

J10.11

67/14  
C



## SOCIOLOGICAL JOURNAL

The purpose of the Bureau of Sociological Research is to keep a close and scientific watch on the human side of things in the development of Poston. We want to know what ideas, feelings and ways of living produce happiness and harmony. Since human happiness depends on such a wide variety of factors, our field is very large. The following are some of the principal lines of inquiry.

1. How well are the basic biological needs of people being satisfied? - their food, clothing, shelter, protection from climate, and protection from ill health.

2. How are the social needs being answered? - of what sort is the family life, the community life, the opportunities of education and recreation?

3. What are the emotional and psychological needs of the people and how can they be satisfied in a way that will promote the greatest good for the greatest number?

4. What are the spiritual needs and how are the arts and religions meeting them?

5. How do the plans and acts of the administration and of the Japanese leaders affect people and do they produce the results desired?

In each of these lines of inquiry, we are guided by a standard question: In the bringing about of general happiness, what works well, what works poorly and what doesn't work at all?

In order to develop this information, it is necessary



to make thousands of observations, record them accurately and analyze them. Such observations in order to have scientific value must of course be of specific persons and at specific times and places. It is understood by all the authorities that in Poston these records are for research purposes only and belong strictly to the Bureau of Sociological Research. No disciplinary or other adverse action directed at an individual will ever arise out of information obtained by the Bureau and all confidential data will be respected as such. However, general recommendations will be given out from time to time as seems expedient.

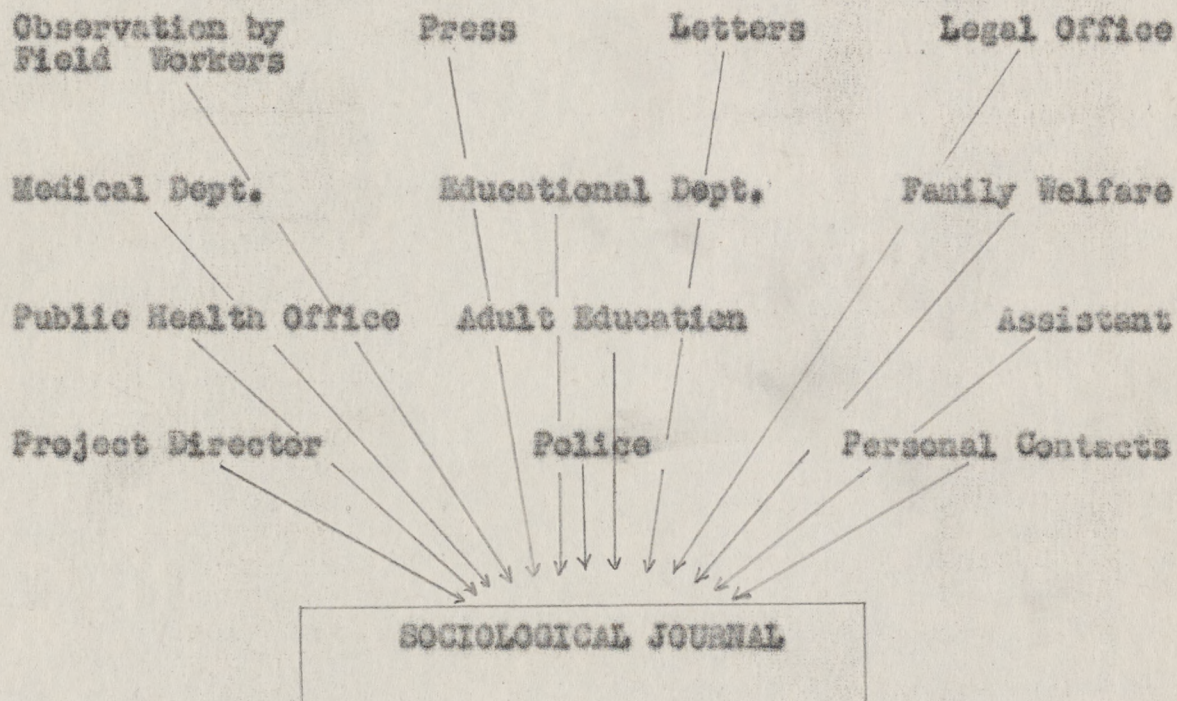
Work of this sort has been carried out successfully for many years by such large insitutions as the Pennsylvania Railroad, the Western Electriect Company, Macy's Store and numerous others and the result has been to improve the human values for all who work together in the various enterprises. Relocated miners in Pennsylvania, a town in Massachusetts and one in Indiana, several communities in the southern states and various groups of Indians have had similar work done among them.

One of the first steps in keeping records is to establish a daily journal of events and attitudes. In the pages that follow, there will be recorded in chronological order all pertinent data which reaches this office. The emphasis will be on human reactions and feelings - large and small.



