

that advertising amounting to tens of thousands of dollars passes through the labour department, and to be perfectly frank with my hon. friend I must say that I do not read every newspaper in which advertisements are placed. That would be a physical impossibility. However, I shall be glad to look into the reason why this advertisement appeared in this Japanese language newspaper.

Mr. REID: And why the other newspaper cannot get any advertising?

Mr. MITCHELL: Yes, I shall be glad to do that.

Mr. O'NEILL: There has been considerable controversy this evening with respect to this Japanese question. I may not be able to add anything to the debate, and I may repeat things that have been said already, since unfortunately I was not here throughout the discussion, but there are some things I wish to say so that I may not be misunderstood in my own province.

First, I wish to say that I am most emphatically with those hon. members from British Columbia who say that the Japanese must be repatriated to Japan after the war. I have in my hand a magazine put out by the British Columbia security commission entitled, "The Removal of Japanese from the Protected Areas". It is a fine little magazine, with very nice illustrations, and I think gives a fair outline of the work done by that commission. It is not my purpose to-night to quarrel with the members of the British Columbia security commission or with the work they have performed. However, there are some things I wish to call to the attention of the committee with respect to the Japanese.

When it became apparent that the Japanese must be moved out of the protected area, for very good reasons which were well considered by the military authorities of this country, the government erected some of the finest construction camps it has ever been my pleasure to see. These were in the North Thompson area, really from Blue River to Jasper, and the idea was that these men would be put to work to finish the construction of the highway between those points. Provision was made for the accommodation of about 2,000 men, and they were moved in there. Their accommodation, I may say, was far better than that provided for our own unemployed during the depression period; but what did the Japanese do when they went into that area? They started in to stage a succession of strikes against constituted authority in this country, until it became necessary to move them out of there. Now we have these camps, the finest any working man ever went into, standing idle.

It is said that the Japanese cannot be accused of sabotage. That may be true, but I say to you, Mr. Chairman, that by their constant striking they did everything humanly possible to destroy what the government was trying to do for them. Then the British Columbia security commission had Mr. Trueman look into the situation in the North River area, and report. But what did this same Mr. Trueman have to say about the people of British Columbia? This is his statement:

"The reason for mass evacuation of Japanese from Pacific coastal areas," he declared, "was not because of the Japanese, but because of the white residents. The problem was one of mass hysteria and race prejudice."

That is the man who, I believe, is still in the employ of this government, one of those who advise the Department of Labour and national selective service with respect to the Japanese. I do not see how we could expect any conditions other than those we have to-day when we have giving advice to the department a man who knows absolutely nothing about conditions in British Columbia and, I venture to say, very little about the Japanese people. Let us look at what we do for the Japanese people and contrast it with what we do for other people in this country. I have in my hand a statement submitted by the committee for the legal rights of the Finnish organization of Canada. I have no brief for these people; I am not pleading their case, but I wish to cite these conditions in contrast to the conditions in regard to the Japanese. The brief states:

The question of the properties of the Finnish organization of Canada is becoming more acute as the state of illegality continues. The fact that the people who built these halls and other properties and paid for them, often with great sacrifices from their meagre earnings, are denied the use of these properties although they are anxious to use these halls and other properties to the best interests of the Canadian people as a whole, still continues to be the worst thing in this connection. But as the state of illegality continues other factors are arising which aggravate the situation.

Not only are many of these halls standing padlocked and useless, serving no purpose whatsoever, but they are deteriorating very fast, because they are not heated or looked after otherwise. Many of them have already deteriorated to the point that it is very questionable whether it pays to ever repair them again.

Still worse is the fact that the custodians are not paying the running expenses, interests, taxes, insurance, etc., of these properties. The debts of these properties is thus accumulating and piling up against the original owners. This seems to be the case with most of these properties which are standing useless. It has been brought to our attention that at least in some cases even in places where the halls have been continually used, and the custodians no doubt