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5 of 5

Uchida family

67/14

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Barrack 16 - Apt. 40
Sanforan Assby Center.
San Bruno, Calif.
May 14 - '42

Dear Mr. Fisher

Thank you very much for your kind note of May 10th through the kindness of Rev. Nishimura.

On May 6th, the first parole of 7 detainees from Nor. Calif. was announced at Missoula Mont. and I being one of them, was indeed very fortunate and happy to be permitted to return to San Francisco so that I can join the family at Sanforan. The words can not express my gratitude and appreciation for all you have done for me and my family during the past five months and the family and my self wish to express our gratitude and hope someday we shall be able to repay you in anyway that we can. I left Missoula 3:10 P.M. May 6th and arrived S. F. in the morning of May 8th and reporting immediately to the Immigration office there, I was escorted directly to Sanforan Assembly Center by the guard and joined my family same afternoon. It was a splendid gift for Mother's Day to my family and my aged mother in So. Calif. They were very very happy indeed for my return. I miss tho, all the men I had to leave in Mont. with whom

I spent five long months together, and they are all innocent victims of circumstance just as much as I was and my heart aches everytime when I think of them who ^{are} all mostly precious fathers of many children.

Here in Sanforan, things are not yet in order, the housing, foods and other accommodations such as Toilets, and washroom have much to improve. Many families are put in the house when they used to keep horses and we four are living in a stall about 10' x 20' with one partition when they used to keep one horse. I heard that the Army inspectors did not pass these quarters for human living but we will ^{have to} have more time before these accommodations are improved. In Missoula, they were all new and the foods and housing were better than here and I am very anxious to see prompt action on the part of the authority for improvement of Toilets. Washrooms for the women and children. I don't know just how many are here now, probably 7 or 8 thousand, mostly women and children. Thanking you again for everything you have done for me & my family.

With kindest regards - Yours very truly

L. McElroy

Barrack 16 Room 40,
Tanforan Assembly Center,
San Bruno, Calif.

July 30th 1942.

Dear Dr. & Mrs. Fisher:

We have learned from Miss Mary Page who came here a few days ago visiting us that you have recently returned from the East, and we wish to extend our greetings "Gokuro sama deshita".

You must have met many of your friends in the Council at Durham and other places that you have been visiting, How is the general sentiment in the East regarding relocation of Japanese students and Aliens?

You are probably aware by this time that Mr. Imai, Mr. Motoyoshi Mr. Inouye and all other members of the trading firms and the Banks have sailed on the Gripsholm on the repatriation except two men, no, it is three including Mr. Taoka, manager of NYK who I understand is now interned at the internment camp at Livingstone, La. with other internees.

I understand several hundreds of the internees including their families were permitted to sail on the first repatriation boat and the applications for the second shipment are now received by the Government here in this camp and a few hundreds mostly singlemen and some of the small families have applied, I have decided to stay in this country.

The living conditions in this center have improved somewhat, they have built more wash rooms and kitchens and the food has improved decidedly and every body is happy so far as the food is concerned and the people have now been able to adjust themselves to certain extent, they have built gardens around the barracks and are hoping that they are permitted to stay here until they get the crops of flowers and vegetables and the whole camp looks a little prettier than at the time when you made a visit

There is various rumore as to the relocation center where we are to be moving before long while I understand that the petition of our church federation for the transfer to Tule Lake is receiving the consideration of the Army, nothing definite is known as to where and when we are moving but we are hoping that we are not going to Poston, Arizona where some of our friends in the Coast region have been taken, report that the climate *there* being so severe and that they are suffering terribly.

I enclose herewith a copy of letter received from one of our friends now in Poston who formerly lived in San Francisco and later evacuated to Salinas.

Kay has opened the fourth Nursery school about two weeks ago and about 200 children are enrolled, Yoshi is enjoying her teaching a second grade class of elementary school, I understand including the High school and the adult school, there are over 2000 enrollment.

Hoping this will find you well and prosperous, with kindest regards from us all;

Yours cordially,

P.S. Please excuse typing this note.

