

6.4

Kamuxaka, Melba

Notes

1944-1945

83/115

C



CALL ON MELBA KAMINAKA, OLD TULEAN FRIEND OF JIMMY TAKEUCHI

Melba had not heard of the resegregation pamphlet. All she knew was that some man was coming around to get people to sign something. I asked if her block were strongly status quo. She said, No, it was mostly Old Tuleans.

*"The people are so uncertain. And definitely, those who plan to stay don't want to move."*

*"Things seem so quiet now. I can't believe it."*

Melba also asked me if I had heard of Topaz closing.

I then asked her if she had any plans to relocate before the election. She said she had already gone to see the Project Attorney's secretary but had been told that if she applied for leave clearance, cancelling her repatriation, she would have to leave camp when her clearance came through. Since the nursing school she hoped to enter will not admit her until September 1945, she does not know what to do. She did not cancel her repatriation. She said that many of the high school students are in the same plight.

TALK WITH MRS. ODA

I hoped to talk over the resegregation petition with Mr. Oda but he was not home. His wife was expecting a music pupil. She said that they had received an announcement but were waiting to hear how the other people felt about it. The pupil arrived and I made an appointment for next Friday.

TALK WITH MRS. MATSUDA

Thought I'd call at the Matsudas' and see how they are taking the dismal results. They were a little subdued, but not very much. Mrs. Matsuda remarked with determination that they had just about gotten all the signatures of *"those who really want to go back to Japan."* *"Today was the last day people could sign."* (If that is true, none of my informants have known about it, or cared enough to mention it.) Mrs. Matsuda told me that *"the people just laughed at the statement in the paper (Newell Star) which warned that unauthorized petitions would not be allowed."* (I have heard no such laughter.) She added that some of the block managers who favor resegregation are really mad, because they say that the subject was never brought up at the block managers' meeting, as the Newell Star says it was.

Mr. Matsuda now said: *"The newspaper is getting very one sided nowadays. They used to be on our side, but now they are beginning to go over on the other side."*

Mrs. Matsuda: *"You know why?"*

Mr. Matsuda: *"How can you get authority for a petition like this?"* He said that the next time they put out something they are going to take the paper to the block manager beforehand, *"and he better not say anything."*

Mrs. Matsuda said that they had received a letter from Mr. Ennes of the Department of Justice which advised them to hold on, that everything was going smoothly and that they would be notified when the renunciation of citizenship forms would be ready. She added, *"We are going on as we were, even if the people squawk."*

---

/1. On September 30, Mr. Black sent a memorandum to the block managers in which he said that there would be no further resegregation at Tule Lake or elsewhere. On October 6, my block manager friend, Mr. Oda, referred to the memorandum and on October 10, he sent me a copy by mail. See notes for October 10, pp. 4, 5.<sup>7</sup>



CALL ON MELBA KAMINAKA, OLD TULEAN FRIEND OF JIMMY TAKEUCHI

Melba had not heard of the resegregation pamphlet. All she knew was that some man was coming around to get people to sign something. I asked if her block were strongly status quo. She said, No, it was mostly Old Tuleans.

*"The people are so uncertain. And definitely, those who plan to stay don't want to move."*

*"Things seem so quiet now. I can't believe it."*

Melba also asked me if I had heard of Topaz closing.

I then asked her if she had any plans to relocate before the election. She said she had already gone to see the Project Attorney's secretary but had been told that if she applied for leave clearance, cancelling her repatriation, she would have to leave camp when her clearance came through. Since the nursing school she hoped to enter will not admit her until September 1945, she does not know what to do. She did not cancel her repatriation. She said that many of the high school students are in the same plight.

