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1944-1945

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Kiyoharu Anzai

Town Hall

Manzanar, Calif. —

Jan. 5, '44.

Dr. Galen M. Fisher

Dear Sir,

Some time in last Sept. I received your kind letter which pleased me very much. I thank you for your very kind remembrance of myself and the co-workers of all the Town Hall members here in Manzanar Relocation Center.

It might be very interesting thing for you to know that our Manzanar residents are getting to be more and more peaceful mood of mind that we begin to realize the safety and the peace of Manzanar can be preserved only by the good conduct and co-operative spirit of the residence with the Administration, & Mr. Merritt who understand us well. always try to do his best for us. So we all appreciate his kind heart and effort he has shown us.

I enclosed a ~~\$1.50~~ bill for 10 copies of your recent issue called "Balance Sheet". Please send them by mail for us.

Yours sincerely
K. Anzai

sent
1/8/44
mm

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Manzanar, California

In reply, please refer to:

Project Reports
Officer

January 14, 1944

Dr. Galen Fisher
11 El Sueno
Orinda, California

Dear Dr. Fisher:

In the midst of the controversial material on the American-Japanese "problem" appearing currently in newspapers and magazines, hardly a line has appeared to indicate what these people themselves are thinking.

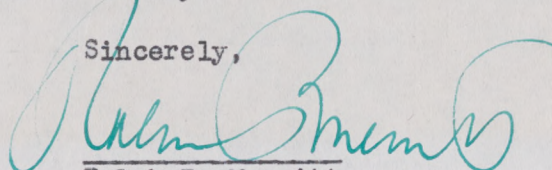
We believe that knowledge of what they are thinking is all-important to any sane evaluation of the issues involved. We are therefore sending you the enclosed editorial clipped from the January 1, 1944, issue of the Manzanar Free Press, which shows what its editor is thinking. You may have read the Associated Press or the United Press comments on this editorial.

The author is California-born Roy M. Takeno, 30 year old editor of the Free Press, graduate of the University of Southern California School of Journalism in 1936; before evacuation editor of the English Section of the Japan-California Daily News.

The Manzanar Free Press is published twice weekly and has a circulation of 3000 inside the Center; 350 outside the Center. Mr. Takeno has been editor for the past year. Under his supervision the paper has been conservative in its views and honest in its effort to report factually events among the residents. It has been extremely valuable in interpreting to the residents the many rules and regulations that are of necessity a part of administering such an unprecedented wartime village as we have in Manzanar.

His editorial opinion, in the light of his background and accomplishments, undoubtedly reflects the opinion of the majority of the people now resident in Manzanar. You are at liberty to quote the editorial or excerpts from it if you feel the material is timely.

Sincerely,



Ralph P. Merritt
Project Director

Enclosure



SOME INTERESTING FACTS ON MANZANAR

1. Bring \$900,000.00 of "New Money" a year into Inyo-Mono.
 - (a) Estimated from direct purchases locally, percentage of payrolls spent locally; and visitors, official and others, it brings here.
2. Has developed 305 (375 by Jan. 1, 1944) acres of land for intensive cultivation including 22 miles of lined irrigation ditches.
3. Entire plant represents an investment of \$3,167,000.00.
 - (a) Sewage disposal plant one of the most modern (\$147,000)
 - (b) Steam plant, hospital, and laundry unit best U. S. Army standard.
4. Cost of operation in September 1943 was \$1.07 per day per person. This includes all food, shelter, heat, lights, salaries, hospitalization and education. This cost is decreasing monthly.
5. This year the farm produced 1800 tons of vegetables at an average cost of \$25.00 per ton. If purchased in the market at wholesale these vegetables would have cost an average of \$61.00 per ton.
 - (a) The farm raised 31 kinds of vegetables.
 - (b) The wholesale market value of this year's production was \$110,000.00.
6. The industrial unit produces clothing, furniture, prepared foods. It handles all vegetable storage and operates a dehydration plant.
 - (a) 25 tons of vegetables were dehydrated for winter use.
 - (b) 54 tons of vegetables were pickled for winter use.
 - (c) 386 tons of vegetables were stored for winter use.
 - (d) During the past 12 months this unit produced goods costing \$75,501. These goods if purchased in the wholesale markets would have cost \$166,276.
7. Out of 4343 employable persons now at Manzanar, 4007 are employed.
 - (a) They are paid: \$12 for unskilled work; \$16 for skilled work; \$19 for professional and administrative work.
8. An average of 26,000 meals are served each day using 34 kitchens.
 - (a) Cost of feeding varies from a low of 26¢ per day to a high of 34¢ per day per person through the various months of the year.
 - (b) Foodstuffs are rationed on the same basis as the independent housewife's food is rationed.
9. There are: 1195 students enrolled in Elementary school
 970 students enrolled in high school
 1005 students enrolled in adult classes
 - (a) Educational standards meet the highest requirements of the California State Department of Education and the University of California;
 - (b) English and Americanization classes are the most popular in the adult program.
10. The present population of Manzanar is 8468. There were 15 births in September and no deaths.
11. There are 158 members of the administrative staff.
 - (a) 25 of these are Inyo or Mono county residents.

PAGE TWO

MANZANAR *Free Press*

Official Publication of the Manzanar Relocation Center Administration and Newspaper of Manzanar Cooperative Enterprises.

ROBERT L. BROWN
Assistant Project Director, Reports Officer

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A Victorious New Year To You ---- America!

Greetings to you for a Victorious New Year, people of America; from your kindred 50,000 citizens inside barbed wire fences. We send you greetings, we who have been lodged by circumstances of war inside these Relocation Centers in the deserts of the West.

In three months, we will have spent two years in these centers. We have had time to rationalize our own predicament. The tragic experiences of evacuation, the untold volume of business losses of the evacuees, the unwarranted hatreds engendered toward us by some people because of our hereditary kinship with the Asiatic foe—these we write off our ledger.

On the other side stands our gratitude to the American people for sanctioning the effort of this government to look after the welfare of our children, of our aged and the sick. We realize that in other parts of the world millions of innocent people's lives have been sacrificed in evacuations and by failures of other governments to protect their war driven civilians. Here in War Relocation Centers we have found temporary refuge, we have taken stock of our stake in America and now we are preparing in a new spirit to re-establish ourselves.

In seeking to resettle and to re-establish ourselves in our respective trades, businesses and professions, we realize the unwisdom of trying to force ourselves upon a people who view us with suspicion. We only seek to join in the drive for Victory. We are prepared to shoulder our share of further sacrifices demanded of all her citizens by our country. We will not shirk. Indeed, evacuees who already have left the Relocation Projects are contributing to our embattled nation's war effort through their initiative, their resourcefulness, their adaptability and their talents. In Europe, in the South Pacific, on every front former evacuees are today

in uniform fighting beside their brother Americans.

We also believe that our country would achieve something of the meaning of the full use of her available manpower when she encourages the evacuee tradesmen, merchants, farmers and professional men to re-establish themselves in their own fields of endeavor in the communities of their own choice. We ask you, the American people, to try us on our own merits. We are willing and ready to stand or fall by our records, realizing that it is one of the inherent characteristics of the country we love to appraise its people by the contribution they can make toward the total welfare of the nation.

It is our belief that our country wants to fulfill the obligation to itself to permit the unhampered restoration of a group of its own people to their natural and rightful niche in the American scheme of life through an orderly process of evacuee resettlement. In the ultimate analysis, the citizen evacuees who are behind these barbed wire fences, through no fault of their own, are not persuaded to resettle by glittering promises of job offers. The important consideration is that they be convinced in their own minds that they are acceptable to American communities as Americans and that in relocation lies their service to their country.

We believe that you are earnestly concerned in the process of revitalizing the American scheme of social structure which recognizes only aristocracy by intellect and by achievement; not through political, religious or racial differences. We believe that on this conviction, **America rests her cause** in this war.

Now that our eyes are clear again and our hearts are strong again we look forward as Americans with deepened understanding and firm conviction to this New Year when Victory shall come to this country that is yours and ours.

Happy



MANZANAR COOPERATIVE E

JANUARY 29th, 1944

AS I LOOK AHEAD -- INTO THE CHAPLAINCY --

INTRODUCTION:-

On the eve of my long-awaited appointment into the chaplaincy of the United States Army, I try to think of the multiple experiences which were mine. It is amazing to look back into my last two years and recall all the different experiences ----- experiences which no human mind could have discerned. In those days prior to Evacuation - Days of overflowing awe of the future, that mystery of the next move, the next day, the plan for the future, has been a source of great blessing and enthusiasm to me now. I had the privilege to meet the darkness of the moment with prayer, hope and action, and I find myself at the present with no misgivings, in fact, it makes me a little more courageous in my venture in the world of tomorrow. But before I go into my new phase of living, permit me to jot down a few blunt disclosures of my experiences....

THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH:-

It was my distinct honor and pleasure to have worked with groups of ministers at three different localities after evacuation: namely, the Tanforan Assembly Center's Tanforan Protestant Church (May - September, 1942), Central Utah Relocation Center's Topaz Protestant (Oct. 1942 - Jan. 1943), and the Jerome Relocation Center's Denson Christian Church (Feb. 1943 - Feb. 1944).

In each place, I received the indelible impression that ministers, myself included, are one of the most difficult creatures to work with and that the Church, though vainly trying to be the foundation and the center of all worthy causes, was and is far from perfect. Many times I have despaired of these two facts, but in the end, it always challenged me to make myself as faithful a follower of Jesus as possible and to build the Church of Jesus Christ as close to the will of God as humanly possible.

Since I was in this Jerome Community Christian Church the longest I have had the most varied experiences through the activities of the Xn people here. Some of the highlight meetings were:

1. Special Joint Ministerial Meetings with the Rohwer Relocation Center ministers.
2. Palm Sunday, when 40 young people were baptized and 21 were received into the church. (We held other baptisms throughout the year, but this was THE BAPTISM of the year of 1943.)
3. Easter Services: Sunrise: 500 attended; Sunday School Service 425 attended; Morning Worship Service (English-Speaking): 500 attended. The 45 voice choir under the direction of Miss Mary Kasai rendered the "Hallelujah Chorus" by Handel.
4. The first Christian Mission which I participated in was our Jerome Christian Mission, May 16-21st; the theme: "Christ is the Answer". The great guest personalities were Mrs. J. B.

Eubank, Miss J. Trout, Dr. J. M. Bader, Rev. J. B. Cobb,
Dr. E. Stanley Jones and Dr. Albert P. Shirkey.

5. We had many outside speakers at our humble pulpit during the year and some of them were Dr. Kirby Page, Dr. Ervine Inglis, Dr. J.B. Hunter and etc.
6. We were able to meet and talk with representatives of the Prot. Commission, the Committee for Work for Resettlement for Evacuee and such other church-fostered groups helping with the W. R. A. centers and with the actual resettlement.
7. I was asked to be the High School Fellowship advisor and then with the joint Young People's Fellowship groups. The fine unselfish spirit of the young people will remain with me forever.

It is well for me to express my sincere appreciation to the Caucasian appointed personnel for their fine support of the Christian Church. They have been the main financial support of our Church. Without them our Sunday School and the Church would not be going "full speed ahead".

The kind donors to our people in this Center, especially at Christmas time, needs special mention; since they gave their time and material to people they have never seen and probably never will; yet, unselfishly and unstintingly the true Christians of this country have done something that can be called "Christianity in Action".

Yes, I suppose it does sound very rosy and beautiful -- all this chatter about our Church and her life, but we had to overcome many things, such as, "Using the mess hall for worship", "Caucasian religious workers not being allowed to live with us in the Center", and many other inconveniences which had to be overcome through the greatness of the Christian men, women, youth and children of this center. They have adapted themselves to the conditions of a camp life and many have moved upwards in their hope and faith in the Christian Life.