Mr. Mrs. J. M. M. M. M.

*This letter was misent and returned
hence some delay - Understand Mr. Kawamori
wrote you about Poston, Arizona
This letter is from same source but send you anyway -*

*She shd apply again
Can Com will support her application - Dillett & Secy will write HHS Reloc. Comm.*

Block 7 Barr 2 Apt. C
Topaz, Utah
November 20, 1942

Dear Dr. Fisher;

I was indeed very sorry to have missed seeing you on your visit to Topaz a few weeks ago. It was so very kind of both you and Mrs. Fisher to remember us so abundantly with such thoughtful gifts. You can't imagine how we appreciate you many kindnesses to us.

I hate to bother you with such personal problems when you are so extremely busy, but may I take a few moments of your time?

I would like some advice from you, and would also like to ask a big favor of you. Several months ago, Dean Alice Hoyt of the University of Calif. asked if I wouldn't be interested in going to Smith College in Mass. At that time, I felt I should not leave my work at Tanforan nor my family, since Dad had just rejoined us from Montana. Again in Sept., she asked if I would still not be interested, and at that time, since we were ready to leave for our Relocation Center, and since I thought perhaps I could do my share on the outside as well as in camp, I told her I would like very much to go to Smith College. However, my decision was made too late for the Fall semester, much to my regret.

I inquired to the National Student Relocation Committee if a scholarship for February at Smith wouldn't be possible, but just today, I received word from Miss Virginia Scardigli that unless funds were obtained elsewhere, she doubted very much if I could be placed there, as funds did not seem to be forthcoming from Smith.

I wonder if you know of any Institution or Agency which would, or is considering giving financial aid to Japanese students for graduate study? Also, I would like your suggestions in selecting a good University or College, preferably back East, to which I could make application if I cannot enter Smith College. I am truly at a loss as to where or how to begin to look for a school which I should like to enter, and knowing your broad knowledge and influences, I would like your opinion.

My major at the University of Calif. was in General Curriculum (History, English and Philosophy) I have no specialized field which I would like to enter, and would therefore like to enter a college which offers good liberal arts courses. I suggested to the SRC that due to my interest in education, both here and at Tanforan where I taught and am again teaching the 2nd grade, I would like to study in the field of Education and possibly for a elem'y credential. However, Miss Scardigli suggested that my choice be a little more specific, so at present, I am wondering how to reply.

The favor which I should like to ask of you is--sometime when

you are not too busy, may I ask you to write a short letter of recommendation to Mr. Howard K. Beale (West coast Director of the S.R.C.) or to Miss Virginia Scardigli (Supervisor of Placement) if you think that wiser, at 1830 Sutter St. San Francisco. I know how busy you must be every day, and hate to be troubling you with such personal matters. It seems that we are always going to you for help, and we do appreciate your many kindnesses.

Hoping this finds both you and Mrs. Fisher well. The family joins me in sending best regards to you both.

Most sincerely,

Yoshi Uchida
Yoshi Uchida

P.S. Please tell Mrs. Fisher how much we and our friends have been enjoying the magazines which she so kindly sent to us.

cc. to Gillett in St. Louis

Nov. 28/42

Miss Yoshi Uchida
Block 7 Barr 2 Apt. C
Yopaz, Utah

Dear Miss Uchida:

Your letter of November 20th came just in good time for me to bring your situation to the attention of the Committee whose letterhead this is, and of which Dr. Gill, Dr. Gillett, Prof. Bennett, Mr. Inglis, Miss Coxhead and I are among the members.

The Committee showed the liveliest sympathy with your desire, and asked me to write you, suggesting that you do these things:

1. Write the Student Relocation Council again, explaining your desire, and saying that you had been informed of the cordial support of your desires by this Committee, as to which Dr. Gillett, as Executive Secretary of the Committee, would write the Council.
2. Consider trying to gain admission to some other college than Smith, where the expenses would be lower, unless it were to be learned that you could secure such scholarship aid or opportunities of earning part of your way, without too great effort, at Smith College as would offset the high tuition and board charges there. I have not ascertained that Cornell University is among the approved institutions, but if it is, the expenses would probably be less there than at Smith, and its academic standing is high. Possibly you much prefer a women's college. Then there are other colleges in the midwest that are less expensive than Smith and have good standing.

