2101
A. H. BROWN
1946 - 1947

RECORD GROUP 36/27

VOLUME 32

FILE 2101

MANITOULIN GARDENS AND GREENHOUSES

89 Durham Street,
Sheguindah, Ont.
June 14, 1947.

RECEIVED
JUN 21 1947
Department of Labour
JAPANESE DIVISION

Mr. Thomas Farquhar, M.P.,
Little Current.

Dear Mr. Farquhar:

Our labour problems are worse than ever this spring. We have two young Japanese who are exceptional good but the Department was unable to find a second family willing to live in the rural north. We have also one Polish veteran out of five applied for. We had hoped to have the other four out of the lot now arriving but the demand for these men is too great for this number to be allotted to one farm and further since the first lot arrived last autumn the Department has found it inadvisable to have more than one on one farm.

COPY

Shortly after the first of the year I was approached by the Ukrainian Society to accept a number of displaced persons of their nationality as they would look after their transportation and guarantee their fitness. They were urgent that I should accept a number of them, but at that time it appeared likely that the Department would supply these other four Polish veterans and also we have every reason for expecting the second Japanese family. I therefore nominated only one of the Ukrainians and the necessary papers were promptly filled out and acknowledged by the Immigration Branch.

This man had been through the North African campaign and was afterwards taken into the British Paratroop Corps. His antecedents were apparently examined by the authorities in England and he was expecting to embark in April or May when suddenly all sailings of paratroopers were cancelled. Sunsequent to this a form came here from the Department during the Mother's Day rush asking me what this man had been doing during the war years and stating that they would consider his case after receiving this information from me. I asked them what they had been doing about the case since January or February and whether they intended to help us out with farm labour this season or not as we certainly do not wish to struggle through the summer as in recent years and then have such a surplus of labour to winter that we shall have to cut our timber out all in a year or two instead of extending it for winter employment.

No reply was received to this letter but now we have another form from them dated June 3rd B230 56 Immigration Branch. "This is to advise that the settlement arrangements for the reception of the above named are considered satisfactory and it will be in order for him to make application in person to the Canadian Visa Officer, 40 Piccadilly, London W.I., provided the proposed is of good character, in possession of travel document establishing identity, can pass medical examination, etc. This letter should be sent to him for identification. The necessary advice is going forward to the Visa Officer overseas by surface mail which takes 3 to 4 weeks to arrive and the proposed immigrant should refrain from getting in touch with the said officer until sufficient time has elapsed for our advice to reach him."

We are working 15 hours a day here and have been since the start of the season. This gives me no time or energy for accounts or correspondence and unfortunately, these forms of the Department are deceptive so that ten days have now passed before I realized what this was about. It is difficult to understand their dilatory methods and as I previously advised them at the rate they are going about this application, the man will arrive in the autumn or later, and I have notified them that I won't accept him then.

Is there anything you can do to speed them up? The government has been asking for increased food production, but few of our Canadians will now work on farms and they don't do much to get us other help.

COPY

Yours very truly,

(Sgd.) W. D. Murray.

This man's name, according to their form, is Nick Mariansky
P. O. Box 26018, G.P.O.,
London, E.C.I.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

OTTAWA, May 15, 1947.

MEMORANDUM to Col. R. H. Davidson,
Asst. Commissioner of Japanese Placement.

Re: Popoff Leases, Slocan, B.C.

The British Columbia Security Commission which evacuated the Japanese from the coastal area leased two parcels of farm property lying a mile south from the City of Slocan in B.C., on the road to Nelson, under Leases 63 and 64, and erected a number of small huts and school buildings on this property for the accommodation of a considerable number of evacuated Japanese families.

Lease 63 covering the major part of the property, 211 acres, contained a covenant on the part of the Lessee to leave the premises in as good a state of repair as when first demised, and contained an option of purchase in favour of the Lessee at $18,000 cash.

Lease 64 covering a small 12 acre parcel contained the same covenants and included an option of purchase at $1500 in favour of the Lessee.

In the case of both leases, the Lessee has the right to remove buildings erected by him on or before the termination of the lease but if not removed on the termination of the lease, they become the property of the Lessor. The rights and obligations of the Lessee under the lease were vested in His Majesty in right of Canada by the provisions of Order in Council P.C. 946 of February 5th, 1943.

As the property covered by the lease is no longer required by the Department of Labour for Japanese, discussions have been going on with the Lessor with respect to settlement of outstanding claims of the Lessor under the lease. In connection with these claims, the Department arranged with Mr. W. S. Palmer, the Provincial Manager of the Canadian Farm Loan Board, to undertake an inspection and a valuation of the property and to make recommendations with respect to the validity of the Lessor's claims and as to the terms upon which settlement should be made. Mr. Palmer is widely experienced in farm values in B.C. and he has made a very full and careful report.

In so far as the settlement of Lease 63 is concerned, I assume that War Assets Corporation will take the view that they are not interested in having the lease declared surplus to them and undertaking a settlement of this lease and will prefer that this Department complete the same. However, if War Assets Corporation want to complete the settlement, we will immediately declare the lease surplus to them.

In the case of Lease 64, however, the situation is somewhat different. Mr. Palmer's report recommends that having regard for his estimate of the value of the property covered by the lease, the Lessee should exercise the option of purchase contained in the lease at $1500.00 rather than making a settlement of the lease by quit claiming to the Lessor the buildings on the property. If the settlement is arrived at on the basis of Mr. Palmer's recommendations, the property acquired will immediately have to be declared surplus to the War Assets Corporation for disposition and in these circumstances, it would seem advisable to take the matter up with War Assets and ascertain their views as to how they would like to have the claims of the Lessor under this lease settled.

Will you please discuss this matter with the proper officers of the War Assets Corporation to ascertain their views with reference to the settlement of these two leases? For this purpose I am enclosing herewith part of our file on this matter which contains everything relevant to the issue. Please return this in due course.

A. H. Brown.

Enc.

RECEIVED
MAY 16 1949
Department of Labour
JAPANESE DIVISION

May 20, 1947

Mr. A. H. Brown,
119 Confederation Bldg.

Re: Popoff Leases, Slocan, B. C.

Returned herewith is the file on the Popoff Leases, referred to in your letter of May 15.