A true experience which many of us had two weeks ago was the baptism and reception into membership, a whole family of deaf mutes. It was one of those rare incidents which one can boast once in a lifetime. The Ikeda family consists of 5 children and the parents; none can hear a spoken word. I was able to receive the gracious services of Miss Takagi who is an expert in the sign language. She interpreted the baptism and the church membership services in the sign language. They gave their full promise to live a life of devotion, unselfishness and sacrifice. I cannot help but come to the conclusion that if I were not confined within the relocation center fences, this experience would not have been mine.

THE CENTER LIFE:--

Does it sound strange if I said that it is just like a city here? If I wish to borrow a book, I go to the Center library; if I wish to see a lawyer, there is one in the Administration building. We have a newspaper which comes out twice weekly with news in English and in Japanese; school system is one of the best in the State; the Caucasian appointed personnel are of the highest type; the M. P.'s are fine now. The Caucasian visitor

AS I LOOK AHEAD -- INTO THE CHAPLAINCY.

has been very sympathetic towards our cause and are amazed by the way. It is so American. Since the soil around here is fairly good, much of the vegetable eaten by us are grown right in the Center Project, in the woods called "Deep Elm". Since we are surrounded by a vast forest, all of us went out into the woods to procure wood for our own use in our rooms. When it comes to organizations and societies, we seem to be very busy since we have the U. S. O., Y. W. C. A., the Crusaders (Juniors and Seniors), the Girl Reserves and some 60 other organizations.

The Center life is fine for those who are making it a better place for others to live in, but to those who are non-interested bystanders, doing their chores because they have to -- it is devastating. And we must admit that the majority of the parents and their children are in the latter class. They are working and planning for their own good, for their own benefit and fun. Pride, courtesy and other virtues have gone from many of the Center-folks, and we too much of the ill-manners, inconsiderateness and discourteous opportunists all about us. When we think in terms of relocation concerning them, maybe we are thinking in terms of getting the undesirables; but the solution of this individual, social and moral problem is not forthcoming through "passing of the buck". To be able to think along the lines of working with others on a definite community project must be the goal of every parent, child and community leader. And the Christian Church in the centers must realize this first and start working at it so that other groups will take up the cry.

I take my hat off to the Buddhist Church in this Center. They have done many things which the Christian Church should have sponsored. I'm afraid that they were the first ones to offer their hands of fellowship to us Christians. Their high calibre leadership have been a source of intense appreciation and inspiration to me. And may I add that, in many cases, the Buddhists were tackling the first things first and showing us that we have been muddling with too many detailed unimportant projects & thoughts.

It has been a grand experience working with people in the Centers. Outside of preaching on certain Sundays, I was able to contact people by being a sort of a librarian for the Church Library, recently elected as secretary of the ministerial council, proof reader and editor of church bulletins with the great cooperation of the church secretaries, writer and dispatcher of the Church news to the Center newspaper, supervising correspondence between Caucasian and our children, leading baptism and church membership classes, attending and taking part in marriages and funerals, counseling for relocation, writing letters of recommendation, YMCA board member and chairman part-time, distributor of relocation news, distributing literature to the sick, Boy Scout board member, USO booster and chaperon, speaking at Community forums, baccalaureates and etc. It was good to have met them and made their friendships ring true. May God bless them all.

OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES:-

To these organizations and their people would I like to render my deepest gratitude for permitting me to participate in their churches and their work: Rev. Campbell and his First Presbyterian Church for permitting me to preach on the fourth of July (Rochelle, Ill.), Dr. Gillett and to the Committee for Work with Japanese American Evacuees (Cong.-Christian) and to Dr. Burger for letting my wife and I participate in one week of fellowship with them at the Pilgrim Fellowship Conference (Monticello, Ill.), Rev. S. Duane Ogden and First Cong. Church for permitting me to take the pulpit in Springfield, Mo., the Methodist Church and the Ministerial Unions of Springfield, Kansas City and other cities., the Kansas City Church Federation for permitting me to speak at different meetings, Rev. S. F. Freeman, Jr., and the Pulaski Heights Christian Church for permitting me to take their pulpit, and to the various groups and service clubs in Illinois and Missouri for allowing me to express myself before them.

ON RELOCATION:-

Relocation is a great and tedious work. Each individual family is a concentrated problem in itself; months of preparation and understanding will be the foundation for each family to brave the outside world. Such things as the climate, school system, the community sentiment, unions, outlook for advancement in work and social assimilation, hospital system, and many other questions face the relocating family. Surely these problems cannot be solved by smooth talk by some of the relocation officers and others who may be quite interested in relocation. The bold fact of Security is the first and the last problem of resettlement. Although Security is a flimsy thing for everyone in this world today, yet, the people who were placed in the relocation centers by the government feels that they owe to themselves a permanent security, if, that is, at all possible.

Somehow I wish that all of us could learn by the mistakes we have made during the year of 1943 so that relocation will be a fact instead of a vague hope, a hope only to be talked about.

PERSONAL NOTES:-

Thus far everything has been about the "Ozark preacher" and not a line about his wife. Misaki has been a true guide and companion in these times of mountainous trials. She has been doing very fine work as a social worker in this center. What she had to go through in the year of 1943 has been short of perfect.

Misaki and I are planning to start for Cambridge, Mass. on the 5th of February. After chaplain training, Misaki will go to St. Louis and re-settle there while I shall go to my new station, very likely, Camp Shelby.

My work will not be finished even when this war is over, and so I'm definite about coming back and joining all of you in creating dreams which will last forever. Please keep up your good work wherever you may be. In unselfish work do we find our greatest comfort and joy. We cannot disappoint ourselves and the others who will come after us.... Yes, we have work to do, a work that was started almost 2000 years ago.

God's blessings be upon all of you and your loves ones.

Very Sincerely yours,

George Aki.

2/3/44
6E-8A AMACHE, COLORADO
January 31st, 1944.

Mr. Galen M. Fisher
2234 Telegraph Avenue
Berkeley 4, California.

Dear Mr. Fisher;-

Thank you for your kind letter from 1761 No. Troy Apt. 439 Arlington, Virginia, informing me of your work in Washington and whereabouts of Dr. Sidney Gulick, former Miss Fisher and former Miss Gulick and their activities etc. I am so glad to know Dr. Gulick is still well and healthy carrying on the noble work though he may be retired from active duty and former Miss Fisher and Miss Gulick. Nothing like an old friend - knowing whereabouts and what they are doing bring back the memory of the days of yore to your heart.

Since we have to face the fact of this never dreamed of this human catastrophe in our lives we have to encourage and strengthen ourselves with the spirit and power of prayer so that we, though small individually, may attain Peace amidst the butcherings of brothers like wild beasts. I oftentimes think and question are we civilized? Sometimes pessimism seems to overcome me but I fight like a warrior of old by optimism that God is good and God is powerful almighty and God is Love that He still rules among mankind, though that is so faint that we may not see it clearly. I for one believe that nothing hurts our God most than for men to pray to God for victory for his side in war - in other words killing, butchering, wounding and destroying brothers in opponents in arms more and more so that they may remain maimed for life. What apity? Almighty God may have great regret that He has given men the freedom of movement.

Blunders and mismanagements of directors of any corporations may bring doom to stockholders who loose all their investments which were the sum total gained by their sweat upon their brows. Blunders and mismanagements of statesmen may bring the doom to all men who have to pay in full by their lives. I pray to our Heavenly Father earnestly and full heartedly that the coming forth of true God fearing statesmen may save men from further destruction and death.

Your pamphlets "Balance Sheets" enlighten the public. Several friends of mine to whom I sent those copies appreciated very much of being enlightened by reading them. Therefore I would like to get 100 copies more for which please find U.S. Postal Money Order No. 46190 amount \$6.00 dated January 29, 1944 to pay for the same.

Hoping for your success in your noble work that the day of Peace may not be in distant future.

With thanks and appreciation

I am

Very sincerely yours

Danzo Kiyowara
Danzo Kiyowara
6E-8A
AMACHE, COLORADO.

THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION of TOPAZ



CENTRAL UTAH RELOCATION PROJECT
of the War Relocation Authority

January 1944

RECREATION HALL 33
TOPAZ, UTAH

Dear Y Friends:

Belated greetings to you all from our newly-organized TOPAZ YMCA. To many of you this letterhead is a strange entry, and although we find ourselves an infant in its embryonic stage, we're actually set out for a big 1944 "christening" and ready to launch out with a big splash! and with ceremonies typically YMCA.

The initial seed was planted way back in Nov., 1942, when Mr. George Corwin of the New York National Council paid us a visit and informally talked over some of the early problems of our center life. This meeting took place with some of the former old guard Y members from the bay area region of California. Then in April, 1943, Mr. Ed Hunt who visited our center on behalf of the SF YMCA, together with Mr. Masao Satow representing the National Council, were both very instrumental in providing us with the spark to push us forward on the right track. The result of this meeting brought about a successful YMCA Boys' Camp on the slopes of the former CCC camp, called Antelope Springs, some 7,000 feet above sea-level. Fifty boys enjoyed one week in July, ably assisted by 15 former Y Leaders.

Our program for 1944 looks very bright with definite reports already to be announced. Foremost of such good news is the official appointment and announcement by the National Council in NY and the Intermountain Area YMCA of the assignment of Mr. C. Numajiri as Executive Secretary of the TOPAZ YMCA. Mr. Numajiri's 20-year experience as Associate Secretary of the SF Japanese YMCA gives him the solid background and experience to fill this all-responsible position.

Secondly, we are proud to disclose the formation of a TOPAZ HI-Y High School Boys Club, under the supervision of Mr. Emil Sekerak and ably assisted by Shig Hotta and George Hiraga. Other projects, now in the formative stage, include the proposed center-wide YMCA membership drive, to affiliate as many as possible of those who will accept and believe in the YMCA principles and Christian purpose. Our goal is 100! In February the YM and YWCA joint board is participating in a "Leadership Work-Shop Conference" which is very timely and will solicit all potential leadership material among the young people of this WRA Center.

This, in brief, gives you a short short story of how the Topaz branch was organized and what it proposes to do this New Year. Please keep in touch with us, and we shall be glad to receive any suggestions and correspondence you can direct to this desert Y - where the same traditional YMCA spirit prevails.

And, finally, as a YMCA from "the inside" of a WRA Center, may we take this opportunity to thank you for the help given to the many evacuees who are resettling in various cities "outside". The noble work of the "Y" in helping them to adjust themselves to the new environment is truly worthy of the "C" in "YMCA". On behalf of the many evacuees, a sincere "THANK YOU" and may God bless you.

TOPAZ YMCA

Too Fujita.

C
O
P
Y

Brobeck, Phleger & Harrison
Attorneys at Law
one eleven Sutter St.
San Francisco 4

February 24, 1944

Mr. A. I. Esberg
703 Market Street
San Francisco, Calif.

My dear Mr. Esberg:

Answering yours of February 21, putting the question what our attitude should be toward problems affecting the Japanese, the following suggestions occur to me:

1. As to the admission of immigrants from Japan:
For many years our policy has been not to permit any immigration from Japan. I see no reason why we should change this policy. It is possible, of course, that post war conditions may develop which would make it wise for us to revise our whole attitude toward immigration from the Orient. But it seems to me that post war conditions, insofar as they affect this problem, are so unpredictable that no purpose would be served by discussing these possibilities at the present time. Interesting fields of speculation might be opened, but calm consideration of long-range possibilities would be almost impossible in wartime.