Dr. Gillett, in his letter to the Council, will not explicitly ask the Council to make you a liberal scholarship grant - since that would be presumptuous - but since our Committee has made a considerable appropriation to the scholarship fund of the Council, and only a portion of it has yet been used, the Council will doubtless take that fact into account in considering your case. I shall also take occasion in my personal capacity to talk about you with either Mrs. Scardigli or Dr. Beale.

Mrs. Fisher and I had a busy trip, which was rounded out by three days at Salt Lake, to attend the JACL conference and see some officials about released labor, etc. In the East, Mrs. Fisher spent most of her time playing the fond grandma, helping our daughter with her two little babes, at New Haven. We also saw many friends, and our youngest son, who is in Washington, after some weeks at Albany, with the OPA. She appreciated the good notes from your family, as did I.

Very sincerely yours

Galen H. Fisher

Block 7 Barr. 2 Apt. C
Topaz, Utah
December 1, 1942

Dear Dr. Fisher;

Thank you so much for your very nice letter of the 28th. It was so very kind of you to take much of your busy and valuable time to consider my situation so thoroughly. I do feel very privileged to have had my problem brought before the Committee of the Congregational Churches, and wonder if I deserve the kind attention of such busy and prominent people who no doubt have many other matters to consider. I feel terribly selfish to be causing such trouble for myself alone, and hope it did not take up too much of your time.

I appreciate so much the clear advice which you so kindly gave me. Since I wrote you however, a possible new opportunity has developed. On Friday, Nov. 27th I was able to meet with Dr. and Mrs. J. Goodman of the Student Relocation Council. At that time, Mrs. Goodman looked me up to ask if I would be interested in going to Mt. Holyoke College as they were offering a full tuition scholarship. She said too that a scholarship for Smith was very doubtful and stated that the Council would recommend me to Holyoke if I should care to go. She thought too, that funds for board and room could be secured, but this was not certain. I was thrilled at the possibility of being granted such a privilege, and now this has changed the whole picture somewhat. For the present I shall await word from the Council as to possibilities of my being accepted at Holyoke and shall hope for the best.

I shall certainly let you know immediately upon receipt of any further news from the Council as to which way events have turned.

I truly cannot adequately express my gratitude to you for your kindnesses on my behalf. Please extend my sincere thanks to the Committee of the Congregational Churches for their kind and sympathetic gestures.

The family joins me in sending best wishes to both you and Mrs. Fisher. The bulbs which we received from you now have shoots, some of which are 3 inches high, and we are anxiously watching them daily. They have been shared with several of our friends, so you can imagine how much joy they are spreading in each of those homes.

Thank you again for your many kindnesses.

Most sincerely,

Yoshi Uchida
Yoshi Uchida

7-2-C, Topaz, Utah.
Dec. 17th 1942.

Dear Dr. & Mrs. Fisher:

With our Seasons' Greetings, the most sincere and hearty appreciation for all your kindnesses during the past months go out from Topaz desert.

It still seems like we are in a dream and can hardly realize this is a real life sometime and it is hard for us to give the people a hope but ^{for} those faithful American friends. Since the recent announcement of the WRA policy of relocating the evacuees here, a few Niseis are leaving every day but most of the Isseis seem to be determined to stay in the center until a definite assurances are given for safety and living outside.

The people here are suffering hardship and inconvenience to a certain extent because of the changeable policies of the authority and the children of school ages are now being taught in temporary class rooms in barracks and the school buildings which were announced to be completed by the end of the year have no signs of even any materials on the ground.

Young people are decidedly depressed and the informations coming in here from Salt Lake City and Denver regarding the relocation are not so encouraging as to the situation there.

We wish to thank you for your kind interest in our daughter Wshi, who intends to go out to continue her study in the East if possible and we are hoping for her for the best.

