

LESSON **3**

DISPOSSESSION

Kimiko and Riye Nakamura posing in the Nakamura Florist Shop on Powell St., Vancouver, B.C. ca. 1939.
Nikkei National Museum 2012.10.11.254

Focus Question

3

Was the government's decision to liquidate Japanese Canadian property made in good faith?

LESSON **3**

THE TAGASHIRA FAMILY

Rinkichi Tagashira made special arrangements to protect his Vancouver business, the Tagashira Trading Company, from government control. The business had allowed Tagashira to buy a home and other investment properties. In 1942, he, his partner Masue, and their two children looked toward a hopeful future.

When they heard that they would be uprooted, the family acted quickly. Masue boxed up their belongings and locked them in their attic. Tagashira placed the Company under the temporary ownership of a former employee, James Y. Lim.

At first, the arrangement was successful. It kept the Tagashira Trading Company out of government hands for two years. The profits provided the family with some additional spending money in the internment. Tagashira planned to return to the business when the ordeal ended.

The government pressured Tagashira to sell, but he held firm. Then in 1944, Rinkichi was outraged to learn that his store manager intended to allow the government to seize the company. Key suppliers had boycotted the store because it was still Japanese-Canadian owned. Government officials argued that it would fail because its Japanese-Canadian customers were interned. Lim believed that the business would soon fail.

Tagashira was not convinced.

“My manager and I are making money not losing,” he wrote. He did not believe that the plan to sell his sole source of income was in his “best interest.” He sent repeated letters protesting the sale.

But his protests were of little use. His store was sold without his permission. His family’s

personal belongings from the attic were auctioned off at 25 cents a box. The government sold his business for a mere fraction of its worth.



LESSON OVERVIEW

◆ ALLOTTED TIME: 7 PERIODS

Students investigate the change in government policy, with respect to the property of Japanese Canadians, from one of custodial trusteeship, to one of forced sales. Students examine the causes of the change in policy and then assess whether the change was made in good faith. The lesson concludes by examining reactions from Japanese Canadians to the forced sale of their property and the responses from the Custodian of Alien Property.

LESSON RESOURCES

The following handouts are provided for your use with this lesson. These materials are located at the back of this resource package.

HANDOUTS

- **Handout 3.1** Think About It!
- **Handout 3.2** Writing for *The New Canadian*
- **Handout 3.3** Austin Taylor's Statement in *The New Canadian*
- **Handout 3.4** Letter Writing Rubric
- **Handout 3.5** Viewpoints of Dispossession
- **Handout 3.6** Mock Question Period
- **Handout 3.7** A Promise Broken
- **Handout 3.8** Did the Federal Government Act in Good Faith?
- **Handout 3.9** Continuum Debate
- **Handout 3.10** Letters of Protest
- **Handout 3.11** The Custodian's Response

SOURCES

- **Source 3.1** War Measures Act (1914)
- **Source 3.2** Order-in-Council PC 1665
- **Source 3.3** Notice to All Japanese Persons
- **Source 3.4** Order-in-Council PC 2483
- **Source 3.5** *The New Canadian*, 6 April 1942
- **Source 3.6** Memo: Angus to King
- **Source 3.7(a)** Memo: Macnamara to Collins
- **Source 3.7(b)** Memo: Macnamara to Coleman
- **Source 3.8** Memo: McPherson to Coleman
- **Source 3.9** Dispossession Backgrounder
- **Source 3.10** *Vancouver Sun*, 24 July 1942
- **Source 3.11** Vancouver Town Planning Council Meeting Minutes
- **Source 3.12** *Vancouver Sun*, 15 July 1942
- **Source 3.13** MP Ian Mackenzie's Speech
- **Source 3.14** Memo: Barnett to Murchison
- **Source 3.15** Memo: Read to Robertson
- **Source 3.16** Notice of Estate Sale
- **Source 3.17** Map of Properties, Maple Ridge
- **Source 3.18** Conference on Japanese Problems

TARGETED LEARNING

- Analyze changing government policy regarding Japanese Canadian owned property
- Understand and assess the role of bureaucrats, Japanese Canadians and public opinion in the change of policy from trusteeship to forced sales
- Understand the complexity, motivations, rationales, and fluidity of the decision to dispossess Japanese Canadians of their property
- Understand the implicit ethical underpinnings of making a promise and acting in good faith
- Assess government policy and make an ethical judgment. Was government action valid, reasonable, respectful, and proportional in light of the issues of the day?
- Understand the tools and means with which Japanese Canadians protested the forced sale of their property
- Assess government response to the protests of Japanese Canadians and the processes available to them for compensation

EVALUATION

Assessment will be left to the individual instructor and may incorporate the assessment rubrics provided with this resource.

- **Source 3.19** Letter of Protest: T. Fukumoto
- **Source 3.20** Letter of Protest: R. Tagashira
- **Source 3.21** Letter of Protest: A. Suzuki
- **Source 3.22** Letter of Protest: T. Hoshiko
- **Source 3.23** Letter of Protest: U. Oikawa
- **Source 3.24** Letter of Protest: H.K. Naruse
- **Source 3.25** Letter of Protest: S. Odagaki
- **Source 3.26** Letter of Protest: R. Yoneyama
- **Source 3.27** Reply to T. Fukumoto
- **Source 3.28** Reply to R. Tagashira
- **Source 3.29** Reply to A. Suzuki
- **Source 3.30** Reply to T. Hoshiko
- **Source 3.31** Reply to U. Oikawa
- **Source 3.32** Reply to H.K. Naruse
- **Source 3.33** Reply to S. Odagaki
- **Source 3.34** Reply to R. Yoneyama

FOUR CORNERS ACTIVITY

◆ SUGGESTED TIME: 20 MINUTES

LEARNING RESOURCES REQUIRED

- Whiteboard or LCD Projector
- Paper signs

Do you trust your government? Would you expect the government to do the right thing? This activity asks students to consider those questions among others as a lead-in to a much deeper examination of the role of government in the forced sale of Japanese Canadian owned property.

1. Place signs around the room, with the words “Agree,” “Disagree,” and “Can’t Decide,” and “Don’t Know” in different areas of the room (leave enough room for students to stand near/under the signs. Read each of the questions below aloud and ask students to walk to the sign/response they most agree with. Discuss each question, asking students to share opinions about why they are leaning to that particular view. Encourage responses even if not well formed at this point.
 - I trust the government to always do what is right
 - Canada is a tolerant country
 - Physical possessions are not important at all
 - The law should always be obeyed without question.
2. Transition the lesson by connecting the issues discussed here, including trust in government, tolerance of others, fairness in treatment before the law, and the importance of obeying laws to the uprooting, evacuation, internment and, eventual dispossession of property faced by Japanese Canadians in the 1940s.

THINK ABOUT IT!

◆ SUGGESTED TIME: 45 MINUTES

LEARNING RESOURCES REQUIRED

- **Handout 3.1** Think About It!
- **Handout 3.2** Writing for *The New Canadian*
- **Source 3.1** War Measures Act (1914)
- **Source 3.2** Order-in-Council PC 1665
- **Source 3.3** Notice to All Japanese Persons

In this activity we will examine the connection between the War Measures Act and the enactment of many Orders-In-Council which impacted the lives of Japanese Canadians after Canada declared war against Japan in 1941. Groups will discuss two pieces of legislation and consider the reactions within the Japanese Canadian community.

1. Distribute **Handout 3.1 Think About It!** along with **Source 3.1 War Measures Act (1914)** and **Source 3.2 Order-in-Council PC 1665**.
 - Student pairs or groups discuss the questions, recording the answers on **Handout 3.1**.
 - Students share their responses in a class wide discussion. Answers will vary.
2. Provide students with copies of **Handout 3.2 Writing for *The New Canadian*** and **Source 3.3 Notice to All Japanese Persons**.
 - Tell the students about *The New Canadian* newspaper, a Japanese Canadian owned and operated publication. It was the only source that reported broadly on government actions from a Japanese Canadian point of view.
 - Take some time to walk through the details in **Source 3.3**.
 - What were the restrictions it imposed?
 - Who was impacted by the notice?
 - **Handout 3.2** asks students to take on the role of a Japanese Canadian family and write about their experiences of uprooting, and the seizure of their property.

VIEWPOINTS ON DISPOSSESSION

◆ SUGGESTED TIME: 90 MINUTES

LEARNING RESOURCES REQUIRED

- **Handout 3.5** Viewpoints on Dispossession
- **Handout 3.6** Mock Question Period
- **Source 3.6** Memo: Angus to King
- **Source 3.7(a)** Memo: MacNamara to Collins
- **Source 3.7(b)** Memo: MacNamara to Coleman
- **Source 3.8** Memo: McPherson to Coleman

Opinions on what to do with Japanese Canadian owned property varied greatly both within and outside government circles. In this activity students learn that there were a number of complex viewpoints behind the decision to forcibly sell Japanese Canadian property. The goals of federal, provincial, and municipal politicians and bureaucrats factored significantly in the evolution of policy.

1. Distribute **Handout 3.5 Viewpoints on Dispossession** and three memos, **Sources 3.6–3.8**, authored by different officials working within the federal bureaucracy in the spring of 1942:
 - Have students read the differing opinions of three federal bureaucrats involved in the policy discussion:
 - Undersecretary of State – Henry F. Angus
 - Deputy Minister of Labour – Arthur MacNamara
 - Director of the Vancouver Office of the Custodian – Glenn McPherson
 - Using **Handout 3.5**, students complete the chart, noting the different points of view on forced property sales. Students should focus on the following themes as they read each of the source documents: citizenship, democratic values, fairness and fair play, property rights, and civil rights.
2. Students use the evidence and understandings gathered in the previous activity to participate in a Mock Question Period. Provide students with a copy of **Handout 3.6 Mock Question Period**. Prior to engaging the students in this activity teachers are advised to introduce the concept of question period as a mechanism through which the opposition parties question the ruling party (the government) on policy decisions. Remind them that the questions must relate to the forced sales of all Japanese Canadian owned property without owner consent or agreement.

NB: The invocation of the War Measures Act in 1939 gave the federal government the authority to enact legislation without debate in the House of Commons. None of the Orders-in-Council would have been debated in parliament nor would the ministers' responsible be called to account in a question period.
3. Mock Question Period:
 - Divide the class into four or five groups of students.
 - Assign one group to represent the government of Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King. The other three to four groups are opposition parties but need no official name or party affiliation.
 - All groups will use the information recorded in **Handout 3.5**, and additional research as directed by the teacher, to prepare for Question Period. The focus of question period will be the possible shift from a policy of property trusteeship to one of forced sales.

4. Review the reverse of **Handout 3.6** to assist students with understanding the expectations for the Mock Question Period activity.
 - For added authenticity you may request that your students dress formally and set your room up in a linear fashion to resemble the House of Commons.

VOICES OF PROTEST

◆ SUGGESTED TIME: 60 MINUTES

LEARNING RESOURCES REQUIRED

- **Handout 3.3** Austin Taylor's Statement
- **Handout 3.4** Letter Writing Rubric
- **Source 3.4** Order-in-Council PC 2483
- **Source 3.5** *The New Canadian*, 6 April 1942

The policy of forced sales evolved slowly and was enacted through a series of steps through Orders-in-Council (O.I.C.). O.I.C. PC 1665 began the shift toward wholesale forced sales but did not enact it, while O.I.C. PC 2483 strengthened the promise to protect the property of Japanese Canadians in the midst of uprooting and internment. Japanese Canadians had concerns about the safeguards being taken for their property. Concerned with the potential for unrest, disobedience and an orderly uprooting the government enacted O.I.C. PC 2483. This lesson examines that enactment.

1. Intro/Icebreaker: Ask students to list their three most prized possessions. Then, tell them to imagine that they have to give up two of them.
 - Which one would they choose to keep?
 - How would they feel about giving up the other two things?
2. Order-in-Council PC 2483 strengthened the promise to protect Japanese Canadian property. It was published only three weeks after the initial promise to protect was made in O.I.C. PC 1665. Distribute **Source 3.4 Order-in-Council PC 2483**.
 - Post these questions for the students to consider while reading the excerpt from O.I.C. PC 2483:
 - (1) Why did the government feel it was necessary to reassure Japanese Canadians that their property would be protected?
 - (2) Within months of this enactment the government will reverse course and forcibly sell all Japanese Canadian property. Why did they make this promise if the intention was to sell the property?
3. Distribute **Handout 3.3 Austin Taylor's Statement** and **Source 3.5 *The New Canadian*, 6 April 1942**. Have students read Taylor's statement in *The New Canadian* and complete the questions in the handout. Explore students' understanding by reviewing responses to the questions.
4. Letter to The Editor – You are a Japanese Canadian community leader. You have just read Austin Taylor's statement in *The New Canadian*, but you are one of the few Japanese Canadians who has read the actual text of O.I.C. PC 2483. Write a private letter to Austin Taylor expressing your reaction to his statement. Make sure to convey the emotional response as well as facts to back up your points.
 - Teachers may choose to have students share these letters in a variety of ways: post them on the wall in a Gallery Walk, read them aloud, or hand them in for assessment.
 - Optional: Assess students' writing using **Handout 3.4 Letter Writing Rubric**.

A PROMISE BROKEN

◆ SUGGESTED TIME: 120 MINUTES

LEARNING RESOURCES REQUIRED

- **Handout 3.7** A Promise Broken
- **Handout 3.8** In Good Faith?
- **Handout 3.9** Continuum Debate
- **Source 3.9** Dispossession Backgrounder
- **Source 3.10** *Vancouver Sun*, 24 July 1942
- **Source 3.11** V.T.P.C. Meeting Minutes
- **Source 3.12** *Vancouver Sun*, 15 July 1942
- **Source 3.13** MP Ian Mackenzie's Speech
- **Source 3.14** Memo: Barnett to Murchison
- **Source 3.15** Memo: Read to Robertson
- **Source 3.16** Notice of Estate Sale
- **Source 3.17** Map of Properties, Maple Ridge
- **Source 3.18** Conference on Japanese Problems

Using multiple sources and presenting a variety of perspectives, students address the question of why government policy changed from trusteeship to the forced sale of Japanese Canadian owned property. Students will be provided with archival evidence from government bureaucrats, Japanese Canadians, and In-betweens (agents, lawyers, auctioneers, and the media). Students apply evidence gathered from these sources in an attempt to answer two questions:

1. Ask students to raise their hands if they ever made a promise [a statement of commitment to do or not do something specific]. Have them keep their hands up if they have kept every promise they have ever made.
 - Discuss what is a promise and what are the elements of a promise?
2. Post the following statements about promises and tell your students that they will pair up and respond to each statement with agree or disagree. They must be prepared to explain their position:
 - Promises are meant to be broken
 - Never promise what you cannot deliver
 - Some promises are not worth keeping
 - A promise means everything, but once broken sorry means nothing
 - A promise must never be broken
 - If you wish to be a success in the world, promise everything, deliver nothing

In the debrief highlight the connection between keeping a promise and ethical considerations like trustworthiness, fairness, equity, and keeping one's word. Discuss how some might interpret a promise like a contract, something that is binding and meant to be completed.
3. Explain to the students that they will examine the possible causes for the change in federal policy toward Japanese Canadian owned property. Prior to embarking on the activity, it is recommended that you read/review/share **Source 3.9 Dispossession Backgrounder**. This will provide context and familiarity with names, chronology of events and details about the change in policy toward Japanese Canadian owned property as legislated by Order-in-Council PC 469.
 - Provide student pairs with **Handout 3.7 A Promise Broken**. This activity will also introduce students to the Historical Thinking Concept Cause and Consequence. Take some time to review the elements of cause and consequence on the front of the handout.
 - Students will use the varied source materials to consider the causes for the decision to move from a policy of trusteeship to the forced sale of property.
 - Provide student pairs with sets of archival material from **Sources 3.10–3.18**. There are a range of items including government memos, maps, advertisements, newspaper articles, and the minutes from meetings.