2. As to the treatment of Japanese nationals already in this country: the treatment of enemy aliens during wartime is a matter which is entirely within the control of the Executive. The Department of Justice has provided a hearing for each enemy alien before a local board of citizens and after such hearing and a recommendation of the board, the Attorney General has ordered either (1) internment, (2) release on parole, or (3) absolute release. The same procedure has been followed with Japanese nationals as with German and Italian nationals. It is my view that aliens should be interned where there is any reason to believe that there is any danger of disloyal action or sabotage. In the case of many of the Japanese nationals, both in Hawaii and on the West Coast, there is no particular need for internment; and this is especially true in the case of parents of soldiers who are fighting in the American army, where the alien has had no connection with Japan by way of contact with consular office, visits to Japan, sending the children to Japan, to be educated, or otherwise. In the case of German and Italian nationals a suspicion of disloyalty may arise where no application has been made for naturalization over a long period of years; but this consideration does not apply to the Japanese, who cannot be naturalized. My knowledge of conditions in Hawaii and in some localities in this country leads me to believe that many of the older Japanese are not at all dangerous and that their agricultural labor would be of real service in the war effort. However, each case should be

judged on its own merits.

As to post war treatment of Japanese nationals, the suggestion has been made that they be deported to Japan after the war. This does not appeal to me as being necessary. Most of them are people of advanced years and nature will solve this particular question before very long, without the necessity of taking these people from their children and grandchildren. It may well be that some of these elderly people may wish to return to Japan after the war, in which event they should be allowed to do so.

3. As to the treatment of American citizens of Japanese ancestry: This presents the problem as to which there is the greatest difference of opinion. All persons of Japanese ancestry were evacuated from the West Coast by military order about two years ago. It would be futile now to discuss whether or not the action was justified. They were detained in concentration camps at various interior points and thereafter (except in the case of those whose record indicated a disloyal attitude and who have been segregated at Tule Lake Camp) were given opportunities for employment at various inland and eastern points where they are gradually being resettled.

The charges made by the Hearst press and others that the Japanese have been coddled in the concentration camps and given better food than other civilians enjoy is in my opinion wholly without foundation. Many young men from these camps have volunteered for service in the American army and these American soldiers of Japanese ancestry have given an excellent account of themselves, particularly in Italy. I see no occasion to change the present governmental policy with respect to the Americans of Japanese ancestry. The responsibility is upon the War Department to decide when, if at all, during the war the return of these people to the West Coast would be safe from a military point of view; I don't see how the War Department's judgment in this respect can be very well questioned by civilians unacquainted with all the facts. If the War Department should decide that some of these men and women might safely return to the West Coast during the war and accordingly permitted them to do so, it would undoubtedly result in quite a storm in the columns of Hearst and McClatchy newspapers and also among Congressmen, state Senators, Assemblymen and other politicians, and as a result of all of this there might be considerable ill feeling on the West Coast and a possibility of rioting, disorder and personal violence. To me it is rather terrible to contemplate the possibility that the right of an American citizen to travel about the country should be denied because of the apprehension of race prejudice, or that the peace authorities should not be willing to go to any length to prevent rioting and murder. It seems to me that the result of submitting to this outbreak of race prejudice might be very serious in its effect upon other minority groups. However, I realize that others may not agree with my point of view in this regard.

So much for the treatment of these people during the war.

At the conclusion of the war it may be expected that efforts will be made to deprive these people of their citizenship and to deport them. Except in the case of those who voluntarily express a desire to expatriate themselves, I believe that any such movement would strike at the fundamentals of what we conceive to be our system of personal rights. It might have been better if there had never been any negroes in this country at all. But here they are; they have been recognized as citizens; they have attended our public schools have voted, have generally been law-abiding and in many instances have participated as Americans in community activities. It is true that general intermarriage of these people with white Americans is not to be anticipated nor is it desired by our people, or, as far as I know, by the Japanese; but the same considerations apply to Chinese, Koreans, and other Orientals, and no one suggests that they be deprived of their citizenship because of their racial extraction. Altogether, the solution of the problem, in my opinion, can best be worked out by extending decent treatment to these people without attempting to penalize them for the cruelties and barbarities of the Japanese military. The hatreds produced by war, however bitter and violent they may be, pass away before many years of peace if a sane attitude on the part of the mass of the people is encouraged. Current misstatements about the Japanese residents of the United States should be corrected, as, for instance, the statements that they were guilty of sabotage in Hawaii, which can be shown to be an absolute lie by the statements of the police authorities and others in Honolulu made shortly after Pearl Harbor. The problem, in my opinion, can be readily solved if a decent and calm attitude on the part of our people is fostered and preserved. In that event, the Japanese-American problem will not present one tenth of the difficulty that the negro problem is likely to.

All of the foregoing represents only my personal view of the situation.

Yours sincerely,

Maurice L. Harrison

MADE IN U.S.A.

TOPAZ PROTESTANT CHURCH
Rec. Hall 2
Topaz, Utah

March 3, 1944

Dr. Galen M. Fisher
11 El Sueno Road
Orinda 2, California

Dear Dr. Fisher:

We are appreciative of the courageous stand you have taken in your articles published in the Christian Century and the various actions you have taken in our behalf. We are appreciative of all your efforts and feel secure behind your unfailing friendship. Please accept our sincere thanks for all that you have done and are doing for us.

We offer our sincere prayers to God that He might strengthen you, protect you, and comfort you in your courageous task. You are a truly Christian soldier, unfearful of all the dangers that come to those who are outspoken for the cause of the minority. With best wishes from the members of the Topaz Protestant Church, we are,

Very sincerely yours,

TOPAZ PROTESTANT CHURCH

Masamoto Nishimura
J. K. Fujii
J. K. Tsukamoto
E. Kawamori
W. Carl Engert
J. E. Suehiro
Shigeo Shimada
Hisashi Sano.

12 - 12 - E,
Topaz, Utah
March 13,
1944

Dear *Mr & Mrs. Fisher*:-

Greetings from Topaz.

It has been almost a year and a half since we were placed in this desert. It was our hope to see a day, "the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose," and still it is ours. However, there have been many discouraging things have taken places. All the ministers and many Christians as well are still endeavouring for the betterment of the community. Yet as the days go by, the morale in the center is getting lower gradually.

As we watch young people and children, they seem to lost their interests in studies and higher values. If this continues what will be their future? Our own children are also of the same trend. It is a great importance for us. Of course, this is almost unavoidable everywhere in the country in the period like this. However, there is a peculiar type of disintegration taking a place here.

When our daughter Rhoda left here for Vassar College last September to attend school we never had relocation in mind. With a family of our size, it has considerable difficulties.

At the beginning of this year, we felt that the verse, "who against hope believed in hope," Romans 4:18 was given to us. Inner voice began to whisper to do an adventure. Relocation is a great problem to all of us in the camp. It is expressed at the Denver Convention that the ministers in the camps are reluctant to speak about it. To prove that it is not so, some of us must dare to do it. As we thought of the situation here in the camp, there are a number of capable ministers serving the community. It seemed a justifiable move on our part to leave the center.

After long prayers and consideration we finally decided to move out to New York. It is entirely an unknown place to us. But with our faith in "who against hope believed in hope," we are going. Our ministry there will be mostly visiting and writing evangelism and to prepare for the days to come.

At present we plan to leave here on Wednesday, March 22nd, stopping at Grand Junction, Colorado and Chicago on our way. We will reach New York at the first part of Passion Week. We have no job prospects in sight. We are going there on faith alone. Please remember us in your prayers. Our temporary address in New York is:

c/o Dr. M. Yamaguchi
160 W. 87th Street
New York, N. Y.

Yours very truly,

Masamoto & Kimi Nishimura
Masamoto & Kimi Nishimura

Japanese Exclusion Association

608 South Hill Street
Los Angeles 14, California

A-2 Evening Herald - Express
Thursday, April 20, 1944

Act to Bar Japs In Calif

Native Sons,
2 Other Groups
In Move

Three Los Angeles organizations took up cudgels today on the California-Japanese restriction question, with two of them demanding direct action while the third directed a scathing rebuke to Secretary Harold L. Ickes for his criticism of the West Coast attitude toward alien and American born Nipponese.



SPUR DRIVE FOR JAP BAN

Sheriff Eugene W. Biscailuz, seated, puts his signature on a petition calling for an initiative amending the California Alien Property Law to bar Jap aliens from owning or acquiring land in California. Eldred L. Meyer, left, of the Native Sons of Golden West, and E. A. Murray, campaign manager for the Japanese Exclusion Association, look on.

Dear Friend:

This is a call for your help to make it impossible for Japanese to earn even a "rice" living in California.

We have an Alien Land Law in California that needs to have "teeth" put into it. The enclosed petition, when it is signed by 178,000 loyal Californians, will do this.

If you, by chance, are unable physically to circulate this petition, kindly hand it to a dependable friend who will and then mail it back to us. It is important that you read the instructions both front and back in order to make the signatures legal. More petitions are available upon request.

We must make California an unpopular place for the Japs.

LET'S GO NEIGHBOR!!!

E. A. Murray.

E. A. MURRAY
Campaign Director

THE TRIANGLE PRESS

PUBLISHERS OF

THE SELMA ENTERPRISE

LOWELL C. PRATT, EDITOR ED S. BYFIELD, BUSINESS MANAGER

BOOK AND COMMERCIAL PRINTING

TELEPHONE 302

1732 TUCKER STREET

SELMA, CALIFORNIA

April 30, 1944

Mr. Galen H. Fisher,
2334 Telegraph Ave.,
Berkeley, Calif.

My dear Mr. Fisher,

Miss Cosgrave was kind enough to send me a copy of the letter which you wrote to Mr. Combs following his talk to the Community Club in Selma. It has pleased me very much to know that The Enterprise, by reporting Mr. Combs' speech, has apparently put that gentleman in a rather embarrassing position.

I can assure you that Mr. Combs was accurately quoted and if he tries to crawl out of his predicament by saying he was misquoted, let me know and I will fire another shot at him. When he addressed the Community Club he did not realize, probably, that he would be quoted and that there were at least two members of the Fair Play Committee in his audience. We did not stay after the meeting to argue with him as he had talked 15 minutes over time and both of us were in a hurry to get away.

Perhaps Mr. Combs will be more careful in the future what he says about other people. We had a similar experience some months ago with the District Attorney of Fresno County, who, in a talk before one of the service clubs intimated that he would not prosecute anyone after the war who killed a returned evacuee. We not only reported the D.A.'s remarks, but we burned him up in an editorial. Surprisingly enough, he wrote to us to the effect that we were absolutely right in our criticism. Unfortunately, he wouldn't let us print his letter! But at least, he has quit using language that was little short of an invitation to violence.

I am sorry that we could not attend the recent meeting in Fresno which you addressed. I have to spend four or five nights a week covering meetings here in Selma and while I undoubtedly waste a lot of time in doing so, once in a while something like this Combs meeting comes along that amply repays me for my trouble.

The Enterprise has consistently upheld the Bill of Rights as applied to our former Japanese-American residents and I feel that our attitude has helped to keep Selma free of unreasoning racial antagonisms. We have lost a few subscribers--but gained some, too.

Sincerely yours,

Lowell C. Pratt





CANADA

T5093

BRITISH COLUMBIA SECURITY COMMISSION

174 Spadina Avenue,
Toronto 2B - Ontario

May 9, 1944.

Mr. Galen M. Fisher,
Room 203,
465 California St.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Dear Galen :

I am enclosing a couple of copies of a new folder that has just been printed under the auspices of our National Inter-Church Advisory Committee on Re-Settlement of Japanese Canadians. As you may notice, we modelled it more or less after the style of one published by a similar Committee in the United States - with their permission.

I am also sending you a pamphlet prepared by Dr. Norman F. Black - "A Challenge to Patriotism and Statesmanship". The pamphlet is, in my opinion, very well prepared and the contents should have a good deal of effect on changing the attitudes of some of our Canadians.

All told, I am greatly disappointed with one group in this country and equally delighted with another. How real Canadians can stoop to race baiting and seem to logically justify their act is difficult for me to comprehend. There ~~are~~, on the other hand, a large number of folk who say that a Canadian Born person should be treated as a Canadian irrespective of his ancestry.