# CHANNELS AND ORGANIZATION OF RESEARCH DATA:

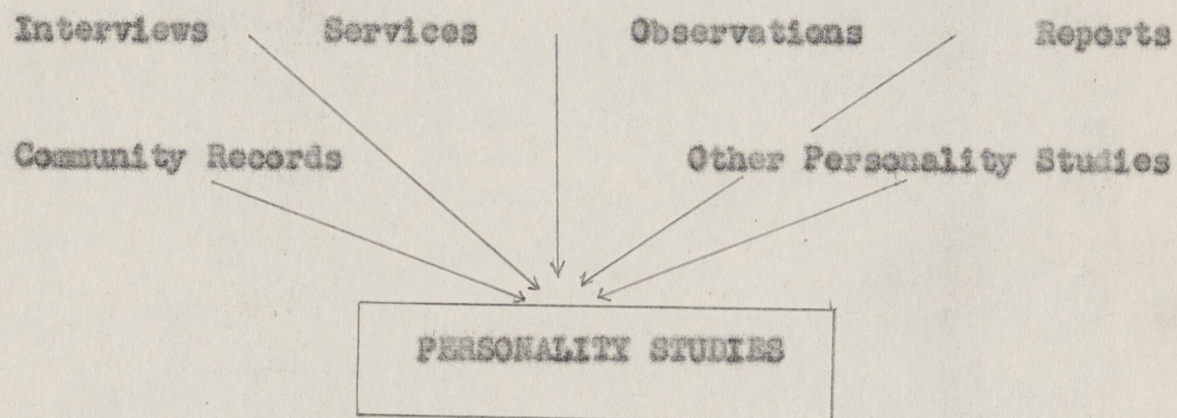
## -- THE FIELD --





## RESEARCH ORGANIZATION

### -- THE FIELD --





RESEARCH ORGANIZATION

-- THE FIELD --

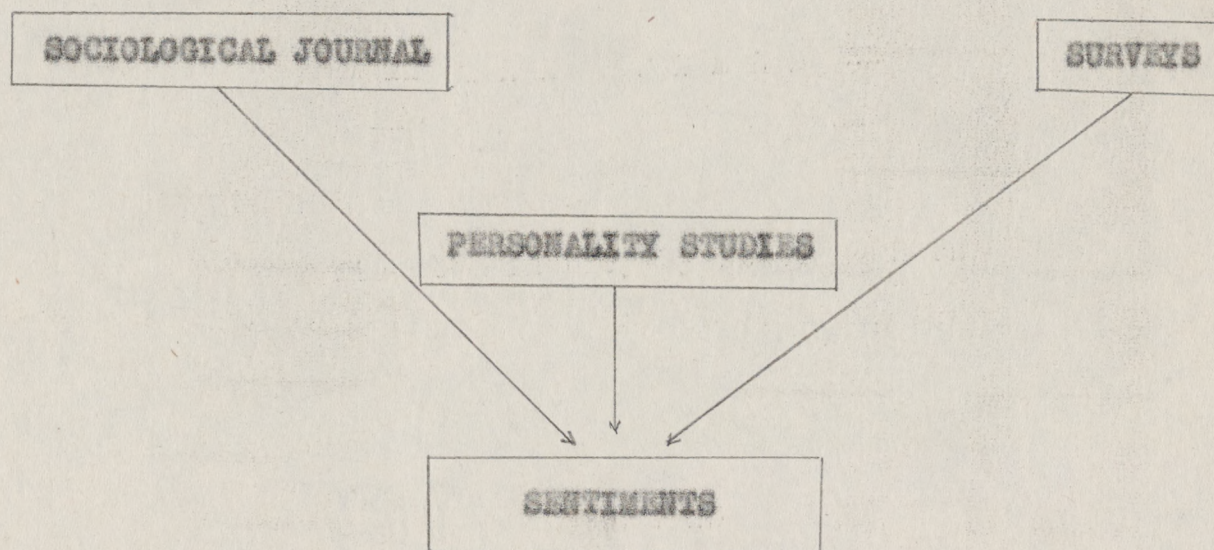
Directed inquiry by staff members



SURVEYS



RESEARCH ORGANIZATION





TH said to me in a confidential tone as we walked between some buildings, "WH thinks that JE knows more than anybody else about the feelings of the people in the community. Especially in contrast to Norris James. Well we all know that Norris James thinks up rumors, but Head's confidence in Evans is unfortunate.



At breakfast this morning, I met Dillon Myers. He was dressed in a dark, very well tailored <sup>well pressed</sup> ~~increased~~ businessman's suit with about two inches of white handkerchief extending above the left breast pocket. He had gray hair, wears glasses, pleasant face, very ready smile and laugh. I had the impression at once of a professional greeter such as I've seen in salesmen, floorwalkers, doctors with society practices, as well as politicians. He was very friendly and pleasant at breakfast, quite full of his success in bringing politicians around to the advantage of using Japanese in national work and war effort and in mitigating their prejudices. He talked as if everything was all very simple and easy, the Japanese were going to be taken out of the relocation centers and it would be no more trust fund.

He knew of me by name and appeared interested in our work. Shortly after breakfast he and Fryer came to my office and spent awhile talking to me and then addressed a few words briefly to our staff who had assembled for their usual Tuesday meeting. He then went to Ward 7 to deliver a speech to the community leaders and I sent our research workers over to listen to him instead of having our regular meeting.



In the afternoon, Dick Nishimuro kept an appointment with me and I took him to my room and we spent about two hours in a general bull session. Referring to our recent staff meeting in which the advisability of sending some report to John Embree was discussed, Dick said he would feel that it was all right for me personally to make monthly reports of my impressions and that would be with the "tacit" consent of the staff, but he did not feel that he as a member of the staff would want the reports to come officially from the staff. In fact he felt so strongly on that that he was prepared to resign. I'm not quite sure what his thinking is on this matter but it seems to me something along the line of not wanting to be responsible even in part for any document sent to the government and is probably the shado of the inu.

I asked if this would be a good time to arrange for an <sup>invita</sup>~~investiga~~-tion from the Council or the Issei Advisory Board to describe the work of my department, and Dick said that it was a good thing to do eventually but the time was not yet ripe. The community is not in the right mood to receive such.

He says that George Yamaguchi and Toshio Yatsushiro and Tamie Tsuchiyama are all being talked about in the community and are under suspicion for being stooges and informers. Tamie and Tosh are in dutch with the Census Office in particular where they have not been tactful in their manner of approach. George has been criticised by the Buddhists. However they are in no actual hot water.

Then he fixed me with one of his eagle-eyed looks and said, "I want to ask you a question. You don't have to answer it. When you were a child did you tell your mother things?" This came after a somewhat serious



and confidential conversation in which we were both discussing the community and telling things about it. I said, "Yes, I had a very happy and secure childhood." And he said, "Ah," sitting back and relaxing, "I thought so." Then I said, "Life hasn't always been happy since." And he said, "But compared to mine it has."

He advised that the Bureau stop any research that took the form of asking questions and rely on indirect methods. He said the people in this community are still very sympathetic with the people who are doing the beatings. There's a beginning of a small reaction however against the beatings and some fear of curfew being put on them as a result of the beatings. There's also a feeling that the beaters have gone too far.

Dick seems to be looking forward to the postwar period and hoping to be able to play some part in the reconstruction work as a result of his research activities here. Ned said the other day that he was joking about being a <sup>ad camped lawyer</sup> gauleiter in the South Pacific.



WH said he sure had a hangover the morning after that night in Parker. He said, "I'm not going to town any more. If I did one half the things people said I did -----". It sure must have done something to me. I guess I drank too much and I had eaten nothing for several days."

WBI agent Amart is in town this afternoon. WH doesn't know what he is going to do.

THH in describing the new committees that have been organized by the Central Committee made some slighting references to the memorandum on "Over all Councils" that the Bureau of Social Research put out. Pressed for an explanation, he had only a vague idea of what it had contained, but said the Council Chairman had had a very adverse reaction to it. It seems another example of his extreme jealousy of any interference with the Councils or any form of government in Poston, vis. his attitude toward Mr. Burge and Mr. Evans.