With kindest regards,

Yours gratefully,

The Uchida's
The Uchida's

P.S. Rev. Gyllen & Rev. C. M. Warren are expected to arrive here Dec. 20th. The latter bring my teacher's son Doshun who is about 40 years ago. Am looking forward to meeting him with joy. Understand Mrs. Warren is Dr. Eli Cargis' niece.

7-2-C, Topaz, Uah.
May 13th 1943.

Dear Dr. & Mrs. Fisher:

We wish to thank you for your kind letter, Mrs. Fisher, which we found waiting when we returned from our visit to Heart Mountain, Wyo. recently.

From your letter, we learn that Dr. Fisher was in^a plaster cast which sounds like he had some accident which news being entirely new to us, earnestly hope it was not serious one.

The magazin^s that you have been so good in sending the girls are much appreciated by them and they are sharing your kindness^{with} others.

We can imagine how beautiful your garden is at this time of the year and every time we think of our California, we miss its spring immensely. We do not see anything green in Topaz even at the top of the spring except a few trees that have been planted in the Center are slowly budding fresh green leaves and the sagebrushes outside the fence look somewhat greener than they looked during the winter.

We are very sure that you are looking forward to your reunion with your grandchildren soon.

Our short visit to Heart Mountain made our old mother who is 82 very happy and our plan of staying there for a week was extended for another week and we had^{the} pleasure of observing the Easter up there with our mother, About thirty people were baptized then.

Here in Topaz as well as in Heart Mountain, young people are leaving the Centers rapidly in accordance with WRA policy and I am afraid the Centers will eventually^{be} an institution for aged and children who are physically or financially unable to leave, we are right now suffering from the effect of shortage of doctors, nurses and teachers, we wonder what WRA ~~are~~ going to do in taking the care of the sick people and the children here as I understand the shortage of man power is about same outside.

The food supply, its reported, is also getting harder here as outside and the food quality is rapidly declining and the cost of food per person in March was 39 cents. (a day)

Our girls ~~are~~ also intend to go out during the summer, Kay is going to Pendle Hill, Philadelphia and then to Mt Holyoke as a fellow on Nursery school and Yoshi was assigned now to Smith College on scholarship commencing the fall term and most likely they are leaving the camp together next month.

They are quite happy that they have been able to have such wonderful opportunity but when they think of the children that they have to leave without proper teachers, they feel so sorry for them but they can not help it.

we older folks, have no definite plan as yet for our future but we hope, if possible, to be able to live near our girls which seems to be rather difficult because no Japanese alien seems to be permitted to live in the Eastern defense coast.

If opportunity presents, we would like to leave and find a means of living somewhere in middle states until such time when we are permitted to live in the eastern defense area but in the event we have to stay here, there are services that require me for the people who can not leave.

About two hundred sixty people arrived here from Hawaii a few months ago, they are mostly Kebeis from all parts of Hawaii who were interned there and released for transfer to the main land and some of them are with their families.

Like some of other Kibeis here, most of them are reported to have registered nos to certain questions and they would most likely have to stay here for the duration, they are so anxious to return to Hawaii when they can.

Topaz church is getting along nicely with regular attendance on Sunday service of 250-300, Rev. Geo. Aki has gone to Arkansas and Mas Wakai is leaving soon for Chicago and we expect in a month or so the young peoples' church will be much smaller due to losing the members for resettlement.

Well, I may be writing too long, hope this will find you both well,

With kindest regards from us all,

Yours very truly,

Mr. Mrs. J. D. Blakely

P.S. Please pardon for very poor typewriting & many mistakes.
We learned from Mrs. Otis Cary about the passing of Dr. Learned in Claremont. Very recently.
Mrs. Grace Curtis wrote us fully about his condition before he was called away. We feel sorry for her to be all alone now -

7-2-CTopaz, Utah,
June 28th 1943.

Dear Mrs. Fisher:

Thank you again for your kindness in sending the grls the Magazines which came to us yesterday.

Kay and Yoshi got finally secured their indefinite leave from the WRA and left here on June 15th together, Kay heading to Pendle Hill, Wallingford, Pa. and Yoshi to New York.

