

Charles Kikuchi
Thursday, April 1, 1943

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omit to p 2451
Bob and I dictated this afternoon on cooperatives & the Community Enterprises. It was very hot again. The summer season must be here to stay.

No news on the Leave Clearance yet. I went in to see Landward and he said that a new procedure would be set up next week whereby Bennett may grant the leaves. He said that he would let me have the first crack so that I may get out of here by the 11th after all.

Landward said that the WRA may pay up to \$100.00 for families relocating. It will be based on need. The funds have not been allocated yet and he does not have the application form. He advised me to apply anyway as there may be a chance that I could get something. It will not be retroactive.

This evening I went to a special meeting called by the council. I had to walk down there and I was late because Tom went off with the bicycle without permission. Mr. Rundquist is the executive secretary of the Committee on Resettlement of Japanese Americans. He has been touring the various camps in an effort to get the people to go out.

Mr. Rundquist gave a very informal talk and the audience of 200 received it well. It was too bad that more people interested in resettling did not come.

Rundquist was in the publishing business in N. Y. and he was never acquainted with a Japanese until Sept. 1941. He made the point that the East did not know us although it did have prejudices against other foreign racial groups who settled in the East. One point which startled the audience was that the evacuation did not even make the headlines in the east and that the public were very unconcerned.

Rundquist thought that resettlement would be a new experience because he was sure that the East would accept us as individuals. "Don't feel inferior. You did not choose to be what you are any more than I chose to be a 2nd generations Swedish American."

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He said that after Pearl Harbor he thought of all Japanese as "Japs," a person who was treacherous and to be mistrusted. Then he started to make exceptions. A Japanese by the name of Bumpei showed him that the Japanese were individuals. Rundquist did not feel that his publishing business was worth while so he offered his services to the Quakers. He is not a religious man, but a businessman. The first thing that was done was to make a survey of the Japanese in New York. He discovered that the Nisei were Americans just like anybody, and that they were a little better educated than the average population. The war had disrupted them economically so that Rundquist first effort was to try and get the Nisei into new lines of work, including defense jobs. He said that he was successful in getting 14 Nisei in a New Jersey Defense plant that had 250 employees. Recently, he said, a Nisei was elected as the head of the plant uniton. As a rule, it is easier to get jobs for the Nisei girls than for the men.

"At first we could place the girls only with the churches, but now they all have good jobs. Even the (Nisei) men are now making more money than they ever did before."

The Committee on Resettlement of Japanese Americans has the backing of almost all Protestant groups. Committees have been set up in several of the larger cities and they work closely with the WRA field offices which were set up during the early part of this year. Those offices are committed to a program of dispersal resettlement, a very difficult task inasmuch as it involves changing the Japanese attitudes of self segregation & paving the way for public acceptance.

With the present labor shortage, the Committee feels that the evacuees would be readily accepted. It sees that farm & domestic work is not the solution

since there is a good cross-section of all skills in the group.

Rindquist emphasized the point that the standard wage was demanded for the protection of both the evacuee and the employer. He felt that it would be a blow at resettlement if the evacuees were accused of lowering the living standard. He felt that this would start the process of labor discrimination all over again. "The worst thing that could happen would be to allow the Nisei to be employed as strike breakers. In one case, an employer wanted to hire several hundred Nisei because the Negroes were on a strike. The Negroes resented this very much and a lot of explaining was necessary to prove to them that the Nisei did not intend to do anything of this sort. The Negroes now cooperate with us since they understand what it is all about."

The Committee desires to do a good job of placement and not throw the Nisei into any kind of a job just to get them out of the camps. "We will be guided by the fitness of the evacuee for the job." In order to do this, the community must be prepared with a good deal of public relations work.

"Since housing is a difficult problem, this is another important aspect of our work. We do not plan to segregate the evacuees into any one district." After housing we plan to do a lot of follow up work to see if the social adjustment is made to the new conditions.

Rundquist then went on to tell the audience that it was up to the Nisei to take the next step: "You are here now and it is all wrong. You can remain for the duration or take a chance. If you want to be in camp, that's your choice. I think that you want to be free. It won't be easy for some of you to make the decision because you think you find a security here. But you are deteriorating. If you want to be like the Pima Indians, go ahead. I think most of you will liven up your guts and face it. You have to go out sometime. And don't expect to go back to camp. You either rot or else you live a real life. I know that the parents may be reluctant, but remember

they too, a chance 40 years ago also. They broke away from home and they did not even know the language. What if somebody does call you a 'Jap'. You'll get over it. If you fight back they will respect you. There are many Americans who want to give you a helping hand."

The audience got a considerable lift from this talk and it broke down a few of their fears. Rundquist may be over-optimistic, but we need more of this kind of talk. The WRA has sadly neglected to keep the morale of the evacuees up. I don't think that it knows the evacuees at all.

Rundquist concluded that the following were the selling points for the evacuees:

- (1) 2/3 of the evacuees are American citizens.
- (2) Over 5,000 Nisei are in the Army fighting for democracy.
- (3) The loyalty of the Nisei is unquestioned. That no other racial group would have taken such tremendous physical and mental discomfort.
- (4) The Tolson Committee recognized that curtailment of civil rights was wrong and that it was a responsibility of this country to see that these fundamental liberties were preserved.
- (5) Quotations showing that the War Department and FBI did not have any evidence of sabotage at Pearl Harbor.
- (6) The criminal record of the Japanese is the lowest of any racial group; the educational record is high.
- (7) Public relief among Japanese has been nil and they have contributed generously to community chest and for National Defense.
- (8) Americanization has been more complete than the American public is aware of.
- (9) Nisei have been raised according to American standards and they think and act as Americans.

- (10) Long inactivity in camp will reduce skills and that forced segregation is an un-American influence. Resettlement after the war will be extremely difficult, if not impossible, because competition and reaction will rise then.
- (11) The US is already overtaxed with the care of the evacuees. It will help our government to get the evacuees out where they can contribute a lot of national defense.

Bette went to give a high school debate this evening but she could not go through with it on account of her lisping due to the new teeth. She is not used to them yet and the partial is rather uncomfortable. She has not eaten a square meal since her teeth were yanked. Emiko also had a tooth filled this afternoon.

Friday, April 2, 1943

I went to see Rundquist this morning. He said that John Thomas had requested him to look me up and that he had recommended me highly. Rundquist expected to see a delicate, thin-looking, intellectual type of fellow with a white collar. He was surprised to find me a casually dressed, stocky, farmer-looking, young man. I said that we were all informal around here. Rundquist said that he could find a job easily for me, but I told him that I already had accepted a job and was expecting to leave in a week or so. He was glad to hear this. I explained my housing problem and he suggested that I write to Mr. Edwin Morgonroth of the American Friends Service in Chicago. He believed that there might be a chance to get into Hull House since I had the qualifications. This would be an ideal setup if possible since I am interested in the adjustment of minority groups and Hull House is world famous as a social settlement. It would also give Emiko and Bette a chance to meet all sorts of Americans and provide an opportunity to ease away from the limited Nisei society until they exper-

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perienced a little wider life. Emiko and Bette were very interested in this after I explained it to them. But I don't know if there is a chance to get in since certain qualifications have to be met. It would be right up my alley as a research and social worker. I wrote to the Friends and asked them to wire me back collect about housing possibilities. The Hostels only accept Nisei who come looking for job opportunities.

Runquist wanted to know why the Nisei were reluctant to resettle. I told him that they had many fears and it was through personal talks and meeting men like him that confidence would be gradually restored.

The resettlement movement gains momentum every day. Today the announcement came out that the WRA would ship unlimited baggage rather than a maximum of 500 pounds. I talked to Landward about the WRA plan to pay transportation costs. Landward is going to interpret it strictly so that it will only cover those with insufficient funds. I thought that it should apply to everyone since it would definitely encourage resettlement. I asked him if it would be possible for me to get this assistance but he said that the forms have not been made out yet. { If Landward is going to interpret the memo literally, it will be an endless series of red tape to try to get the money. Landward thinks that our department will do the checking up, but we can only go on the word of a person. Landward was not sure whether it would cover personal property. Tuttle believes that everybody should get the transportation costs when leaving. I know that the WRA will eventually make it apply to everybody but I will miss out while the staff here quibbles about procedures and who is eligible.

The WRA also plans to have some sort of a pictorial campaign to introduce the Nisei labor skills to the public. About 44 offices will be opened up by summer in an effort to get thousands of the evacuees back into the American life. An office has even been planned for Phoenix.

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omit p

Bennett is rather upset because some of the Nisei have been caught driving the WRA cars outside of the project areas. He says that they are liable to criminal prosecution. Some of the fellows have the use of trucks and they take their friends out for a ride in the evening. One fellow was caught on his way to Casa Grande.

Harry Miyake also is getting the resettlement fever. He told me that it was a thankless job to work for the community because he still gets a lot of criticism. I have ^{come} to the conclusions that Harry is really sincere in working for the community welfare. He goes to all sorts of meetings and it is not entirely a matter of personal ambition. Harry is conscious of the fact that he is working for the "Japanese people." He said that he is seriously thinking of resettlement now even though he has five children. Harry is one of the strongest advocates of going back to California. His livelihood is entirely dependent upon a Japanese community he feels. Harry said that the twelve men Issei Advisory Board has been selected. They are the liberal ones: Hikida, Okuno, Oshiura, Oishi, Hirose, Fukushima, Hayashi. I don't know the rest. Four of the Issei Advisory Board (Hikida, Hayashi, Fukushima, and Goto) were appointed to serve with the five members of the Council to make up the ten men Advisory Commission. By way of showing Harry's position ⁱⁿ the community, he was selected as the 10th member of the Advisory Commission rather than an Issei. Hikida is the "big wig" of CAS and a member of the Study (U.C. graduate); Fukushima is also a U.C. graduate and he has done some translations for Bob. Hayashi is an ex-Servicemen and a citizen. I don't know Goto. At any rate, the Advisory Board and members of the Advisory Commission are liberals and not pro-Japan. These are the men who would have been elected to the Council if they were eligible.

Amy has not come back to work yet. She is planning to go out if she can

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get a job. Kimi wants to go into the net work. Tuttle said that he does not know what to do about personnel. He thinks he may have to hire a Caucasian secretary if the scarcity of Nisei girls continues. Mrs. Mayamura works hard but she talks too long with the clients. There has been some complaint that the Santa Anita people don't want her to be the caseworker in that district because they know her personally and it is embarrassing.

Bette got a permanent today in preparation for leaving. Emiko cancelled her appointment because the burlap material from the net work gets her hair all dirty. She plans to get her permanent after leaving. This evening she went to another farewell party for the volunteers to sing a song. The volunteers are waiting to go and they pass the time away by having a series of farewell parties.

The rest of us went to the show. Our evenings have been disturbed lately because about six dogs come to court Blackie. She is one of the few female dogs in camp and all of the male dogs fight over her. These dogs sit out on our lawn all night and howl. Blackie has been getting such a workout that she got sick. Tom and Miyako were so concerned about Blackie that we told them why dogs had mating seasons. Tom does not want Blackie to get "prudent."

omit p. 2462

Saturday, April 3, 1943

It was so warm today that Emiko, Bette, and I slept all morning. I even slept through lunch. Emiko and Bette started to clean the house ambitiously but the heat got them down. Mom went to work this morning. She does not have to go during the afternoons for a while. She goes for a short time after dinner.

I got some summaries of the military registrations which just about winds up this phase of community excitement. To date, 106 have volunteered, five of these are aliens.

Of the 9,734 who registered, 5011 (53%) were citizens and 4723 (45%) were aliens.

Of the citizen group (male and female) about 80% of the group answered "yes". The Issei were 100% in supporting the question asking them to abide by the laws of the U.S.

The Nisei men were 78% "yes" while the women were 88% on the loyalty question. Nisei over 38 years of age were 89% "yes" and male aliens 99.9%. Female aliens were 100% "yes."

5% of the Nisei registered volunteered. Twelve Nisei applied for commissions, six for merchant marines and two for the interpreters school.

37% of the Nisei girls expressed willingness to volunteer for the WAAC or Army Nurses Corps.

Results tallied for the first 50% (1354) of the citizens 17037 who registered gives some indications that the answers changed radically after the roundup. For the first half of the registration, only 32% answered "yes", and 68% answered "no." Forty citizens refused to even answer the questionnaire at that time.

A comparison of the "yes" and "no" group gives some idea of why they answered this way. 421 of the first 1354 answered yes and 891 answered no. Seven of the yes group had one or both parents interned, while 35 of the no group had one or both parents interned. One fourth of the yes group had an immediate member of the family (father, mother, brother, sister, son, or daughter) in Japan. On the other hand one half of the no group had an immediate family member in Japan.

Only 5% of the "yes" group have been in Japan three years to travel or attend school; while 11.2% of the "no" group had been in Japan for three years or more.

Criminality was no criteria since there were only three of each group that had previously been convicted of a criminal offense.

The most important factor seems to be whether the person was a Nisei or Kibei, i.e. to what degree did Japan education influence the feeling against the country. Only 8% of the "yes" group were registered with the Japanese representative to establish claim to Japanese citizenship while 60.5% of the "no" group admitted dual citizenship. Not all of these were Kibei by any means, although it is safe to assume that the greater majority were (based upon education in Japan, 80% of this group were Kibei). None of the "yes" group requested repatriation or were waiting to repatriate; while this was true for 7.5% of the "no" group.

On the volunteer question (#27) 25% answered that they would bear arms for this country while 72% said "no". 3% said "yes" with qualifications. The citizens above 38 years of age were much more "loyal" 29 refused to register. 91% answered "yes" to #28 and 9% "no". None of the group had interned parents. 51% of the "yes" group and 57% of the "no" group had an immediate member of the family in Japan. Since this group is older, this did not make any difference in their answers. None of the group were Kibei. 2% of the "yes" and 0% of the "no" had criminal offenses. 30% of the "yes" and only 4% of the "no" had dual citizenship. This brings a conclusion that only the recent Kibei were opposed to the U.S. Only 1% of the group above requested repatriation.

85% of the above said that they would bear arms for the U.S. if called and 14% said "no" for various reasons. Loyalty was not an issue here as it is more likely that it was family reasons, that is, these are family men. None of this group volunteered for the Army. There were only 100 Nisei above 38 years of age in both camps. (This is the total and final results and not based upon a 50% sample.)

