria should be applied:-

1. The physical condition of the people, including that of the children, and a comparison with their pre-evacuation condition as recorded in obtainable health records;

2. The adequacy of maintenance rates for indigent families to be determined by comparison with their pre-evacuation standard of living and with the standard of other persons receiving public aid;

3. The adequacy of housing conditions as determined by a comparison with their pre-evacuation dwellings, by their suitability for climatic conditions, and the availability of building materials;

4. The extent of opportunity for occupation on a self-supporting basis as compared with pre-evacuation opportunities;

5. The adequacy of the educational programme and school facilities for the children in the Interior Settlements;

6. Availability and use of Japanese assets.

The complaints most frequently encountered in Your Commission's investigation of the Settlements were:-

1. That the maintenance rates for indigent Japanese are insufficient to buy adequate food at prevailing prices;

2. That houses are overcrowded, unsafe during winter weather, and unsuited to severe climatic conditions;

3. That the supply of fuel is inefficiently distributed and of inferior quality;

4. That there is unreasonable delay in supplying needed clothing and shoes to families on maintenance;

5. That the health of the people is adversely affected by inadequate housing and insufficient food and that this has resulted in increased illness and malnutrition of children;

6. That there is a lack of facilities for indoor recreation during winter months, especially for children.

ADMINISTRATION

Your Commission, as instructed, has made an extensive and thorough investigation of the welfare and maintenance of the people of the Japanese race in Interior Settlements. It records its admiration for the splendid piece of work executed by the original B.C. Security Commission in its task of evacuating twenty-three thousand persons from the Defence Area to temporary residence elsewhere. There was no precedent to follow. The construction problem alone, during the peak of war stringency of materials was a gigantic achievement. The evacuation of these people with, so far as Your Commission can find, a minimum of hardship is a matter for congratulation.

Your Commission is impressed with the generally adequate administration of the program in the Settlements by the Department of Labour of the Dominion Government through its instrument, the B.C. Security Commission. The B.C. Security Commission functions on the whole efficiently and would appear to be adequate for the carrying out of the policy established by the Government. The co-ordination of the various local administrative units is good. The office quarters from which the B.C. Security Commission operates, although originally sufficient are, at present, overcrowded. No provision is made for a rest room for the female staff.

The local administrations at the various Interior Settlements are located in suitable quarters and the administrative work, generally speaking, is efficient. A large percentage of the staffs at each local administration office is recruited from the residents of the Settlements.

In the following pages Your Commission has set forth its findings and recommendations in categorical fashion. In stating its findings, Your Commission draws attention to this fact, that the Interior Settlement projects are a temporary means of meeting an emergency. The Settlements are stated by

the Department of Labour to be, "A step in the evacuation process and a training ground for employment.... in the Prairies and the East." (1) It has never been the policy so far as Your Commission can learn, to develop the Settlements with any contemplation of permanency. With this your Commission is in entire accord. Consequently, in evaluating the welfare and maintenance of the people in the Interior Settlements, the temporary aspect of the provisions should be borne in mind at all times.

The appendices contain the details of the representations made to Your Commission and other supporting data.

MAINTENANCE

FINDINGS

All indigents except certain groups of older persons in the Interior Settlements receive their maintenance in cash and purchase their food at Commission or local stores. Your Commission received no complaints in respect to food obtainable. Foods inspected in the stores were of average or better quality. There was a fair range of cheaper cuts of meat and fish, as well as of the more expensive varieties. In all the Settlements Japanese were encouraged to, and did, use all available land for garden purposes.

Every representation made by Japanese camp committees requested an increase in the present food maintenance rates, despite the fact that the rates of food maintenance of the B.C. Security Commission are slightly higher than the provincial social assistance rate, that of the City of Vancouver for Orientals and that given by the Department of Pensions and National Health for war pensioners requiring supplemental assistance.

In support of their argument some of the Japanese camp committees contended that the Occidental in receipt of food maintenance has more opportunity of supplementing his food

---

(1) APPENDIX 2 PAGE 2 PARAGRAPH 8

allowance with money earned at casual labour than the Japanese. With this Your Commission does not agree having in mind that only unemployable Occidentals are on public assistance at the present time.

Your Commission has made no attempt to ascertain whether any of the food rates above-mentioned are adequate, but the evidence of the Health Examinations of school children together with the general improvement in health shows that the food obtained by the Japanese in the Interior Settlements is sufficient to maintain health, proper growth and development.(1)

Representations were also made in respect to clothing and fuel. In regard to clothing there was no complaint regarding quality. It was generally alleged that the interval between the issuance of the requisition and the delivery of the clothing was too long. The supply and quality of the wood was generally found satisfactory.

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N

Your Commission recommends that there be no increase in the present food maintenance rates for employable persons and their dependents. It believes it to be in the best interests of both the Japanese themselves and the public that the employable persons should accept proferred work instead of maintenance at public expense. Your Commission further recommends an increase of not more than 10% in the food maintenance rates in the case of the aged, infirm and unemployable persons and their dependents, to be granted at the discretion of the Welfare department. It is recognized that in the case of this entire group its food maintenance rates cannot be augmented by casual labour to cover necessities other than foodstuffs.

S H E L T E R

F I N D I N G S

Your Commission after an extensive investigation of all housing in the Settlements saw no evidence to substantiate

---

(1) APPENDIX 6 PAGE 3 TABLES 2 & 3

the complaint that the new housing erected by the B.C. Security Commission was of unsafe construction. Although this housing is only of a temporary nature many houses have been winterized through the initiative of the occupants and with the assistance of the B.C. Security Commission in supplying materials.

Due to the urgency of the evacuation problem a number of unsuitable, unsafe vacant buildings in some Interior Settlements were made into multiple dwellings and are still being used for this purpose.

Your Commission inspected the former Japanese housing on Powell Street in Vancouver, at Steveston and several cannery settlements on the lower Fraser. The new housing as erected by the B.C. Security Commission is superior to that which Your Commission visited. The buildings in the Interior Settlements which are divided into apartments while in most cases unsafe and undesirable are, Your Commission believes, equal to the quarters previously occupied by those Japanese who formerly resided in the Powell Street area.

In respect to the complaint of overcrowding Your Commission finds that especially in remodelled buildings this applies. This, however, must be viewed in the light of pre-evacuation living standards of the Japanese of Canada and of existing conditions in many Occidental committees during war-time. This situation is being alleviated as the Japanese families co-operate with the B.C. Security Commission in moving to outside employment and rearranging the family groupings within the settlement. Much more can be done in this connection when the B.C. Security Commission has more co-operation from the Japanese.