TALK WITH MRS. ODA

TALK WITH MRS. MATSUDA

Thought I'd call at the Matsudas' and see how they are taking the dismal results. They were a little subdued, but not very much. Mrs. Matsuda remarked with determination that they had just about gotten all the signatures of *"those who really want to go back to Japan."* *"Today was the last day people could sign."* (If that is true, none of my informants have known about it, or cared enough to mention it.) Mrs. Matsuda told me that *"the people just laughed at the statement in the paper (Newell Star) which warned that unauthorized petitions would not be allowed."* (I have heard no such laughter.) She added that some of the block managers who favor resegregation are really mad, because they say that the subject was never brought up at the block managers' meeting, as the Newell Star says it was.

Mr. Matsuda now said: *"The newspaper is getting very one sided nowadays. They used to be on our side, but now they are beginning to go over on the other side."*

Mrs. Matsuda: *"You know why?"*

Mr. Matsuda: *"How can you get authority for a petition like this?"* He said that the next time they put out something they are going to take the paper to the block manager beforehand, *"and he better not say anything."*

Mrs. Matsuda said that they had received a letter from Mr. Ennes of the Department of Justice which advised them to hold on, that everything was going smoothly and that they would be notified when the renunciation of citizenship forms would be ready. She added, *"We are going on as we were, even if the people squawk."*

---

/1. On September 30, Mr. Black sent a memorandum to the block managers in which he said that there would be no further resegregation at Tule Lake or elsewhere. On October 6, my block manager friend, Mr. Oda, referred to the memorandum and on October 10, he sent me a copy by mail. See notes for October 10, pp. 4, 5.7



March 9, 10, 11. really comfortable



~~So you will be right~~

TALK WITH <sup>Melba</sup> ~~ELA~~ KAMINAKA, Miss 1 girl and Jimmy <sup>Takenchi's</sup> friend.

On Relocation

We had a farewell party in our block - a party for a man who was leaving. And he was going to make a speech. Then a man, a Re-segregation agitator started to boo him. You could just see how mad everybody was (at the Re-segregation man). Oh, my goodness, we all felt horrible. The poor man couldn't finish his speech.

Even if people approved, it's just common courtesy. And yet there are people who will listen to him (the agitator) and you can see how people feel about leaving yet. They do it after Sark.

Dec 17  
M  
P



copy

CALL ON MELBA KAMINAKA, OLD TULEAN FRIEND OF JIMMY TAKEUCHI

Melba had not heard of the resegregation pamphlet. All she knew was that some man was coming around to get people to sign something. I asked if her block were strongly status quo. She said, No, it was mostly Old Tuleans.

*"The people are so uncertain. And definitely, those who plan to stay don't want to move."*

*"Things seem so quiet now. I can't believe it."*

Melba also asked me if I had heard of Topaz closing.

I then asked her if she had any plans to relocate before the election. She said she had already gone to see the Project Attorney's secretary but had been told that if she applied for leave clearance, cancelling her repatriation, she would have to leave camp when her clearance came through. Since the nursing school she hoped to enter will not admit her until September 1945, she does not know what to do. She did not cancel her repatriation. She said that many of the high school students are in the same plight.

TALK WITH MRS. ODA

I hoped to talk over the resegregation petition with Mr. Oda but he was not home. His wife was expecting a music pupil. She said that they had received an announcement but were waiting to hear how the other people felt about it. The pupil arrived and I made an appointment for next Friday.

TALK WITH MRS. MATSUDA

Thought I'd call at the Matsudas' and see how they are taking the dismal results. They were a little subdued, but not very much. Mrs. Matsuda remarked with determination that they had just about gotten all the signatures of *"those who really want to go back to Japan."* *"Today was the last day people could sign."* (If that is true, none of my informants have known about it, or cared enough to mention it.) Mrs. Matsuda told me that *"the people just laughed at the statement in the paper (Newell Star) which warned that unauthorized petitions would not be allowed."* (I have heard no such laughter.) She added that some of the block managers who favor resegregation are really mad, because they say that the subject was never brought up at the block managers' meeting, as the Newell Star says it was.