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SUMMARY GILA RIVER REGISTRATION
(As of 12:00 a.m. 3/16/43)

TOTAL REGISTRATION	9734	
Total Number Male and Female Citizens	5011	
Total Loyalty (Male and Female Citizens)	4111	
Total Aliens (Male and Female)	4723	
Total Sympathy "Yes" (Male and Female Aliens)	4722	
A. <u>M E N</u>		
1. Male Citizens Military Age	2488	
a. Number answering "Yes"	1950	78%
b. Number volunteers	95	5%
c. Applications for Commissions	12	
d. Applications for Merchant Marine	6	
e. Applications for Interpreters' School	2	
2. Male Citizens Over Military Age	100	
a. Number answering "Yes"	89	89%
3. Male Aliens	2906	
a. Number answering "Yes"	2905	99.9%
b. Number of volunteers	5	
B. <u>W O M E N</u>		
1. Female Citizens	2423	
a. Number answering "Yes"	2141	88%
b. Volunteering for WAAC and ANC	894	37%
2. Female Aliens	1817	
a. Numbering answering "Yes"	1817	100%

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(Remaining on Project)

RESULTS TALLIED 304A FORMS

Sample of
first 50% male

GROUP A. THOSE MILITARY AGE 17-37 INCLUSIVE:

1. Total registrants	1314
2. Total refusing to register	40
3. Registrants replying "Yes" to question 28	421
a. Number registrants with one or both parents interned	77
b. Registrants with either father, mother, brother, sister, son or daughter in Japan	101
c. Registrants who traveled in Japan at least three years and attended school or college	22
d. Registrants convicted of criminal offenses	3
e. Registrants now registered with Japanese representative to establish claim to Japanese citizenship	33
f. Registrants who have requested repatriation	0
g. Registrants who have requested repatriation and who are on any list furnished as coming from the State Department	0
4. Registrants replying "No" to Question 28	891
a.	35
b.	417
c. (Same as above subgroup)	99
d.	3
e.	557
f.	67
g.	1
5. Registrants not replying to Question 28 (None in subgroups a-g.)	n 2
6. Registrants replying "Yes" to Question 27	342
7. Registrants replying "Yes" with qualifications	42
8. Registrants replying "No" to Question 27	928
9. Number volunteering in Army (Complete tally of volunteers in Wash. Citizen)	11 (with 304A) 96

TOTAL ELIGIBLE FOR FILLING 304A ON PROJECT: 1354

(Remaining on Project)
RESULTS TALLIED 304A FORMS

GROUP B. THOSE ABOVE MILITARY AGE: (ABOVE 38) (CITIZEN)

1. Total registrants	100
2. Total refusing to register	2
3. Registrants replying "Yes" to Question 28	91
a. Number registrants with one or both parents interned	0
b. Registrants with either father, mother, brother, sister, son or daughter in Japan	51
c. Registrants who traveled in Japan at least three years, and attended school or college	0
d. Registrants convicted of criminal offenses	2
e. Registrants now registered with Japanese representative to establish claim to Japanese citizenship	30
f. Registrants who have requested repatriation	1
g. Registrants who have requested repatriation and who are on any list furnished as coming from the State Department	0
4. Registrants replying "No" to Question 28	9
a.	0
b.	5
c.	0
d. (Same as above subgroup)	0
e.	4
f.	1
g.	0
5. Registrants not replying to Question 28	0
6. Registrants replying "Yes" to Question 27	85
7. Registrants replying "Yes" with qualifications	0
8. Registrants replying "No" to Question 27	14
9. Number volunteering in Army	0

TOTAL ELIGIBLE FOR FILLING 304A ON PROJECT: 102

TALLY RESULTS

Form 126 Revised

GROUP A. CITIZEN FEMALE:

1. Total registrants	2394
2. Evacuees refusing to register	10
3. Registrants replying "Yes" to Question 28	2150
4. Registrants replying "No" to Question 28	243
5. Registrants not replying to Question 28	1
6. Registrants replying "Yes" to Question 27	877
7. Registrants replying "Yes" with qualifications	17
8. Registrants replying "No" to Question 27	1500

TOTAL NUMBER ON PROJECT ELIGIBLE FOR FILLING FORM 126, REVISED 2404

Subgroup 3 Registrants replying "Yes" to Question 28

1. Number registrants with one or both parents interned	85
2. Registrants with either father, mother, brother, sister, son or daughter in Japan	424
3. Registrants who traveled in Japan at least three years and attended school or college approximately two years or more since 1934	86
4. Registrants who have been arrested or similarly detained for other than minor traffic violations	0
5. Registrants now registered with Japanese representative to establish claim to Japanese citizenship	374
6. Registrants who have requested repatriation	23
7. Registrants who have requested repatriation and who are on any lists furnished as coming from the State Department	2

Subgroup 4. Registrants replying "No" to Question 28

1. (Questions same as above group)	20
2.	113
3.	27
4.	0
5.	174
6.	39
7.	2

Subgroup 5 Registrants not replying to Question 28

1. (Questions same as other subgroups)	0
2.	1
3.	0
4.	0
5.	0
6.	0
7.	0

VOLUNTEER LIST

* CANAL 47
BUTTE 58

(CONFIDENTIAL)

1. AGAWA, John Heygi 39-3-D
2. AGAWA, Yozo Bill 50-8-A
- * 3. ARIMA, Elmer Shigeto 29-5-2
4. ARAGAKI, Charles Masaru 27-12-D*
5. ARAKI, Tadashi 27-7-D*
6. ARAKI, Masashi 27-7-D*
7. DOI, George Tokio 10-7-A*
8. DOMOTO, George Tetsuo 24-10-C*
9. DOMOTO, Lyman 24-9-C*
10. FUJISHIGE, Fred Isao 27-9-A*
11. FUKUMA, Harold- 23-4-C*
12. FUJIHARA, Frank Kaoru 27-1-C*
13. HIRAMAGUCHI, ATSUSHI 24-7-D*
14. HIRAI, Kay Kaoru 27-9-B*
15. HIRAOKA, Roger Yoshimi 21-5-A*
16. HIRAOKA, Ross Knowles 21-5-B*
17. HIROSE, Jiro 8-8-B*
18. HOKAMURA, Frank Yasuo 8-12-C* (MM)
19. ICHIKAWA, Tomio 63-11-D
20. IIDA, James Akira 31-10-A (MM)
21. HISATOMI, Kune 65-6-C
22. ISHIDA, Kiichi Robert 56-6-B (MM)
23. IMAMURA, Ichiro 16-4-A*
24. ITO, Akira 44-8-A
25. ITO, Robert Yutaka 31-10-A (MM)
26. KANAMOTO, Masao 10-4-B*
27. KAJIWARA, Irsuo 8-6-C*
28. KATSURA, Lester Gunsei 4-13-C*
29. KAWAI, Nobu 58-13-C
30. KINOSHITA, Philip Takeshi 3-3-C*
31. KAWAMURA, Shigeo 64-14-A
32. KOMOTO, Nobuo 23-13-D*
33. KOJAKU, Shaw 72-12-C
34. KIMURA, Takeo 56-2-B (MM)
35. KIRITA, James Shigaru 58-13-B
36. KOMOTO, Masato 23-13-D*
37. KOYAMA, Rintaro 9-2-A**
38. KUBOTA, Shoichi 55-2-C
39. MAKINO, Jimmy Yukao 59-7-C
40. MARUBAYASHI, Roy. Y. 24-12-A*
41. MASUOKA, Noboru 4-3-D*
42. MATSUDA, Kazuo 7-8-B*
43. MATSUSHITA, Akira 44-8-A
44. MAYEDA, Charles Hideo 52-8-B
45. MAYEDA, Charles Sadao 63-3-A
46. MAYEDA, James Michio 63-3-A
47. MINIKAMI, Edward Takaji 3-3-C*
48. MIYASHIRO, Richard Sadao 55-2-C
49. MIZUKAMI, Shugaru 44-8-A
50. MORI, George 27-7-C*
51. MUKAI, Shigeo James 24-5-D*
52. MUKAI, Toshio 24-5-D*
53. MUTO, Kazuo 3-7-A*

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WOLUNTEER LIST

54. MOTOHIRO, Seiji 3-15-A* (MM)
55. NAKAGAWA, George Kazuo 3-12-D*
56. NAKANISHI, Thomas K. 24-8-6*
57. NAKATA, Thomas 4-3-B*
58. NISHIYAMA, Ace Eiji 34-2-C
59. NODA, Masaru Ronald 23-10^{CD}*
60. OBATA, Ichiro George 74-3-B
61. OGAWA, Johnny Susumu 8-6-C*
62. OKINAKA, Dick Sadamu 55-2-C
63. IKAZAKI, Harding 66-13-C
64. IKUMURA, Masaharu 64-7-C
65. OKTNO, Masayuki George 24-5-D*
66. OSAKI, Harry Ayao 22-13-D*
67. OSHIMA, Frederick Meji 74-7-C
68. SAKAMOTO, Masakazu 44-8-A
69. SAKURAI, Satoshi 33-11-D
70. SASAKI, Harry Tadashi 6-5-D*
71. SAWADA, Yukio Kenneth 65-5-A
72. SAKAI, John Noboru 28-7-D*
73. SAKAMOTO, Sam Isamu 23-7-E*
74. SAKAHIRA, Frank Minoru 23-13-B*
75. SASAKI, Willy Kaoru 74-10-B
76. SHITA, Tetsuo 44-8-A
77. SUEHIRO, Lloyd Shigeru 8-9-D*
78. SUGAI, George 64-7-A
79. TAKEDA, Tadashi 45-12-B
80. TANAKA, Seiya 10-1-A*
81. TAGAMI, Ed Shiyoshi 23-12-E*
82. TAGAWA, James Mitsugu 45-13-B
83. TAIJI, Masami 52-4-B*
84. TASHI R Ken (left) 44-6-D
85. TAKUSAGAWA, Hiroshi 54-11-A
86. TERAZAWA, Henry Mitoaki 65-5-A
87. TSUJIMOTO, Masami James 65-6-A*
88. UCHIDA, William Katsuto 51-3-B
89. WATANABE, Tsurumatsu 48-3-D
90. YAMAMOTO, Kiyoso 23-4-D*
91. YAMAMOTO, Seiichi 24-11-B*
92. YAMAMOTO, Ryoze Francis 6-13-D*
93. YANAGAI, Pius Kazutaka 74-3e-C
94. YOKOYAMA, Frank Juichi 23-11-C
95. YOSHIHARA, Sam Hisami 4-5-D
96. YOWHIHARA, Johnny Juichiro 42-8-D
97. TSUTSUI, Hiroshi 5-6-A
98. TAKEYAMA, Raymond 59-11-C
99. TAJIMA, George Kazuo 44-10-B
100. TSUJIMOTO, George Minoru 65-6-A
101. YONCHARA, Tom Tomotsu 25-12A

ALIEN VOLUNTEERS.

1. Asaka, Harry Suekichi 49-3-A
2. Habu, Sadayuki 44-9-D
3. Oishi, Alfred 59-8-D
4. Oishi, Gerald Jiro 59-13-C
5. Ozawa, Harris 6-3-A

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The final tally for the girls is much more favorable. Since an analysis of this group is not nearly as significant, the results will merely be attached with the other figures. (attached.)

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I really got down to do some packing in earnest tonight. I got one box all fixed up. Since the WRA is going to ship all baggage, I repacked my books to let them ship the box with the other things. Bette did a lot of ironing while Emiko sat on the lawn with Mary. Obo came over and he said that he would not be able to put in Emiko's bridge because he had a bad cold. He is not sure yet but he will see how he feels next week.

Mom went to a Japanese talent show this evening. Tom went to bed early because he hiked all the way to the Indian village to get a watermelon. He could not get one so he bought some oranges instead. Mom was worried because she thought that he may have had a sunstroke.

This evening I talked to Emiko ^{and} Bette and I asked them what they thought was the thing they would remember most about camp. Bette said that the heat was the thing. She believes that the most valuable thing that she learned in camp was to reason and think things out. (She said that she has never done so much thinking since she left Vallejo.) Bette has matured considerably since the day we were evacuated. She takes a lot of responsibility, has an even disposition, good personality, and she is able to talk with people easily. She is very considerate of others although she tends to be a little impatient with the conservative Nisei. Easily adjusted, Bette has made a host of friends both among the students and the teachers.

Emiko said that the messhall food was the thing that would stand out in her mind. She can hardly wait until we get to Chicago so that she can do some

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real cooking. She says that she has had diarrhea ever since evacuation.

✓^G Emiko's adjustment to camp life has been more difficult for her than for Bette. She has looks, a good personality, can meet people gracefully and she is strongly conscious of the family welfare. Emiko is a little hot tempered because she was spoiled by pop as a child. Since Emiko has been used to having her own way, she views everything from a personal basis. Since she came into camp just at the age when she was growing up, she didn't have time to adjust herself completely to a mature life. She now has progressed to the point where she wants to continue on with her education. <Right now she wants to be either a dental technician or a dress designer.> Emiko <due to the fact that she grew up in a normal American community> places a great deal of emphasis on a social life at present and her values are slightly distorted. <This emphasis has been encouraged by her friends who attempt to bury themselves in the escapist "social whirl."> An indication of her present attitude is the group of boys that she seeks--the zoot suit--jitterbug type, who has graduated from H.S., but who have little initiative or ambition. Emiko will outgrow this stage after we get to Chicago. She needs a lot of encouragement as she is not sure of herself yet. Obo told her that the people in our block think that we regard ourselves as too good for them ^{and} superior to the people. I think that the block people have an inferior complex to think this. They think we are too fresh because we speak openly and don't bow down to the elders. The Issei are shocked at our independent attitudes. <Konami says Emiko & Bette are different ^{and} not a Japanesy type like the other girls. This block is composed largely of P & T people & they are supposed to be the most liberal in camp. A limitation of experience within a Japanese community entirely would twist any normal person around & make them neurotic.

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Emiko & I slept most of the morning, but Bette got up for breakfast so that she could start the housework. She was a little irritated at Emiko because no help was offered. Emiko said that she did more work around the house on weekend than Bette, which is not true. Anyway, they were both angry at each other today. I stayed neutral, although I think that Bette has the stronger case. She goes ahead and does things and keeps quiet while Emiko makes more of an issue of it. Emiko works hard on the camouflage, but if she would merely offer to help Bette more, it would be alright. Instead she takes the attitude that Bette is getting an allowance and that the work is expected of her. Since mom has been working, the house had been in more of a mess. The funny thing about Emiko is that she will get very angry and after it is all over, she will go ahead and do a thorough job with the housecleaning. She does it a lot better than Bette when she sets her mind to it.

We didn't get to the laundry until after lunch. Doctor Minomi also had to help his wife but he thought that he has a better deal because he only has to do the white things. For the fourth straight week, Bette & I did most of it although Emiko would think that this is not true.

Bette was exhausted so she went to take a shower & a nap after seeing pop. Emiko went to visit Mary again. Mom continued her social life for the week by going to church. Tom and I put up some window shades. We used some heavy paper & Tom got very argumentive and pessimistic. He predicts that the outside shades would all be blown down by tonight. The sky got overcast later in the afternoon, but there was a stifling heat which pressed down on us.