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N

Your Commission recommends that the B.C. Security Commission continue the policy of winterizing houses for those unable to do the work themselves and of making available the necessary materials for the others. Your Commission further

recommends the continuation and expansion of the present programme of outside placement and the rearrangement of the families in the existing accommodation believing that the solution to the problem lies in this direction rather than in providing extra housing. In this connection particular attention should be given to the transfer of families from old remodelled buildings to Commission erected housing as space becomes available.

E M P L O Y M E N T

F I N D I N G S

Your Commission has examined the productive work and special industries provided by the B.C. Security Commission for the residents of the Settlements. These have been developed to a commendable degree of efficiency. It is the opinion of Your Commission that except in occasional circumstances not a great deal more can be done. This view is arrived at having due consideration to available raw materials, the location of the Settlements and the skill of the residents. Your Commission is impressed with the fact that those in remunerative occupation in the camps are the better-educated and trained, the more efficient and generally more personable individuals. It is the opinion of Your Commission that persons so occupied are those that could most readily fit into outside employment. Your Commission approves the policy of the Department of Labour in considering the Interior Settlements as Clearing-stations, and Training centres. (1) The policy of dispersing the Japanese across Canada in productive, self-supporting employment singly, in small groups or family units where they have the opportunity of being assimilated into local community life, Your Commission

---

(1) APPENDIX 2 PAGE 3 PARAGRAPH 2

believes to be in the best interests of Canada and of the persons of the Japanese race themselves. Respecting the complaint of unfairness in withholding maintenance from single employable persons 18 years of age and over with Canadian citizenship who refuse to accept suitable remunerative employment offered, Your Commission accepts this policy as fair and sound and a necessary step in the re-establishment of the individual in self-supporting employment. Your Commission is of the opinion that this policy should also apply to Japanese Nationals. From all information available, Your Commission is assured that there is ample opportunity for employment outside the Settlements for all employable Japanese.

Representations were made by all Japanese camp committees requesting an increase in the scale of wages paid by the B.C. Security Commission. Your Commission found that the representations did not take into account the perquisites such as shelter, fuel, light and medical care supplied in addition to the wages received from the Commission for which only a token deduction is made.

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N

Your Commission recommends:

(a) That the policy of placement in self-supporting employment be accelerated by directing those persons at present employed by the B.C. Security Commission to such positions.

(b) That persons presently unemployed be placed in the positions thus vacated, even if this involves some loss in operating efficiency, in order that they be trained to be self-supporting outside.

(c) That the co-operative relationship of the B.C. Security Commission and the National Selective Service to this end be continued and extended.

(d) That Welfare Departments at the Settlements be strengthened so that more emphasis will be placed on interpreting the advantages to be derived from outside employment for those who are eligible.

(e) That consideration be given in those Settlements where it may be practicable, to an increased wage scale and that reasonable deductions be made for any services which may be supplied by the B.C. Security Commission.

E D U C A T I O N

F I N D I N G S

Your Commission finds that although education is and always has been a provincial right and obligation, the Department of Education of the Province of British Columbia has refused to take any responsibility for the education of the Japanese children in the Interior Settlements although before these same children were evacuated from the Defence area this responsibility was recognized and assumed. (1) The B.C. Security Commission is providing education for Japanese children in the Interior Settlements by making available instruction up to Grade VIII through teachers secured from the higher-educated Japanese personnel of the camp. In the case of individuals, High School education is given by means of correspondence courses supplied by the Department of Education of the Provincial Government, payment at cost being made direct by the students to the Department of Education. No kindergarten or high school education is being provided by the B.C. Security Commission but in some of the Settlements qualified teaching missionaries are giving instruction. Premises are arranged for by their respective churches. Natural lighting in improvised classrooms is inadequate although this in some instances is being rectified by the installation of artificial lighting. There is considerable overcrowding in some of the classrooms.

---

(1) APPENDIX 7 - E.

RECOMMENDATION

Your Commission recommends that negotiations be re-opened with the Department of Education of the Province of British Columbia to the end that it reassume its obligation in respect to the education of the children of the Japanese race.

MEDICAL CARE

FINDINGS

At all Interior Settlements Your Commission found an excellent programme of medical care including hospitalization, medical and dental services. (1) Sufficient hospital beds are provided by the B.C. Security Commission or arranged for through local hospital facilities. Well-staffed medical clinics are established at each centre. Your Commission is gratified to note that the emphasis on the medical programme is on the prevention of disease. Accepted immunization procedures are carried out at each of the Settlements and practically all children have been protected against smallpox, diphtheria, scarlet fever, typhoid fever and whooping-cough. Pre-natal and baby Clinics are available at all Settlements and are well patronized by the Japanese people. School medical services are also provided. Both Occidental and Japanese Doctors are employed on a full-time basis, in centres where there are no local Doctors available or are used to augment the local Physicians.

The B.C. Security Commission's hospitals are well constructed and adequately staffed. Registered nurses are in charge at all points and are assisted by Japanese girls who have been trained at the hospitals as Nursing Aides.

Tuberculosis has always been a serious problem amongst the Japanese people. To combat this the B.C. Security Commission has established a Sanatorium at New Denver. The potential bed capacity of this Institution is, Your Commission

---

(1) APPENDIX 6 TABLE 1

believes, adequate for the needs of the Japanese for the treatment of Tuberculosis. Your Commission finds the Japanese people exceptionally healthy. To evaluate the health of the Japanese people, Your Commission conducted a health survey. The examination of 1,319 Japanese children in the Interior Settlements proved them to be above the average in height and weight as compared to the Japanese children in the same age group in the pre-evacuation period as shown by the records of the Greater Vancouver Metropolitan Health Committee. (1) No epidemic disease of any consequence has been prevalent in any of the Settlements during the past year. In the opinion of Your Commission the medical care provided at the Interior Settlements for Japanese people exceeds that received by the average Canadian.

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N

Your Commission recommends that the Tuberculosis Case-finding programme be extended to all Settlements. Your Commission further recommends that the Japanese Nurse on the B.C. Security Commission staff at Kaslo, who has been specially trained in Public Health, be used to assist in the programme by carrying out health education amongst the Japanese throughout all the Settlements.

R E C R E A T I O N

F I N D I N G S

All Japanese camp committees drew attention to an alleged lack of recreation facilities for children and adults, especially during the winter season. Your Commission during its inspection of the Settlements visited premises which were used for recreational purposes. These consisted of accommodation set aside in most of the centres for the Japanese camp committees. At least one or more school rooms in all Settlements were available

---

(1) APPENDIX 6 TABLE 2

for meetings, concerts and other entertainments after school hours. In many instances class room partitions were removable for this purpose. Picture-shows were available at nearly all Settlements, skating, skiing and sleighing were also part of the recreational facilities at all Settlements.

