

PROFESSIONAL PAPER No. 74g

‘While appreciating the high and honourable motives which have prompted you and your government to send me the cheque for \$1,600, I regret that it is impossible for my government to accept a reward for protecting the interests and property of the subjects of Japan. This, and this only, is my reason for returning to you the cheque for \$1,600.

‘You may assure your government of my grateful acknowledgment of their generous course, a policy which, I am sure, will make for an increase of good feeling between our peoples.

‘I have the honour to be, sir,

‘Your obedient servant,

‘(Sgd.) K. MORIKAWA,

‘H. I. Japanese M.’s Consul.

‘W. L. MACKENZIE KING, C.M.G.,

‘Commissioner,

‘Vancouver.’

The friendly sentiments to which the letter of the Japanese Consul herein quoted gives expression were also a feature of the address of Mr. Duncan, the counsel of the Japanese government, at the last session of the Commission. Inasmuch as this report contains little or no mention of the riot, of which the present inquiry was a consequence, or of the light in which the occurrence was viewed by the Japanese and Canadian peoples respectively, it may be fitting to quote, in conclusion, Mr. Duncan’s remarks and what was said in reply. Japan and Canada will gladly forget an incident so sincerely deprecated by the peoples of both countries; they will cherish, however, the many expressions of reciprocal good-will of which the incident furnished the occasion.

Mr. Duncan said:—

‘Mr. Commissioner, on behalf of the Government of Japan, as counsel for them, on behalf of the Japanese residents of Vancouver, I beg to thank you for the very cordial, patient, and attentive manner with which you have dealt with the evidence of what must have been to you a very tiresome class of witnesses, by reason of the interpretation of their evidence being necessary, to assure you that those who have been affected by this deplorable riot have the greatest and fullest confidence in the fairness and correctness of the judgment which you will render in this case. It is a matter, also, for congratulation, with the relationship which exists between the British Empire and the Empire of Japan, that this matter has been approached by the subjects of Japan in this city without any manner of feeling, without anything but the greatest consideration for the maintenance of good feeling between themselves and the other residents of this city. Whatever feeling may exist in unhappy matters of this sort, I am advised and instructed by the Japanese residents of this city, that they have no feeling of enmity, no feeling but that of kindness and regard for the people of the city of Vancouver. They look upon this unhappy incident, not as the outcome of racial feeling by the white population of this district against them; they look upon it rather as