Mr. Matsuda now said: *"The newspaper is getting very one sided nowadays. They used to be on our side, but now they are beginning to go over on the other side."*

Mrs. Matsuda: *"You know why?"*

Mr. Matsuda: *"How can you get authority for a petition like this?"* He said that the next time they put out something they are going to take the paper to the block manager beforehand, *"and he better not say anything."*

Mrs. Matsuda said that they had received a letter from Mr. Ennes of the Department of Justice which advised them to hold on, that everything was going smoothly and that they would be notified when the renunciation of citizenship forms would be ready. She added, *"We are going on as we were, even if the people squawk."*

---

/1. On September 30, Mr. Black sent a memorandum to the block managers in which he said that there would be no further resegregation at Tule Lake or elsewhere. On October 6, my block manager friend, Mr. Oda, referred to the memorandum and on October 10, he sent me a copy by mail. See notes for October 10, pp. 4, 5.



CALL AT TACHIBANAS

Called on the Tachibanas to see what I could find out. He was not at home, which was fortunate in a way, since his wife gossiped and dropped hints which Mr. Tachibana would be far too cautious to do.

We discussed Huycke's leaving. I praised the growth of the Sokoku Kenkyu. Mr. Tachibana invited me to come to the Meiji Setsu celebration on November 3, but recommended that I speak to Mr. Matsuda first about coming. I turned the conversation to the members of the Negotiating Committee, released from the stockade, and remarked that I had heard that some of them were giving the Sokoku Kenkyu a great deal of support. "Yes," said Mrs. Tachibana happily, "Mr. Uchida and Mr. Yoshiyama are really helping the Sokoku." Mr. Uchida, in particular, is taking complete charge of the judo instruction which is part of the program for young men. I praised Uchida and Yoshiyama. Reverend Kai, Mrs. Tachibana continued, was not thought well of. He had not appreciated the efforts that the Resegregation Group made in his behalf. In fact (said Mrs. Tachibana), Mrs. Kai had been quite curt and rude to a delegation from the Resegregation Group which had called on her when her husband was in the stockade.

Mrs. Tachibana said that at the time when the Resegregation group was working to get the men out of the stockade, Mr. Uchida's relatives and Mr. Yoshiyama's parents-in-law to be (Yoshiyama's parents are dead) had been very courteous, cooperative, and appreciative.

We chatted about knitting for awhile and then Mrs. Tachibana remarked of her own accord that another inu had gotten hit on the head. "Is that so?" said I, "I heard a rumor, but that's all." "Yes," said Mrs. Tachibana, "They got him over in block 54. He was a Christian scientist. They beat up three of them, but they wouldn't have beaten the other two if they hadn't been along." I found out that the man slated to be beaten was Mr. Aritaka, not Mr. Tokunaga. Mrs. Tachibana was quite happy over the beating. She thinks the men deserved it.

Another inu was warned a few days ago, she continued:

"Mr. Tambara of block 31 was selling some of the things he had stored in a warehouse. They were his own things and he was selling them at three or four times the price.

"Somebody blackmailed him. They wrote him, 'Would you like to see another Hitomi?' He closed his door. But he's probably selling things in his backyard now."

We discussed the possibility of the Department of Justice taking over. Mrs. Tachibana remarked optimistically that it looked as if something might be going to happen because "Mr. Best hadn't sent out any new orders since he came back, so it looks as if he's getting out."

TALK WITH MELBA KAMINAKA, NISEI GIRL - ONE OF JIM TAKEUCHI'S FRIENDS

Melba is still determined to get out of camp, but does not want to apply for leave clearance now unless she is forced to it. She asked me if it were true that 1,000 people were leaving camp in a bunch in November.

She had not heard of the beating of October 15, but remarked that there were a lot of small beatings going on. She gave additional information on the threat made to Tambara:

"Mr. Tambara - there was a threatening note pasted up in the 41 canteen. He sold articles and kept on raising the prices. Now they say he's going to leave camp."



I remarked that it was too bad that the Colonial Police couldn't do anything about these beatings and threats. "Oh," said Melba with immense scorn, "They can't do anything."