1) *What were the causes for the change in policy?*
and

2) *Was the decision to change policy made in
good faith?*

- Review the fishbone diagram from **Handout 3.7** and instruct students to search out three distinct causes by examining the archival materials. The various source documents indicate a variety of possible causes for the change in policy: public opinion in BC, media influence, anti-Asian sentiment, cost of storing and caring for Japanese Canadian property, the legality of forced sales, the desire to claim farm land for the Soldier Settlement Board, government deception, and the perishability of property and goods.
- Students record a possible cause, using as few words as possible, then record three pieces of evidence from the documents supporting the cause.
- Students will struggle with this activity and will need guidance in uncovering the evidence within the source materials and learning how to connect evidence to cause. It is recommended that you circulate and check in with the pairs frequently as they break down the sources.
- Allow at least 45 minutes for this step and then debrief examples from the students. Allow students to add to their understanding by revising their diagrams during the debrief.

4. After debriefing the fishbone diagram, students are ready to assess the actions of the government.

- Organize students into groups of 3–5 students, and provide a copy of **Handout 3.8 Did the Federal Government Act in Good Faith**.
- Explain that in this activity they will make an ethical judgment about whether the government acted in good faith.
- Review the elements of Ethical Judgment and Good Faith outlined in **Handout 3.8**.
- Students complete the chart in **Handout 3.8** by using the sources and information from the fishbone diagram. Each group enters five examples of Sincere/Reasonable/Fair action, then enter this on the chart. Encourage students to use the guiding questions from the handout to aid with this process.
- The columns in **Handout 3.8** are designed to allow students to enter examples in support of good faith behaviour and examples that indicate actions were not in good faith. Students should not enter responses that only support one view. Encourage complexity in the examples they select for each category. Allow 45 minutes for this step.

- Bring the class together as a whole and debrief the activity by discussing these questions:

- (1) Were early policies meant to deceive Japanese Canadians and ensure compliance?
- (2) Did the racist views of politicians or bureaucrats guide policy making?
- (3) Alternatively, were policy decisions a product of a more neutral and paternal approach to caring for Japanese Canadians and their property?
- (4) What conflicting pressures were considered in the government's decision making?
- (5) Which voices seem to have carried more weight in the policy change?
- (6) What were the competing legal issues that were considered?

5. Optional Activity: **Handout 3.9 Continuum Debate** outlines an informal class debate. Students share their viewpoint about the actions of the federal government. Students go through three rounds of debate and adjust their position based on new information and points of view.

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS: LETTERS OF PROTEST

◆ SUGGESTED TIME: 120 MINUTES

LEARNING RESOURCES REQUIRED

- **Handout 3.10** Letters of Protest
- **Handout 3.11** The Custodian's Response
- **Source 3.19** Letter of Protest: T. Fukumoto
- **Source 3.20** Letter of Protest: R. Tagashira
- **Source 3.21** Letter of Protest: A. Suzuki
- **Source 3.22** Letter of Protest: T. Hoshiko
- **Source 3.23** Letter of Protest: U. Oikawa
- **Source 3.24** Letter of Protest: H.K. Naruse
- **Source 3.25** Letter of Protest: S. Odagaki
- **Source 3.26** Letter of Protest: R. Yoneyama
- **Source 3.27** Reply to T. Fukumoto
- **Source 3.28** Reply to R. Tagashira
- **Source 3.29** Reply to A. Suzuki
- **Source 3.30** Reply to T. Hoskio
- **Source 3.31** Reply to U. Oikawa
- **Source 3.32** Reply to H.K. Naruse
- **Source 3.33** Reply to S. Odagaki
- **Source 3.34** Reply to R. Yoneyama

During the 1940s, Canada enacted mass displacement of people and dispossession of property on racial grounds — a collective moral failure that remains only partially addressed.

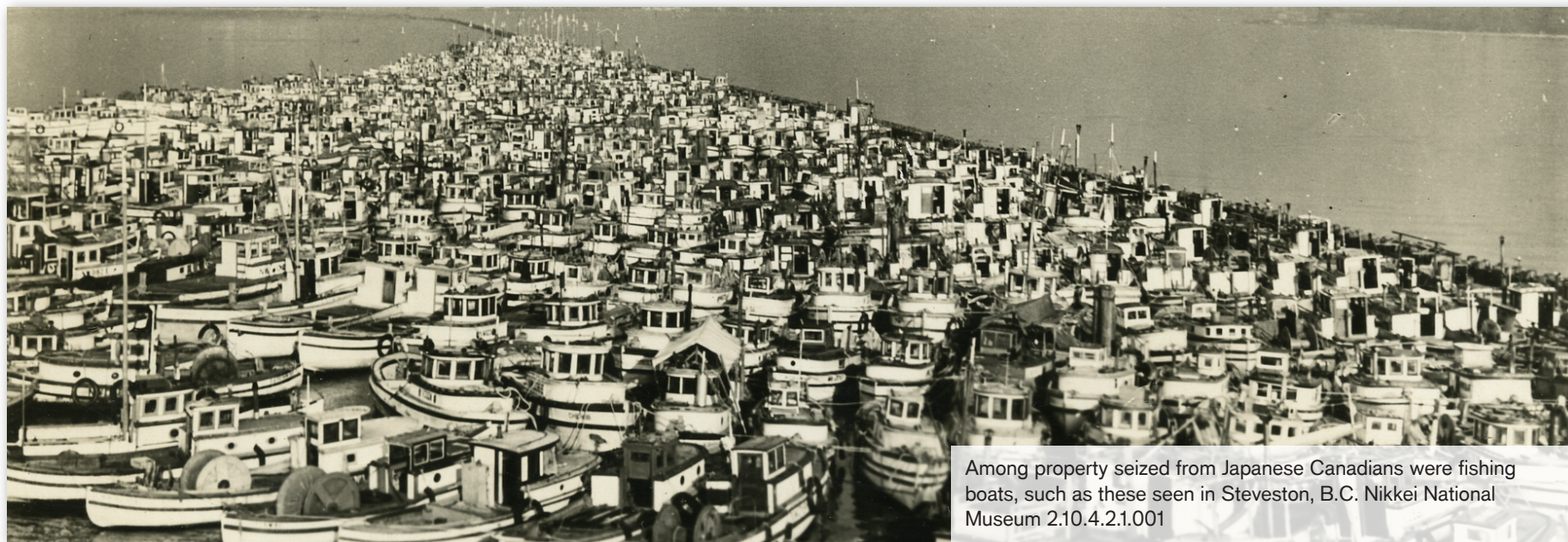
1. In this activity students will examine selected letters of protest written by Japanese Canadians to the Office of the Custodian arguing, pleading, and requesting that their property be preserved. Hundreds of letters were written: this is a small sample of the kinds of protests shared with the Custodian.
2. Put students into groups of 2–3 and provide **Handout 3.10 Letters of Protest**. One handout is to be completed by each small group for each letter they are assigned.
 - Provide one or more of the letters of protest to each group, **Sources 3.19–3.26**. At this time provide only the letter of protest, not the reply from the Custodian. Explain that these letters represent a small sample of the thousands written, and that the authors come from a wide range of backgrounds. They suffered different kinds of loss and used different approaches when writing to the Custodian.
 - Allow sufficient time for a thorough reading and analysis of the letters and then bring the class together to debrief the notes recorded.
 - In the debrief take care to identify the varied themes and threads found in the letters of protest. Consider the emotional tone, explicit or implicit, in each letter and try to convey this to your students.
3. After the debrief, distribute the corresponding reply from the Custodian to the appropriate student groups (**Sources 3.27–3.34**). Each reply is a specific response from the Custodian to a letter examined in step 2.
 - Provide student groups with **Handout 3.11 The Custodian's Response**. Prior to having the students examine the replies, have them consider the following questions from the viewpoint of the families:
 - What is the anticipated response?
 - What action from the Custodian would satisfy the protest?
 - How would the Custodian's response impact the family?
 - Instruct students to complete the survey in **Handout 3.11**. Students fill in the survey and explain the reasons for the choices made.
 - Debrief student responses. Using the information gathered by the students take some time to probe the responses for validity, accuracy and depth of understanding.

Japanese Canadians lost their homes, farms, businesses, as well as personal, family, and communal possessions. This series of activities engages students in reading and reflecting upon the many voices that protested the forced sales. Students will also encounter responses from the Custodian and consider how many families were impacted permanently by the loss of property, income, place, and future.

4. Write a reply to the Custodian. Explain that each student will take the role of the author from the letter assigned in step 2 and will be writing a response to the Custodian's reply.
 - The response should reference the initial questions raised by the author and the response from the Custodian's reply.

LESSON 3 HANDOUT 3.1 THINK ABOUT IT!

1. Explain how the War Measures Act was used by the government to enact strict measures against Japanese Canadians.
2. What section of the War Measures Act gave the government the authority to control their property? Why was this provision included in the Act?
3. Do you agree that in times of 'war, invasion, or insurrection' that the government should be given absolute power, and to be able to ignore civil rights and property rights?
4. Read the excerpt from O.I.C. PC 1665. What does this section allow the government to do with Japanese Canadian property?
5. Why would the government want to seize, and take trusteeship over the property of Japanese Canadians at this time?
6. Why was it deemed necessary as a 'protective measure' to seize the property of Japanese Canadians?
7. How might Japanese Canadians have felt, after hearing that their homes, businesses, and personal property were going to be seized?



Among property seized from Japanese Canadians were fishing boats, such as these seen in Steveston, B.C. Nikkei National Museum 2.10.4.2.1.001

LESSON 3 HANDOUT 3.2 WRITING FOR THE NEW CANADIAN

THE NEW CANADIAN: THE VOICE OF THE SECOND GENERATION

The year is 1942, and the place is Vancouver, British Columbia. You are a hopeful rookie reporter for *The New Canadian*, the newspaper of the Japanese Canadian community.

Your first assignment is to write a story on one Japanese Canadian family's experience of uprooting and the seizure of their property.

But hold on, hot-shot. It's not as easy as you might think. First, of course, you have to write a well-crafted and informative newspaper story, remembering the "5 Ws" — Who, What, When, Why, Where — using your imagination. This will include "quotes" from the family and other personal details. This is the easy part.

But there's more to consider than just the facts. *The New Canadian* was monitored and censored by the Canadian government after December 1941. That means that as a reporter, you must maintain a delicate balance in your story — you want to convey the sadness and outrage you feel at this injustice, but at the same time you cannot say anything too obviously critical of the government, or you'll be censored — maybe even fired. How can you use subtle language and details that won't raise government alarm?

Your report must be a minimum of 500 words. It must demonstrate proper newspaper story format. And remember, it must paint an accurate picture of the emotional distress, sadness, and frustration that a typical Japanese Canadian family felt after uprooting, internment, and giving up their property.



LESSON 3 HANDOUT 3.3 AUSTIN TAYLOR'S STATEMENT IN THE NEW CANADIAN

QUESTIONS:

1. Why would Austin Taylor post this article in *The New Canadian*, a Japanese Canadian community newspaper?
2. What are the 'rumors' that Taylor refers to in the article? Why do you think there are rumors spreading through the Japanese Canadian community at this time?
3. Assurances are made by Taylor that Japanese Canadians can expect a "reasonable living" with "free accommodation," and even "an acre or two of land." If you were a Japanese Canadian reading this statement at the time, would you agree with the statement's positive view of the process of uprooting and internment?
4. Why do you think Taylor takes considerable time and space in the article to explain the economic opportunities and the costs for room and board at the various camps?
5. Who is the Custodian of Alien Property and what responsibilities do they have?
6. Why is Austin Taylor restating the promise, made in O.I.C. PC 2483, that Japanese Canadian property will be protected?

THE NEW CANADIAN

THE VOICE OF THE SECOND GENERATION

Vol. V, No. 1 VANCOUVER, B. C. January 3, 1942

● The News FRONT

U.S. Aliens Go To Montana Camp

SEATTLE.—Upwards of 25 Japanese nationals left the U.S. immigration station here early last Saturday for internment camps, where they may be detained for the duration of the war.—They formed the second such group; the first contingent having been sent eastward recently.

Accompanied by special guards, the large group boarded a train for "Montana east," possibly Fort Missoula, Mont.

Families of the interned thronged the waiting room but guards would not let them pass the barred gates leading onto the station platform.

The detachment sent eastward is probably the last for the time being, unless, as one inspector remarked simply, "some more are rounded up." Indications were that a fortunate few were released, although their names were not revealed.

14-Year Old Nisei Lad Wants Defense Post

SAN FRANCISCO.—Tommy Kuwaka, 14 years old, volunteered to Mayor Angelo Rossi for civil defense because he is the eldest son of a Japanese physically unable to do his part.

"There will be no fiction if my answer turns by evil luck on my negative because I will always know that my answer will always be the right answer no matter who says what," young Kuwaka concluded and added in a post script, "Thank you."

Firearms Confiscated

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The Justice Department Thursday ordered all German, Italian and Japanese aliens to surrender firearms in their possession and imposed new restrictions on their movements in the continental United States.

(Firearms of all Japanese Canadians in B.C.—militants and alien alike—were ordered confiscated last year. So far however it would appear that no action to confiscate cameras and short-wave radio receiving sets is due in this province.)

Premier Employees Join Ranks of Unemployed

VANCOUVER.—Among the more recent concerns to discharge Japanese Canadians because of the war is Premier Gold Mines which laid off Christmas week over a dozen employees who worked as cooks and waiters at Premier, B.C.

Year Books, Diaries, Calendar Pads?

● Did you fail to keep your last year's resolutions?

● We can help you to keep them this year by distributing one of the above items and keeping your resolutions filed every day as a reminder.

UCHIDA STATIONERS

Pacific 2712 347 Powell Street

"Short-Sighted, Wasteful"

F.D.R. Scores Prejudice In Industry

WASHINGTON.—Employers who discharge workers solely because they are foreign-born or aliens are following a "stupid" and "unjust" policy which aids the enemies of democracy, President Roosevelt declared Friday.

He said at his press conference that he is "deeply concerned" over the increasing number of such discharges. He urged all private employers to adopt a "sane policy" regarding alien and foreign-born citizens.

The president emphasized that it is one thing to safeguard American industry against sabotage. But he insisted it is very much another thing to throw out of work honest and loyal people who "except for the accident of birth, are sincerely patriotic."

"Such a policy is as stupid as it is unjust," he said in a statement. "And on both counts it plays into the hands of the enemies of American democracy."

Japanese—Boiter Rides Again

VANCOUVER.—While the President of the United States was deploring the falsely patriotic action of employers discriminating against workers because of their racial origin, Vancouver's own Alderman H. D. Wilson (remember him) was choosing the opportune time to jump into the local political scene to raise a big splash.

He gave notice Friday that he will introduce one of his pet bills into City Council with a resolution to deprive all but naturalized Japanese Canadians of their trade licenses.

The ban moreover would take licenses away from any Canadian born citizen who could not produce documentary evidence to show that he was not dually registered. It would also stop the issuance of any new licenses to any Japanese Canadian.

The alderman said he plans to give notice of motion when the council meets Wednesday, creed, color or national origin.