Up to the time of the publication of the atrocity stories, I felt rather happy at the diminution of anti-Japanese sentiment. Since then, however, there has been a rising tide of antipathy towards any one bearing a Japanese name, whether Canadian Born or otherwise.

One of the concrete results of the anti-Japanese propaganda is the closing of the City of Toronto

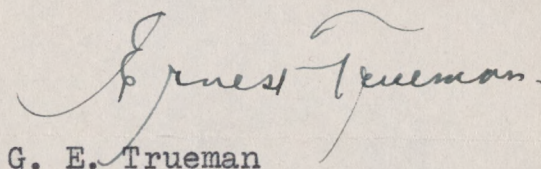
against any further admission of Japanese. The closing is due only to the expressed wish of the Mayor and not because there has been any City Council resolution. We are hoping, of course, to be able to change the Mayor's attitude in time. He, himself, is a church member, also the ^{superintendent} principal of his Church's Sunday School, and in general rather a first class man. It is unfortunate indeed that he has allowed his attitudes to be directed by a few of his anti-Japanese friends.

I see articles from your pen from time to time in various magazines. Although many British Columbians are out and out hostile to the Japanese people, I do not think they take second place to some of your California people. The matter seems to be more in general politics in the United States than here in Canada.

My own personal attitude is as outlined in the little pamphlet I am sending to you, namely that Re-settlement is the only solution for the problem. Too long in Canada, the matter has been a British Columbia problem alone; it ought now to be considered as a Federal problem and settled as such.

With cordial regards to Ella and with all good wishes to yourself and colleagues.

Yours sincerely,


G. E. Trueman

A CHALLENGE TO PATRIOTISM AND STATESMANSHIP

Norman F. Black, Ph.D.

Additional copies of this pamphlet may be obtained from
THE CHRISTIAN SOCIAL COUNCIL OF CANADA
3 Willcocks St., Toronto 5

INTRODUCTION

I HAVE pleasure in commending this pamphlet to Canadian readers. Its author, Dr. Norman F. Black, is a well-known educationist in British Columbia. He is Chairman of the Vancouver Consultative Council, which has been making a special study of the position of Japanese residents of Canada, and is well informed upon this subject. He advocates "geographical and occupational dispersion" as the solution of the "Japanese problem" in Canada. His article is put forth in this form in the hope that it may contribute to the securing of public support for just, humane, and Christian treatment of Japanese Canadians.

W. J. GALLAGHER,

Secretary,

CHRISTIAN SOCIAL COUNCIL OF CANADA.

Parts of the following pamphlet were published in *Toronto Saturday Night*, of February 5, 1944, the original article having been prepared at the request of the Editor of that journal. Thanks are made for permission to reproduce the sections quoted.

A CHALLENGE TO PATRIOTISM AND STATESMANSHIP



CANADA is a land of minorities. Consequently, there is cause for deep concern in an apparent Canadian tendency to antipathies based upon difference in ancestral stocks. At present those most definitely the target of public dislike are our Canadian residents of Japanese ancestry.

The reasons, of course, are various. We are at war with Japan. But we are also at war with Germany and, until recently, we have been at war with Italy; nevertheless we have treated German and Italian Canadians, and even German and Italian nationals, with considerable magnanimity. On the other hand, one recognizes something horribly suggestive of European fascism in the widespread hysterical animosity toward Japanese Canadians and Japanese nationals resident in Canada. In relation to these people there is clamour for public policies based upon racial hatred. Such passions do not require factual data to feed upon and are notoriously difficult to keep within bounds. Today the victims are our Japanese; tomorrow they are likely to include our Jews; the day after tomorrow, whom?

A Problem Insoluble by British Columbia.

Admittedly, the Japanese community in British Columbia involved in puzzling problems all parties concerned. These difficulties had their source chiefly in federal laws and policies relative to immigration and naturalization, and in other circumstances beyond British Columbian control. Indeed, for a generation, British Columbia—sometimes by methods the wisdom of which is open to question—has been vainly trying to awaken eastern Canada to recognition of these problems.

The overwhelming majority of Canada's oriental immigrants were settling in a province the total population of which is comparable to that of Toronto. They were not numerous in relation to the population of Canada as a whole—of which they constituted less than one-fifth of one per cent.—but they were embarrassingly numerous

in relation to the total population of British Columbia. They provided an example of the familiar evils of undue geographical and occupational concentration on the part of an immigrant minority.

Dispersion undertaken.

The rational cure for undue geographical and occupational concentration is geographical and occupational dispersion.

The federal authorities recognize this obvious fact and are trying to turn current evils to advantage by distributing across Canada those of our Japanese residents whose law-abiding habits and loyalty to Canada are not subject to doubt in official quarters. In this policy many of the second generation Japanese Canadians, and even some of the first generation, see their best hope for the future.

When the war with Nippon broke out, some 21,349 persons of Japanese ancestry were living in coastal British Columbia; about 1,200 elsewhere in the same province; 600 in Alberta; and approximately 370 in the rest of Canada.

According to the latest available information (February, 1944) these people had been redistributed as follows: 3,453 in Alberta; 159 in Saskatchewan; 1,120 in Manitoba; 2,334 (inclusive of all internees, about 450 in number) in Ontario; 322 in Quebec, almost exclusively in Montreal; about 30 in Yukon Territory; one or two in the Maritime Provinces; and the balance, nearly 15,000, in British Columbia. At time of writing, slightly more than twenty-seven per cent. of British Columbia's Japanese have moved east. When it is realized that those remaining in British Columbia include an entirely disproportionate number of women and children, from whom it is obvious that their men-folk now in the East cannot be permanently separated, the inadequacy of present dispersal methods is painfully evident.

Recently the Selective Service authorities have been taking a hand in the game and a few score of the Japanese resident in British Columbia have been ordered East to jobs of higher priority rating; but it is to be remembered that most of the able-bodied Japanese still in the Pacific province were already engaged in occupations with high priorities—cutting badly needed fuel, for example. In December, 1943, and the opening months of 1944, disper-

sion to easterly points came practically to a standstill. It is probable that the spring of 1944 will see some revival in the slow processes of relocation. However, it is evident that present policies are not very rapidly effecting such distribution of residents of Japanese stock as is desirable in their own interests and in the interests of Canada.

The fault does not lie with the B.C. Security Commission. Its attitude and services deserve public gratitude. That it has made mistakes, nobody denies; but the real reason for its failure to bring about any large-scale dispersion of our Japanese residents lies in the fact that it has been assigned a task which, under present public policies of provincial and federal authorities, is and must remain impossible.

That those authorities realize these facts can scarcely be doubted. Apparently, however, they do not think that public opinion is sufficiently well informed to endorse the policies for which the circumstances obviously call.

Why present policies are failing.

It is high time that more serious attention was being given to those influences that are operating to make the movement from concentration settlements to employment in the East so dishearteningly slow.

In the first place there has been as yet no adequate recognition by the people of Canada of two major facts: first, that the problem under review is essentially federal rather than provincial; and, second, that without whole-hearted co-operation on the part of the several provinces, results disastrous to Canada must ensue.

Even yet there is a widespread tacit assumption that no permanent settlement of the up-rooted Japanese is pressingly necessary since they will naturally return to their former homes immediately on the resumption of peace. It is true that a recent Gallup Poll reflected the fact that in British Columbia, as in other provinces, a substantial majority opposes the suggested exile of the 13,600 persons of Japanese stock who actually are Canadian citizens by birth or naturalization, whatever may have to be done in the case of Japanese nationals now resident in this country. But we have to do with something that no longer is simply a question of race.

With the evacuation of the Japanese from the coastal area, new social and economic conditions have arisen, and

any wholesale return of evacuees would be a calamity to all concerned. Let us suppose that, in the interests of Canada, it for some reason had been felt necessary to expel from their homes and occupations, for a term of years, any other group—for example, all left-handed people, or all members of some blameless religious body—and that their homes and means of livelihood had been transferred to other people; does anybody suppose that these latter would not bitterly resist any attempt at large-scale restoration of the dislodged group to their former homes and occupations? Does anyone care to envisage what would happen on the streets of Vancouver if twenty thousand or ten thousand or even only five thousand homeless and jobless Orientals were suddenly to trek back to that city?

That British Columbia is ready to shoulder its share of the responsibility resultant from federal military policy may be assumed. But any attempt to leave the whole responsibility on the doorstep of that province would strain the unity of this Dominion to something dangerously near the breaking point.

So far as anyone now can see, the present war with Japan is likely to endure for years. It is imperatively necessary that in the meantime the evacuees find relatively permanent homes and become economically self-supporting. If lifted from despair by wise and humane treatment, and scattered—a few families here and a few families there—throughout the Dominion, they would soon cease to present Canada with any problem of great magnitude. Meantime, the situation is becoming more serious with every day's delay in policies of dispersion. In the concentration settlements, social and economic conditions are so abnormal as to ensure the progressive deterioration of people formerly conspicuous for energy and enterprise.

Baseless accusations.

Hesitation in welcoming evacuees has been deplorably augmented by deliberate dissemination of all manner of groundless accusations and misinformation, to which, unfortunately, we can spare in this pamphlet only a few brief paragraphs.

One still hears it alleged that wholesale sabotage and fifth column activities on the part of Japanese Americans in Hawaii show that these are people who do not deserve confidence. The reply is obvious. In the first place, there is something the matter with the ethics and logic of

those who insist upon punishing innocent people in this country on account of offences committed by other people, in another country. In the second place, the alleged criminal treachery did not occur. Mr. Stimson, the American Secretary for War, has officially declared that "the War Department has received no information of sabotage committed by Japanese during the attack upon Pearl Harbour"; and Mr. John Edgar Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, reported in terms still more emphatic and sweeping: "There was no sabotage committed prior to December 7, on December 7, or subsequent to that date." These facts have been abundantly attested by Mr. Knox and by a multitude of responsible local observers whose sworn statements were long ago published in the reports of the Tolan Committee.*

The reader has quite possibly heard it alleged that the Japanese are disposed to crimes of violence. What are the facts here in Canada? When the Japanese represented 3.2 per cent. of the population of British Columbia they provided less than one-fifth of that percentage of the penitentiary inmates who when at liberty were domiciled in the Pacific province. This situation was not exceptional. In California, an investigation by Professor Walter B. Beach showed that the incidence of crime among residents of Japanese stock was "only about half as high as the average for the state." Similar facts were revealed in Hawaii, where also the Japanese had the lowest juvenile delinquency rate. All people well informed on these matters know that, in British Columbia likewise, Japanese juvenile delinquency records have long been conspicuously better than those of our population as a whole. All these statements are easily verifiable by anyone caring to study official data.

Of course, in any considerable body of people, of whatever racial or national stock, one may reasonably expect to find folk of all sorts, including those lacking even in

*An educationist prominent in Hawaii writes as follows from Honolulu under date of January 16, 1944: "The embarrassment and humiliation of the Japanese people following the blitz of December, 1941, reduced their morale to almost the vanishing point, but it has been greatly improved by the opportunity given the boys of Japanese ancestry to volunteer for enlistment in the armed forces. Out of a possible 27,000 of draft age, 9,500 volunteered and 2,875 were taken. Since the original enrolment, 550 have been enlisted as interpreters. There is scarcely a Japanese family that does not have friends or relatives in the armed forces. Many of these boys are seeing service in Italy and the casualty lists already published have been long!"

common honesty. However, in connection with the aspersions frequently cast upon the integrity of the evacuees, as in connection with almost all other aspects of the Japanese problem, the most authoritative reference book conveniently available to all inquirers is Young, Reid and Carrothers' *The Japanese Canadians*, which was published in 1938 and reprinted just before the outbreak of World War II. The following quotation is here relevant:

"In their business dealings, where honesty is measured in dollars and cents, the Japanese in many places enjoy an enviable reputation. More than one bank manager stated that the Japanese were among the most reliable customers they had. An interesting incident would seem to support the evidence of the bankers. A complaint reached the officials of the provincial government in recent years that the Japanese farmers in the Fraser valley were getting fertilizer from White companies for much less per ton and for longer credit than were Whites. This seemed incredible but proved on investigation to be true. The White companies claimed that it was merely a matter of business: the Japanese farmers used more fertilizer, a much larger percentage were sure to pay for it, and they were likely to pay more quickly than the Whites."

