

Wax, Rosalie (Hankney),
2:5

Tule Lake fieldnotes, Jun 1944 pp 1-37

N.B. Readers must not disclose identity of individual evacuees

Restricted until 2008. Permission of the Director necessary

83/115
c

June 1, 1944

1
Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Rosalie Hankey Wax

JUNE 1, 1944

[After my talk with Mr. Best I stayed in my room and did not talk to anyone for two days. But this solitude was very hard on me, and I decided to risk talking to people in the administrative section.]

Yayoi Nishikawa and Lillian Manji

Chatted briefly with two Nisei girls whom I had known in Gila, who are employed in the administrative section. They gave me a glowing account of the funeral which had evidently been very impressive. At least 5,000 people were there said Yayoi. Mr. Best made a speech and the flowers were wonderful. It was too bad it was such a bad day - it rained by fits and starts all day and the wind was cold and nasty - but still it went off very well.

The other girl, Lillian, remarked that 'he was lucky to have such a nice funeral' before she realized what she had said and grew embarrassed.

Miss Nishikawa (she is Mr. Harkness'(1) secretary and as far from a status-quo supporter as one could be) said worriedly, 'It is going to be bad though if the soldier is acquitted. The people are just waiting to hear.'

These two Nisei girls feel very lost and unhappy at Tule Lake. They are studying Japanese, but their heart is not in it. The conversation continually turned to friends in Gila and to those who had relocated. One girl's sister [who had relocated] was going with the family for whom she was working outside to Michigan for her vacation. 'Just think,' she sighed enviously.

They asked if there were any truth in the rumor that the exchange ship was coming soon. That these dislodged Nisei are the unhappiest people in Tule Lake is not open to much question.

OPLER

Next I encountered Opler who told me that everything was very quiet in the colony. Will have to go in tomorrow myself and see. Huycke took a picture of the funeral for the Examiner - a step which was long debated by the Administration. No untoward results followed.

HARKNESS, Superintendant of Education

Stopped in to see Harkness. He was extremely cordial and we chatted for some time. He remarked that at the last incident, November 4th, Opler had predicted the night of November 3 that everything was extremely quiet and he expected no trouble at all.

The Nisei here, Harkness went on to say, are really in a tough spot. Many do not know whether they are actually going to Japan or not. Many do not know if they can go. Consequently, they do not know whether to concentrate on their Japanese education or their English. 'We can't help them either, because we don't know ourselves.'

STORY FROM CAUCASIAN EMPLOYED IN HOSPITAL

Leaving Harkness' office I met a woman employed in the hospital. She told me that when Mr. Okamoto was brought into the hospital, the Japanese standing around 'were just praying for [1. Mr. Harkness was Superintendant of Education.]

June 1, 1944

2
Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Rosalie Hankey Wax

him to die and don't kid yourself.' I met her again at lunch and I expressed sympathy for the soldiers. 'Don't give them any sympathy,' said she. 'They had all made up their minds that if this fellow is found guilty, they'd all start shooting up a few Japs. Then they (the authorities) couldn't do anything to the whole company.'

In spite of what this woman said, I feel that the Caucasian staff as a whole has relaxed considerably in the past week. A week with no violent happening has been very quieting. Opler was almost gay this morning.

ENCOUNTER WITH SCHMIDT, Chief of Internal Security

On my way to pick up my mail, caught sight of Schmidt about ten yards away. He immediately walked toward me and, in a friendly voice, asked how I was. He said that he hadn't seen much of me lately. I explained I was pretty tired, having been working hard on my paper on Social Stratification. He advised me not to work too hard. I should take off and go to the movies sometimes. He then said that he thought I was mad at him. I smiled and assured him I was not mad at him. I was glad this encounter took place because it gives me the opening to be slightly more cordial toward him than I have been since my stay here, without arousing suspicion that I've been tipped off.

[I had avoided talking to members of Internal Security, because I was afraid of being considered an informer. But I now felt that since Mr. Schmidt had been so friendly to me, I could at least be civil to him. I had heard, perhaps from Dr. Opler, that Schmidt was not happy about my visiting in the colony.]

June 2, 1944

3
Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Rosalie Hankey Wax

JUNE 2, 1944

TALK WITH OPLER

Opler told me that Best's speech had made an extremely good impression on some evacuees. One had written a letter to Best which was just "gooey" with compliments.

Leupp Internees Released

All the boys confined in the stockade, who originally were from Leupp have been released today.

Internal Security and Poetry

Since the stockade has come under WRA control, Opler was able to call out some men and interview them. Naturally, with an Internal Security man present, he was unable to speak on certain topics. According to his account, which made a good story, a particularly dumb officer was stationed in the room with him. He and the internees held an animated discussion on poetry and theology. (According to regulations, all of the conversation was to be conducted in English.) One man, a member of the Negotiating Committee, quoted a Japanese poem and wrote it on a piece of paper. The English translation is: "Taking out the bath water, to throw it on the ground one is moved to stop by the pleasant voices of the insects." The meaning, according to Opler, is that one does not wish to slay this delightful sound with the bath water. The Internal Security man did his best to understand what was going on and finally confiscated the paper on which the poem was written. Opler thinks he may have thought it was a code of some kind.

Parchmentized
PARCHMENT

June 4, 1944

4
Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Rosalie Hankey Wax

JUNE 4, 1944

TALK WITH MR. BEST, Project Director

I was called in for a private interview with Mr. Best today. [I took careful notes, but not verbatim.]

Mr. Best seemed confident and at ease. He is very gratified over the reception the Administration's policy on the shooting has received up to date. Tuesday he is having the whole Okamoto family brought to his office and is going over the entire transcript of the Coroner's inquest with them, in an attempt to show them why the verdict - that the soldier's deed was justifiable -- was brought in. He will then attempt to explain that the Court Martial will be held in an entirely different atmosphere, that the officers not tied up with the post here will preside. Best has been very much impressed by the character and the intelligence of the Okamoto family and is banking strongly on their influence in holding down agitation. They have, it seems never been connected with the Daihyo Sha group and so far have not allowed them to have any part in the funeral arrangements. Best added that the statement made by the brother and printed in the Newell Star was made entirely on the brother's own volition.

Best hopes and expects that the 'good solid Japanese people' will be adverse to agitating on this question. He realizes, however, that a verdict of acquittal will be followed by trouble of some sort.

(Having the family in to look at the transcript is, in my opinion, a good idea. Although the evidence is rumored to be "pretty terrible" evacuees always appreciate confidence and information. In every conflict which has been noted in centers, the cry is always raised, 'Why didn't they tell us? Why do they always try to keep us in the dark?')

Best made some uncomplimentary remarks about Opler. Opler, says Best, works too damn hard, he meets only a certain group of people. Best has advised him to do more calling and meet different people. Incidentally, Best expressed his approval of my practice of visiting many different people in their homes, particularly the "common people" in whom he has faith. They let him down badly in November, however, but he appears to be ready to trust them again.

Best stressed that his hardest problem here was his staff. They give him more worry than all the Japanese put together. He never expects an untroubled state here in Tule Lake and his ambition is to keep trouble down to a minimum.

COMMENTS BY R. HANKEY

I learned from Opler that Best's speech, which had made such an excellent impression, was written by Spicer. From Spicer's draft Best omitted the phrase - "A just and wise decision will be made." Opler, who keeps trying to guess that the decision will be, is inclined to optimism. He keeps talking about putting pressure on Best to force a good decision. Opler also told me that Best had protested vigorously to the Army over rude behavior on the part of some of the sentries at the gate and that these men had been removed. This, according to Opler, is the first time Best had taken so strong a step.

Markley thinks the soldier will be found guilty. Robertson is just about 90% sure that he will be acquitted and that the news will be kept from the people for months and months. I am questioned by evacuees at every meeting as to what the verdict is going to be and always reply that I haven't any idea. Pessimism over the verdict as far as the evacuees are concerned appears to be less right now than it was immediately after the newspaper accounts of the inquest. Best's speech may have quieted their fears, somewhat. The staff on the other hand is largely convinced that it is going to be an acquittal. I was told that a young woman in

June 4, 1944

5
Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Rosalie Hankey Wax

statistics has told staff members and even mentioned to evacuee employees that she sent in the Court Martial acquittal verdict to Washington. This rumor has spread widely among the staff. I am pumped constantly by staff member for what I know, which is nothing. I avoid much of this by eating most of my meals in my room. But today I am going into the colony.

VISIT AT JIM TAKEUCHI'S HOME

Jim was taking a nap when I arrived so I talked for about a half hour with his wife and her sister. The conversation for some reason turned to inus. They had thought that when they came to Tule Lake they would be through with inus, but had found here that there were more of them than ever. Every place you look you can see one. Takeuchi's sister-in-law remarked that you couldn't even have a small meeting anywhere but what some inu would go and report it to the Administration. Mrs. Mizuno, Takeuchi's older sister came in. She made no bones about stressing how bored and disappointed she was in Tule Lake. She has been here ten days. There is nothing at all doing here. She had thought that there were some people of backbone here, but now she finds they're all washrags. She talked wildly about getting herself put in the stockade 'just so she could see what was going on there', a remark which embarrassed the other women. They kept glancing at me to see if I were taking it badly. Then she shifted to talking about going out to the free zone and keeping tabs on the "strange things" that Japanese were doing there. She was very well dressed, as usual, and said that she was planning to see some friends and find out if she could find anybody with backbone.(1) Mr. Takeuchi now woke up and came out of the other room to join us. He immediately gave with the latest Mess Division gossip.

Mr. Wells

Jim Takeuchi asked me what I thought of Mr. Wells, the Assistant Project Director in charge of Project Management(?). I said I did not know him well enough to make up my mind. Jim didn't like him:

Wells impressed me as a sort of weasley kind of fellow. Here's why. We're constructing a baking factory here. He has a grand vision of eliminating getting bread from the outside after this baking factory goes into action. When the bakery is under way they'll make two hundred loaves of bread a day. That ought to be sufficient for the needs of the project, he said. I said to myself, 'Man, what kind of a brain has that guy got?' We're using 4,000 to 4,500 loaves of bread a day now. But I didn't say anything; let him try it.