I took this matter up with War Assets and Crown Assets yesterday and to-day, Mr. Gardner being the main target, in the absence of Mr. Thompson on leave.

The following suggestions were made:

In connection with Lease 63, it was suggested by them that this property be declared surplus as it stands to the Crown Assets Allocation Committee, who, as they are not in a position to adjust where a deficit shows, will return it to us for our necessary action and negotiation with the Popoffs.

This appears to me to be a long way around, but according to them gives this Department added protection in the years to come. Provided we can get the necessary declaration when it arrives here, take it over to Mr. Thompson personally and have it pushed through, it should not add greatly to the length of time that the clean-up will take.

Another point they brought up in connection with this lease was that although they are not familiar with the exact terms of the lease, it appears to them that if we were paying rent to the Popoff family that this rent should cover any loss of crops either during the period of use or while the land is becoming crop bearing again, and that, therefore, the item claimed under the heading "land and crop loss" should be eliminated, or in any event greatly reduced. Their attitude is that the Popoffs when accepting rent took this into consideration.

Should their suggestions be satisfactory to you, if Vancouver has the necessary declarations made ready, I will be very pleased to take them over personally to Mr. Thompson, who returns in ten days, and endeavour to get it rushed through.

In connection with Lease 64, they stated that as there is a definite picture there in that there is an option to purchase at $1500.00 and that the value of the lands and buildings is closer to the amount claimed, they feel that with the machinery that they have set up to negotiate in cases of this kind that they might possibly make a better transaction than we could, which personally I very much doubt, but by declaring the above surplus to them it would wipe the matter off our books completely.

My only regret was that Mr. Thompson was not there, as he has been one of our mainstays in negotiating tricky deals, but as he will be away for approximately another ten days, possibly the above suggestions, which can always be cancelled, might be got under way.

Awaiting your further instructions in this matter.

R. H. Davidson
Assistant Commissioner Japanese Placement

Ottawa, March 11, 1947.

Mr. E. E. Thompson,
Executive Secretary,
Crown Assets Allocation Committee,
No. 4 Temporary Building,
O t t a w a.

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the discussions between Col. R. H. Davidson of this Department, Mr. Berry of War Assets Corporation and yourself, we enclose herewith completed CAAC form No. 2231, with reference to the buildings and fixtures erected by the Department of Labour on premises held by the Department under lease from the Fourteen Mile Ranch Company Limited near Hope, B.C., known as the Tashme settlement.

Yours very truly,

Encs. A. H. Brown

Copy for Col. R. H. Davidson.

RECEIVED
MAR 11 1947
Department of Labour
JAPANESE DIVISION

Ottawa, March 11, 1947.

Mr. J. F. MacKinnon,
Commissioner of Japanese Placement,
Department of Labour,
360 Homer Street,
Vancouver, B.C.

Re: Tashme

We hope to write you in the course of three or four days advising of approval by Treasury Board of the proposed settlement of the Tashme lease. We have arranged with War Assets to give their approval to the deal also.

In the meantime, if you have any equipment on the premises which is not included in the settlement, you should arrange for its removal at an early date and the completion of surplus declarations covering the same before we give up possession of the property.

A. H. Brown.

Copy for Col. R. H. Davidson.

8th March, 1947.

Mr. A. H. Brown,
119 Confederation Bldg.

I do not know what the intentions are with regard to the Moose Jaw hostel, but it appears that the movement from there is not very rapid.

As there might be a possibility of some of these families being used in prospective placements that we are unable to fill from our hostels here, I instructed our placement officers in Ontario, Quebec and Winnipeg (the latter some time ago) to forward and to continue forwarding any likely placements to Mr. W. W. Dawson at Moose Jaw, and try and effect some direct placements.

As it looks at the present moment, Farnham will be cleared out and ready for closing by 31st March, and some of the placement schemes inaugurated by us appear to have taken root, and Mr. Beaudet will be in Ottawa Monday to discuss certain situations with you and myself.

Do you think it would be advisable rather than close Farnham to bring down a certain number from Saskatchewan; the idea might have some merit.

(R. H. DAVIDSON),
Assistant Commissioner of Japanese Placement.

RHD/IF

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

OTTAWA, February 15, 1947

MEMORANDUM TO: Colonel R.H. Davidson

RE: Purchases from War Assets Corporation

I enclose two sheafs of invoices from War Assets Corporation for equipment purchases, apparently for the Japanese hostels at Fingal and at Transcona or Moose Jaw.

Would you mind checking over these items before passing them on to Vancouver for payment. It is possible that in the meantime some of thisequipment might have become surplus and could be returned to War Assets Corporation without payment.

With respect to all such purchases as these it is important that we have invoices submitted and verfied and payment made before the end of the fiscal yeat at March 31, if at all possible.

A. H. Brown

Encl.

RECEIVED
FEB 17 1947
Department of Labour
JAPANESE DIVISION

FORM 6125

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DEPT OF LABOUR MOTOR BLDG OTTAWA ONT=

MR MACKINNON IN NEW DENVER STOP FAMILY ALLOWANCE CHEQUES HAD GONE OUT TO FARNHAM HOSTEL RESIDENTS AND MR MACKINNON NOTIFIED AYDON THAT OKAY TO RELEASE THEM TO JAPANESE STOP AT THIS LATE DATE HE DID NOT CONSIDER THIS WOULD RETARD PLACEMENTS FROM FARNHAM AND IN FACT MIGHT ACTUALLY AID RELOCATION STOP REGARDING FINGAL FAMILY ALLOWANCE SITUATION HAS NOT DEVELOPED AND WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT CHEQUES ARE GOING TO RESIDENTS THERE=

D W SIMMONS COMPTROLLER.

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Send the following message, subject to the conditions on the back thereof, which are hereby agreed to.

OTTAWA 13TH FEBRUARY 1947

MR J F MACKINNON
DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR
360 HOMER STREET
VANCOUVER BC

PLEASE WIRE RULING ON HANDING OVER FAMILY ALLOWANCE CHEQUES TO OCCUPANTS HOSTELS STOP BROWN RULES SUBJECT TO YOUR CONFIRMATION THAT THEY ARE NOT SUPPOSED TO GET FAMILY ALLOWANCE STOP SITUATION DEVELOPED AT BOTH HOSTELS

R H DAVIDSON LT COL

8th February, 1947.