People as people are very much like other people. Easterners into whose communities a handful of these luckless refugees are admitted need have no fear of any resultant deterioration of average standards in such matters as respect for law, the ethics of day-by-day relationships among neighbours, good manners, industry and the love of soap and water. Evil consequences need be feared only if the local community takes the arrival of the newcomers as a signal for an emotional debauch and the release of hateful passions previously held in restraint.

If all this be true, it may well be asked why in British Columbia, where they are best known, the Japanese became the object of so much dislike.

Unpopularity in British Columbia.

In the first place, that dislike has always been very far from universal and has probably been commonest among whites who had little or no personal contact with individual Japanese. Many white people in British Columbia include Japanese among their most highly respected personal friends. A still larger percentage simply knew them as orderly and industrious working people. Many other whites are neither especially friendly nor positively hostile. And students of sociology will not be surprised when told

that where active hostility exists it is based on vague but real economic fears and perplexities that clamour for scapegoats.

The Japanese were welcomed into British Columbia because, in certain quarters, a reservoir of cheap labour was considered desirable; and in that and related facts lies the clue to popular dislike in many circles. Lower standards of living made it possible for the newcomer to accept wages lower than whites were demanding. A remedy for that situation should have been sought in the unionization of all workers and in a minimum wage law that would prevent the exploitation of the poverty of the Orientals. But efforts in these directions were in general half-hearted and ineffective. In prosperous times cheap Oriental labour did not materially affect the white worker, but during years of depression he became painfully conscious that there were not jobs enough to go around, and in the Oriental worker he saw a competitor who he vaguely felt had an unfair advantage.

Rising suspicions were fed by accusations which were widely accepted simply because so often repeated. It was argued, for example, that, until evacuated from the coastal area, the Japanese were increasingly usurping the fisheries and other major industries of British Columbia. The demonstrable facts point in a direction quite opposite. The data summarized below reflect the persistent and increasing exclusion of the Japanese from these industries, with consequent economic disturbances in other fields.

SALMON FISHING LICENCES ISSUED IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Year	Trolling Licences			Gill Net Licences		
	Whites	Indians	Japanese	Whites	Indians	Japanese
1922	743	438	1,989	1,440	1,032	332
1933	2,101	531	970*	2,878	1,192	161†

*Includes 63 who served in the Canadian army in World War I.

†Includes 7 who served in the Canadian army in World War I. In like manner, between 1923 and 1934 (inclusive), the years covered by Professor Carrothers' analysis of relevant official data, the number of Japanese employed in logging fell from 1,420 to 634; those in planing mills, from 299 to 58; those in sawmills, from 4,105 to 1,627; and those in shingle mills, from 1,826 to 474. This spectacular expulsion of Japanese from so many former sources of livelihood inevitably produced a corresponding and excessive shift to agriculture and to urban occupations, particularly those in which the family could be the working unit. This contributed to the establishment or survival of abnormal

Fear was also fed by use of the bugbear which many purported to see in the Japanese birthrate. People came across Japanese with conspicuously large families and assumed that such conditions were general. Once again, analysis of the relevant statistics is likely to occasion surprise. At the time of the survey made by Young, Reid and Carrothers, the average size of Japanese families in the Fraser Valley was 4.11; in the Okanagan Valley, 3.97; and in Vancouver, 2.47. It is quite true that in the years immediately following the arrival in Canada of the original relatively large contingents of Japanese immigrants, the birthrate among them was considerably higher than at present prevails among Occidentals in western Canada. A study of the age tables makes the reason obvious: the average age of the Japanese women entering this country was 25.4 years and that of their husbands was 31.8 years. If the birthrate for Occidental Canadians of the same age group were segregated, it also would be found to be much higher than that of the Canadian people as a whole. Moreover, since those early days, the records show a continuously declining Japanese birthrate and a steady rise in the age of marriage. The percentage of single male adults in our Japanese population is higher than is recorded for the people of Canada taken collectively.

Again, enormous harm has been done by the dissemination of the silly myth that there is some mysterious and inevitable difference between what does or can happen in the cortex of an Oriental and anything that does or can happen in that of an Occidental. No responsible psychologist endorses any such theory, unless in Nazidom, where unscientific concepts of race and of racial differences have been elevated to the status of religious dogma. The important fact is that character, ideas, ideals, habits, attitudes, and the like are not transmitted by physical inheritance. They are acquired after birth and are shaped by human contacts. A child is born as naked of ideas and loyalties as he is naked of clothes. He acquires his basic stock of ideas, habits and loyalties from the people around him. One may change and outgrow the habits and outlook adopted from one's early associates, but in general

working conditions which further threatened the standard of life prevailing among white competitors. Many of the latter were driven out of business because there was no adequate legislation for the protection of working conditions. All these facts contributed to the rise of unreasoning animosities.

the crucial consideration is the character of the influences brought to bear in childhood and in early manhood, and especially during one's schooldays. The thoroughness of the Canadianization of any particular Japanese resident will generally be proportionate to the intimacy and friendliness of his contacts with Occidental Canadians. At school, in most cases, the Occidental Canadian and the Oriental Canadian meet on terms of equality and mutual good will, and presently their attitudes and reactions become almost indistinguishable. To assume that children and adolescents, educated wholly in Canadian schools and mingling freely with Canadian associates, will grow up with anything but a Canadian outlook, upon life and this land of their birth, is a preposterous libel on the teachers of this country.

The writer has had abundant opportunity for personal observation of the reaction of children of Japanese parentage to Canadianizing educational influences, and his judgments in that regard are supported by many others who have had intimate contacts with second generation Japanese Canadians. The suggestion that young people of Japanese stock, educated in Canadian schools and universities, are incapable of appreciating or sharing in Occidental culture, or of being inspired by patriotic affection for Canada, is a wicked or ignorant falsehood. The writer is personally acquainted with numerous representatives of this group who are as thoroughly and as obviously Canadian in their thinking as anyone in this Dominion. Many of them are at present eating their hearts out because precluded from service in the armed forces of Canada.

A more serious difficulty is raised by many people who are concerned as to the possibility or desirability of racial intermixtures. They assert that no matter how industrious and law-abiding and intelligent many of these Japanese Canadians may be and no matter how sincere their loyalty to Canada, the fact remains that socially they are beyond the pale; Occidentals and Orientals will never fuse by marriage.

Well, never is a long day. It is true that inter-racial marriages are generally in disfavour with the Mrs. Grundys and view-it-with-alarmists of both camps. Indeed if two of my own young friends were contemplating such a marriage and did me the honour of consulting me, I would advise against it. I would be afraid for the young couple.

I would feel it likely that I knew more than they about the ignorance and arrogance and sadism of exponents of racial purity in Canada as well as in Germany.

Certainly there will be no rapid or general inter-marriage. But we may as well recognize that such marriages have occurred, are still occurring and will continue to occur. Young lovers will be as little concerned about the opinions of the older generation regarding miscegenation as about its opinions regarding lip stick. They know that if the scum of one race be blended with the dregs of another, the resulting mixture is likely to be pretty bad. They probably also are aware that no outstanding geneticist commanding international respect supports the thesis that miscegenation, in and of itself, is biologically objectionable. They are likely to know that where the blending of racial strains involves no social disapproval—as in Hawaii—the children of such marriages are as clever and as beautiful and as lovable and as good raw material for citizenship as the children of the strictest racial purists.

In the foregoing pages the author has sought to share his convictions that our Japanese problem constitutes an exceedingly important challenge to the patriotism and statesmanship of Canadians; that it is a problem insoluble by British Columbia without the loyal co-operation of other provinces; that the federal government is wise in promotion of policies of geographical and occupational dispersion; that the movement of Japanese from concentration settlements to new homes and employment beyond the Rocky Mountains is very disconcertingly slow; and that the dissemination of misinformation regarding these people has militated seriously against the success of federal plans. However the relative failure of dispersal measures is in large part due also to lack of co-operation upon the part of the Japanese themselves. It is imperative that some dispassionate thought be devoted to the reasons for the disinclination of the Japanese to leave their present settlements.

Why many Japanese are disinclined to dispersion.

In the first place, the more enterprising of the younger people have already gone east, and this means steadily deteriorating leadership among those left behind. Parental influence, always strong in a Japanese community, is frequently not on the side of dispersion. The older people naturally include a larger proportion of folk whose Canadianization has been less thorough than that of the second generation. They resent the disruption of their families. Most of the people caring to accept agricultural employment have already gone east, and jobs offered do not attract men who are skilled mechanics, boat-builders, businessmen accustomed to the conduct of independent enterprise, experienced "white-collar workers" of various sorts, or men familiar only with fishing. Many are sadly dreaming of their once prosperous garage, or green grocery, or cleaning and pressing establishment, or tailor shop, or insurance agency, or apartment house, and in eastern news they see nothing to encourage a belief that they will be allowed opportunity to devote themselves to occupations for which their training and experience best fit them. They are concerned about the housing situation; remaining where they are, they at least have a roof over their family, and they have no assurance that such would be the case if they ventured into distant places where they have good reason to believe that the housing shortage is very serious. In the concentration settlements they have about them the comfort of friendly and familiar faces; even the whites with whom they come in contact—members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, officials of the Security Commission, teachers, missionaries and others—they know to be their friends. They also know that a friendly welcome among strangers in distant places is something upon which they cannot count. They know that under orders-in-council at present operative they have no chance to buy the property that may be necessary to their economic independence. They know that so long as they remain in the concentration settlements, the Security Commission will stand between them and actual want and they are afraid to venture forth at the risk of the welfare of their dependants.

They are unhappy; and unhappiness does not make for clarity of thought.

The Japanese are very keenly interested in the education of their children. Their attitude in this connection recalls

the best traditions of Scotland. Many of them own property that is paying taxes for the support of schools for white children, while the buildings and equipment available for the education of their own families are inadequate or unsuitable. While the teachers are young Japanese Canadians of good ability and manifest high ideals of public service and are doing a remarkably good job in spite of their handicaps, they almost without exception are professionally untrained.* The Security Commission has no responsibility for the education of Japanese children beyond the elementary grades. Such high school instruction as is available is provided chiefly through the generosity of missionary bodies. While this friendly help is greatly appreciated, it is felt to be an intolerable hardship that the governmental authorities have made practically no provision for children of high school grades. Some of these children are taking correspondence courses but the fees are so high as to be beyond the reach of parents of limited means.

Many of the Japanese remember with resentment that their seized automobiles were sold at prices which, as they believe, entailed much loss. They feel affronted by what they consider to be libellous attacks made upon them in newspapers and in legislative halls. Some of their fishing boats were stripped of expensive equipment by thieves and were otherwise subjected to unnecessary injury, all of which involved the evacuated owners in heavy charges for repairs and re-equipment. They allege violation of original understandings between the evacuees and the Security Commission, and they fail to see that certain promises, made in good faith by responsible persons, are no longer possible of fulfilment. Their hopes still centre about abandoned homes to which it is now highly improbable that many of them will be able to return.

Many of the evacuees are heartsick over the fact that farms, poultry ranches and fruit ranches which they had developed by years of toil have fallen into ruinous neglect even though largely on account of the labour shortage. They bitterly resent the compulsory sale of their property, even while they readily admit that the Custodian has made a conscientious effort to ensure fair prices. The legality of governmental procedures in this connection is at present

*Provision made in 1943 for a summer school course in school administration, teaching methods, and allied subjects, aroused profound gratitude and was an invaluable contribution to the support of slipping morale.

sub judice and therefore cannot here be discussed. However, while few are inclined to question the paramount authority of the Dominion government to expropriate—particularly in war-time—any property the transfer of which is in public interest, it is felt that to compel a private individual to sell his property to the government is quite a different thing from compelling him to sell it to another private individual.

