Japanese-Canadian Commerce Students Collection / Viewpoints Magazine (collector)

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University of British Columbia Archives
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Collection Description

Japanese-Canadian Commerce Students Collection / Viewpoints Magazine (collector).
6.5 cm of textual records.

Collection History

Ellis H. Morrow served as the first head of the Department of Commerce until his retirement in 1950. In 1941, six Japanese-Canadian students were enrolled in the Department. However, in 1942 after the bombing of Pearl Harbour, the federal government ordered the removal of "enemy aliens" from the coast to the interior of the province. During the turmoil, the Class of '42 graduated, but the future of the six Japanese-Canadian students was bleak as they could not seek employment in white collar jobs. Dr. Morrow remained keenly interested in the fate of these students and maintained contact with them at least until his retirement in 1950. In 1982 the Faculty of Commerce and Business Administration alumni magazine Viewpoints published an article about these students, based on the correspondence between them and Dr. Morrow.

Custodial History

The correspondence between Dr. Morrow and his former students came into the possession of Dr. Colin Gourlay upon Morrow's retirement. Gourlay handed them over to the editor of Viewpoints when he retired in 1982. They were received by the University Archives as a gift in 1983.

Scope and Content

Fonds consists of student records and correspondence between E.H. Morrow and Fred Sasaki, Oyama Kazuhiko, David Shiozake, Peter Yamada and George Yamashita (1940-1950). The correspondence is filed alphabetically by correspondent, and provides an account of the treatment accorded Japanese-Canadians in the 1940s. There is also a folder containing a copy of Viewpoints with the article inspired by the information in the files, and follow-up correspondence with the former students.

Notes

Formerly known as the Department of Commerce fonds.

Title based on the contents of the collection.

Records contain personal information. Some restrictions apply.