Kay is to assist in taking care of the nursery in Pendle Hill during the Summer session and from the fall semester she will be in the Mt. Holyoke assisting the Nursery school there half a day and studying the half for which the school offered full scholarship. Yoshi was invited by her American friend in New York for the Summer and is now in West Cornwall, Conn. vacationing with her family, will be back to New York in a week or so and if possible she would be looking for the work until Sept. 15th when she is to proceed to the Smith College. She was offered full scholarship there in Education department of Smith college, her work in Tanforan and here in teaching the elementary school together with the extension course of the University of Utah that she took while teaching here was the credit given to her.

The both girls were indeed very fortunate to have been offered with such opportunities and they were so grateful to all friends who gave them assistances.

With the girls gone out, Mrs. Uchida and myself are now considering the question of resettlement seriously and hope someday we shall be able to go out to a point near to our grls.

Miss Ruth Seabury of ABCFM Boston visited here on June 1st on her way to Calif. conferences and we had such pleasant hours with her. She left on the following day for Calif.

Mrs. Frank Cary wrote us a few days ago from Ogden saying that she is trying to visit here early in July.

The Magazines have been passed to the friends in the hospital which is always so crowded. We have 95 degree heat in the room now but its not so bad as the air is so dry and we are quite refreshed in the morning and evening as it is much cooler then.

With kindest regards to Dr. Fisher and yourself,

Yours very cordially,

Mrs. Mrs. J. Uchida

7-2-C, Topaz, Utah.
August 20th 1943.

Dr. Galen M. Fisher,
465 Calif..St.,
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Dr. Fisher:

Your good letter of Aug. 16th came to me yesterday and we were so happy to hear from you as we were given to understand that your health was impaired for sometime. Thank you very much for the letter and also a copy of Mr. Scotts' letter addressed to Mr. Ernst, Project Director here on my behalf.

It was indëed very kind and thoughtful of You and Mr. Scott to concern of our welfare and I am very happy to report to you the latest developements as follows:

#1. Yoshi and Kay both were not worrying about the rumors that the Mt. Holyoke Cllege and the Smith have been closed for nisei by order of the Navy Dept. because they got out of the Center anyway and Yoshi got a job in the Presbyterian Boards of Missions in N.Y. which she likes very much. And Yoshi was advised recently by the Smith College that she is definitely accepted and so pay no~~x~~ attention to any rumors and she is set to go as soon as the new semister starts. Kay does not write us anything about the matter but we believe that she is also in the same category as Yoshi unless she is (not) advised to the contrary. Both girls are enjoying immensely their new surroundings in Philadelphia and New York now.

#2. I applied for my indefinite leave in May to resettle in St. Louis first because the East coast area was not open then for Issei tho we wished to resettle in New England State or New York where we have more friends and so that we can live near the girls. My status being a parolee, I have to get the permission of the Dept. of Justice who require to submit three sponsors. Dr. Ervine Inglis, brother of Rev. Inglis of the Plymouth Church, Oakland was kind enough to act as my sponsor and Mr. Ernst, project director here was so axious for us to leave and did every thing possible securing three more sponsors in St. Louis through WRA office there but the Department rejected three out of the proposed sponsors those being men of religeous activities. The last one, Mr. Head, president of Ame. general Insurance Co. there was approved but in the mean time, it developed that I had better stay in Utah a little longer, went out to Salt Lake City last week, had an interview with the parole officer there who approved my ressetling there and most likely Mrs. Uchida and myself will be able to leave the Center for Salt Lake City before long.

(2)

The morale of the Center is by no means good ever since last registration when the people were divided somewhat pro and con and there were a number of cases of violence and christians are feeling the blowing of the wind more than buddhists, in fact I have received warnings, Rev. Kawamorita and other ministers are taking precaution for their safety.