For these and other reasons a majority of those still remaining in the concentration centres are disinclined to co-operate in the present dispersal policies of the government.

And when fifteen thousand law-abiding people sit down tight, they are not easily moved.

Unless the mere semblance of democratic procedure be abandoned.

It is constantly to be borne in mind that the Canadian authorities, civil and military, have been emphatic in their repeated statements that the evacuation of coastal Japanese was not motivated by any misconduct on their part and involved no reflection upon the loyalty of more than a small minority; and these there has been ample opportunity to segregate and intern for the duration.

If for military reasons involving the general security of Canada, it had been necessary to evacuate whites from any region in which they were resident, the evacuees would no doubt have been handsomely compensated; but these unfortunate people were of a different complexion, and their economic ruin, incidental to enforced migration, sits very lightly upon the conscience of Canada.

Those who are concerned for the honour of Canada have reason for gratitude toward the authorities of the Dominion government for persistent reiteration of their determination that Canadian policies in relation to our Japanese residents must continue to be based upon fair play and sympathetic recognition of the unhappy circumstances in which our Japanese Canadians find themselves, through no fault of their own. Federal resistance to the clamour of extremists has been admirable. But the time has now come for such revision of dispersion policies as the circumstances make necessary.

Only one solution seems practicable.

All Japanese property the transfer of which seems necessary in the public interest should be expropriated at

a fair price, not peddled to private buyers who look upon the Tenth Commandment as suspended "for the duration." In cases where government purchase does not provide the capital necessary for re-establishment, this Dominion must recognize its moral obligations: it must, if necessary, advance the first payments on the purchase of new homes and of such equipment as may be essential for self-support. The dispersion at which the governmental authorities are aiming must be made not only economically possible but economically attractive.

The policy here advocated as just and necessary to achieve the geographical and occupational dispersion of our Japanese Canadians is one that will pay us big dividends, irrespective of what procedures may be adopted after the war is over. All disaffected persons of Japanese origin should of course be sent back to Japan, together with any others of their stock who may go voluntarily. Few will so choose. They are having a hard time of it, but most of them have lived too long in a democracy ever to go back to such a state as Japan. Many of them know that in that land they would be more truly foreigners than here in Canada.

Few people in Canada think that it would be in the interests of any of the parties concerned to have the Japanese formerly resident in coastal British Columbia return *en masse*, though British Columbia can and should take care of its fair share of the evacuees. How in a democratic country it is going to be possible for the government to dictate to individual residents just where they are to live in time of peace, I do not know. And just in case we are not going to be able to liquidate them by exile or otherwise, Canada had better see to it that at the earliest possible moment they are helped to acquire homes so chosen that no new Little Tokyos will arise in this country.

A substantial equity in and a substantial mortgage on a really desirable piece of property would provide the best insurance against premature removal from the place where the Japanese Canadian finds himself when the bells ring for peace.

Planning Resettlement of Japanese Canadians

Loyalty to a country never has been and is not a matter of biological inheritance; it is the product of education and of environment. A good Canadian is one who is loyal to the country and to our creed of liberty and democracy.

THE NATIONAL INTERCHURCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE on RESETTLEMENT OF JAPANESE CANADIANS

Rev. George Dorey, D.D.
Rev. E. H. Johnson
Rev. W. W. Judd, D.C.L.
Rev. Fr. A. E. McQuillen
Rev. C. H. Schutt, D.D.

April, 1944

"Liberty is the one thing we must share if we are to keep it for ourselves"—William Allen White

Before Evacuation

BEFORE the evacuation order early in 1942, there were in British Columbia some 22,317 persons of Japanese racial origin. Of these 7,300 were children under 16 years of age. In addition to those living in British Columbia there were approximately 1,000 scattered among the other provinces of the Dominion. Of the whole 17,653 or 75.2% were Canadian citizens, either Canadian born or Naturalized. Many of the so-called Nationals, however, were really Canadian at heart; their children and property were here and in every important way they had identified themselves with Canadian interests.

Location — Spring 1944

Early in 1942, by official order, all people of Japanese racial origin living in British Columbia coastal regions were moved inland to relocation centres. From these centres many have now moved out to jobs in various parts of Canada. Official figures as of March, 1944, indicate that 6,778 had already so moved.

- To Alberta, largely for sugar beet production, 2,921.
- To Manitoba, also mostly for sugar beet production, 1,019.
- To Ontario, to many sections and to nearly a hundred different types of occupation, 2,425.
- To Quebec, mostly Montreal, 358.
- To Saskatchewan, 55.

The balance are still living in relocation centres and scattered localities in the interior of British Columbia, awaiting the next step.

Better Arrangements Imperative

If these people are long detained in the unnatural conditions and enforced idleness of relocation camps there will be serious loss both for them and for Canada. They will suffer because in inactivity men soon lose their skills and initiative. In enforced

segregation from normal life they give way to feelings of frustration, to say nothing of bitterness and resentment. Canada will suffer because in a time of serious labour shortage she is losing the economic contribution these people could be making. At the same time she leaves herself open to the serious charge of unjust treatment of some of her citizens.

While Canada is fighting a war for democratic principles she can ill afford to discriminate among her own citizens on grounds of colour or race. As President Roosevelt has said "Our present enemies are not only Germany and Japan. They are the forces of oppression, intolerance, insecurity and injustice which have impeded the forward march of civilization."

Resettlement the Only Solution

While several solutions to the Japanese Canadian problem have been suggested, it is the view of the Committee sponsoring this folder that resettlement, and resettlement alone, is the only hopeful one offered. By resettlement is meant not only the scattering of the evacuees among the provinces by families in such a way as to preclude the formation of "colonies", but also their placement in jobs in accordance with their occupational skills, previous experiences and interests. The aim is that they may all be re-absorbed into productive life, living as normal Canadians in normal Canadian communities. This means work with dependable incomes, regular home life, opportunities for education for the children, satisfactory social relationships, and adequate recreational opportunities.

Community Acceptance a Challenge to the Church

The success of any resettlement plan depends upon the willing co-operation of residents in those parts of Canada East of the Rocky Mountains in accepting these people into their community life. Here is a challenge to the church to give a strong Christian lead. For decades we have sent our missionaries to the ends of the earth preaching the good news that all men are brothers.

Now we have an opportunity to demonstrate brotherhood in our own communities. The Japanese Canadian is not asking for charity or special privilege. He wants tolerance and friendship, plain Canadian justice, the simple chance to live and work in the country of his birth. Should not Christians lead in standing for justice and friendliness in community and national life?

Facts — Not Rumours

Behind the harsh and unjust attitudes toward the evacuees shown by some Canadians is fear: fear based largely on race prejudice and misunderstanding. Canadians have been wrongly led to believe that war atrocities mirror the character of all Japanese. They think that all Japanese must be brutal and untrustworthy. Repatriates including missionaries recently arriving home after long months in internment camps in Japan, however, report numerous instances of kindness and consideration by Japanese individuals, both civilians and military. Official reports since Pearl Harbour on the activities of Japanese in United States and Canada show their record as outstandingly good. The items listed below are facts not rumours.

(a) They have not been saboteurs; contrary to stories widely circulated after Pearl Harbour there was not one instance of sabotage in Hawaii prior to, on, or subsequent to December 7, 1941. The Tolan Commission, Secretary of War Stimson, John Edgar Hoover of the F.B.I. and others unite in making the above statement. Ample testimony is available to the same effect regarding the West Coast of the United States and Canada. With respect to sabotage, the evacuees have a clean bill of health.

(b) Their numbers are small — only one-fifth of one per cent of our population. The present policy is to advise them against undue concentration in any locality, so that they will not antagonize local opinion and will avoid the charge that their numbers have a depressing influence on local wage levels in any occupation or area. In all contracts with employers, it is insisted that they receive

"Let our people of good will everywhere speak on this matter with courage and conviction and match their words with deeds" —Christianity and Crisis

• exactly the same wages as other Canadians doing
• the same type of work.

(c) The criminal record of the Japanese on the West Coast has been the lowest of any racial group.

(d) As a group they are bright, intelligent, industrious, ambitious, well mannered and clean.

(e) When a chance is given they readily adopt our Canadian way of life — they wear our clothing, they live in our homes, they speak our language, they attend our churches (over one-half of them are members or adherents of Christian churches), they sing our songs, they salute our flag.

(f) The majority of them are loyal. When the evacuation order was issued, nearly all of them said in a true patriotic spirit that they would co-operate as their duty and sacrifice for their country's cause. The United States has acknowledged their attitude by admitting them into the armed forces. By March 1st, 1944, more than 9,000 were so serving. Nearly 100 have already paid "the last full measure of devotion." Loyalty to a country never has been and is not a matter of biological inheritance; it is the product of education and of environment. A good Canadian is one who is loyal to this country and to our creed of liberty and democracy, serving as best he can wherever he can in the war effort.

How You Can Help

Although this folder is prepared by church representatives primarily for distribution among church people, all men and women of good will are urged to co-operate. Here are some ways in which you can be of help.

(a) First of all welcome these evacuees when they come to your community. Make them feel at home in your homes, your churches, your clubs and your groups. Use them in your work — some have very special talents. The first soprano soloist in one of the largest Toronto churches is a Canadian born Japanese. The Supervisor of one of the girls work camps sponsored by the Y.W.C.A. last summer stated that the outstanding personality in a group of 80 was a Japanese Canadian. They are well liked and mix well in youth organizations of all kinds.

(b) Help them secure decent living quarters. In doing this it may be that you can open up your own home, either to provide rooms or both rooms and board.

(c) Do what you can to help them secure decent jobs. Many of them have special skills which would be an asset to your community. Resettlement will

never be an accomplished fact until the evacuees are financially independent.

(d) Quite a few of the more mature as well as some of the younger folk, especially those who have lived in lonely out-of-the-way places, need help with their English. Organize classes where necessary or coach them as individuals. Fluent use of the English language is essential to any thorough-going Canadianization.

(e) Acquaint yourself with the whole issue of evacuation and resettlement. See that your group and your community becomes equally well informed. Constitute yourself an advocate for a just and humane treatment of these "war victims". *Deal with facts not rumors* — many of the latter are quite without foundation. Secure and use available literature. Write to your newspapers in their defence.

(f) If the number of evacuees concerned is at all large organize a local committee and make "Resettlement" in all its phases a community project in democratic citizenship.

Immediate Action Urgent

It is now about two years since the evacuation began. Enough time has elapsed to allow the first excitement due to invasion threats to subside and to justify the making of future plans on the basis of past experience. In the new order envisaged by so many we must be prepared to live in peace with people of all races; intolerance and bigotry must be unknown words. It ill becomes us to cry for justice and peace abroad while treating fellow Canadians with suspicion and neglect. To you as a Christian and as a citizen of a democratic country our appeal is made that every assistance be given these people in their search for a new home and a decent livelihood. Give them a fair chance to prove their loyalty and industry as part of our democratic war against fascism in all its evil aspects.

— • —
Address all enquiries to your nearest British Columbia Security Commission office. Placement offices are at the following addresses:

174 Spadina Avenue	- -	Toronto, Ont.
276 St. James St. W.	- -	Montreal, P.Q.
Customs Bldg.	- - -	Fort William, Ont.
749 Somerset Bldg.	- -	Winnipeg, Man.
1102 Fifth Ave. S.	- -	Lethbridge, Alta.

OFFICE OF THE CHAPLAIN
171ST INF BN (SEP)
CAMP SHELBY, MISSISSIPPI

0-543334

1 November 1944.

Dr. Galen Fisher
11 El Sueno, Route 2,
Orinda, California.