IS IT REALLY FUNNY?

Movement to Move us out Afoot

Current topic of conversation among Canadian-born Japanese—usually in most local bar rooms, but with an admittedly serious tone—is the campaign led by a Vancouver newspaper to organize "labor battalions" and to move all "able bodied" Japanese Canadians to some other parts of Canada.

In a lead editorial, the Vancouver newspaper declares: "We believe the government should remove all able-bodied Japanese men to some other part of the province of Canada. It may not be necessary to in-

tern them all; provided they are placed far enough removed from the coast so they can do no harm. Certainly we can not afford to lose the labor of thousands of our most active workers at a time when the country is short of labor.

"The Japanese should be given work at reasonable wages. Some could be used in the construction of roads needed in the defense and development of the country. Many who are skilled farmers could be used in Ontario, in the prairies, in our own Interior, where the farmers are desperate for farm hands. It should not be an impossible task to distribute these men where they could be useful, where they could be harmless and where they could be comfortable.

"Wherever they are, they must be assured of the best possible conditions."

The editorial does not mention whether jobs should be provided for able-bodied men trained and skilled in specific occupations.

SUBMIT PLAN TO EMPLOY WORKERS COMMITTEE BROACHES USE OF FISHING FLEET

VANCOUVER, B.C., Jan. 3.—Measures to provide employment for all Japanese Canadians deprived of their livelihood by restrictions imposed following the outbreak of the war on the Pacific have been submitted to Ottawa, according to a press statement issued today by the Federal Standing Committee on the Oriental question in B.C.

"Particulars" of the recommendations however, says the statement, "cannot be disclosed until the subject has been dealt with by federal authorities."

A second recommendation submitted is a plan to make use of the immobilized fishing fleet. This plan has been "agreed to by all concerned" and representatives of the fishing industry have given assurance that "there would be sufficient crews available to man the boats and maintain the necessary production of fish for both Great Britain and the domestic market."

Issued jointly by Mayor F. J. Hume of New Westminster, Col. A. W. Sparling and Col. Macgregor Macintosh, the statement added:

"First action of the committee following its appointment was to get in touch with a committee of Japanese citizens to ask them for support and co-operation so that registration of all Japanese could be undertaken. This was done at a special office opened at Hastings Street. The Japanese community in every way and manner has cooperated in this effort. Eventually 23,428 Japanese were registered.

"Since its formation the standing committee has held dozens of meetings, has conferred with citizens in all walks of life and worked in close conjunction with the R.C.M.P.

"Since the start of hostilities, meetings have been held with Gen. R. O. Alexander, G.O.C.-in-chief, Pacific Command and Commander Geoffrey Borrie, R.C.N., and they have conferred in steps taken by the committee so far."

Hawaiian Japanese Loyal—U.S. War Dept

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Or 35,000 Japanese aliens in Hawaii, only 273 persons are now interned and "for the most part, the Japanese population of Hawaii has given no evidence of disloyalty," a War Department communication issued here said last week.

"The commanding general, Hawaii, reported in a report that 273 Japanese aliens are now interned. Out of a total population of 425,000 in the islands, 160,000 of these are of Japanese ancestry. Of these 35,000 are aliens.

"For the most part, the Japanese population of Hawaii has given no evidence of disloyalty."

"The military authorities have imprisoned all known Japanese leaders of subversive activities. Federal and territorial law enforcement agencies are co-operating with the Army in detecting and suppressing enemy "fifth column" activities among the Japanese residents of the islands," the communication concluded.

Photographic Inquiry

VANCOUVER.—A photographic inquiry in brief in the manner in which the war has hit the Japanese community in B.C. is being undertaken by a Vancouver free lance photographer, Jack Menzies, for approval by the Canadian picture magazine, New World.

The Resolution

You Will Enjoy Keeping

● To get the "WHITE CRP" habit—because this Nisei-operated rendezvous is the popular resort where your friends always dine—it's clean, cozy and convenient.

Whitecap Seafoods

333 Carrall Street

LESSON 3 HANDOUT 3.4 LETTER WRITING ASSESSMENT RUBRIC

CRITERIA	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Organization and Paragraphs	Sequence of information difficult to follow No paragraphs	Sequence of information jumps around There are some correct paragraphs	Information is presented in logical order Good paragraphs	Information is presented in logical order Excellent paragraphs
Communication	Work uses few, simple ideas	Work displays awkward or incomplete sentence structure	Work displays good sentence structure	Work displays excellent sentence structure Use of complex ideas and vocabulary
Creativity	Work displays little creativity	Work displays some creativity	Work displays good creativity	Work displays excellent creativity
Format of a Letter	Missing several components for letter writing	Missing some of the components for letter writing	Includes most of the components for letter writing	Includes all components for letter writing
Conventions: Spelling, Grammar, Punctuation	Many errors in spelling, grammar, and punctuation	Several errors in spelling, grammar, and punctuation	Few errors in spelling, grammar, and punctuation	Consistency, accuracy in spelling, grammar, and punctuation

LESSON 3 HANDOUT 3.5 VIEWPOINTS OF DISPOSSESSION

VIEWPOINTS ON DISPOSSESSION

Name	Views of Three Key Bureaucrats
Henry F. Angus (Under Secretary to External Affairs)	
Arthur MacNamara (Deputy Minister of Labour)	
Glenn McPherson (Director, Vancouver Office of the Custodian)	

LESSON 3 HANDOUT 3.6 MOCK QUESTION PERIOD

Question Period developed as an opportunity for the opposition parties to ask the government questions related to policy issues, pending legislation, and issues of importance to the Canadian public. Typically, question period lasts about 45 minutes and is conducted from Monday through Friday whenever parliament is sitting. Questions may be posed to the Prime Minister, or any Minister in the Cabinet. Question period has a reputation for being chaotic and loud because it is common practice to jeer, heckle, cat-call, and harass the speakers from the back benches and non-participating MPs. In this activity, the class will take on the roles of the government and opposition parties in 1942 as policy was formulated around what to do with Japanese Canadians and their property.

Mock Question Period

1. Review the key points learned about Order-in-Council PC 469. Recall that this is the policy which gave the Custodian the authority to confiscate and care for the property of Japanese Canadians after they were interned.
2. Next, look over the notes and points discussed by the three key bureaucrats: Read, Coleman, and McPherson. Keep in mind all three of these men were employed as bureaucrats and were not elected government representatives. They would not have appeared to answer questions in the House of Commons but they were answerable to the Ministers that oversaw the creation of policies like Order-in-Council PC 469.
3. Depending on which role you have been assigned prepare a question, or prepare to answer a question. Remember that opposition members ask questions and the government is accountable to answer questions.
4. As a member of an opposition party it is common practice to be very critical of the government's position on important issues, and as a member of the government it is common practice to anticipate what questions may come to you during question period.
5. Each group will be allowed 20–30 minutes prep time at the discretion of the teacher. As a member of the opposition your task is to prepare questions that criticize or call into question Order-in-Council PC 469. As a member of the government you need to assign roles and consider the kinds of questions that may come your way. All groups should prepare speaking notes and have information at their fingertips. Good luck!
6. Refer to the assessment rubric on the reverse for the specific criteria that will apply to your performance and participation in the Mock Question Period. Your teacher may revise or highlight different criteria as appropriate.

LESSON 3 HANDOUT 3.6 MOCK QUESTION PERIOD RUBRIC

CATEGORY	Does Not Meet	Minimally Meets	Fully Meets	Exceeds
Poise	Slouches; leans on things; does not look at audience	Rarely looks at audience; fidgets	Stands tall & relaxed; engages audience with gestures; good eye contact	Moves expressively; relaxed demeanour; keeps eye-contact
Projection	Mumbles	Hard to hear	Easy to hear	Good tenor and timbre
Fluency & Speed	Stumbles frequently; reads from script	Reads prepared speech; too fast	Good conversational speed; pauses to consult notes	Good conversational speed; no hesitation
Clarity	Barely intelligible	Unclear at times	Familiar with material; clear delivery	Easy delivery; very understandable
Expression	Monotonic	Slight expression; mainly monotonic	Lots of vocal expression	Engagingly expressive
Introduction	No introduction	Very short introduction	Clear introduction	Full introduction to topic
Content & Originality	Scarcely informative	Marginal information on topic	Provides information on original topic	Provides novel information on original topic
Conclusion/Closing	No conclusion	Brief concluding paragraph	Full conclusion	Thought-provoking conclusion
Time	Less than 90 seconds	90 – 119 seconds or greater than 180 seconds	120 – 180 seconds	

LESSON 3 HANDOUT 3.7 A PROMISE BROKEN

Critical Question:

What caused the change in policy regarding the care and custody of Japanese Canadian owned property?

Using the source material provided and the fishbone diagram, identify three primary causes for the change in policy with supporting details. Be prepared to share your findings with peers.

On 19 January 1943 the federal government passed into legislation Order-in-Council PC 469 which authorized the Custodian to sell off all Japanese Canadian owned property. This was a change from the policy laid out in O.I.C. PC 2483 in which the federal government promised to control and manage the property of uprooted Japanese Canadians. All Japanese Canadians had, by this time, been removed from the coast and were forced to leave moveable property (chattels), real estate, and businesses behind in the care of friends, agents, and the Custodian. What caused the government to change its policy? Who was responsible for the change? In this activity you will explain the change in policy and assess the causes and consequences of this change.

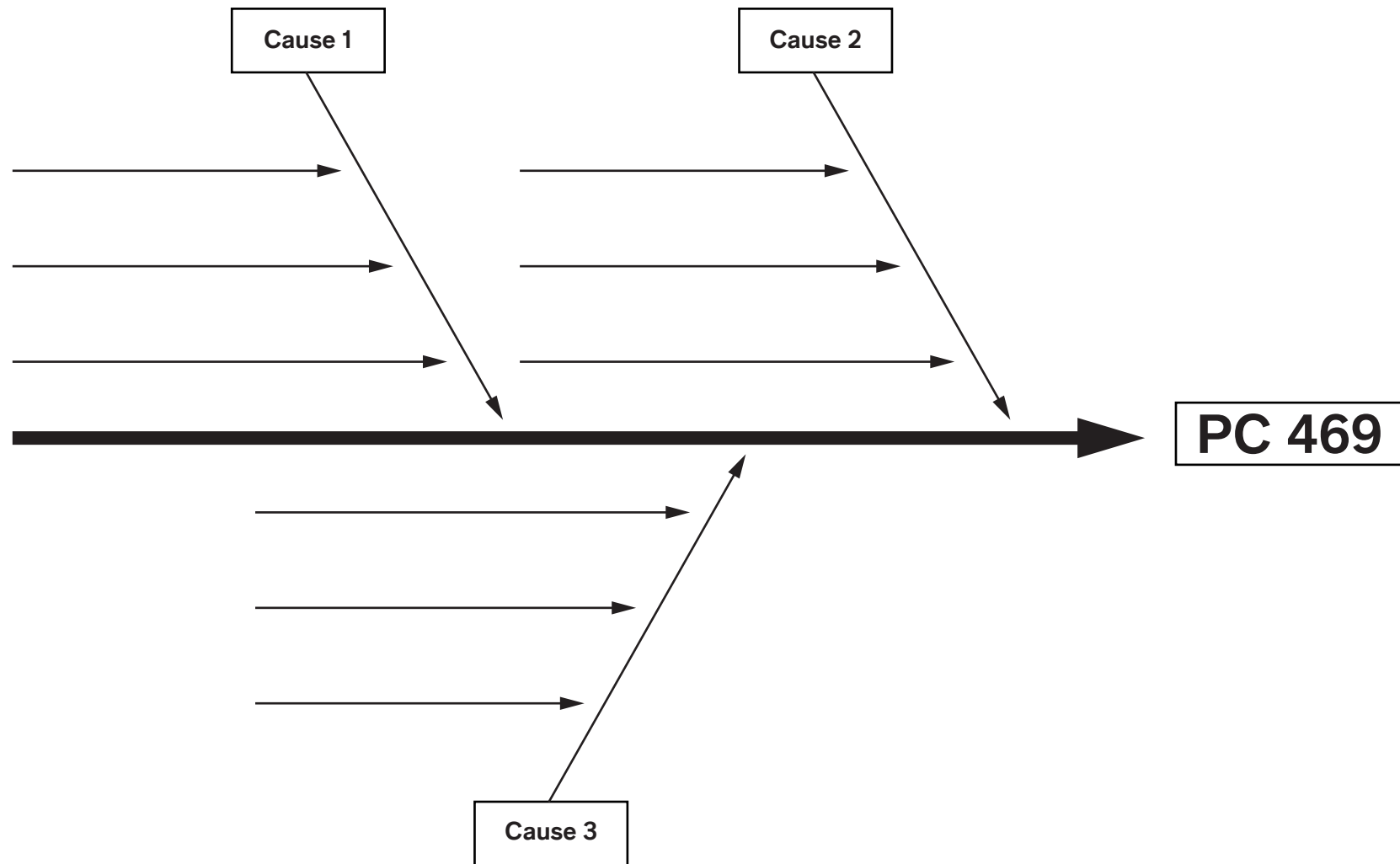
Historical Thinking Competencies – Cause and Consequence

When considering the causes of actions in the past it is helpful to apply the following constructs:

- Historical actors or agents are people, and they cause change in the context of social, economic, political, and historical contexts
- Actions caused by actors and agents of change can have both intended and unintended consequences
- Actors and agents causing change carry a variety of perspectives and are not motivated by the same considerations
- Individual actors or agents can cause change but so too can ideas, beliefs, institutions, and other events.

Adapted from *Benchmarks of Historical Thinking* URL: www.historybenchmarks.ca

LESSON 3 HANDOUT 3.7 A PROMISE BROKEN



LESSON 3 HANDOUT 3.8 DID THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACT IN GOOD FAITH?

Good Faith

You may have heard the Latin phrase *bona fide* which is generally accepted in modern-day English to mean 'of good faith'. In this activity you will use the evidence and understandings gained in the previous activity to make a judgment. To act in good faith is to be fair, open, honest, and upright in one's actions towards others. In the previous activity you learned that the federal government reversed its policy of custodianship and care of Japanese Canadian owned property to one of forced sales and liquidation. The question we will address here is whether the government acted in a fair, open, and honest manner when revoking the promise to protect this property. Here we will consider the issue of good faith with respect to three factors: sincerity, reasonableness, and fairness.

Historical Thinking Competencies – Ethical Judgment

When considering the causes of actions in the past it is helpful to apply the following constructs to our judgment of those actions.

Sincere:

- Was the action genuinely believed to be justifiable?
- Was the action taken with the sincere belief that it had justifiable ends?
- Did the action meet with the values held by a majority of society at the time?

Reasonable:

- Given what decision makers knew at the time was the action necessary?
- What other option(s) did the decision makers consider?
- Did the decision meet the intended objective?
- Was the decision proportional (did it balance the needs of the country/province with the impact on the individuals)?

Fair:

- Considering the accepted values of the time, were the rights and interests of Japanese Canadians fairly considered?
- When weighing the decision to dispossess Japanese Canadians, did policy makers balance the rights of all Canadians and consider the common good?
- Can any group(s) be identified that were not fairly treated by the government?

LESSON 3 HANDOUT 3.8 DID THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACT IN GOOD FAITH?

	Sincere/Insincere	Reasonable/Unreasonable	Fair/Unfair
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

LESSON 3 HANDOUT 3.9 CONTINUUM DEBATE

After completing the chart in **Handout 3.8 Did the Federal Government Act in Good Faith?** and participating in the debrief you should be able to form an opinion on whether the federal government acted in good faith when they broke the promise to care for the property of Japanese Canadians and moved to a policy of forced sales. In this activity you will share your views, and reasons in an informal class debate.