During the summer months tennis, basket-ball, baseball and swimming are available. Having in mind the temporary nature of the Settlements and the generally clement weather of the Interior of British Columbia Your Commission is of the opinion that a minimum of inconvenience and hardship exists under the present set-up.

RECOMMENDATION

Your Commission recommends that no further capital expenditures be made for Recreational facilities.

JAPANESE

ASSETS

FINDINGS

Your Commission received no complaint in respect to the policy of the B.C. Security Commission in retaining liquid assets of Japanese to the extent of $260.00 for each adult and $50.00 for each child as a rehabilitation fund.

Inquiries were made of the Japanese camp committees at several Settlements in reference to this policy, and the principle was approved although they did not care to state definitely that the amount being retained was sufficient for their re-establishment.

Your Commission discussed with the Custodian, Japanese Section, Department of the Secretary of State, and the Commissioner of the Japanese Placement, the question of the disposal of Japanese liquid assets. It was found that the procedure presently followed is to release such assets to the

Japanese when requested to do so, if in the opinion of the Custodian and the Commissioner of Japanese Placement such action is deemed desirable, the distribution being made in such manner and in such amounts as may be mutually arranged.

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N

Your Commission recommends:

(a) That when any Japanese person with his dependents becomes established outside of the Interior Settlements, that all his liquid assets be released to him on request.

(b) That the present policy of retaining liquid assets as a rehabilitation fund in the amounts already established for those persons who are resident in the Interior Settlements be continued.

(c) That where a Japanese resident in the Interior Settlements has liquid assets that these be distributed to the owner as and when the Commissioner of Japanese Placement may decide.

S U M M A R Y

YOUR COMMISSION IS OF THE UNANIMOUS OPINION THAT THE PROVISIONS MADE BY THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR FOR THE WELFARE OF THE JAPANESE IN THE INTERIOR SETTLEMENTS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA ARE, AS A WAR-TIME MEASURE, REASONABLY FAIR AND ADEQUATE.

G E N E R A L O B S E R V A T I O N S

UNOFFICIAL PRESENTATIONS

Besides the representations made by the Japanese camp committees, Your Commission received many comments both written and oral in respect to the operation of the Interior Settlements. The majority of these were of a nature favourable to the present Government policy as related to the welfare and maintenance of the Japanese people.

An example of this is a quotation from a letter presented to Your Commission by a group of naturalized Japanese whose opinion the Japanese camp committee did not represent:-

" We representing the Naturalized Canadians here respectfully express to you that we are quite satisfied with food and housing here. We must realize that we are under the conditions of wartime restrictive regulations and transportation. If we want to buy certain food materials at the stores here, we can get them all right. Sometimes they could not get them as much as we expect under the present war-time conditions, no one should be blamed. Regarding the housing, we have the Japanese Carpenter paid by the Supervisor. If there is anything wrong about the house, the Supervisor will instruct the Carpenter to fix it immediately.

The Japanese Doctor here looks after the Sanitation and the Ventilation of houses, we presume he will report to the Supervisor who will attend to it immediately. The officials here who look after us are very kind-hearted and considerate. We must co-operate with the officials. "

JAPANESE WAR VETERANS

In two of the Settlements visited representations were made on behalf of Japanese Veterans of the Canadian Army, 1914-18, pointing out that no distinction is being made between ex-service men, despite their military service to Canada, and other Japanese. Your Commission is sympathetic to their request that they be given preferred treatment if this is possible.

POLICING

At all settlements visited, law enforcement was under the jurisdiction of small details of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. No military control is exercised, the Royal

Canadian Mounted Police being responsible for all movement and discipline of the Japanese in the Interior Settlements. Your Commission found that the Japanese appreciate the fair manner in which the Royal Canadian Mounted Police carries out its duties.

ADMINISTRATIVE DETAIL

Both in the briefs presented by the camp committees and in the discussions following presentations, a number of minor matters of administrative detail were brought to the attention of Your Commission. These Your Commission has taken the liberty of referring directly to the B.C. Security Commission for its consideration.

In conclusion, Your Commission wishes to express its appreciation for the co-operation and assistance of the Advisory Committee, to the B.C. Security Commission and the Custodian who have given valuable information and advice. It thanks the Provincial Department of Health and the Greater Vancouver Health Committee for making available public health nurses and equipment for the health study. The co-operative manner in which the Japanese camp committees presented their briefs expedited Your Commission's investigations.

..... The Royal Canadian Mounted Police provided efficient motor transportation. The co-operation of Mr. Collins and his staff both at the central office and at the Interior Settlements materially assisted Your Commission in its study.

We have the honour to be,

sir,

Your obedient servants,

(Sgd) F.W. JACKSON,
Chairman.

(Sgd) W.R. BONE,
Commissioner.

(Sgd) MARY SUTHERLAND,
Commissioner.

(Sgd) GEORGE F. DAVIDSON,
Commissioner.

January 12th, 1944.

TO: CENTRAL REGISTRY,
Room 7, Conf. Bldg.

Please place attached on file

23-2-3-14

H.T. Pammett.

P.A. B.F. 10/5

Department of Labour,
RECEIVED
APR 27 1946
Secretary to Minister.

Honourable Humphrey Mitchell,
Minister of Labour,
Ottawa, CANADA.

The Humble Petition of the Japanese Central Committee of Slocan District SHEWETH;

THAT we appreciate greatly the Dominion Government's consideration in increasing our Relocation Allowance as publicized by our respective Supervisors.

THAT in 1942 the government order compelled us to be uprooted from our homes at the coast resulting a serious financial loss to us.

THAT the various restrictions were forced to abandon or to dispose of all our furniture and many other things at very lwo prices, and are now living under most trying conditions, or left possessions in the care of The Custodian of Enemy Alien Properties, believing their assest to be fully protected for them until their return, found to their greatest disappointment that the Custodian disposed of most of their possessions at prives far below the actual valued of these goods.

THAT in living in the Interior Housing project we were compelled to spend all our means even if we had any remained.

THAT the provincial Relief Statistic (pro-war figures) will prove that the people of Japanese origin, who were assisted by the Government have been very few showing that we endeavour to be good citizen - not wards to the Government of Canada.

THAT spite of the above fact we are compelled to petition the government to increase further our allowance; asit is of an absolute necessity to us in order to re-establish ourselves as the revised Relocation Allowance is far from sufficient in re-establishing ourselves.

THAT much as we wish to co-operate withthe governmert's policy of dispersal and relocation to eastern provinces, we would hardly do so.

AND THAT the rehabilitation amount as approved by the Royal Commission at the time of their survey herein 1944, and the Custodian was $520.00 for a couple $260.00 for a single persons and $50.00 for each dependent.