After breakfast I conveyed the message from Father Clement to Mr. Head. He said, "Welll have to do some talking to Miller. He gets too excited. I never have thought Uchida was guilty and I don't ~~know~~<sup>now</sup>. Keep this to yourself, I wouldn't want John to find this out. But I could whittle an ironwood sword. That's no evidence." And then I said, "Well according to Miller, Uchida has admitted that the sword he found in Seto's room belonged to him only he claimed that he threw it away." WH said, "is that so", in a noncommittal tone.

Referring to Norris James, he said, "That damn fool! He's got no sense at all as far as his relations with the Japanese are concerned. Do you know that for two months he was calling himself an intelligence officer before I found it out? He's got no more to do with the naval intelligence than you or I have. If he wanted to get himself a bad reputation with this community, the best thing he could do was to call himself an intelligence officer.

I interviewed today a girl for the job of secretary, from Block 45. She gave as one of her reasons for wanting to work for me that Dick Nishimubo had spoken ~~so~~ "so highly" of me.

WH told me this morning that he had persuaded FBI agent Smart ~~who~~ appeared in Camp last night to lay off doing anything more in the Uchida case for the present.



Tonight after supper I walked for about fifteen minutes with THH and ES. THH was in an extremely talkative mood and with great rapidity, laughter and gusto, he outlined a plan of "what I would do if I were Project Director." The essence of it was to reduce the Caucasian staff. He said he could do this and at the same time maintain "Good Public Relations." He pointed out how ~~much~~ they were needed elsewhere.

Those to be decapitated were Galvin, Evans, Burge. Crawford would become Assistant Project Director. He would also get rid of Moddy Palmer, Townsend, and Henry Smith, and a whole lot more besides, he said. He would also get rid of the Project Attorney in about six months time, which would be about the time he would need to train up the Japanese lawyers.

I left him about 7:00 and as I was leaving he said that he would keep going until 4:20 when he had to go out fishing with the lawyers and the chief of the Police Force.

Late in the evening, I suppose it was about 10:00, WH came in and sat down for a few seconds and said, "You sure can get tired of these guys!"



This was in the morning about 8:30. Dr. Perky came up to me and said that Miss Imoto has changed markedly in the last day or two. She has always been a very passionate person and has resented Dr. Perkey's interference and progressive methods of teaching, consistently saying things the draw the group away from Dr. Perky or shake their faith in things Dr. Perky said. During the strike she was apparently pro-strike and made the children feel that the Japanese were being very unjustly treated. In the last couple days, Miss Imoto has come to feel that there is a fascist group running things in Poston now and that the people holding office in the various committees are merely stooges for this group. "Fascism is spreading like wildfire."

Miss Imoto has changed from her anti-Caucasian attitude to a feeling that the Administration is doing the best it could for the people, but she is now hopeless about Poston, about the way the evacuees are acting.

Late in the afternoon, Miss Nakamura from Block 60 came to ask for a job. She was a former teacher who quit her eighth grade class (see recent notes on conversation with Frances Cushman) because of trouble with the pupils. She came looking for a job with us because Miss Imoto suggested it.

Ishimuro  
WH gave me the notes of the two men that Dr. Ishimuro said were pro-axis stooges on the Central Committee. (See yesterdays notes). One was Okomoto of Block 19 and the other Nakamura in Block 17. These are the same two names that Ed Auchl gave me. Okomoto he said came from Block 30. I wonder if Dr. Ishimuro got the information from EO.



This was about 10:30. I asked Ralph Gelvin if he had ever received a report from Dr. Arensberg. He said, "Yes, one copy had come. Joe McKaskell brought it along with him and gave it to Wade and Wade passed it on to Ralph and after it stayed in his desk for a number of weeks he "skinned through it" and then sent it back to Wade. He said he didn't think much of it, but when I pressed him about it he couldn't remember what it was that he didn't like except something about having two main divisions. He didn't think that was a good idea.

I went to Mrs. Johnson and asked her for the document and she couldn't remember where it was filed. After a few minutes she managed to find it. Thus does the mountain give birth to a ~~guy~~ squeak. After all the fanfare in the Office of Indian Affairs about getting the thing mimeographed, for distribution, the Associate Project Director skims through it and the secretary mislays it in the files.

About the same time in the morning I spoke to Mr. Spud Palmer about the supplies for our artist which were ordered last September and which were to arrive right away, which were reordered again after being lost in October and were to be especially expedited. When I spoke to him, he hadn't the slightest idea where they were or what had become of the order. But said if they hadn't been ordered they wouldn't be now because they weren't ordering a damn thing until they had their bills paid. They were so far behind on their bills now that nobody would sell them anything anymore.

I later sent Florence to see what had happened to my travel money for coming out here in June. This order has been made out and notarized by me twice due to errors in making it up. I have been twice told that I have nothing to do now but to wait for the check, but when Florence went about the matter she brought back the folder for me to sign in a new place.



Apparently it has just been sitting around the office for the last six weeks without anyone feeling responsible to let me know it was still incomplete.

A month or more ago, the administration had an advertisement in the paper asking the evacuees to rent their typewriters to the administration. One of our staff, George Yamaguchi, has been lending us his typewriter all along so I asked them to arrange to pay him. A month ago I rented a typewriter in Phoenix and asked that that also be rented from me. Florence has been all over the Procurement Department and can't find anybody who knows anything about the typewriter lending procedure. So far nothing has been done.

Last night I sat in WH room for a little while and he asked me what I thought of Father Clement. ~~He said~~ I said I didn't know him very well and WH laughed and said, "He has a big sign, MARYKNOLL, spread across the front of his car so he will not be mistaken for any of the administration." The other night Father Clement told me that until recently very few people in the community knew him because he used to go about it khaki and maybe the people thought he was a member of the FBI. In talking last night about him, WH was amused and implied he thought the father was a little bit scared but he ~~add~~ ended by saying, "He's all right though."



This morning about 10:30 I got Dr. Kasuga and spent the morning seeing the two patients. One was a girl with retro-bulbar neuritis and the only thing about her of any cultural significance, sociological significance, was that in the course of doing the physical examination she had no reticence whatsoever about exposing the upper half of her body.