1. Take some time to review your notes in **Handout 3.8**, paying particular attention to your evidence on the decision to liquidate as sincere or insincere, fair or unfair, reasonable or unreasonable. Prepare to hold and present your opinion: did the federal government act in good faith? You are free to judge the importance of the evidence as you see fit, however there may be positions that are more defensible (there is no right answer).
2. A continuum line is a kind of informal class debate. Your teacher will create two ends of a line. At one end stand students who believe that the federal government acted in good faith when revising the policy of trusteeship for Japanese Canadian property. On the opposite end of line will stand students who are confident the federal government did not act in good faith. In between these two polarized positions will be students that are uncertain about their position on this issue of good faith. Those leaning slightly more to one view than the other must stand nearer that end of the line.
3. Your teacher will then allow students a couple of minutes to discuss the idea with peers to the right or to the left, then tell them to adjust their place accordingly. Repeat three times, then tell the students to take their place on the continuum line. Debrief student choices by sharing out. Wrap up.



Auction sale. Jack Lindsay. City of Vancouver Archives, 1184-1478

LESSON 3 **HANDOUT 3.10** LETTERS OF PROTEST

Author of letter:	Date written:
From city/town:	Addressed to:
Reason for protest:	
Why is the author writing to the Office of the Custodian?	What feelings are expressed in the letter by the author?

LESSON 3 HANDOUT 3.11 THE CUSTODIAN'S RESPONSE

Government Reply

Read the reply from the Office of the Custodian and complete the survey below.

QUESTION:	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
The Custodian's reply resolved the issue in a satisfactory manner				
The Custodian's reply acknowledged the impact of the federal government's policy on Japanese Canadians				
The Custodian's reply demonstrated compassion and understanding				
The Custodian's reply acknowledged the injustice of forced sales				

Explanation for survey responses:

CHAPTER 206

An Act to confer certain powers upon the Governor in Council in the event of War, Invasion, or Insurrection.

SHORT TITLE

1. This Act may be cited as the War Measures Act 1914 (2nd session), c. 2, s. 1.

EVIDENCE OF WAR

1. The issue of a proclamation by His Majesty, or under the authority of the Governor in Council shall be conclusive evidence that war, invasion, or insurrection, real or apprehended, exists and has existed for any period of time therein stated, and of its continuance, until by the issue of a further proclamation it is declared that the War, invasion or insurrection no longer exists. 1914 (2nd session), c. 2, s. 4.

POWERS OF THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL

1. The Governor in Council may do and authorize such Special acts and things, and make from time to time such orders Governor in and regulations, as he may by reason of the existence of real or apprehended war. invasion or insurrection deem necessary or advisable for the security, defence, peace, order and welfare of Canada; and for greater certainty, but not so as to restrict the generality of the foregoing terms, it is hereby declared that the powers of the Governor in Council shall extend to all matters coming within the classes of subjects hereinafter enumerated, that is to say:—
 - (5) Censorship and the control and suppression of publications, writings, maps, plans, photographs, communications and means of communication;
 - (6) Arrest, detention, exclusion and deportation;
 - (7) Control of the harbours, ports and territorial waters of Canada and the movements of vessels;
 - (8) Transportation by land, air, or water and the control of the transport of persons and things;
 - (9) Trading, exportation, importation, production and manufacture;
 - (10) Appropriation, control, forfeiture and disposition of property and of the use thereof.
2. All orders and regulations made under this section shall have the force of law, and shall be enforced in such manner and by such courts, officers and authorities as the Governor in Council may prescribe, and may be varied, extended or revoked by any subsequent order or regulation; but if any order or regulation is varied, extended or

revoked, neither the previous operation thereof nor anything duly done thereunder, shall be affected thereby, nor shall any right, privilege, obligation or liability acquired, accrued, accruing or incurred thereunder be affected by such variation, extension or revocation. 1914 (2nd session), c. 2, s. 6.

3. The Governor in Council may prescribe the penalties that may be imposed for violations of orders and regulations made under this Act. and may also prescribe whether such penalties shall be imposed upon summary conviction or upon indictment, but no such penalty shall exceed a fine of five thousand dollars or imprisonment for any term not exceeding five years, or both fine and imprisonment. 1914 (2nd session), c. 2, s. 10.
4. No person who is held for deportation under this Act or under any regulation made there under, or is under arrest or detention as an alien enemy, or upon suspicion that he is an alien enemy, or to prevent his departure from Canada, shall be released upon bail or otherwise dis-charged or tried, without the consent of the Minister of Justice. 1914 (2nd session)
5. The provisions of the three sections last preceding shall only be in force during war, invasion, or insurrection, real or apprehended. 1914 (2nd session), c. 2, s. 3.

PROCEDURE

1. Whenever any property or the use thereof has been appropriated by His Majesty under the provisions of this Act, or any order in council, order or regulation made thereunder, and compensation is to be made therefor and has not been agreed upon, the claim shall be referred by the Minister of Justice to the Exchequer Court, or to a superior or county court of the province within which the claim arises, or to a judge of any such court. 1914 (2nd session), c. 2, s. 7
2. Any ship or vessel used or moved, or any goods, wares or merchandise dealt with, contrary to any order or regulation made under this Act, may be seized and detained and shall be liable to forfeiture, at the instance of the Minister of Justice, upon proceedings in the Exchequer Court of Canada or in any superior court. 1914 i. 2nd session), c. 2, s.3. 8
3. Every court mentioned in the two sections last pre-ceeding may make rules governing the procedure upon any reference made to, or proceedings taken before, such court or a judge thereof under the said sections. 1914 (2nd session), c. 2. s. 9.

OTTAWA: Printed by Frederick Albert Acland, Law Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

Custody of Japanese Property

12.

1. As a protective measure only, all property situated in any protected area of British Columbia belonging to any person of the Japanese race resident in such area (excepting fishing vessels subject to Order in Council P.C. 288 of the 13th January, 1942, and deposits of money, shares of stock, debentures, bonds or other securities), delivered up to any person by the owner pursuant to the Order of the Minister of Justice dated February 26, 1942, or which is turned over to the Custodian by the owner, or which the owner, on being evacuated is unable to take with him, shall be vested in and subject to the control and management of the Custodian as defined in the Regulations respecting Trading with the Enemy, 1939; provided, however, that no commission shall be charged by the Custodian in respect of such control and management.
2. Subject as hereinafter provided, and for the purposes of the control and management of such property, rights and interest by the Custodian, the Regulations respecting Trading with the Enemy, 1939, shall apply mutatis mutandis to the same extent as if such property, rights and interests belonged to any enemy within the meaning of the said Regulations.
3. The property, rights and interests so vested in and subject to the control and management of the Custodian, or the proceeds thereof, shall be dealt with in such manner as the Governor in Council may direct.

Selected excerpt taken from:

https://archive.org/stream/proclamationsord06cana/proclamationsord06cana_djvu.txt

NOTICE TO ALL JAPANESE PERSONS AND PERSONS OF JAPANESE RACIAL ORIGIN

TAKE NOTICE that under Orders No. 21, No. 22, No. 23 and No. 24 of the British Columbia Security Commission, the following areas were made prohibited areas to all persons of the Japanese race:—

LULU ISLAND
(including Steveston)
SEA ISLAND
EBURNE
MARPOLE
DISTRICT OF
QUEENSBOROUGH
SAPPERTON
CITY OF
NEW WESTMINSTER
BURQUITLAM

PORT MOODY
IOCO
PORT COQUITLAM
MAILLARDVILLE
FRASER MILLS
CORPORATION OF
THE DISTRICT OF
NORTH VANCOUVER
CORPORATION OF
THE DISTRICT OF
WEST VANCOUVER

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that any person of the Japanese race found within any of the said prohibited areas without a written permit from the British Columbia Security Commission or the Royal Canadian Mounted Police shall be liable to the penalties provided under Order in Council P.C. 1665.

AUSTIN C. TAYLOR,
Chairman

BRITISH COLUMBIA SECURITY COMMISSION

Nikkei National Museum 2010.4.4.12.036

HFA/AG
March 15, 1943

Memorandum for the Prime Minister

The Expropriation of Land belonging to Japanese and to Canadians of Japanese race in the Protected Area of British Columbia.

1. Protests have been received concerning the liquidation of the property of Canadian citizens of Japanese race in the Protected Area of British Columbia.
2. It is possible under a recent Order-in-Council, P.C. 69 of January 19, 1943, for these assets to be liquidated without the consent of the owner and even if it is not in his interests that they should be liquidated.
3. What has shocked the consciences of the people who are making a protest is that it is possible for a Canadian citizen of unimpeachable character to be deprived of his property without his consent even though there is no military reason for doing so. It is true that he will receive pecuniary compensation, but this benefit may be illusory because he may be practically forced to spend this capital sum in maintaining what other Canadians would consider a decent scale of living. In any case pecuniary compensation is not usually considered adequate by someone whose normal livelihood is derived from the land he owns.
4. It must be remembered that the Canadian citizen is almost certainly one against whom no offence has been proved or alleged. He has already been called on to make very great sacrifices in the interests of public security:
 - (5) Through no fault of his own, he has been deprived of his major earning power;
 - (6) He has been removed from his home;
 - (7) He has seen his children's educational opportunities gravely impaired;
 - (8) He is made uneasy by the menace of deportation from Canada.
5. There are a number of reasons why it is undesirable that Canada should follow a policy, even towards Canadian citizens, which is open to these reproaches:
 - (5) The Prime Minister stated in the House of Commons that

Canadians of Japanese race would be treated justly;

- (6) The compulsory sale of the home of a law-abiding citizen whose only offence lies in his race appears to be in entire conflict with the principles set out in the Atlantic Charter to which the Canadian Government has adhered without making any specific reservations;
 - (7) The compulsory sale of these properties is in complete conflict with British traditions of justice;
 - (8) The compulsory sale of these properties is in conflict with United States policy, and indeed with constitutional law in that country;
 - (9) Everything which tends to turn a national war into a racial war is likely to prolong the war and make the establishment of a lasting peace more difficult;
 - (10) It will be hard for Canada to ask other countries to refrain from racial persecution if her own hands are not scrupulously clean.
6. It will be seen from the attached correspondence that the Reverend W. H. A. Norman of St. George United Church, Vancouver, compares the Order-in-Council to the Nuremburg laws against the Jews in Germany. This is, of course, not quite fair since the Order-in-Council provides for pecuniary compensation.
 9. In view of the foregoing it is recommended that Order-in-Council P.C. 469 of January 19, 1943 should be amended so that no property may be liquidated without the consent of the owner, unless it is so clearly in the owner's interests that the property should be liquidated that the custodian, acting as a trustee would act, could agree to the liquidation.

LESSON 3 SOURCE 3.5(A) MEMO: MACNAMARA TO COLLINS

Ottawa, March 26, 1943

Commissioner George Collins,
B.C. Security Commission
Marine Building, Vancouver, B.C.

I have received your letter of March 20, re Japanese property and effects.

I am suggesting to the Under Secretary of State for consideration that Japanese be not asked to pay for location of their effects by the Custodian's Agent.

The matter of selling household and personal Chattels of the Japanese is a delicate one, and if approached in the wrong way it may arouse a storm of protest. I am informing External Affairs of this proposal and believe they may object to any forced sale of these Chattels without reference to the wishes of the owners.

The Internal Departmental Committee is taking up this matter, and the question of compelling Japanese to live on their assets above a certain minimum, very shortly, so that you might suggest to the custodian that sale of Chattels be delayed.

In the meantime, I would advise asking each head of a Japanese family to draw up a list of articles of a sentimental or religious nature which he wishes to keep either with him or in storage, on the understanding that he thereby gives consent for the sale of the rest of his Chattels by the Custodian at a high a price as can be obtained.

A. MacNamara

LESSON 3 SOURCE 3.5(B) MEMO: MACNAMARA TO COLEMAN

Ottawa, March 26, 1943

Dr. E. H. Coleman, K.C.
Under Secretary of State,
Ottawa

The Commissioner of Japanese placement at Vancouver, Mr. George Collins, has inquired concerning charges made by the Custodians' Agents in various parts of British Columbia to locate Japanese goods which the owners wish forwarded to them.

When the British Columbia Security Commission receives a request from Japanese for certain effects, it has passed on to the Custodian who asks his nearest agent to locate the articles, pack them properly and forward them to the Japanese. The account is submitted to the British Columbia Security Commission and they in turn require the Japanese to pay the charges provided the account does not include such articles as bedding, sewing machines etc.

LESSON 3 SOURCE 3.6 MEMO: MCPHERSON TO COLEMAN

December 12, 1942
Dr. E. H. Coleman, K.C.,
Under Secretary of State,
West block, Ottawa, Ontario

Re: Japanese agricultural lands

Dear Doctor:

I have your letter of December 7th, with enclosures, and regret the delay in replying but the points raised are so important that they required considerable thought and discussion with the people handling the practical problem, including a meeting between myself and Mr. Barnett, the local representative of the Soldier Settlement of Canada, which lasted from 12 o'clock noon today until 4 o'clock.

After very careful consideration of all the facts available I would recommend:

1. That the future policy of the Custodian as to the disposition of all vested real estate is determined as soon as possible.
2. That such a policy be a policy of liquidation.
3. That no attempt to be made to segregate the general problems of administering Japanese farmers' affairs from other Japanese affairs and that, except as outlined below, no change in administration be made.
4. That the authority, duties and responsibilities of the Soldier Settlement of Canada be increased as set out below insofar as the administration of agricultural lands is concerned.
5. That either the definition of agricultural land be amended so as not to include densely settled areas, such as Steveston, or the Director give the Custodian a blanket approval with respect to all transactions in such areas.

The reasons why I made these recommendations are as follows:

1. It is obvious, both in the city and country, that Japanese property is going to deteriorate rapidly and will not, in some cases, be sufficiently revenue bearing to pay fixed and operating charges.
2. The policy should be one of liquidation and this policy should

eventually include all chattels that are not required in the Japanese evacuees' new home. I realize the danger of such a policy insofar as it may cause dissatisfaction among the evacuees but the deterioration of real property and the loss of chattels will soon liquidate the capital investment. At the present time evacuees are encouraged to release encumbered property where they have no real equity and to approve reasonable sales.

3. It is apparent to persons administering the practical problem that any attempt to transfer in toto the work of looking after Japanese farmers' affairs to the Soldier Settlement of Canada would be an unnecessary duplication of work and increased interdepartmental correspondence and negotiations. The evacuation is stated to be complete and preliminary negotiations have already taken place as to the movement of the necessary chattels from farms, homes and storage places to the evacuees.

...

When Considering, as is suggested in your letter, but not directly in the Hon. Mr. Crerar's letter, the complete transfer of all the work relating to farms, should be considered and in addition the objectives of the two departments namely —

1. The Custodian's objective, as I interpret it, is to minimize the economic loss to the Japanese evacuate and the economic picture generally.
2. The Soldier Settlement of Canada's objective, because of the very purpose of their organization, is to obtain the best of the lands and they are not primarily interested in the Japanese. With the Custodian as owner there is no reason why they could not purchase the land if a liquidation policy were decided upon. Criticism from the Japanese and their legal representatives (who are quite voluble even now) would be voiced because of a trustee purchasing trust assets as it were if the Soldier Settlement of Canada takes over completely.