Mr. A. H. Brown,
119 Confederation Bldg.

With reference to the closing of the Neys camp, I thought possibly the following items might be of interest.

The Neys camp officially closed as at 31st January and as of to-day's date the following is the situation:

There are eleven Japanese being kept there as labour for the final turn-over to War Assets, which including their families amount to 17, together with the occidental staff of seven, which makes actually 19 workers to completely close the camp and hand over to War Assets, which hope will be consumated by February 28th.

In addition to the above there are four families whose bread-winners are working with the C.P.R. or Pigeon Timber, and are occupying a hut on a self-sustaining basis. For the time being, they are purchasing their meals through us at the camp kitchen at the rate of .45¢ per day for adults and .30¢ a day for children. These purchases are made by meal tickets, of which we have a supply at the camp.

With the exception of the above all the remainder were moved to various placements, there being only two families moved to Fingal, both of which had arranged for immediate placement prior to the movement.

As mentioned some days ago, I sent Lieutenant Colson down to Neys to assist Whitty, as Colson is thoroughly conversant in closing camps in the quickest and most efficient way.

As you are aware, the writer anticipates being out in Port Arthur around the 16th of the present month, by which time I hope to be able to get together any loose ends, so as to expedite the closing.

Andrews is now ensconced as placement officer in Fort William and appears to be filling the position in an able manner.

(R. H. DAVIDSON),
Assistant Commissioner of Japanese Placement.

RHD/IF

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

OTTAWA, February 4, 1947.

MEMORANDUM to: Col. R. H. Davidson,
Asst. Commissioner of Japanese Placement.

Re: Family Allowances

Japanese in hostels are not supposed to be getting family allowances. I think a check might be made to try and find out when the applications for Family Allowances were filed in the case of the Quebec Hostel, and to find if similar applications were sent in in respect to the families in the Fingal Hostel.

I suggest you tell Aydon to hold on to the cheques until he obtains instructions from Vancouver, which should be to return the cheques to the Department of National Health and Welfare, and in the meantime he could check to find out from that Department when the applications came into their hand.

A. H. Brown.

RECEIVED
FEB 5 1947
Department of Labour
JAPANESE DIVISION

238 Sparks Street,
Ottawa, 5th February, 1947.

Mr. F. Aydon,
Department of Labour,
Farnham, Quebec.

Dear Mr. Aydon,-

With reference to your letter regarding the cheques received at your camp for Family Allowances for some of the occupants, I discussed this matter with Mr. Brown, and he advises that until such time as you obtain definite instructions from Vancouver you should hold these cheques, as it is a definite policy that no Japanese in hostels are supposed to be getting Family Allowances.

I wish you would make a check of the inhabitants and see if there are any other occupants receiving these cheques and endeavour diplomatically to find out when and where the applications were made.

I presume you will receive definite instructions from Vancouver as to the disposal of these cheques, which will probably be that they should be returned to the Department of National Health and Welfare with advice.

Yours very truly,

(R. H. DAVIDSON) Lt.-Col.,
Assistant Commissioner of Japanese Placement.

RHD/IF

238 Sparks Street,
Ottawa, 5th February, 1947.

Mr. J. S. Burns,
Japanese Division,
Department of Labour,
Fingal, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Burns,-

The matter of Family Allowance cheques has come up at the Farnham hostel, and we would appreciate if you would make a check on all your occupants to make sure that they are not receiving this form of remuneration, as I understand that the occupants of all hostels are not supposed to receive these cheques while they are wards of the Government.

Please have this matter checked as soon as possible and advise me. Should you discover any, please find out where and through whom the applications were made.

Yours very truly,

(R. H. DAVIDSON) Lt.-Col.,
Assistant Commissioner of Japanese Placement.

RHD/IF

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

OTTAWA, January 3, 1947.

MEMORANDUM to Col. R. H. Davidson,
Asst. Commissioner of Japanese Placement.

Thanks for your memo of January 2nd re your analysis of Japanese in the eastern division.

I would think that the matters which you have raised are matters which you should discuss with Mr. MacKinnon while he is east.

A. H. Brown.

2nd January, 1947.

Mr. A. H. Brown,
119 Confederation Bldg.

Referring to the operations of the Japanese Division for the year 1947, I think that the Japanese in the eastern section with the exception of some 35 who are unfit and over-age can be divided into two categories.

(1) Those with large families who are afraid to leave the security of their present surroundings to take employment offered to them, fearing that once they are out of the hostel they cut themselves adrift from all Government assistance.

(2) The minority that still feel that after March 31st, or at some other future date, they would be moved back to B.C.

The placement officers in the eastern section have been endeavouring during the past few months to lift the morale of the first class to such a point that they will accept employment where possible, and in this to a certain extent they have succeeded, as is shown by the fact that 776 have been placed since October 1st, 1946, in positions where they appear to be quite satisfied and in which it is hoped they will continue, even though the bars to B.C. be dropped.

It appears that the only way to satisfactorily remove this group is to continue endeavouring to build up their morale and possibly cut down some of the comforts that are now creeping in to both Fingal and Farnham.

In the second class there is no doubt that if we wish to move them some sterner measures will have to be adopted, but in such a manner that there can be no comeback on the Department from the numberous organizations that have made it their business to endeavour to turn the Japanese into martyrs. We cannot starve the kids or the grown-ups, and according to the laws of the Province of Ontario, apparently we have to educate them. So long as we feed them, educate

them and give them comfortable quarters, both these classes are going to be difficult to move. Self-supporting houses, such as at Farnham, are not the answer, although it does tend towards relieving the Department to a certain extent, but they are still very much a part of the various hostels. Summerville is somewhat different.

The only apparent means at our disposal would be to authorize the superintendent of the camp in conjunction with placement officers that if such a family be offered employment and these officers feel that the family should accept, but refuse to take said employment, then by way of enforcing our wishes, that the children (if any) should be kept out of school, should have their meals served at a reduced ration in a separate room, of which there are numerous ones available at Fingal and a few at Farnham, and in general make it as uncomfortable for them as possible. This coupled with an endeavour to make their fellow Japanese look down upon them might be of some use, but there again we run into "what is the reason for their refusal". Is it fear or just laziness? This latter point I think is one that will have to be settled by the supervisor of the respective camps, who have been in contact with the individual families sufficiently long to know the answer.