The other patient was a man of 48, named Matsui, formerly a janitor in Block 28 who on November 24 was brought into the hospital because he was fearful and crying and saying that people accused him of being a spy. He is an issei and was formerly Japanese typesetter for a newspaper. After he had been in the hospital a few days he attempted to cut his throat and told Dr. Kasuga that people thought he was a spy because he was a Christian and that he wanted to die and if he did he wanted everybody to know that he had never been a spy but he hoped the United Nations would win because that way there would be a better world.

When I went to see him with Dr. Kasuga, he was lying at the far end of the ward with his head covered up. He roused slowly when we spoke to him, shook hands with me with a limp hand. There was about a weeks growth of beard on his face. He spoke in a drowsy tone with his eyes half shut. Most of the interview was a monologue which gradually increased in volume and emotion. The interview lasted about half an hour, during the last 15 minutes of which he wept constantly with frequent sighs. He spoke pretty good English but there were a number of words I could not catch because of his pronunciation.

He said that he had been feeling perfectly all right until nine days ago, appetite and sleep had been OK, and then he began hearing people all around talk about him as a spy during the strike. He said that this Central Committee were not the real leaders of the community, that they were



being manipulated by a pro-axis gang which he called the hondo gang. He said he was not a spy, he never had been, but he was a Christian and he did want the Fascists to lose the war. He felt that the gang were going to beat him up and killed him. He thought that if he died that it would benefit all the good people in Poston and stop a fight between the good and the bad. So after he came to the hospital he tried to kill himself but failed. Now he felt that he was absolutely no good for anything and that the tears he now shed showed that he was a coward. And he said, -- please, please put him to sleep for ever. He doesn't want to go to another hospital (it has been arranged for him to go to the Los Angeles General as a mental case.) He doesn't want anything done for him. Nobody should take any trouble for him because he is no good. Just let him alone, let him go to sleep and die.

He got more and more emotional during the interview and finally said he knew that this interview was a form of third degree. I gave him as much reassurance as I could and left him promptly when he said this. I suspect my uniform disturbed him.

In the corridor, while we walked back to my office, I asked Dr. Kasuga what he thought about the situation in Poston and if he thought there was anything to what the man had said about the gang. Dr. K. with his eyes popping said, "Did you hear him say hondo? Maybe that is something for you. Maybe he's got something there. I don't know anything about it myself."

In the office we sat alone for fifteen minutes and Dr. K. said he felt that nisseis all over the community are getting more and more sore at the isseis. They didn't like the secret meetings of the Central Committee.



They didn't like the pro-Japanese form of the demonstration. They didn't like the dragging in of all this about Honor Court, Civic Planning and Labor Relations into the Uchida incident without a single word to the community about it. He felt that the nissei were upon the verge of taking a strong stand against the radical issei, but as yet they lacked any strong leadership. Everybody is afraid to stick his neck out and talk because he is afraid he will be "a dead fish" right away.

They had a big meeting in the hospital a few nights ago in which all the nisseis were a hundred percent behind a plan to organize and then have their representatives meet with the Central Committee and insist that things be done in a way that meets with their approval. Dr. K. has been all around the community and things that in every block the nisseis are talking this way. Before the strike you could not get nisseis to say what they felt about their loyalties to Japan or America, but since this they are talking very freely and frankly that they are American and very much against anything that's pro-Japanese. When they saw those flags go up during the strike, that made them real mad. One fellow that Dr. K. knows went up to the committee members and said, "If you don't take that flag down, I am going to sock you!"

One of the things they would do if they were organized would be to see to it that the Executive Committee permitted no pro-fascist display.

He wouldn't commit himself in response to indirect questions as to whether or not there was an organized pro-fascist gang in the community but he said that he thought most of the trouble makers were the old bachelors who figure they're in a concentration camp anyway and are out to raise hell. The issei have been suppressed all their lives in California and here they feel it is safe to carry on a drive for power. Most of the isseis who have



children understand the nissei point of view and favor their desires, but even so there is a tremendous gap between the two generations in point of view. In his own family his mother and father were both much opposed to the strike but went down once or twice to show their faces in order to avoid criticism.

His brother Bill is greatly upset that he did not join the army intelligence as he had planned. He has a personal friend in Col. Rasmussen of Camp Savage. He got much criticism in the camp for handing out the examination papers for army candidates in camp and that may have been one of the reasons he got his name on the black list. It was unfortunate that the recruiters came at the very time that the strike was on. And Bill felt that he dare not join the army for fear of harm coming to his parents and brothers remaining in Poston.

I asked if he did receive any actual threats. Dr. Kasuga replied, "Not in writing. But a lot was said."

Referring again to the general nissei attitude he said that before the strike the nissei had tended to stay away from issei meetings and discussions. Now they were attending both and when they couldn't understand what was said, hopped up and asked for explanations. They're doing it so much that they're becoming a nuisance in the issei meetings.

His other brother is a member of the Civic Planning Board. "Every night when he comes home I give him hell just to make sure he is standing up for the nissei point of view."

I asked Dr. Kasuga what he thought my department should do and explained to him that we were not interested in putting the finger on people but in understanding the psychology and sociology of the situation. He said



one thing that is important is to understand the nissei thinking. "They won't want to say but I think that will be important for you to follow."

This morning at breakfast Frances Cushman told me that the teachers who received the note to get out of camp was Ann Kunatani. I asked her whether she thought it was kid stuff or a real threat. She said she didn't know. I said, "Well, why not make it the responsibility of the Executive Committee to do something about it?" She said they didn't want to bring Ann's name any more into the lime light than it already is.



At 1:45 I noted two truck loads of mattresses progressing down the road toward Camp II.

With reference to Dr. Pressman's speech last night, it is interesting to note that he spends a lot of time associating with contractors, especially Sam Joseph, the engineers, and soldiers. The other night I found Lt. Young sitting in his room and got a very brief and cold greeting from the Lieutenant, which reminds me that about the second or third day of the strike I happened to be in WH's office when JE and the LT. were talking and the Lt's manner was one of complete restraint, disapproval and distaste, and his replies to JE were in the briefest monosyllables possible though always polite.