For the above and other practical reasons, I would recommend consideration of the following plan:—

- (5) The Custodian appoint the Director of his Deputy under Regulation 6 (2) of the Consolidated Regulations Respecting

LESSON 3 SOURCE 3.6 MEMO: MCPHERSON TO COLEMAN

Trading with the Enemy (1939) and Mr. Barnett have the necessary authority to act for him; the appointment to give the Director full power to manage and operate the farm lands. I suggest that an amended Order in Council is not necessary and would only confuse the tenants and the Japanese. The Japanese might interpret it as meaning the Soldier Settlement of Canada were taking over and their interest would not be protected. I believe problem can be handled under the Regulations, the Director being in effect official agent of the Custodian.

...

A copy of this letter is being handed direct to Mr. Barnett in order that he may be fully informed of my views and to avoid any misunderstanding here as between our two organizations which are now cooperating 100%. An extra copy is enclosed for your convenience.

Yours very sincerely,
G.W. McPherson

Order in Council amending P.C. 1665 —

*British Columbia Security Commission;
defining "Person of Japanese Race"*

P.C. 2483

AT THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE AT OTTAWA

Friday, the 27th day of March, 1942.

PRESENT :

His Excellency

The Governor General in Council:

Whereas by Order in Council P.C. 1665 dated March 4, 1942, the British Columbia Security Commission was established for the purpose of planning, supervising and directing the evacuation from the protected areas of British Columbia of all persons of the Japanese race and for such purpose was empowered to determine amongst other things all matters relative to the placement of such persons;

And whereas it is represented to the Minister of Justice that it is desirable to provide that any plan with regard to the placement of such persons be limited to making provision for the temporary placement only of such persons during the continuation of the state of war now existing and that the authority of the Commission should include power to vary or amend any placement order;

And whereas recommendations have been made to the Minister of Justice by the British Columbia Security Commission to the effect that a greater degree of protective control over persons of the Japanese race and the property of such persons be provided for than was provided by the Order establishing the Commission, above referred to;

Now, therefore, His Excellency the Governor General in Council, on the recommendation of the Minister of Justice and under and by virtue of the powers conferred by the War Measures Act, Chapter 206, R.S.C., 1927, is pleased to amend the Regulations established by Order in Council P.C. 1665 dated March 4, 1942, as follows:

1. Regulation one is hereby amended by adding thereto the following paragraph:

“(bb) ‘Person of the Japanese race’ means any person of the Japanese race required to leave any protected area of British Columbia by Order of the Minister of Justice under Regulation 4, as amended, of the Defence of Canada Regulations (Consolidation) 1941.”

2. Regulation 10 is hereby amended by adding thereto the following paragraphs:
 - (5) “Any such plan or plans shall make provision for the temporary placement only of such persons during the continuation of the state of war now existing.”
 - (6) “The Commission's authority relative to the placement of persons shall include power to vary or amend any placement order.”
3. Regulation 11 is hereby amended by rescinding paragraphs two thereof and substituting thereof the following:
 - (2) “The Commission may make orders respecting the conduct, activities and discipline of any person of the Japanese race who is within any protected area or who is ordinarily resident within any protected area but who has left or leaves such area after February 5, 1942.”
4. Regulation 12 is hereby rescinded and the following substituted thereof:
 - (12) “(1) Subject as hereinafter in this Regulation provided, as a protective measure only, all property situated in any protected area of British Columbia belonging to any person of the Japanese race (excepting fishing vessels subject to Order in Council P.C. 288 of January 13, 1942, and deposits of money, shares of stock, debentures, bonds or other securities) delivered up to any person by the owner pursuant to an order of the Minister of Justice, or which is turned over to the Custodian by or on behalf of the owner, or which the owner, on being evacuated from the protected area, is unable to take with him, shall be vested in and subject to the control and management of the Custodian as defined in the Regulations Respecting Trading with the Enemy, (1939); provided, however, that no commission shall be charged by the Custodian in respect of such control and management.

“(2) The Custodian may, notwithstanding anything contained in this Regulation, order that all or any property whatsoever, situated in any protected area of British Columbia, belonging to any person of the Japanese race shall, for the purpose of protecting the interests of the owner or any other person, be vested in the Custodian, and the Custodian shall have full power to administer such property for the benefit of all such interested persons, and shall release such property upon being satisfied that the interests aforesaid will not be prejudiced thereby.”

“(3) For the purposes of the control and management of -such property by the Custodian, the Consolidated Regulations Respecting Trading with the Enemy, (1939), shall apply mutatis mutandis to the same extent as if the property belonged to an enemy within the meaning of the said Consolidated Regulations.”

(Sgd.) A. D. P. HEENEY,
Clerk of the Privy Council.

The New Canadian

The voice of the second generation

Vol. V, No. 35 • Vancouver, B.C. Mon, Apr. 6, 1942

COMMISSION ISSUES GENERAL RESUME People Urged To Discount Rumours

VANCOUVER, April 6 — When war-time evacuation of the B.C. coast has been completed, twenty thousand people of Japanese origin will have been moved to one of four projects now under way, according to a detailed progress report issued by the B.C. Security Commission today.

Male nationals will have gone chiefly to roadwork in the Province; the majority of second generation to Ontario roads or industry; farming and fishing families to farms in Southern Alberta and Manitoba; and thousands of women and children will have been placed in “Ghost Towns” in the interior.

(For complete text of the statement see page 3; for a Japanese translation, page 4.)

“Arrangements believed satisfactory to everyone” are being worked out under the “Interior Housing Scheme” Major Austin C. Taylor’s statement declares.

The plan is to move whole communities of women and children into the interior ghost towns, and authorization from Ottawa has now been secured. “Hastings Park will be the Clearing Station for persons going into this interior” under this housing scheme.

Discounting of rumours is stressed in the Commission statement, which urges that the people “pay attention” only to the true facts as released by the Commission itself.

Camp Projects

Camp projects in B.C. have already accounted for the majority of Japanese nationals, but projects in other provinces are being used to accommodate the Nisei. This is “because the Provinces expressed a wish to have Canadian Japanese” rather than nationals.

Chief feature of the beet project is that the “family unit will not be broken up”. A family engaged in this type of farm labor, the Commission considers, “can be self-supporting and can rest assured of a reasonable living.” Free housing, land, and staple furniture, such as beds, stoves, etc., are to be provided by the farmer.

The following is published for the general information of the persons of the Japanese race who are being evacuated from the Protected area under Order-in-Council number 1665, dated March 6th, 1942.

A good deal of speculation and rumours regarding the evacuation of millions of the Japanese race from the Protected area has been brought to the notice of the Commission charged with the responsibility of carrying out the Government's orders of March last. The Commission has from time to time, endeavored to put a stop to these rumours by acquainting the Japanese committee, working with the Commission, with the true facts but the results are not very satisfactory as the rumours still persist.

One such rumor was to the effect that when the Nisei were sent to Ontario they would be put into uniform and made to join the Army. Also that they would be used to man tankers operating on the Great Lakes. These are quoted as an example of the baseless rumors being bandied about.

The following are the true facts of what the community is trying to do. **PAY ATTENTION TO THEM AND TO NOTHING ELSE.** The committee will keep you advised from time to time if there is any change.

PROJECT CAMPS

The Commission has had a great deal of difficulty in finding places to which the Japanese could be evacuated too in order that they might earn a living for themselves and their families. Their situation was different to that of the Germans and Italians who have also been ordered out of the protected area, but who have been given no assistance. The reason is obvious that there is no

need for the Commission to make any explanation on this point: suffice it to say comment that without government assistance, the Japanese people, Canadian or National, would have had great difficulty in finding employment. Because of this it was decided to open Project Camps. The projects, although necessary, could have waited until after the war was over. Therefore the wages paid had to be scaled down to fit the problem with which the government was faced and as a result the following notice was published and distributed.

NOTICE

In order to clarify any misunderstanding, which may exist in the minds of persons of the Japanese race who are being evacuated from the protected areas to work projects and camps, \$0.25 per hour is the rate of wage paid by the government with the following exceptions:

- Construction Foreman — \$0.30 to \$0.40
- Maintenance Foreman — \$0.30 to \$0.35
- Job-Foreman and Straw Boss — \$0.30
- Carpenters — .35
- Carpenters (rough) — .30
- Broadaxe man — .30
- Steel Sharpeners (hand) — .30
- Saw Filers — .30
- Axe men and Fellers — .30
- Timekeepers — .25 to .30
- Clacksmiths — .30
- Drillers (hand) — .30
- Powdermen — .30
- Hook Tenders — .35

Rigging Slingers — .35

First Aid Man — .30

Married men will be required to assign to their wives the sum of Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) per month

And the Government will pay the following rates for each child:

1st Child — \$5.00 per month

Following 4 Children — \$4.00 per month

Twenty-five Cents per meal will be charged for board at the Camps.

These camps are being put into operation for the sole purpose of providing employment for persons of the Japanese race evacuated from the protected area who can not otherwise secure employment.

The Government will endeavour to find employment in private industries for large groups, particularly Ontario, in the Pulp Mills and Logging Camps and persons of Japanese origin so employed will receive the prevailing rate of wage paid by the industry.

In cases where wives and families of men in camps are residing in the clearing station at Hastings Park, a nominal sum will be charged for the board of the wife. This amount will not exceed Ten Dollars per month.

Children will be boarded free.

Work rooms will be provided at the clearing station equipped with sewing machines, etc., and in cases where a family has no funds available for the purchase of clothing, cloth and other necessary materials will be provided by the Commission for such purpose in the event that same is necessary.

“B.C. SECURITY COMMISSION”.

THIS NOTICE SPEAKS FOR ITSELF

Most of the Japanese Nationals are working on Camp Projects in British Columbia, and the Nisei are being sent to other Provinces. The reason for this is because the Provinces expressed a wish to have Canadian Japanese sent there, and we endeavoured to comply with their wishes.

The Ontario Government is using Schreiber, Ontario as a Clearing Pool for Road Projects, and eventually for the work camps and places in Pulp Mill projects, etc., they will be paid the current rate of wages for the district and when this Commission considers it advisable to take Road camp workers and place them into industry it will insist that the current rate of wages in the district be paid.

Ontario Labour Department

The camps in British Columbia and Alberta are under the Department of Mines and Resources, with the expectation of those on the Hope-Princeton Highway which are under the Provincial Labour Department. The Camps in Ontario are under the Ontario Labour Department.

The policing of all these Camps is under the direction of the Commissioner, Royal Canadian Mounted Police. While it is not the opinion of this Commission that there will not be any molestation at the Camps, it was considered, as a precautionary measure, that such

policing was necessary.

This is all for the camps just now, and we will now pass on to some other activities which the Commission feels will interest the people to be evacuated.

BEET GROWING AND FARMING

The Commission, through lengthy negotiations, arranged for the movement into Manitoba and Alberta of farmers and their families who are used to farming and the handling of root crops. The Commission is glad to be able to send large groups to the Beet-growing areas in Southern Alberta and Manitoba for the reason that it means the family unit will not have to be broken up, which is something the Commission regrets very much in the case of those who have to go work in camps. We hope to settle several hundred families in these two Provinces to work in the beet-growing districts. The season for work is from the 15th of May to the 6th of November, and there is an interval of six weeks where work can be secured at harvesting, etc.

The prevailing contracts and wages will be paid to all families as are paid to the other people who are engaged in this class of work. The Commission considers that a family engaged in this work can be self-supporting and can rest assured of a reasonable living. Housing accommodation is provided free as well as an acre or two of land which the family may cultivate for their own use. Certain staple furniture is

provided such as beds, chairs, stoves, etc. Other assurances have been given to the Commission, and representatives will reside in the districts and see that they are carried out.

INTERIOR HOUSING SCHEME

One of the largest problems facing the Commission was the finding of places outside the Protected area where women and children as well as aged members of a family could live. We have secured such accommodation in the Interior of British Columbia and we are certain that arrangements are being made which will be satisfactory to everyone concerned when the details are worked out.

This plan has taken us considerable time to develop but now that we have the necessary authority from the Government to move the people into those areas. We expect these towns to be put into good shape, and it is hoped that communities can be moved to these places intact insofar as the women and children are concerned, or so far as we are able to carry out such a plan.

Police protection will be provided in the towns just the same as it is provided in the Road camps. No one need fear molestation by any person, and the necessities of life will be provided as well as hospital accommodation and medical attention for all who need it.

Clearing Station

Hastings Park will be the Clearing Station for those persons going to the Interior and being evacuated from the areas outside of Vancouver. There are probably many questions which remain unanswered in what the Commission has had to say so far, but in a difficult understanding such as this, it is impossible to foresee every little contingency.

The Commission, however, would like to reiterate that it will allow no case of hardship among the evacuated people or those under its charge if the same is brought to its attention. This is a definite promise we are required to fulfill by the Government, and, with the cooperation of the people, we intend to carry it out.

The law gives the Commission full power in regard to the movements of the evacuated people and their protection, both economically and in every other way, while the war is on.

CUSTODIAN OF PROPERTY

A Custodian of (Alien) property has been appointed by the Government and charged with the protection of all property placed voluntarily under his control. This is not confiscation and the Custodian will administer the property in the interests of the people which should prevent them from disposing of their assets at a sacrifice or in an unfavourable market. We mention this because there seems to be a lack of

understanding of the Custodian's position.

We repeat that property delivered to the Custodian will be administered in the interests of the Japanese evacuated, taking into consideration debts he owes in the Protected area, and such property will not be disposed of at a sacrifice to pay such debts.

We feel that it is in the interest of those evacuated to place their property under the Custodian's control, and if this is not done before leaving the protected area, the Custodian cannot protect the property during the absence of any person evacuated.

AUSTIN C. TAYLOR,
Chairman, B.C. Security
Commission

LESSON 3 SOURCE 3.9 DISPOSSESSION BACKGROUNDER

A PROMISE BROKEN

On 7 December 1941, Canada declared war against Japan. The Imperial Japanese Military Air Service had bombed Pearl Harbour, an American naval base in Hawai'i. In retaliation, the United States declared war on Japan, and Canada, an ally of the United States, followed suit.

Canadian officials implemented domestic policies as they adjusted to the new international context. In the following days, the R.C.M.P. arrested 38 Japanese Canadians who they suspected held allegiance to Imperial Japan. A week later, the **Office of the Custodian of Enemy Property** opened a branch in Vancouver. This office oversaw the property of people who were interned for their political allegiances or nationality status during wartime. With few cases to oversee, the Office in Vancouver was small. Its Director, **Glenn McPherson**, was a young bureaucrat with little experience.

Canada passed further domestic policies after it declared war against Japan. The policies originated in the pretense of national security, but were strongly influenced by politicians who held strong animosity against Japanese Canadians. For instance, Cabinet ordered the seizure of any fishing vessel that Japanese Canadians owned. This law removed over 1,200 vessels from the industry. Within weeks, however, Cabinet passed another law to sell the fishing vessels to other fishermen.

In early January, Cabinet members debated next steps. The Commissioner of the R.C.M.P. reported that Japanese Canadians posed no threat to national security. Dismissing the R.C.M.P. report, British Columbian politicians, like **Ian A. McKenzie**, argued to enforce strict measures against Japanese Canadians. Back home, their supporters called for the complete removal of Japanese Canadians from the province. A Committee member later recalled how other members described Japanese Canadians as a menace: "They spoke of the Japanese Canadians in the way that the Nazis would have spoken about Jewish-Germans. When they spoke, I felt in that committee room the physical presence of evil."