(Those present indulged in a little mental arithmetic and decided that if Wells' project were followed it would give each evacuee roughly 1/100 of a loaf of bread a day. Mrs. Mizuno said that if this happened she was going to start trouble. She couldn't eat rice and had to have bread. She would go to Social Welfare and demand bread. I controlled a small impulse to ask her what she intended to do when she got to Japan.)

Mr. Hoover and the Spoiling Ham and Bacon

We have a fine hog farm here. They bring them up right, feed them well and then slaughter them. Then they make bacon - but they don't know how. They put it in a little room and build a fire there, made out of garbage for all I know, and all it does is just burn it black on the outside. Then Hoover has the boys hang it on hooks. Everybody knows that the protection bacon has is the rind on one side and the fat on the other. When it's hung on hooks it's open to contamination. There it hangs and it's so well smoked it just oozes. Then they put it in the icebox and it contaminates all the fresh beef.

[1. See R. Wax, Doing Fieldwork, (84-87) for a case history of Mrs. Mizuno. She was the first "liberated" Japanese woman I encountered.]

June 4, 1944

6
Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Rosalie Hankey Wax

I got hold of a major from the Army the other day. I got him to go and look at the smoke house. He went and looked at it. So they closed up the smoke house and the slaughter house too. I cut my own throat I guess. We won't get any pork now. But it'd be better to give us fresh pork than that lousy bacon.

(Jim's sister-in-law added here that they had been served sour bacon in the mess and that everyone refused to eat it.)

Last month we had 3,500 pounds of pork. I knew it was about to go bad and suggested that we issue it. No, says Hoover, let's wait till we get a little more and make a complete issue. We waited and we had to dump 18,000 pounds of pork.

(Later I asked Opler about this and he said that a great deal of pork had to be thrown out recently.)

I figure that Hoover must know somebody high up in the Administration. I've put the skids under him twice and each time nothing happened.

Best's Speech at Funeral

I will have to give the man credit. He really has done his best. I didn't go to the funeral myself. But he attended the funeral and called the half holiday. Reading the speech it didn't seem much different than the notice he sent to the mess halls. I thought it was a darn good idea as far as he is concerned. If that was the full text of his speech I think he's pretty smart. He said just enough, no more. He didn't lay it on too thick.

He's more popular now than he has been since the beginning of the camp.

Regardless of why he did it, the fact stands that he did do it. That's what you have to give the man credit for. It couldn't all have been prompted through selfishness. I don't believe a man who wrote that speech could be entirely selfish. He could have stayed at home and let one of his stooges come down.

Soldiers at the Gate

We've got some nice boys at the gate now. There used to be some guys who'd make you step out, drive the truck through the gate and then get back in. They're getting pretty good now.

Stockade and Mess

I got Hayward to crack down on the stockade boys the other day. They thought they were going to run Mess Operations. They wanted us to give them their ration daily instead of weekly. I'll be damned if I'll weight out 37 pounds of rice every day and 4 1/2 pounds of sugar.

Sugimoto, one of the public agitators number one, sent a letter to the Spanish Consul, telling him the boys in the stockade were getting only 14¢ a day for food. I told Hayward to tell Best that the stockade is getting food on the same scale as the colony. If the Spanish Consul thinks that's not food enough, have him come in and look at the books.

Confidentially, I've been giving those boys a break. I know the only pleasure they had was eating so I've even advanced them sugar on their next week ration. But not anymore. Since Sugimoto started to make trouble, I've not advanced, and they've been without sugar since Thursday and won't get any till Tuesday.

June 4, 6, 1944

7
Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Rosalie Hankey Wax

The Jam Agitator

There's a guy in block 42 who's really a chest beating agitator. He keeps demanding more jam for his mess, when he knows damn well there's no more jam in the warehouse. He insists it's put on the menu. Then when the people don't get their jam, he makes speeches telling them all he's trying to do for them.

Trouble Over Shooting

Takeuchi does not believe there is going to be any big trouble over the shooting. All the goon-squad members are resting peacefully in the stockade. If the verdict is bad, things may change.

JUNE 6, 1944

[After the shooting of Mr. Okamoto, I had written to Mr. Oda (a Kibei friend from Gila) asking whether he thought I might safely visit him. He was block manager of a very pro-status quo block, and I did not wish to put him at risk of being called an inu. In my letter I had asked him to write to me if he did not wish me to call.]

LETTER FROM MY FRIEND, MR. ODA, Dated June 5, 1944

Thank you for your letter and sincere courtesy. I deeply regret that the tragic occurrence had to stop your visiting which I was expecting with great interest.

Generally speaking, the attitude and sentiment of the colony toward shooting incident is very quiet and does not make sharp and strong criticism in comparison to last year's incident. It seems to give me a hint that on account of the past experienced troublesome period, the colonists are acting much more sensibly and observing the present existing condition with the eyes of great interest.

As far as I can observe the present existing public sentiment, I hope that probably there will be no public disturbance or see the slightest tendency of trouble and pressure group. However, it appears to me that the colonists have received considerable shock and a tendency of great anger toward thoughtless cruel barbaric in-human being attitude of the military police.

Other day we held the regular ward meeting and a Block Manager brought up the sincere hope of request by the people, concerning inhuman attitude of the military police toward the recent tragic incident that hereafter, the w.r.a. would guarantee and take proper measurement and caution for our safety and security especially employees of the center. We do not want to repeat the tragic history. If these tragedies occur in any event, it will be the most disastrous thing to see and will greatly affect the public welfare and affairs in the future of the center. With understanding, the mutual cooperation and for the future of the center we must prevent and take safety measures from now on to promote public welfare and the harmonious way of living.

Since November's incident, it appears to me the general policy of the center has been very much complicated and changed on the part of the administration. To the best of my knowledge, we seem to have two authorities, w.r.a. and the army. This will induce us into contradiction of our minds to understand the policy and the settlement of difficult problems with the authorities. According to the statement of the Project Director, Mr. Best stated that w.r.a. will not be responsible for the shooting. In this case, the colony naturally think the army will take the fullest measurement for responsibility of shooting.

June 6, 1944

8
Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Rosalie Hankey Wax

We understand that segregees in this center are given the fullest protection and w.r.a. enforces the laws in order to maintain the public in order and peace according to their regulations and that the army will protect our safety and security with the fullest cooperation of w.r.a. The most significant point which always is miscomprehended and contradict our minds is whether the army has authority or not within the barbed wire fence is the public curiosity toward the administration of w.r.a. From time to time, I hear the people saying that the army has no authority within the barbed wire fence whatever, and w.r.a. has the fullest power to control within the barbed wire fence whatever, and w.r.a. has the fullest power to control the entire center. The people feel the army is supposed not to stay in the boundary of w.r.a. This sounds very reasonable but we do not know what degree is the truth.

Tule Lake Center is known as the segregation camp and in comparison to the other nine Relocation Centers, the state of this center might entirely be different on administration policy of the w.r.a. On account of this the center might need the combined authorities over the Administration. The colony sincerley hope that either one of them must take responsibility, otherwise we will have no authority to conform and to protect our safety and security.

With the most prudent attitude and the greatest interest, the colony is observing the progress of the present affairs and those false communication and broadcasting over radio deeply degrade the public morale and extremely irritate the public sentiment and anger. As the most typical characteristic of the Orient races, especially, Japanese has a great tendency toward excitement, irritation and judge things sentimentally. In consideration of these facts I sincerely hope that the authority take thorough steps for the investigaiton and the justice will be done for a better solution. Also I have confidence that the colony is eagerly waiting with the great expectation for the official announcement of the truth.

(I think Mr. Oda, in Japanese style, is obliquely expressing attitudes which have been more openly stated by other informants.)

WILD CAT JAPANESE SCHOOLS

From two Caucasians (teachers) I have heard accounts of certain "wild-cat" Japanese schools which are springing up here and there in the camp. These schools stress Japanese training of the most severe sort and refuse to come under the authority of the Japanese schools established with the consent of WRA. Mr. Best has taken some action (I don't know what) but apparently it has had little result. The organizers of the schools are according to rumor, young Kibei of very pro-Japanese leanings. The curricula, which includes physical training, is said to be very vigorous.

Another Caucasian teacher, a reliable informant, told me that the young people are constantly dropping out of her classes due to pressure from home that they should not attend the English schools at all.

JUNE 8, 1944

Today called on George Yamashiro to take him the tape I had bought for him in Klamath Falls. The tape was to be used to decorate the uniforms of Yamashiro's Seinen-dan baseball team. A young man who, like Yamashiro, had been interned in Leupp was visiting him. Although this young man did not speak English very well we carried on a considerable conversation. The young men did most of the talking in English and Japanese while I drank tea and listened. The friend, Mr. Doi, said that he had heard that Mr. Robertson had been demoted because he got on too well with the Japanese. He himself, had a very high regard for Mr. Robertson, having met him through some negotiations on work. Robertson acted like a gentleman, said Mr. Doi.

Yamashiro then switched to one of the favorite camp topics, the prevalence of inu. What he couldn't understand, said he, was what these inu thought they were getting out of it. True, they might end up with three or four thousand dollars but after the war nobody would have them; neither the Caucasians nor the Japanese would associate with them. I said, I doubted if inu were making that much money. No, agreed Yamashiro, They're probably doing it just for 16 a month. Yes, added Mr. Doi, they have an office now in 701. (Opler's office.) How's that? said I. It's run by a fellow named Popler, explained Mr. Doi. He's a good guy but the fellows working for him are inu. Popler asked me to work for him, but I wouldn't do it for anything. Not with those guys (inu) around, anyway.

On the people's feelings about the shooting, Yamashiro said the people were quiet. But that was no reason for the Administration to get optimistic. Things were tense and if something funny happened, things would blow up just as they did in November. If the verdict was acquittal it would have been better to come out with it at once, stating all the facts and the evidence, rather than let the people remain in this jumpy state of mind.