This evening Emiko was feeling upset again. Bette went off to a church social with Elsie and left the clothes to hang for Emiko to do. Emiko said

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that she would have done it herself if she had known that Bette did not intend to help her. Actually, Bette did most of the rinsing this morning & she took it for granted that Emiko would do the hanging. I don't know why she is making such an issue out of it. Bette even washed the dishes tonight. She doesn't complain about it, but Emiko had the idea that she was saying things behind her back. Emiko said she would put a dollar on Bette's bed if she felt that way about it. I told her that Bette did not expect to get paid for doing the household work and that sometimes both were forgetful. They wait for each other and then mom has to do it herself. It must have been the warm weather today. Emiko went off to see Mary again after going to the hospital. She goes over there all the time and she is extremely restless about the house. She hasn't done any serious reading for months. I wish she would find something else to occupy her rather than spending all of her spare time with small talk.

Mom went over to shave pop with a safety razor, but it pulled so much that she did not finish. She is going to take the electric hair clipper over tomorrow.

I talked to Ernest Iwasaki this afternoon about the Red Cross drive just completed and he said that \$2,042.27 was collected in both communities. Canal collected 1,093.31 & Butte 948.96. Block 72 & 73 got \$90.00 but a lot of the money came through hospital collections. Block 34 was the highest in Butte with \$36.05. The lowest in our camp was \$2.65 by block 47. Mrs. Jugimoto said the people of this block refused to give because they thought that the money would be used for American soldiers. Canal did not set a 25¢ limit so that it got a lot more than we did. Block 27 got \$108.75. The lowest block in Canal collected more than the highest for Butte. Canal averaged \$65 per block while the average per block was only \$27.00. A committee from the community will be selected to draw up a budget. A good part of the total will go to the National Red Cross chapter.

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The female of the species always causes all the trouble. Blackie is creating a block crisis. About ten dogs came to woo her every night. They get under the house and howl. Then they growl and fight. <About five of the dogs have been all chewed up.> Blackie sleeps unconcerned in our house. It's not her fault that it is mating season.

no|| But the people of the block think it is our fault. They have been complaining behind our back. Mom got wind of it and now she wants to get rid of Blackie and have her killed. She is afraid of the community sentiment. <It caused a family crisis--all against Mom. We can't help it if dogs mate.> Mom says she is getting tired of getting up at night and chasing the dogs away. Tom & Mariko got up in arms and they said that Mom could not get rid of Blackie because it was their dog. Bette says it was mating season ^{and} a dog was entitled to some relations. Emiko said that the block people were so unreasonable that they would complain if a newly married couple had a squeaky bed. Mom said that we should take it to Chicago. Emiko said it's just like a Jap to conform all the time ^{and} do things behind the back. Mom got mad at this. She said that the people would think bad of us. We told her that we would go tell the block manager to mind his own business. You can't kill a dog just because it mates. Finally Tom said ~~he~~ would see the ^{the} Warden ^{and} tell them to take the strays away. <Blackie is the only female dog in camp and all the dogs come here.> Mom is afraid to face the crowd so she agrees. She thinks that everybody in the block condemns her because she has not raised her children in the Japanese way. That's why she bends over backwards to conform with them. I don't think it will be so good for Tom ^{and} Miyako. They have already developed Emikos, Bette and my attitudes towards the narrow mindedness of the Japanese: Mom got mad and said that she was glad that we were going to Chicago because the people would not talk about her anymore.

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Emiko and Bette had words last night, and they said some harsh things to each other. After it was all over, they weren't mad any more. It seems to be that something called "evacuation nerves" because we are on edge just before we move every time.

Emiko brought up the matter of hanging the wash all by he self. Bette wal calm most of the time so that Emiko got more excited. She called Bette a treacherous Jap because she did not complain to her face. Bette said that this was the first time that she ever complained and she wouldn't have done that if Emiko did not act so uncooperative this week end. Emiko said she was tired from net work, and besides she did a lot of the work around the house that she did not advertise. Bette denied that this was true and it went on for ten minutes. First time I ever saw Bette get real mad. Then Emiko said that Bette was so busy running off to socials and not see/ing pop. Bette, "It seems to me that I should be saying that to you." Emiko, "I go to see pop every time & I haven't missed once. You get all excited and dash off. You think you're too good. Why don't you complain to me? You're scared of me."

Bette, "Oh, I am not! I just want to avoid an argument because you are so unreasonable."

Emiko, "Humph! Just scared that's all."

Bette, "Who's scared of a thing like you?"

Emiko, "Well, why don't you tell me off then if you think that you're so right. Just like a Jap -- build up a lot of resentment & stab me in the back."

Bette, "I wouldn't waste my strength."

Emiko, "You never do the housework good anyway. You just rush to get through."

Bette, "I'm just fast. I don't poke along just to get out of work."

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Emiko, "You know darn well that a lie."

Bette, "Humph!"

Emiko, "Besides, why don't you ever tell me to my face if you think you are doing so much."

Bette, "Because I want to avoid an argument. It's not that important. And I respect my elders and I shouldn't have to tell you what you should do."

Emiko, "Humph! Just scared, that's all."

After it was all over, they decided that they weren't mad any more. They have only had two arguments since they came to camp. The last time Emiko called Tom a pimp and Bette got mad. For sisters they get along exceptionally well. >

This morning I met Imeko Matsumoto in the Employment office. She said that she was leaving for Chicago next Monday. She is going to work as a domestic for \$40.00 a month for a Jewish couple. The job was obtained through the Chicago WRA office.

< Imeko wants to go to school part time and study ceramics. She also has matrimonial plans. She said that she was getting bored with camp life and would do anything to get out. > Imeko was a little afraid that the public reception would not be very good. < I said that nobody would even give her a second glance. She hopes that there will be no unpleasantness on the way. >

^{not} Imeko wondered if there would be a "Nihonnochie" (Japanese town) in Chicago. I told her that she should not worry about seeing other Nisei for a while because she could get along in any group. She said that she was willing to expand but was not so sure that the "hakuajins" would let her. I did not think that there would be any difficulty. Imeko plans to go to the neighborhood churches as the initial step in getting acquainted with other Americans. "But it's harder for a girl. If we go around with the caucasians, people will think that we are bad."

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Me: "The Japanese will be the only ones who will think that. It's all the more reason for letting the Japanese community alone. It holds you down with all sorts of narrow ideas."

Imeko: "Sometimes, I get scared & I don't know what I will do for social relaxation. A girl can't go around alone. That's why I want to be with my friends."

Me: "Having Nisei friends is wonderful, but it gets to be a vicious circle. The more Nisei together, the harder it will be for them to get assimilated."

Imiko, "Then it wouldn't be of much use for them to leave camp, would it?"

Me: "That's the way I view it, but it is a complicated thing. I don't say that there should be no Nisei acquaintances & I am not particularly advocating a further degree of cultural assimilation so that the Nisei won't feel like second hand citizens. It's too easy to get labeled."

Imeko "I know that." Even when you refer to a white American as a caucasian, they look funny. A label brings forth all sorts of connotations. The most desirable thing is to call everybody an American, but people don't do that. You're Japanese, Chinese, Irish, Swede, German, etc. People think that only a white skinned person is an American, and a lot of Nisei feel self conscious different because they have a yellow skin. Thus, they hesitate to call themselves an American for fear that people will laugh at them. I feel the same way. We use 'Nisei' but that's a term too. Even Americans of Japanese Ancestry is a label."

Me: "We shouldn't worry too much about labels. Just act like an American and people will gradually accept you. An American is a funny person. Just have the guts to stand up for America's principles ^{and} culture ^{and} that makes you an American too. People will accept you if you do that. Don't ever apologize

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for your ancestry even if you hate the 'Japs'". By 'Japs', you mean a system of living that doesn't give the little guy a chance to even think for himself. War time hysteria does a lot of funny things -- things that we will all laugh about afterwards. If you accept the role of a second class citizenship now, you will have a hell of a time to overcome this stigma."

Imeko: "Gee, If I can do all those things ^{and} & if all the Nisei does it, the problem will solve itself."

Definite and organized action on resettlement is now getting under way. Up to this time, the Xian church was the only group that carried on an organized campaign which was not effective since only a limited number of people were reached. The employment office had it's program, but the whole thing has been developing so swiftly that it had to work on a sort of perpetual emergency basis.

With the impetus given by Rundquist, ^{not} the Council finally got off the dime. The WRA here met with a few of the Council members to select a Resettlement Committee to push the program. They immediately got the "fever" ^{and} tomorrow the committee will meet at Doctor Minami's house to formulate a program. Minami asked me to work with the committee until I left and he wants me to leave my forwarding address so that I can keep the committee in touch with what is going on outside. Doc Minami and I had lunch together and he asked me to come over tomorrow so that we could pool ideas. I thought that the greatest need in the community was a lot of educational work among the Issei so that they would not be so fearful of the "outside". Once they can realize that the outside is not so hostile, they will not try to discourage the Nisei so much. The resettlement program necessarily will have to be concentrated upon the Nisei at the beginning. Doctor Minami felt that this would be a most difficult task

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as only a small percentage of the total population were actually planning upon immediate resettlement. He thought that through various discussion meetings, progress could be made. Also by having Japanese translations of articles showing what interested groups were doing for the evacuees in order to eliminate some of the fears and distortions of truth which circulate so freely. The Committee will draw up a plan of action and present it to Bennett. If the Council can see this through, it will be accomplishing a lot. There is a good chance that it may get community support since the Issei Advisory Board will be represented on the committee.

There is too much stress being put upon domestic & short term farm work. It will be easy for the WRA to do this, but not good placement work for a large number of the Nisei. Take a girl like Imeko. She is intelligent, educated, and fairly well poised. It's a crime for her to be sent to Chicago for a \$40.00 a month job when even domestic work gets a much higher wage now. It's the people who pay these kind of wages that want to exploit the evacuees. They think that they are "rescuing" the Nisei by giving them such a "chance." And they will get terribly angry if the girl does not show all kinds of gratitude. They will show off their "Japanese" servant to all their friends and expect to be praised for being so broad minded. The WRA should keep up the standards more rigidly to prevailing wages. The final solution of the "Japanese" process will be a long one and a great deal of planning will have to go into fitting them back into the American life. A few stories about exploitation would circulate too readily within the camps and hinder the morale of the evacuees further. They just want to believe these things and the great majority still refuse to face the problem squarely. I met Mr. Ikeda this evening & he advised me to turn down my job offer and stay in camp where it was safe and where

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I had plenty to eat. I told him that we had to go out sometime & the best time was now. Mr. Ikeda said that I was not being a good Japanese if I left my sick father behind. He said that my first duty was to my parents and I should not even think of going out. "Stay in camp because you can help the people. Then after the war, you can go back to California. Too hard live on outside."

Tuttle recognizes that resettlement is the thing now so that he is reorganizing the whole policy of the department once more. He said that it was too difficult to get any more caseworkers so that he is going to make the public assistance grants a routine thing and office calls will be made. He doesn't expect that there will be much intensive casework. Tuttle is willing to adjust to new conditions and he gradually is beginning to see that a public welfare department like on the outside does not apply to the people here.

Tuttle is drawing up plans to put the new emphasis on resettlement plans. He wants to get the community leaders to serve on a volunteer basis. By his plan, Tuttle hopes to eliminate some of the fears. The camp will be divided into 5 districts and a case worker will supervise the home visits made in each district by the volunteer workers. A detailed list of questions will be asked. I told him that the people will object to answering another questionnaire. Every department in camp has sent out some sort of block questionnaires, most of them no good. Tuttle believes that this difficulty will be overcome since it will be tied in with the resettlement movement. The people will be asked residence history, employment history, financial condition, type of housing and cost in the prewar days, cost of living, and resettlement plan and budget. He is sending out to various State & City welfare departments so that he can get a sample budget for different localities. Through these he hopes to point out to the people that the high cost of living is not so high

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as they believe it is. When they find this out they may be encouraged to re-settle. The National WRA has directed that full emphasis be placed upon this movement.

Tuttle gave me a hint that the WRA plans to pay all of the evacuees' transportation and first month subsistence expenses. I had an application made out asking for \$100 but he advised me to declare a nominal sum as cash assets and try to get as much as possible. He said that he could not tell me to do it directly as he is an employee of the WRA, but the granting of this money will be mere routine and no check will be made on the statement after it is asked by Landward. It goes to the welfare office and then to Fiscal where they money will be granted. This money will come out of the revolving fund. Tuttle hinted that the WRA would like to give it outright, but it has to answer to Congress and more changes of pampering may result. Thus the clause "insufficient funds" was put in, but it will be mere routine and a person may declare anything he desires.

We worked out the resettlement cost for the whole family and it came to \$471.00. Since three of us are going the cost will come to around \$215 for transportation and subsistence for the first month. I am only going to declare \$71 since U.C. is paying my travel expense. I don't know if I will be able to get the balance, but I will try damn hard. I was on Huso's tail all day long. He had an application form drawn up but it was not very adequate. I made one up for myself and tomorrow I'll see if Landward will push it through. There won't be any difficulty with Tuttle as I have already talked to him. Any money that I get will be a windfall and a very pleasant surprise. It certainly will help out.

The announcement that the WRA would help pay the transportation resulted in a funny reaction among a lot of the Issei. The rumor went around that the WRA spent \$80,000,000 on the Japanese already so it is getting worried and

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it plans to dump the evacuees out in order to reduce the upkeep of these camps. The people certainly can twist a thing around and find a distorted reason for any WRA action. I suppose this is another indication of the deep-seated suspicion of the Issei. 80 million is only a drop in the bucket to the U.S. The Issei don't realize yet that the WRA wants to help them back into a more normal life. I can see now that a lot of Japanese translations are necessary in order to educate these people to the true facts. Perhaps I have been too violent against the Japanese section of the paper. If well controlled, it could be a good way to disseminate the true information.

Emiko had a tough break today. She went to get another tooth filled but Obo said that he would be in Canal all this week and he would not be able to do any more work on her teeth. This means that Emiko will not be able to get a bridge on her two front teeth which have dead nerves. Emiko was rather upset because she had expected that the work would be completed. I'm more worried about Bette's teeth. Her partial still hurts her and she can't eat at the mess hall. She brings her plate home, puts her teeth on a sideboard, grabs a funnybook and eats by herself. I only hope that Obo will be able to get her teeth adjusted before we leave.

The wind blew very hard again. It was hot and sultry and the dust made us very uncomfortable. The net workers did not have to weave this afternoon, but Emiko went back to get her pattern all straightened out so that there would be no delay tomorrow. This evening she went to visit some friends again. Bette stayed home to do her homework. I still have the use of the bicycle, but it was too dusty to use it today so I walked.

Mom is planning on making us a big basket of sandwiches so that we will have something to eat on the train. Pop knows that we are going and he still continues to be agreeable. I told him that I would take good care of Emiko and

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Bette and this pleased him. Pop was in very good humor this evening. Mom shaved one half of his face but it pulled so much that she did not finish. The rash on his cheek appears to be going away. We will see him as much as possible during this final week as it may be a long time before we see him again.