However, we cannot expect a supervisor to take these steps unless they are going to be backed up from Vancouver by a definite policy laid down to be followed.

We have tried to impress on the Japanese when they leave the hostel to accept employment that should the employment prove unsatisfactory that we will endeavour to have them removed and even in certain circumstances partially pay their move to a more satisfactory form of employment should it arise. This in some cases has succeeded and induced families to move into employment, but yet there is nothing definitely laid down that we can do this and, consequently, the supervisors are rather hesitant in using this argument even when it is well merited.

(R. H. DAVIDSON).

RHD/IF

22nd November, 1946.

Mr. A. H. Brown,
119 Confederation Bldg.

Referring to your memorandum of November 18th, I am returning herewith the correspondence, together with correspondence received by me, for your records.

The Spruce Falls Power and Paper Company advised me that they have forwarded a cheque for $150.00 for October rent. I think, provided the arrangements are okay from the legal point of view, that the outcome of these negotiations has been successful.

There were expenditures of some $400.00 by us for repairs to the Diesel plant at that camp and partitions for the housing of Japanese, which, taking the difference between the rent received and the rent which we have to pay out, would take care of this expenditure over a period of six months, if this proves to be satisfactory to you.

I discussed the situation over the telephone with Mr. Berry of War Assets to ascertain what action they were going to take on the letter from National Defence. He advised me, provided National Defence were sure that the property did not belong to them, that they should withdraw their declaration of surplus and hand it back to the McNamara Construction Company, first making sure that none of the Government's improvements, if any, would be handed over. We, of course, know nothing about this, as we took the camp,as is,over from National Defence.

Another point that he brought out was that provided we accept McNamara's offer and that of Spruce Falls Power and Paper, that there should be a clause in the agreement to the effect that it is not to be taken as our consent to their ownership, a matter which has yet to be proved, apparently by National Defence.

I presume that these legal matters will be cleared up by one of your assistants, and to complete our records, I would appreciate if we could be advised as to the final decision arrived at.

(R. H. DAVIDSON),
Assistant Commissioner, Japanese Placement.

RHD/IF

5th November, 1946.

Mr. A. H. Brown,
135 Confederation Bldg.

Further to our several conversations in connection with the charging of certain items that should possibly be payable by the Japanese Division to that of PW, our dear old friends, the Treasury, seem to be already taking an interest in the matter, and I think they will possibly become more so at the end of the present month when the majority of our activities cease.

I am absolutely in agreement with you in that we should charge as much as possible of the eastern operations of Japanese placement experiments to Labour Projects, and as far as I can gather Mr. MacNamara has complete and final say under the Order-in-Council as to what shall and shall not be charged. Therefore, my suggestion would be that possibly a memo to Parent authorizing somebody to okay the disposition of certain items, such as, say, travelling expenses, car allowances and expenses of certain officers who are merely lent to the Japanese Division by Labour Projects, namely, Forbes and Mortlock, as well as the running of the Fingal camp, could be charged to the Labour Projects account.

Most of the above are of an experimental nature, and it appears to me that much the simplest way of handling these experiments insofar as the Japanese Division is concerned at Vancouver, is to charge them as they are at present being charged without any interference by the Treasury, until such time as we decide whether they are worth while or not.

Your comments would be appreciated.

(R. H. DAVIDSON),
Dir. of Labour Projects PW.

RHD/IF

Copy to: Mr. C. R. McCord

CEIVED
NOV 4 1946
Department of Labour
JAPANESE DIVISION

File under
Anti Japs

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

DEPUTY MINISTER'S OFFICE

OTTAWA November 2, 19 46.

MEMORANDUM TO: Col. R. H. Davidson

Thank you for your memorandum of October 31st in regard to prisoners of war and the Japanese situation.

I think we ought to concentrate on Northern Ontario and the provinces east of Ontario.

I don't want to transfer the Japanese problem from the Pacific to the southwestern Ontario area.

A. MacNamara.

28th October, 1946.

Mr. A. H. Brown,
135 Confederation Bldg.

I am returning herewith copy of a letter from MacKinnon to Forbes, and also a letter, dated October 25th, from Forbes to me, in connection with an unsatisfactory project of the Spruce Falls Company, together with a report on another camp of the same Company, which appears to be very good.

I had thought that it was quite clear, with the exception of matters vital to policy, etc., that the operation of the eastern section was to be left in our hands in the east. As you are probably aware, this state of affairs does not exist, and although I am quite willing to abide by what decision you make, I do feel that the job we are trying to do, and I think are doing successfully, is being jeopardized by the fact that no set policy is laid down on the territory that is supposed to be under us, namely, from Winnipeg east.

We do not want to interfere in the slightest way with the policy of the Japanese Commission as run from Vancouver, the financial arrangements, reporting or anything else in that line, but the writer feels that if these camps and placements are going to be run properly, they will have to be run by us, directly under you and Mr. MacNamara.

Major Forbes has now possibly the best contacts of anyone in the Port Arthur area, which we have developed and fostered over many months, and these will be and are of great use in Japanese placement, but already are being jeopardized by constant counter orders, interference, etc., which again is beginning to creep into other areas.

I feel that a discussion of the situation would be beneficial.

(R. H. DAVIDSON),
Dir. of Labour Projects PW.

RHD/IF

23rd October, 1946.

Major G. Forbes,
P.O. Box 275,
Port Arthur, Ont.

Just a line to say that your reports re the Japanese establishments in the lumber companies were very much appreciated by both Mr. MacNamara and the Honourable Humphrey Mitchell, and I feel, as they do, that this close touch should be kept with the companies.

You might let me know from time to time how these things are progressing.

(R. H. DAVIDSON) Lt.-Col.,
Assistant Commissioner, Japanese Placement.

RHD/IF

Col. Davidson

I think everyone here agrees that inspections are essential at least until the settlements are in full operation & going smoothly!

H. Hamid

Hon Mr Mitchell

Intercalating —

amer

...er to: Mr. A. MacNamara.

Room: .....

From: A. H. Brown

Room: .....

Remarks: You may be interested in the attached reports on Japanese settlements in Northern Ontario.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

MEMORANDUM

OTTAWA. 18th October, 1946.

