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c

INTER FAITH MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION
Topaz, Utah

Rev. T. Goto, Chairman
28-10-D
Rev. I. Kyogoku, Vice Chairman
6-2-F

✓
Rev. K. M. Kumata
Secretary
7-10-E

November 11, 1942

Dr. Carl Hirota, Chairman
Community Council
Topaz, Utah

Dear Dr. Hirota:

Representing the Inter Faith Ministerial Association I wish to express our respect for your splendid work in the city government.

We wish to do our utmost in cooperation with you for the betterment of the community life in this center.

I wish to ask you to notify this office of any meeting sponsored by your committee in interest of the whole community because we are in a position to reach and be responsible directly for more than five thousand residents, members of various church^m affiliated with us. We should like to be invited to participate in any discussions concerning all social problems.

We would be very happy also if you would invite us to social functions sponsored by you.

Yours respectfully,

Taro Goto

Rev. T. Goto
Chairman

TG:tk

CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT

December 29
1942

The Reverend Mr. Taro Goto, Chairman
Inter-Faith Ministerial Association
Recreation Hall #33
Topaz

My dear Mr. Goto:

I am sure that all of us met this Yuletide Season with humble and grateful hearts, for it certainly was a blessing that our friend, Mr. Koso Fukagai, was brought back to us alive. Yes, the black cloud turned its silver lining in time so that the true spirit of Christmas--the spirit of joy, happiness, and love of fellow men reigned throughout the Project.

Please express to the members of the Inter-Faith Ministerial Association my sincere appreciation for their cooperation and deep interest in the welfare of the Residents of Topaz. It is a pleasure to be able to work in collaboration with your group.

I wish to extend to each one of you my sincere best wishes for the New Year and may 1943 prove rich in spiritual accomplishments and blessings.

Very sincerely yours,

Lorne W. Bell, Chief
Community Services Division

LWB:sk

RECEIVED - 1943

C O P Y

INTER-FAITH MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION
Topaz, Utah

Jan. 20, 1943

Mr. James Lamb
Section Head
Community Activities

My dear Mr. Lamb:

The Inter-Faith Ministerial Association wishes to present the following items as the determining factors of a religious organization that may be included in the Association:

1. Only those organizations that are recognized by the Western Church Commission for Japanese Service, agency of National Church Councils, and of the Commissions On Aliens and Prisoners of War; representing Home Missions, and recommended by the above Commission for the Assembly and WRA Centers. (All denominations of Christianity and non-nationalistic sects of Buddhism have been recognized and recommended. All sects of Shintoism have not been allowed for the duration.)
2. Only those organizations of the established religions with long standing.

Truly yours,

(Signed) TARO GOTO
President, Inter-Faith
Ass'n

sk
1/29/43

Topaz

(Letter from one of the Japanese Episcopal clergy at Topaz received 4-21-43 by a member of WRA Staff who had called on him at Topaz (and later sent the family a box of Easter candy)).

April 15, 1943

My Dear _____:

Grandmother and I have just take eaten the last piece of that delicious apple candy that you so kindly sent us. I am sorry that we ate all the candy before we even wrote the letter to thank you. But sometimes the hectic and uncertain routines of clergyman's life prevents an immediate reply of important letters.

Your visit has be a brief but a very delightful one. Once in a while you meet people who leaves with a pleasant after-glow which cause I cannot figure out except that it must be something spiritual.

The apple candy reminds us so much of the Chosen Ame candy in Japan, Only it has a much better taste and a delicious core or layer in the bottom. Delicious candies do not last long, fortunately for our teeth, perhaps.

I wonder how many years it will be when we shall be able to meet once more our friends in Japan without the heartaches of bitter memories. I have enjoyed my trip to Japan and have made many friends and acquaintances among the ministers and the seminary students there. The mountain scenes of Japan are certainly beautiful.

The war came to us like a thunderbolt out of a clear sky. We felt the danger for some years, but the actual war we did not expect, perhaps because we lived in a world of wishful thinking. However I feel for the whole tragic world where men must live in the festers of war scarred cities for years after peace is declared. How long before the confidence of the Caucasians will be restored towards the Japanese of this country and how long before the bitterness of evacuation will be wiped off of our memories? These questions are half dormant in my mind.

However personally I have been blessed by the sympathies and kindness of the people back in my Diocese of California. They have toughed me with their letters and generousities and their constant concern about our affairs.

I find the administeration at Topaz very sympathetic. Their actions are frequently misunderstood by the people, but the sincerity of the heads of Topaz I believe to beyond reproach. They have a hard and sometimes very unpleasant tasks but they are patient and I believe in the end they will win the complete confidence of all the people here.

My work here in Topaz in the Protestant Church is interesting. About three hundred young people come to the Sunday morning Worship and a little less to the Japanese worship. We have our own Communion Service at 9:15 before the Sunday School. The activities and the meetings of the Church keeps me quite busy.

Thank you very much and the family joins me in wishing you Happy Easter.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ JKT _____

COPY

Reports

Central Utah Project
Topaz, Utah

April 23, 1943

*Central Utah
relocation
Seicho no Iye*

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
COMMUNITY ANALYSIS SECTION

Mr. D. S. Myer, Director
War Relocation Authority
Barr Building
Washington, D.C.

Attention: Mr. E. M. Rowalt, Acting Director.

Dear Mr. Myer:

Mr. Rowalt's letter of April 14, attaching copy of a communication addressed to you from Karl I. Akiya and S. J. Oki of Topaz, makes it possible for me to now answer your letter of February 26, 1943.

With reference to the Americanization section in the "Topaz Times" mentioned by the writers, I may say that the center newspaper has now been enlarged sufficiently to carry this extra page in the weekly issue.

Actually, it has been carried regularly and has had a very satisfactory response from the older residents of Topaz.

The two men who signed the letter to you have been leaders in this Americanization program among the older Isseis, although they themselves are younger men. They have been responsible for the preparation of the Americanization page in the "Topaz Times" almost entirely between the two of them.

More recently Mr. Oki has volunteered for service as an instructor in the Army Language School and Mr. Akiya has been carrying on the work alone. He expects to leave soon, but an effort is being made to find others who will be able to keep up this feature. Both these men have been instructors in the Adult Education classes of the school system here.

With reference to the Seicho-no-Iye, a religious group, mentioned in the Akiya-Oki letter as "definitely pro-fascist, pro-militarist fifth column," Mr. Lorne Bell, Chief of Community Services, has ascertained through the Community Activities section the statement of three members of this organization as to its purposes. A copy of their report is herewith attached. A further investigation is being undertaken in view of the statement in the Akiya-Oki letter.

Sincerely yours,

Charles F. Ernst
Project Director

Attachment
c.c. Mr. Lorne Bell
Mr. Bankson

REPORT ON FINDINGS

April 12, 1943

SUBJECT: Seicho-No-Ie Church, Its Aim, Its Approach, and Its Responsible Leaders.

FINDINGS: Three members of the Seicho-No-Ie

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------|
| 1) Mr. Ryujiro Yamanaka | 4-5-E |
| 2) Mr. Yoshihiro Yasuda | 22-12-E |
| 3) Mrs. Masano Yasuda | 22-12-E |

came to this department and offered the following explanation of their aims and their approach. They also indicated their responsible leaders.

I AIMS

A. Freedom of worship:

Above all, this church, according to its leaders, believes in the principle of freedom of worship. Seicho-No-Ie believes that each great religion in the world has some unique spiritual contribution to make and opposes any intolerance which may prove an obstacle in the way of this fundamental approach.

Eclecticism:

Believing that there is something very important which each great world religion has to offer, it wishes to combine the best in each and find a oneness among these religions, which would do away with inter-faith conflicts. Seicho-No-Ie believe that there is one God, and that there are not as many Gods as there are religions and that the different religions are merely roads leading to the same goal: God.

II APPROACH

A. Non-political and non-racial:

Seicho-No-Ie has no political ties or aims and is opposed to political utilitarianism as it occurs in many countries in this world. Further, it opposes any racial purity theories which may tie up with political ideologies. Seicho-No-Ie is a religion, open to all regardless of nationality or race.

B. Belief in the Four Freedoms:

Seicho-No-Ie, according to its spokesmen, subscribes to the Four Freedoms as reenunciated in the Atlantic Charter.

C. Worship weekly on Sunday:

Seicho-No-Ie worships God and meditates among its members through the medium of prayer and exaltation by inspiration. The approach is similar to that of the Quakers; no official minister leads the congregation. The group meets once a week on Sunday.

III RESPONSIBLE LEADERS IN TOPAZ, UTAH

- 1) Mrs. Hasumi Yamanaka
Block 4-5-E
- 2) Mr. Jitsuzo Akiyoshi
Block 20-9-B
- 3) Mr. Yoshihiro Yasuda
Block 22-12-E
- 4) Mr. Koshichi Kuwada
Block 11-7-E
- 5) Mr. Masuji Fujii
Block 7-1-D

INTER-FAITH MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION
Religious Center #33
Topaz, Utah

May 17, 1943

pus
Mr. & Mrs. Lorne Bell
Block 2-1-CD
Topaz, Utah

RM

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Bell:

The Topaz Inter-Faith Ministerial council wishes to extend our invitation to you to our fellowship to be held in honor of all the teachers at Topaz High School on Tuesday, May 18, from 8:00 p.m. at Rec. #33. We wish to show our appreciation for the teachers for their cooperation in educating our children which is the most important and most difficult task, and also to discuss various problems concerning our children.