WHEREFORE, we, the Japanese Central Committee of Slocan District do HUMBLY PETITION;

THAT the government of Canada will increase the Placement Allowance to such a minimum as approved by the Royal Commission.

THAT ample assurance be given of employment and housing.

AND YOUR PETITTIONERS, AS IN DUTY BOUND, EVER PRAY.

30-4-46

DATED the 21st day of April A.D. 1946.

JAPANESE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF SLOCAN DISTRICT

SLOCAN CITY, B. C.

re financial allowances

MEMORANDUM

Office of the Prime Minister

Ottawa, 26th April, 1946.

Referred from the Office of the Prime Minister to the Minister of Labour.

Department of Labour,
RECEIVED
APR 29 1946
Secretary to Minister.

G. J. Matte
Private Secretary.

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE MACKENZIE KING,
The Prime Minister of Canada,
Ottawa, CANADA.

The Humble Petition of the Japanese Central Committee of Slocan District SHEWETH;

THAT we appreciafe greatly the Dominion Government's consideration in increasing our Relocation Allowance as publicized by our respective Supervisors.

THAT in 1942 the government order compelled us to be uprooted from our homes at the coast resulting a serious financial loss to us.

THAT the various restrictions were forced to abandon or to dispose of all our furniture and many other things at very lwo prices, and are now living under most trying conditions, or left possessions in the care of The Custodian of Enemy Alien Properties, believing their assest to be fully protected for them until their return, found to their greatest disappointment that the Custodian disposed of most of their possessions at prives far below the actual valued of these goods.

THAT in living in the Interior Housing project we were compelled to spend all our means even if we had any remained.

THAT the provincial Relief Statistic (pro-war figures) will prove that the people of Japanese origin, who were assisted by the Government have been very few showing that we endeavour to be good citizen - not wards to the Government of Canada.

THAT spite of the above fact we are compelled to petition the government to increase further our allowance; as it is of an absolute necessity to us in order to re-establish ourselves as the revised Relocation Allowance is far from sufficient in re-establishing ourselves.

THAT much as we wish to co-operate with the Government's policy of dispersal and relocation to eastern provinces, we would hardly do so.

AND THAT the rehabilitation amount as approved by the Royal Commission at the time of their survey herein 1924, and the Custodian was $520.00 for a couple $260.00 for a single persons and $50.00 for each dependent.

WHEREFORE, we, the Japanese Central Committee of Slocan District do HUMBLY PETITION;

THAT the government of Canada will increase the Placement Allowance to such a minimum as approved by the Royal Commission

THAT ample assurance be given of employment and housing.

AND YOUR PETITIONERS, AS IN DUTY BOUND, EVERY PRAY.

DATED the 21st day of April A.D. 1946.

JAPANESE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF SLOCAN DISTRICT.

SLOCAN CITY, B. C.

TO: CENTRAL REGISTRY,
Room 7, Conf. Bldg.

Please place attached on file

23-2-3-14

H.T. Pammett.

P.A.

B.F.

COPY

Ottawa, April 9, 1946.

Mr. T. B. Pickersgill,
Commissioner of Japanese Placement,
Department of Labour,
360 Homer Street,
Vancouver, B.C.

Re: Closing Administration at Kaslo

Thanks for your report of April 5th in this matter. We haven't had brought to our attention copy of Mr. Ross's letter.

On the general subject of the Dominion's responsibility for welfare of persons in self-supporting employment in any community, we have, as you know, a recognized responsibility of this nature in respect of evacuated Japanese outside British Columbia on the ground that they are still in the re-settlement stage and I believe that this stage must be considered as continuing for as long at least as the Dominion Government continues to exercise control over movement and placement.

I should think, therefore, that we would be justified in possibly treating evacuated Japanese who settle in the interior area on a similar basis but without any commitment as to long term policy.

I would think that we need not attempt to define a policy in this connection at the present time as the outcome of the Dominion-Provincial Conference will determine, in large measure, the extent of the future responsibility which the Dominion Government will be prepared to assume in the matter of unemployment aid.

A. H. Brown.

Corresp re 23-2-3-1

COPY

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR
Japanese Division

360 Homer Street,
VANCOUVER, B.C.

5th April, 1946.

AIRMAIL.

A. H. Brown, Esq.,
Assistant to the Deputy Minister,
Department of Labour,
OTTAWA.

Re: CLOSING ADMINISTRATION AT KASLO

I have received your memorandum of March 22nd and am in complete agreement with the contents. We have followed this policy.

You will be interested to learn that on my recent visit to Kaslo I called on the Mayor. We had a very friendly discussion and he told me that after receiving our letter outlining the reasons why we decided to close our administration at Kaslo, that the whole correspondence was filed.

After all the controversy about the closing of Kaslo, it was interesting to have the Mayor ask us if those who were allowed to remain in Kaslo on a self-supporting basis became unemployed or otherwise indigent, would the Dominion Government look after them? I replied that the Dominion Government would assume responsibility for the welfare of any of those who were still subject to deportation to Japan, but that I was of the opinion that all others on a self-supporting basis in Kaslo would be the responsibility of the Kaslo community, just the same as any other citizens. I hope you concur in this view.

You may have seen recently the lengthy letter written to the editors of a number of newspapers and to all members of Parliament by Mr. Ross from Slocan. The sentiments expressed in this letter were also endorsed by a number of other citizens of Slocan. We were talking recently to a citizen of Slocan who declined to add his name to those expressing the sentiments outlined in Mr. Ross' letter. This man told us that he did not sign his name because he fully realised that all of the people of Japanese origin in the Slocan project could not possibly be absorbed in self-supporting employment in the area, and that the City of Slocan was in no position to look after these people after they ceased to be wards of the Dominion Government. It does seem to me that those communities who argue that these people should be allowed to remain in the districts in which they presently reside on a self-supporting basis, that the same communities should be prepared to accept them as regular residents and assume the same responsibility for them as for other citizens.

(Sgd.) T. B. Pickersgill,
Commissioner.

TO: CENTRAL REGISTRY,
Room 7, Conf. Bldg.

Please place attached on file

23-2-3-14

H.T. Pammett.

P.A.

B.F.

(COPY)

Ottawa, March 26, 1946.

Mr. T. B. Pickersgill,
Commissioner of Japanese Placement,
Department of Labour,
360 Homer Street,
Vancouver, B.C.

Re: Relocation of Japanese

We have your letter of March 19th and comment as follows:

1. It is agreed that a Saskatchewan Placement Officer will be employed just as soon as possible. The salary for this position will run up to $3,000 per annum. We are inclined to think that the headquarters for this man might be Saskatoon. There is a possibility that we may secure Walter Dawson's services for this position and if so, we should be in a position to let you know very shortly. Your proposal to have Mr. Mackinnon try to obtain a man from the Employment Services or our own departmental services in Saskatchewan is satisfactory.