Mr. A. H. Brown,
135 Confederation Bldg.

Japanese Lumber Projects

Please find attached hereto three reports received from George Forbes in connection with the above-mentioned subject, which I think you will find interesting, and would appreciate your returning them to me when you are through with them.

Mr. MacKinnon is not very keen on having these projects inspected from time to time, but knowing the lumber people as I do, I feel that they should be at least checked over periodically to make sure that everything is running well. This not only protects the Japanese but ourselves, and in addition shows the lumber companies that we are taking an interest in their endeavours.

What is your reaction?

(R. H. DAVIDSON)
Dir. of Labour Projects PW.

RHD/IF

RECEIVED
OCT 22 1946
Department of Labour
JAPANESE DIVISION

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR
CANADA
RECEIVED
OCT 17 1946
Department of Labour
JAPANESE DIVISION

Box #275,
Port Arthur, Ont.,
15 Oct. 46.

Assistant Commissioner,
Department of Labour, Japanese Division,
238 Sparks Street,
Ottawa, Ont.

Inspection Report - Japanese Colony Camp 72
Pigeon Timber Co., Neys, Ont.

The m/n colony was inspected on the 7th of October last, and I found that there were 14 families in residence at this camp, leaving vacancies for 4 families.

2. From observation and conversation with the families, I found that they were comfortably housed, and apparently quite happy. The 19 cutters at the colony were averaging just over 40 cords per day. This is a splendid return for their labour, and they should become quite prosperous. Fire wood for the winter was being accumulated, and the company were furnishing the necessary transportation to haul the wood from the woods to the camp.

3. A two room school was being completed on the day of the inspection, and would be ready for occupation on the following day. I understand that there are two Japanese teachers at this colony, and at present there are 35 children of school age. The Pigeon Timber Co. are arranging to have a school board appointed, and it is expected that this board will work in conjunction with the Department of Education in Toronto and attend to such matters as salaries, books, etc.

4. It is expected that the vacancies will be filled shortly either from families now in the Neys Replacement Camp or from families who desire to move to this location from other points. I find that the Pigeon Timber Co. are preparing to erect additional buildings at this colony should there be reasonable demand.

5. This colony is located on good agricultural land and can be reached at any time of the day or night the year round by good roads. There is also telephone communication from this colony to Neys, where the company have a resident doctor.

15 Oct. 46.

6. The Pigeon Timber Co. are willing to assist the Japanese colony to bring under cultivation, land for gardening purposes. It is also expected that certain of the Japanese families will carry on chicken farming at this location. This colony could be increased to several times its present size, and there is available work the year round for the Japanese.

For your information, please.

George Forbes.

GF:FB
c.c. Commissioner

GEORGE FORBES, Major
Placement Officer.

RECEIVED
OCT 17 1946
Department of Labour
JAPANESE DIVISION

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR
CANADA

Box #275,
Port Arthur, Ont.,
15 Oct. 46.

Assistant Commissioner,
Department of Labour, Japanese Division,
238 Sparks Street,
Ottawa, Ont.

Japanese Colony - Camp 76 B
Pigeon Timber Co., Neys, Ont.

This colony was inspected on the 7th of October last, and it was found that there are two portable saw mills in operation. The saw mill crew consists of 8 or 9 workers. These crews were not filled, and were temporarily working short handed. I was informed that additional families were expected at this colony very shortly.

2. The company have already completed erection of 14 individual portable units for housing purposes. These units are well built and each should be very comfortable quarters for Japanese families. Additional buildings are now in the course of erection. The school building was practically completed, and should be ready for occupation within a few days. I understand that a teacher for this school building has been arranged for by the Supervisor of the Neys Placement Camp.

3. This camp can be reached from Neys at any time by a good road. The Pigeon Timber Co. have a resident doctor at Neys, and supplies are taken to these Japanese colonies regularly. The colony is cutting on a piece work plan and make their own arrangements as to the satisfactory division of the returns for their labour. I visited the workers, and found them very happy and interested. I have no doubt that other Japanese families will move to this colony when it becomes known that they are making good wages, there is plenty of work the year round, and that there is a splendid opportunity for gardening, chicken farming, etc.

For your information, please.

George Forbes

GF:FB
c.c. Commissioner

GEORGE FORBES, Major
Placement Officer

Box #275,
Port Arthur, Ont.,
14 Oct. 46.

RECEIVED
OCT 18 1946
Department of Labour
JAPANESE DIVISION

Major G. Forbes,
Box #275,
Port Arthur, Ont.

Report on Camps #14, 28, & 34
Pulpwood Supply - Longlac, Ont

Camp #14

I inspected Camp #14 on 9 Oct. 46. This camp is 4 miles across the lake from Longlac. The trip being made by boat in 30 minutes. This camp is being used for the housing ofJapanese women and children whose men are working for the Pulpwood Supply Company at Camp 34, Joblin, Ont. I found the camp in quite good order and the women and children all clean and well dressed. I visited the living quarters and mess hall and found everything in good order. There are20 children, 7 women and one man in this camp. Twleve of the children go to school by boat every day, the remainder being too young for school. Pulpwood Supply informed me that a teacher has been arranged for and she should be on the job by the middle of this month.

The Pulpwood Supply Company hope to have all these people out of this camp in about 5 weeks time when they will join their men at Camp #34 at Joblin. I consider that the Pulpwood Supply have done everything possible to make these Japanese women and children comfortable and happy during the absence of the men folk. I received no complaints from anyone in this camp.

Camp #34

This camp is situated 30 miles east of Nakina on the old CNR line at a place called Joblin. The site for this new Japanese camp is only 5 minutes walk from the track and is cut out of the bush. The Pulpwood Supply are building 6 large houses, a school and store with office attached. At the time of my inspection all the floors were built and ready for the walls to be put up. The Japanese are working with the Canadians in clearing the site and working a sawmill which I was told

turned out 5100 feet of lumber a day, which will be used in the building of the new camp. The food is good and the water comes from a very good spring but two wells are now being dug. There were 12 Japanese working at this camp, but 3 of them returned to Neys on the pretext of a visit to their families, but after a period of 14 days have failed to return to their work at Joblin, the names of these men will be attached to the report.