May we have the pleasure of your presence.

Sincerely yours,

Taro Goto
Taro Goto, President

INTER-FAITH MINISTERIAL ASS'N.

INTER-FAITH COUNCIL

MONTHLY REPORT

October 1943

BUDDHIST CHURCH

1. Plans are now under way for the reorganization of the Church Boards and the Young People's Group.
2. A membership drive is to be launched.
3. Since the departure of Reverend Kumata who will now be affiliated with the National Young Buddhist Association in Ogden, Reverend Itsuzo Kyogoku has been appointed to replace Rev. Kumata in the advisory capacity of the Y.B.A organization in Topaz.
4. A Welcome Entertainment Program is being planned by the Church to welcome the former Tuleans on Oct. 31st.
5. A new Buddhist study class will be organized in the near future.
6. With the arrival of the mimeograph machine, publications of the Buddhist movement will be sent out to other centers and to relocatees.

CATHOLIC CHURCH

1. A Welcome Tea for new members from Tule Lake was held on October 17th with 28 in attendance.
2. Bishop Hunt of Salt Lake City was to have visited this center on October 31st.

PROTESTANT CHURCH

Outside Ministers visiting this center:

Oct. 10 Rev. Yahiro, Holiness - Granada
24 Rev. S.A Hunter, Presbyterian - Berkeley
24 - 29th National Preaching Mission
Dr. F. H Smith, Methodist - Berkeley
Dr. E Stanley Jones, Methodist - New York
Dr. J.E Skoglund, Baptist - Berkeley
Dr. F.W. Heckelman, Methodist - El Monte

Special Activities:

					<u>Attend.</u>
Oct.	10	Y.P Worship - Guest Speaker	Rev. Yahiro		255
	24	" " " "	Rev. S.A Hunt		255
		Evening Young People's Service -			
		Guest Speaker Dr. J.E Skoglund of National			150
		Preaching Mission			
	24 - 28	NATIONAL PREACHING MISSION			
		Daily: Evening Seminar (nisei)			70
		Evening Service "			100
		" " (issei)			380

		<u>Attend.</u>
Oct.	27 Reception Tea for Preaching Mission	140
	28 Combined Evening Mass Meeting	2200
	29 Mass Meeting	1300
	10 Welcome Party for Tuleans	235

The New York Church Committee for Japanese Work

150 FIFTH AVENUE
New York, N. Y.
Watkins 9-8887-8

SEPT 20, 1943
N.Y. Church Com. for
Japanese Work

Am Saw
F

To the Christian Ministers of New York City

Dear Friend:

This is an appeal for understanding and cooperation, not an appeal for funds.

Within a few days after Pearl Harbor a number of those who had been actively interested in the three Japanese Christian Churches in this city met together, wishing to be of help in the new and difficult situation that confronted this racial group because of the war. It was a group numbering about 1,800, of whom perhaps 1,000 had become our enemies through no fault of their own. Our committee was promptly organized on January 19, 1942, having been authorized by the Home Missions Council. It has carried on without interruption since that time.

We have tried to do our part in meeting the varied needs of this racial group. Very little financial help has been asked for or given. In fact, while the salaries of the executive officers have been provided by their Mission Boards, more than half of the actual working budget has been met by the voluntary gifts of Japanese and Japanese Americans. But aid in many forms has been rendered - in the matter of employment, housing, personal counsel, introduction to relief agencies, cooperation with government officials, (such as accepting sponsorship for sixty five Japanese paroled with us) and making our office a center for many kinds of helpful service.

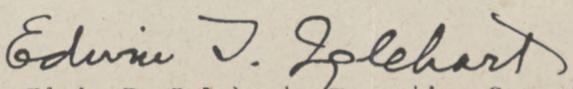
Perhaps the chief activities of the coming autumn and winter season will center about the many young people, mostly American born and therefore our fellow citizens, who are being evacuated from the ten Relocation Centers in the West, and who are coming to our city in steadily growing numbers. We are cooperating with the local War Relocation Authority office and the Committee on Resettlement sponsored by the Federal Council, in welcoming these young people, and are undertaking to aid them in the matter of housing, employment, social contacts, Church affiliations, and other adjustments. Many of them were active in the Japanese or the Caucasian Churches in the West before the war. We must not neglect them, nor lose them. We are anxious that our city Churches should welcome them. Some of these young people will wish to fellowship for a time with those of their own racial group; others will wish to have their fellowship directly with the older Churches.

Will you not have these young people on your mind and in your heart? Be on the lookout for them. If you wish to use our office in making contacts or in bringing this matter before your Church people, please do not hesitate to send us a card or give us a call. We shall be happy to respond.

Yours in His Service,

September 20, 1943.


Frederick B. Newell, Chairman


Edwin T. Iglehart, Executive Secretary



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT
TOPAZ, UTAH

NOTES ON SPECIAL MEETING OF TOPAZ COMMUNITY COUNCIL, AUG. 15, 1945

Mr. Hoffman pointed out that the meeting was called at the request of the administration and that representatives of the Block Managers, Red Cross and Inter-Faith had been invited.

Mr. Hoffman read Administrative Notice No. 289 on scheduling relocation during the closing weeks. He pointed out that scheduled relocation is necessary to meet the November 1 center closing date. He emphasized that WRA will schedule relocation to any place residents wish to go, and that those without a preference will not be sent where at least temporary housing is not available.

Councilman Oshikubo asked a number of questions and Mr. Hoffman replied as follows:

Q--Will WRA turn down any individual's relocation plan and substitute one of its own?

A--WRA will give every assistance possible to relocating residents where and when they wish to go. However, it may be necessary to move some persons earlier than they wish in order to avoid last-minute congestion.

Q--For what length of time will temporary housing be available?

A--We hope until such individuals can find permanent housing, but we do not have definite assurance on this.

Q--What will WRA do to finance business men?

A--That question has been answered before. WRA is not in the loan business. The most it can do is give liaison service between business men and loan agencies.

Q--How about the relocation of Immigration cases?

A--No one in Topaz is detained now by immigration.

Q--How about community acceptance where residents will be scheduled for relocation?

A--On my recent West Coast trip I heard no complaints about this. All returnees expressed surprise that community acceptance was so good. There hasn't been an incident in the Bay area so far.

Q--On what basis does WRA make the \$25 relocation assistance grants?

A--To provide expenses until relocatees arrive at their destinations.

Q--Will WRA aid persons classified as 4-C's to get their status changed?

A--WRA hasn't anything to say about it. That is up to the army.

Q--If we are forcibly evicted from the centers are we not the same as prisoners of war?

A--I don't care to answer that as it isn't pertinent. But I want it clearly understood that WRA will not brook any resistance to scheduled relocation.

Q--How about the relocation of negroes?

A--We will not schedule them for relocation until the War and Justice departments announce policy decisions regarding their status.

Councilman Nakabayashi pointed out that it might be to the personal advantage of Block Managers and Councilmen to relocate as soon as possible but that this would handicap the relocation of others who depend upon them. He was told not to worry about that--nobody would criticize him for being selfish if he relocated now.

Mr. Hoffman urged individuals to take further questions to the district Relocation workers.

Mr. Hoffman introduced Dr. Spicer and Mr. Glick of the Washington staff. Mr. Glick referred to the recent Stockton Theater court decision and said that many lawyers think it was in error and that it is being appealed. He pointed out that the great majority of persons in relocation centers have been free to go out since last December 17 and that more than 45,000 already are reestablished outside. If WRA is to continue to do a good job, he said, it must schedule departures and not leave perhaps 30,000 to be moved out in the last week.

H 3.53

TOPAZ PROTESTANT CHURCH



MORNING WORSHIP

March 18, 1945

10:00 AM

Chairman: Mr. Koji Murata

PRELUDE

Miss Aiko Takita

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Chairman: The hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit; and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

Congregation: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

In Unison: (Prayer)

Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace; Where there is hatred, may I bring love; Where there is injury, may I bring forgiveness; Where there is discord, may I bring harmony. Oh, Master, may I seek to understand rather than be understood. For it is through forgiving that one is forgiven. It is through dying that one is raised to life eternal

--St. Francis of Assisi

#OPENING HYMN

"How Near to Us, O God, Thou Art"

No. 161

#INVOCATION

#LORD'S PRAYER

#GLORIA PATRI

READING OF THE SCRIPTURE

PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

#DOXOLOGY

#HYMN

"The King of Love My Shepard Is"

No. 287

SERMON

REV. NORIO OZAKI

#CLOSING HYMN

"There Is a Green Hill Far Away"

No. 121

#BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

#Congregation will stand

.....

HIGHLAND BOY COMM. HOUSE

Those who visited the Highland Boy Community House returned on Tuesday evening. Miss Duhigg, Deaconess of the Community House wishes to extend her very best wishes to the young people of Topaz.

FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE

We are privileged to have with us, the Rev. Dr. Bulkley, Episcopalian Archdeacon of the state of Utah. He will speak at the Fellowship circle this evening. Everyone is cordially invited. The High School Fellowship will not meet this evening.

The following is a letter from the Rev. John Yamashita.