2. We agree with your view as to the advisability of limiting housing assistance to arrangements with employers to provide family accommodation for Japanese under suitable conditions. We are of the opinion that the possibility of relocation in Northern Ontario should be fully explored and developed this year.

Immediate consideration should be given to the establishment of hostels in Saskatchewan, at Winnipeg, Northern Ontario and the Montreal area.

3. We have already written the Presidents of the Railway Companies with respect to the employment of Japanese and will advise you when a reply is received.

4. We note your opinion that any training programme for Japanese girls should be carried on outside B.C. The possibility of providing training grants for girls in lines offering good employment prospects and using training facilities of the C.V.T. should be considered.

5. We hesitate to repeal entirely the licensing provisions with respect to the purchase or leasing of real property. However, we are prepared to agree to the liberal policy in reference thereto--in other words, it will be in order to advise the Japanese in the settlements and your placement officers that licences for purchase or leasing of property will be freely granted upon application and without delay, by the Department in any area east of Alberta.

Insofar as the movement of Japanese is concerned, we are prepared to relax the restrictions on movement to the extent that you are prepared to recommend. We take it from your correspondence that for the present, you and your placement officers are of the opinion that further relaxation of travel controls is inadvisable and unnecessary. If you have not done so recently, I should think you might review this further with your placement officers.

Insofar as veterans of the last war or this war are concerned, it is agreed that travel restrictions on the movement of such persons and their wives should be removed and also that they should be exempt from licensing in connection with the purchase of property. This latter will require an amendment to P.C. 946. Such amendment and an instruction from the Minister with respect to movement will be prepared unless in acknowledging this letter, you see any objection thereto.

6. With regard to the proposal for increase in the amount of the placement allowance, we approve your recommendation that rates for adults be increased to $45 for a single person and $120 for a man and wife but that the rate for children 16 years of age or over and part of a family group be $25 and the rates for children under 16 years of age do not exceed $15.

Corresp'n 23-2-3-1 A. MacNamara.

Ottawa, March 22, 1946.

Re: Pickersgill's letter of March 19 attached

Suggested reply

1. Sask. placement officer salary $2400-3000. We will ask Regional S.S. Office, Winnipeg, if they have anyone they can recommend. Mackinnon says one of the present western alternative service officers would be suitable--have Mackinnon check in Winnipeg. Headquarters in Saskatchewan for placement officer should probably be Saskatoon--the U.I.C. may be able to provide space at that point.

2. Re Northern Ontario - we agree with your view to be prepared to give assistance for housing by developing arrangements with local companies.

3. We have already written the Presidents of the Railway Companies of which you have received a copy - and will follow up.

4. We note your present views that any training programme for girls should be carried on at points outside B.C. We believe there are possibilities in providing training grant for Japanese girls in lines offering good employment prospects at points outside B.C. which could be developed by Mrs. Booth and yourself in co-operation with Mrs. Eaton and Miss Graham of C.V.T. This might be training course or "on the job" training.

5. Noted the intention to follow our suggestion up. If we can agree on a liberal policy in the matter of licenses on property purchase and lease, we could probably work up some assistance from the local Japanese committees.

6. Increased allowances for relocation. You propose increases as follows:

Married couple from $60 to $120
Single person from $35 to $ 45
Children under 18 years with parents from $12 to $25

with a view to providing not only subsistence pending initial salary cheque but also to cover in part outlays in case of families for household furnishings, extra clothes--this to be paid when placed. If this will help get movement from B.C. it is worthwhile, and we assume that is your opinion. We are satisfied to have you do this subject to the provision that in case of family grants the placement officers will take reasonable steps to satisfy themselves that the grant is used for approved purposes.

7. Re removal of restrictions

We favour removal of

(a) all travel restrictions east of B.C. - that is all persons travelling in B.C. or entering B.C. require permit but not outside B.C. unless your placement officers show good reason to the contrary.

(b) it may be awkward to change our Order in Council re property purchases so as to provide that a Japanese will still require a licence in B.C. and Alta. but will not do so elsewhere - would it serve the present purpose by administrative instruction to say that licences will be issued freely in any area east of the Alta. boundary.

What would be the effect of repealing entirely the provisions requiring the issue of a licence?

COPY

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR
Japanese Division
360 Homer Street,
VANCOUVER, B. C.

AIR MAIL

19th March 1946

A. MacNamara Esq.,
Deputy Minister,
Department of Labour,
OTTAWA.

Re: RELOCATION OF JAPANESE

I have received your memorandum of March 14th and would like to offer the following comments on the proposals submitted.

1. We agree that it would be useful to have a representative in Saskatchewan to assist with relocation to that Province. We are of the opinion that it would be preferable to have a Saskatchewan man on this job who is familiar with the geography of the Province and the location of areas where we might expect to find employment for Japanese families. I am wondering if there might be a good man in one of the Employment Offices, either at Regina, Saskatoon or Prince Albert, whom we might have assigned to us on a loan basis. We should think that the opportunities in the northern part of the Province, where there is a certain amount of lumbering and logging activity as well as farming, would afford more opportunities for placement of Japanese families than in the straight grain growing areas. For this reason, we thought that if there happened to be a good man in the Prince Albert Employment Office who could be assigned to us, that this would be logical. Such a man would be familiar with most of the lumbering and logging firms in northern Saskatchewan and could contact these firms with a view to their employing people of Japanese origin from B.C.

If we found there was considerable opportunity for employment of Japanese families in that area of the Province, but housing proved to be a serious limiting factor, we might then consider the establishment of a hostel somewhere in the area to provide temporary accommodation.

If you agree with the idea of trying to locate a man from one of the Employment Offices, we might have Mr. Mackinnon investigate this following his visit to Vancouver.

2. We believe that northern Ontario should offer plenty of scope for the establishment of a large number of Japanese families. Just yesterday I was talking to Mr. Ernst at Winnipeg on the telephone and he is providing us with particulars of employment for several hundred men in woods operations throughout his area. The majority of this employment is in the area of northern Ontario which comes under his jurisdiction, namely, from Fort William west. When we asked him about housing accommodation for these people, he said that in the majority of cases there would not be accommodation for families and that this would present difficulty in this respect.

We have noted your proposal concerning an extra relocation grant to assist in the building of accommodation and/or to purchase household furnishings. We are wondering if this sort of assistance would not have to be limited to arrangements which we might make with the companies to assist in providing accommodation for families which were moved into certain special locations. We are just a little afraid that if we start to grant such assistance to individuals, that it would be difficult to say who is to receive such assistance and who is not, and whether such assistance would be limited to people going into this particular occupation or will it be general?