The administration is doing their best possible for the peace of the center but they do not make any arrest unless they have positive evidences or witness and the acts of violence being done in the dark leaving no definite evidences behind and the people dare not to be a witness even tho they know who are guilty ones. The sentiment is getting worse now pending the segregation which is to commence on Sept. 12th when the first train load is to arrive here from Tulelake and on the following day, about 500 of so called disloyals are to depart for Tulelake from this Center.

It is indeed very regrettable that some people do not understand or even they do, they are somewhat desperate in their efforts of satisfying their sentiment of dissatisfaction in this abnormal life and try to hurt others, we are sometime so disappointed with the weakness in human nature and feel so sorry for them.

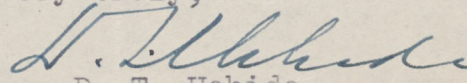
But we are sure the peoples' morale will be much better after the segregation and will settle to peaceful life. Under such condition, we thought it was best for us to resettle and leave the center before the congestion to be caused by the segregation and we feel quite relieved that we could secure the approval of the parole office in Salt Lake City.

Yes, I read the first article of yours appearing in the Christian Century with immense interest which I am passing on to some of our American friends here and look forward to, with keen interest, reading the rest of your contribution, ministers and other friends were commenting highly on your good work.

✓ I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Scott and if you do not mind, will you show this letter to Mrs. Ruth Kingman in your office who concerns about our welfare too and we have been neglecting so long to write. Thank you.

Thnaking you again for your kind letter and with kindest regards,

Yours very truly,


D. T. Uchida.

P.S. Mrs. Frank Cary visited us here in July and we understand she has been appointed as High School teacher from Sept.

cc Mr. Scott.

1096 Lake St.,
Salt Lake City, Utah.
Sept. 13th 1943.

Dear Dr. & Mrs. Fisher:

Greetins from the FREE world!

On Aug. 26th, we finally got the indefinite leave from the WRA approved by the Department of Justice Salt Lake Office, left the Center of Topaz for good and arrived Salt Lake City to live.

As I write this letter in a room upstairs of the home of our christian friend, overlooking the green trees through a window, we feel it like adream, a dream of over 20 months, breaking into reality hard to believe but its indeed a grand feeling to be outside, can not help but feeling so grateful to many American friends whose unfailing and devotional friendship were our only hope in our life of passed twenty months behind the barbed wire.

Mrs. Uchida and I wish to extend our hearty thanks and appreciation for all you have done for us.

Our Kay and Yoshi were both in New York when we informed them of our being out and wired us back stating it was the grandest news for them and seemed so happy to know that their parents were now in the free world as they were.

Kay went to the Mt. Holyoke last Monday, the 6th, to take up her work and study and Yoshi ought to be in the Smith today to commence her study there and the both girls are very happy for the present situation and are grateful for that.

Kay wrote us that she is ^{to} teach in the Nursery School there for three hours everyday and total number of the children is now only fifteen, Dr. and Mrs. C. M. Warrens' grandchildren, two of them are among them. Yoshi is to study in education and most likely works for the M.A. degree, we are not sure.

We are convinced that the hardship and humiliation that they had to meet in the passed experiences through the evacuation with all other Niseis and their parents, made them good, as they must have learned real value of freedom, friendship and personality.

The morale of the camp is by no means good and the people are unrest at present with the segregation program to be carried out shortly and we thought we should leave the center as soon as possible tho we felt verry sorry for the church friends and other people who felt a sort of moral strength by our being in the camp.

(2)

From the very start, I worked for the Peoples' Co-operative as a director of the Board which work I enjoyed and when we left the Center, a big crowd of the people including the Board Members and Employees and other friends came out to the gate and when some of the boys sang 'God be with you till we meet again' it made us so sad.

It was indeed our privilege and pleasure to have known so many friends, both Japanese and Caucasians, in the Centers and I was happy to have been able to serve the people in a way I could wherever I was in Montana, Tanforan and Topaz.

The Department of Justice requires the parolee to obtain a sponsor and Dr. Warren here was so kind to act as one but the parole office here again declined him stating he was not in this City long enough and they picked one Mr. N. J. Bowman, a real estate man of this city. I have to report to him every Wednesday and on the 5th and 25th, to the office of the Dept. and it seems my status of parolee is to stand for the duration.