3806 39th Ave.
Oakland, Calif.
Feb. 28, 1945

Dear Friends:

I want to thank you for the gift and expense money I received through the Rev. Shiamda just before I left Topaz.

The Bay Region's weather is like spring now and the plum blossoms are already about to pass away.

We are trying to get our Oakland Hostel operating in about 10 days from now and it is a slow process because of slow transportation in a wartime town, but we will have facilities to meet all needs as they arise we hope.

Dr. Herron Smith is bed-ridden yet and must rest absolutely so I can see him but once a week.

The East Bay Church Council has met with the Rev. Inglis as one of the leaders interested in aiding the Japanese Reserriers.

The atmosphere is quite the same as in per-war days except crowded with uniforms and warwork now. Till again,

Yours gratefully,

(signed) John Yamashita

TOPAZ
PROTESTANT CHURCH



PALM SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

March 25 10:00 AM

Chairman, Rev. Norio Ozaki

PRELUDE Miss Aiko Takita

CALL TO WORSHIP

#OPENING HYMN No. 127
"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

#INVOCATION
#LORD'S PRAYER
#GLORIA PATRI

SCRIPTURE READING John 17:1-19
Luke 22:39-42
I John 1:1-4

LITANY OF SYMPATHY No. 577

PASTORIAL PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING
DOXOLOGY

HYMN No. 122
"When I survey the wondrous Cross"

SERMON Rev. J. C. Tugant
The Easter's Passion

CLOSING HYMN No. 289
"O Love That wilt Not Let Me Go"

BENEDICTION POSTLUDE
#Congregation will stand

WELCOME

We heartily welcome Dr. William Crosby Ross, executive secretary of the National Missions of the Presbyterian Churches in the Inter-mountain area. Dr. Ross will speak at the W. S. Fellowship tonight at Rec. 4, 7:30 PM.

FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE

The Fellowship Circle will start a series of meetings on the "Introduction of Boy and Girl Relationship". All young people are invited to attend these interesting meetings.

CHOIR PRACTICE

All those who have been singing with us are urged to attend choir practice immediately after the Morning Worship Service and tomorrow night in this assembly at 7:00 PM.

BAPTISMAL SERVICE

We shall have a Baptismal Service at the Easter Morning Service. All those who desire to be baptized are requested to report to the ministers of the Church office, Rec. 2 as soon as possible.

COMUNION SERVICE

On Thursday, March 29th, a special service with the Issai members will be held in the Issai Church at 7:30 PM. Bring your friends and attend this service.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

A Good Friday Service will in this assembly hall on Friday, March 30th. All young people are invited to attend.

FOR ME

Under an Eastern sky,
Amid a rabble cry,
A Man went forth to die
For me!

Thorn-crowned His blessed head,
Blood-stained His every tread,
Cross-laden on He sped,
For me!

Pierced through His hands and feet,
Three hours o'er Him did beat
Pierce rays of noontide heat,
For me!

Thus wert Thou made all mine.
Lord make me wholly thine,
Give us grace and strength divine
To me!

In thought and word and deed,
Thy will to do; oh! lead my feet
E'en though they bleed
To Thee.

---Author Unknown



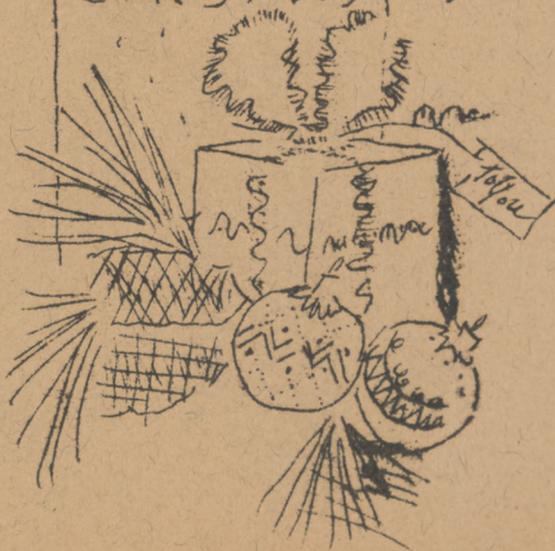
Your Visiting Pastor

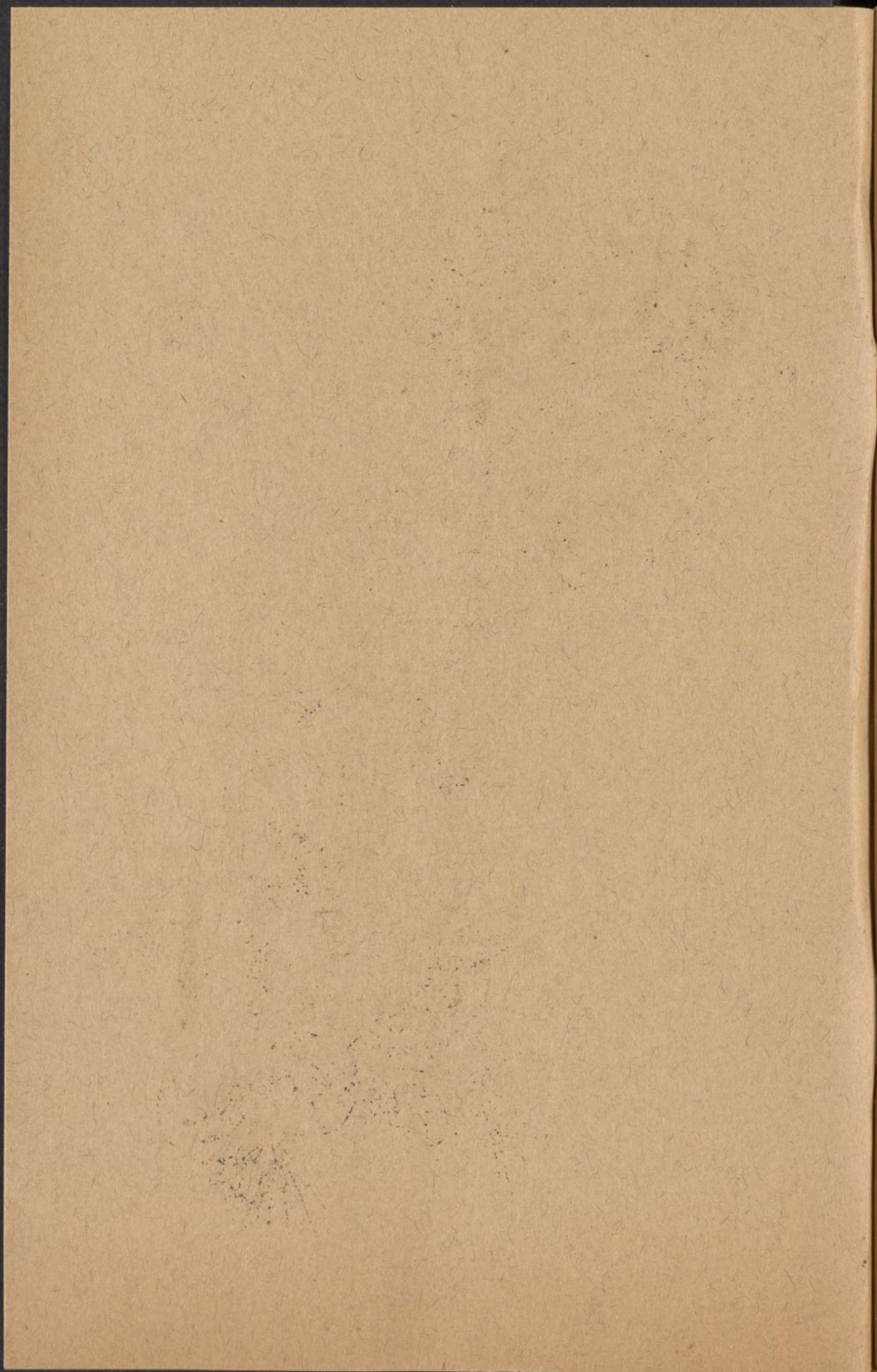


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the above address.



A
XERRY
CHRISTMAS





YOUR
VISITING PASTOR

"To Outpray, to Outlive,
to Outsacrifice, and to Outlove."

Vol. 2 No. 10, 11, 12 Oct., Nov., Dec., 1944

Office of
Topaz Protestant Church

Thanksgiving Day, 1944

TO THE PASTOR'S FLOCK

Dear Friends:

LOOK AT THE THREE SHINGLES on the cover page and then tell me if today is not a good day for the writing of this letter. October, November, December; Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas - all in one!

You folks have been kind enough recently to shower your visiting pastor with many good letters. Thanks heaps! Time and energy are lacking for me to reply to each of you individually just now, though I hope to do so eventually. Meanwhile this one letter must serve. Let me include a few personal notes:

Marianna and Carl are happily located in Tiffin, Ohio, as students at Heidelberg College; Marianna as a Soph and Carl as a pre-theolog Frosh. They recently heard Stanley Jones in Tiffin, and have sent back warm greetings from him to the good Christian people of Topaz.

Dick and Walter are hard at home attending Delta High School, travelling with their mother and me to attend the Young People's Fellowship meetings in Topaz. We are all well and happy in our work.



HALLOWEEN CAME AND WENT, leaving us with nothing worse than four flat tires, no punctures, fortunately. Though the day is past and gone, the top shingle on the cover page calls for at least passing mention.