On the other hand, if we can make arrangements with employers to provide some assistance for housing, if these employers could guarantee to employ a certain number of people of Japanese origin with families, we might be able to make a good deal of progress. Mr. Ernst did suggest in our telephone conversation yesterday, that there was a camp near Schreiber which could be readily rehabilitated to accommodate about fifty families. I am wondering too if we will not have to be somewhat careful in providing individual assistance to Japanese families for housing when the whole question of housing accommodation is so controversial just at the present time. I am thinking particularly of the lack of housing accommodation for veterans' families. Mr. Ernst referred to this as being very acute throughout most of his area.

3. We referred in our memorandum of Saturday, March 16th, to the possibility of developing employment opportunities with the railway companies. In view of the fact that we will want to develop this employment outside of B.C., I am wondering if the first approach should not be to the Head Offices of the railways and possibly the second approach to the western Head Offices at Winnipeg. If we were to approach the railway representatives here, they would only have in mind jobs available in the B.C. divisions. I am hopeful that we might be able to develop throughout Canada a certain amount of relocation for this type of employment. We had thought that it might be productive of better results if someone from Ottawa were to go to Montreal to interview the representatives of both railways, but if you would like this contact made from here by letter, we can do so. We could find out from the railway officials here the names of the officials that we should write to in Montreal and also Winnipeg.

4. We will comment in more detail on this proposal after Mrs. Booth and I have had an opportunity to discuss this with Mrs. Eaton.

Mrs. Booth's first reaction is that the most difficult problem will be to persuade the girls to accept the work, particularly where this is employment as domestics, rather than to develop opportunities for such employment. Mrs. Booth is also of the opinion that the majority of unmarried girls do not want to accept employment where this will mean separation from their parents. In the majority of cases, with the exception of the non-signing Japanese nationals in New Denver, the parents are Japanese nationals or naturalized Canadians who have signed for repatriation and who are subject to such deportation under P.C. 7355. Mrs. Booth is doubtful that the organization of any kind of training programme would bring material results. We have had a number of illustrations to support this view. A number of girls have received training at office work through employment in our project offices. We have had little success in persuading many of these to accept relocatable opportunities in similar employment. We have also trained a considerable number of girls as nurses' aides in our hospitals and have not been successful in persuading these girls to accept hospital employment which has become available. In our school system we have provided courses in domestic science and such courses have not resulted in girls accepting opportunities for employment as domestics. We will, however, discuss this particular proposal in detail with Mrs. Eaton and she may have other suggestions.

We would suggest however, that if any training programme were undertaken the location of such training project should not be in the settlements but somewhere outside of B.C. If such courses were held in the settlements it would delay just that much longer decisions to relocate.

5. We think the suggestion of using the Japanese Committees to assist relocation is a good one, and will suggest to our regional officers that they take more advantage of this possibility. We will also discuss this with Mr. Mackinnon when he is here and he in turn can discuss it with the offices as he travels back and forth.

6. We do suggest that an increased placement allowance, particularly for family groups, is desirable, and would stimulate relocation. The present rates are as follows:

$60.00	for married couple
35.00	for an individual
$20.00	for children attached to families who are from 16 to 18 years of age.
12.00	for each child under sixteen.

We would suggest that the amount for a man and his wife be increased to $120.00, that the single grant be increased from $35.00 to $45.00, and that a grant of $25.00 be made for each child under eighteen relocating as part of the family group. This would enable the family to purchase necessary household furnishings as indicated in proposal No. 2 of your memorandum.

7. We are very much in favour of liberalising the restrictions on purchasing and leasing property outside of B.C., just as much as you think this is possible. The more that we can tell these people that they are free to buy and rent property, the more likely we are to interest them in relocation. We do believe, however, until the repatriation is completed, and until the majority of the relocation has also been completed, that our travel regulations should be maintained as at present. If we were to allow Canadian-born from Saskatchewan east to travel without permits, we would have no idea how many might be returning to B.C. The present regulations permit them freedom of travel for temporary periods within each province without permits. They are required to obtain permits for permanent transfers within a province and temporary permits when crossing provincial boundary lines. We do not think this causes particular irritation and we do feel there would be value in maintaining these regulations as they are now in effect. It is the restrictions against purchasing and renting property which cause so much complaint and which are used so often as an excuse for not relocating.

(Sgd.) T.B. PICKERSGILL,
Commissioner.

COPY

Ottawa
March 25, 1946.

Dear Mr. MacMillan:

Your letter of March 13th, in respect to sugar beet cultivation, raises an interesting phase of the matter which is new to me, namely, you say:

"In 1925 when the sugar beet industry was established in this province, it was decided not to establish the industry on the basis of Oriental labour" and "It is the desire of the sugar beet growers and the Government that the original plan of maintaining this industry by the use of European labour be continued".

The inference is that there was an agreement or understanding that European labour would be made available and I would ask if you have any specific data as to an agreement with the Dominion Immigration Department at the time of which you speak.

In respect to the Japanese situation, the policy will be to disperse those who remain in Canada on as equitable a basis as possible and I am sure that Alberta will be quite co-operative in this aim.

The question of Prisoners-of-War is under consideration and I am glad to have your views.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) HUMPHREY MITCHELL

Honourable D.B. MacMillan,
Minister of Agriculture,
Edmonton, Alberta.

AM/LV

Corresp. re 23-2-3-(Alberta) 10

C O P Y

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

Ottawa, March 23, 1946.

MEMORANDUM to Mr. MacNamara.

The attached correspondence from the Minister of Agriculture re Japanese is not very encouraging.

I should think that we should openly notify every Japanese family in Alberta that all restrictions on movement are off and that we will be prepared to give them assistance to move any place outside the Province eastwards.

My own opinion is that the Government will have to appoint a Royal Commission to deal with the whole question of relocation and compensation for Japanese evacuated from the coast before they are finished and to use the Commission's recommendations as a basis for a shift to a sounder and more courageous policy than it has pursued to date.

(Sgd.) A. H. Brown.

CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

JAPANESE DIVISION

24 Adelaide Street East
TORONTO 1 - Ontario

Department of Labour
To:
DRAFT LETTER
YOU DATED
NOTE AND RETURN
FOR YOUR INFORMATION
FILE
Jule

March 21, 1946.

Mr. A. H. Brown,
Department of Labour,
OTTAWA, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Brown:

PLACEMENT ALLOWANCES

Further to our telephone conversation today regarding the proposal to increase placement allowances for people coming East as an extra inducement for them to move from British Columbia, I have given the matter some thought and have also discussed it with Messrs. Trueman and Sneyd.