In mixed Japanese and English, Yamashiro related another version of the block 54 trouble.(1) It seems that one of the wardens (Morimoto) who kept admonishing the boys was suspected of being an inu. The people in the block resented the man (Morimoto) and his family and eventually wrote a petition that he and his fellow warden, also an Issei, be moved out of the block. They also requested that they be taken from the Internal Security force. The evacuee head of Internal Security (Shimokon) refused, so the people petitioned that the Issei wardens be removed from the block. Mr. Schmidt refused to do this. Now everybody knows that the evacuee head of Internal Security (Mr. Shimokon) is an inu too -else why would Schmidt be so anxious to protect him?

Yamashiro said, happily: Boy, status quo feeling is sure strong now. His friend, Doi, agreed. In my block, said he, people said they weren't going to put up any representatives. If they did, the representatives would just get into trouble.

Yamashiro anticipates trouble in the future. He said, with bravado, people here aren't afraid. The Administration put up the stockade and thinks now that people are afraid. But they're not. They're not afraid of the stockade, or Leupp or even jail. Look how they acted when the draft came out. Eighty percent of the boys had their suitcases packed to go to Leupp. They weren't afraid. Now if anything happens and the camp blows up, they're not going to be afraid either.

(Resentment against inu and against the evacuee Internal Security as inu appears to be growing. It is introduced into the conversation at almost every visit I make, even young girls will go off into tirades against the inu.)

[1. See fieldnotes, May 20, pp. 2-4.]

June 8, 1944

10
Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Rosalie Hankey Wax

TALK WITH KURIHARA

I found Kurihara studying Japanese and was going to excuse myself, but he invited me to stay because (he said) conversation was good for him and rested his eyes.

He reported two current rumors, now widely spread over camp, that the fence between the colony and the Administrative Area was going to be taken down in July and that people would be allowed to make excursions to the nearby hills. These two rumors, whether true or not, were making people feel very much better. He had heard that the janitors were to be allowed to go out first - their names are even being put down. If the janitors went, everybody would feel better, because then they would feel that someday maybe they could go out too.

General public sentiment over the shooting, said Kurihara, is quieting down, but seeing soldiers come into camp, where they have no business, still makes the people feel badly. Kurihara said that he had been questioned by Japanese because Mr. Robertson and I visited him. He told these questioners that his conscience was clear. (Note - mustn't go so often as I have been, lest people begin to call Mr. Kurihara an inu.)

The ubiquitous inu intruded into the conversation again. Having inu around, said Kurihara, kept everybody on edge. Everybody suspected everybody else and it led to a great deal of hard feeling. It kept the people in a constant state of tension.

June 10, 1944

11
Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Rosalie Hankey Wax

JUNE 10, 1944

Passing the baseball diamond this afternoon where the big weekly game was going on, was cordially greeted by Messrs. Komura and Yamashiro. This made me feel good, since with all the talk about inu, it takes pretty much courage to appear on good terms with a Caucasian in front of a large group of people. Proceeded on to Mr. Komura's sister-in-law's house, where I gave her the buttons I had bought for her at Klamath Falls. We gossiped for quite a while and then she said: The people haven't forgotten and they aren't going to forget (the shooting).

TALK WITH JIM TAKEUCHI

Jim was sleepy. Moreover, we gorged on so much cheese and bread which he had purloined from the mess that not much was said.

Hayward's New Policy for Stewards

Hayward has started a policy of having the (Caucasian) stewards go in and have one meal a day in the colony mess halls. Hoover was skinned out of this by claiming that his stomach has been bothering him. Hayward says he's going to have to think up a better one than that next week. Naturally, Hoover knows he's unpopular in the colony. They have to eat lunch in the colony every day except Saturday or Sunday.

In the new mess office Hayward hasn't given any of them separate offices. He says he doesn't want to give them offices or they'll just be sitting around all day. He says the place for a steward is out in the colony where he can keep in contact with the colony mess.

Giri - Term used to explain public backing of the representatives.

The best translation I can think of is: moral obligations, to men or to the committee. We sent them up there for an actual purpose and since they did that we feel we should give them our undivided support. It's 90% up here (here Jim tapped his forehead).

WRA Change in Policy

I've been wondering how WRA has come to change so much. They've been at it for the last month and a half now. Always before it was the iron fist within the kid glove. If anything, instead of going back to the old 'do what you like and let 'em take it,' they better just pull on another pair of kid gloves.

Treatment at Gate

In this respect they're becoming quite reasonable. In fact, they're lax. You'd be surprised how people appreciate it. It makes them feel half way decent. They don't feel like animals anymore.

Mrs. Mizuno now came in and asked Jim in Japanese whether he had gone to the meeting where the possibility of bringing the Okamoto case before the Spanish Consul was to be discussed. Jim replied, No, I don't go to any of those meetings. He then went on to explain that his block (34) was one of the strong status quo blocks - one of the genjoo-iji blocks. However, because of the baseball game this afternoon, very few people had attended the meeting. What made him laugh, said he, was that when the status quo broke, these genjoo-iji guys had been the first to go back to work. Returning to the topic of the gates he said:

I think if it could be possible it might be a darned good idea to get the Army away from the gates entirely and put decent Internal Security men there, unarmed.

June 10, 13, 1944

12
Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Rosalie Hankey Wax

Wells' Idea on Mess

Wells wants to have each block mess staffed only by people who live in the block. That's not a good idea. Whenever you have people in your own block in the mess halls it's very difficult to lodge a complaint. You can't complain about people when you come face to face with them every day. Another thing, when the mess halls are staffed by people in the block there's always a lot of food that doesn't get to the people in the block. It's too close to home. Especially they can sneak things out on the early morning crew when they get there at 4:30 a.m.

JUNE 13, 1944

Heard early this morning that Best was off the project for some unspecified errand. Later heard that another man had been beaten up in the colony - for suspected inu activities.

CALL ON MRS. MATSUDA

Made first call on Mrs. Matsuda in a little over two weeks. Met several recently released stockade internees at her house. She told me that the stockade internees had managed to contact a lawyer in San Francisco and were going to bring some legal action against the WRA. However, Mr. Best had refused to allow this lawyer entrance into the colony. She also made several mysterious remarks on how the Administration was going to be surprised pretty soon.(1)

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION PICKED UP AT OPLER'S BIRTHDAY PARTY

[Someone, perhaps Dr. Opler, had told me some time before that Mr. Best had offered George Kuratomi the opportunity to marry the young woman who was carrying his child. The idea, as I understood it, was that Kuratomi would be released for the ceremony but would be returned to the stockade immediately after the ceremony. Kuratomi refused. Kuratomi and Miss Terada were married when he was released from the stockade in late August.]

Tonight the young lady, Singer Terada, who for several days past has been staging a sit down strike in the Internal Security Office for the release of George Kuratomi, father of her expected child, was delivered of a six pound girl. I was told that the young woman had said in the Internal Security Office that she was going to sit there until George (who had been spokesman for the Daihyo Sha Kai) married her. When the news of the birth was brought to the party, Mr. Robertson left for the stockade, which is nearby, to see that George was told. The Internal Security man on guard said to Robertson that it wasn't important enough.

Opler also mentioned that at a recent meeting the block managers had said that they want to meet with the Administration now and then. This matter of having the block managers act as go-betweens has been suggested by several of my respondents for the last two months. The colony reasoning is: you can't stick a block manager in the stockade. Also, since most of Tule's block managers are elected, the colonists have some control over the man who gets this position.

While walking home alone at about 11:30 p.m., I encountered Schmidt (Head of Internal Security). He called to me that Mr. Morimoto had just been beaten up. He was on the way to look over the scene and asked me to find out what I could in the colony tomorrow. This made me

[1. I suspect she was referring to the petition that the Resegregation Group had sent to the Spanish Consul on May 30.]

June 13, 14, 1944

13
Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Rosalie Hankey Wax

angry(1) but I merely said that I hadn't gone into block 54 for three weeks because of the trouble brewing.

Morimoto it will be remembered is one of the wardens living in 54 who is considered an inu. He and another warden in the same block were the objects of a petition signed by the block residents, asking that these men be moved out of the block. Schmidt refused and offered the men his protection.

JUNE 14, 1944

TALK WITH MR. TACHIBANA - VERY INFLUENTIAL ISSEI, EX-SANTA FE INTERNEE

This was my second call on this intelligent power behind the scenes. He was extremely courteous and gave me his opinion of the results of the shooting incident.

As you know the shooting took place in such a manner that it was liable to cause almost any kind of trouble with grave consequence. But with the experience of the past, residents of this center kept themselves very quiet, knowing themselves how serious a matter it was. The Administration has done a very marvelous way of taking the matter very cautiously, trying to calm the feelings of the residents.

The question of sincerity and sympathy to the family, in my opinion, on the part of the Administration is doubtful. But they have worked in a very, very wise way to prevent some incident which might occur. Leaving the funeral to be a camp funeral was done very excellently and that I appreciate and admire. The Administration was wise in persuading the residents to perform the public funeral. That was one of the reasons which should be considered important in calming down the feelings of the people. Mr. Best was very wise in making the funeral so big. It made people feel very good - at the expense of the residents. If this was a public funeral, which the Administration sincerely recognized it, it should have paid part of the funeral expenses from the government or the Administration.

The committee who represented the funeral was more or less pulled in as tools of Mr. Best.

If I had been a man on that responsible committee to perform the funeral I would certainly have discussed the matter with Mr. Best, so at least a certain part of the funeral would have been paid by the Administration. This time they paid exactly the same amount as for any other funeral, \$173.

Enough for the coffin, interjected Mrs. Yamashita.

On Evacuee Status

If the Administration treated us as loyal Japanese, loyal to Japan, they would have had no trouble at all. But they still think we are loyal to America. They should treat us like prisoners of war in a certain sense. They should treat us according to the Geneva convention and International Law. Our mind is clear now. We are disloyal.

I then mentioned that Mr. Morimoto had been beaten up. He wasn't killed though, remarked Mrs. Tachibana in a disappointed tone. I asked Mr. Yamashita bluntly what he thought of such beatings. Were persons not guilty of being inu being threatened and mistreated by violently inclined people?

[1. Whatever relationships I had with my respondents at this time were based on the understanding that I would not act as an informer - either to the police or to any other member of the Administration.]