Halloween - night of merry pranks of playful ghosts that ends the month of October - boasts an origin that dates back to Julius Caesar. More than 2000 years ago it was the autumn festival of the Druids of Western Europe. The festival included human sacrifice and

ghostly capers. Conquered by the Romans, the Druids added to their own festival some features of the Roman Festival in honor of Remona, Goddess of fruit and gardens. In early Christian times, November 1 was named as the day for honoring all the saints, and was called All Hallow's Day. October 31, the eve of All Hallow's, became known as Hallowe'en.

So from these three sources we have the various features of our present day Hallowe'en; ghostly pranks from the Druids, nut cracking and apple bobbing from the Romans, and the name 'Hallowe'en' from the ancient Christian Church.

But the day is not entirely lost to the Christians. Some churches still reverently observe Hallowe'en as the time of visitation of the Saints of yesterday. My favorite Hallowe'en story is of one such church and its Hallowe'en prayer service. The night was bitterly cold and a sharp wind blew rain into the faces of the faithful few who braved the elements to attend the meeting. Next morning one of the fair weather Christians of the congregation, on his way to work, met a fine old deacon who had attended the meeting. Thinking to poke a bit of innocent fun, he asked:

"Well, Deacon, I suppose You had quite a crowd at the Prayer Meeting last night?"

"Millions, millions," replied the Deacon. "All the Shining Ones were there!"

Thanksgiving



'Twixt 'Thankful' and 'Unthankful'
The difference is droll;
For 'Thankful' sees the do-nut,
'Unthankful' sees the hole.

HARVEST FESTIVALS OF THANKSGIVING date back to the beginning of recorded time. England and other countries hold their special days of 'fasting and prayer' and 'thanksgiving' for the harvest. Japan celebrates as 'Niimami-sai' the day on which the Emperor tastes the first rice of the new harvest.

But thanksgiving as we know it is peculiarly an American Custom. We owe the origin of the day, as you know, to the Pilgrim Fathers, who celebrated the first American Harvest Festival, in October, 1621, following a year of cruel hardships and suffering. A quaint old account begins the record thus:

"Our harvest being gotten in, our Governor sent foure men on fowling, so that we might after a more special manner rejoyce together after we had gathered the fruits of our labors. They foure in one day killed as many fowls as with a little help beside, served the company (including the Indian guests) almost a weeke."

Out of the depths of hardship and suffering our Thanksgiving Festival had its beginnings. There has been scarcely a generation since that day (certainly not ours of today) that has not had more to be thankful for than the Pilgrim Fathers of 1621.

* * * * *

Now to share again with all of you the good feast which the mailman has brought to our door;-

June 13 - Paul Tani
(Late, but too good to omit)
Same as Brother Henry)

Hi! A greeting from the Tani 's in St. Louis. Every one of us: Henry, Rosie, Dickie, and Uncle Paul. We are having a wonderful time here in our new home. It isn't as big as a mansion, or as enchanting as a castle; but it's "Home", and a nice one. In front is a porch with a swing. We also have a big umbrageous tree in the lawn and Dickie has a great time watching the wind blow the leaves, or the squirrel prancing from limb to limb. On the first floor is our living room, very comfortable, with Dickie's toys all over the place. Then there is our huge dining room which is very nice. There Henry and Rosie hung the picture of the "Last Supper" which the church fellowship group gave them as a wedding gift. The kitchen is almost as large as the dining room. The Kelvinator and the range make the place a real kitchen. Gosh, the Kelvinator is our pal during these hot summer days. In our back yard is a beautiful patch of baby roses, white, pink and red. There is a victory garden of tomatoes, radish, and some other vegetables. Rosie's the authority on that subject. A long lawn with an apple tree, a pear tree, and a few others is also in the back. Dickie like the cherries which ripen day by day . . . Right now Henry and Rosie are out, so I am taking care of Tani, Jr. (Hear him crying?) (Well, he was; now he's sleeping, I think.) It took me two and a half hours to get Dickie to

sleep! Rosie does it in less than 15 minutes. I just don't have that maternal touch!

July 20 - Minoru Mochizuki
2206-C

Nowell, California

It is now 4 months since I last visited Topaz. How I long to return to the "Jewel City" - the city where I spent 3 happy months. . . I am now in camp, but there is oh so much to do, I never get the chance to think, "What a dull place." Japanese school keeps me fairly busy, and then I have a correspondence course from U.C., church choir, Bible study. However all is not study with me. I have my time playing basket ball or trying to play tennis. Sports are going full force. There is softball and hardball, golf and tennis.

August 1 - Frank Matsumoto
Somewhere in Italy

Dear Parents:

Today, Tuesday, August 10, begins a new day and month since I've been convalescing in a hospital. It is a beautiful building overlooking the city of (censored). In the garden, surrounded by flowers, the Madonna stands serenely garbed in a flowing white gown, her hand outstretched beckon to you for safety and peace. Her eyes are like you, Mother soft and peaceful. As I gaze on her, I see you before me telling me to return to health. Peace on earth and good will to men, the inspiring words of tomorrow.

May 11 - Buro Hosoume
307 Lathrop Street
Madison 5, Wisconsin

The University of Wisconsin and Madison are swell. I like the campus and people very much. Since it is just turned spring and with the lakes and woods, the place is looking its best.... Should you have other students wanting to come out to this school and if I can help them in any way to do so, please do not hesitate to call on me. I have found that a friendly hand and information in a strange town is very useful.

August 16 - Ichiro Sugiyama
Livingstone Lodge
Wooster, Ohio

The College of Wooster is a swell place. People here are especially nice. The nisei who have already been in attendance at this college did a wonderful job in paving the road for coming new nisei like myself. I am deeply indebted to them . . . I am working on the campus.

August 17 - Yoshio Ueda
Crystal City Internae Camp
Texas

During the early June, I have been transferred to Crystal City Internae Camp in the state of Texas. My address is 6-38. . . . Out here, we have a small group of Christians and every Sunday evening have services, and on Thursday during the evening Y. P. worship service program.

September 19 - Pvt. Saburo A. Kitagawa
#39913697
Co.D 100th Bn. 442 Reg.
A.P.O. 758
c/o Postmaster, N.Y.C.

Your Visiting Pastor is a very informative digest of the new experiences my friends and acquaintances are going through. As for myself, I'm having an equally thrilling experience traveling through different countries and meeting and speaking to people of all nationalities.

September 23 - Chiyoko Matsuzaki
Founders Hall
Heidelberg Colloge
Tiffin, Ohio

I still can't imagine that I'm here actually in Heidelberg, walking around in places and buildings I've heard about so much. It's become so familiar and I think as the years go by, more dear to me. . . . Tiffin is really a lovely, cozy little town, and Heidelberg with its grass and trees. My, what a difference from Topaz! But I miss the stars at night. It used to be so bright with the stars shining; I also miss the sunset we had in Topaz. They're really most beautiful, never anything like desert sunsets. . . . I've had a hectic week but it's been fun. Excitement of meeting new people, the faculty an on top of all this: the freshmen initiation. . . . Everyone says it wasn't half as bad as it was last year, but just picture us - had to wear sandwich board signs. . . .

September 20 - George
CSp Camp
Germfask, Michigan

I find more than enough to keep myself occupied during this internment. My present job is night watchman. Previous to that I had worked outdoors in the wildlife refuge and a short time in the kitchen. Tho the majority of fellows here have nothing to do with organized religion I find them a very fine group of men. There are many talents and outlooks which makes life all the more interesting.

September 23 - Eimi Tsumori
329 S. Brainaid
Naperville, Illinois

I got here safe and sound. I have gone thru a week of college life and its really been fun. I am now taking zoology, chemistry, English, Math and Physical Ed. I am staying with another Japanese from Rivers, Arizona. He is taking up engineering. I live at the President's home and work for my board.

October 13 - Himeo Tsumori
Elmhurst Colloge
Elmhurst, Illinois

Elmhurst is really swell and it feels a little different to be back as a Sophomore. A little older and, I hope, wiser. . . Bill Muramatsu left Wednesday for the Army. Elmhurst has lost a swell fellow.

September 25 - Toshi Peramoto
105 St. Clair Avenue
St. Paul 5, Minnesota

We were rather fortunate in finding a small apartment and having the family relocated. So we are all working, enjoying the outside life, especially the home-cooked meals, which we now have since my mother is home, doing sewing and alteration work, as well as keeping house. . . . I have just heard from your former secretary Yasuko Kusunoki that she has moved from New York to Chicago.

September 28 - George Hirose
Dubuque Pres. Seminary
Dubuque, Iowa

After leaving Delta Friday afternoon Eimi Tsumori and I rode to Salt Lake City where we dropped off for a short visit to the Mormon Temple. When I got to Dubuque, its beauty struck me very much for it has such lovely trees and I missed them at Topaz. How's everything? I hope the high school group is active and having some good devotional meetings. I think they need such meetings. I am praying for the Topaz Protestant Church, especially the young people's worship services, that they may be real and inspiring. . . Have you spoken to any of the Alpha Omega's? Donald Iyeki is a good boy and a promising young leader. . . Please convey best wishes to the Topaz Protestant Church.

September 23 - Midori Sawada
Oskalooza, Ohio

I've been here for three weeks. Like all schools, studying is done until the middle of the night. But we have our fun too.