My own belief is that the cash offered as placement allowance has comparatively little to do with the decision of any Japanese family or individual to move East. Certainly the more they receive the better pleased they are, but I do not believe it enters into their calculations when making up their minds. Foremost in their ideas, I think, is the possibility that they can re-establish their family lives on an independent basis, and may eventually get back on their feet as farmers or in small businesses.

I believe if it were made known that licences to buy or rent property for farming or business premises were easy to get, this would provide a much bigger inducement than the extra money involved in bigger placement allowances. Lack of these facilities has always been put forward as one of the biggest barriers to Eastern movement.

Mr. Trueman expresses the opinion that anything which helps to improve the picture presented to the prospective relocee is a good thing, which, of course, is true, but Mr. Sneyd concurs fully with my view that the placement allowance is low in the category of attractions.

From the point of view of necessity, I believe the present basis of allowance is satisfactory and sufficient to give a fammly a fair start.

It is possible, of course, that views among the people in the Interior Towns have changed since I left there, but I believe that the prospect of future independence which they link very strongly with the ability to own property is one of the strongest inducements which could be offered.

Yours very truly,

D. Mactavish
Eastern Regional Supervisor

DM:LG

March 15, 1945.

TO: Mr. A.H. Brown

Re: Mr. Pickersgill's letter of March 11 on Repatriation and Relocation.

In connection with the last three paragraphs of Mr. Pickersgill's letter, I would suggest:

(a) Continuing to limit new employment in British Columbia to potential repatriates, and thus putting some indirect pressure on Japanese Nationals and others who want to stay in Canada, to go East. This is one of the few measures available to the Placement Staff for promoting eastern placement, and this is the time to use it fully. If these people are allowed to work in British Columbia it will be impossible to get any appreciable movement East.

(b) Encouraging prospective repatriates to take jobs in British Columbia in order to maintain themselves throughout the 1946 season or until the Privy Council reaches a decision.

(c) Doubling the grant to families and single persons going East. We might even go further and give $100.00 per adult and $50.00 per minor child, calling it a Re-establishment Grant. If the grant is increased, it would be only fair to make it retroactive and give it also to those who came down in previous years with little or no assistance.

(d) Any increase in grant should also apply to movement East from Alberta, and I would suggest it be made retroactive to October 1, 1945, to cover cases such as the Noda family who spent all their savings to move East last fall and keep themselves throughout the winter, so that they are penniless until they get some return from crops.

Corresp. re 23-2-3-1

HTP/RS H.T. Pammett.

Encl.

March 15, 46.

TO: Mr. A. MacNamara

Re: Removal of Restrictions on Japanese War Veterans in Canada.

1. In July, 1945, publicity was released on the recruitment of about 150 Canadian Japanese for the Canadian Army, and in the same month a petition was received from Japanese veterans of World War I, backed up by the New Denver Branch of the Canadian Legion.

2. On August 4, 1945, Mr. Pickersgill recommended a special appraisal of the losses sustained by veterans evacuated from the coast and some assistance to this group in re-establishment, including the right to acquire real property and to go into business anywhere in Canada outside the protected area.

3. There are approximately 50 veterans of the last war still living in Canada, mostly in our settlements, and about 150 Canadian-born Japanese either still in the Army or veterans of World War II.

4. Our Departmental memorandum on policy in September, 1945, recommended, among other things, that:

> "all restrictions relative to movement and property purchase to be removed in the case of veterans of the last war and this war and their dependents".

This memorandum was approved by the Cabinet on September 20, 1945, and "it was agreed that action be taken accordingly".

5. On September 25, 1945, we proposed that veterans be relieved of travel restrictions East of the Rockies. Commissioner Mead agreed to this, but Mr. Pickersgill was not in favour of this partial action pending decision on the larger question mentioned above. As a result, no action was taken on behalf of these men.

Corresp. on 23-2-2-13

.....2

6. Early in March, 1946, Senator Buchanan and the Lethbridge Citizens Rehabiliation Committee protested the restrictions which were imposed on Japanese Canadian war veterans without any distinction from other Japanese.

Under present circumstances, it would seem opportune to go ahead and implement our policy of September last which was approved by Cabinet. I would, therefore, recommend that, effective April 1, 1946, all honourable discharged Japanese veterans of the Canadian Army in World War I and World War II, with their immediate dependents, be relieved of all restrictions relative to R.C.M. Police registration, travel and property purchase, anywhere in Canada, as approved by the Cabinet memorandum above mentioned.

Alternatively, we could as a first step relieve these persons of all restrictions when resident on the Prairies or in Eastern Canada.

HTP/RS A. H. Brown.

Encl.

C O P Y

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE
ALBERTA

Edmonton, Alberta
March 13th, 1946.

Hon. Humphrey Mitchell,
Minister of Labour,
OTTAWA, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Mitchell:

I have your communication of March 6th in reply to my letter of February 25th requesting that two thousand prisoners-of-war be left in Alberta at the Lethbridge Internment Camp to handle the 1946 beet crop. I am pleased to learn that my request is to be given serious consideration by yourself and your colleagues.

In the last paragraph of your letter I note your comments with respect to the possibility of making greater use of Japanese labour. In connection with this matter, I might point out that the question of utilizing this type of labour has been carefully considered. In 1925 when the sugar beet industry was established in this province, it was decided not to establish the industry on the basis of Oriental labour. This decision was arrived at as a result of our previous experience with the utilization of Oriental labour in connection with the original beet sugar factory established in 1904 by the Knight Sugar Company.

It is our understanding that when the contract with the Dominion Government with respect to the placement of Japanese labour expires, the labour will be removed or retained at the request of the Provincial Government. It is the desire of the sugar beet growers and the Government that the original plan of maintaining this industry by the use of European labour be continued, and it is for this reason that we are anxious to have the prisoners-of-war retained in order to permit an adjustment of the labour supply to its former basis. It is anticipated that in 1947 the Agreement with the B.C. Security Commission will terminate, and it will be necessary for us to replace the Japanese with more suitable labour.

It is true that the Japanese labour has been reasonably satisfactory, but not as satisfactory as the labour which was available prior to the war.

Having regard for the attitude of the beet growers toward the continuance of Japanese labour, I trust that we may be able to arrange for their replacement in due course.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) D. B. MacMillan

MEMORANDUM

Office of the Prime Minister

Ottawa, March 13, 1946.

Referred from the Prime Minister's Office to the Minister of Labour, without acknowledgment.

(R. G. Robertson),
Secretary.

New Denver, B. C.
February 27, 1946

To The Office of the Prime Minister
Parliament Buildings, OTTAWA,
Canada

Department of Labour,
RECEIVED
MAR 14 19[illegible]
Secretary to Minister.

Petition For Rehabilitation of
Evacuated Canadian Japanese

Dear Sirs:

Allow us to pay our profound respects to The Office Of The Prime Minister, and with your leave, we submit this petition requesting your perusal and consideration.