June 14, 16, 1944

14
Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Rosalie Hankey Wax

On the Inu Beatings

This is only my feeling on the matter. Knowing the Japanese as a race, knowing them for their courtesy and their good behavior, I say that if anyone is beaten there should be a certain fundamental reason for it.

JUNE 16, 1944

Today called on Mr. Ige, one of the Leupp stockade internees who had just been released after some six months confinement in the Tule stockade. He has been confined ever since his arrival in Tule on December 6, 1943. Among the Caucasians here who know of him, Ige is reputed to have a "terrible dossier," having purportedly made remarks such as, "I would like to see the whole Caucasian race wiped out."

When I called on him Ige was quiet, restrained and very courteous. I explained my task on the project and told him that if he ever cared to tell me a little of his experiences in the stockade I would be grateful. However, I didn't expect him to say much to me until he had checked up on me with friends. He had probably done this already (we both know the Matsudas and the Tachibanas). He said that since I had taken the trouble to call he would be glad to answer any questions I asked.

I was sent to Leupp from Jerome. I don't know why I was sent to Leupp. However, I had the privilege of getting information through the Commanding Officer at Leupp. He told me that according to the record I was sent there for interfering with registration.

When I came to Tule I was put in the stockade and stayed there for approximately six months. I was rather downhearted because of the fact that I had nothing to do with the incident. I saw very little reason for being confined in the stockade with persons alleged to have had something to do with the incident.

After I was there two months I had not exactly a hearing, but the person in charge of the stockade at that time, Captain Hartman, told me my past record was so bad that I had to be kept in the stockade until the condition in camp cleared up.

Then while I was in the stockade two persons were beaten up in the stockade. I was nearby when it happened. I reiterated to the WRA Internal Security personnel that since I was a stranger there I had very little contact with the boys. Therefore, while I was at the place where the beating was done, I couldn't tell the names of the persons who did the beating because I didn't know. This is my feeling. The authorities felt I was withholding the facts.

I think the general opinion of the people in the stockade was that these men were stealing goods supposed to be given to the colonists. One of them was sentenced to a period of two years in jail. This took place in the latter part of January.

[Apparently, while Mr. Ige was confined in the stockade, two Japanese Americans from the colony were confined there by the Military on the charge of making bootleg sake. Why they were not taken directly to the Modoc county jail, I do not know. But, according to Mr. Ige, while they were in the stockade they were beaten by other detainees who felt they were carrying on their bootlegging activities at the expense of the other colonists. Ige, of course, is telling me that he refused to be an informer and that the authorities resented this.]

I had another hearing just about two months before I was released.

That was by Internal Security. Their attitude was rather one of appealing to me. They didn't ask me much. They asked me about the incident. They said would I behave in camp if I was released. I said, 'Yes, I will behave.' They just asked me a few things like that.

Mr. Ige told me that he was planning to get married very soon, perhaps before the end of this month. Later I learned from Mrs. Yamashiro that he had had to put off his marriage for a long time, due to his internment.

[This evening I was visited by four staff members who had attended the High School commencement the night before. They were excited and distressed, and one, who was not a teacher, poured out a long account of a speech Mr. Black had made. The items in quotes are his account of what Mr. Black said. But all agreed with his account of what happened.]

DEMONSTRATION AT COMMENCEMENT

[Mr. Black's Speech as Reported by Staff Member]

At the Commencement exercises for the High School graduation, Mr. Black made an address last night. He began by stating that it was customary to paint the future in rosy colors for graduating classes, but that under the present circumstances he could not feel justified in doing so. World conditions were in a pretty messy state. He went on to speak of the war and its outcome: 'You perhaps have your own opinions and without doubt your parents have definite convictions. But I am an American and as an American I can see the outcome of the war only as a complete military victory for the Allied cause.' At this point the audience began to get restless. There was ever growing noise made by shuffling programs, moving feet and whispering. He then said, 'This does not mean that we wish for the annihilation of the Japanese people. In order to take her place among the nations, Japan would need leadership and there never was an overabundance of leaders in any country of the world. Those of you who plan on returning to Japan during the post-war period can prepare yourself to enter the communities of your choice with the idea of becoming leaders in the preservation of the rights of individuals to participate in the forming of the laws of government.' Noise continued during this speech, but Black paid no attention. 'You will ask the question, however, how about us who are at Tule Center, a center that is termed a disloyal camp? What will be our opportunities if we remain here? I wish to say in this respect that despite the outcries of certain newspapers, certain interested and militant groups, there is a growing appreciation on the part of a large number of the American public about the facts entering into your decision was not simply a matter of loyalty, that many other factors entered into your being in this center. Again there may be radical changes in the policy of the WRA and even the government itself in respect to the residents of Tule Lake. (This, according to my Caucasian informant, was said in a hopeful sort of way.) Even the fact that the Japanese were moved out under a military necessity is being questioned by some people.'

My informants said that from Black's initial statement that he was an American, there was a continuous heckling. There was no way of gauging the degree of response to anything that happened thereafter. The heckling came from young men in the back of the room. At the finish of Black's speech there was mixed applause and booing, applause from the parents in the middle section and booing from the young fellows in the back of the room.

This incident was related to me in the presence of three Caucasian teachers, all of whom felt that the speech had been excellent and were much offended by the rude reception it received. They were unable to understand this.

June 17, 1944

16
Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Rosalie Hankey Wax

JUNE 17, 1944

[On the night of June 13, Mr. Schmidt told me that Mr. Morimoto had just been beaten up. He did not, however, tell me that the brother of Mr. Hitomi (general manager of the Cooperative enterprises) had also been beaten, either on the 12th or 13th. I was not to learn about the beating of Mr. Hitomi until I visited Mr. Kurihara on June 17.]

TALK WITH KURIHARA

The beatings can be justified from various angles. The Japanese have grievances against the administration, but they know as a fact that they're helpless. Naturally, the only thing they can think of doing is how to get back at those who spy on them. I think these beatings will keep going on for quite a while. I think there will be at least a half a dozen more. The Administration listens to the inu and not to the others. So such things happen.

This is one point you no doubt have noticed. These certain persons here beaten up, you'll find the majority of the people are enjoying it.

(Kurihara is certainly correct here; I have found no one yet (except perhaps out and out anti-Daihyo Sha people) who doesn't seem to enjoy talking about the beatings.)

Hitomi (the man beaten Sunday or Monday) had a brain concussion. He may be left totally blind. His left eye will be blind, I hear. Hitomi is not to be blamed. He came back from a concentration camp just a little while ago. But his brother is manager of the Co-op. And people had a grievance against the manager of the Co-op. Then this fellow who is innocent gets it.

Reaction to Black's Speech

That wasn't the place for a person to make that kind of a statement or speech. A man of his position should know. A thing like that could cause trouble. It would cause bitterness among the youngsters. They're going to take it as an insult, not to them, but to the Japanese government.

When Colonel Meek came to Moab(1) he tried to persuade me to become an American again. I told him I wouldn't change my mind. He said, 'What percentage of people is loyal to Japan?' I told him 97%. This was just before the talk about the draft. I told him I doubt if you will have more than 2% enlist. It turned out to be 1 1/2 percent.

When I was in Manzanar I told the Citizens Federation 97% of the people were loyal to Japan. Perhaps 80% true to Japan and 15% doubtful right now. The Japanese American Citizens Federation had to disband. I was right.

You'll find in this camp that if you talk against Japan even the kids will get sore. When Japan was making those big advances even the seven and eight year old kids bought papers to read the headlines. Some of them are for America, but when the Japanese Army suffers a reverse, they say, 'I don't believe it.' The thing that changed their minds was evacuation.

HOODLUMISM AFTER THE HIGH SCHOOL RECEPTION

A high school teacher told me this evening that several boys in everyday clothes had crashed the High School Graduates' Reception and behaved in a boisterous manner. When questioned they said they were Seniors who had gone home and changed their clothes, coming to [1. An isolation center in Utah.]

une 17, 18, 1944

17
Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Rosalie Hankey Wax

the reception in old clothes. A high school teacher reported this to Mr. Gunderson, High School Principal. When he arrived he asked all uninvited persons to leave. These boys left. However it was later discovered that they had gone into the boys' latrine, taken off all the moveable fixtures, spigots, faucets, etc., and flushed them down the toilets. Some three inches of water had flooded the floor before this was discovered.

JUNE 18, 1944

Sat next to Mr. Runcorn, the new Co-op Director, at dinner. He poured out a tale of woe about his troubles with Mr. Black and Mr. Best. It appears that Runcorn came here with the idea of instituting a \$40.00 per month salary for evacuees who work as domestics for the Caucasians. The Co-op Board of Directors was heartily in favor of it. A \$30.00 per month stipend has been the rule. Black, however, absolutely refused to listen to Runcorn's arguments about "taking advantage of the people in this situation" and Runcorn took it to Best. Best backed up Black, saying among other things, "I'm not going to have anybody here siding with the people against me." Black's reasoning is: the Co-op works on an 18% margin of profit, and the \$30.00 allows this profit. When Runcorn points out that the appointed personnel living in Klamath would pay \$80.00 per month for help of this kind, Black curses and swears.

He told me that the Co-op Board of Directors says it will resign in a body if the \$30.00 per month stipend is made permanent. The body suggested a compromise of \$35.00, but this was turned down by the Administration.

Runcorn thinks if the board's stand were publicised it would help the Co-op with the people. This, I privately thought, is unlikely, since the extra ten dollars will go into the Co-op funds for eventual distribution through patronage refunds, and it may be regarded by the people as an additional chance for the Co-op heads to make away with some money for themselves. It is interesting, though, that when Runcorn wished to put the Board's request for \$35.00 per month stipend in the Co-op paper, Black vetoed the idea and 1,800 sheets of mimeographed paper had to be thrown away.

June 20, 1944

18
Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Rosalie Hankey Wax

JUNE 20, 1944

CALL ON THE ODAS, My Conservative Friends from Gila

Mr. Oda said he had kept as careful a record as he could on the initial meeting of block representatives to select a committee to investigate the Okamoto shooting. He was pretty confused about it all; if he, who is well educated in English and Japanese is confused, the people as a whole are probably utterly mixed up about it. (Some of my respondents have told me that the people don't care and think that the Spanish Consul won't accomplish anything anyway.)