September 25 - Agnes Mori
Heidelberg College
Tiffin, Ohio

I work with Carl (Nugent - a Heidelberg pre-theology) for he washes pots and pans at the Commons and I work wiping dishes for my board. Heidelberg is super! Its autumn here now and the leaves blanket the ground. . . .My first weeks at Heidelberg have really been a wonderful experience. . . .I'm majoring in Religious Education. . . .Chiyoko Okazaki and I are rooming together and for the first week shared our loneliness but now we feel like full fledged Heidelbergers. I guess the office must be busy. But I hope you can manage to get the V.F.out.

September 25 - Cpl. Keiji Oshima
USAFFE -XY
A.P.O. 501

Postmaster, S.F., Calif.

Thanks again for sending me "Your Visiting Pastor", I particularly enjoy reading about the works of Kagawa's Christian work in Japan. . . .The Church near our camp has different pastors each Sunday and I have attended Sunday Services several times.

September 28 - Yuká Abe
U.S. Internment Camp
Crystal City, Texas

We are living comfortably here, having good food. Now we can see autumn coming. We can feel it in the air too. Hana is trying to enjoy her life although she keeps hoping someday she will go out like her sisters. I always feel so thankful that my daughters, Alice and Martha, are able to continue their education. I hope they will be good Christians and be good and kind to others. My eldest son Sgt. Roy is in Camp Savage now. Other son Victor is in Chicago with his sister Sophy. He is now studying to take the Illinois bar examination next month.

September 30 - Elinor Umezawa
2139 Curtis
Denver, Colorado

We had a most enjoyable weekend in Salt Lake City, sight-seeing, shopping and celebratin'. At present, I'm just helping around the house, pretending I'm the domestic type. . . . My parents both help here at the Manchu Grill, waiting on tables and etc., but work on opposite shifts. . . . Do give my best regards to everyone. . . . This has been a most valuable summer; I feel that I have grown spiritually because of the enriching experiences at Topaz.

October 4- Pvt. Bill Muramatsu 37697373
IRTC 64 Reg. Co. C Brk 267
Camp Blanding, Florida

Seiji Aizawa and Himco Tsumori are perfect ambassadors, Martha abc is completely absorbed into the student body. Florence Shigono is getting along fine. Beishi Tanabc has made up his mind to go back to Detroit and work and save enough to go through his freshman year without financial worries. . . Every night in the men's dorm we have a period of meditation. It is really effective, worshipping in a small group together - bringing us closer together through God. Now it seems the Army wants me. It will be difficult to expect any recognition as a pre-theological student from the army in my case.

October 5 - Bureau desoumo
307 Lathrop, Madison, Wis.

My experience at the University has done much to take me out of the mental rut which the evacuation and the war, more or less, caused. We are now in our second week of the fall semester. With last semester's and this fall's work, I will have completed most of my requirements in the agricultural field and will be ready for my upper division engineering when spring comes around. Slowly but surely, I am beginning to get my teeth into my work and am enjoying every bit of it. . . . Madison, the campus and the four lakes continue to be picturesque with the seasons. The foliage was lush green when I arrived here in May

and is just now changing into its winter colors. Another new experience in Mid-western weather was those terrific summer thunder-storms. . . There are now almost fifty Nisei students, graduates and undergraduates, attending the university. With Niseis going to schools, such as ours, all over the nation it gives a varbelous forecast of their potential position in society. It's great to be a potential, I hope I'll be an actual.

October 7 - Ichiro Sugiyama
Livingston Lodge
Webster, Ohio

The school has begun with the enrollment of about 600, about 90 boys and the rest girls. There are seven of us Nisei, two new freshmen girls, two boys and two girls in sophomore, and I in the senior class. . . . I have joined the Y.M.C.A. and the Economic Society and hoping to join the International Relations Club. I am working for my room and board.

October 8 - Chiyoko Matsuzaki
Heidelberg College
Tiffin, Ohio

We are indeed lucky and privileged to hear Dr. E. Stanley Jones again here in Tiffin. I guess it must have been last year at this time he spoke to us in Popaz. It was good to see him. He still remembers the Young People's Morning Watch group.

October 16 - Tano Amamiya
917 N. 11th St.
Milwaukee 3, Wisconsin

Thank you very much for your letter of transfer to the Grace Reformed Church of Milwaukee. . .Min and I have enjoyed the fellowship immensely ever since coming to Milwaukee and more so now that we are a part of it. Rev. John C. Geiser, the pastor, has been a real friend and counselor to us and the members have been more than wonderful in making us feel at home. Even though we are miles apart from our old church friends it really makes us feel close to them, being a part of our church here. . .We spent a very enjoyable evening with Dr. Nott, his daughter, Miss Helen Nott, and several of their friends. They told us of the time you took over the pulpit for Dr. Nott. . .I have been working for almost a year for an advertising company and do enjoy the work immensely. . .Min is awaiting orders. . .When Henry, Rosie and Dickie Tani were in this area we had a very enjoyable reunion with Tai Yaki, Masaye Nakahira and Yuri Okazaki. More recently we have been surprised by Seiji and Hats Aizawa; also Toshi Kataoka and Shizu Nakahira.

October 16 - Eiko Hosoi
475 E. Lockwood Avenue
Webster Grover, Missouri

Eden is a wonderful place. The professors and the students are so kind and friendly, and the campus is just beautiful. There are so many trees and lawns

and a large pond with real goldfish in them. . . I am taking 3 majors and 2 minors, I major more than the regular students, so it certainly keeps me busy. I have my field work assignment, too. Sunday School to teach at Caroline Mission, about an hour's ride from here. Every Wednesday afternoon I am to meet with them also and form a girl's club. I have a group of about 16 intermediate girls. They are such sweet girls. I am going to like them a lot. . . Everyone has been so good to us. Dr. and Mrs. Broom, Mr. & Mrs. Baker recently invited us to a picnic.

October 18 - George Aki #0543334
171st Infantry Bn. Sep.
Camp Shelby, Mississippi

Yes, we are proud of Joanne. I hope children mean as much to their parents as our "Little one" does to us. . . I would like to mention a little about my interesting work with our soldiers. I have seen many of my friends train; then go overseas. Just before parting, there is so little one can say to those who are going forth into the field of battle. Most of our soldiers come through bravely - "Smilin' thru" - I call it. But there are those few who need that helping hand and they are not ashamed to ask for it. The greatest challenge to the chaplain is in the field of consultation. . . Our Japanese American soldiers are respectable, loyal and efficient. Our officers, non-commissioned officers and commissioned

officers, cannot be excelled. And it gives me renewed courage to see all of us, whether we be raw recruits or officers, working and inspiring each other. . . Our Chapel Services are well attended. We have officers attend with the men. Since we have a great percentage of Buddhist soldiers, we are now obtaining a Buddhist priest from Rohwer to come here once a month. . . To all who have lost their loved ones, may I write that on each Sunday morning, we unite in prayer for them. And, too, we pray for peace to come very soon that others may be spared this supreme sacrifice. . . May these trying and tragic experiences make us more worthy of working for the Eternal Father as He looks to us for a Kingdom on earth. May we be less selfish, less egotistical and more loving, considerate, kind and brotherly to all whom we meet.

October 20 - Mary Matsumoto
Westminster College
Salt Lake City, Utah

Just imagine!! My best reward came on Friday the thirteenth. My dear "big" brother, Frank, wounded in Italy, has come back to the old U.S.A. Though he is in the Fritzsimmone Hospital in Denver, Colorado, he is feeling fine and dandy. If a wish was to ever come true I wish that others shall have a moment like this one. . . James is on the reserved list and thus our family is gradually being torn like many others.

October 20 - Hiro Katayama
5757 University Avenue
Chicago 37, Illinois

I hope you people back home don't think I'm lonely. I have many friends living here in Chicago. George Hiraga just phoned and I had a long talk with him. He and Bill Muramatsu dropped in the day before Bill went into the army. Since coming to Chicago I feel that training young people after they are here is too late. We must train and build our youth first - give them thorough instructions as to what to expect and how to meet the life on the outside. We must educate the young people and train them in the way by which they can best be suited to the new environment. . This afternoon I attended the Inter-Agency Committee meeting held in the La-Salle Hotel, downtown. The I.A.C. is a group of men and women representing various relocation agencies and organization such as W.A., Brethren, Friends, Y.M.W.C.A., social action groups, etc. They discussed the race problem that now exists in North Side Chicago. According to the reports the race tension is growing there among Italians, Filipinos and the Japanese evacuees. Several Japanese stores have sprung up - about 12 commercial enterprises within $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile. This competition is one of the factors that is leading to this race problem. Another factor being the conspicuousness of the Japanese. Whole apartment houses are filled with Japanese tenants. Trouble is anticipated and it was men-

tioned at the meeting that they are seriously considering moving some of the evacuees out of the North Side area and closing it to future applicants. The thing I want to emphasize is that young people must be so brought up as to want to avoid such zoot suit areas. For if once you get in that environment you become part of it. Gambling, prostitution, vice of all kind were freely mentioned - to think Japanese Americans are guilty of this in large numbers made my heart sick. I see the need and would like to do my part. I know now how badly in need of guidance are our young people. The moral teaching of Christianity is our answer, our weapon, our guide, our technique. They must be exposed to Christ in camp or they are lost in a metropolitan area and that attracts the pleasure seeker and entices a green horn. . . For a young girl Chicago is very difficult, more so if she has but few friends. Some evacuees can make friends with Caucasians very easily, others can if they try, others seem to find no interest in trying. The latter group includes too many of the evacuees. We are not all ready for the process of integration and assimilation, the ideal goal. . . The committee wondered why the Nisei didn't call for their parents. Rev. Nugent, unless an issei has a very good reason to come out here, has a place to go to, please let them know what to expect. There are no homes as we all know them in Chicago - all brick apartment dwellings or hotels, dirty,

noisy, crowded, big, spread out, rush and go, expensive both in rent and food. I don't say stay in camp but I say again, have a purpose aside from just getting out of camp. I would rather see my mother living in the open space with her people, her friends, then here in Chicago in a dingy, dark room unless of course we can all be together to keep her company. . . Please pass my regards around because I don't seem to get around to writing to all my friends.