TALK WITH OPLER

I learned from Opler that the Administration does suspect Wakayama as a possible instigator of the beating, but that it does not have a shred of evidence on him. One of "his boys" in particular is suspected, but nothing can be done. Best's attitude is that we can handle Tachibana easily by packing him back to Santa Fe, but since Wakayama is a Nisei, the problem is made much more difficult.<sup>1</sup>

Opler's informants tell him that a new name has been given to the Sokoku Kenkyu. Opler also said that the camp is full of rumors that trouble is to be expected not from the Sokoku Kenkyu boys but from the Kai-Kuratomi Dai Nippon group.

---

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Wakayama was a U.S. citizen and Mr. Tachibana was not. In point of fact, Mr. Wakayama was an Hawaiian born Kibei.



DECEMBER 14, 1944, p. 3.

The main reason <sup>Kurihara</sup> was mad was that they wronged the young people. The young people don't know anything. They do as the leaders say.

### Gamblers

~~I made a minor faux pas at this point. Intending to deliberately stimulate a bit of gossip about the gambler-Sokoku feud, I merely said~~  
 I said I had heard something about the gamblers. <sup>Mr. Takunaga</sup> ~~He immediately~~ looked alarmed and said "Everybody knows it's going on, but I don't know anything about it." ~~I hastily rectified this error but it seems that T. knew nothing new about the near future. He said, however,~~  
 He asked, "Even the Japanese police department can't do anything with the gamblers."

### Group formed by Kurihara

~~(This is something I really wanted to know very much.)~~

Since I was attacked there has been born a new party in the spirit of justice. There are two men who say they will dedicate their lives for the peace of the camp. And especially because these Sokoku people were destroying the peace of the camp by attacking innocent people.

Soon after we were attacked, even among the Sokoku people, there were two parties - one extreme and one mild. Those who were mild were indignant at the radicalism and both were in feud among themselves. A big trouble was looming at that time.

Then another party of justice appeared. That's why these radicals were scared to death.

<sup>Mr. Takunaga</sup> ~~He~~ gave me a ~~very definite~~ <sup>the</sup> impression that <sup>Kurihara</sup> ~~he~~ has started a unobtrusive organization. The same impression was given me by <sup>George</sup> ~~Yamashiro~~. <sup>George</sup>

~~So you will realize~~

TALK WITH <sup>melba</sup> ~~ABA~~ KAMINAKA, Miss girl and Jerry <sup>Takenaka's</sup> friend.

### On Relocation

We had a farewell party in our block - a party for a man who was leaving. And he was going to make a speech. Then a man, a Re-segregation agitator started to boo him. You could just see how mad everybody was (at the Re-segregation man). Oh, my goodness, we all felt horrible. The poor man couldn't finish his speech.

Even if people approved, it's just common courtesy. And yet there are people who will listen to him (the agitator) and you can see how people feel about leaving yet. They do it after dark.



DECEMBER 14, 1944, p. 4.

Mella Kaminski (Miss)

Sokoku-Hokoku

The seinin-dan is pretty strong though - On Sunday morning they certainly make me mad. It isn't the marching or the Washo, it's that horrible off-key bugling.

Even the mild Kokumin Gakko (Japanese school) separate from ward VI (which has its own much more radical school) and Manzanar - the boys have had to clip their hair and the girls wear pigtails and skirts two inches below their knees.

My goodness, this is war time. Where are they going to get the material? Many of the kids are thinking of quitting. They haven't got the skirts. They can't wear any makeup or anything. They look like old bags.

Mella

(I asked ~~her~~ if this ruling on the girls' dress had actually been adopted by the schools.)

"It's up for discussion. I'm not sure if its gone through. They (the schools) are afraid they'll get behind the others (Sokoku and ward VI) and be criticised.

"You can't even go to a movie without being mauled and pawed.

"I think there are more WRA rulings being made to treat the people mean in here. Have you heard about their cancelling the shipment of Omochiy They seem to think we shouldn't even celebrate the holidays. (rice cakes)?