It appears to be the policy of the Dept. not to take clergy men or social workers like YMCA secretaries as sponsors for which they never give any explanations but they seem to take these people to be too lenient.

Some of the internees held in the internment camp of Santa Fe are returning to the Centers without any rehearing and it seems the Department of Justice is now taking a new policy of releasing those internees to certain extent.

I have just read your third article in the Christian Century which was forwarded from the Topaz Center and was quite interested. I believe that your statements based on the facts will educate the public a great deal, am looking forward to read the final article with keen interest. I agree with you that the problems of the evacuee were indeed serious patient when taken over by the WRA, the people was so greatly disappointed with the evacuation based on discrimination and contrary against the American principle. The Government will no doubt have a good deal of more problems on the question but we are so happy to see those Niseis, hope of the people, are leaving the Centers so fast every day and I am sure that the WRA is so far making good sales of them.

Trusting this will find you in good health and with kindest regards,

Most Sincerely Yours,

Mr. & Mrs. L. J. McLeod

1096 Lake St. Salt Lake City.
Oct. 22nd 1943.

Dear Dr. Fisher:

Thank you so much for your letter of Oct. 14th which reached me on the 18th on which day you were going to stop for one hour in Ogden. I wished I could jump into the car and drive out for one hour to Ogden Station or even by means of the electric train to see you, both of which were not possible for me.

In the first place, we have no car and then for any trip outside of five mile limit, I have to get the permission from the U.S. attorney and for that application I first have to get the consent and signature of the sponsor to whom I have to report weekly and twice to the parole office, so my freedom is quite restricted and was very sorry I could not meet you at Ogden.

As you state, there must be considerable problems in Tulelake Center after the segregation which I understand was completed without any mishaps and we hear those people who came into Topaz center in number of about 1500 are so satisfied and contented but heard that when they left Tulelake, the people there did not treat them right, its too bad there are always narrow minded people.

You must have met Mr. Lorne Bell who resigned the position of the Assistant Director of Topaz Center to accept the YMCA position in Honolulu and you must have enough chances to discuss about the relocation problems in Cleveland with him.

I believe ninety percent of the Niseis who are old enough to relocate will leave the centers eventually but I doubt very much about the Isseis because the majority of them are not able to get the job and will not be able to make living outside.

Being a parolee with various restrictions, I found out it is very hard to find a job myself and the housing problem is so acute that we have been looking for an apartment nearly sixty days ever since we came out here in August but we are still out of it. I encourage the relocation of the young people as much as possible but I can hardly find any factors for Isseis to recommend their relocation unless they are financially able to support themselves for the duration. Of course those parents who have their children relocate and support them can leave the center to join the children. I am afraid if the war may last more than two years from now, the WRA would have to keep and take care of 40,000 to 45,000 Isseis and Nisei children. This is besides Tulelake.

We find the people of Utah are friendly and that shooting incident in Provo which occurred a few weeks ago is not of a nature of serious hamper to relocation cause as it was handled wisely by all parties concerned.

Our girls, both Kay and Yoshi are so enjoying their studies and work and they say all people there are so nice and friendly and we understand that the question of Japanese professor at the Smith has been settled satisfactorily.

(2)

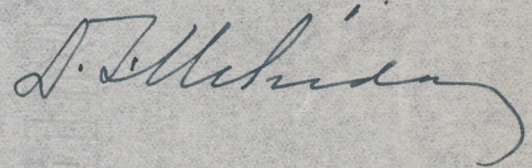
The Preaching Mission including Dr. Stanley Jones is to arrive this week end at Topaz and the people are looking forward to hear the great preacher. We have no chance to hear him here in Salt Lake City, The Topaz people deserve it.

I heard that the Department of Justice is considering the possibility of releasing those people in the internment camps to WRA Centers and if it is true and is realized, that will make the internees and their families very happy.

We had the first snow last Tuesday and it is rather wintery with all trees losing their leaves and we see all the hills around the city are covered with slight snow and the people here are packing food preparing for the long winter.