Dear Dr. Fisher:

It encourages me so much each time I receive a letter from you. I am sorry to have delayed answering your last letter of the 30th of August.

Much has happened since I wrote you last. First of all, Misaki and I are proud parents of a daughter. We are so grateful for little Jo Anne who is adding so much to our lives. She is now about eleven weeks old and getting to be quite a daughter. Misaki and Jo Anne are living in Webster Groves, Missouri and may come to live with me in the near future.

We have a new Battalion Commander with us now. He is Lt-Colonel Harrison M. Markley who is one of the finest gentleman I have ever met. He is understanding, kind, considerate and an excellent leader. We are now working harder ~~now~~ because of what he is and what he expects of us. The morale of the men is high and we are trying to keep it there so that all of us will benefit by it.

Did you know that Chaplain Yamada was wounded in action? He wrote to me while he was in the hospital and informed me that his injuries were not serious. And I recently heard that he was back with the unit once again. How I wish that I could be with him and the men over there; but there is a lot of work to be done here, and I shall be glad if I can do it well.

Thank you for the address by President Sproul. I feel that not enough Japanese Americans feel grateful for those who are consistently pushing true democracy to the forefront. The steps you and your committee have taken, means just one thing to me: that truth shall conquer, regardless of how long it may take.

I also feel that in this time of chaos, both in thinking and in action, too many of us Japanese Americans are taking advantage of the considerations and the kindnesses of our Caucasian friends. Feeling this very strongly, I sermonized on the topic of "the Tragedy of the Common Level". Because we are the minority group who have been receiving nation-wide attention, many of us have taken advantage of the opportunity and permitted others to do all the work. Surely, there is a great danger.

I am especially working for better unity and cooperation between the soldiers and their loved ones in the relocation centers. We know of the definite resentment of many of the Isseis towards those of us who volunteered for service in the US Army. But now with draftees marching in, many of the parents wish to help their sons in the army; yet, held back because of their pride and sense of racial pride in their mother country. We are building a Xmas fund for the Rohwer Relocation Center so that we may get candy, gum and such other things for the children there. It is a

token of appreciation and of fellowship. We would like to do something for all the Centers, but since we have only 600 men here at the present moment, it would be too difficult to ask the men to donate so much. And in the meantime, I have written to the Buddhist and the Christian groups of each Center asking for better consideration of us who are in the armed forces. I suggested that it would be a fine idea for those groups to help us financially in our recreation program. Five groups have answered generously and we have \$107 to help our men in athletics and etc. I feel that if we can get the definite support of the Isseis, the younger ones will do better.

We have snatches of trouble with the white units around here... especially with the groups who have been in the Aleutians and etc. But out of that group, we find so many fine fellows who have no animosity for us.

I had the privilege of meeting with Lt-General Friedendorf, the commanding general of the 2nd Army. He is 100% behind us and asked to be called in on anything which he could be of help. The officers have been splendid in their work for this battalion. Representatives from higher headquarters have openly stated that this Japanese American battalion is one of the best. And so, we try to do the things which shall finally conquer for the best of America. We have something definite to contribute; and we shall do the best we can.

And so our work goes on and may God grant that the foundations upon which we build are solid ones. May God's abundant blessings be upon your noble work.

Very sincerely yours,

George Aki

TS, 092A

American Friends Service Committee

Philadelphia



Pennsylvania

Chairman, RUFUS M. JONES
Executive Secretary, CLARENCE E. PICKETT

Southern California Branch
DAVID E. HENLEY
426 North Raymond
Mailing Address: Box 966, Zone 20
Pasadena, California
Telephone: SYcamore 6-8159

Chairman Southern California Branch
WILL B. WICKERSHAM

December 21, 1944

Dear Friend:

After thirty-three months, the ban excluding Japanese Americans from the West Coast is to be lifted. The Army has announced that "there is no longer military necessity" and the Supreme Court has ruled that it is unconstitutional to exclude from the West Coast citizens against whom there is no charge.

Somehow Christmas will be a happier time for all of us, now that we know constitutional rights have been restored to loyal Japanese Americans. Our thoughts turn to the words from Isaiah which Jesus used at the beginning of his ministry. "Deliverance to captives and recovery of sight to the blind." It is not enough that the changed legal status brings deliverance. There is still need in some quarters of "recovery of sight." January 2nd marks not only the end of an era of captivity, it marks the beginning of a new opportunity for all who have been concerned for this problem.

We will find that a large group of Japanese Americans will have gone east, others will choose to remain in the centers, but some ten, perhaps twenty percent will want to come back to the West Coast. Our opportunity for service is just beginning. Are we ready to help?

OUR FIRST TASK will be to keep public opinion positive. Letters should be sent to our local papers showing appreciation of good articles and discouraging the publication of statements which engender fear and race prejudice. We should write public officials commending their attitudes or expressing regret if their statements seem to us to be wrong. We should also talk to neighbors and those we meet in shops and on street cars, letting them know that we are glad the ban has been lifted and telling of our willingness to help meet the problems which will be involved in the return.

The American Friends Service Committee is concerned to find homes and establish hostels where returnees can stay while waiting to move into their former homes or while finding new ones, and where later, groups of old people who have no children to care for them may work out a pattern of happy group living. The time is short, the need is urgent. We need your support and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Esther B. Rhodes,
for the Japanese American Committee,
Southern California Branch

T 5,093

-copy-

HEADQUARTERS
6TH ARMY GROUP
Office of the Commanding General
APO 23

30 April 1945

Mr. William C. Carr, Chairman
Friends of the American Way
305 Kensington Place
Pasadena (3), California

Dear Mr. Carr:

In reply to your inquiry dated 20 March 1945:

The Japanese-American soldiers who have served under my commands, both in Italy and in France are, in my opinion, among the finest soldiers in the United States Army. Their bravery, devotion to duty and resourcefulness are attested to by the numerous citations and decorations awarded to them. One of their units, the 100th Japanese-American Battalion, has been referred to in the press as the "most decorated battalion in the U.S. Army." A larger unit, the 442nd (Japanese-American) Regimental Combat Team, won the admiration and respect of all Allied fighting units on the Western Front when it participated in the heroic rescue of a "Lost Battalion" of the 36th Division last October in the Vosges Mountains.

No commander could wish for better or more loyal troops.

It is my fervent wish that America will never forget the struggles and sacrifices of its fighting men -- including these Nisei, who, like the rest, have fought so courageously for our democratic ways of life.

Inclosed herewith is a report of the publicity given to the Japanese-American troops in this sector.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Jacob L. Devers

JACOB L. DEVERS,
General, U.S. Army,
Commanding.

Eastern Office:
Room 1109
299 Madison Ave.
New York City 17, N. Y.
Phone: Murray Hill 2-2459

Mid-West Office:
Room 1008
189 W. Madison Street
Chicago 2, Illinois
Phone: Franklin 8840

Japanese American Citizens League

An All American Organization of American Citizens

National Headquarters

413-415 BEASON BLDG. TELEPHONE 5-6501
SALT LAKE CITY 1, UTAH

JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE
228 McALLISTER STREET
SAN FRANCISCO 2, CAL. - MA. 8442

Tri-State Office:
615 E. & C. Building
17th and Curtis
Denver 2, Colorado
Phone: Cherry 5990

San Francisco Office:
1860 Washington Street
San Francisco 9, California
Phone: Tuxedo 5212

August 24, 1945

Honorable Samuel Dickstein
Chairman,
Committee on Immigration & Naturalization

Dear Sir:

We wish to present to you a problem which deeply concerns us. It has to do with the future of the alien Japanese in this country, generally known as the Issei.

The Nisei GIs have established a reputation on the battlefields. The 100th Infantry Battalion and now the 442nd Regimental Combat Team have covered themselves with glory for their feats in Italy. Contingents are in France, and also an estimated number exceeding four thousand are in the Pacific area, have served against Japan. Military leaders have classified these Nisei GIs in the Pacific as unexpendable because they are irreplaceable. Most of the mainland Nisei soldiers who have answered the call of duty have come from the relocation centers. Their parents, brothers and sisters and other relatives are still behind barbed wire fences.

While these loyal Nisei GIs are giving up their blood and life for their nation's safety and security, there is a dark cloud hovering over their thoughts constantly.

In letters written from the foxholes and other fighting fronts, they tell us of their fears for the security of their parents, the Issei. When they read of resolutions passed by Pacific Coast race mongers to deport all persons of Japanese ancestry to Japan or the Pacific Islands, they wonder if their sacrifice is not being made in vain. They are constantly tormented by the question of the future security and welfare of their families.

Today America has marshalled her forces and waged a successful, final assault against Japan. Colleges have trained men and women who will be useful through their knowledge of the Japanese language. Who are the instructors? Many are Issei, alien Japanese, who are living under these threats of deportation.

JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

DR. WILL W. ALEXANDER
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 MR. AND MRS. CHARLES P. TAFT

HAWAII

DR. MILES E. CARY.....Honolulu, T. H.

August 24, 1945

In the food production campaign, thousands of workers are helping to grow and harvest the crops; many more are working in the meat packing plants, and packing sheds, and canneries. A large number are Issei.

The Office of War Information, the Office of Strategic Services, the Federal Radio Intelligence Service, the Army Map Service, Army Intelligence, Naval Intelligence, and other departments engaged in war activities against Japan have utilized these alien Japanese residents who alone can furnish the necessary knowledge of the Japanese language.

The full significance of the position of these Issei who are enemy aliens technically is not appreciated by the general American public. They are now men without a country. They have supported the war effort of a nation at war with their own. Japan can charge them with treason. This means that the Issei have cast their lot with the land of their children, the United States of America, and will not be able to go back to Japan.

What reward will these Issei receive from the United States? Will they be deported, even though they have given the lives of their sons? Is America going to be ungrateful, even though her war effort has been helped by these alien Japanese, whose services were urgently needed and irreplaceable?

It is not the fault of these Issei that they are not American citizens today. The naturalization laws of this country have denied them this privilege. Simply because they were unable to become citizens through a quirk of our own laws, are these Isseis to be left to the mercy and the whims of the race-baiters? America's sense of fair play and justice should express itself through some tangible act. It would be a fitting tribute to our dead and wounded Nisei GIs if their parents could be granted the privilege of becoming naturalized.

As we witness the conflict of emotions going through the minds of many Issei who have helped America but wonder what their future will be in this country, we cannot help but feel that something should be done for them. Even a resolution of appreciation by Congress with an assurance that all loyal residents will be secure in this country would be a helpful gesture.

However, it would be deemed a supreme recognition to the Issei parents of those who have sent forth their sons to battle for their adopted land, and to those Issei who have served so valuably in strategic services that for them, as well as for all the inhabitants of the United States, naturalization be acquirable, without respect to race, color, or place of origin.

Sincerely yours,

Saburo Kido

Saburo Kido
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

C O P Y

920 Superior Avenue, N.E.
Cleveland 14, Ohio
November 24, 1944

Colonel L. B. Chambers, Commanding Officer
Army Map Service
6101 MacArthur Boulevard
Washington 16, D. C.

Dear Sir:

We, the members of the Transliteration Section of the Army Map Service in Cleveland, have a plea to make to you. It is our great desire to obtain citizenship rights in this great country, if possible.

Most of us have been in our present positions for the past nineteen months, and appreciate the opportunity accorded us to prove our worthiness to this country in time of war. We foreswore allegiance to Japan upon acceptance of our present positions; hence, we are "men without a country."

We have sons fighting for this, our adopted country; but, technically, we are branded as enemies of the country for which they are fighting. We have been residents of this country from 25 to 50 years, and have cherished the rights given us and have abided by the laws of this great United States of America; yet, we are denied citizenship because of an existing law which does not permit naturalization to Japanese nationals.