Strongly influenced by the B.C. politicians, Cabinet passed new laws that expanded to all Japanese Canadians. One law sent men ages 18–45 to labour camps in remote parts of the province. Another declared a "protected zone," which spanned roughly 160 kilometres inland from B.C.'s western coast. Within this "protected zone," Cabinet required Japanese Canadians to turn in their radios, automobiles, firearms, and explosives to the R.C.M.P. Cabinet also declared a curfew in the "protected zone": no Japanese Canadian could be outside their home between sunset and sunrise.

The law with the greatest implications was passed on 4 March 1942: **O.I.C. 1665**. This law ordered the removal of "all persons of the Japanese race" from the "protected zone." The law addressed a racial category — "persons of the Japanese race" — rather than persons of a certain political affiliation or nationality. As such, it applied to nearly 22,000 Japanese Canadians, 75% of whom were Canadian citizens. Cabinet created a department, the **British Columbia Security Commission**, to oversee the uprooting of Japanese Canadians from their homes and resettlement in temporary camps outside of the "protected zone." The law limited Japanese Canadians to bringing roughly two suitcases of luggage to the camps.

The same law, O.I.C. 1665, deemed the Vancouver Office of the Custodian legally responsible for Japanese Canadians' property. Many Japanese Canadians questioned the implications of this law. Their responses pushed Cabinet to pass a further law, **O.I.C. 2483** that explained that the Vancouver Office of the Custodian would protect their property in their absence. In local newspapers, the Office Director, Glenn McPherson, explained that the legal seizure of their property was a "protective measure only."

Under Orders-in-Council 1665 and 2483, the property of nearly 22,000 people became the responsibility of the Vancouver Office of the Custodian. In Vancouver, Glenn McPherson hired hundreds of employees to register

LESSON 3 SOURCE 3.9 DISPOSSESSION BACKGROUNDER

and manage the homes, businesses, and belongings of Japanese Canadians. The task of protecting Japanese Canadians' property, however, soon overwhelmed his office. His officials mislabeled and lost Japanese Canadians' belongings. Locals looted and vandalized Japanese Canadians' homes and businesses. Further, interested buyers were eyeing Japanese Canadians' homes, farms, and businesses.

One government department hoped to benefit from Japanese Canadians' misfortune: the Soldier Settlement Board, a department within Veteran's Affairs. In summer 1942, real estate assessors determined the value of Japanese Canadians' farmlands for the Soldier Settlement Board. These officials argued that the tenants who leased Japanese Canadians' farms were letting them deteriorate. They argued that the lands should be sold in order to maintain the local agricultural industry.

Officials at the City of Vancouver saw another opportunity in Japanese Canadians' property. Vancouver was home to the largest Japanese-Canadian enclave in the province, the Powell Street neighborhood. The Vancouver Office of the Custodian found renters to fill Japanese Canadians' houses. The Office also ran their businesses. But the Vancouver Town Planning Commission saw the uprooting of Japanese Canadians as an opportunity to build a new, modern housing development. The Planning Commission led tours through the Powell Street neighborhood to demonstrate that the houses were "in a generally run-down condition," and therefore unfit for "human habitation." They urged McPherson's office to cease renting and managing the properties owned by Japanese Canadians and instead to authorize their forced sale.

In late 1942, the Vancouver Office of the Custodian was struggling to protect Japanese Canadians' belongings. Privately, McPherson held hostile beliefs about Japanese Canadians. This may have impacted his management of their properties. Rather than adjust the Vancouver Office's

approach to better protect Japanese Canadians' property, McPherson chose a simpler solution.

Instead, he would sell everything Japanese Canadians owned. From the outset of the uprooting, the Custodian sold anything classed as "perishable." Items such as grocery stock were sold without consultation with Japanese-Canadian owners on the assumption that this course of action served their interests and the funds were credited to accounts held with the Custodian. McPherson combined the arguments of the Soldier Settlement Board, the Vancouver Town Planning Commission, and his staffers who reported the "rapid deterioration" of the personal belongings of Japanese Canadians. These separate lines of discussion converged and McPherson drew them together into a single argument for the forced sale of all Japanese Canadian properties.

In December 1942, McPherson advised his superior, **Ephraim Coleman**, "it is obvious, both in the city and country, that the Japanese property is going to deteriorate rapidly." The government's policy, he counselled "should be one of liquidation." If they did not sell Japanese Canadians' property now, he argued, they would lose its monetary value. Coleman repeated such arguments to his boss, Secretary of State **Norman McLarty**. McPherson's claims circulated to other cabinet ministers. Federal politicians embraced the logic of perishability, affirming the powers of the Custodian to sell all Japanese Canadian owned property. The Cabinet members passed a law, **O.I.C. 469**, on January 19, 1943 that authorized the forced sale of everything Japanese Canadians owned.

Adapted from "Introduction," in Jordan Stanger-Ross (Ed.), *Landscapes of Injustice: A New Perspective on the Internment and Dispossession of Japanese Canadians*. Montreal, Quebec: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2020.

LESSON 3 SOURCE 3.9 DISPOSSESSION BACKGROUNDER

Key Figures in the Dispossession Process

Prime Minister of Canada William Lyon MacKenzie King

Federal Cabinet Ministers

- Ian MacKenzie – Minister Pensions and Health/Minister of Veteran Affairs
- Norman McLarty / Ephraim Coleman – Undersecretary of State
- Humphry Mitchell – Minister of Labour
- Thomas Crerar – Minister of Mines and Resources
- Louis St. Laurent – Minister of Justice/Attorney General

Key Bureaucrats

- Glenn McPherson – Director Office of The Custodian
- Frank Shears – Manager Office of the Custodian
- Gordon Murchison – Director Soldier Settlement Board
- Ivan Barnett – District Superintendent Soldier Settlement Board
- John Erskine Read – Legal Advisor to Undersecretary of State
- Henry F. Angus – Executive Assistant Undersecretary of State
- Hugh Keenleyside – Assistant Undersecretary of State

BC Security Commission

- Frederick J. Mead – R.C.M.P. Commissioner
- George Collins – Department of Labour
- Austin C. Taylor – B.C. Industrialist
- John Shirras – B.C. Provincial Police

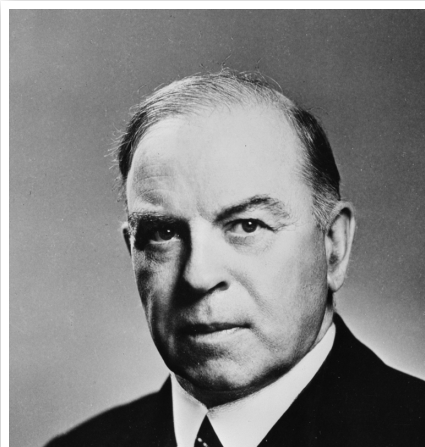
Important Legislation – Orders-in-Council

O.I.C. P.C. 1665 – March 4, 1942

“WHEREAS in view of the serious situation prevailing in the Province of British Columbia arising out of the war with Japan it is deemed necessary to ... evacuate (sic) persons of the Japanese race from the protected areas”

Custody of Japanese Property

12. (1) “As a protective measure only, all property situated in any protected area of British Columbia, belonging to any person of the Japanese race resident in such area ... shall be vested in and subject to the control and management of the Custodian ...”



Prime Minister William Lyon
MacKenzie King, 1947.
United States Library of Congress'
Prints and Photographs Division,
LC-USW33-019079-D



MP Ian MacKenzie.
Jack Lindsay. City of Vancouver
Archives, 1184-198

LESSON 3 SOURCE 3.9 DISPOSSESSION BACKGROUNDER

O.I.C. P.C. 2483 – March 27, 1942

“WHEREAS by Order-in-Council P.C. 1665 dated March 4th, 1942, the British Columbia Security Commission was established for the purpose of planning, supervising and directing the evacuation from the protected areas of all persons of the Japanese race and for such purposes was empowered to...

Regulation 12 (1) is hereby rescinded and the following substituted therefore:

12(1) Subject as hereinafter in this Regulation provided, as a protective measure only, all property situated in any protected area of British Columbia belonging to any person of the Japanese race... shall be vested in and subject to the control and management of the Custodian...

(2) The Custodian may...order that all or any property whatsoever... for the purpose of protecting the interests of the owner or any other person, be vested in the Custodian, and the Custodian have full power to administer such property for the benefit of all such interested persons, and shall release such property upon being satisfied that the interests of the aforesaid will not be prejudiced thereby.”

O.I.C. P.C. 5523 – June 29, 1942

“WHEREAS the Minister of Mines and Resources and the Minister of Pensions and national Health report...persons of the Japanese race were or are engaged in agriculture and have been or shall be compelled to abandon farming operations on lands owned by them or by companies they control;

That is in the public interest to ascertain the actual number of such Japanese farms, to carry out an appraisalment of their fair present day value, and to consolidate the control and disposition of these lands by sale, lease or otherwise;

O.I.C. P.C. 469 – January 19, 1943

“THERFORE, His excellency the Governor General in Council...doth hereby order as follows:

Without reciprocating the generality of powers hereinbefore conferred, all unfinished business of the said Committee is hereby transferred to the Custodian....Wherever...the Custodian has been vested with the power and responsibility of controlling and managing any property of persons of the Japanese race evacuated from the protected areas...such power and responsibility shall be deemed to have included from the date of vesting of such property in the Custodian, the power to liquidate, sell or otherwise dispose of such property...”



Glenn McPherson and Ephraim Coleman. University of British Columbia Rare Books and Special Collections, rbsc-arc-1368-4-3-Glenn McPherson and Ephraim Coleman

“Better to Let Sell Off Own Stock”

McPherson Explains Why Many Jap Stores Open

It is better to allow a Japanese merchant to sell off his own stock rather than to place a white custodian in his business to do the job — which explains why many Japanese stores are still open in Vancouver.

So said Glenn W. McPherson, custodian of enemy property in British Columbia, in an address to the Junior Board of Trade at luncheon Thursday.

Mr McPherson pointed out that a large percentage of the goods now in stock in Japanese stores is saleable only to the Japanese people themselves. Furthermore, the merchant has his own set of customers to whom he can sell this stock, and liquidation can be more speedily completed by the owner himself.

He said that his department is anxious to see that the Japanese receive a fair price for the sale of their property. Money gained from such sales can be used to re-establish the owners in non-defence areas where they will not be a burden upon the taxpayers.

DEFINITION OF “ENEMY”

Mr. McPherson said that much debate had arisen over the interpretation of the word “enemy” as included in the Federal legislation dealing with enemy property.

The most workable definition, he said, is to consider every Japanese walking the streets of a Canadian city as a British subject and to consider every Canadian walking the streets of an enemy country and an “enemy”, from a technical standpoint at least.

Mr McPherson explained this anomaly thus:

“We assume that every Japanese walking the streets is loyal. If he isn’t, the RCMP should have interned him, and that’s none of our business.

“If he is regarded as an enemy, then he must starve, since it is against the law to trade with the enemy. This means that we have to support every person we define as an enemy.

“VERY GOOD REASON”

“Every person in a Canadian internment camp is defined for the purposes of the act as an enemy, and his property comes under the care of the custodian.

“Mayor Houde is therefore an enemy, and the Japanese who is not interned is not an enemy.

“There is a very good reason why we should regard all Canadians in enemy hands as our enemies.

“Once they are defined as enemies, their property comes under the care of the custodian. This prevents the enemy from extracting funds from Canadians under duress.

“If the Canadian in Japan was defined as a British subject, then the Japanese could force him to transfer his Canadian funds in the currency of a neutral country and thence into Japanese currency.”

V. Ben Williams, president of the Vancouver Junior Board of Trade, presented Mr. McPherson with an honor certificate to testify the fact that he was recently chosen by Future Magazine as one of the 10 outstanding young men of America.

Regular Meeting of 6th August, 1942

A meeting of the Vancouver Town Planning Commission was held in the Board Room, 309 Royal Trust Building, 626 West Pender Street, Vancouver, B.C., on Thursday, 6th August, 1942, at 11:05 o'clock A.M.

Present: Mr. Earl M. Bennett, (Chairman); Messrs. Joseph Briggs, F. E. Buck, C. T. Hamilton, H. V. Jackson, and W. R. Owen; Alderman George Buscombe, representing the City Council, and Mr. F. W. G. Sergeant, representing the National Harbours Board; Mr. A. J. Harrison, Secretary of Zoning Matters, City Hall, and Miss. F. M. Ross, Acting-Secretary.

The minutes of the last meeting, having been mailed to each member and found correct, were taken as read and were adopted on motion.

...

It was pointed out that in making a reply it would be necessary to obtain Mr. Greenway's definition of "sub-standard housing".

4). Housing

The matter of unsanitary conditions existing in houses owned by Japanese and others, in the area occupied for the most part by Japanese, was considered at a meeting of the Zoning Committee held on 4th August last. The Committee recommended that a letter be written the Council, suggesting that in the opinion of the Commission, the time is now opportune to clean up housing conditions in this section of the city, and urging that everything possible be done in this regard.

Moved by Mr. Buck / Seconded by Mr. Sergeant

THAT the above recommendation of the Zoning Committee be approved. CARRIED.

Alderman Buscombe stated that this matter was to be brought up at the meeting of the Building, Civic Planning and Parks Committee to be held on Monday next. He explained that some inspections had already been made, that others would be made shortly, and felt that a letter from the Commission on this subject would be timely.

Mr. Buck, through the Chairman, asked Alderman Buscombe whether it might be a good idea to press for the re-appointment of a Housing Committee of the Council. Alderman Buscombe believed that this should be done.

A general discussion follows, regarding housing standards, methods of enforcement, etc.

Moved by Mr. Jackson / Seconded by Mr. F. N. Hamilton

THAT the above application for re-zoning be not approved. CARRIED

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:55 o'clock A.M.

(Signed) F.M. Ross Acting-Secretary / (Signed) Earl M. Bennett Chairman

‘Whites’ Already Taking Over Evacuated Homes in Japtown

When civic inspectors begin their work of reclaiming Vancouver’s “Little Tokyo” for white habitation, they will find scores of white residents already installed there.

One long row of cabins, two storeys high and in rather run-down condition, is now occupied almost entirely by white residents.

Some white residents have moved into crowded Powell Street rooms.

On the whole, however, the influx of whites has not been sufficient to counterbalance the exodus of male Japanese and the area already shows signs of becoming a “Ghost Town.”

NO RUSH OF BUSINESS

There is little business on Powell Street. Some of the store fronts are boarded up; others carry “Special Sale” signs in a vain attempt to attract business.

Powell Street merchants are keeping only a small stock of goods in hand in anticipation of complete evacuation. Merchants who deal in slower selling commodities are doing their utmost to get rid of the stock they now have on hand.

Store fronts on two blocks along Powell Street were examined, none showed any sign of spring painting.

BUILDINGS NEGLECTED

Evacuation of able-bodied male Japanese and the possible evacuation

of all other Japanese residents from the area is having and increasingly bad effect upon the appearance of the area.

“Not only is there insufficient labor to keep up the buildings; but also there is no incentive for the remaining Japanese to spend time and money upon this property at the present time.

Powell Street is close to the area in which large numbers of Vancouver residents are employed. The city fathers are already worried about the shortage of housing accommodation in Vancouver.

WILL BE ‘RENOVATED’

It therefore seems inadvisable to permit an unproductive “shack town” to develop in the busy heart of Vancouver.

The City Council determines to use the area if it can be brought up to health, plumbing, electrical and structural standards.

City Inspectors will soon be combing the area, testing joists and rafters, examining baths and lavatories, chucking insulation around electrical wires.