Thanking you again for your letter, with warmest regards to you and Mrs. Fisher from us two,

Yours cordially,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "D. J. McWhirter". The signature is written in dark ink and has a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

305 South 41st St.,
Philadelphia, 4, Pa.
August 11th 1944.

Dear Dr. & Mrs. Fisher:

Hearty greetings from our new home in Philadelphia!
After two years of makeshift homes in Tanforan, Topaz, and Salt Lake City, we have finally been fortunate enough to join together once again and establish a home here.

We find the "City of Brotherly love" quite old, and thickly populated with over two million people including more than a quarter of a million colored people. This made the search for a suitable apartment quite difficult for the girls when they arrived here in May, but they were able to secure a nice four room apartment in West-Philadelphia after their hard efforts for us. It is located conveniently by a trolley line and a small shopping district, and is near the University of Pa.

This section of the city is blessed with an abundance of trees, for which we are exceedingly grateful. The heat and the humidity has been more intense than any we have ever experienced before, and puts us all into a most lethargic state.

The girls, having completed their year at Mt. Holyoke and Smith respectively, are now busy and working at summer positions- Kay, at the Christian Association of Penn. U. and Yoshi at the Publicity Department of the Presbyterian Assembly. In September, Kay will return to Mt. Holyoke as a member of their Nursery School Staff, while Yoshi will begin as a first and second grade teacher at the Frankford Friends School here. We feel that they have both been very fortunate in their placements.

We older folks arrived from Salt Lake City two weeks ago and are gradually unpacked and settled. We stayed over two nights in Chicago and attended the Issei service on Sunday afternoon where we met quite a number of our friends resettled from Centers. Most of Isseis are feeling lonesome in the big city and seemed to be very happy to meet old acquaintances. We are hoping this will be the last of moving for a while anyway.

The unfortunate citywide transportation strike about which you no doubt read, has kept us at home this past week, but we are hoping to see more of the city before very long.

We often speak of our good friends in California, and remember with gratitude the many kindnesses extended to us, especially during the trying days of evacuation. You have also been so generous and kind to the girls while they were in the colleges in New England and we recall with gratitude your thoughtful calls in Salt Lake City while you are a very busy man.

We have had no difficulty such as I had when we first tried to relocate to St. Louis from Topaz Center pertaining the

sponsorship. The Department of Justice was not so particular as to the selection of the sponsor and one Mrs. D. G. Yarnall who happened to be Mrs. Warren's class mate in Mt. Holyoke and whom our Kay became acquainted with last summer in Pendle Hill is going to be my sponsor. My application for the termination of the status "parolee" was filed in Nov. 1943 but no definite action has been taken by the Department.

They say there are about 450-500 Japanese Americans including a few Issei in this area but the most Niseis being involved in the draft subject to immediate call, they feel so unsettled for which we feel sorry. Sad news commenced to come in from the overseas to various centers informing the loss in action of their sons who volunteered last year from Centers which naturally makes the parents and the people in the Centers more nervous and hesitant to resettle outside.

One good news was that Rev. Ozaki was finally permitted to leave the hospital and join the people in Topaz. We met him in Salt Lake City on his way there and then he proceeded to the Denver conference and he said it was very good. We met a number of the pastors in Salt Lake City who made a stop over there on their return from the conference and they all highly commended on the talk given by Dr. Yuasa. One of the lay delegate from Topaz told me that Dr. Yuasa's lecture was the climax of all the meetings there and it was worth attending. I was very happy to hear those remarks on our friend Dr. Yuasa.

When we settle a little more and the heat subsides, we are hoping to visit New York and see all our friends there and if possible to go up north and see the schools of Kay and Yoshi and then extend our trip to Boston so that we can visit Mother Cary and other friends.

We sincerely hope that the day when we shall meet again in California is not too far distant in the future, and pray for the day when peace will again be restored to this world.

Hoping this will find you both well and in good health. with warmest regards and best wishes to you from us four.

Most sincerely,

P.S. Please pardon the typewritten letter.

M. Mrs. D. Yarnall