"It's quiet on the whole though, I think.

(~~I received the unstable impression that Mella~~ <sup>(Mella apparently)</sup> has no idea of the precarious position of the Sokoku. Being an Americanized Misai she does not follow the political developments and it may be several weeks or a month before the news seeps through to her.)

No more large parties in mess halls

Our ward isn't having any parties at the mess halls anymore. There are to be no wedding receptions or parties. Everything is to be very private and very small. Gifts are to be limited to coins. There aren't to be any elaborations anymore. At least that's what's been decided here in ward V. (Ward V is one of the quietest blocks in camp, being ~~very~~ <sup>largely</sup> old Tulcan in population. What's behind this feeling for economy I don't know.)

Rev. Kai

What's happened to Rev. Kai and that bunch? You don't hear about them anymore. Are they still angling for control of the peoples' minds and attempting to formulate what the people should do?



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1945, p. 1.

Called on F. Furukawa today to break the jinx, but the bad luck held. He had an appointment with Internal Security so returned home frustrated. ~~While considering the more comfortable terms of his life~~ <sup>Then my luck changed</sup> [Takeuchi] Melba had a break in a visit from ~~one of Jimmy's friends~~ <sup>Melba Kaminaka</sup> who plans to go out sometime in the vague future suffers from few of the Tule torments, and Gossiping with her all afternoon cheered me up so much

TALK WITH MELBA KAMINAKA ~~She stated that night she called a~~  
~~typical American reaction to the Japanese.~~

Hokoku

"I know boys who are having their heads shaved just to go to their hearings. To make a good impression, they shave off their heads. I don't understand them."

"I heard about another fellow who applied to work in Mess Operations. Mr. Hayward held up his hat and when he saw he had long hair he said, 'OK, you're a good boy.'"

"Why doesn't the Administration make some definite statement? Who is in charge here anyway, WPA, the Dept. of Justice or the Army, or what? Somebody ought to take more interest."

"I know some poor kids, their parents made them shave their heads. But they still roll up their jeans to show their agah socks. (I'm not up on this but agah socks are luridly colored and quite the thing for the ~~very~~ young Nisei.) A lot of kids say that when they're 18 they'll have to join due to their parents' prestige and the draft. (the Hokoku)"

"The women in the Joshi are sure carrying on. They drill now and wear trousers like the women wear in the fields in Japan."

"Before the last pick-up our ambulance driver came and said, 'Kiss me Good-night. It's the last chance you'll have to do it.' Sure enough, he was taken."

"In our block a young kid was taken in the first bunch. In the second bunch his older brother went. The old folks in our block want to sympathize. But the mother said, 'I'm proud of this. At last they've become Japanese - Nippon Seishin.' We didn't know what to say. (Japanese spirit)"

Isn't it true that they (Hokoku) put up an ultimatum that if they return the people back from Santa Fe they'll be good?

Another girl said she got a telegram from Santa Fe saying they're making preparations to move the people in Santa Fe back here and put them in the stockade.

I then asked <sup>Melba</sup> what she thought of the reaction the Hokoku had <sup>that they behave,</sup> been showing to the orders ~~to behave that the~~. Her reply was illuminating:



FEBRUARY 28, 1945, p. 2.

Melba Kaminaka

"Just what were the orders? We don't know."

"You just can't open your mouth to anyone nowadays because you don't know which side they're on."

"I heard there were a lot of inus inside the organization and out of it. I heard some of the inus took an awful beating on the train. I heard a reverend tried to pacify the boys because they complained about the food. So they beat him up."

"A young boy - a ~~was~~ <sup>Wash-sho</sup> boy - was waiting for his hearing. He told me, 'I went out primarily for the physical object. I believe in building my body.' He said he hadn't read their (Hokoku) constitution. He said, 'Myself and a couple of fellows are reading up on it and making a brief.' He cited the woman congressman who had refused to vote after Pearl Harbor. He told about the times he had been discriminated against. He said, 'I don't believe there's any future for me here.'"