The tranportation to and from this camp is not good (at the moment) but during the winter months there will be one train each way every day whereas at present there is only two trains a week. My trip to and from the camp was made by a small gas car, the journey one way taking 45 minutes.

Communications to this camp at the moment is nil, but I was given to understand the Pulpwood Supply Company have arranged with the CNR to use their telephone line by means of tapping it if necessary.

The foreman claims that in case of sickness or accident he can have a man in Nakina Hospital in 1½ hours.

This camp should be ready for occupation in about five weeks time when the families from Camp #14 will be brought in and settled. It is my belief that the Pulpwood Supply are doing everything within their power to make a go of this new camp.

I would suggest that this project be inspected again in about a months time.

This camp comes under the usual medical supervision and Dr. McBurney of Geraldton is the doctor.

The following are the names of the Japanese men absent from this camp:- Uashida (married), S. Hamasaki (single), M. Hamasaki (single) The two latter are brothers of Mrs. Yashida now resident at Neys camp.

Camp #28

There are just two Japanese at this camp both of which are doing a grand job on the sawmill and are both very well thought of by the foreman at this camp. The camp is 12 miles west of Longlac on the Trans-Canada highway. Both Japanese

at this camp are from Neys.

I might mention that the Pulpwood Supply gave me every co-operation during my inspection of their camps.

For your information, please.

W. G. ANDREWS, Lieut.
Inspecting Officer.

George Parker Major
CHIEF INSPECTOR

23rd October, 1946.

Mr. A. H. Brown,
135 Confederation Bldg.

I am returning herewith correspondence received from The Canadian Welfare Council, with reference to the Neys camp.

It appears to me that this honourable body have overlooked the fact that Neys is not a permanent hostel and never was intended to be, but merely a redistribution centre to points where profitable employment could be found for the Japanese families.

It would appear that the opening of Neys has been beneficial in this manner, as there are some one hundred families placed in very comfortable settlements by several of the paper companies in northern Ontario, and are being paid a very profitable wage rate. This has been borne out by statements appearing in the Japanese paper from time to time, even going so far to urge their fellow Japanese to go out into this remunerative employment and this movement is continuing.

As you are aware, those who are unfit for the climatic conditions of northern Ontario or physically unfit for the work to be provided there will be moved shortly elsewhere.

When the above-mentioned movement is completed, it is planned to maintain a small hostel at Neys in conjunction with the Pigeon Timber Company for the benefit of the Japanese in northern Ontario, and at that time we hope to use the huts that will be made available in the old offices and N.C.Os. quarters now used by our camp staff where there is more privacy.

It is, of course, regretted that we are unable to provide individual housing accommodation for each Japanese family, but the housing accommodation that they are given is very much better than is given to innumerable veterans, who are at present in huts not as comfortable or as well looked after as the Japanese at Neys, who in all cases have comfortable beds, plenty of light, plenty of air, and are allowed two or three

rooms, according to the size of the family requiring it. Insofar as the children are concerned, there is plenty of ground available for them to play and also vacant buildings in which they can have recreation. They are well fed in the central cooking mess and the children get good wholesome food, on which they apparently thrive, if one takes the look of them and the condition of their health into consideration.

The hospital at Neys is looked after by a Canadian doctor, and during the war was considered one of the best camp hospitals in Ontario, with plenty of available room for quarantine quarters, although under the same roof. I do not think that the old custom of quarantining a section of a hospital is out of date insofar as carbolic sheets, etc., are used over doors in a very efficient manner with a view to isolation.

There is sufficient accommodation for all necessities in this hospital, which is very competently operated by the staff at Neys, and we have received no complaints from any other source in this connection.

The attached letter makes no suggestions as to how the above-mentioned committee would like to improve this camp or others, but if as they state the eyes of the orient are watching closely what happens to this group or any other group of Japanese in this country, they need not wear dark glasses, for provided we have the co-operation of the Japanese themselves, everything is being done to meet all exigencies for their present and future comfort. The committee's efforts might be very usefully employed in an endeavour to get this complete co-operation.

The writer would be pleased to receive any suggestions that they have to make.

Yours very truly,

(R. H. DAVIDSON),
Dir. of Labour Projects PW.

RHD/IF

23rd October, 1946.

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135 Confederation Bldg.

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Yours very truly,

(R. H. DAVIDSON),
Dir. of Labour Projects PW.

RHD/IF

24th September, 1946.

Mr. A. H. Brown,
135 Confederation Bldg.

Further to recent discussions, as you are aware, we are formulating a system here with a view to keeping track of placements, etc., of the eastern section of the Japanese Division, and I feel that some sort of a weekly or semi-monthly report sent to you for your and Mr. MacNamara's perusal would be of advantage.

I do not exactly know what information would be beneficial to you, but I am attaching herewith a suggested form, which I would like you to look over and make such changes or additions as you feel would be helpful.

(R. H. DAVIDSON),
Dir. of Labour Projects PW.

RHD/IF

24th September, 1946.

Mr. A. H. Brown,
135 Confederation Bldg.

It was deeply regretted that you were unable to attend, even for part time, the meeting that has just been completed of the eastern section of the Japanese Division, which, I think, was very beneficial to all, and undoubtedly helped each individual member to assess the difficulties that were confronting other districts, and tended towards bringing the loose ends together, which I hope ultimately will form a complete unit.

It was very advantageous to us to have Mrs. Booth here, as she was able to take back to Mr. MacKinnon a complete verbal report of all that transpired, and give him the ground to form such policies as he sees fit, insofar as education, hostel rental costs and other items of a like nature are concerned.

A suggested follow-up system and method of recording new arrivals, placements, etc., was enthusiastically concurred in by all, as was a system to expedite the filling of employment vacancies, or advising the prospective employer that such a type was unobtainable.

The members of the Employment Service who attended were of great assistance to us, and I think we can be in a small way of assistance to them. As a start, I am supplying a complete list of available Japanese families from our master sheets here to their representative in Ottawa, which will also be corrected from our forms J.E. 2 and 3 each week, so that they will have a clear picture as to what is available at our hostels and thus keep a close lookout for opportunities. Should this prove satisfactory in Ottawa, we intend to extend it to other employment localities, such as Kingston, Cornwall, etc. Mr. Mactavish is going to make a tour of all the Employment Service offices within a radius of one hundred miles from Toronto, commencing immediately.