As workmen follow on the heels of civic inspectors, new life will come to Vancouver’s once busy “Little Tokyo.”

Vancouver Centre Liberal Association Nominating Convention

September 18, 1944

There is one other issue very dear to our hearts here in British Columbia, affecting as it does the security of our homes and of our shores in days to come.

On that subject I wish for a moment to divest myself of the mantle of ministerial responsibility and speak to you in a very personal way as one British Columbian to another.

I refer to the subject of the Japanese in Canada.

The Prime Minister made a magnificent statement in Parliament the other day and I support him in that policy as far as it goes.

He has laid it down as the policy of the Dominion of Canada that all disloyal Japanese shall be expelled from Canada, that there shall be no further Japanese immigration, and that Japanese shall not be permitted to concentrate in any one province as they did in the past.

But I should like to go farther.

I maintain that British Columbia must be declared and continued to be a security zone, that no Japanese shall be permitted to have his residence or domicile at any place between the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific Coast.

Let that be our slogan for British Columbia: —

No Japanese from the Rockies to the sea.

I ask my fellow citizens of Vancouver Centre and of British Columbia as a whole to range themselves beside me on the issue and to serve notice on the rest of Canada that we will not have Japanese in this fair Province.

We as British Columbians insist upon our right to have our country protect us from this menace.

Hon. Ian MacKenzie's speech, dated 8 September 1944, Vancouver, B.C. Selected excerpts. Courtesy of British Columbia Archives: MS-0915



SOLDIER SETTLEMENT OF CANADA

VANCOUVER, B.C., June 2, 1942.

G. Murchison, Esq., Director of Soldier Settlement, Ottawa

Personal and Confidential Via Air Mail

Dear Mr. Murchison,

Appraisal of Japanese Lands

I spent last Thursday and Friday in the country again acquainting myself with the greater detail in the ground in regard to the Japanese lands, and the localities in which these properties are located. I also had a full discussion with both appraisal teams. I took the boys who are working out of Abbotsford over Matsqui Municipality and showed them the majority of the Japanese properties which they have to appraise. Mr. Ramsay is not familiar with Matsqui, and they all wanted the general background which they considered I could give them.

I think our men are doing a good job. Irrespective of whether or not their yardstick of values is correct, I feel they are attempting to appraise one property fairly with another, and if it should come to the purchase of these lands, and it is necessary to increase the values, this could be done largely on a percentage basis. The whole problem is full of contradictions of various kinds, but I have told the appraisers not to worry as this is bound to crop up in any appraisal job of such magnitude.

...

As far as I can ascertain the Japanese planted probably over one hundred acres in hops in the last two or three years, and the kiln for curing hops which was built in the Mission apparently was financed by the Japanese. Most of these hops are in blocks of not more than one or two acres on the individual farms. When I found out that the Haas Hop Company at Sardis was going to work most of these small hopyards I was at a loss to understand how they could be interested in these small acreages as their own yards in Chilliwack are in three or four blocks, all comparatively close together. I think that they now have over 800 acres in hops. I discovered that most of their hops the Japanese have are cluster

LESSON 3 SOURCE 3.14 MEMO: BARNETT TO MURCHISON

hops, and this is the variety the Haas Company is short on.

I hear that Mr. Shimek, or his Company, have an advance in the neighbourhood of \$150,000 from the bank, and a number of Japanese have received fairly substantial cash payments from this source. Probably for the first time in history the Japanese have received equal payment for a crop in advance at a figure equal to what they would have made net if they had handled the crop themselves. A number of people with whom Shimek has arranged leases are Mennonites of fairly recent vintage from the Prairies m. Already some of them are wondering where they are going to get any money out of these crops for themselves at \$100 sore rent.

...

I see no immediate serious problems cropping up in Soldier Settlement with all our staff working on this Japanese problem. I think on the whole the boys are reasonably content on the job. I authorized them to go home over the 24th of May at Government expense as I felt the cost to the Government would be less than keeping them in the hotels, and they would feel better for getting home to see their families. I am satisfied it was the right course to take as I see from the appraisals received yesterday that a number of them who stayed at the hotels worked over the weekend. I am going to suggest that those who are away from home work this weekend, and next Monday, and this time to a longer holiday on the first of July.

I hope that at the sittings of your Committee the Prairie members can appreciate that Canada produces other products beside wheat and some livestock. Some of the Japanese greenhouse men are producing more off five actresses than some of the Prairie farmers are off 3000 acres.

Yours very truly,
(Signed)
District Superintendent
ITB:B

*NOTE FOR THE UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS*

British Columbia Security Commission

1. I am attaching a copy of a draft report to Council, prepared by the Department of Justice, dealing with the establishment of this Commission and its duties.
 2. I have looked over the draft in a casual way, and I am not questioning the general treatment, and I have not had time to go into it in detail.
 3. There is, however, one point that seems to me to be a shocking thing.
 4. Earlier in the year, when we were dealing with the question of fishing boats, care was taken to establish a benevolent trusteeship in British Columbia, to protect the interests of British subjects whose fishing vessels were taken.
 5. In the present instance, all property of any sort in the protected areas is being taken away from the Japanese and handed over to the Custodian.
 6. This point was not dealt with in the instructions given to me when I prepared the first draft for an Order in Council. It is possible that the policy may be approved by the Ministers and, if so, it is none of my business.
 7. On the other hand, it seems to me that the Ministers should fully realize what they are doing. They are abandoning completely the principle of treating the position of the British subjects of Japanese race as one which would justify fairness in so far as it is possible to be fair, taking into account questions of security. As a matter of fact, it will very greatly hamper the carrying out of the scheme of evacuation.
- :::
9. This provision, with regard to property, will greatly hamper the absorption of any Japanese in ordinary business activities. It strips them of every cent they may have made in their pockets or in the banks; it takes the clothes off their backs and removes the tools of their trade: fountain pens from their pockets, books from their libraries, and hands them all over to the tender mercies of the Custodian. There is no element of trusteeship recognized, and no attempt to set up machinery that would enable the property of these British subjects to be sold so as to preserve and protect their interests.

DEPARTMENT OF
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
OF CANADA

EXHIBIT No. Gen 17
DATE 20 Sep 1948
FILED BY J. G. Shears

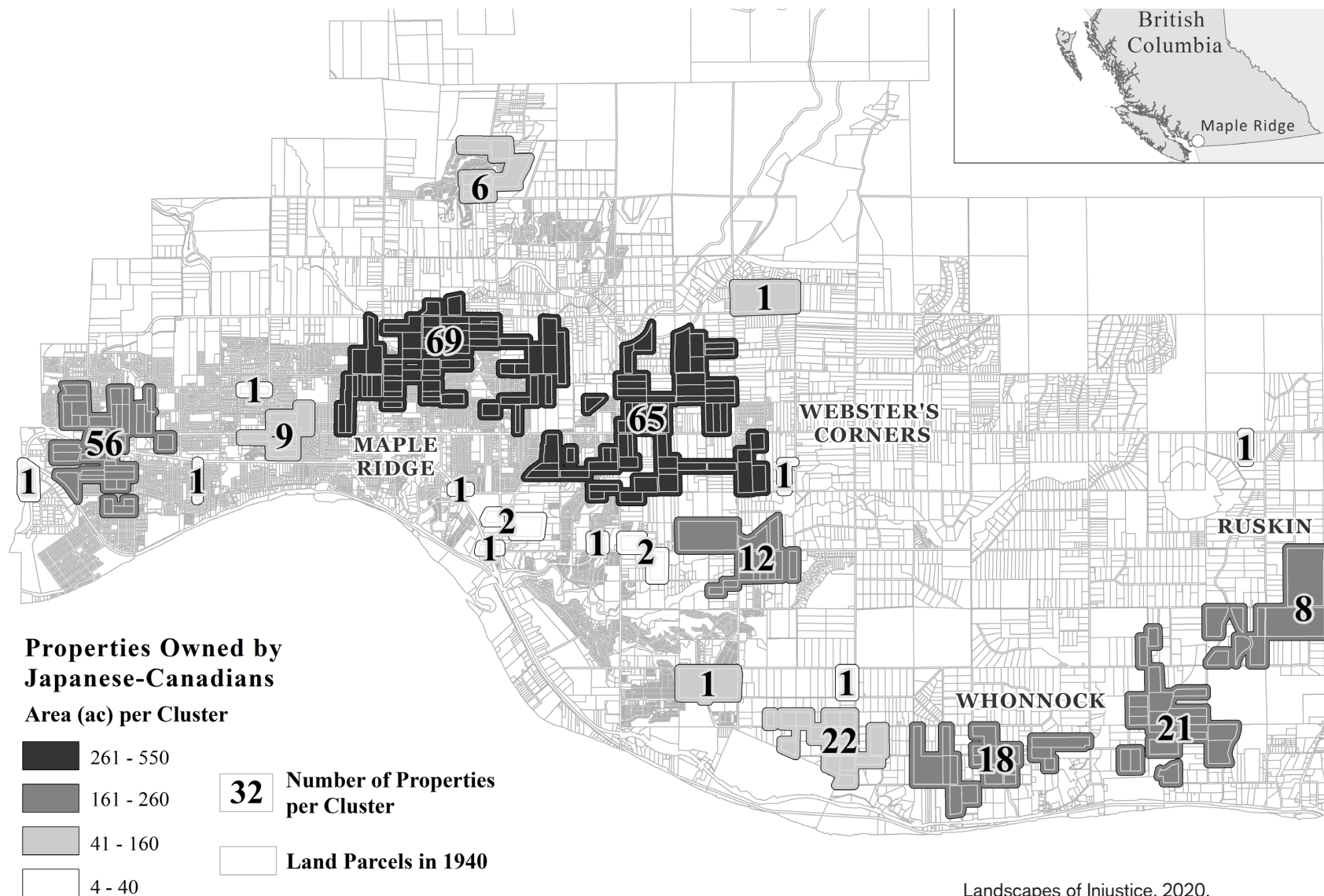
THIS PROPERTY
FOR SALE

APPLY TO
THE CUSTODIAN
506 Royal Bank Building, Vancouver, B.C.
OR TO ANY
REAL ESTATE AGENT

WARNING **ANYONE REMOVING OR DESTROYING
THIS SIGN WILL BE PROSECUTED.**

Library and Archives Canada/RG33-
69/e01188381-109

LESSON 3 SOURCE 3.17 MAP OF PROPERTIES, MAPLE RIDGE



Landscapes of Injustice. 2020.

Conference on Japanese problems in B.C., January 8–9, 1942

Minutes, External Affairs Files 733 - B - 40 - C.

-3-

III. Introductory Statements.

1. At the first meeting the Chairman made an opening statement on the purpose of the Conference m. He said that the Government had received numerous representations concerning the problem of persons of Japanese racial origin in British Columbia. One particularly important question was whether fishing licenses should be issued to persons of Japanese racial origin. The chief purpose of the meeting was to allay apprehension in British Columbia. This must, however, be fine in such a way as to minimize the possibility of retaliation by the Japanese against Canadian prisoners of war and against the coast of British Columbia. The Chairman paid a tribute to the work done by the various committees appointed in the past few years and to the work of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.
2. Mr. Angus outlined in the sense of Section 1B of the Agenda the peculiar position of the Japanese population in Canada which is unlike that of the German and Italian population in several ways.

...

5. Mayor Hume then reported on the activities of the Standing Committee which had been appointed almost exactly a year ago. He said that the Japanese had been re-registered and that while re-registration was being made a considerable number had left Canada. When war broke out with Japan the Committee recommended:
 - (5) That Japanese newspapers be closed down. As a result of this recommendation the Royal Canadian Mounted Police suggested to the Japanese that this be done and the Japanese agreed.
 - (6) That Japanese language schools be closed. (*This also was done*

by agreement.)

- (7) That the Royal Canadian Mounted Police pick up disloyal Japanese.
- (8) That the Japanese fishing fleet be laid up.

The three last recommendations had been made effective. Mayor Hume concluded by saying that the public in British Columbia was demanding that the Japanese be removed from the coastal area.

- 6. Assistant Commissioner F.J. Mead of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police made a report in the existing situation. He said that the Royal Canadian Mounted Police had received excellent cooperation from the leaders of the Japanese population. These leaders had cooperated in the registration and since the outbreak of the war with Japan had pointed out to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Japanese who should be interned as dangerous. As evidence of the excellent attitude of the Japanese population he read three paragraphs from an operative's report of a secret meeting of Japanese fishermen in Vancouver which had taken place recently. The fishermen at the meeting had stated that they realized that the seizure of the Japanese fishing fleet was inevitable under war conditions. Since the outbreak of the war it had been necessary to intern only one Japanese because of disloyal remarks.

IV. Discussion on general principles set out in Item 3 of the Agenda and discussions of the application of these general principles to specific problems as outlined in the agenda.

- 5. The members of the Conference who had just arrived from British Columbia found it difficult to accept the assurances of the representatives of the Armed Services and of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police that the measures which had already been taken in British Columbia of which were recommended by a majority of the members in the Conference would be sufficient to meet the requirements of national defence and security. Most of them stated that they did not trust persons of Japanese racial origin and that they considered the continued presence of these persons in British Columbia a menace to their public safety. They emphasized particularly their fear that virtually all of these residents would commit positive acts of disloyalty if Japan should land forces in British Columbia. Even, however, if the assurances of the Armed Forces and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police were accepted a serious situation would still continue to exist in British Columbia since it would be impossible to persuade the majority of the people of British Columbia that the Japanese did not constitute a menace.

LESSON 3 SOURCE 3.18 CONFERENCE ON JAPANESE PROBLEMS

The people of British Columbia were definitely alarmed by the Japanese menace. There is grave danger that anti-Japanese riots may break out and that it will be necessary to call out the troops to defend Japanese residents from attack by other Canadians. The Assistant Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police agreed that there was a distinct possibility of anti-Japanese riots in Vancouver and General Pope stated that General Alexander had reported to Defence Headquarters that public security may be endangered by the feeling of the white population against the Japanese.

...

7. This difference of opinion over the urgency of the manpower problem in Canada was in part the reason for the difference of opinion between members of the Conference over whether it would be useful and desirable to impress on employers and labour alike throughout Canada the importance, from the point of view of the national war effort, of not discharging or refusing to hire or refusing to work with persons of Japanese origin. Members from British Columbia stated that the public in British Columbia was so convinced that the Japanese were untrustworthy and constituted a menace that white workmen would refuse to work with workmen of Japanese racial origin in spite of any appeal which the Government might make.

...

12. While the proposal to remove all persons of Japanese racial origin from the Pacific coast was dropped by general agreement the British Columbia representatives demanded that able bodied Japanese male nationals should be removed. They appeared to be willing to make such an exception for those whose applications for naturalization under section 8 of the Naturalization Act were outstanding. In making this demand they emphasized that in their opinion it was the minimum necessary to satisfy the people of British Columbia and prevent riots and it was pointed out that the assurances of the Armed Forces and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police did not extend to denying the dangers of anti-Japanese rioting.

LESSON 3 SOURCE 3.19 LETTER OF PROTEST: T. FUKUMOTO

Slocan City, B.C.
February 24, 1945.

The Custodian,
506 Royal Bank Building,
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Sir:

Your File No. 1474

You have informed me that my property known as Lot 11 – Block “D” – District No. 318 – 8636 Selkirk St. and chattels have been sold.