I said, 'You're looking only at the ~~economic~~ <sup>economic</sup> side. Do you expect to have all that fulfilled in Japan?' He said, 'Yes, at least there he'll be treated equal.' So he went.

#### The Department of Justice Statement

"I was on the night shift so I didn't see it right away. But I thought it was swell. But right after that, the feeling got more resentful and they shaved more heads off. I think the majority of the people believed it was true. Even the older folks who weren't too closely related to the group."

"Isn't it that they'll keep sending the people out until they deplete the Nisei population and in the end this is going to be an internment camp?"

"Isn't it true that the American schools are going to be closed by April? The point was - a Jap camp wouldn't need educational schools."

"Everything they call American is frowned upon. We wanted to give a farewell party to Dr. Marks in the colony. But we feel the colony people feel we shouldn't do this."

"A young boy, the baby of the family was sent away. He sent his mother a note concealed in a rice cake saying, 'I'm terribly lonely, mother.' Naturally, he wouldn't admit anything like that to his family before he was sent away, but he sent it to his mother."

"These boys who don't know what they're doing. It makes us so mad! What's wrong with being drafted? Golly!"

"We're always saying, 'It (trouble) just has to stop.' But that's what we're saying all the time."

"I also heard they weren't going to employ anymore Hokoku people."

<sup>Wash</sup> Melba has not renounced her citizenship and doesn't intend to. Her parents are trying to make her fill in her ~~own~~ registration papers



FEBRUARY 28, 1945, p. 3.

properly but she keeps putting this off. As she left I told her,  
"Well, don't let them shave your head." She replied, "They'll have  
to scalp me first."

TALK WITH KURIHARA

I asked K<sup>urihara</sup> about the rumor of the boys from Santa Fe returning  
here. He corroborated it:

"The boys in Santa Fe say they expect to be back in camp within  
a month. That rumor has been circulating for a week or more. Where  
do they get that idea? I've heard quite a few have applied for  
parole."

"If it's possible to bring back 10 or 12 boys to the camp they  
will spread the disagreement among themselves, how they acted. They  
really weren't acting as true Japanese. By giving the rest of the  
boys in camp such information, these boys here would stop to think.  
It will help them to make up their mind."

"That was my experience when I was in Moab and I<sup>u</sup>app, that the  
officials made a big mistake not to send some of the boys back to  
the centers. There was disagreement among the boys in Moab who came  
from the various centers. I've noticed each and every group has  
split in two and fought among themselves."

"The officials at Santa Fe or Bismark ought to know whether  
those persons should be sent back. They could check the ir names."

Results of the Government's Policy

After we were segregated the government <sup>would</sup> incur tremendous expense if  
if they put us in with the rest of the centers.

Fate of Community Government

As to success, I'd say to some extent Yes and to some extent No.  
If they really fight for the good of the Japanese people they will  
be respected. But if they fight only 50% and try to cooperate with  
the Administration the other 50% they will be branded as dogs.

"The best thing would be for Mr. Best to pick out ten advisors  
and have them talk it over and have a conference and decide whether it  
will be all right or it won't be all right."

Discussion on Ambivalence.

We now went into a discussion on "loyalty" and here I really had  
to respect K<sup>urihara</sup> more than ever for his honesty. I had made the statement  
in a recent part of my <sup>manuscript</sup> that at least 90% of the people ~~in~~  
professing loyalty to Japan were not really loyal. I said K<sup>urihara</sup> might



FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 1945; p. 1.