Meeting to Select Requested Investigation Committee

I attended this meeting. As you know the Japanese government has a great interest in this case. They have requested the Spanish Consul to make a detailed report and he has asked for a committee to make the detailed report to him. So, since the members of the Coordinating Committee had resigned, there were no representatives for the people. So, since nobody had responsibility, they suggested that each block send a spokesman who was a Japanese national.

Then, June 4th we had an election. Some blocks elected a man and some blocks just sent an observer to the meeting. All were Japanese nationals, mostly Issei.

Then they elected officers, president, etc. This committee is just temporary and they decided to disband after the completion of the investigation. Some of the people suggested at the meeting that they might remain as permanent Japanese spokesmen for the people, but I believe in the present situation, they hesitate to elect permanent delegates.

They named eight men for the committee.

(I asked if any members of the Coordinating Committee were on it.)

There were no Coordinating Committee members on that. This committee was recognized officially by the approval of Mr. Best.

Everybody is afraid of the future and they didn't want it to be permanent.

It seems to me very few people know about the details of how this was done (Okamoto shooting). They can't get the true facts. Besides they're afraid of being put in the stockade. It's no use to fight against the Administration. Everybody just keeps their mouth shut and quiet.

There was unrest, particularly among the young boys. They were quite excited. But there was nothing they could do. If they start trouble, something will happen. I know lots of people had good experience in the last incident. They don't want anymore trouble. If they start trouble, the same thing will happen.

And besides that, the investigating committee has been established and the people also believe WRA and the Army are taking care of it. The committee just started their investigation last week.

On the "Morning Exercises" Which Caused Trouble in Block 54

We used to have morning exercises too. But they stopped it. I believe Manzanar is still

having them. They are not militaristic exercises. I think the wardens are just afraid of public gatherings. There were one or two teachers arrested while they were having the exercises in school. I think that's why they have been stopped here. The block people didn't want any more victims.

The Issei are really hard minded. They're stubborn. It's hard for the old folks and the young folks to get along.

Continuing Importance of Stockade Issue

Unless they release the men from the stockade I don't think there is any hope to organize any Central Committee. Everyone feels that way about the committee. They feel the time has not come. They would really like to have one good committee because in a time like this there is no spokesman.

Giri

That is simply obligations. Suppose those former Negotiating Committee in the stockade. Suppose right now we elect another representative from each block and organize a central committee. In that case we double cross them (the men in the stockade). We admit that they had criminal intention. That means giri. That's why, for the benefit of them we cannot do it right now, unless the WRA releases these men. That is the Japanese point of view right now.

I wish the WRA would release those men. When they tried to organize the committee (in May) everything happened that way, because of giri.

More on Exercises

Mrs. Oda: It was the little children who just loved the exercises. They had a lot of fun getting up in the morning. He (her husband) was too lazy to get up. For the children it was tanoshimi (a pleasure - something to look forward to).

Mr. Best's Speech at the Funeral

He was thinking of the future of the center, particularly of the safety and security. I said to myself, 'He's quite a diplomat.' He made a very intelligent speech. If he had made the wrong kind of speech, it would have meant more trouble. He chose his words very carefully.

OPLER'S CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON

Met Mrs. Opler this afternoon. She told me that the Community Analysts' Conference in Washington has been cancelled, after Opler was on his way. They had tried to reach him by telegram, but due to irregularity of train schedules, had failed. Since he was by then on his way to Chicago, Best or Black wired Washington to keep him there for a month (the conference has been postponed two weeks). I think this is not so good. For while Opler does not get everything, the Administration needs him now as an ear, more than it has needed him for the past six months. This is, perhaps, additional evidence of Best's unenthusiastic opinion of Opler's work.

MEETING OF COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT SECTION

Since Mr. Eade of Washington was to speak at this meeting, a couple of teachers asked me to attend. What with the dull evenings around here, I consented, although later, when very

June 20, 1944

20
Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Rosalie Hankey Wax

touchy questions were brought up by some of the teachers, I regretted being present when Black had to answer them. Very probably I'm getting too jittery.(1)

The meeting was opened with the announcement that Huycke (probably the man most disliked by the Japanese) had been raised to a P4 rating.

Mr. Bagley, Head of Social Welfare, then gave a short address in which he said that his department handled 3,000 to 2,200 cases per month. One possible method of reducing the case load was to make adjustments in employment, take jobs from single people, or couples, and give them to the heads of families of four. It costs less to have a single person on welfare than a family of four.

In other centers, said Mr. Bagley, the families were allowed to retain \$500 and still become welfare cases, it being assumed that the \$500 would be used for relocation. This was not allowed at Tule Lake. Moreover, this was the only center where there were more people who wanted work, than jobs to give them. He also mentioned that the people who do work, do not get their checks or clothing allowance until from 30 to 60 days after starting work. This is something on which the department is working now. They are also working very hard on the problem of stimulating relocation. They started out with a study of 50 families who were not supposed to have applied for repatriation, but found that 43 of these families had applied. He could persuade none of them to change their minds. Now they are starting on a new batch of 200 families. Bagley was optimistic over the fact that the evacuee workers in the Welfare Department were becoming more friendly, and hoped that better contact between evacuees and appointed personnel would eventually stimulate relocation.

Black then opened the floor for questions:

A teacher asked if any positions were not filled. Black explained that there was a dearth of all clerical workers. Moreover it had been impossible to get nursery school teachers, although there were many (Japanese American) girls in the center capable of doing the work. If an applicant is offered a job, and refuses, he then cannot apply for welfare. Most of the unemployed people, said Black, were in the unskilled labor groups.

An Internal Security man asked Bagley about four men in the stockade who had broken their glasses. Bagley said replacement of glasses was very difficult, but he thought it could be managed somehow. Someone in the group remarked that he thought that with the limited view in the stockade, the people there had seen just about all they could see, and didn't need glasses (laughter). Black said that people couldn't get glasses unless they could prove that not having them was detrimental to health.

Black then said that 12 (?) of the aliens in the stockade were soon to be removed to Santa Fe, where, in course of time, they might go to Crystal City and join their families. This would be very nice from their point of view, because in Crystal City a normal family life can be lived and, moreover, chances of repatriation from an internment camp would appear better than from Tule Lake.

A teacher then asked just how people were put in the stockade and how they were released. Black said that an evacuee could be placed in the stockade on the judgement of Mr. Best. He had full power to put them in there and keep them there as long as he considered their presence dangerous or detrimental to the peace of the colony. A teacher asked what sort of trial was given them. Black replied that their records were examined by a committee consisting of the Project Attorney, the Head of Community Management, and the Head of Police, who then recommended keeping them there or releasing them. However, Mr. Best must give approval for all releases. "What do they do in there?" asked a teacher. Black replied that they have a pretty

[1. I was still afraid that the Administration might ask me to leave the center. I felt that Mr. Black might resent my presence if some of the teachers asked him embarrassing questions.]

June 20, 1944

21
Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Rosalie Hankey Wax

happy life, playing baseball and basketball and waving to their friends and relatives in the center. What do they read? asked another teacher. One is reading a book now called 'The Expectant Mother,' answered a policeman. (Laughter) Black then announced that a new stockade, out near the front of the camp had already been started, and that this would include a jail capable of holding 12 persons. This, he said, should have a strong deterrent effect on troublemakers.

Mr. Eade then made a short address, but said nothing particularly significant.

RUMOR OF NEW EXCHANGE SHIP

For the past few weeks Japanese have been asking me about the possibility of another exchange ship [repatriation]. One of the Appointed Personnel told me the other day that the Examiner had printed a statement which said that Japan was making out another list for repatriation, "asking for college graduates and persons who owned property in Japan."

June 23, 1944

22
Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Rosalie Hankey Wax

JUNE 23, 1944

Having heard last night from Caucasian informant that an extremely brutal beating had taken place, I asked several Japanese about it today. The first informant, a Nisei girl, assured me it was not another inu beating. An Issei had lost his mind and attacked the other men with a hammer. One of the men was near death. The man must have been crazy, said the girl, or he would not have gone to the hospital and told them what he had done.

TALK WITH YAMASHIRO

Yamashiro said the most recent beating was over money or something like that, and not because of "inuism". He added that he had gone to see Mr. Best today, and that Best was in the best of humors. His eyes were twinkling. But he still kept a sawed off length of pipe in the corner of his office.(1)

Spanish Consul Committee

Nobody was taking the Spanish Consul Committee very seriously, said George. In fact, nobody trusted the Spanish Consul anymore even though he was supposed to look after the Japanese. The Okamoto case, everybody was convinced, was now a washout. Since everybody was saying that the chief Japanese witness had said that Okamoto tried to attack the soldier, there was no chance for a verdict of guilty. After all if Okamoto did attack the sentry, the sentry had a right to shoot him.

Proposal for Eight Ward Police Commissioners

This proposal, thought George, might go much better than the one to select a Representative Body.

It may have a 50-50 chance. You see the Internal Security is very bad. Somebody might think, 'We're going to change this system.' So the election might go better.

Boys Write to Ickes About Best

A boy told George that he and a number of others had written to Secretary Ickes and told him that he should fire Best. This boy said he himself had signed his name to the letter. (George did not know how many young men were involved in this.)

Next Exchange Ship

I think the next transport might come the end of this year or the beginning of next. That would make the people feel better.

Mrs. Yamashiro: I bet the camp is going to be in an uproar if it does come.

George: It has to come, otherwise the morale is going down. The Japanese government must realize that.

Possible Result if Allied Victories Continue

I think more people will ask for relocation, especially the Nisei. But the majority of the residents won't give up. I think there are a lot of people, even if we lose Kyushu, Manila and Singapore -- we won't give up. The bombings don't mean nothing. But there will be a lot of people who'll say, 'Well, the Allies are winning, let's go out.'

[1. The implication being that Mr. Best anticipated that he might be assaulted by a Japanese American.]

June 23, 1944

23
Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Rosalie Hankey Wax

Black's Speech

I hear a lot of people saying, 'Well, he's a Caucasian. That's what you should expect him to say.'

Discussion on War

George doubts that Germany will lose the war. But even if it does, Japan is going to keep on fighting. They won't give up. They have prepared for a hundred years war.