Mom has resigned herself to keeping Blackie. Tom held a "democratic election" and we outvoted her 5 to 1. Since the dog pack did not howl so much, she is resigning herself. Mom has a better working arrangement now so she doesn't get so tired. She works in the morning and only an hour in the afternoon and one hour in the evening. Salary is the same, but she makes up for the shorter hours by doing a lot of other things. They just can't make her sit. Mom still doesn't understand the concept of a "companion" for a sick person. She says that it's silly to get paid \$17.50 a week just for sitting. I don't know how much longer it will be since Hutch plans to move over to the administrative quarters in Canal as soon as the buildings are finished.

Tuesday, April 6, 1943

I hit the "Jackpot" today. The WRA presented me with \$250.00 for transportation expenses for Emike and Bette, plus subsistence costs for the three of us during the first month. The cashier gave me the money in crisp \$20 bills. It really was an unexpected gift and it certainly will make the work of resettlement easier. The initial adjustment is the biggest hurdle. The application forms were not made up yet, but my case was used as an experimental one. It was a success!

with I listed \$71.00 as the travel expense which U.C. is paying for me, but I won't have to use anything except the train fare. I had already declared the U.C. train fare previously so that I could not very well cancel it. The whole thing was done in an open-handed manner and I don't feel dishonest or anything like that. I am convinced that it is the intent of the WRA to pay

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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Gila River Project
Rivers, Arizona

cont p.
Social Service Department

April 5, 1943

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This will introduce Mr. Charles Kikuchi, a professionally trained social worker who has been employed for one year in the Social Service Department of the Gila River Relocation Project, Rivers, Arizona.

Mr. Kikuchi has done an excellent job for our department. He has shown himself able to carry heavy case load capably. In connection with this, he has often been called upon to put in a good deal of overtime in order to process a large volume of work. He has always done this very willingly and I believe has a sincere interest in making a contribution to whatever community in which he resides.

With respect to quality of case work, Mr. Kikuchi has shown himself able to work intensively on problem cases and has definitely obtained good results on these.

If further information is desired about his work, I will be very happy to oblige.

Yours very truly,

William K. Tuttle
Counselor
Social Service Department

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transportation expenses and the "insufficient funds" clause was only to act as a protection against charges of pampering by the Congressional Investigating Committees. < Senator Chancler is doing a lot of talk about the money the WRA is wasting on "social experimentation." He sounds like an old reactionary from the deep South. >

no H Tuttle told me not to even mention to him that I had a cent, except for the U.C. expense. As far as he was concerned I had nothing. < He will accept the statement on all the applications and there will be no check made. This WRA provision came in at just the right time for me. I think that it should give the people of the community a decided lift for resettlement. It should convince them that the WRA is acting under good faith. I just feel that the draft for the Nisei is coming soon and I am most anxious to get Emiko and Bette started in school, before the time comes to go into the service. I just don't know what to do about the rest of the family. I wouldn't like to take them out and then leave them to their own fortunes when the draft comes.

I was just thinking that this uncertainty will be in the minds of many Nisei and it may prevent them from taking the chance of going out. I am convinced that the draft and resettlement just won't go hand in hand. It's one or the other. Of course, it may be possible that it may be a very selective draft for the Nisei so that the group will have a chance to resettle their families. Chancler proposes that all able bodied Nisei be drafted immediately and the rest of the loyal group be released into useful work. Of course, he evidently does not know the situation very well to believe that this plan would work. He would intern the disloyal for the duration.

There is a definite movement afoot to let the "nos" have another chance to reconsider, but I can't feel in sympathy with this, in spite of the fact that issues were distorted during the military registration by Bennett and others.

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I feel that if a person really believes in certain principles, he is not going to change his ideas very quickly. There is probably only a small number of the teen age Nisei that answered "no" anyway. But there is a question whether the issues were so beclouded that they were not understood. It is hard to conceive that such a thing is possible. It is true that bitterness and cynicism made a lot of Nisei lose faith in this country.

The "nos" are beginning to realize that they did a very foolish thing. The Issei are even more concerned and they would like to see the "nos" get a chance to reconsider. They are now worried that there may be absolutely no future for them. At present there definitely is no resettlement possibility for the "no" group.

Tuttle has certainly made a lot of advancement since he started working here. He is one of the few people in the staff here that has developed with the new conditions of this camp. I have changed my estimate of him entirely. <Tuttle was most timid and conservative when he came to camp. As he learned more about the people, he was willing to make concessions. At least he has been open-minded. <The fact that he was scared for his job had a lot to do with his reluctance. His wife, Bob, and Lieberman were a good influence and they worked on him. Tuttle now recognizes that the community is not stable enough to set up a welfare department similar to one on the outside. It appears now that the department is taking the lead in completely emphasizing resettlement. The other departments are still uncertain on where to place the emphasis. Tuttle had a good philosophy of social work all along, but he was in doubt as to how far he could go. Apparently Hoffman has full confidence in him so that he can go ahead and experiment. One of the good things about a welfare department is that it can experiment if it wants to, since everybody considers social workers as crackpots anyway. > I am convinced now that Tuttle

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really has the welfare of the people at heart and he is proceeding from this basis. Previously, he was a stickler to technicalities. The whole WRA is experimental and it is a shame that most of the departments are too static within the camps.

Although I have been extremely impatient and indignant at Tuttle at times, I do not think that it was altogether unjustified. I think that it brought some results. Looking back over the past eight months, a lot of progress has been made and a definite contribution has been made to the community.

Tom Holland came over to Bob's room this afternoon while we were dictating and he gave us some very choice information about the net project. According to him, the Glass Company got the government contract for this net work for \$7.08 per thousand square feet. The contractor, in turn, made a contract with the community for \$.80 per thousand square feet. Other expenses ran to about \$.50 per thousand square feet. The contractor has a fantastic deal here because it gives him a net profit of around 15%. There is no expense involved for the contractor and he does not stand to lose a thing. The Army built the factory and it provides the necessary equipment and materials. In addition, it provides ~~the~~ for all of the transportation.

The Contractor has only one representative here--Mr. Reynolds-- who is paid \$500.00 a month as the general manager of the plant. He used to work for the WRR in Oakland at \$180.00 a month. The U.S. Army Engineers are in charge of the other Caucasian personnel, such as net inspectors and laborers. The Indians are hired by them at 82¢ per hour, plus overtime. There are about thirty Caucasians and Indians working for the U.S. Army Engineers.

The Contractor also got the bid for the Poston plant and all of the nets for the Army are garnished by the two centers. Since both centers are producing about a million square feet per day, the Contractor is making a profit of around \$120,000 a month or well over \$1,000,000 a year. This is what is known

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as war profits. Of course, there may be other expenses, but it is only a fraction of the total profits.

The Contractor has a ready made market and there has been no serious labor problems to date. I can't understand why the WRA could not have this contract so that there would not be a private company involved. The WRA could well use this money for the benefit of the evacuees. And the community still would be getting it's \$4.00 per thousand contract.

Since the margin of profit for the contractor is confidential, it does not involve the workers at all. \$4.00 per thousand is prevailing wages. The only difficulty has been to divide it so that the community fund would get a fair share.

There is no other group of workers that could compete with these Nisei weavers. They seem to have a superior manual dexterity and a strong competitive drive. The present average is 2600 square feet. A Caucasian group would not come anywhere near this figure. The Nisei have proved that in certain types of piece work involving manual dexterity, they are above average. The fruit packing in California is a good example of this.

The Contractor has little regard to the health and safety of the Nisei net workers. He has not provided any safety regulations and he complies with only the minimum safety regulations. At present the workers are not adequately covered by workemen's disability compensation.

Reynolds, from all reports, is out solely after a production record. He doesn't concern himself about the welfare of the workers. He is strongly anti-union and so far he has been successful in suppressing any abortive efforts of organization. At one time the cutters went out on a strike, but Reynolds made an appeal to the Ex-Servicemen and they came in as strikebreakers. Since then there has been little effort to organize.

The net workers themselves do not know much about organized labor. They

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are rugged individualists due to their economic background. In the past the Japanese for some strange reason were violently anti-labor unions and this attitude has persisted. In Poston there are some labor leaders and they have succeeded in getting better conditions for the workers. The Contractor doesn't like it and he wants to center all of the net work here. The present contract runs until May and there is no reason that it will not be resumed.

The net workers do not have many leaders among them. Dave Kuritani is a good man but he antagonizes the other workers by trying to bully them so that he only has a small following. The Santa Anita group are the best organized but they are looked upon as "rowdies" by the other workers. The Santa Anita group still has a tendency to feel that they own the net project. The Ex-Servicemen as cutters are a clique but they remain a closed company and they look after their interest chiefly. The Contractors are supposed to provide them with gloves but no action has been taken and the glove supply is almost gone. The cutters can't even buy their own since the Canteen do not have any. The weavers are not sympathetic since they still feel a little antagonistic towards the cutters. But the cutters hold the trump card. They know that nobody can work if they stop. There may be some labor difficulties if something is not done about gloves soon. Later on when the hot weather starts, other difficulties will arise due to the occupational hazards, namely, the rash developed with the heat and the lint. Production is bound to slow down. No human body can keep up the pace that these workers are setting. Already a number of workers have taken short "vacation." The number will increase with the heat. Today the net workers laid off because of the wind. Emiko slept all afternoon. She is pretty tired out from working so hard for the past three ~~weeks~~ months. And she does not rest enough. I hope she doesn't get bags under the eyes. I wanted her to quit next Thursday and rest up but she wants to work until Saturday. Emiko will make about \$350 from her net work altogether.

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She is going to set aside \$150 in the family fund and the rest will be saved for school and other expenses.

Bette is having her teeth adjusted this evening, but Emiko is out of luck. It will have to be done after we leave camp. Bette has to get a pair of shoes so I went down to get the ration ticket for her. Mrs. Kondo said that she could get them when she leaves.

Mom bought a dozen eggs from the Canteen today. It was the first time that fresh eggs have been sold here. She was going to use them to make sandwiches for us when we leave but we got so hungry that we all ate egg sandwiches tonight. For two days straight we have gotten fish at the mess hall, we just can't eat the salty stuff. Our mess hall has been getting a lot more Japanese food lately and it is about time that the Nisei started a rebellion.

The Tsugawa Murder Case has finally received a verdict. Tsugawa will receive a 15-25 year sentence in the Arizona State Prison on a charge of second degree murder. He was sentenced by a Phoenix court. It's a tough break for the family, but I think that Ayako will be able to carry on. The suicide of the other night was due to despondent health. The woman was only 26 years old. One murder and one suicide for the ten months of this camp's existence is not a bad record. Crime in the community has been negligible, although the juvenile problem is getting more serious. There is not enough things to do for the young kids and they have to loose their energies on something. On the whole, the community is very law abiding.

I saw Landward today and we are definitely scheduled to leave on the 13th. There is still the question of transportation since no reservation for coach seats are made from Phoenix. I'm still in a pickle about where to address our baggage. I hope that the Friends Service will telegraph back some sort of answer in the next day or so. These last few days will be hectic as there are a lot of affairs that have to be worked up. Bob and I want to get the bulk

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of our report over this week. We won't have time to complete a block survey study.

The Nisei continues to go out every day in small dribbles. The first sizeable group to go out will be the sugar beet workers. On Thursday, 35 workers will leave for Colorado and Nebraska to work for the Great Western Sugar Company. Some of them are going on seasonal leaves while others are taking indefinite leaves.

A lot of the teachers of the elementary and high school want to hire evacuee domestic help. In a lot of cases they commute from Casa Grande. They only offer a small wage--it may be prevailing wages for Arizona, but it isn't much. Mom asked me if I knew anyone who wanted a job working in a teacher's home for \$40.00 a month. There are three children and the teachers wanted a Nisei girl. Hell, it's no use resettling to Casa Grande for \$40.00 per month. I wouldn't blame a girl for staying in camouflage rather than take a job like that around here. Some of these damn teachers around here want to take advantage. A husband and wife get about \$300.00 per month income as teachers and they think that they are giving an evacuee a break by offering \$40.00 a month to take care of a lot of brats and cook and do the housecleaning.

The teachers living on the project are a little better. They are willing to pay up to \$50.00 a month to an evacuee. They are not supposed to offer over the WRA wages and some of them are doing just that. Hutch is the only one who really pays a prevailing, but it has to be kept quiet. For some reason the Issei women don't want to work for the Caucasians on the project and even \$50.00 a month isn't sufficient inducement. Several of the women want mom to work for them, but mom can't hold up under this type of work. She can only do light housekeeping. She will work for Hutch for a month or so longer and then get on Welfare. I will have to arrange it for her since she would never go and apply herself.

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Bette will get most of her dental work finished, but Obo will have to send the lower partial to her. He just dropped over to say that he may be able to make Emiko's bridge and send it on, but he can't promise. He says he can't get up in the mornings. If it is not finished, the expense on the outside will be rather large. I told Obo for sure that we were leaving next Tuesday, but he still doesn't believe me. >

Bette heard a choice bit of gossip over in the hospital. Some of the Issei women in the block are saying that "the Kikuchi girls take two bucks of dirty dishes to the laundry room and leave the sink dirty." Bette was mad as anything when she came home to tell Emiko about it. Emiko let her blow off steam about five minutes and then she says: "I guess it was me. I left some stuff in the sink last night, but it was the first/^{time}and we are not the only guilty ones."

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Another windy day. It was icy cold last night and on the chilly side today. The weather is unpredicatble here. It blows one day and the next it is hot. I prefer the colder weather. It makes me more energetic. Bob and I got quite a bit of dictation done this afternoon.

Mrs. Minomi of the rich minomi clan died yesterday. The family is reputedly the richest in the center. It made its money in the produce shipping in Santa Maria Valley. Mrs. Minomi got ill soon after arriving in the center and it is said that she died from Valley fever. The father is in an internment camp. The family feels bitter because they feel they have lost a lot of money and prestige. The boy (18) signed "no" to the questionnaire, later signing it "yes." The Minomi funeral will be held as soon as the father comes from the internment camp. It will be the largest and most elaborate funeral that this center will ever have. The family is well known, and the clan is large. The ceremony will be performed in the local Buddhist Church, and Geo. Matsuura says that it will be very noisy with a Japanese orchestra and a lot of loud weeping to show grief. The family will have to send each person who comes a gift after the 49th day in observance of a Japanese custom. The particular sect to which the Minomis belong is very Catholic and it goes through a lot of rituals. The family may give a banquet to the people after the funeral after the Japanese practice. The whole funeral will run into several thousand dollars.