We realize the enormity of problems arising out of transition from war-time measures to peace-time rehabilitation and reconstruction of Canada's National living, and it is our sincere wish to co-operate in solving even a minor part, by this representation, exemplifying on the economical and mental aspects of Japanese Canadians, evacuated from The Protected Area and presently residing in various Government Housing Projects, thus offering a basis for logical, humane and constructive solution of a difficult problem.

It is true, the world is gradually emerging from political and economic chaos, and, in spite of suffering and misery still rempant throughout Europe and Asia, the effort being made toward peaceful and ordered living is apparent. We also feel the urgent necessity of rehabilitation and reconstruction of normal living, but we are regrettably faced with major social and financial difficulties.

The former is the racial prejudice and discrimination existing among the people which demand years of social education and readjustment on both sides before it could be alleviated to any satisfaction.

The latter, the financial problem is more immediate and drastic, as reconstruction of normal living involves assurance of income which warrants maintenance of general standard of living as Canadian Citizens.

Up to the time of evacuation, we had our own means of earning our living, however frugal, and maintained some show of respectability by not depending on Government assistance. If our prewar records are checked, the percentage of relief recipients will be very low compared to other residents.

We have accepted evacuation as one of the exigencies of war and vested in the Custodian, whatever property we could not carry. In fact, in unquestioning obedience to government order, we vested in the Government all that we possessed, our houses, boats, tools, furniture, and above all our means of livelihood.

Now the war is over, and again as we wish to co-operate with the Government policy of Relocation, we face the problem of regaining the necessary means of starting our lives anew, the place to live in, the furnishings, the tools to work with, the location and license to start business, and above all, the respectability of an independent free citizen.

It may be well for those who had the means, to relocate voluntarily but for those whose means were tied up in new venture or whose business was barely sufficient to support him and his family, or laborers of limited means the difficulty of starting anew seems almost insurmountable without some Government assistance, however eager he may be to co-operate.

In presenting this petition, our sole purpose is to clarify the causes that are retarding the program of

relocation, and offer suggestions that might lead to possible solution.

1. Guarantee of $300.00 minimum Rehabilitation Fund per adult and $50.00 for each dependents.

2. Assurance of Housing and employment.

3. Assurance of Government action for granting business licence.

4. Assurance by the Government the right to own land and real estate.

5. Adequate maintenance and medical care for aged and unrelocatable persons.

6. Option for long term rehabilitation loan at low interest rate, for those who wish to renew an industrial or commercial venture.

Pledging our fullest co-operation for any reasonable Government policy, we remain

Yours respectfully,

I Kawashiri
Pres. New Denver Concord Society

K. Kinoshigama
Secy. New Denver Concord Society

Central Registry

Please start new file "Re-establishment Assistance to Japanese Remaining in Canada"

23-2-3-14

& return file to me

H. Lamett

Japanese Placement & Relocation Plans

FROM		TO
	Minister	
	Parliamentary Secretary	
	Secy. to Minister	
	Deputy Minister	
	Secy. to Deputy Minister	
	Assistant Deputy Minister	
	Accountant	
	Administrative Officer	
	Annuities	
	Clippings	
	Combines Investigation	
	Files (Departmental)	
	Industrial Relations	
	Information Division	
	Labour Gazette	
	Library	
	Manpower Records	
	National Selective Service	
	National War Labour Board	
	Personnel Division	
	Research	
	Statistics	
	Solicitor	
	Special Asst. to Deputy Minister	
	Stenographers Pool	
	Supplies	
	Training Programme	
	Translators	
	Technical Personnel Bureau	
	Unemployment Insurance	

Mr Pammett.

New Denver, B. C.
February 27, 1946

To The Office of the Minister of Labor
Parliament Buildings, OTTAWA,
Canada

Department of Labour
RECEIVED
MAR 11 1946
Secretary to Minister.

Petition For Rehabilitation of
Evacuated Canadian Japanese

Dear Sirs:

Allow us to pay our profound respects to The Office of The Minister of Labor, and with your leave, we submit this petition requesting your perusal and consideration.

We realize the enormity of problems arising out of transition from war-time measures to peace-time rehabilitation and reconstruction of Canada's National living, and it is our sincere wish to co-operate in solving even a minor part, by this representation, exemplifying on the economical and mental aspects of Japanese Canadians, evacuated from The Protected Area and presently residing in various Government Housing Projects, thus offering a basis for logical, humane and constructive solution of a difficult problem.

It is true, the world is gradually emerging from political and economic chaos, and, in spite of suffering and misery still rempant throughout Europe and Asia, the effort being made toward peaceful and ordered living is apparent. We also feel the urgent necessity of rehabilitation and reconstruction of normal living, but we are regrettably faced with major social and financial difficulties.

The former is the racial prejudice and discrimination existing among the people which demand years of social education and readjustment on both sides before it could be alleviated to any satisfaction.

The latter, the financial problem is more immediate and drastic, as reconstruction of normal living involves assurance of income which warrants maintenance of general standard of living as Canadian Citizens.

Up to the time of evacuation, we had our own means of earning our living, however frugal, and maintained some show of respectability by not depending on Government assistance. If our prewar records are checked, the percentage of relief recipients will be very low compared to other residents.

We have accepted evacuation as one of the exigencies of war and vested in the Custodian, whatever property we could not carry. In fact, in unquestioning obedience to government order, we vested in the Government all that we possessed, our houses, boats, tools, furniture, and above all our means of livelihood.

Now the war is over, and again as we wish to co-operate with the Government policy of Relocation, we face the problem of regaining the necessary means of starting our lives anew, the place to live in, the furnishings, the tools to work with, the location and license to start business, and above all, the respectability of an independent free citizen.

It may be well for those who had the means, to relocate voluntarily but for those whose means were tied up in new venture or whose business was barely sufficient to support him and his family, or laborers of limited means the difficulty of starting anew seems almost insurmountable without some Government assistance, however eager he may be to co-operate.

In presenting this petition, our sole purpose

is to clarify the causes that are retarding the program of relocation, and offer suggestions that might lead to possible solution.

1. Guarantee of $300.00 minimum Rehabilitation Fund per adult and $50.00 for each dependents.

2. Assurance of Housing and employment.

3. Assurance of Government action for granting business licence.

4. Assurance by the Government the right to own land and real estate.

5. Adequate maintenance and medical care for aged and unrelocatable persons.

6. Option for long term rehabilitation loan at low interest rate, for those who wish to renew an industrial or commercial venture.

Pledging our fullest co-operation for any reasonable government policy, we remain

Yours respectfully,

K Kawashiri
Pres. New Denver Concord Society

S. Higashiyama
Secy. New Denver Concord Society