Last night after the meeting Miss Findley said that Dr. Wakataki had come to her earlier in the day complaining about Dr. Pressman's dictatorial manner toward the evacuee physicians. He had told them that they had got to learn that he was boss here and what he said went. These are almost the exact words of one Leo Schnur before the hospital began to crumble up under his feet. Dr. Wakataki was sore because Dr. Pressman wouldn't take him on a trip to Los Angeles along with a patient. I heard later from Dr. Shimizu, the dentist, and quite independently, that Dr. Pressman had planned to take him (Dr. Shimizu) and that this had precipitated a quarrel among the doctors who felt that physicians should have priorities over a dentist in such trips.



In casual conversations and general attitude I have noticed an undercurrent of vindictiveness toward the Japanese on the part of <sup>W</sup>H and JE. This has been shown in tones and ~~asides~~ side remarks in staff conferences. HS is of course always like that.

Mr. Collier who was here today said that he had the feeling that things he had hoped for in the way of self government had <sup>gone</sup> ~~come~~ to smash here but on seeing the actual situation he is very much encouraged.

We met with our staff in Camp I and spent most of the time telling them the same things which he told the council and which he embodied in his speech at Camp III. The several points were as follows.

1. We want to know about the collective states of mind, of changes occurring in the states of mind of the people and what causes them. We want to know their reaction to the wage scale, the land use pattern, how letting people go out and get jobs on the outside is reacting on the frame of mind back here in the community.
2. We want to carry on a continuous study of the development of the administration, its techniques and methodology. We want to know why a given element has worked or not worked, and we want to know these things not only for their use in the present but also for their use in the future.
3. We want to study the extent to which democracy is getting deep into the life of the community. And we want to know how the industrial program is getting into the life of the community. Is government here nothing more than the passive consent of the governed or is there a chance of developing real participation by the governed in the government. Most democracies, even though they go by that name, are nothing more than the passive consent of



the governed. We must not take democracy as it exists and has existed in the United States as our model but rather take what democracy can be.

At the same time we mustn't feel that we have to develop a hundred per cent, or an eighty percent, or a fifty percent efficient democracy or we have failed. If we can show that ten percent of the administration here is democratic it is of enormous significance. (He means show this by behavior and psychological tests). Two percent is the case in most democracies. This too is central to everything that is done in post-war problems.

4. The problem of racial relations and contact of minorities, relations of the dominant towards those who are dominated. The family and individual problems of adjustment here are just specific cases of what much of the world has already gone through and which all of the world will go through.

5. The records which you (here he was addressing the field workers) are compiling here published five years from now may be of transcendent importance because of these things. (Compare this with Dillon Myers speech of Tuesday the 17th).

This afternoon, Collier made a very challenging speech at Camp II in which he emphasized that this Project was an experiment in Colonial Administration. His feeling was that it was the responsibility of evacuees and administration alike to make a success of it. I wondered whether the evacuees would be able to appreciate this point of view and would be more inclined to think that they were being victimized by the government so that they could carry out a social experiment and make guinea pigs out of them.

While he was making this speech the engineers were laying out stakes for the army fence around Poston III. Right after the speech at Camp I, I heard Rupke telling Joe McKaskell about this and saying that Tom,



one of the top evacuee administrative officers at Camp III had said he would resign because of the fence and because he had been assuring people that there would be none built and no one would believe him anymore.

Mr. Collier told me that Miss Findley was very much upset about talk that was going on among the evacuees to the effect that all the members of the Bureau of Social Research were stooges and were being threatened with beatings and that in short we had a most unwholesome reputation. I told JC that I thought this was much exaggerated and after he left I had a long conference with Miss Findley. I found the basis of her anxiety to be largely the result of her recent conversations with Tamie Tsuchiyama but that also her own social worker and Dr. Takahashi had given rise to some such ideas. They think that we're part of naval intelligence and everybody shuts up as soon as one of our department comes around. Tamie apparently is in fear of her life and blames all this on me. Yesterday Mitch Kunatani told Spicer that Tamie said Miss Finley told her that her life was in danger. Miss Findley says she didn't say any such thing and only listened to Tamie telling her that such was the case. At the same time Tamie told Miss Findley that she didn't want to leave because it would be such a blow to the Bureau and it would not doubt collapse as a result.

Yesterday WH, John Collier and I were talking together and JC said to WH, "Should we get this fence stopped?" WH replied that he thought it was silly to put the fence where they were putting it and that it was a waste of time, men and material when it could be much more effective for controlling the Indian cattle if placed so as to protect the agricultural projects. Still placed as it is planned, it will protect those vegetables



11/12/42  
AHL

actually growing within the communities and will thus serve some good purpose. He does not think that it will be very demoralizing to the evacuees. John Evans and Ralph Gelvin do not agree with him but still he thinks it is wiser to make no issue of the fence with the army but that the making of such demands should be amunition saved for bigger game later on. Some much more important things are going to happen when we really will need to appeal to the top ranking people in the army. I said, "What about the curfew, machine guns and search lights? Won't they follow the fence?" WH said, "No. If we let them put up the fence the agreement is that there will not be any of that." JC said to WH, "Well, I suppose you're right. I'll abide by your judgment in this."

Yesterday JE said he thought that the Japanese shibais were very barren. We had just seen one and it evidently affected Evans quite adversely.

*See notes on Shubai*



In original Sociological Journal

Invitation to Local Paralysis Fund Drive Dance



23  
81  
Dr. Pressman wanted to see me in his office today. He tried threats, prayers and entreaties to get me to give up Miss Colson's office which he wants for storage space. I told him I'd move out when and if I got an equally good place to move in to. Although Miss Colson is going to Camp III, there will be others to take up that space very quickly.

(AHL)

82  
102  
At lunch today, W. Head was telling Mr. Mathiesen that the camp was quarantined for infantile paralysis. I thought he was teasing, but couldn't be sure. I asked Dr. Pressman and he says it is not. However, the people of Parker have been agitating for some time to keep the evacuees out of the town. Now they are using the infantile excuse as a means of doing it. The health officer of Yuma county called up Dr. Pressman yesterday and asked him to quarantine the camp. Since it is probably best to discourage people going to Parker, if the Parkerites don't want them, a "quarantine" is being imposed by the administration on all but most necessary business. Health Officer from Yuma said some people were even saying that the disease was being deliberately spread as "sabotage". So far there are seven cases - six in Poston and one last Saturday (10th) in Parker.

71  
180  
Dr. Pressman said that the young people are having a lot of pressure put on them by the elders not to go out of the camp. When I pinned him down to cases, it meant the doctors, especially Dr. Kazato. There doesn't seem to be a similar pressure on the nurses. All the doctors have volunteered for the army on a commission basis. None have heard yet whether or not they are accepted.