Geo. Matsuura is one of the leaders of the Young Buddhists Association. His interned father is a Buddhist Priest. Geo is talented in art more and he plans to leave soon to attend art school. The Young Buddhists were recently organized. It is composed largely of the Nisei and there are about 500 members in the organization now. There was a

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sharp clash with the Kibei group, and Bishop Oichi wanted all the Nisei to join the Kibei club. Largely through the efforts of Rev. Matsura & a few of the younger Buddhists priests, the Nisei were successful in organizing the Y.B.A. It is patterned after the Y.M.C.A., although the Y.B.A. permits both male & female members. Its activities is largely of a social and athletic nature. Geo. is now working on a Brotherhood sort of Sunday meeting. This is patterned after the Christian Fellowship and there will be discussions on various topics. Bob and I are on the list of possible speakers, but I will not be here to enjoy this honor. Geo. is a rather sincere chap, good looking as hell. He plans to become a Buddhist priest. He would have been in Japan now studying for the Buddhist priesthood if the War had not broken out. I don't see how he can be taken in by such beliefs. Yet Geo. claims to firmly believe all the rituals.

Tomorrow is supposed to be the anniversary of the birth of Buddha. It will be observed by the church, but the main ceremonies will be held on Sunday. It is called the Hana Matsuri. I suppose the Christian concept of the birth of Christ is just as silly as the Buddhist legend he told me.

According to the legend, Buddha's Mother went on a walk one spring morning. She was out in the woods enjoying all the wonders of nature and smelling all the sweet flowers. Seeing a pretty rose, she reached up to pluck it from the tree. At that very moment Buddha was born. Immediately he jumped up and facing the East, he exclaimed: "I am the Light. Follow me and you shall find the Truth." Just like that. I guess Buddha was one of the few babies born while his mother was standing up.

Anyway this little legend will be reenacted in many Buddhist

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homes tomorrow. In a shrine facing the East, there will be an idol of Buddha, the fat bellied variety. There will be flowers placed all around him. Then tea will be poured over the Buddha figure to represent the sweetened rain which fell after Buddha was born. During this ceremony, the scriptures about his birth will be retold. The same ceremony will be performed in the Church. It is much more colorful than the Christian version of Christ being born in a smelly old stable with three old men standing around. If I were not an heathen, I suppose that the ceremony could give me a spiritual lift. One legend is as good as the other. The only fault I find with Buddhism is its extreme pessimism ^{and} negation, while the Christian holy fathers are too bigoted. I don't even think that it is a good escape. Being a Buddhist Priest is a much better paying job than a Christian minister. Almost all Buddhists are practically bound to give money for the support of the Church, represented by the Priest. I suppose the Buddhist Priest gets the largest income of any person in camp. He holds the keys to "Nirvana", the Buddhist heaven. One of the Buddhist Priests here, Rev. Ishimura has volunteered for the army to become a Buddhist Chaplain for the Nisei Combat Unit.

< On the whole, the Buddhist priests here are not so favorably disposed towards the resettlement program. If the Japanese disperse, their source of livelihood will be cut off. Since a lot of them came to this country on permits, they would have to return to Japan after the war if they did not continue their religious work. The Christian ministers will only lose their flocks so for this reason they don't care to see wide dispersal.

I don't think that religion means very much to the Nisei. ~~It~~

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is a social outlet to the majority although a growing number use it as an escape from their frustrations. Religion always has a rising popularity during a time of crisis, but it certainly will not solve any problems in itself because the realities of the world are not adequately coped with.

I haven't ever believed in a God. Perhaps that is my misfortune. But I never could see the sense of having blind faith in some-thing that is so non-material. The argument as to whether there is a God or not is an endless issue, and I suppose I am agnostic about it. It doesn't make a difference one way or the other to me, but I tend to view all organized religion as a hinderance to mankind. But I am not intolerant of it. There are certain mysteries of life that are unsolved, but I'll trust in Science to find an answer.

I think Bob is getting over the "Resettlement Fever" a bit & resigning himself to further *exile* here. He got a little enthusiastic today because our opus is rapidly taking shape and we are reaching the more interesting stuff. Bob is beginning to ask a lot of questions which bothered me, but I am sure that his anthropological zeal will return shortly. The lull in activities after the military registrations, plus personal indecisions had a lot to do with his mental let-down. And I am afraid that I infected him a bit with the resettlement fever. The affair with the Prairie Flower is definitely over and now he can settle down to work. He had to take the Flower into Phoenix on Monday to find out for himself.

The Flower is a very maladjusted young girl. She can't find any friends and she feels most inadequate and inferior. She is rather attractive so that there is no reason for her to be so self conscious.

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The evacuation has done something to her. She is definitely neurotic.

The Flower has a lot of problems. She quit her net job because her father is gravely ill and he is not expected to live much longer because of stomach cancer. The responsibility for the family falls on her and the strain is beginning to tell. She has some terrific fights with her 18 year old sister who is running all over camp after a social life and not finding it. The boys have discarded her sister now and the home atmosphere is very strained. There is a younger brother that the Flower will have to look after when her father dies. Bob has tried to help her out quite a bit and he got himself involved to the point where he was seriously contemplating marriage. It's all over now, and Bob should be able to settle down.

Another Japanese cultural note: The fish market in the 42 laundry room has done such a large volume of business on Fridays that another fish market will be opened in the block 59 laundry room. The people have to get tickets to get in line and fish products will be sold to them only so that everybody gets a chance. There was a rumor that Butte got the stale fish after they were left unsold in the Canal market. This is not true since they have a sellout everytime.

The Issei are going in for many Tempura parties with the fish and prawns sold at the fish market. This gives them an opportunity to have Japanese dinner parties at home with chopsticks and all. Tempura is rather a tasty dish and I suppose they are entitled to seek escape from some of the atrocious meals served here. Personally I would rather have a steak, but it's all a matter of taste.

Dr. Thomas sent a letter on from Mrs. Sickels of St. Paul. The group is very cooperative, and they have offered me a desk & office

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space in the International Institute in the event that I go there on the Study. All sorts of other facilities such as contact with the U. of Minnesota, WRA personnel, and Public and Private libraries. In spite of those advantages, there really isn't enough Nisei resettled there so that Chicago is the best bet for the Study. Ann Oishi wrote from the Hostel, but accommodations are not available.

I wasted 26¢ of Bob's money this morning. When I went down to wake him up, he was thirsty so I said I would go to the Canteen and buy some soda water. The Canteen did not have any so I bought some root beer extract and got a little ice. I am sure that I read the directions very carefully, but it did not taste like root beer, it tasted like muddy water. I mixed and mixed it, but the flavor did not change. Bob was waiting patiently so I gave him a glassful and told him that it was delicious. He drank it down making a very wry face. I anxiously asked him if he liked it. Bob did not know whether it would hurt my feelings or not if he said that it was lousy. He said it was alright so I insisted that he drink another glassful. I almost died laughing at the face he made. Finally he got wise and then he started to yell for 13¢ as my share of the experiment which was a failure. I never saw such a funny sight in all my life as Bob drinking that root beer and acting like it was good.

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Last night I talked to Emiko as she had something on her mind. She wondered if it would be a wise plan for her to stay in camp for one more month so that she could earn another \$200.00 in camouflage. I said that it did not make any difference to me as to her decision, but I wondered if it would be worth risking her health for that money. Emiko answered that this was the most money she ever earned in her life and she hated to lose \$200.00.

I told her that money was not that important and that she would be no burden on me in Chicago and that I wanted her to come now because the fun of resettlement would be lost if she waited until Bette and I paved the way. However, I thought that this decision would be up to her. Emiko said that she was "money mad" just like the rest of the workers and that she hated to give it up. Her mental conflict on this point is exactly like the rest of the net workers. They keep postponing resettlement because they fear that they will lose money if they go out.

Emiko said that she could make enough money to go to school if she stayed here another month and it would relieve me of her care during that time. I told her that the WRA had already provided me with her subsistence costs so that was no problem.

W.H. The thing sort of hit me unaware as I did not think that the net money meant so much to Emiko.

I thought that the fact that she is having an apparently satisfactory social life in camp had something to do with it. I told her that she had to make a decision soon about going to college or just drifting along in a limited Nisei society. She has had a taste of it in the last two months and it does give her satisfaction. But I was afraid

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that she would get in the same rut as the rest of them & apparently this is what is happening. Another month in camp would intrench her within this narrow circle. I don't know why Emiko suddenly is fearful of the outside. It must have been a sudden thing because she was packing her clothes earlier in the evening. I realized that it was a hard mental decision for her to make and advised her to think it over until tomorrow.

I don't want to push Emiko towards school because she may react in an opposite way. But I can't understand why \$200.00 would stand in the way of resettlement. I told her that I would give her the money as far as that goes. I acted very indifferent about the whole thing as I did not want to influence her one way or the other. Emiko feels that I won't want her to come out if she stayed behind for a while. I never saw her so worried before. The point I made most strongly was that everything could not be measured in dollars and cents. Sometimes a definite break had to be made. I told her that I could reason in the same way, that is to stay in camp another month & accumulate an additional \$115.00 from the U.C. and WRA work. This would be clear profit since living costs are paid. But I felt that resettlement was more important even if the income was not as much since three of us would be living on my \$150.00 salary.

I don't want to bring Emiko along against her wishes because she would build up resentment just like she did during the period we were getting adjusted to this place. I don't think staying another month in camp is that important, although it would be more desirable for the three of us to pave the way together. I want Emiko to rely more

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on her own initiative rather than have things done for her all the time. >
Bette doesn't believe that Emiko is serious about this but she only
wants me to beg her to come. She has had some doubts in her mind ever
since the time I told her that she could stay in camp if she liked the
social life so much. < Emiko says the net work is very monotonous and it
almost drives her batty to just weave and not say anything all day.
That's why she seeks release during the evening, trying to find it in
the Nisei Social world. I asked her if this was worth the \$200.00,
but she was not sure. She figures that she could only save a portion
of this amount if she worked in Chicago. It is a good argument, but the
whole thing depends on how badly she wants to resettle. > Since Emiko is not
sure of herself yet, she is "Alicing" (Postponing final decisions.) This
is solely her problem and I would not say one way or the other as to
what was the best plan. She will decide today, I hope.

< Later.

The monotony is beginning to get me. We got some dictation done
today. We just have about two or three more times to dictate, and Bob
will have to put the finishing touches on the opus. I worked on the
camouflage net report today but did not finish. It's not bad doing it
together because Bob is never at a loss for words while I get stuck a
lot of times. I'm not so used to dictating yet, while Bob just rattles
it off without even an outline.

I didn't see anyone today so it appeared rather quiet. It was
windy again this afternoon and still a little chilly. Stopped over at the
paper office to see Jimmy, but he said there was no news. The paper
may have to suspend publications after two more issues since there is

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a paper shortage. Jimmy is a funny guy. He has been editorially stressing resettlement, but he doesn't plan to go out himself. He doesn't feel that he has any specialized skill and he could not get a good job. What a guy! The very fears that he chides the community about, he has himself. There is a possibility of resettlement in the East. Jimmy said that the WRA has opened up a project office in the east and a man is here now to study the vocational skills of the people to determine if they can fit into the New England economy. Resettlement into the eastern zone has to be cleared by a review board in Washington. Bennett can issue indefinite leaves into other areas besides the military zones. Each application will be investigated on the project and a clearance will depend on how the military registration was answered and if a person has not applied for repatriation or expatriation. A paroled alien or Shinto priest can not resettle.

Hugo Walter has put a lot of new life into the CAS. He has been sent out here from the Washington office to see what he can do about the recreational program. He has a decentralized CAS formulated now and the people have been given incentive to organize through their own efforts. Recreation is not the only thing that Walter is stressing. He has taken over the Council and he is really the person behind the Resettlement committee. However, he is leaving the actual work up to the Council and he does not attempt to dominate it. The Council may finally get going although the initial enthusiasm over resettlement by the Council committee has died down a little. The present council is just ineffective, that's all. Walter has tried another tactic to keep the interest up. The camp has been divided up into sections and Walter

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in attempting to get the administrative staff to talk to the people & meet them. The emphasis will be on resettlement. Tuttle, Young, Walters, Hoffman, Freeland & Huso have all been lined up to give these talks during the balance of this month. All of these men are vitally concerned about resettlement. >

Resettlement is in the air, but the Mecca is Chicago. ~~The~~ The most common question is: "When are you going to resettle." If one answers soon, the question is asked: "Going to Chicago?" At the rate they are going, there will be a super Jap town there unless the WRA restricts it. Jobs apparently are not too hard to get, < Eddie Yono went to the hostel to work and within one week he got some sort of skilled defense job at \$1.25 per hour. He is one of the more fortunate. Ruth Otsuyi went at the same time as Eddie. She is looking for a secretarial job. I asked Kini why Ruth was finding it so difficult as I thought girls could get placed easily. Kimie said, "Oh, Ruth could get a lot of jobs for \$125 a month, but that's not enough to live on with all the high cost of living now." That's silly! A person could live well on \$125. a month and it irritates me to find the Nisei getting so choosy when they were only getting an average wage of around \$60.00 a month before the war. I don't think that the Nisei should work for cheap wages, but \$125.00 should be a damn good starter for that girl. She can always look around after she gets started.

The community has a very distorted interpretation of the "high cost of living." It doesn't know much about the mechanism of rationing & a lot of people here are led to believe that the American public is practically starving. I suppose the picture which the

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evacuees have of the outside is just as distorted as what the public has about these camps.

One of the Japanese section members got a cartoon which was published in the Denver Post & it indicates how the public thinks we are coddled. It shows a buck toothed Jap family being swamped with meat ^{and} luxuries whic is served by Uncle Sam. The Jap is saying, "Home was never like this" ^{and} his family all grins.. Outside in the cold a hungry American family is looking in. This sort of cartoon verifies in the public mind that the Japs are getting pampered and fat. The cartoon does a lot of damage inasmuch as Colorado wants sugar beet workers ^{and} this sort of sensationalism isn't going to make the public attitude any better. The cartoon almost says "You should feel thankful that Uncle Sam is looking after you. Japan don't treat American prisoners so good." It does not recognize the fact that 3/4 of the evacuees are American citizens & there is no distinction drawn between an internment camp & a WRA center.

The cartoon is doing a lot of damage in the center also. The Issei are quite willing to accept this as evidence that they would starve on the outside because of the scarcity of food. They would also believe that the American public is out to persecute them. It's no wonder that so many of the evacuees would rather have the security of the camp.

Emiko was out somewhere until 11:00 o'clock. She says that she was wandering around trying to make up her mind about leaving the camouflage work for Chicago. < Bette and I did not give her much sympathy so she probably went out to pour out her mental struggle to Mary and Nancy. > At any rate she decided that she would go to Chicago and

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that the net money was not that important. I am at a loss to understand why this suddenly came up. I suspect that it is the fear of moving. Emiko would rather get settled in a place because it takes her such a long time to get adjusted. { That is why I have tried to encourage her to go to college since it would be easy to find a host of new friends in a collegiate environment. I did not want to influence her decision because this would have made the matter more important in her mind. If all the net workers think in terms of the money alone, I can see that they will not be good resettlement possibilities. Emiko is young and I suppose the money does mean a lot to her. Sometimes I just can't figure her out. There is no reason for her to feel inadequate in any way since she has more potentialities than most Nisei girls. It may be that Mariko's ^{and} Alice's influence may have something to do with her tendency to merely drift along. I am sort of hesitant about being responsible for her because of her present attitudes. But if I tell her to stay behind and go her own way, she will get into the deepest of ruts. I hinted around that maybe she could make her adjustments if she went her own way, but she is not ready for that yet. Mary and her sisters have been trying to get her to go out with them next month and this may be the real reason for her mental conflicts during the past two days. She feels a divided loyalty. With me, she will have to go to school. If she goes out with Mary & her sisters, she can have a mad social life in the Nisei circles. This choice was up to her. I didn't even mention that this may have been the reason for her sudden indecision.