ANOTHER CAUCASIAN VARIANT OF BEATING STORY

One of the older school teachers said tonight that the man who had made the hammer assault had just been released from the stockade. He had beaten up the other two men for revenge. One of the men assaulted is near death.

MR. BODINE'S QUESTIONNAIRE

At the time of his visit to Tule Lake (in late March), Mr. Bodine of the Student Relocation Council, gave a questionnaire to high school students (probably Seniors, and perhaps Juniors). Today a teacher gave me 28 of the answer sheets. Five questions were asked. The questionnaire was administered on March 30, 1944.

The first question was, "Is your family planning to go to Japan?" "When?"

Answers: "Yes as soon as possible." - 18
"Yes." - 2
"Yes, after the war." - 6
"We don't know yet." - 1
No answer - 1

2nd Question: "Do you want to live in Japan?"

Answers: "It doesn't matter." - 1
"I don't know." - 2
"No." - 7

Reasons: I want to go to it's conquered territory.
Not enough Japanese language.
Not for too long. Just as a visit because it is too uncomfortable.

"Yes". - 18

Reasons: Because I'll be treated more like a human being instead of always being descriminated like a dog. (dog scratched out).

Because we were descriminated too much and even though Nisei were graduated Engineer's school they didn't get much chance to get good opportunities.

Because we have a home there. Not that I don't like the U.S.

Because I have my relations to live with in Japan.

Afraid of racial descrimination after the War too if we stay in U.S.

Because I think I'll be with my group.

Because I'm naturally that way. Love new sceneries to move around. See the world.

Opportunity.

I want to be with my people where I can be treated like a human being. (Poor Negro).

All our property, etc. are in Japan. The land of superior race which the people are not being pushed around by other country people.

No social descrimination, at least.

Because I have been discriminated. I have tried my best to be like the rest of Americans, but wouldn't accept me as such.

For the years of education.

Because I found out what democracy really means. I think people who have the blood of a Japanese will never be able to live and be treated just like any other citizens of U.S. (especially in cases of emergency). Yes, a racial discrimination.

My father dies just before the war and evacuation and I feel that I would have more security amongst relatives near the homes of my mother and father. It would be hard for a woman with little children to go out and try to make a living at present. My mother's wish is to go to Japan and I'm with her for always.

I will like to have some education in Japanese and learn more of the Japanese life.

Question 3: "Would you care to stay in the United State?" (question implied from answers.)

Answers: "Yes." - 7

Reasons or Conditions:

It depends a great deal how the Nisei problem is going to turn out from now till the end of the war.

The field I'm taking cannot be completed in Japan, I want to stay in U.S. and complete my education before thinking of going anywhere.

If there is no racial discrimination.

I was born and reared under American customers - there's no place like home. In school I was taught to believe in Democratic principles of life. I don't know how to live in any other country and do not wish to do so. But don't you think we owe our folks something as far as their opinions are concerned.

I was brought up here and I have learned to love it here.

But it's hard for me to get along with the Caucasians after the war, if they understand our situation I like to stay.

"Yes and No." - 1

Reason: Depression after war. To finish my education and to convince the Caucasian that Japanese are human as well as they.

"No." - 20

Reason: Because there will still be race prejudice toward us also as depression.

West pushed around too much like dogs.

We Japanese get kick around too much. No lie.

Because there is too much racial discrimination. After this war it will be worse. Democracy is very good idea but not for the colored race. In Japan I think I would be more help toward society than in the U.S.

Because if I am gong to Japan what good will it do to be here. But would like to come here on conditions.

Hell No. Always getting called a dirty Jap and yellow bellies. Who in the hell wants to get called that?

We lost what we owned. Not that many others haven't, but it's just that we have nothing left here.

Because every place we go we will be kicked around.

I really should say Yes to this question because I was education and learn most of culture here; but when a country would not hold its constitution, well, I guess you know why I answered No!

We have yellow skin.

Out here in United States we are treated like Japs. Even if we have citizenship. Once a Jap always a Jap.

I have no property, friends, etc., in America. No future in America.

Because I want to readjust myself. I know that my feature will never change, prejudice against Japanese will always exist, so therefore I would like to go back to my parents' country.

Because I don't feel like staying, that's all. I have more things to say but waste.

Not the way we been kicked around.

Question 4: (implied from answers) "Do you plan to go to some country other than Japan?"

Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Answers: "No." 1
Not answered. - 13

Other comments:

Yes, we may have more opportunities elsewhere than in Japanese program.

Even if we are of Japanese blood, when we do go back, will they treat us like one of them or will we be treated as we were in this country. One is just as bad as the other. Our life is very insecure.

If the living here is an impossible for us, I would prefer to go to some foreign country.

It does not matter as to where a Nisei will live. Where they (Nisei) go - Japan or United States, they will be discriminated. Nisei's will be discriminated in Japan as well as U.S. Maybe more so.

I will like to go to Japan but I will like to come back to United States.

Yes, go to the new frontiers opened by the Japanese government.

Go to some other islands in the Pacific and conduct a business making use of the languages I know (Spanish, English, Japanese).

I like to go to some isolated island and live a new life.

Yes, go to all the little countries and have a big business where there's no more democracy not dictatorship.

Live some other island near Japan and begin farming.

Go to the South Pacific.

Planning to go to the Far East Lands, as Phillipine Islands and that's why I think English education will come in use.

Yes, I want to go to some islands in the Pacific and start all over.

Yes, it's a secret.

Question 5: "Have you ever been to Japan?"

Answers: Not answered - 2
"No." - 18 (Comment, but I want to go.)
"Yes." - 8

Length of stay - years unknown
6 months when I was small
5 months
Just for a summer vacation - 1938 - June to August
13 years
1 year
2 months
2 years, just visited

June 24, 1944

27
Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Rosalie Hankey Wax

JUNE 24, 1944

MR. AND MRS. MATSUDA

Called on Mr. and Mrs. Matsuda (ardent Resegregationists). Mr. Matsuda usually does not say much, but today he told me that Mr. Hitomi, the general manager of the Co-op had tried to bribe Mr. Wakayama (who, I heard whispers is the leader of the Manzanar gang) with a large sum of money in the hope that Wakayama would influence the segregants from Manzanar to join the Co-op. I asked about the proposed election of Police Commissioners. On this matter, both Mr. and Mrs. Matsuda expressed themselves as hoping that the election would be a bigger flop than the attempt to nominate an Arrangements Committee [on May 18].

MRS. TAKEUCHI

Tried to talk to Jim Takeuchi but found that he was not at home. His wife suggested I call tomorrow. She seemed very anxious and upset and when I spoke sympathetically she said, "I think everybody is nervous in here. This place gives me the willies."

EXCERPT FROM NEWELL STAR, June 22, 1944

Terminations to Begin July 1 for Working Couples

Reduction of employment in families of two where both had been working, is going ahead in good shape, according to a statement from Personnel Officer Frank D. Fagan.

Voluntary terminations in families of two where both are working will continue until July 1. After that date, the Personnel Officer will request division and section heads to make the necessary terminations. However, at the rate the voluntary terminations have been progressing it is expected that there will be very few left on the employment rolls where action by the division and section heads will become necessary.

(In his speech before the Community Management Division, Black said that in cases, where both workers are definitely needed by the WRA, they may continue working with a kind of special dispensation. They will be deemed necessary to the Administration.)

June 25, 1944

28
Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Rosalie Hankey Wax

JUNE 25, 1944

CALL AT THE TAKEUCHIS

[Many months later, on October 25, Mrs. Yamashiro told me that Jim Takeuchi relocated because he had been threatened by one of the "strong-arm" gangs and feared for his life. At the time I wondered whether his very disturbed state during this visit might not have been caused by the threat. I wrote to Jim, asking him about this, but he did answer my letter.]

Attitude of People in Tule Lake - The Co-op

I'm getting sick of the attitude of the people. They are always cutting each others throats. Take the 'well organized Co-op' for instance. Heretofore there has been a rumor that quite a few of the boys high up in the Co-op very nicely relocated with a big wad of dough. That's a very nice thing to do to the poor Japs in here.

They claim it is the policy of all good Co-ops only to pay off when their working capital is tripled - then the dividend can be paid. But inasmuch as the people are stuck here for the duration, I don't think that's necessary. Instead of paying off, what do they do? Build a new soda water factory and other things, and you can't tell me they're going to be able to pay that off in one summer.

The Co- p also has from 180 to 200 cases of Troco Margarine. I'd like to know where they got it because that stuff is on the point list. (I heard another accusation of the Co-op getting produce on the black market yesterday, this time the items were hot plates.)

Noriko: (Jim's sister) I was in the Co-op yesterday when Akitsuki came in. You know, we all turned the back to him. Every one of us. You could see how it was - public inu number 1.

Jim: Yamatani (ex-Coordinating Committee member) tried to gyp us out of about 100 cakes of tofu the other day. The tofu is sent to the messes in tubs of about 50 cakes each. Each mess called up and complained that they were from five to ten cakes short. I went to see Yamatani about it. He said, 'Of course, it's possible that the fellows in the mess took them home with them.' He finally promised that the Co-op would make the loss good.

Job for Mr. Best's Son

Did you know that in order to create a job for Best's son (as messenger), they fired four or five of the Japanese messengers?

Jim's Current Disgust With Camp

When I came here I expected to find quite a different atmosphere. When the people realized they were here for the same reason, I expected that they would be willing to help a guy when he needed it. Instead, now if you've got five dollars they'll think of how they can get it away from you.

Some of the smartest people I know are getting digusted. These are real intelligent people. They came here and expected to find a cooperative atmosphere and they're pretty well disgusted. Their remarks add up to something like this: 'It's not a case now of whether I want to go back to the old country. It's a case of whether I can stay here long enough to go back to the old country and still retain my self-respect.'

The trouble is they expect you to act like a damn radical and go out and kill every hakujin on the other side of the fence and when you don't act like that you are an inu.