(AHL)



## VIA MORRIS BURGE:

30

Gerald Wumino has done a remarkable job at Unit 3. It is a difficult position, being so close to the administration and also not being originally a member of Unit 3. He combines brains with tact and very self-effacing manner. He does not want to go out of camp. Was formerly a specialist in agriculture ventures - loaned chiefly to farmers but never farmed himself. He says there are people in Camp II who owe him \$25,000. Mr. Burge thinks he doesn't want to go out and work for someone else in some small job. He would rather be where he is. It was Gerald who was the chief moving spirit in the very successful party given for the volunteers in Camp 3. He was the chairman and was supposed to sit up at the speakers table, but instead all through the party he was going about in the background with a hammer in his pocket in his overalls doing odd jobs here and there that needed to be done.

(AHL)



35 VIA JOHN EVANS:

He will be leaving very soon. Len Nelson will take his place.

(AHL)



2/ I showed Mr. Edward Ouchi our history of Poston (May to Dec.). He read it through slowly and carefully and said it was very good and very true. He thought the people would be impressed when they read it about how much the administration knew what was going on.

He would change the end of little so it doesn't give the impression to the older people that we think the Issei-Nisei problem was all cured by the first of the year, or that it was the administration and the Nisei who cured it.

(AHL)



102 Dr. Ishimaru came into my office this morning to tell me his reactions to reading our history ("We came to, etc."). For comments, see history folder. Then he talked on about the things that interested him. He is leaving next Thursday for Washington to see Assistant Secretary of War McCloy. He said he was going to talk to him about the care of the orphans and other things. He said "You remember that paper I wrote,". He got to know McCloy at a meeting of the JACL in San Francisco when McCloy came to discuss evacuation problems with them. Dr. Ishimaru was only one of many people McCloy shook hands with, but shortly after this Dr. I began writing him about what to do with the orphans. 71 The army hadn't considered it and didn't seem to know what to do. So he appealed to McCloy who sent a government specialist in child welfare and the "Childrens' village" was set up at Manzanar for his children, Maryknoll and I believe one other group. 13 He spoke vociferously about how he would<sup>go</sup> to bat for these kids and felt more responsible for them than for his own. He said Col. Ban Dettson wouldn't grant him a 10-day stay to wind up legal affairs of the orphanage, but told him to get into Santa Anita. Dr. Ishimaru was pretty strong for going back to California, especially people with property there and a farm to go back to. I said what about hoodlums. He thought they should be prepared to take that. They will run into it any place, better back at home.

61 He said he was the new chairman of the Kendo Club of United States. When he was at Manzanar following their "incident", he told the members they were to use their influence to suppress such incidents. They had contacts with Judo clubs and could do it. He said he would stand by them if they got into any trouble over it with the FBI. They asked,



was this an order and he said it was.

(AHL)

102 Mas Kawashima came in at 2:00 p.m. and stayed an hour to discuss our history. For his comments, see not he typed in History folder. From questions and drift of conversation, I gathered that he is from San Gabriel Valley where he was a nursery man and former vice-President of the JACL and then President. Five or six years ago, he noted that the community was in a bad way. Factions and cliques were cutting each others throats. He studied the community "sociologically". He set deliberately about promoting better relations between groups and individuals and getting rid of suspicion. This meant promoting social events and get togethers. As a result, great harmony prevailed and among that group there have been no beatings, no matter which camp they went to. He was very sure that only the people who deserved it go beaten and it wasn't really for informing, but because of "financial" matters. They were mostly very clever business men. I said, "Too clever?" He said yes - I said, crooked? and he agreed. He philosophized something about Japanese psychology. They hate anybody to stick his head above the crowd. As soon as he does, they knock him down. It is the same in Japan. They assassinate, but it is character that they assassinate. Only the action kind of a man can be a leader. He must be without sin, not even little sins - not even playing poker, he must not receive political or other favors, live very simple. In Japan you will find the very successful leaders live very frugal and simple lives. Otherwise people don't trust them. They must know how to speak.



He has been watching the whole drama at Poston and has found it very interesting. From January 1 to March has been the time of change from resentment and leaving things up to the government to being willing to assume responsibility for themselves. During the strike, a lot of leaders rose up and old leaders went down and then after the strike, some of the old leaders came up again and some new ones appeared. People began to argue among themselves and strive with each other to obtain things for the community and the administration was "no longer the goat".

61 He said that the Saturday morning when all the Japanese flags were flying, he was at home having his first sleep in 40 hours. He was awakened by Frank Fukuda and told about the situation. Frank Fukuda was very upset. Mas's own sister was crying. He felt that the Niseis were being ruined. Something got into him then. He felt very different from what he had ever felt before. He was very calm and felt as if all the future of the Japanese in the United States depended on what he did and said then. He went down to the place where the flags were and made a speech that lead to taking the flags down. Some Issei said that there was one NISEI who had guts.

21 He felt our history lacked the human touch, but saw we were trying to be objective. He said you couldn't write the real human story. Japanese wouldn't like it. He didn't think the Isseis would be interested in our history. There were many human things in the history of Poston. There was the time of the inauguration and Mr. Evans made such an emotional speech and then came the terrible dust storm and the rain that tore the roofs off the houses. The people felt that was a symbol of the new council, that its course would be rough.



35  
32  
Then there was the fire the other night and there was Mr. Evans right in it all. He was emotional, he might not know just what he was doing but he was doing his best. Mr. Head was there looking at everything, trying to figure out how the fire started; he was very calm, looking about him at everything, but Mr. Evans was in it all very emotionally and the people noticed those things and they felt now, just when we are losing him we have found the real man for us in Poston. We have found him too late - Mr. Evans.

120  
112  
117  
He said the Japanese version of the Chronicle is too hard - too many big words for most people. He spoke of his resistance to urging that he join the Central Executive Committee. (I recall at the time he was always calling himself the janitor) but however, after the council took over, he accepted. He did it reluctantly, but now everything was going fine and he had spring fever and he thought he would soon get the hell out of here. He said he wrote the charter for the Social Relations Board and Mr. Sugiyama and Mr. Gelvin (in Mr. Head's absence) signed it. He outlined their duties, but isn't a member himself. He said the outbreak of bickering and putting people out of blocks following the strike was part of the upheaval, rise and fall of leaders following the strike. But <sup>by</sup> the time the Social Relations Board was set up, most of this was over.