There were innumerable inter-hostel problems straightened out. Mr. Burns and Major Forbes

on their return journey to Port Arthur are stopping off at Fingal and North Bay to size up the situation there.

This is just a rough record of what transpired, and I do not doubt that in conversation I can convey to you a complete picture of what transpired, as also can Mr. Pammett, who successfully withstood the strain and attended the complete meeting as your representative.

(R. H. DAVIDSON),
Dir. of Labour Projects PW.

RHD/IF

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

OTTAWA, September 20th, 1946.

MEMORANDUM

To: Colonel R. H. Davidson.

I have your memorandum of September 20th with reference to the meeting of Supervisors, Japanese Division, on September 23rd, commencing at 10:15 a.m.

I plan to attend part of the meeting, if possible, but I think it would be advisable for you to act as Chairman throughout the meeting. I do not think it will be possible for Mr. MacNamara to attend, although I will speak to him.

A. H. Brown.

RECEIVED
SEP 21 19
Department of Labour
P.O.W.

20th September, 1946.

Mr. A. H. Brown,
135 Confederation Bldg.

With further reference to the meeting of the eastern Japanese sections to be held in these offices on September 23rd, it is proposed to commence this meeting at 10:15 a.m., provided the western train is on time.

As per previous conversations, it is hoped that you will be able to attend at least part of the time as chairman.

The following is a list of those who are expected to attend:

Mr. Brown	Chairman
Mr. Pammett	Ottawa
Mrs. Booth	Vancouver
Mr. Burns	Neys
Mr. Aydon	Neys
Mr. Mactavish	Toronto
Mr. Trueman	Toronto
Mr. Symes	Fingal
Mr. Beaudet	Farnham
Major Forbes	Port Arthur
Lieut. Andrews	Port Arthur (NORTH BAY)
Mr. Richter	Ottawa
Major Kemble	Secretary
R. H. Davidson	V-Chairman
Mr. Benoit	Employment Services

Numerous subjects will be brought up for discussion, with a view to formulating a simple plan of co-operation and intensifying a reallocation programme.

It would be appreciated if you have any subjects you wish discussed or any direction for this meeting that you would advise me at your convenience.

It would be greatly appreciated if Mr. MacNamara could say a few words, but I presume that this would be impossible, owing to the heavy volume of business

that he has at the moment. I would like to ask him, but hesitate for that reason.

(R. H. DAVIDSON),
Dir. of Labour Projects PW.

RHD/IF

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

OTTAWA,

MEMORANDUM Mr. A.H. Brown:

September 12, 1946

I suppose we will have to agree that the statement does not indicate by any means a balanced distribution.

Should we not start concentrating on Saskatchewan and Manitoba and some of the eastern provinces?

I know the reasons of course but I do feel that we are approaching the danger line insofar as Ontario is concerned.

amacN

A. MacNamara

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

6

DEPUTY MINISTER'S OFFICE

OTTAWA, September 11 1946.

MEMORANDUM to Mr. MacNamara.

Attached is report on distribution of Japanese in Canada as of the 31st of August.

You will note the number in British Columbia has been reduced to 7946. This probably will be reduced by further voluntary repatriation to probably 7500 of whom 1900 will be in settlements and 5600 elsewhere. I would assume that this number will be still further reduced by the end of October to probably 1400 in the settlements and the number increased to 5800 outside or a total of 7200 in B.C. This estimate is conservative in that it will represent the maximum number remaining in the settlements and in British Columbia by that time. You will note the major movement is to Ontario which number at the end of August increased to 6025. I would assume that the bulk of future movements this year will be to Ontario and might bring the maximum into Ontario at the end of the Fall to 7,000 persons.

Of the Japanese outside British Columbia at August 31st, there are, I would assume, between 12 and 1300 housed in our various hostels.

The policy has been to refuse Japanese in the settlements the opportunity of moving into private employment and accommodation in British Columbia during the course of the current year and to require them to make an election as to employment and residence elsewhere in Canada.

I believe we should continue to enforce this policy during the balance of this year but that next Spring, in endeavouring to wind up our settlement operations in British Columbia, we should not place any obstacles in the way of permitting movement from the settlements to other places in British Columbia. It may be that we will, at that time, have no further control over movement in any event.

A. H. Brown.

JAPANESE POPULATION
IN THE DOMINION OF CANADA

AS OF AUGUST 31ST, 1946.

	JAP. NAT.	NAT. CAN.	CAN. BORN	U.S. CIT.	INTER -WED	TOTALS		
BRITISH COLUMBIA								
Interior Housing								
Tashme	2	3	9			14		
New Denver	160	173	338		1	662		
New Denver San.	13	12	50			75		
Rosebery	29	39	54			122		
Slocan City	113	87	265			465		
Bay Farms	56	7	178			241		
Popoff Farms	54	43	126			223		
Lemon Creek	117	59	342			518		
Greenwood	13	18	42			73	2393	
At Other Points Throughout B.C.	1114	751	2733	1	3	4602	4602	
Registered Outside Prohibited Area (Not Evacuated)	283	89	497		7	876	876	
Miscellaneous:								
Juvenile Detention Home			1			1		
Essondale Mental Hospital	19	6	20			45		
Oakalla Prison Farm			1			1		
Intermarriages Inside Area					28	28	75	7946
TOTAL BRITISH COLUMBIA	1973	1287	4646	1	39	7946	7946	7946
ALBERTA								
Evacuated	782	368	2492	2	6	3650		
Resident Before	91	99	372		7	569	4219	4219
TOTAL ALBERTA	873	467	2864	2	13	4219	4219	4219
SASKATCHEWAN								
Evacuated	114	53	224			391		
Resident Before	16	28	38		8	90	481	481
TOTAL SASKATCHEWAN	131	81	261		8	481	481	481
MANITOBA								
Evacuated	306	157	924		3	1390		
Resident Before	6	8	6		3	23	1413	1413
TOTAL MANITOBA	312	165	930		6	1413	1413	1413
ONTARIO								
Northern Evacuated	296	117	849	1	1	1264		
Southern Evacuated	836	466	3318	7	8	4636		
Resident Before	41	17	49	1	18	125	6025	6025
TOTAL ONTARIO	1173	600	4216	9	27	6025	6025	6025