Emiko thought it out all day and late this evening she asked if she could go with us as she wanted to enter school and study as

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dental hygienist. It made me feel good to think that she had gone over all the possibilities and arrived at this decision. I only hope that she follows through with it.)

Because of her good looks, it will be a temptation for her to drift completely into the Nisei social world which is now developing in Chicago. The Nisei soldiers go there for excitement because they are lonesome. There are a lot of single Nisei girls working there and they are looking for excitement because they are lonesome also. The result is that they get together and the merry-go-round begins. For a Nisei girl who plans to go to school, this is not very desirable to be running around every night of the week. It may be fun for the time, but it doesn't last and eventually it gets disatisfying because there is not anything to it. ^{omit to 2504} By that time, the girls are in a rut and content to do menial jobs ^{and} & seek release from frustations by finding excitement. There is no harm to a social life if it is balanced, but the whole Nisei group is not normal so that the emphasis on a social world gets distorted. There are many Nisei in this center who are having a swell social life and they would not even consider going out. They just don't want to be bothered with those things. It amazes me to find that so many of the Nisei have fallen into this rut. Emiko was rapidly drifting towards it since her friends are largely of that group. They are nice persons as individuals, but they belong to that general type. None of her present group ever went beyond high school, except for one or two. The group is very flexible and not a rigid clique. It has a lot in common with other groups of this type. Many of them work in the camouflage.

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Bob and I spent most of the day dictating. The time is beginning to press on us. I still haven't got the packing finished. And still no word from the Friends. Possibly there may be a message tomorrow. Until we get some sort of answer, I don't know where to send the luggage. Bette was busy all day running around the school trying to get her credits all arranged. Emiko is going to work through tomorrow morning. She finally has realized that we are leaving in a few days and she is beginning to worry about sending her clothes--she has so much clothes. Mom has been getting eggs and things so that she can make sandwiches for us. I found out that about 15 Nisei are going to Chicago on the same day. Bette & Emiko says that we will sit a long ways from them as they will probably all sit together and be very conspicuous. Bette and Emiko have to say all their goodbyes.

This evening we went to the show.

Now for another day of dictating & waiting.

The advocates of the Japanese language school finally won out. The WRA sent in instructions that Japanese could be taught to the evacuees. The theory is that the loyal ones are safe while it doesn't make much difference about the disloyal ones. ^LTieberman can't have anything to do with the program. It's up to Sawyer and since he is a reactionary, he is going easy on the plan. It hasn't even been announced yet.

Bette went to a party this evening given by some of her high school friends. Emiko went to a pre Easter dance. I stayed home and packed. Bob and I dictated all day to Merry and it was quite a work-out.

Emiko turned in her badge and she will get her last check on Monday. She is quitting in just about the right time. A lot of the net workers are getting a rash from the lint. It is not determined yet whether social security will compensate them for the time lost.

Obo came over this afternoon and he said that he could not finish Emiko's teeth. Emiko was quite disappointed but Obo said that he had to make some arrangements for a private party. Emiko & Bette then gave him a present in appreciation for all the dental work that he has done on them. This evening Obo stopped by and he said that he may be able to finish the work tomorrow and Monday. So the whole thing is still up in the air.

Pop did not look so well this evening. He was extremely irritable. Dr. Higa will give us a report on his condition tomorrow. Mom believes that his lower teeth may be bothering him. Emiko was going to see Dr. Higa ^{and} mom told her not to bother him. Emiko flared up and said that she was going to see him by request. Emiko loses her temper too fast. Mom isn't talking to her and Emiko feels it and wonders

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how she should sooth the whole thing over. Before she could make up her mind, it was time to go to the dance.

I tried to find out about the train schedule, without any luck. All I know is that we go into Phoenix on Monday. Since I have not received an answer to my letter, I'm just going to go ahead and send the baggage to the Hostel.

Alice wrote to Emiko ^{and} Bette and she is very angry that they have not written to her yet. I guess they have been sort of negligent. Alice forgets that she did not let us know of their new address. She doesn't write a very encouraging letter, telling us how hard it is to live. We are not going to tell them that we are coming as they will want to plan everything for us. Mariko gets pretty excited so we thought we would save her a lot of worry. We want to surprise them.

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Dear Emiko:

You don't realize how much Mariko and I worry about what all of you are planning to do -- when none of you write even a post card telling what your plans are.

I really am ashamed of you and Bette for not writing to me once since I left Gila - I have done my share of writing to all of you, and the only thing I've heard about Pop - whether he's all right - and whether the birthday card was recieved or not - is from various ways - through Jack's letters - Ann and Mitch's conversation, and rumors. What is the matter? You surely aren't that busy that either one of you can't drop us a line. We have been quite worried because housing problems are terrible around here, and the cost of living has gone up so high lately. I barely manage to get along - as does Mariko and we have been quite busy with other things on our minds too. First of all, we moved to a place right near our working places -- $1\frac{1}{2}$ blocks away from the Salvation Army, and about $3\frac{1}{2}$ blocks from Mariko's place. It's really a dumpy place. It's really a dumpy place but with a lot of work we have really cleaned it up pretty well and it's beginning to look much better. It has a lot more space and privacy - right now, Mariko is in bed reading a book while I am in our large kitchen writing letters and have absolute quiet.

What have you kids done about moving? How does mom feel? Have you de-wormed Blackie recently? (By the way, what is the name of the pills? One of the girls in our office wants to know? Tell Bob he owes me a letter. Ann and Mitch were over several times and Mitch

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is leaving tonight for Cleveland, while Ann is leaving tomorrow for Jerome, Arkansas to see her mother who is quite ill with pneumonia.

Tell Charlie Joe Oyama is nearby here and says hello. He just arrived in town about 2 days ago.

Well, please answer & air mail it --love to everyone and Blackie. How's the lawn coming? Is it awfully hot there yet? Ask Charlie whether the current there is AC or DC - love--

Alice

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Everybody except Mom and Emiko pitched in to pack and change the things from the other room to this apartment. We did not get such an early start. Emiko had to sit in the dentist's chair all day. Obo is going to try and put in her bridge by tomorrow night. It's quite an ordeal for Emiko and she is over there yet.

Bette and I did all the washing and then I started to change the kitchen to this room. I'm not such a hot carpenter so that it took me a long time to nail up the cabinets. Tom supervised the job. We also packed up the rest of the boxes, only we don't know where to address them. If I don't get a telegram the first thing tomorrow morning, I am going to address them to the Hostel anyway. Packing is such an endless process. No sooner do we think that we are finished when something else is found and then we have to squeeze it in someplace. I took the moth proof closet that Tieberman gave me and tied it up in a canvas which Mom sewed. Bette threw in the WRA rug, which I got at Poston, as a souvenir. We threw out a tremendous amount of things, but we still have four large trunks and about six boxes which are rather heavy. The WRA will ship all of the heavy stuff.

not The family is finally realizing that we are leaving. Miyako and Tom were around all day long helping. Miyako is so absent minded that she always forgets what I asked for. I sent her for some nails and she brings a rope. Then I asked her to bring a newspaper and she fetches a piece of canvas. Miyako and Tom were distracted because Blackie lost her collar & dog license and they had to run out about every ten minutes to see that the Wardens did not pick her up.

Mom was busy at the Hutchinsons today since they went to Casa

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Grande. <She has a fairly good working arrangement now mornings & one hour in the evening for 17.50. Usually she is off on Sundays. Hutch and Ruth give mom a lot of things to bring home for the kids such as sugar and apples. They treat her swell and there is nothing patronizing about them.>

no H Mom will be working out there for about another month. <Although the work is light she is even beginning to feel it. She usually sleeps a couple of hours in the afternoons.>

no H I wanted to get her on welfare, but she has funny ideas about "relief". I had to explain it all to her ^{and} I was less successful than with my clients. I have a tentative promise from her that she will apply in about a month. I wanted to make sure so I spoke to Mary about it. I told her that mom did not want the other people in the block to know. Mary will make the arrangements as soon as she finishes her work at Hutchinsons.

We have been over to see pop a lot these last few days. I only hope that nothing happens to him while we are gone. Emiko ^{and} Bette realize that they may not see him again ^{and} ~~this~~ has been one of the main reasons why they have not been over excited about leaving although they feel that they must go. Bette, especially, wants to make sure that I don't leave her behind. Last night her Spanish class ^{and} all the H.S. student body officers gave her a party ^{and} presented her with some gifts. Bette has been quite popular in high school & all the kids believe that she is "pretty, popular & brainy, although she tends to dislike 'Japs'." Emiko's crew at the camouflage also gave her a gift of a box of stationary so that she would write to them.

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I have tried to keep most of my friends in ignorance of the exact day that I am leaving ~~as~~ I don't like farewells. I just like to leave casually as if I am only going for a day or so. Some of my welfare clients got wind of my leaving ^{and} & they have made office calls to say goodbye. I have been dictating ^[reports for the U.C. study] down in Bob's room most of the week so that I did not get to see them.

Although I don't like the camp life, I cannot say that I have been exactly bored by it. It was an interesting period, but the time has come to take the next step forward. I am at the point right now when I would be getting extremely restless if I had to stay. Most of the building up work has been finished and things are proceeding in a routine matter. However, the emphasis was clearly shifted to resettlement now.

I have a lot of things to worry about - housing, Emiko's & Bette's school, my work, the draft, pop's condition, the family, my personal future, etc. but I feel that all of these things will take care of themselves in time. I just want to relax and enjoy civilization for a week after getting to Chicago. Then I can start work with a renewed interest. Things on the outside must have changed greatly during the year that we have been isolated in these concentration camps. The time has passed quickly surprisingly enough. It doesn't seem like a year ago when we were trudging through the mud at Tanforan filled with all sorts of strange emotions and wondering how such a thing as evacuation could have happened. It was almost like a dream. Everybody was frightened and wondering what it was all about. A lot of things have happened in the interval. Although the fear of the future is still

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present, most of the people have become complacent and find a false security in this camp life where everything, except freedom, is provided them. <A lot of the Nisei have become so embittered that they will not be such useful citizens in the post war period. This trend will increase the longer they remain in the camps.> I can understand the Issei feeling about being a little hesitant over leaving, but there is little excuse for the Nisei. <Soon they will not have any initiative or ambitions left. Already too many have allowed themselves to adopt a "what the hell" attitude and they are filled with self pity and expect America to chart a favorable future for them without making much effort themselves. Sometimes I feel like shaking or kicking these Nisei who are continually belly-aching about how wronged they are. This sort of attitude is not going to get them anyplace.> There are all sorts of jobs opening up on the outside now if they really want to work and do something for themselves. The trouble is that many of the Nisei don't want to take the plunge because of their present fears.

<I suppose that one could get used to this life since adjustments to any sort of condition is possible. This is an easy going life and I suppose that many do find pleasure in it. It even may be a bed of roses for some of the Nisei who slaved away at menial jobs before Pearl Harbor. But I wonder if they can accept this life and still retain their self respect. Of course, there are a number of "hard-ship" cases who feel that they can not leave camp for the present because of family or other reasons. But the saying goes "Where there's a will, there's a way."

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The Issei are even more frightened. They feel that their working days are about over and they want to take it easy in this life. They feel protected here. Many have misgivings about the future but it's a problem that goes around in a circle and they feel helpless. Either that, or they indulge in bitter denunciation of the cruel fates that brought them here. But in many cases these are empty words. Given a fair chance to go out at a fairly good paying job. I know that many would not accept the offer. A lot of the single ones go because they do not have an additional family responsibility to worry about.

One of the most common questions asked of various people who have talked about resettlement is "Can we come back?" I don't see how they get that way. Once they leave here, they should cut all bridges behind them. There is no road back. The existence of this attitude is a clear indication that they are half-licked before they even leave the camp. < A lot of the Nisei voluntarily assume the role of a second class citizen without attempting to hold his head high like any American. >

In spite of my feelings about leaving the camp behind, I do recognize that there are problems. For example, I don't know what I will do about the family. They are staying behind and I don't know when I will be able to send for them. < A lot depends upon the draft situation. And then, if I bring the rest of the family out immediately, it would mean that Emiko may have to sacrifice her education and I would not like to see that happen. Mom feels that this is the best chance for Emiko to go to college and mom actually does not want to

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leave yet as long as she has a couple of her children around. It's allright for the time being, but Tom and Miyako are rapidly growing up. I don't want to leave them in camp too long as it may permanently leave bad effects upon their personality development. { A youngster has little chance to get interested in a college education if he has to go to such an inadequate school system like we have. We have too many ex Legionnaires and Christian missionaries in the school system.

For three of the family here, the future is just ahead with all sorts of interesting possibilities. I don't think that things will be too difficult for us and it should be an adventure. Mom has warned Emiko and Bette to go to church on Sundays in order to meet the right people. Mom isn't a devout Christian although she does go to church here. }

Monday, April 12, 1943 (3:00P.M.)

This is our last full day in camp and it really is trying. Emiko had to stay at the dental clinic until 4:00 A.M. this morning, while Bette stayed until 1:30. Obo is having a tough time trying to make the proper cast for Emiko's teeth. He has made about eight impressions, but none of them came out right. Emiko is full of hypo jabs in her gums. She came home exhausted and then had to get up at 7:30 so that Obo could try again. The nerves of her teeth are exposed and she is having a very painful time. She certainly is not going to be in very good condition to travel. Obo may have to work on her until real late again this evening. Perhaps it was a mistake to rush the work.

The rest of us also have our problems. Bette has been trying

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to get a lot of stuff ironed out so that they can be packed away. She also has to get all of her school credits straightened out. The whole house is a mess and I doubt if we will get it in order before we leave.

Mom has been rushing around getting food together so that she can get some sandwiches for us to eat on the way. She wanted to make us some special rice dish to take, but she did not care to ask the messhall for it. She worried about it all day since no rice was available in the canteen. Finally she was able to borrow some from the lady next door. She will work until late to get a suitable lunch together. Miyako is expecting an explosion any minute "because it always seems like there is a fight before we move." I'm just not saying anything as I don't want to set off the spark. < Tom is grumbling right now because the teacher gave him a low grade in a test just because the punctuation was wrong. In a couple of hours, the house will be a madhouse.