As you are aware, I have never consented to the sale nor ratified it, but have at all times and do now, objected to the sale of my said property. Because, however, I am in destitute circumstances, for my present earning is not sufficient to support my family owing to the weather not being suitable to logging operations here. Now, I would request you to forward me \$50 from my fund in your office each month in order to maintain myself and family, but in doing so I wish it made clear that it is only being accepted under protest and without prejudice to any rights which I have or may have arising out of what I consider the wrongful sale disposition of my property.

Need of the fund which is requested in this letter is very urgent, therefore, it would be appreciated if you will kindly forward it immediately.

Yours truly,
“T. Fukumoto”

Toyemon FUKUMOTO Reg. No. 03007

LESSON 3 SOURCE 3.20 LETTER OF PROTEST: R. TAGASHIRA

P.O. Box 666,
Revelstoke, B.C.
July 19, 1944.

Mr. George Peters,
Administration Dept.,
Office of the Custodian,
506 Royal Bank Bldg.,
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Sir:

Received your letters dated March 21st and
May 25th, 1944, also January 14, 1944.

I do not understand why the Custodian sold my property
at such dumping price. As you know those buildings were
being reconstructed for better revenue until I was
evacuated at the end of October 1942, and the revenue
was very near \$1000 (One thousand dollars) a month. The
reconstructing expense was more than \$20,000 (Twenty
thousand dollars) unsettled. Can you tell me what kind
of protection I can get from you to settle this matter
for my protection.

Yours truly,
"R. Tagashira"
File No. 5129/2
Reg. No. 07988

cc for Mr. Shears

LESSON 3 SOURCE 3.21 LETTER OF PROTEST: A. SUZUKI

Box 48,
Slocan City, B.C.
January 18, 1944

P.H. Russell
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Sir:

I received your letter of the 3rd instant.

I do not wish to appear rude and it is not my intention but I would like to put the facts before you in withholding signatures for this case until the court appeal is settled upon.

Before leaving Vancouver your men had told us that this process was to protect us and in your assurance we had our business put into our local agents whom we trusted as you had promised that if and when they have proved reliable that they will be able to deal directly with us. But now you say according to Ottawa this land has been sold.

You have gone against our wishes, also without even consulting us, as any citizen of Canada would have the privilege of giving assent or refusal, and as long as we are not hindering production I feel before God that we have the right to contest it. After all what are we (Canada) fighting for? Not that same treatment the Nazis gave the Jews we practice here in our own country! But that Canadian citizens be free to exercise their rights and To contribute to the betterment of this land of our birth.

This seems as if we are not cooperating but we must stand for the right. I am sure you will understand when you put yourselves in our position.

Hoping things will clear up soon.

Yours sincerely,
"Aya Suzuki" - #08121

LESSON 3 SOURCE 3.22 LETTER OF PROTEST: T. HOSHIKO

3598 Ste. Famille,
Montreal, Zone 18, Quebec.
Oct. 22, 1944.

Office of the Custodian, Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Mr. Anderson,

File No. 3912

I was deeply shocked and saddened to hear about the sale of the property owned by myself located at 1614 Pacific Highway, Surrey, B.C. It was my home for over twenty years. It was the work and hard work of two decades of toiling. It was where my children were born and raised. And now you tell me that the property was sold and that the balance of my credit at your office is only a mere \$1340.11 and on top of that you subtract \$50.00 for "legal expenses".

Partially crippled by rheumatism, I am not able to work very hard, I am living in a miserable one room on the third floor of a dark damp house, and even for such a place I have to pay \$7.50 a week or \$30.00 a month. Mind you all that amount for one wretched room. Therefore I have but one reservation: If at any time in the future should the law courts of Canada or the Privy Council, London England, decide that the property owned by British subjects by naturalization of Japanese ancestry like myself, which were sold by the Custodian to be declared an unlawful act on part of the Custodian and that all such sales to be declared null and void upon the return of the purchase price all such property to be restored to their rightful original owners, the evacuated British subjects of Japanese origin.

I should like the full amount credited to myself (according to your figure \$1340.11 minus \$50.00 plus \$80.00) be sent to myself and payable at par in Montreal. With this money please send me a detailed account of my account and also the property sale statement.

Among the chattels on the property I wish you would (or your representative or some other responsible person) set aside the violin and the music and send them express collect to Miss E. Hoshiko, 2456 Gladstone Ave., Windsor, Ont. As soon as the chattels are liquidated, wish you would send along the money received for same.

Yours truly,
(Sgd.) Mr. T. Hoshiko
Mrs. T. Hoshiko
(Reg. No. 12631)

LESSON 3 SOURCE 3.23 LETTER OF PROTEST: U. OIKAWA

Box 26, Picture Butte, Alta.
17th August, 1944.

File No. 5590

The Custodian,
506 Royal Bank Building,
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Sir:

You have informed me that my property known as Lot 117 of Lot 440, Gp. 2, Map 1133, has been sold. As you are aware, I have never consented to the sale not ratified it but have at all times and do now object to the sale of my said property. Because, however, I am in destitute circumstances (and because the government has discontinued the advance of maintenance to me) (or as the case may be), I have to request from you, the proceeds of the sale of the property in order to maintain myself and my family but in doing so I wish it made clear that it is only being accepted under protest and without any prejudice to any right which I have or may have arising out of what I consider the wrongful sale and disposition of my property.

Yours truly,
(SIGNED) "U. OIKAWA" #12737

LESSON 3 SOURCE 3.24 LETTER OF PROTEST: H.K. NARUSE

Kaslo, B.C.
June 21, 1944.

File No.11009

The Custodian,
Royal Bank Bldg.,
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Sir:

Attention: Mr. Shears.

Needless to say, your letter of April 13th was a great surprise to me. That the house and land could have been handed over to the Director, The Veteran's Land Act, at such a ridiculous price, is beyond my comprehension.

I disagree emphatically with your "qualified" appraiser who was guilty of such a moronic valuation. For your information the house was completed in January, 1942. Nearly \$500.00 was spent on plumbing alone. Moreover, I did not receive the land as a free gift.

I protest most strongly against this unfair, inadequate valuation and transaction into which the Custodian entered with the Director, the Veterans' Land Act.

Yours truly,
"H.K. Naruse"

LESSON 3 SOURCE 3.25 LETTER OF PROTEST: S. ODAGAKI

Slocan City, B. C.
Nov. 24, 1944.

Office of the Custodian,
506 Royal Bank Bldg.,
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Sir:

I have received your letter, File #1634, Cat. #713, stating that my property is to be sold. I have thought over this matter very seriously and came to the conclusion that I will not sell the property. Being evacuated out here and living a poor life, that property is the only thing we have to look forward to. I will appreciate it very much if you would inform this buyer that my property is not for sale.

Yours truly,
(Signed) "S. Odagaki"

LESSON 3 SOURCE 3.26 LETTER OF PROTEST: R. YONEYAMA

Sub P.O. 9,
Edmonton, Alta.
June 21, 1944.

File No. 6976.

Dept. of the Secretary of State
Office of the Custodian
506 Royal Bank Building
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Sir:

Re: 27th Road, Haney, B. C.
Lot 6 of the North West quarter of Sec. 21
Township 12, Map 1027, District of New Westminster, C.
of E. 5051.

I acknowledged your letter of May 30 and wish to request for further explanations regarding the sale of my property.

First of all, I wish to make it clear to you that the price set for my property is very unsatisfactory. It does not even cover for the construction of the house alone and besides the house, I have left most of my household furnitures and the farm implements. Could all my possessions have been considered when the price was set?

Surely it is not necessary for me to remind you that my wife and I are naturalized citizens since 1914 and that all my children are Canadian born? Two of my daughters are now doctors and one of them is working for the Government.

At the time we were evacuated, I had no intention of selling my property and I still do not wish to have it sold. Therefore, I strongly urge that the statement sent to me, and cancelled.

Please note the change of my address.

Yours truly,
"R. Yoneyama"

CANADA
DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
OFFICE OF THE CUSTODIAN
JAPANESE EVACUATION SECTION

Phone Pacific 6131
File No 1474

506 Royal Bank Bldg.
Hastings and Granville
Vancouver, B.C.

March 2nd, 1945.

Mr. Toyemon Fukumoto,
Reg. No. 03007, Slocan City, B. C. Dear Sir:
Re: Cat. No. 239 8636 Selkirk St., Vancouver, B.C. Lot 11, Blk. "D",
D.L. 318.

We are in receipt of your letter of February 24th. Your remarks have been carefully read and we can appreciate that the disposal of your property is a matter of personal concern to you. You are aware, however, that the sale of all Japanese owned properties is being carried out as a part of the policy of liquidation outlined by the Canadian Government. As previously advised you, an independent valuation of this property was obtained and the sale was effected based on this valuation.

While we regret that you are not in accord with the action we have taken in this matter, we can only advise you that the sale has been completed, and, as previously advised, funds credited to your account.

We note your request that we forward you \$50.00 per month from your account which at the moment has a credit balance of \$871.00, but in view of the fact that you are living in an Interior Housing Project under the jurisdiction of the B. C. Security Commission it is necessary for us to consult them on this question of funds—the matter, however, is receiving our immediate attention.

Yours truly,

P Douet, Administration Department

PD/ER

CANADA
DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
OFFICE OF THE CUSTODIAN
JAPANESE EVACUATION SECTION

Phone Pacific 6131
File No 1474

506 Royal Bank Bldg.
Hastings and Granville
Vancouver, B.C.

July 31, 1944.

Mr. Rinkichi TAGASHIRA,
Registration No. 07988,
P.O. Box 666,
Revelstoke, B.C.

Dear Sir:

We are in receipt of your letter of July 19th. This has been carefully read and we can appreciate that the disposal of your property is a matter of great personal concern to you. However, the sale of all Japanese properties is being carried out as a part of a policy of liquidation outlined by Ottawa on the basis of appraised values.

Your letter has been placed on our files so that your comments in regard to this sale will remain on record, but we can only advise you that we are unable to consider any alternative in regard to this matter.

Yours truly,

(signed here)
George Peters,
Administration Department.

GP:EB
cc for Mr. Shears.

LESSON 3 SOURCE 3.29 REPLY TO A. SUZUKI

February 4th, 1944

Miss Aya SUZUKI,
Registration No. 08121,
Box 48,
Slocan City, B.C.

Dear Madam:

We duly received your letter of the 18th ultimo, which we presume was written on behalf of your father, Mr. Sentaro SUZUKI.

We can readily understand your concern on learning that your property has been sold but would point out that this office has merely been carrying out the policy of the Government relative to Japanese ownership of property in the protected area.

We would point out, however, that you have not replied to our letter of January 3rd and we would especially draw Mr. Sentaro Susuki's attention to the fourth paragraph of the above mentioned letter. It must be understood that unless we have specific instructions with regard to the proceeds of the sale of 8828 Selkirk Street the funds will be held by us in the meantime, and it will not be possible for any monies to be issued from these proceeds. We hope, therefore that in the near future we shall hear from both Sentaro Susuki and Kaoru Carr Susuki of their wishes in this matter.

Yours truly,

F. Douet,
Administration Department.

FD/ER

LESSON 3 SOURCE 3.30 REPLY TO T. HOSHIKO

3912

November 4th, 1944.

Mrs. Toshiye HOSHIKO,
Registration No. 12631,
3598 Ste. Famille,
Montreal, P. Q. Zone 18.

Dear Madam:

We are in receipt of your letter of October 22nd, 1944.

Your remarks have been carefully read and we can appreciate that the disposal of your property is a matter which will give you personal concern. However, the sale of properties to the Director, The Veterans' Land ACT, was carried out as part of a policy of liquidation outlined by the Canadian Government, and the prices obtained were on the basis of appraised valuations.

Your letter has been placed upon our files so that your comments in regard to this sale will remain on record, but we can only advise you that this sale has been completed and that we are not in a position to consider any alternative in regard to this matter.

In accordance with your request, we are enclosing herewith a cheque in the amount of \$1240.11 representing the balance of funds to your credit at this office, with the exception of \$100.00 reserve against legal fees, pertaining to the sale of your property.

Regarding your violin and music, as soon as time permits our fieldman will arrange to have this located and shipped as instructed.

Yours truly,

W.E. Anderson,
Farm department.

LESSON 3 SOURCE 3.31 REPLY TO U. OIKAWA

5590

August 25, 1944.

Mr Usoburo OIKAWA,
Registrar No. 12737,
P.O. Box 27,
Picture Butte, Alberta.

Dear Sir:

We are in receipt of your letter of August 17, 1944.

Your remarks have been carefully read and we can appreciate that the disposal of your property is a matter which will give you personal concern. However, the sale of properties to the Director, The Veterans' Land Act, was carried out as part of a policy of liquidation outlined by the Canadian Government and the prices obtained were on the basis of appraised validations.

Your letter has been placed upon our files so that your comments in regard to this sale will remain on record, but we can only advise you that the sale has been completed and that we are not in a position to consider any alternative in regard to this matter.

In response to your request for funds from the sale of your property, we enclose herewith a cheque in the amount of \$70.00 being your regular monthly remittance for maintenance. However, if you wish to have all funds available to you at this time sent in a lump sum rather than a monthly cheque kindly advise us.

Yours truly,
W.E. Anderson,
Farm Department.

Enc. (cheque)

WEA/EG
Credit Balance - \$1449.48

LESSON 3 SOURCE 3.32 REPLY TO H.K. NARUSE

June 29, 1944.

Mr. Henry Kanao NARUSE,
Registration No. 08969,
Kaslo, B. C.

Dear Sir:

We are in receipt of your letter of June 21st.

Your remarks have been carefully read and we can appreciate that the disposal of your property will be a matter of personal concern. However, the sale of properties to the Director, the Veterans' Land ACT was carried out as a part of a policy of liquidation outlined by Ottawa on the basis of appraised values.

Your letter has been placed upon our files so that your comments in regard to this sale will remain on record but we can only advise you that we are unable to consider any alternative in regard to this matter.

Yours truly,

W. E. Anderson,
Farm Department.

WEA/EG

LESSON 3 SOURCE 3.33 REPLY TO S. ODAGAKI

1634.
Cat. No. 713.

November 29th, 1944.

Mr. Shichitaro ODAGAKI,
Registration No. 07454,
Slocan City, B. C.

Dear Sir:

Re: Your Port Alberni property.

We are in receipt of your letter of the 24th instant.

While we appreciate that the sale of any property is a matter of personal concern and may in some cases be contrary to the wishes of the owner, we would point out that the policy of liquidation was, as you are possibly aware, decided by the Government authorities at Ottawa and applies to the Coastal properties of all Evacuees.

We would add that we have endeavoured to take every precaution to protect owners' interests by securing fair and adequate prices, and owners are supplied with a full statement of each transaction as soon as possible, when the net proceeds realized are placed to the credit of their account.

For your present information we might mention that the bid approved by the Advisory Committee was that submitted by the tenant, \$1200.00 which is the same as the value placed on the property by an independent appraiser.

Yours truly,

R. G. Bell,
Administration Department.

LESSON 3 SOURCE 3.34 REPLY TO R. YONEYAMA

July 4, 1944.

Mr. Riziko YONEYAMA,
Registration No. 13610,
Sub. P.O. No. 9,
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Sir:

We are in receipt of your letter of June 21st.

Your remarks have been carefully read and we can appreciate that the disposal of your property will be a matter of personal concern. However, the sale of properties to the Director, the Veterans' Land Act was carried out as a part of a policy of liquidation outlined by Ottawa on the basis of appraised values.

Your letter has been placed upon our files so that your comments in regard to this sale will remain on record but we can only advise you that we are unable to consider any alternative in regard to this matter.

Yours truly,

W. E. Anderson,
Farm Department.

WEA/EG