	JAP. NAT.	NAT. CAN.	CAN. BORN	U.S. CIT.	INTER -WED	TOTALS		
QUEBEC								
Evacuated	196	130	742	1	4	1073		
Resident Before	6	6	8		6	26	1099	1099
TOTAL QUEBEC	202	136	750	1	10	1099	1099	1099
NOVA SCOTIA								
Resident Before	1					1	1	1
TOTAL NOVA SCOTIA	1					1	1	1
NEW BRUNSWICK								
Evacuated	2		8			10	10	10
TOTAL NEW BRUNSWICK	2		8			10	10	10
YUKON & NORTHWEST TERRITORIES								
Evacuated	1		1			2		
Resident Before	5	9	14			28	30	30
TOTAL YUKON & N.W.T.	6	9	15			30	30	30
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND								
Evacuated	2		4			6	6	6
TOTAL PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	2		4			6	6	6
S U M M A R Y								
British Columbia	1973	1287	4646	1	39	7946		
Alberta	873	467	2864	2	13	4219		
Saskatchewan	131	81	261		8	481		
Manitoba	312	165	930		6	1413		
Ontario	1173	600	4216	9	27	6025		
Quebec	202	136	750	1	10	1099		
Nova Scotia	1					1		
New Brunswick	2		8			10		
Yukon & Northwest Territories	6	9	15			30		
Prince Edward Island	2		4			6	21230	
TOTAL JAPANESE IN CANADA	4675	2745	13694	13	103	21230	21230	

Box #275,
Port Arthur, Ont.,
10 Sep. 46.

Mr. H. Brown,
Assistant Deputy Minister,
Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Brown:

The following is a condensed report on my trip to the H.Q. of the Japanese Division at Vancouver, and on what progress has been made for re-establishment, delays for same, and possible remedies for consideration.

At Vancouver, the writer spent a week in endeavour to absorb as much knowledge as possible on what had gone before, and the operation of the division at present. With the assistance of Mr. MacKinnon and Mr. Pickerskill coupled with that of the rest of the staff, a very clear picture was available.

I spent a very profitable day at Tashme with Mr. MacKinnon and was amazed at the amount of thoughtful planning that must have gone into it to make it the perfect and almost self-supporting camp that it was. The whole plant was a revelation. I also visited the ghost town of Greenwood, more to complete the picture than anything else. I took advantage of the holiday to do this.

On my return, I spent two days with Col. Doughty at Calgary, visiting PW camps at Strathmore and Brooks, and I also had the pleasure of seeing the two Irishmen, Gore-Hickman and Doughty in action. Col. Doughty has done and is doing a splendid job and well merits the confidence and support that you have given him. His man Brown at Strathmore will also be very valuable to some department when we are through with him. He has all the veteran qualifications.

I spent two days at Winnipeg on both PW and Japanese business, and had an exceptionally pleasant interview with Col. Campbell and Mr. Evans of the Manitoba government, Both of these men were very enthusiastic over the help that the Department of Labour had given them, and the co-operation that they had received from Mr. MacNamara and yourself.

The PW Projects are going well, the harvesting of the beet crop will be commence on the 23rd. The stooking will be completed and the PW returned from individual farms to the beet camps prior to that date, and in spite of the fact that they expect a record crop, they hope to have the harvesting completed by the end of October.

10 Sep. 46.

C. B. Campbell, our Jap placement officer for Manitoba appears to be an active and enthusiastic officer. Transcona will be closed at the end of the current month, and those left unplaced will be moved to Neys and Angler. It is surprising the amount of activity that has been developed by the Japanese to effect self-placement now that they have been convinced that Transcona will be closed. I doubt if there will be many to move to other camps when Sep. 30 rolls around. Arrangements have been made for Campbell to continue active placement work and supervision of Manitoba under Burns and Forbes, drawing his supplies from Neys and Angler. He is fully aware of the necessity of placing more Japs in Manitoba. The general feeling respecting these people in this Province would appear to be good. We are shipping some needed articles to Neys and Fingal on the closing of this hostel.

The main activity at the moment centres around Port Arthur with Neys and Angler.

Burns, Forbes and myself had a long conference, going over the ground carefully and laying plans for future operations. There are inumerable employment situations available throughout several of the lumber companies, but since the educational program has been outlined to the inhabitants at Neys, there has been little, if any, response to these offers, and Burns fears that a similar situation may develop at these two camps as did in those in B.C. Arrangements have been made to supply educational facilities to the various company camps which they propose to convert to house the Japs, but the Japs appear to be content to stay in Neys, where they are housed and educated, particularly insofar as the high school age is concerned.

At present, Pigeon, Spruce Falls and Great Lakes are willing to go along with us at once, but to date we have been unable to fill up the first camp at Pigeon for the above reason. They very definitely prefer the discomforts at Neys with education and no work, to work, comparative comfort, and education at the camps. We have started a "whispering campaign" which will possibly be effective, if Burns & Co have the ingenuity to have the answers ready.

I am attaching hereto an excellent report from Capt. Mortlock on Hearst, together with a letter containing the Spruce Falls offer. I think this might be accepted. This Company sent their own Japanese employees to visit Neys, but have not received very much encouragement to date from their fellow tribesmen, and in an interview with Major Forbes, they laid the lack of volunteers, to the proposed educational program, which has apparently been laid out on a permanent hostel basis rather than for a redistribution centre which both Neys and Angler are.

Another question that is coming up in a few weeks is - what is going to be the policy towards the 500-600 Nationals who were allowed out for seasonal work at Vernon and Kelowana. It is understood from the R.C.M.P. that they were definitely told at the time that when the work was finished they would be either sent east of west. There are all said to be able-bodied men with normal families and would be very useful in the lumber and other industries in Northern Ontario.

10 Sep. 46

I inspected Angler, where accomodation for some 300 is ready in the various huts occupied by the Army outside the old wire. Further accomodation can be made available on very short notice to house another 300 to 400.

I hope that you will have time to discuss this report in the near future so that we can get action at Neys, and also possibly there are some matters that may need clarification.

(R. H. DAVIDSON) Lt. Col.,
Assistant Commissioner.

RHD:EB
Encl.
c.c. J. F. MacKinnon