Toshie and Beverly dropped over and left some farewell gifts for us. Toshie is looking much better since she had her baby. She says that she will look after mom since mom has been so good about her baby. Mr. Okuno left a carton of cigarettes, and also some news that gives me a little worry. He said that Kikida went to Chicago and he could not find a room to stay. Hikida had to sleep on a table top in a Japanese restaurant the first night he was there. >

[The train schedule is all a mixup. It looks as if we have to spend about five hours in Phoenix tomorrow and then take a train for Ash Fork about 200 miles north of Phoenix. We will spend the night there and then try to make the contact for the Chicago train. We can't

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go by way of Tucson since that city is in the military zone. <The trains are crowded and most uncomfortable.> In spite of all, it should be exciting and an adventure.] I am a little worried about Emiko. She will be a nervous wreck unless she gets some sleep. I thought of postponing the trip for a day or so, but Susie says that it would be another week before I could get a bus from here to Phoenix since the buses are all scheduled a week ahead due to the great demand of the people in the community to go to Phoenix.>

I ~~also~~ learned today that I will have to pay for all luggage over 800 pounds. I don't mind the amount, but the principle is all wrong and it will work a definite hardship on those people who brought their stored goods here. The WRA will ship all of it free from a private storage house to the resettlement destination; but if the goods are brought here, the WRA will only pay to ship 800 pounds of it out for resettlement. This is not fair for the people who have their things here ^{and} it is another obstacle towards an all-out resettlement program.

I still have not received word from the ^{Friends [to whom he wrote]} Hostel ^{are housing} so that I am shipping my things there anyway. It's no use telegraphing ahead for room reservations since they must have received my letter by now. Furthermore, I don't know when we will arrive in Chicago. I hope it is not mid-night. <One can't plan a train schedule these days, but feel lucky if one can get any sort of train accommodations. It's no use in worrying ahead since things will turn out.

I went down to get a haircut, but I was out of luck since the barber shop is having the linoleum laid. Bob was dictating when I dropped in. He is also in a dither as he has divided loyalties and he

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does not know what to do. He is almost as bad as an evacuee with all his problems. Bob has to make up his mind soon about going into the military language school or stay with the Study & take a chance on further deferment. Bob does not think that he stands much of a chance in getting an extension on his deferment because of the present draft situation. He wants to stick with the Study, but he is extremely pessimistic as to whether the Army will let him. If this is going to be the case, Bob wants some chance to pick the branch of service he is going to enter. He feels that the country is all out in its war effort & he is getting restless & can't stand idly by. I could do much to brace him up. I told him that he should make a decision and then let the U.C. Study know about it right away. Bob is still thinking.

We talked about replacement here to carry on the study, but couldn't think of anybody except Jimmy Nakamura & Tom Hiroshima. Of the two, Jimmy seems the most likely as he is extremely conscientious. His only fault is that he is obviously too snooty and it gets on a persons nerves. Jimmy is still young and he does not evaluate things too well, but seems to shift with the breeze. But he has a lot of data which could be available to him as he is interested in the community development. Bob plans to sound him out shortly.

He mentioned that Chandler advocates the drafting of all eligible Nisei immediately. In spite of what has been said about giving resettlement preference to the families of boys who have been drafted, I am damn sure that a mass draft will just kill the resettlement program. The two things just don't go together and one or the other has to suffer. *Bob and I were talking today about the army.* I think the fear of the draft is the biggest thing that holds resettle-

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ment back. The fellows don't want to take their families out and then have to leave them shift for themselves in case of the draft. I know I have these fears. < I don't know what I will do for Bette if I am drafted soon and I can even plan for the rest of the family. It is natural to have these misgivings & I am not so willing to condemn the Nisei now if they hesitate about resettlement. I can see that it is a difficult problem. But a choice has to be made sometime. >

wH I remember at the time of evacuation that I wanted to go into the Army so badly. Something has happened to me since then because I don't feel that way anymore. It is not a loss of morale or bitterness or anything like that. I think that this feeling has developed due to the family situation in which I find myself now. I honestly believe that I should find some measure of security for the family before going into the Army. This isn't a selfish motive because my feelings multiplied by a few thousand composes a part of the attitude of the evacuee group. Leaving them in these camps until after the war is no solution. People will still feel the same prejudices against the group in spite of what kind of a record the Nisei combat unit makes. It would be more of democracy if we could give those families a little security first ^{and} then go to fight for it. This attitude doesn't make me any less loyal since I believe as strongly as ever in the American way of life.

< We got our War Ration book One, our pass, & card of identification. Rationing is a complicated thing that we will have to learn all about. Tomorrow we can close the door on the past ^{and} look to the future. Bette is quite excited. I can't tell how Emiko feels because she is having so much trouble with her teeth.

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Well, back to the final odds & ends of the packing. My body feels tired all over & I feel I could sleep for a week. I've given up the idea of making last minute calls on friends. I'd rather slip out quietly. We have to pay pop a long visit this evening & then go in the morning. The bus will leave around 9:00 A.M. >

5:15 P.M.

One problem of ours just solved itself. Mr. Morgenroth of the Friends Service wired that temporary housing was available at the hostel and ^{all} I would have to do would be to wire the arrival time. <station>
Whew! That certainly is one big relief off of my mind.

Mr. and Mrs. Kowomoto just came over. They brought me an ink stand (ironwood) and a carved flower holder, with artificial flowers that Mrs. Kowomoto made. They said that it was in appreciation for what kindness I had shown them. Things like this make me feel guilty for continuously lambasting the "Japs." There are so many individual Issei, the majority, who are nice people and human beings with the same emotions, fears and ideals as ~~all~~ of us. If more caucasians could meet people like the Kowomoto couple, there would be less prejudice in the world. It's not knowing them that creates all the greed, distrust, ^{and} & suspicion.

^{not} Mr. Kowomoto is blind & the only way I can describe the articles he so patiently carved is that they are exquisite. I had to argue with them in order to return the money that they left in the envelope. I appreciate the sentiment of the bill, but it doesn't mean as much as the things that they made themselves. <It has more meaning

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omit

TELEGRAM

Charles Kikuchi
74-1-B
Rivers, Arizona

4/12/43 1:22 PM
Chicago, Illinois

TEMPORARY HOUSING AVAILABLE OUR HOTEL WIRE ARRIVAL TIME
AND STATION.

EDWIN MORGENROTH

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to it and I can look at these objects as a reminder that I was of use to some people in the community. I didn't tell them I was going, but Mary spilled it this morning while going around on my cases. >

Dr. Thomas writes ^{and} she insists that I charge U.C. for transportation & other expenses. "This is our final word in the matter." This sounds like an order but I don't feel right about it. Also I am on the U.C. payroll from April 1st. < That definitely is not right since I did not lose that much WRA wages. > This means \$75.00 for writing up a few final reports, ^{and} then spending the rest of the time getting ready to leave. And then I'll get paid while traveling ^{and} making the initial adjustments. < I don't think that is very much of a business proposition ^{and} I don't know what to do. If I protest too much, it begins to sound insincere. > Life is certainly funny. Before evacuation and all my life I've had to fight every step of the way for things; now in these "critical times" my resettlement is handed to me on a silver platter. It doesn't make sense. The best I can do is to produce my best for the ¹ study, but the feeling of inadequacy in doing the job creditably haunts me. The work is getting to sound very exciting and I know that there will be plenty to cover. As far as this community is concerned, I've lost all touch with it now.

9:00

We went over to see pop for the next to last time. He was pretty calm. Dr. Higa told us that his condition was the same as before ^{and} Dr. Kiyosu said the same thing. Afterwards Emiko & Bette went to get more work done on their teeth. It worries me a little as they will be exhausted tomorrow.

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< Tieberman & Bob came over for a little while. Mendal threw a scare talk into the wind by saying to be careful in Ash Fork because backwoodsmen live there and they would love to shoot a Jap. Fine thing to say. He gave me a nice letter to his friend in Chicago. >

Tuesday, April 13, 1943 thru Friday, April 16, '43

Our great safari is over now and I'm dog tired. It's been a very hectic time, but our initial difficulties ^{are} ~~of~~ over.

The trip did not get off to a good start. On Monday night Obo thought he could finish up Emiko's teeth so she went over early that morning and sat in the dentists chair for the next twenty hours. Obo just couldn't get the right impression. Finally about 7:00 A.M. Tuesday morning Emiko came home and said that Obo had finally made a successful impresssion. < so that he could probably finish up by 9:00 just about time for us to leave. She only had three hours sleep in two days. < After she ate breakfast, she rushed back to the clinic. I was worried about getting off in time so I went over to talk to him. Obo could not give me a definite answer. He hinted around that he could not finish until 9:30. This about drove me frantic and I really began to worry. Obo worried his share also since the other dentists had been ribbing him unmercifully about being so slow. They all kibitzed him no end and Obo was almost a nervous wreck. He thought that he could get Emiko to Sacaton thru Williamson and then she could take a bus to meet us in Phoenix. I didn't think very much about this plan, but there was no other way to solve the problem.

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The parting at Kansas City between the Sailor and the Marine was rather sad. Both felt in their hearts that they would never see each other again. The Marine said that the next time he came back, it would probably be in a "G.I" wooden coffin box. They, almost cried when they had to part. The fellows were not obnoxious and the people in the car did not mind them at all. The Sailor asked us what nationality we were and we said Americans. This satisfied him. "I'm an American too, but everybody calls me an 'Irishman.'" >

On Thursday night, we had to change to a front coach. The car became packed and it took almost two hours to get everybody seated. We were very lucky to get seats together. The train was full of Servicemen on leaves. They were all anxious to get "home" and few of them had the war on their minds. >

We arrived in Chicago this noon. The train was about five hours overdue. There was nobody to meet us at the station so I contacted the Social Worker at the Traveler's Aid office. She was very helpful and phoned the Friends for us. They told us to come right out. Emiko ^{and} Bette were dying to eat a Chinese meal so we checked the bags in the station and went exploring. < I had to get a shave first since I had been unable to do so for three days. A woman barber shaved me. She said that most of the men barbers had been drafted. I say about four barber shops operated by women. >

no 9 We ate our Chinese meal in a dump, but enjoyed it because it was the first one in about a year. Emiko forgot that we were out of camp and she piled her plates up in a heap.

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The first impression that we got of Chicago was that it was a windy and dirty city. We didn't see much of it as we were tired. I didn't know what to do with our luggage as there are six large pieces. We finally decided to leave it down in the station temporarily and go up to the Hostel. It only cost us one dollar to enjoy the luxury of a cab. After we ate, Emiko and Bette went straight to bed. We still haven't let Mariko & Alice know that we are here, but we will get in touch with them shortly. We did the dishes tonight as this place is run on a cooperative basis, although I still think that we should not have been asked to do anything on the first day here.

I went to the Friends office on Madison Street this afternoon to find out about the housing possibilities. It does not look so encouraging. Everybody told us that housing was difficult and rents were high. I also asked about school possibilities and here the outlook is a little better. I think I will try to get Emiko into school as soon as possible as the adjustments here would be most difficult. Emiko doesn't want me to support the both of them, but I asked her to give it a trial. She can always work part time. We still have to find out when the new term begins.

The Nisei at the Hostel here have the usual Nisei personality. They were not even pleasant when we arrived and they left us to our own resources until Mr. Forte took over.

More and more Nisei are coming into Chicago so that the Hostels are full. Housing is more of a problem than employment. Mr. Forte said that there has been no congregation of Nisei in any

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numbers yet. However about 400 Nisei came to the Japanese Church on Sunday because they are lonesome. The Friends are trying to discourage the development of a complete Nisei society, but I gather that this is not being done yet as the Nisei seek each other out in this strange city. A strange Nisei came up to us and welcomed us to the city. He asked us what camp we came from, etc. It's funny how the Nisei feel a close fraternity with each other since all have gone through a common experience. It's the same way with soldiers who ask each other what outfit they fought in. The Nisei being so bold and friendly is rather startling as this group have never been very extravert. However, it still is artificial. A sincere something is missing. I think that the Nisei are the hardest people in the country to get to know. They still have some sort of shell about them and they just won't come out into the open.

< I'm so tired now that I'll just have to stop now. All I can say is that the trip was interesting and I am rather excited about the work that could be done on the study. Housing and school are the more immediate problems and I'll sleep on these problems tonight. I hope we can get a place soon as we have only the clothes that we are wearing and I don't want to spend \$6.00 to have the bags brought up here if we are going to leave in a few days.

Now to take a hot bath and hit the hay. Mr. Forte seems to feel that the Nisei group here are the "cream of the crop" but they are just an ordinary Nisei group and I don't see anything exceptional. One fellow is rather conceited and he makes the corniest puns. They are not even funny. The girls are nicer, but quiet. They all go to bed early. >

Charles Kikuchi
April 17 (Saturday) 1943

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Today was a most busy day or at least it seems that way. It's after midnite now and my eyes are drooping. Emiko and Bette just went upstairs to go to bed. A lot has happened during the last 24 hours.

After cleaning up the living room, I went down to the Friends office to see if they could help me with housing accommodations. The office down there was filled with all sorts of Nisei fellows--bewildered, confident, anxious, hopeful, etc. One fellow Frank H. is getting ants in his pants. He came out from Tule to go to Buffalo, N.Y. Since that is in a military area, Frank listed his destination as Chicago. However, Frank is an Issei (he came to the U.S. when he was 4 years old) so that he had to report himself to the U.S. Marshall. He has been waiting around to give the O.K. but the usual red-tape prevails. Frank is a son of a Christian minister and he is the only one that says grace at the table with Bob Forte and his wife. Fortunately, the Friend's Hostel does not attempt to enforce all the Christian taboos. We can smoke if we wish. The Brethren Hostel is more puritanical and it does not allow smoking. It also has a curfew.

The two hostels work closely together and attempt to take care of the overflow. The Friend's Hostel can accommodate about 19 Nisei and it has been running near capacity. Turnover is fairly rapid, although there are several that have been staying there for a month. I know that we aren't going to stay there that long. We want to get out by next week if possible.

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There is something about the place that makes one feel uncomfortable. It's the Nisei there that create this feeling. They seem to lack a hospitable attitude or something. And one's private business is not respected. I never met so many inquisitive people in my life as among the Nisei. They do not hesitate to ask the most detailed personal questions. It may be an effort to make conversation and most of the Nisei seem to have the problems of evacuation on their mind from the personal viewpoint. When one is worried and a little frightened, this is bound to happen, I suppose. The Nisei feel that they have something in common. But most people are selfish and once a person has taken care of himself, I doubt if he is going to bother his head very much about the other Nisei left behind in camp. >

W0 P I had to wait around for quite a while at the Friends office before I could see Miss Muriel Ferguson. < She is a rather tall woman connected with the Baptist Church and quite young. She came out here from Berkeley in January to help the Nisei make adjustments. Through the church group, she is connected with the Friend's Office. > Her job is to help find housing. < She has gone right out into the field to get leads and pioneer the way for the Nisei. At first she used to feel greatly disturbed whenever apartments were refused to the "Japs" but she says that very little prejudice exists. The problem of housing is acute in all cities where there has been a vast inflow of labor. > Miss Ferguson had a list of a number of prospects, but I let Kim Yomasaki take them because he has been looking for a place for about three weeks.