October 26 - Chojuro Numajiri
2802 Winslow Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio

We arrived in Cincinnati on the 20th and Florence came in from school on Friday night and stayed until Sunday morning. At present we are staying at the Friends Relocation Hostel at the above address. . . I am trying to find some suitable work in the Y.M.C.A. . . Please extend our warmest regards to all of our friends of the Inter Faith.

November 3 - Florence Shigeno
Elmhurst College
Elmhurst, Illinois

I'm here now at Elmhurst, thanks to the generous and kind help offered by the Board of National Missions in order that Nisei may continue their education. I find Elmhurst College very pleasant and congenial. Elmhurst is but a small school but because of that fact it offers many advantages. The majority of the students are friendly and the

same goes for the faculty members. I'm taking a general course, mostly requirements. Himeo Tsumori, Seiichi Aizawa and Martha Abe are here this year again. Bill Muramatsu was here for a short while until he was drafted, and Beishi Tanabe until he went back to Detroit. My brother-in-law, Henry Tani, is coming out this way next week and I'm anxiously waiting.

November 4 - Yone Endo

Cambridge, Massachusetts

This is just to advise you that I've moved again - this time to the:

Cambridge YWCA

7 Temple Street

Cambridge, Massachusetts

November 6 - James Sugioka

Hunt, Idaho

I will be in your city, Pocatello, on the 12th (Sunday). . . The visit here has been wet. It rained most of the time, even at that I enjoyed it very much. I leave for Caldwell, Idaho, this morning.

November 9 - Patricia Fumi Takemoto

283 Eliot Street

Detroit, Michigan

I am temporarily staying in Detroit and teaching school again at Hutchie School, a public school. The youngsters are lively and full of mischief but it's grand to have them at my side. I'm rather disappointed that there are no colored children in class. I was offered the position by the city and

started working the following day after my arrival. Perhaps I should tell you that I am staying with Mr. and Mrs. Field; Mrs. Field has been to Japan. Detroit is so congested with people that I have gone into town but once. The shopping area is jammed and the streets are so crazy, changing names at the oddest places. I guess I must learn the city before making other comments.

November 10 - Yoko Hosoume
435 West 121st St.
New York 27, New York

How is the church office getting on? I hear Rev. Tsukamoto has relocated - where did he go? I see Rev. Nishimura at church every Sunday. He is to preach this Sunday. I saw Mrs. Nishimura for the first time at Grace Saito's wedding. Natsuko Ketase stayed with us for a few days before going back to school . . .

November 4 - Miyeko Takita.
704 Eddy Avenue
Missoula, Montana

I am helping at the school library, and like this new work tremendously. I am taking the usual music courses and a course in survey of college mathematics.

November 10 - Mrs. Toshio Hara
(Masayo Nakahira)
1833 N. Prospect Ave.
Milwaukee 2, Wisconsin

As for To and myself, we were married on the 7th of October. We held it in church here with the regular ceremony and stuff. It was very nice. Min went into the army last week, and my hubby, now on reserve, is scheduled to go in sometime soon. I hope not until after Xmas, though, but I guess we can't have everything. Shiz is staying with our sister, Mrs. George Morimoto, in Chicago at 927 E. 42nd Place. Write to Mrs. Shizue Nakamura. She's fine and working everyday in a printing company. She seems to like it very much. My sister Jane stays home and keeps house and keeps after the kids. They're devils but oh, so cute, too. . . Yuri Oka is still here and she's working in a glove factory just now. I have a new job, too, working for the Standard Theatre Management Co. We manage various theatres, keep their books, pay their bills, etc. It's not bad. I pay all the bills, so I sit and type checks all day long. . . My hubby works in a large Bakery here. All in all everything's going fine, but I still prefer to live in California.

November 15 - Henry Tani
2837 Bartold Avenue
Maplewood, Missouri

Last month I was in Cincinnati on the day when Noboru Zeiman became a

father. He was really up in the air when I saw him, but proud as you can make them. The kid's name is Robert. I believe, born the morning of Oct. 19th. . . We got a post card from Minoru Amemiya who is now finally in uniform, on his way to Camp Snelling near St. Paul, Minn., for the intelligence school. . Our own kid brother got his notice to active duty, and reported last Friday, Nov. 10 to the Jefferson Barracks, right outside of the city here. He visited home on Monday night in uniform. The suspense of waiting for this army life was getting him down, but now that he is in, he is in great anticipation. . . Eiko Hosoi and Masako Amemiya are great students, and seem to be getting along fine. This past week-end I was in Chicago and roomed with Hiro Katayama at the men's dorm of the Chicago Theological Seminary. Evidently, Hiro is set on coming down to Eden for the semester starting in January. . . At Elmhurst last Saturday, I visited Rosis's sister, and found her and our other Nisei students doing fine. The big news of the moment was Seiji Aizawa's decision to enter the ministry. This was not an over-night decision, it seems. Seiji has been seriously considering it for over a year, ever since he came under Elmhurst influence. His association with some of the finer, more active pre-theological students had quite a bit to do with it, I'm sure. I am sure he is going in the right direction with both eyes open. . . I hope you find some satisfaction in the work I am

doing especially in the realm of public appearances. To give a hasty backward sketch of my wanderings, I could start with my summer camps: June - Intermediate Camp at Maron, Indiana, four days. July - Denver Conference: Women's Guild conference at Tiffin, Ohio and at Hood College, Maryland; Ohio Summer School at Otterbein College for two weeks. August - Green Lake Leadership Training School Wisconsin, one week; followed by three days at Green Lake of Church School Worker's conference. Talk at Mission Festival, Berger, Mo. September - three day Bible Outing of St. Paul's Church, Elgin, Illinois. Mission Festival at New Bremen, Ohio. Women's Festival at Owensville, Mo. October - Mission Festivals at New Design, Illinois and at Olney, Illinois. Three days at Iowa Synod fall meetings. One week in Southwest Ohio Synod in National Missions emphasis forums, covering Dayton, Cincinnati and Columbus. And now in November - Young People's Federation of Chicago last Sunday, and Young People's Federation of St. Louis on the 26th. This week-end I speak twice near Akron, Ohio, Wadsworth and Warren, Ohio. . . As is to be expected, most of these engagements are the outgrowth of one summer camp or another, or of the Women's Guild conferences. Our general church public still is enshrouded by false and incomplete impressions of the whole problem, and to many, it isn't a problem worth considering. But at least, I try to make it enlightening. My latest twist

is to focus the good work that the church did for us toward the treatment and attitude toward the colored folks in our midst. . . I believe in January I will spend a week in West New York synod and a week in Dayton where the Church Federation of that city will arrange a speaking itinerary in luncheon clubs and high school assemblies. . . Emphasis on complete relocation seems to be speeding up. Our folks still are staying put, it seems, with a longing eye toward California. I do not have the answer to the Issei relocation, but know only that it will be a difficult problem. For those of us out in these midwestern and eastern cities, our problems are two: concerted and better public relations; and better and more complete social and personal adjustment of those already resettled. In this connection, Chicago, with its 7,000 or more, is in a sorry plight. Cincinnati brags of its "stable group" (to which I readily concede). St. Louis has a large a group - probably 400-500.

THE OBSERVER'S FENCE

No one is so accursed by fate,
No one so utterly desolate,
But some heart, though unknown,
Responds to his own.

Henry W. Longfellow

"No one," (Did I hear someone say it?) - "No one except me!"

If you are in so sad a case - some folks are, I know - as to believe yourself to be an exception to the comforting all-inclusive thought of Longfellow, above written, let me prove that you are mistaken. Go and find some near by friendly observer and tell him your troubles.

Where shall you look for him? Right where you are, for he lives most everywhere. In your neighborhood church perhaps; the Y.M. or Y.W.C.A.; the local branch of the Church's Resettlement Committee or of the United Ministry to Evacuees.

If you do not succeed in finding him or lack sufficient nerve to try, then write a confidential note to your visiting pastor. (See note inside front cover page.) Give him a chance to advise you and help you.

Let me introduce you now to a few such friendly observers, from whose letters I want to quote:

Mr. Kurt Hellmer
67 West 44th St.
New York 18, N. Y.

Mr. Hellmer is a friendly observer residing in New York City, eager to

of assistance to any evacuee who may need his help. Those now residing in New York and those planning to relocate there would do well to call on him in time of need.