(AHL)

After having twice broken appointments with me, Rev. Mitani came this afternoon and was very friendly. He said things were going well with him, but said he was devoting his time now more and more to church work than to politics. He said there were a lot of people who couldn't



133 understand what a clergyman was doing in community affairs. I gave him our history to read and he took it to look it over the weekend. Then he sat and talked on about things that interested him. He said the Japanese section of the paper was a great thing for the older people. They were hungry for news. Of course it could be greatly improved, but it was a big advancement over when they didn't have any news.

120 He was much concerned with the increase in gambling and connected it with the money coming into the community from the camouflage net. Previously it hadn't been worth the while of the professional gamblers to do much. He asked what I thought as a sociologist. I said 36 it was generally better to try to control gambling and such things than to try to suppress. He said that was his idea too, but there were others in the community who thought they should try to wipe it out.

172 I asked him about resettlement and whether people would farm here if given the land. He thought a lot of the older people would not want to leave here. He wanted to know if the government would close 71 the camp if there were still people here who had no place to go. There seemed to be a lot of worry on this score. He thought most people would grab at the chance to farm here.

(AHL



35  
173

At breakfast this morning, Mr. Dutson who is here as an expert to repair refrigerators and who has recently been in Gila was talking with one of the men - watchman, I think - from the camouflage net factory. Both think the spirit of the people is much better at Gila. "Not so many long faces there." The camouflage man said there would be longer faces next month for he heard that they couldn't get any more material for the nets and would have to shut down.

80

This morning at 8:30, Jim Yahiro waited for me accompanied by George Yasukochi and Y. Ota. For their purpose, see the folder on Miss Mitsue Ogura. Y. Ota wore a policeman's badge, fiddled with his hat and didn't speak. Jim Yahiro did most of the talking but George Yasukochi put in a few words. Their theme was that Miss Ogura was mentally ill as a result of her <sup>FATHER'S</sup> internment and they wanted me to examine her and write a letter saying that it was a medical necessity to have her father come. I said how about putting her in the hospital, but they said she wouldn't come. They wanted me to visit her so I agreed. Saw her about 6:30 p.m. with her mother, Jim Yahiro and George Yasukochi. I explained I could write a note saying she was ill, but not that she needed her father. I suggested the family welfare could write that on the grounds that the mother needed the help and was herself going to pieces.

Afterward we sat a while in George Yasukochi's house where I met his brother just here on a furlough from the army. Jim told me he formerly worked in a cannery and then built up a



82  
fleet of about eight trucks which he owned and with which he hauled stuff for the canneries, also buying and selling. He sold his equipment for almost nothing at the time of evacuation. He has four children and doesn't know whether to try it on the outside or not, but thinks he will stay in. What if he took his family out and they got sick? He might not have enough money to care for them. He said he though God made a mistake in not making people all alike physically. That is what all these wars are about, race difference.

He smoked a cigar as he talked, his thumbs in his vest, and <sup>WHAT SEEMED</sup> a three-day old beard on his face. His voice is loud and deep and he expresses himself well in a rough manner.

175  
He spoke a lot about wanting to get industries going here, but said they had begun to call him an agitator, so he piped down. For a long time he had advocated making tofu in the old fashioned way without the modern machinery, but he couldn't get the boys in the factory to see it that way. George Yasukochi said he worked in the noodle factory. Jim Yahiro said they should make their own soya sauce - which takes about six months when made right. "This stuff we have now, they make it over night and it's going to poison us."

161  
He said they could make a bakery out of adobe and heat it with oil very simply. He though he knew just how to do it after the style of mexicans with steam blowing the oil flame and they could have bread and pies. But he couldn't get the followers. He said they shouldn't have the sugar ration applied to an organization like a bakery but get extra sugar for it just like



bakeries on the outside. Several times he emphasized to me that these things would save the manpower (caucasian) on the project and release them for the war effort.

(AHL)

36 From Jim Yahiro's, I wondered over to the police station and fell to admiring the fish pond and bridge (said by Mr. Popkins to be stolen from the government). The chief came over and we sat on the rail for 1½ hour while he talked.

102 His father was a farmer and when he was in high school he played football and was a star. They used to play a fisherman's team. The members of this team asked him to play for them and then each Sunday they drove thirty miles to get him. They had a big new Chrysler, all chromium plated, and had lots of money to throw around. He got to be real good friends with them and then one day, "You know how it is," <sup>(he said)</sup> one said to him, "Say, wouldn't you like to take a trip with us?" and so he did and then an opening came and he joined the crew. So he fished for a while and made money, but then his father put a stop to it. He didn't like the fisherman's ways, rough and tough, gambling and drinking. He took Shig home and made him go on through Junior College. Then he farmed for a while, but then something happened - perhaps it was the depression, I forget what he said, but farming didn't do so well and he went back to fishing and stayed at it until evacuation - a total of about ten years. He never made less than \$80.00 per month. Fished from June through to the end of March. Sometimes he made \$5 or \$600 per month. They all shared the haul



evenly with three shares to the net (over a mile long) and three to the boat (about 75 or 80 feet long - Diesel). There were 20 in the crew. There were no salaries, only the shares which were the same for all including the Captain. Only the Captain owned the net so he got the three shares that went into that. They had to pay about \$60,000 per year to politicians to keep bills from being passed that would stop their fishing. It was a racket. All the time the politicians are stirring up the race question, the spies and sabotage, and they would pay the politicians to quiet it down. There wasn't a word of truth in it. Commander Rangle knew that and said so. The Navy were decent people and a good friend to the Japanese there. For the last five years, they always took along some caucasian they knew so if any questions came up at a later date, he could stand up for them and say he was there and it wasn't so. "You know Doctor, there wasn't a word of truth in it."

They caught tuna, sardines and red snappers all with nets. He was very vivid in describing their techniques. They cruise with a man at the masthead, sometimes a month before they run into a school. Then each man is irritable and it takes a good Captain to keep up the morale of their crew. The man on their boat was an old Issei, knew every rock and channel all up and down the coast. A great guy when the man at the mast sees a school of fish and he calls out and the boat makes a circle around. (The chief's use of adjectives and gesture were excellent). Then when they note the direction the school is moving and the drift of the current and wind, they circle around again,



dropping one end of the net with a skiff and then circle back to it - maybe a mile in circumference and then they have the fish inside.