Japanese nationals who served actively in the first World War were given citizenship, and there is a similar case in this war at Fort Snelling, Minnesota. Also, recently the Chinese were given this privilege based on the principle of democracy for which this country is fighting. If we were permitted to serve actively, we would gladly bear arms for this country. But, we are told that our work is considered just as important as what the men in active service are doing.

Therefore, we anticipate making an appeal for citizenship.

C O P Y

2. Colonel L. B. Chambers, Washington, D. C.

rights, communicating, if necessary, with President Roosevelt and Secretary of War Stimson.

Is it at all possible for your good office to give us guidance and assistance in this matter of great importance to us? Any consideration you can give us regarding this matter will be greatly appreciated by us all.

Most respectfully yours,

Komao N. Baba

Shunsuke E. Izumi

Masao Kondo

Tanigoro Konishi

Hiroshi Matsushige

Shunzo Mitani

Yoshio Nishimura

Harris Ozawa

Kinya Okajima

Kengo Tajima

Chiyoto Taketa

Yoshisada K. Usuda

920 Superior Avenue, N. E.
Cleveland 14, Ohio
November 24, 1944

Colonel L. B. Chambers
Commanding Officer, Army Map Service
6101 MacArthur Boulevard
Washington 16, W D. C.

Dear Sir:

In connection with a plea on the part of the Issei members of our Transliteration Section for consideration in their efforts to obtain citizenship, we, the undersigned Nisei (American citizen) members humbly ask that you do all in your power to advise or assist them, if it be consistent with any regulations pertaining thereto.

The Issei members have served as a veritable "backbone" around whom our section was built up. Their deep sincerity and unswearing faithfulness have been manifested to us by their action from day to day for the past nineteen months in which we worked side by side.

We feel that their performance and the peculiar circumstances in which they find themselves warrant some cognizance and consideration. We earnestly hope it will be possible for you to offer them some advice and encouragement.

Respectfully yours,

Doris C. Hoshide

Tosh Hoshide

Donald K. Iwahashi

Harvey Iwata

Tokuo Kurosaka

Frank M. Miyamori

Hisaye Nakajima

Kay K. Nishimura

Sadie S. Sakamoto

Dorothy K. Taniguchi

(COPY)

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Office of the President

October 16, 1944

Mr. S. buro Kido, National President
Japanese American Citizens League
National Headquarters
Beason Building
Salt Lake City, Utah

My dear Mr. Kido:

Your bulletin 28 dated September 25 has just reached me, and you certainly present in a most moving way the position of the Issei in this country. I agree with everything that you say. The mere fact that these unfortunates are not citizens of the United States is due to no fault of their own, but the stupid laws of the United States which have prevented them from attaining citizenship.

I recall vividly the case of one elderly Issei who, at the time of Pearl Harbor said: "Oh why was I not permitted to become a citizen when I came here 40 years ago!"

To permit men and women to come to this country to spend their lives here, to devote all of their energies to work in the United States, to allow them to raise families here who are imbued with American ideals, to encourage their sons to fight in the uniform of this country against those in the land from which they came - to do all these things is most unfair when the parents are treated as outcasts.

I am hoping that reason will finally come to the American people and that they will no longer give heed to the utterances of politicians who think that by stirring up hatred against long-time residents of this country, they can secure place and position.

I shall do everything in my power to assist you in what you are doing. If, by any chance, the publication of this letter would be of assistance to you, you are perfectly free to make use of it.

With all good wishes, I am

Very sincerely,

/s/ Monroe E. Deutsch

Monroe E. Deutsch
Vice-Pres. and Provost

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 23, 1945

Mr. Philbin Introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Immigration and Naturalization

A BILL

To permit the naturalization of certain persons whose sons and daughters have served with the land or naval forces or the maritime services of the United States.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
3 That any person not a citizen of the United States may be
4 naturalized without declaration of intention, and without
5 complying with existing educational requirements, which
6 shall be waived: Provided, That such person shall have a
7 son or daughter who is a citizen of the United States, and
8 who has served, or is serving, honorably in the land or naval
9 forces, or the Merchant Marine Service of the United States,
10 during the present war or some previous war, and who, if
11 separated from such Service, was separated under honor-
12 able conditions. For the purposes of this section, section 326
13 of ~~this~~ Act shall not apply to any petition filed hereunder.

(COPY)

1324 Dewey Avenue, Evanston, Illinois, October 3, 1944

Japanese American Citizens League
Beason Building
Salt Lake City, Utah

Dear Mr. Kido:

I have long been aware of the dilemma in which the Issei find themselves and agree that we should move quickly to improve their situation. Personally I think those who are taking an active part in the war effort should be given immediate citizenship, if they want it, as an evidence of the appreciation of a grateful nation. Others who have been shown to be law abiding should be allowed to become naturalized by the usual process. The last probably can't be accomplished now, but ~~per~~ Congress could at least pass a resolution to the effect that no one who has not asked to return to Japan or who has not engaged in subversive activities should be forced to return to Japan.

Miss Emma Rogers

School teacher

The Japanese American Creed



I am proud that I am an American citizen of Japanese ancestry, for my very background makes me appreciate more fully the wonderful advantages of this nation. I believe in her institutions, ideals, and traditions; I glory in her heritage; I boast of her history; I trust in her future. She has granted me liberties and opportunities such as no individual enjoys in this world today. She has given me an education befitting kings. She has entrusted me with the responsibilities of the franchise. She has permitted me to build a home, to earn a livelihood, to worship, think, speak, and act as I please—as a free man equal to every other man.

Although some individuals may discriminate against me, I shall never become bitter or lose faith, for I know that such persons are not representative of the majority of the American people. True, I shall do all in my power to discourage such practices, but I shall do it in the American way: above-board, in the open, through courts of law, by education, by proving myself to be worthy of equal treatment and consideration. I am firm in my belief that American sportsmanship and attitude of fair play will judge citizenship and patriotism on the basis of action and achievement, and not on the basis of physical characteristics.

Because I believe in America, and I trust she believes in me, and because I have received innumerable benefits from her, I pledge myself to do honor to her at all times and in all places; to support her constitution; to obey her laws; to respect her flag; to defend her against all enemies, foreign or domestic; to actively assume my duties and obligations as a citizen, cheerfully and without any reservations whatsoever, in the hope that I may become a better American in a greater America.

—Mike Masaoka.

As read before the United States Senate and
printed in the Congressional Record, May 9, 1941



JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
413-415 BEASON BUILDING
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

Typical letter to General Bonesteel (Copy to Mr. Dillon Myer
Director, War Relocation Authority
Barr Building, Washington, D. C.)

Major General Charles H. Bonesteel
Western Defense Command
Presidio
San Francisco, California

Dear General Bonesteel:

I wish to employ (a man, woman, or so many men, so many women) of the evacuees of Japanese ancestry, as soon as the War Department decides it is proper for them to return to this state. Specifications of the work are farm labor, on a fruit ranch with a little animal husbandry. Full time. Wages: At prevailing rate for type of work, plus board. One good bedroom supplied, with bath available. One day a week off. Length of engagement, 6 months.

Signed -

President
HERMANN N. MORSE

First Vice-President
MRS. J. D. BRAGG

Second Vice-President
WILLARD M. WICKIZER

Recording Secretary
MRS. C. S. SMITH

Treasurer
EDNA R. HOWE

HOME MISSIONS COUNCIL OF NORTH AMERICA

THE INTERCHURCH AGENCY OF HOME MISSIONS BOARDS AND SOCIETIES OF TWENTY-THREE DENOMINATIONS

CONSTITUENT BODIES

NATIONAL BAPTIST
NORTHERN BAPTIST
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
CHURCH OF GOD
CONGREGATIONAL-CHRISTIAN

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST
PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL
EVANGELICAL
EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED
FRIENDS
UNITED LUTHERAN
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL

AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION
COLORED METHODIST EPISCOPAL
METHODIST
AMERICAN MORAVIAN
PRESBYTERIAN, U.S.A.
PRESBYTERIAN, U.S.
UNITED PRESBYTERIAN OF NORTH AMERICA

CHRISTIAN REFORMED
REFORMED IN AMERICA
UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST
UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY
AMERICAN SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION

297 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 10, N. Y.
TELEPHONE GRAMERCY 5-4658

Executive Secretaries
EDITH E. LOWRY
MARK A. DAWBER

August 8, 1945

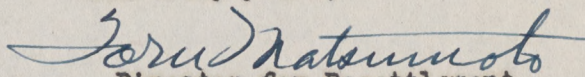
To Members of the Committee on Resettlement:

We are enclosing herewith a copy of "Report on Trip to West Coast and Relocation Centers" by the Rev. Shunji F. Nishi. He represented our Committee in this tour.

Your special attention is called to Mr. Nishi's request that the report be considered strictly confidential. He consented to write this document on that condition. You will find that the information contained is not only valuable to our understanding of the problems, but is extremely interesting and revealing.

For this tour, we are indebted to the Division of Domestic Missions of the National Council of the Episcopal Church.

Sincerely yours,


Director for Resettlement

From: The Federal Council of Churches
297 Fourth Avenue
New York 10, N. Y.

For publication in Friday papers,
September 28, 1945

NEW YORK, Sept. 27--Expressing concern over the announced policy of the War Relocation Authority to close all Relocation Centers by December 31, 1945, the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, today called upon the government for assurances that adequate provision will be made for the basic needs of the evacuees, including housing, assistance in employment, and the care of the aged and orphans, before evicting them from the War Relocation Centers.

The request was made in a letter addressed to the Secretary of the Interior, Harold L. Ickes, and released to the press today by J. Quinter Miller, Associate General Secretary of the Council.

On behalf of thousands of churches in its 25 constituent communions, the Council expressed the belief that without specific guarantees of such assistance the closing of the centers would work hardship upon many, especially those without property, the aged, the widows and orphaned children.

While the letter to Ickes expressed appreciation of the "thoughtful attention" which the WRA has given to previous representations of the Council, it declared that assurances already made should be given fuller meaning by "formal, official and continuing action."

(Copy of letter attached.)

C O P Y

THE FEDERAL COUNCIL
OF THE
CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AMERICA
297 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

BISHOP G. BROMLEY OXNAM,
PRESIDENT
REV. BENJAMIN E. MAYES,
VICE-PRESIDENT
HARPER SIBLEY,
TREASURER

REV. SAMUEL MCCREA CAVERT,
GENERAL SECRETARY
{ REV. ROSWELL P. BARNES,
{ REV. J. QUINTER MILLER,
ASSOCIATE GENERAL SECRETARIES

September 27, 1945

Mr. Harold L. Ickes, Secretary
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Ickes:

Thousands of the churches that are members of our twenty-five constituent communions have been sincerely concerned over the announced policy of the War Relocation Authority to close all Relocation Centers by December 31, 1945. It is their belief this this policy, unless accompanied by specific guarantees that adequate provision will be made for housing, employment and social security, works hardship upon many, especially those without property, the aged, the widows and orphaned children.

This concern was recently conveyed to Mr. Dillon Meyer through a group consultation in New York on September 5, 1945. While we appreciate the thoughtful attention which W.R.A. has given to our representations and the assurances conveyed that these needs will be provided for, the fact remains that their fuller meaning awaits formal, official and continuing action.

In view thereof, further consideration was given to these matters by the Executive Committee at its meeting on Tuesday, September 18, 1945 and the following action was passed with the request that it be conveyed to you:

"Resolved: That the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, by action of its Executive Committee, requests the United States Government through the Secretary of the Interior, Mr. Harold L. Ickes, to give assurance that adequate provision has been made for the basic needs of the evacuees, including housing, assistance in employment, and the care of the aged and orphans, before evicting them from the War Relocation Centers."

Faithfully yours,

J. Quinter Miller
J. Quinter Miller
Associate General Secretary

JQM:TC