Mr. Hellmer writes: (July 13)

"As I am very much interested in helping these people, (Americans of Japanese descent who have been relocated) kindly advise me as to what can be done and how."

The Rev. Harold Jow
Chinese American Minister
Beretania St. Church
Beretania and Naunakia,
Honolulu, T. H.

Rev. Jow completed his theological training at San Francisco Theological Seminary in the spring of this year. He spent the past summer in splendid work among the young folks as Associate Pastor of Topaz Protestant Church, then returned to San Francisco and set sail for beautiful Hawaii. Many who read these pages already claim him as a friend.

Rev. Jow writes: (September 5)

"Greetings and Salutations from Metropolitan Oakland! It's cool and cloudy out here, in the far west. It's been a week since I arrived here. I do miss Topaz, the people there, and even the sultry heat and the dust storms! I shall sail this weekend for the Islands..... If it is possible, will you please put me on the list for the "Visiting Pastor" If there is anything I or my church in Honolulu can do for you people, let me

know. I am always thinking about you people.

September 22

"Greetings and salutations from beautiful Hawaii, the Paradise of the Pacific! It is an interesting land, full of the cosmopolitan spirit, where races mingle freely together without any prejudice or suspicion. It was good to see the Japanese people able to conduct business as usual, going about without any special restrictions. About a third of the people of these islands are Japanese. The Chinese seem to occupy a very high place in society here. They are the lawyers, the business men, the doctors and the white-collar workers, and some are high public officials. I am the pastor elect of the Beretania Church of Christ. We have a big church building, towering three stories high, with an auditorium seating over 500. We also have a gym, complete with showers and a basketball court. Our Sunday School is housed in a separate unit, which also is the building for the various club-rooms. We are located in the tenement district of the town, right on a busy boulevard where army trucks roar past every few minutes, and where servicemen by the thousands pass by. About 75% of every body on the street is a serviceman, believe it or not. We have a little Wayside Chapel in our Church for them to drop in and worship anytime they wish. They tell me that the rate of juvenile delinquency in this area is the highest in the city! Well, you can see the job

that is cut out for me, for we are the only church in this area. . . We have two services every Sunday, one in English at 10:30 AM and the other in Chinese at 11:15 AM. We have a Senior C. E. society with 40 members. There are a few boy's clubs and other groups which I haven't met as yet. All in all, this job is going to demand the most I've got. My only prayer is that I shall be able to measure up to the challenge before me. . How are things at Topaz? I keep on thinking of you all. With all the "Pake Washines" around, I won't be too lonely, but I shall always be lonely for folks like you folks at Topaz. I suppose most of our leaders are gone by now. What are some of their addresses? Can you send me the "Visiting Pastor"? Thanks. . . Tomorrow, I shall meet with Loren Bell, at the Y.M.C.A. Remember Him? (We do) My regards to all the ministers and to all the office staff. I shall be glad to hear from any of them. . . God's grace and His blessings upon you folks always."

The Rev. John B. Cobb
S. 507 Grant St.
Spokane, Washington

Rev. Cobb is pastor of the Japanese Church in Spokane, following twenty two-years' experience as missionary to Japan. He was a member of the 1944 Topaz Preaching Mission.

October 23

"I am very much interested in the work you are doing and consider it a real privilege to have been able to see a

little of it at first hand and to have had the chance to meet the folks at To-paz and to speak to them. I do pray that God will bless the efforts that were made and that He will continue to bless and guide you and the others who are carrying on there."

Miss Helen M. Nott
2960 N. Maryland Ave.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Miss Nott is a leader among the members of the Women's Guild of the Evangelical and reformed Church, a warm friend of many of our Milwaukee Nisei.

November 2

"Today Min Amemiya came to say good bye to father and to me; for he is leaving tomorrow for Fort Sheridan. We have learned to love Tane and Min and it was hard to see him go. They both have made such a fine contribution to our congregation and we will surely see to it that Tane will not be too lonesome now that she will be alone. . . . A few weeks ago when Mitsu Mori was here we had them over for dinner and Miss Ichiyasu was here, too. we had a delightful time. There have been several requests for speakers for Thankoffering Services and wherever I can I send one of these fine Japanese young people because as soon as all of the United States citizens learn to know how splendid these young people are the faster they will become tolerant."

November 3 - Virginia Stafford
810 Broadway
P. O. Box 871
Nashville, Tennessee

I have been greatly pleased with the interest that our board is taking in the whole program for Japanese-Americans. I think some very definite work will be under way in connection with the centers in the not too distant future. . . I shall be glad to receive further copies of "Your Visiting Pastor" and to share them with many people who have not had the opportunity to visit a center as I was privileged to do.

Theresa M. Jarrell
The Chastleton Apt. 844
16th and R. St. N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Miss Jarrell is treasurer of the Youth Fellowship of First E. and R. Church, Washington D. C. The Reverend F. Nelson Schlegel, Pastor. Pastor and fellowship both, as you may judge from the following letter will welcome any of our Washington Nisei who may wish to visit the Church.

November 7 - Theresa M. Jarrell
Please have some one tell us about the evacuees. We are interested in this work as our pastor does much work among the American Japanese that pass through our city in relocating themselves.

Miss Ada Dubigg.
Highland Boy Community House
Bingham Canyon, Utah

Miss Dubigg is a Deaconess of the Methodist Church conducting the Highland Boy "House of Joy" for the people of that steep mountain-side copper mining community. Highland Boy reminded us, for all the world, of the little mining vilage in the movie "How Green Was My Valley". The "us" refers to a Topaz Nisei Good-Will group on a recent visit to Highland Boy. Not long after, Miss Dubigg came to Topaz with a car-load of her young folks.

November 9 - Miss Ada Dubigg
We had such a grand time at Topaz last week. It meant a great deal to me. I learned much. Our young people will never forget it. They told our S.S. and Church groups all about it Sunday. . . If there are things we can do to help a group at anytime, please ask us. We can try at least.



Message For The Month :

Let's Get Ready for Christmas

"Here I send my messenger on before you;
He will prepare your way.
Hark! Someone is shouting in the desert
'Get the Lord's way ready,
Make his paths straight."

Isaiah

Get ready for Christmas? Now? How?

"Do your Christmas shopping early."

Is that the way?

Yes, that could be part of it.

"Post your Christmas packages now."

Is that included?

Yes, especially now, with so many packages going to soldiers overseas.

Post your Christmas letters, mail your Christmas cards, today. Give the mailman a break on Christmas day.

Get into the Christmas Choir; rehearse your Christmas Carols.

Here in Topaz, as I write, they are doing all these things; and they're all good.

But it is possible to do everyone of them, meticulously, and still miss the boat - the boat that should carry you in to the genuine joy of this finest of all Christian Festivals.

For the real preparation for Christmas is a matter not of material but of spiritual things. Material preparations help only as they help to prepare us, our bodies, our minds, and our hearts, to receive - what? To receive the new born Babe of Bethlehem himself.

Youth is the time for getting experience, for tasting life. Youth is the time for self expression, for the development and expression of the latent powers within you.

Get experience? Yes, but what kind of experience will you choose to get, good or bad?

Express yourself? Yes, but what kind of a self will you choose to express? worthy, or unworthy?

Of course youth never deliberately rejects the good and chooses the bad. It is not so simple as that. But he does sometimes reject the difficult and choose the easy way. He does sometimes reject

tomorrow's good for today's pleasure.

"Is it pleasing to the eye?, to the mind? Does it satisfy my present desire?" he asks himself. "Well then", lets have it, let's do it, let's taste it."

That kind of response to the environment of your youth is self indulgence; and where does it lead? Ask the youth upon whose lifeless body was found this suicide note:

"Died of old age at 21!"

He had gotten his experience, expressed himself, seen everything. There was nothing left for him to live for - at 21!

Get experience; yes but choose that kind of experience that leads up to life and not down to death. Grasp your opportunities for self-expression; yes, but choose to express your best and not your worst self.

"Ostriches never fly; fowls fly, but heavily, low down; eagles, doves and swallows fly often, swiftly and on high."

Francis deSales

The Hi-Y boys of Topaz have four principles on which they agree to stand:

1. Clean speech
2. Clean Sports
3. Clean Scholarship
4. Clean Life

He who breaks faith in these matters will find his feet heavy, his wings weak.

Dear 'Flock', let me plead with you in behalf of such principles as these; that, like the eagles and the swallows, you may soar high.

Read Rev. Shimada's letter to a Nisei soldier about to set out for the battle fields of Europe:

Dear Nobuo:

"You have dedicated yourself to your country. It is a beautiful thing. I am proud of you. Your body and heart must be clean and pure because they have been dedicated to your country. If you spoil your body and heart in some unclean place, it is against the spirit of volunteering; it is throwing yourself away rather than dedicating yourself.

"I am sure you can understand the great meaning of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross through your own dedication. He dedicated Himself to the kingdom of God just as you dedicated yourself to the beautiful America which you have been visualizing in your heart. Jesus Christ kept his heart and body pure and clean to the end, and at the end He sacrificed himself on his battle front - the cross.

"I want you to keep your heart and your body pure and clean to the very end and when your time has come, sacrifice your unspoiled body and noble mind for your country just as Jesus Christ did on the cross.