Spent the entire afternoon gossiping with two <sup>with</sup> Nisei girls, <sup>at</sup> Kaminaka and her friend. While the talk had little to do with current politics at Tule Lake, it taught me a lot and caused me to be pretty ashamed of myself. ~~With discussed the Nisei problem in many aspects, and I learned a lot.~~ These poor kids, both of them old Tuleans, are tied down here through segregation, don't want to go to Japan, want to go out to school most grievously, and are tied hand and foot by the fact that if they do go they can't even come back to visit their parents ~~and~~ and may never see them again. We discussed prejudice in this country <sup>and</sup> ~~pretty thoroughly~~ <sup>saying</sup>. They asked my advice on how to meet prejudice, ~~saying~~ many times that it was the little things that one cannot protest legally that hurt the most. Knowing that they may be stuck in Tule Lake if the <sup>authorities</sup> ~~War Relocation Authority~~ decide to swing one way I advised them <sup>reluctant and</sup> to go to nursing school ~~somewhere~~ together if they really wanted to live in this country. They said that they had been trying to do that for three years. "We'd be RN's by now, if we'd gone at the beginning," said M. "But they wouldn't let us come back and work here at the hospital even at 19 dollars a month. Think of all the money they'd save!" I sympathized <sup>about</sup> on the difficulty of leaving ones parents, <sup>saying</sup> ~~although~~ that I had had the same problem. "But did your mother cry and plead with you to stay?" asked M's friend. "It/ isn't only that," said M. "We'll be all right if we go out, but think how our families will suffer." "Will they <sup>really</sup> hold it against your family if you go out?" I asked. <sup>[other segregationists]</sup> "You bet they will," she assured me. "If only this hadn't been made a segregation center."

We discussed prejudice all over the world and <sup>and</sup> decided that there were no good bets except Soviet Russia and perhaps Brazil. Neither country appealed, so we decided to stay here and face out the matter. On camp matters M. <sup>related</sup> the following rumor prevalent about the fate of



31.  
MARCH 9, 1945, p. 2.

the Hoshi-dan:

"They were saying (in the hospital) that eventually they're going to get together all the Hoshi-dan and intern them in a camp near San Diego. Aren't they building something there? But then they said that's too close to the coast. Then somebody else said that it would be a good thing to put them there because if Japanese planes bombed the coast the Hoshi-dan would surely get it.

Both girls, like many persons in camp, were impressed with the recent terrorization of Missi at San José. M<sup>el</sup> told the story of another ~~and~~ Japanese group near Stockton who were living on the Fair Ground and the men had to go to work with a military guard to protect them.

"But I still think it would be a good idea to segregate all the super-patriots."

"If this were a relocation center and open, lots of people would go out and come back if they could. We were all set for going out ourselves but after Military Registration and Segregation our parents wouldn't hear of it. They wouldn't listen to us about going out. Some of the people who are the worst agitators now were willing to go out then.

"Think of Hisako, how she's changed. She was willing to go out. But now she's strong in the Joshi and has influenced all of the people in her block. You can tell the way she walks now. Before she was a typically Japanese feminine type. Now she hollers. (Here M<sup>el</sup> aped the changed which Hisako's posture has gone through.)

"They were saying they might put the Joshis in block 99.

"One fellow resigned from the Hokoku that we know. He was in the Army before the war and was kicked out because he was a Kibei. Then he heard he was going to get compensation from the Army. So he resigned from the Hokoku. And now he's bragging about getting money from the Army. We're pretty disgusted with him.

"In my block nobody ever came around from the Hokoku to pressure my brothers."

(This bears out my observation that the Hokoku ~~xxxx~~ put most of its efforts in certain blocks and wards and avoided the strong conservative sections of camp.)

"Not going to Santa Fe was a big disappointment to the fellows who went to Bismarck." Some of the girls are sure crying about the fact that the fellows are gone."

~~Philip Expects that this is the first time that the fellows~~

We ended our long talk by deciding that you had to face life here in America with extra spunk and pride because of the handicap of



52  
MARCH 9, 1945, p. 3.

Le- ~~PRE~~judice. Anything accomplished was so much more to be valued and admired.

(This talk hit me harder than this writeup shows. You might extend my personal<sup>81</sup> apologies to any Nisei who happen to be about. Well, I guess I've run the gamut now and get bluer and bluer every day. It's about time I finished up the job.)