Jim is Considering Relocation

The only reason I'd consider relocation is that I've got a pretty good thing coming up. As you should know by this time, the majority of Nisei came in here because they didn't want to go into the Army. That's one of the main reasons why the Nisei are here, 98% of them, myself included. I couldn't see fit to pack a gun for something I didn't see my way clear to. If they had treated us differently, I would have volunteered. Now, seeing as how they're deferring people over 26, I think I might take a chance.

You see, if the war lasts three more years, I'll be 33. Then I get deported to Japan. It'll take me ten years to get on my feet. It seems to me Germany is going to pull a flopperoo. I wouldn't want to be here when that happens. I don't care if Japan has 17 kinds of Yamato Damashii, she isn't going to be able to buck fighting three big nations.

(Jim told me that he had been offered a pretty good job in the Washington office by Hayward. He figured that if he took this, even if he were drafted, the war would probably be over before he got sent overseas.)

Power of Colonists' Belief in Japanese Victory

Believe it or not a fellow told me the other day that Japan was going to have a decisive victory and that the war would be over in seven days! A girl told me the other day, 'You're so thoroughly Americanized, I don't believe you belong here.'

Jim's Self Analysis

My coming here was in itself a defense mechanism. It was another retaliatory action to get even with the way I'd been treated previously. On the other hand, I feel that in retaliating I not only hurt the government, but eventually I'll hurt myself more.

The only people Japan actually wants are those she can use immediately after the war, diplomats and persons with Engineering degrees. I've been telling people, if Japan should lose the war, which there's a very good chance of her doing right now, and if we were to relocate and were placed on the same standard of living as the Negro in this country, we'd still be able to have a better standard of living than as poor people in Japan. Besides, when the Japanese went to the south they were never treated as the Negroes were.

Demoralization of Old Men

A lot of the old men are getting goofier and goofier. They stand around in the latrines and mutter to themselves. I think they're losing their minds.

A Japanese Victory in the Pacific

I'd hate to see it happen. In spite of the fact that the Internal Security is on the lookout for short wave receivers, if the local broadcasts were to confirm the victory and the short wave broadcasts were to exaggerate it, I don't think there'd be no holding the pressure gang (Resegregation Group) in here.

A Decisive American Victory

I've often wondered. If there were a very decisive victory, I think there'd be a great breakdown in morale. Especially among certain people who have decided that Japan couldn't lose. With the breakdown in morale there would come a time when some of them would try in some way to avenge the defeat of Japan. When that happens, they'd better start building more fences.

June 25, 1944

30
Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Rosalie Hankey Wax

New Police Commission

I don't know. I don't think it's going to be such a hot idea. The people aren't going to like it, I think. It's giving the people the impression that they're putting them under additional surveillance.

Co-op

It wouldn't surprise me a bit if Mr. Best wasn't getting a little from the co-op. Inasmuch as there have been three dividends passed up for lack of funds. That starts to smell.

Appointed Personnel Misdeeds

Private Sherwood is the vet here. He and the storekeeper for the butcher shop (Caucasian) got to feeling good one night. The private had a WRA car and WRA gas, which he was to turn in at six o'clock in the evening. But they decided to take a trip to Alturas. They got bottles, picked up some minor girls, all partook of the bottle, the little girl wanted to drive, 45, 50, 55 - CRASH - no car. The WRA was able to hush hush the local papers but it got into the Eastern papers and got to the ears of Dillon S. Myer. Myer, not being connected with the Army, couldn't do anything to the soldier, but the other guy got his throat cut from ear to ear (figuratively speaking). His name was George McKee.

About Muir, Head of Procurement - it seems he and Mr. Hayward applied for gas rationing coupons at the same time. Hayward asked for 400 miles a month. Muir, thinking he's a pretty big shot, asked for 800 miles. Hayward got his gas, but they put a spotter on Muir to see why he needed so much gas. They followed Mrs. Muir out to Tule and Klamath, where she likes to go to get her hair fixed. So they said, 'Sorry, no gas.' Now he's got to appeal to Sacramento. And he's the guy who screamed like hell when mess operations went over the budget a couple of thousand dollars.

JUNE 26, 1944TALK WITH TEACHERS AND STATISTICS WORKERSCo-op

At a discussion last night between two teachers and two statistic workers, I was told of how the teacher in charge of young evacuee teachers had started a discussion on the Co-op. The young people had immediately begun to criticize. The teacher, Miss Hobby, had then suggested that the young people get their complaints in order and invite Mr. Runcorn, the new Co-op head, to speak to them and answer these complaints. After some consultation the evacuee teachers refused absolutely to do this. Miss Hobby said that she pointed out that it was their duty as 'leaders of the community' to take this action, but the young people remained unmoved. 'We start that,' said one of them, 'and it'll be two-by-fours for us.'

TALK WITH MR. KURIHARAPolice Commissioners

Dropped in on Kurihara to ask him about reactions to the news of Allied Victories in the Pacific, but I began the conversation by asking about the proposed election of Ward Police Commissioners tomorrow. He said he had not even heard of it, but he was of the opinion that it would be a resounding failure. Nobody with any self respect would take the position because they would invariably be labelled as inu.

Results of Allied Victories in the Pacific

These persons who will change their minds now are no good to either country. These boys who fluctuate are no good. You'll find there are many of that kind. You know only half of the people here are registered to go to Japan. They just want to wait and see how it turns out. If Japan wins they want to go to Japan and if the United States wins they want to stay here. It's disgraceful. It makes me ashamed of the Japanese race, especially the Issei.

But if America had not evacuated the second generation, then probably most of them would have sworn to support the United States, and would have fought in this war. Now they're willing to go out (relocate) whether they're despised or not.

I've talked to many of them. They say, 'I'm going back to Japan.' Then I ask, 'Then why aren't you studying?' They're not studying. They're just fooling around and gambling and having a good time.

Kurihara Criticises Japan

Kurihara said he had just had an argument with Mr. Tokunaga on Japan. He (Kurihara) had criticised some of Japan's policies and said there were things in Japan that he would like to see changed. Mr. Kurihara seemed nervous and ill at ease and shifted the topic to Morimoto, the man (block 54) who has been beaten. He said that Morimoto's children had not been able to get along with the other children in the block.

Then Morimoto wanted to send his children to school in the next ward. But the teacher there had found out about the children and refused. So in order to get back against the block Morimoto commenced to point out people who should be sent to the stockade.

(I asked if the eleven persons from 54 who had been interned, were denounced by Morimoto. Kurihara said they were.)

June 26, 27, 1944

32
Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Rosalie Hankey Wax

So he was more disliked than ever. Finally it culminated in a beating. He tried to scare the people by telling them that he was going to send whoever wasn't behaving right to the stockade. He asked for it and he got it.

Sentiment of Camp Unity

If the agitators and the spies get out of here we'll be united. But it wouldn't matter if we didn't have unity, so long as we have peace.

[On June 8, Mr. Kurihara had given me several short papers written by an Issei friend, Morihiko Tokunaga, who lived in the Manzanar Section. I had been impressed by these papers and asked Mr. Kurihara if it would be all right if I visited Mr. Tokunaga. Kurihara encouraged me to make the visit.]

JUNE 27, 1944

Heard this morning from Caucasian informant that 19 Issei are scheduled to leave for Santa Fe detention camp from the stockade tomorrow morning.

TALK WITH MORIHIKO TOKUNAGA

[Morihiko Tokunaga was an Issei, 66 years old, who had been segregated to Tule Lake from Manzanar in February. He was a member of the Seicho no Ie Shinto sect and he was, evidently, on very good terms with Mr. Kurihara. He had three children, all of whom renounced their citizenship. He impressed me as a gentle, benevolent, but very brave man and on October 15 he was to be severely beaten by the "Manzanar Gang".](1)

Paid a visit today to the Issei friend of Kurihara's, Mr. Tokunaga. He is the same man who wrote the "Defense of the Nisei," which I mailed to you about two weeks ago. We had a long and enjoyable conversation and when I left he asked me to come and discuss any camp matter with him whenever I chose. He also would like to prepare a paper for you on "Issei Feelings Toward Japan in the War," which I encouraged. He is an honest, kindly, but somewhat naive individual; however, he is not lacking in personal courage or he would not have sent the following communication to Mr. Best which was passed on to Dillon Myer. (Tokunaga gave me a copy.)

Subejct: A collection of impressions at Tule Lake Center.
Give us segregees a fair treatment.

Our First Impression

Before we segregees left Manzanar, we had been told by the WRA officials there that we would be treated fairly at Tule Lake Segregation Camp according to the international agreements. When we arrived here at the end of February, 1944, however, we found everything contrary to our expectations.

[1. "Seicho-No-Ie is an internationally renowned humanity-enlightened movement or truth movement founded in Japan by Dr. Masaharu Taniguchi in 1930 through divine revelation, based on the sublime ideal of bringing genuine happiness to all mankind -- an ideal of world of happiness, gratitude, and peace -- not a mere visionary Utopia but the manifestation here on this earth of a home of infinite unfoldment brimming with abundant life and creation." (Contemporary Religions in Japan, IV, No. 3 (September 1963) pp. 212-229.)

Literally Seicho No Ie means "house of growth". Loosely it may be translated as "The Home of Infinite Wisdom and Abundance."]

Tule Lake Fieldnotes

The very first impression we received after our arrival here, was that we were being looked upon as traitors or criminals to be deported. The food was so abominable and scanty, and every one was losing weight (though it has improved recently). (Note: Mr. Tokunaga arrived in Tule in the middle of February, when, I have been told, the food had already improved a great deal.) Clothing allowances and financial aids were given us grudgingly after a long delay. When clothing allowance and financial aid were given us, the officials seemed as though they were always looking for some excuses not to give us what we believe were entitled to. When we made protests against what appeared to be unfair, we were often told, "This is a segregation camp and is different from other centers."

Americans in Japan Treated Fairly

According to the testimonies at Manzanar by the three Americans at three different occasions who returned from Japan on the exchange boat, they were given about the same kind or a little better food in the camp than they used to have outside before the war in Japan, and they never have been pushed around.

Give All of Us Jobs

Work is absolutely necessary for anyone for both financial reasons and particularly health reasons. American war prisoners in Japan, according to a news reporter, are made to work for a few hours every day for their health and they are paid for it.