As he talked, he got more and more enthusiastic. I said it sounded like a great life - good fun. He quickly corrected me, saying there was no fun in it, just hard work, risking life and exposure. Then he described the storms and hazardous experiences. Later, however, he got to romancing about the life, lying on the deck in the lee of Santa Cruz island, swimming, fishing, maybe a little boar hunting. Then going out looking for a catch in the "dark of the moon". They were a well integrated team. They would sing songs and there was a great spirit between the men.

He told a number of harrowing tales of rescuing drowning persons in storms from wrecked ships and salvaging ships that had gone on the rocks. In each case, the people concerned proved ungrateful - not even giving thanks. They didn't care about the money, but they were never even given thanks. I said surely he had run into some decent people at some time. "No we never did. Not one. But then we just considered the source. You see, down there on the water front, you don't find the best people. The best people just aren't there." The only people ever to treat them decently was the navy when they rescued two fliers pinned under a crashed plane and salvaged the plane. The navy thanked them and asked them what their expenses were and promptly bought them everything they said they needed.

He referred to the fishermen as being easy spenders and gamblers.

(744)



55  
102

I had asked Jim Yahiro what was going on over at the Shibai stage on block 4. He said he didn't know. I asked the chief now, and he said the same. As I was getting ready to leave, he asked me was I connected with the Navy or the Army. I said the Navy. He asked was I in the intelligence corps. I said no, medical. I asked him if he were ever going back to sea again. Said no, didn't think so. Even if the opportunity came, he had a family now and he thought he better stick with them and farm.

He spoke of the terrible hardship of the evacuation at Terminal Island - stating at the same time that there was no bitterness about it. He said the Jews came into his wife's drug store when they had to get out within 24 hours and bought the stock for 5¢ to the \$100. They lost about \$8,000.

55  
102

I went home by way of block 4 where Galen Fisher was talking to a very small crowd that was widely scattered.

(AHL)

The chief also asked me did I see Dillon Myer (who was here today). I said yes. He said he heard he was a great man, though he had never seen him.



92  
35  
114

I met F. Sugiyama today and asked him what he thought of Dillon Myer's speech. He seemed a little taken aback and said "What do you mean, what do I think personally?" I said yes. He said, "Well, he wasn't satisfied, he thought Dillon Myer cleverly side-stepped all the questions. He said he supposed that was good politics and probably he couldn't answer with certainty most of the questions. Maybe other people were satisfied, but Franklyn Sugiyama thought Dillon Myer was only seeming to answer the questions without really doing it.

165

Had a talk with Mr. Thimmes who has charge of coolers. He said there had been a recent strike of plumbers when they started putting some coolers on the administration building before they were finished putting them on the hospital. The only way they had got them back to work was to agree to finish the hospital first. I said I sympathized with the evacuees because they got short-changed on the coolers last summer. He objected to this saying that it was the best cooled place on the project (this was not so - the administration building was). I said that may have been, but it was not cool enough. He said you will never get any place cool enough in this climate. I said no, but the hospital could have been still cooler if it had had more coolers and it needed them more than the personnel mess. He said that was a matter of opinion.

36  
165

Later I happened to be talking to R. Gelvin and he said the head of the plumbers, Yoshida and Thimmes, had been debating the matter before him. Thimmes wanted to put the coolers up on the admn. building



and the hospital at the same time and the plumbers wanted the hospital fixed first. R. Gelvin thought they were pretty emotional about it and probably both in the wrong, but finally it had been agreed to fix the hospital first.

36 I asked W. Head tonight how the raids he mentioned the police were going to have on gone. He laughed and said "The Chief backed out on me."

(AHL)



Conversation with Mas Kawashima by AHL  
Selective Service, History of Poston, Outgroups

180 For a while tonight at the celebrations for the departing volunteers  
I was standing next to Mas Kawashima. He said he thought we were wise to  
have our history stop January 1st. He had changed his mind. Best to leave  
21 what happened after for the next history to come out in June. I asked why  
he changed his mind. He said because the three point program of Chandler's  
102 had been accepted. It would cause big changes. I said I doubted this.  
He was sure of it. The draft was coming and that would force segrega-  
tion. You can't reject a man from the draft because he is dangerous and  
then let him go anywhere. Mas didn't believe all the centers would be  
closed down however.

He had on a blue shirt and light hat and stood toward the back and  
outside of the audience circle, watching and smiling. He said his bro-  
ther was one of those who had volunteered. Last night, there was a big  
party in their block and his brother got up and spoke. Mas had never  
heard him speak before in all the twenty years he has known him. He did  
very well - wonderful. He is a college man, very quiet, says little, but  
thinks a lot and knows what he wants and does what he wants. There are  
two other volunteers in the block. Three out of three were accepted.  
All are quiet, deep thinkers like his brother. He asked me did I know  
that kind of Japanese? Those who don't say much but think. They do  
what they want. You watch them and you will see that they always do  
what they want.

He looked at his watch - it was getting close to the time - 8:45 -  
when the celebration was to end and the departing boys were to have a  
last half hour with their families. He moved away.

If he hadn't gone I was going to say that I also knew the type



who did all those things and who made up their minds without sufficient evidence because they did all their thinking by themselves and didn't come and talk things over and find out what the facts were. They jumped or climbed to their own conclusions, and stuck with them even when quite wrong rather than have a face to face talk on the matter and get the facts.

I am thinking of Bob Sakai, Tamie Tsuchiyama, Kats Endo, Miss Imoto as samples who have come my way, who have shown this in varying degrees.



23  
K

5

you say

In order to properly guide and advise people who will go out from Poston in the future, we are anxious to have you report back concerning what happens to you. In a few weeks, you will receive a questionnaire from us and it is hoped that you will answer the questions fully and promptly. It will be greatly appreciated if you give a lot of details and facts and you can be sure that no matter what you say, it will be treated confidentially and will bring no sort of disadvantage to you.

BUREAU OF SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH



VIA MR. W. HEAD

35  
112  
Mr. Head commented in his office today that there is a movement on foot in the community to oust the Executive Board, Red Cross Takahashi, Old man Nitta and Dr. Mizushima are in it.

(AHL)



102

Coming back from the river this morning, E H S and I passed one Issei and then later two more going toward the river. All spoke to us first and in a very friendly tone. One stopped to talk longer saying, "Where you been?" This is in contrast to last winter when one usually got a nod or a brief smile, but always the person hurried on.

(A 142)