Your friend in Christ,
Shigeo Shimada

"Later," writes Rev. Shimada, "I heard from his father and mother that when Nobuo read my letter in the army camp, he wept over

it, and that he shared the letter with many Japanese-American volunteers in his unique battalion.

"Several weeks before he was killed in action, I received his V-mail letter from Italy. It read in part: Here I am in Italy now. Thank you for your kind encouragement. I think I can face the future with conviction and quite a bit of courage.

"The report of Nobuo's death brought to me deep sorrow and the beautiful and profound impression that he had left with me was permanently carved in my heart."

Listen to the words of Paul:

"It is no longer I that live, but Christ that lives in me."

In his life and in his work, Paul soared with the eagles in the upper reaches of the sky. Why? Because in the Control room of his life there was no spirit of self-indulgence, no self will. But Christ himself was there, pulling the throttle, turning the wheel, directing the course of his life.

Eventually, that which Paul had is what we all want, the Christ to live within us. Now this coming Christmas season, is the appointed time. If we miss this appointment we may never be able to make another.

To be a fitting shrine in which to enshrine the Christ-Child when he comes, your body, your mind, and your heart must be pure and clean. But that is not enough.

Your body, hands, feet, eyes, ears

and tongue should be engaged in doing good - speaking and doing words and acts of kindness, listening, comforting, helping, building the Kingdom

To drive impure thoughts from your mind, that is only the beginning. Your mind must be filled with thoughts that are good and pure and noble. Expose your mind throughout the coming weeks to the great passages of the Bible that have to do with the coming of Christ:

"Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all."

(Isaiah 53: 4-6)

Turn next to the great Christmas Carol:

"O come, all ye faithful
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem "
Let your mind dwell long on these great passages of Scripture and of hymnology. Memorize them, make them a part of your new life; repeat them in your prayers.

In your prayers - there is the center, there the essence of your preparation. What you can take with you into

your prayers really belongs to you and you to it. Let these great words express your own hope, your own expectation, your own prayer, and with them will come at last into your own life the Babe of Bethlehem.

"But wait a minute, Rev." some of you will say, "That's too much for me."

Yes, I know. It was too much for Mary, too. What did she say?

"My spirit hath rejoiced in God, my Savior.

For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden; for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed."

(Luke 1:47, 48)

Neither Mary nor Joseph, nor the shepherds, had any power within themselves to make such preparation as we have been talking about for the coming of Christ. But when he did come it was not the great princes of the world who received him, but these poor humble people. Why?

Because they had within their minds and hearts the Word of God.

Listen:

"In the beginning the Word existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was divine.

It was by him that life came into existence, and that life was the light of mankind.

The light is still shining in the darkness, for the darkness has never put it out."

(John 1:1,4,5 Goodspeed)

That Word, that Light, that Life was

the Spirit of God himself, the same spirit that filled the heart and life of the Christ.

"I trow," said Meister Eckhart, the German mystic, "God offers himself to me as he does to the highest angel."

Yes, and to you, too. Not within yourself but in the Word of God is the power you need to make preparation for the coming of Christ. Take it and use it for it belongs to you.

WISHING YOU A JOYOUS CHRISTMAS
AND A NEW YEAR FULL
OF GOOD THINGS.

EARL G. AND M. CARL HUGENE



POET'S CORNER
THE DOOR

The entrance to his place of birth
Was by a little door,
So humble all might find him there,
The wise, the rich, the poor.

A little door, where cows had passed,
Opened to a King!
The shepherds and the Wise Men bent
To see so fair a thing.

Somewhere upon a far-off hill
At Christmas time,
At Christmas time,
A little door creeks open still, -
It opens still.

Helen Slack Wickenden

THANK YOU

Mr. George Sakai,
Miss Toshi Teramoto,
Mr. C. Numajiri,
Mrs. Natsu Miematsu
The Rev. A. W. Barley,
Miss Kathryn Barley,
Mrs. C. A. McAllister,
Miss Catharine Pifer,
For your gifts toward the expenses of
"Your Visiting Pastor";

Miss Theresa M. Jarrell,
Miss Lillian Shumaker,
And many others,
For funds for the purchase of gifts
for the residents of Topaz.

KAWAGA MEDITATION

THE MIRACLE OF ME

It is not necessary to go far afield in search for miracles. I am myself a miracle. My physical birth and my soul's existence are miracles. First and foremost the fact that I was ever born is a miracle. The fact that I am still alive despite my shadow-like, weakened body battling a host of devils of disease is a miracle.

Yet the greatest miracle of all is the reality of my soul. That I should be made victorious in temptations, be the object of God's care in a ruined world, be given assurance to go forward into the world of the devout, this is to me a master miracle. At times the storms of passion shake my soul to its depths but a purer power, stronger a thousand times has possession of my being and holds sway over me. When I think of this state of my soul it appears, even to me a miracle.

To my heart value immediately takes on reality, and prayer ere long is reproduced in realization. In the depths of my soul I am daily conscious of the miracle of creation. The miracle of the resurrection becomes not a matter of yesterday, but takes place today in this soul of mine. A virgin conceiving and bearing God in her bosom becomes not an ancient tale in far-off Bethlehem but a present day fact within me.

TOPAZ TOPICS

Let's begin where we are, right here in the church office.

Step carefully along that narrow zig-zag path between the piles of Christmas bundles. These are the gifts for our Topaz Center residents, being supplied this year by generous friends of the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

Ken Tomita is busy opening the packages and inspecting the contents. Mitsu Kambara is pounding away on one of the typewriters trying to keep abreast of the job of acknowledging these gift packages as fast as they come in.

Mrs. Isokawa, with a bevy of women from the Church Fujinkwai is busy stamping out Christmas cards on a wood block press. A Bethlehem scene has been carved (backwards of course) in linoleum glued to the wood block. This is inked and placed in the press upside down over the card.

Dr. Kawamorita is attempting, amid all this confusion, to attend to some of the regular work of the Church.

Here in the corner Marion Oishi is busy with the address files of Your Visiting Pastor, against the day when the present issue comes off the press. Many of you will remember Marion as the representative of our Topaz Nisei in the Freshman Class of the University of New Hampshire last year. She is now spending a few months with her parents

here in Topaz. Your visiting pastor himself is here in the same corner writing these Topaz Topics.

Mary Asano way out in Block 28, is typing out copy for the current Visit as fast as we can supply it. Mary has learned to walk again, after the cruel accident suffered some months ago, when she was struck by an automobile, but she works at home in order to save the long daily trek to the office. E. and R. readers will be interested to know that Mary is the granddaughter of the Rev. Tokichi Ito, grand old Japanese Minister, long associated with the Japan Mission of the Reformed Church.

Setzu Katayama, whose splendid work on recent issues of this paper, some of you have commented upon, is at home recuperating from a long illness. We hope to have her back on the job soon.

Very Cordially,

Your Visiting Pastor



W. Carl Hugen

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

PEACE ON EARTH

O Thou good Giver of all gifts,
At this hushed Christmastide,
Look on a troubled world that lifts
Her cup unsatisfied,
And brim her joylessness again
With "peace on earth, good will to men!"

Oh, shrive all hearts of greed and wrong
And whiten them with love;
Give to the sons of men a song
Like unto that above,
A Christmas song dispelling sadness,
Recharging Earth with Heaven's gladness---

A psalm to sweep out warring hate
From every land and race,
And heal before it be too late
A wrangling world's scarred face--
O Thou great Giver of all good,
Grant peace this day, and brotherhood!
--Marie Barton

PRAYER REQUEST

LET US PRAY this month for the work of
the Rev. George Aki, U. S. Army Chaplain
at Camp Shelby, that the spirit of the Babe
of Bethlehem might abide with him and the
boys under his care.



LIFE BEGINS

BORN TO

DAVID AND ALICE TATSUNO
A GIRL, ARLINE TAIHO
SEPTEMBER 18, 1944

ICHIRO AND OSA ISCHAWA
A BOY, NED NOBUO
OCTOBER 14, 1944

MR. AND MRS. NOBORU ZAIMAN
A BOY, ROBERT
OCTOBER 19, 1944

HIROSHI AND TOYO TAKAYAMA
A GIRL, KEIKO
NOVEMBER 17, 1944

TADASHI AND AIKO HATTORI
A GIRL, KAZUKO
NOVEMBER 20, 1944

TO THE PARENTS
C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S



WEDDING BELLS

MASAI NAAHIRA

UNITED IN MARRIAGE WITH

TOSHIO HARA

IN CHICAGO
OCTOBER 7, 1944

AT HOME AT
1833 N. PROSPECT AVE.
MILWAUKEE 2, WISCONSIN

KIYOKO HOSHIGA

UNITED IN MARRIAGE WITH

CROMBELL MUKAI

IN TOPAZ
OCTOBER 26, 1944

AT HOME AT
17434 ARLINGTON AVE.
DETROIT 12, MICHIGAN

C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S

LIFE ENDS

IN TOPAZ
TOTARO TAKEMOTO
JULY 31, 1944

IN TOPAZ
TATSUZO HANAMURA
AUGUST 26, 1944

IN TOPAZ
KENICHI HOSOKAWA
SEPTEMBER 11, 1944

IN TOPAZ
KUMAKICHI MURAMATSU
SEPTEMBER 15, 1944

CANYON SANITARIUM
REDFOOD CITY, CALIF.
MISS MAY TSUMORI
OCTOBER 18, 1944