There are approximately ten thousand employable persons in this camp, I am informed, and only about five thousand of them are employed at present. I request Administration Officials to increase jobs as soon as possible to employ all the persons who are willing to work. If, however, it is impossible to create jobs soon enough, then let ten thousand people work half a day every day or five thousand people work every other week, excepting the cooks in the mess halls and job supervisors. This is the most important problem to be taken up immediately and solved satisfactorily for the maintenance of the welfare of the camp residents.

Why Does the Project Director Hide Himself?

Needless to say, when one meets a stranger and keep an intimate contact with him, he cannot only avoid misunderstanding between them, but also create a friendly feeling even when unhappy thing happens.

How can one expect to be advised correctly of the camp situation by depending entirely on his subordinate for information when the Director makes an important decision on a camp problem. The necessity of Director's making direct contact with the residents was fully proven at the time of Okamoto incident a few weeks ago. When the news of Okamoto incident spread all over the camp, the tension of the people was so high that anything might have happened at any moment. But when the Director made a sympathetic announcement regarding the incident, the tension was much eased and when he made a sincere speech expressing deep sorrow over the incident at the funeral service, the tension of the people was still more eased, and saved the camp from another fearful commotion.

I have often heard block managers complaining, "We have no way to present to the Director our suggestions and requests; they are always either crushed in the hands of his subordinates or pigeon-holed on the way to him."

My advice to the Director is to show up himself at the block managers' meeting at least once every week and keep direct contact with the representatives of all the residents and exchange views with them. This is the only way to avoid misunderstanding, create friendly feeling, and save the camp from any further trouble.

Abolish Sales Taxes in the Camp

I cannot see fairness in collecting State Sales Taxes from the camp residents who are deprived of normal livelihood and confined in this camp guarded by the U.S. Army. Are Americans in concentration camps in Japan paying taxes over there? I cannot even imagine such absurdity being practiced over there. Collection of Sales Taxes in the camp should be abolished at once, and the taxes already paid should be refunded to the residents, the payees.

Open the Hospital to Visitors

When one becomes ill in this camp and is sent to the hospital, wife, husband or children are allowed to visit the patient only once a week on Sunday for about ten minutes, and are absolutely not allowed any other time during the week to visit anyone. We cannot understand why such an inhuman attitude is taken on the part of the Hospital and the Administration authorities. Welcome visitors at least one hour every day as is allowed at Manzanar and so not invite indignation of the people which are avoidable if proper steps are taken.

Is This Center Different from Other Centers?

We are not criminals nor traitors. The first impression we had when we entered this camp was that we were being treated as traitors or criminals. But we Isseis are simply wishing to return to our old homes, the Niseis who were disappointed at the treatment they received from the American public since the war broke out are following broken-heartedly their parents.

There may be some of narrow minded fanatics and growlers so unruly, but the majority of us hope to live in peace and pray there not be any violence and turmoil in the camp until the day of our departure to Japan.

Both America and Japan claim final victory is theirs in this war. No matter how the war may be brought to an end after a bitter and bloody struggle, however, it is certain that neither side can exterminate other nation to the last man; and sooner or later we all shall have to live in peace as our Creator intended to.

The first question we would be asked when we arrive in the old country is, "How were you treated at the segregation camp?" Let us have a sentiment of gratefulness to the Government of the United States for its fairness and decency when we will have to answer the above question. Our answers will have a strong bearing upon the relationship between the two countries when diplomatic connections are re-established after the war. "Give us segregees a fair treatment."

Mr. Tokunaga remarked that his daughter was becoming worried typing these things out for him. She was afraid he would be arrested as an agitator. (He also told me that Dr. Opler had wanted him to work for him, but he refused.) Tokunaga then asked me if there was any matter which had taken place in camp which he could explain to me. I asked him about the unsuccessful election of May 22.

Non-nomination of Representatives

That's very simple. Every time the Administration asked the camp residents to elect representatives. The first we sent out, they were all put in the stockade. They [WRA] were denouncing them that they were not representative of camp opinion. So they sent out the next one (Second Negotiating Committee). Then, negotiations were going on. Then the Administration say, 'You don't represent camp opinion either.' They sent them to the stockade again. Then there were no representatives. Then the supervisors in the divisions voted as representatives for the time being until the situation cleared up.

Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Then in May, the Administration formally requested the camp people to elect representatives. Everybodys' opinion was, 'What's the use?' 'Every time we send a representative, they are arrested. If we make more representatives, they will only put more people in the stockade.' Everybody said, 'What the heck! We don't want to send anymore people to the stockade.'

Administrative Policy

Another impression we received soon after we arrived here. The Administrative policy seems to be to make us fight among ourselves and then control the camp. Of course we admit that there are a handful of fanatic patriots and they think that to fight against the Administration is real patriotic. But that's only a handful of people. They agitate all the time and the simple minded people think they are right. That's the only trouble in the camp all right. Their (the Administration's) first biggest mistake is that they think we're all traitors or criminals.

If the Administration really wishes to have representatives they can have them. Any trouble that happens in this camp or any other camp always starts by the Administration trying to grab something. Even at the time of the trouble in Manzanar, that trouble was started by the Steward, Campbell, sending sugar to the nearby towns, in cooperation with a few of the Japanese who were taking care of the kitchen. Then the newspapers said the trouble started when the Japanese celebrated Pearl Harbor.

Co-op

The information I get from all over say that there are a few of the managers of the Co-op who have a close relationship with the WRA officials. They are getting graft out of the Co-op (both Appointed Personnel and evacuees). The first thing I heard when I came to this camp was, 'If you say anything against the Co-op here you'll be arrested.' As long as the Co-op is carried on this way, some day another big trouble will happen.

Talk With Mr. Provinse, WRA Chief of Community Services

When Mr. Provinse was here he asked me how to keep the camp in peace. I said that was very simple. There's only one way. Give them fair treatment. The Japanese, when they think they are treated right, they are always so grateful. They are inspired by fairness, especially at a time like this. But when they think they are mistreated, they resist, even if they know they will be crushed if they resist, as the Japanese soldier on the battlefield.

Of course, there are a handful of incorrigible people. I myself am for it that they be sent away. But if I said so in camp, I would be killed.

RUMORS FROM CAUCASIANS

Have heard an increasing number of remarks from Caucasians of Japanese quitting their jobs without giving a reason. This morning at the motor pool, I could not go into Klamath because two drivers had quit without notice. Also I hear rumors from both Caucasians and Japanese, that there are many beatings in camp which do not come to the attention of the authorities.

June 30, 1944

36
Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Rosalie Hankey Wax

JUNE 30, 1944

ELECTION OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

I have been unable to find anyone with the slightest enthusiasm or interest for this election. Inquired about the results today from a Nisei girl in block 7 (Kayo Iida). I was told that she knew nothing about it. She didn't know anyone who attended the nominating committee. She said that in her block no one said much about the men having been taken to Santa Fe.

However, another beating occurred, in block 74. This was a man named Kurihara. Nobody knew exactly why he had been beaten up. It was rumored that he had been a member of the Daihyo Sha Kai. (There was a Daihyo Sha member by this name.)

TALK WITH MRS. YAMASHIRO

The Latest Beating

People are telling George that the man who was beaten didn't know why he was beaten. But some say there was a good reason for it.

Both George and I think there's going to be a lot of trouble here since these thirteen men were sent to Santa Fe. (The number listed in the Newell Star was fifteen stockade internees and four additional men "for violation of parole.")

Mr. Komiya in this block was sent. He was just secretary to Mr. Takahashi. It's very mysterious. It's funny that he was sent to Santa Fe and Mr. Takahashi wasn't even arrested. I can tell you that everybody in this block thinks very little of him (Mr. Takahashi). The feeling is very bad.

Co-op Gossip

There is a certain man working in the shoestore, an old Tulean. He is the man right under the Caucasian head. He told that the man who worked before him (before Mr. Best came here) had taken so many thousands of dollars of the profits. We don't profit anything here. The project director sent him out of here (with the money).

Block 68 Sentiment on Block People Working in Mess

The people in this block feel if the people in the block worked in the mess it would be better for the block. In our mess the dokushin, (1) the bachelors, are now the head supervisors and they really don't understand. They haven't got families. They do as they please and say 'Mr. Hayward can't kick us out.'

Santa Fe

The people are very upset about the people being sent to Santa Fe. Many people say that they have been fooled. They aren't going to be sent to Japan first, just because they were sent to Santa Fe.

I don't know. The people here just shut up. With Mr. Takahashi here, nobody trusts him.

[1. Many young men came to Tule Lake alone and were housed together in barracks. (See my notes of March 17). They were commonly called "the bachelors".

June 30, 1944

37
Tule Lake Fieldnotes

Rosalie Hankey Wax

[I have lost the page for June 30, p. 2. I cannot be certain who wrote this letter to me. It may have been Mrs. Henry Kondo. She and her husband had been very helpful to me at the Gila Relocation Center.]

referred to as a inu who came here under pretense of Japanese ancestry to gather information. Do you know if there is any ground for this rumor?

Poor Ken Nishino (my former block manager), the Army got him. I did not get a chance to see him off but Henry tells me he sure was taking it on the chin. I understand his wife put up a terrible fight and kept telling him it was his fault for telling the doctor that nothing was wrong with him when he was called for his physical, and she even fought and nagged at him the night before he left. Isn't that terrific! I hope the Army will make a man out of Ken so that he can wear the pants in his family.

I told Henry that I hate Camp life and wanted to get out as soon as possible. I asked him to let me go out alone first and look for housing as all of our friends write that jobs are plentiful but the problem is housing, and since I only intend to work part time while D. goes to school, I thought it better if I go first and the change might help me snap out of this emotional upset, but Henry does not agree with me so I guess I will have to grin and bear it.

I must tell you what D. said when the first contingent of Jerome residents came here. Since no one came to 63 he asked me if it was all right to go see them come into block 64. After he came home he said, 'What a waste of time, all the girls look like Filipinos.'

ADMINISTRATIVE DISAPPROVAL OF MY TALKING WITH STAFF MEMBER

Was told this evening that a conversation I had held one morning with a staff member had been observed and reported to Mr. Wells. The staff member was told that he should have been working.

Permanized