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The Nisei in Chicago now have scattered out to all sections of the city although a number has gone to either the South or North side. Many are located near the loop area in order to be near their work. Job opportunities are excellent and the Nisei are finally getting a chance to do the sort of work for which they were trained. More would undoubtedly come out if housing could be arranged. There appears to be a little hesitancy about coming out and taking a chance. The girls who take domestic work have a place provided to live and this does solve the housing problem.

ms 41 There has been some jumping around from job to job because of the attractive wages. The Nisei never had such opportunity like this before and they are getting choosy and spoiled. The way they talk, none of them would accept a job for less than \$150. a month. And to think that the average wage of the Nisei before the war was only about \$60.00 a month.

A Nisei would have to make a fairly good salary because the rent of apartments is much higher than on the coast. A fairly decent apartment runs from \$50. to \$80. here, unless one is lucky and gets a cheaper one. In S.F. these same apartments would have rented for \$30. -- \$40. in the pre war days although the increase there must be comparable to Chicago by now due to the vast influx of shipyard workers to the Bay Area. It is this problem rather than discrimination that faces the Nisei. I hope they all recognize this point and don't become self pitying. By the time the story gets back to the camps, it is further distorted and it only serves to intensify the existing fears.

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Naturally all of these stories and the actual situation causes me some worry, but I am sure that something will turn up as it usually does. Since I do not know the city, Mrs. Ferguson said that she would go house hunting with us tomorrow afternoon, but she warned me not to expect too much as it usually took many days to get a place.

In Chicago the leases are up in May and October so that there is a considerable bit of shifting right now and if one is lucky, he may stumble into an apartment. After the first of May, it will be extremely difficult to find a suitable place, if he can even find a place. The outlook is a little gloomy but there is always the sun beyond the clouds. The weather here is nippy, but I don't mind it much. It's a relief from the hot Gila weather and it reminds me a little of S.F.

One thing I am glad of is that Emiko and Bette will not have to do all of this worrying. I want to let them enjoy themselves as much as possible so that the initial adjustment will be easier. They still need a lot of rest, but haven't been able to get it yet at the Hostel. Emiko's throat is bothering her a little and I don't want her to get sick. They have been writing letters in their spare time, but they don't even have enough time for this. They want to get out and see the City, but I don't want them to do everything at once or else they will be exhausted within a week. They still need to recuperate from the trip.

WFF This afternoon we paid a call upon Mariko and Alice and we certainly did surprise them. They had been hearing some rumors that

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we were coming, and everyday they would rush home to look for a letter from us. Bette's last letter had mentioned that we would come in early May so they had given up all hope of seeing us before then. Mariko shrieked all over the place in excitement when she opened the door. She had just gotten up a short time before so that she did not have any makeup on. I thought she was a wild woman the way she jumped around. Alice came out a minute later and she was just as bad. I never heard so much chatter-chatter of voices in all my life. I couldn't get a word in edgewise so I just kept quiet and let them talk on about 1,000 different topics at one time.

Mariko and Alice have a basement apartment in the downtown loop area among a very poor type of people. They look like immigrants the way they dress. The houses in that neighborhood are very old and dirty. <When we went to Mariko's basement place, Emiko and Bette said it reminded them of the picture, "My Sister Eileen." > Their room is dingy, but furnished with good, sturdy old-fashioned items. Mariko calls it "Bohemian"; I calls it a dump. They have a fairly large kitchen in the back. Mariko has a lot of artistic talent and she will undoubtedly fix the place all up if she ever can find the time. A coat of paint on the room would give it a lot of atmosphere. The apartment is convenient for them as they only have to walk three or four blocks to work and they can come home for lunch. They pay \$6.00 a week rent for the place or about \$28.00 a month. It runs a little higher for three people. There is an extra bed in the room next to an ancient piano, that still carries a good tune. Friends of Mariko come down to play it, which is supposed to add further to the Bohemian atmosphere.

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Their U.S.O. room is still operating full blast. There were only three Nisei soldiers there when we arrived, but five more Nisei came in later. With the "invasion" of the evacuees, they are getting more civilians in their place. I looked at their guest book and counted more than 100 visitors listed for the last month, most of them fellows. Mariko said that she was getting tired of them, but she couldn't stop them from coming. Their place is jammed each weekend with fellows who are lonesome and have nothing to do. I don't see how Mariko and Alice can stand it. Mariko said that very few of the fellows were intellectuals and she was bored with all the small talk about dances, night clubs, social activities. She was a little disgusted with the way all of the Nisei are coming out here just to have a good time. The restrictions of camp life has a lot to do with this and they ^{can't} be blamed too much for letting off a little steam. The only trouble is that they do not know when to stop and so it becomes one round of social activities, usually limited to small groups. Most of the people I have met so far are from Seattle or L.A. way. The L.A. group that surrounds Mariko & Alice are the Zoot Suit type with long hair. <Individually they are nice enough fellows, but there is not much to them. Everyone that is not like them is a "Square".> This is the sort of stuff that will affect Emiko and Bette. I did not get a chance to talk with Mariko and Alice much because there were too many people around. However, Mariko did say that she wrote a letter to me agreeing with all of my points. Although she can't escape the limited social life in which she now finds herself, she does agree that this sort of thing

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would be harmful for Emiko and Bette at their age. Mariko and Alice both feel that it is best for us to live apart so that Emiko and Bette can concentrate upon their studies. <If they lived in Mariko's place, they would emphasize a social life. There are few eligible Nisei girls in Chicago and Emiko & Bette would get rushed constantly and received about 5 proposals of marriage a week. It would **not** take long for them to be caught in that mad social round and Emiko would not want to go to school very much.>

Alice and Mariko are greatly dissatisfied with their present way of living, but they can't do much about it. There appears to be some sort of conflict between the two of them. Mariko is the queen type and she lets Alice do most of the work. There was another girl staying with them, but she did not like the looks of the apartment so she moved out. Alice ^{and} Mariko could get another girl to come live with them very easily, but they don't want to get another socially popular girl because the place is cluttered up enough with boys as it is.

[Mariko has broken her engagement with Kayo (A Eurasian). He is in the Coast Guards and he feels that it is hopeless. Paul is teaching at the U. of Michigan and he still wants to marry Mariko, but she says she doesn't love him any more. The trouble with Mariko is that she is looking for a dream prince.] She is very attractive, but her increasing nervousness makes her chatter faster than a machine gun. Mariko is one of those Nisei girls who have too much personality and intelligence for the run of the mill Nisei fellows who now surround her. She feels that it is too late for her to make a

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complete break and seek a wider caucasian group. She used to bring some of her caucasian friends to her apartment, but the other Nisei acted like they were something apart from them so that Mariko has let them go and drifted more into a Nisei group. But she doesn't want Emiko and Bette to do that. (Mariko is very proud of a letter that she sent to Madame Chiang Kai Check and the answer received. She shows it to everybody that comes to her apartment, but these fellows are not much interested in these sort of thigs.)

Mariko is still not bothered much with marriage. She says that sex does not concern her too much and she still feels that she can get married whenever she wants to. She believes that marriage is more than a mere sexual experience and she expects to get a close bond of companionship out of it with a sharing of mutual interests. She doesn't believe that she can get this with any of the Nisei that she knows now. Mariko says that she got certain taboos about sex from Pop so that she never has been able to get amorous like Jack ^{and} Alice and she does not get any warmth of feeling from necking as they do. (However, she should be having some sort of career, but this has not been forthcoming due to some hidden hesitancy. (This creates a sort of conflict in her mind. Without a career and a still further postponement of marriage, Mariko now finds herself in a very unsatisfactory rut. She tends to rationalize and would like to devote her efforts back again to the family if this were encouraged. But this would be most unfair to her.) Mariko has a lot on the ball and she only has to make the plunge to get on the road to a greater source of personal satisfaction. (Her circle needs

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to be widened to a greater limit so that she will not get warped by confining herself to a limited Nisei viewpoint. The first thing she should do is to get out of the dead end job she is doing and get into something more in line with her talents. <Mariko is thinking of doing this after June. I'm not worried about the marriage part because she has unlimited possibilities there.

Mariko just hasn't been able to find a suitable intellectual medium in her present group and she constantly has to talk at their level. She rarely has a chance to give expression to any issues of this topsy turvey world of which she is deeply aware. This thwarting of her mental probings is not doing her any good so that she seeks unsatisfactory releases in a social minded group that doesn't give a damn for anything except having one hellova good time--This includes all her Nisei soldier friends who cling to her because she is different and she can entertain them with her sparkling personality. >

Alice coming into this situation last January has caused some conflict. The fellows, seeing that there can be no sexual progress with Mariko, have concentrated on Alice. Thus there has been some accusation of stealing of friends away. This has not reached a breaking point simply because Alice has found a "steady." She is quite affectionate with him in the presence of the other fellows, which has given rise to rumors of "hot stuff" in the warped, narrow minded thinking of the frustrated fellows who come flocking around like flies on a piece of bread. <There is a lot of plotting and scheming around in order to eliminate the competition. These fellows would really stab each other in the back. >

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Alice has been pleased with this development because she was not rushed at Gila due to the fact that it was known that she was engaged to a "Hakujin". Angelo has now been left out in the cold.

Alice, ~~in~~ being conservative, called off the engagement. It leads me to conclude that she never did love him, but it pleased her to have a caucasian seeking her love.

< Alice has never had much thought of a career and she would rather get married and settle down to being a housewife. She doesn't think that she is the type to strike out for herself and she seems to need a firm guiding hand to lead her through life. That is why it is so difficult for her to make decisions by herself. A lot of this attitude has been reflected by Emiko who still lacks sufficient self confidence to make her own decisions and view things from a wider perspective. This trend would continue if they lived together. >

Alice, fortunately, is very attractive and she has another boy on the string. I think they may even get married. Mark Sato is a Nisei soldier. He is Toshie's **brother**. Mark is supposedly a reformed ³oot suit rowdy, but he still talks on about Emiko's and Bette's level. That's why they get along so well. He is rather dull otherwise. Mark is a nice fellow and the Army has done him a lot of good. He will never set the world on fire, but he would make a good husband. It's people like him that are happy in doing the routine things all of their lives. Perhaps, I misjudge him. He is nice to me and willing to talk--mostly about trivial things. I don't feel superior or anything like that, but I just don't have much in common with fellows like that. His friends that come with him are definitely

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of the rowdy zoot suit type. However, Mark is drawing away from them ^{and} & devoting most of his time to Alice. He comes up every weekend from his camp 90 miles away. Their weekend is spent in talking, shows, night clubs, etc.

< Mariko went out on a date so she did not eat with us. Alice cooked us up a nice dinner which we enjoyed very much. She goes ahead and does most of the housework, and I don't see how Mariko gets away with being such a queen. We decided to have a family get together sometime next week when there were not so many people around. Have to go to sleep now as it is veyy late and I have to walk endless miles tomorrow to go house hunting. > Mariko & Alice offered to put us up until we found a place, but I had to turn this down. I know they want to help, but it will not be good in the long run for Emiko ^{and} & Bette to drift along with them.

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We found an apartment this afternoon!! ^{and} ~~I~~ did not get up for breakfast & Emiko & Bette also slept so that it was almost 11:00 before we left the hostel. Since we had a 1:00 P.M. appointment with Miss Ferguson, we dropped over to Mariko's to eat a bite. The place was filled with about eight visitors even then.

We barely managed to bolt down our food and rush down to the Friend's office. Miss Ferguson was only a few minutes late. She was greatly impressed with Emiko & Bette ^{and} and thought that they were quite mature for their age. ^{not} Miss Ferguson felt that I had a greater responsibility than the single fellows looking for a room so she insisted upon going out with us as she wanted to get us into a good neighborhood.

We got on the "L" for the first time and rode down through the loop and out towards the South side. ~~The "L" is a Chicago institution and we will be using it a lot since the city is so immense. Chicago has a population of 3½ million and there are a number of industrial cities nearby that we hope to visit eventually if our budget can spare it. We probably will have to skimp along the first couple of months as the initial expenses are heavy. Already \$200.00 has been spent, including our 1st months rent.~~

We felt that it would be a long search to find a room, but we are just lucky. The Nisei at the hostel are very envious because they have all been looking for days without any luck. ^{not} On the "L" we didn't think about househunting, but did a lot of neck stretching. Miss Ferguson had a Sunday Tribune classified section which we used as the general guide.

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Going through the Negro section was a little depressing. 300,000 Negroes or 1/10 of the city population live in a restricted area consisting of 5% of the total housing of the city. The Negro area is dirty and we passed by the back ends of the houses which were filthy beyond description. Nobody can ever convince me that the Negroes are happy to remain cooped up in this area. <The color line is very sharp and the Negroes just are not able to expand.> The Friends are not seeking housing for Nisei in this area because it may cause racial tension ^{and} the FBI are suspicious of the Japs and Negroes getting together. Could this be a tacit acknowledgment that the whites fear the fraternizing of two minority American groups that have been grossly mistreated? This is a hell of a way to solve any problem. Suppression by force only breeds fraud and greater barriers. It's just as well that the Evacuee problem does not become identified with the Negro problem.

<The thousands of people who pass through this Negro area must become callous to these horrible sights or else they must feel that the Negroes are animals. A sight like this is enough to turn one's stomach and it certainly is a black eye to Chicago.

The "L" is a very convenient method of commuting. Chicago is known as the railroad center of the U.S., but the "L" operates even more trains. Every day 5500 trains run around the clock, running our 40 million miles a year. The Lake Wells intersection is supposed to be the world's busiest railroad crossing. Average speed is about 25 miles an hour, but it seems faster. Over $\frac{1}{2}$ million people ride the "L" every day.> We got down to the south side in about 15

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minutes. We walked through a little of the Negro district to Cottage Grove St. which is the dividing line between the Negro & the whites. The white residential district is so much different in appearance. All of the Negroes were out strolling in their Sunday Zoot suits and a couple even whistled at Emiko and Bette. Emiko was disturbed to find so many of the colored gals wearing Mexican shoes--she thought that only Nisei girls in camp wore them.

We walked down one side of Drexel Blve. & up the other inquiring at a few apartment houses without any success. Just as we were going to go up to the next block we saw a sign "Apartment to Let" being put into a window. We went in and found out that the occupant of the apartment was just moving out. The room is a basement apartment and just the thing we wanted. There is a small bedroom, a kitchenette and a large living room. Toilet accommodations are shared ^{and} we also have the use of a side of a refrigidaire and laundry room. For \$35.00 a month it is ideal and cheap. We were certainly fortunate in being able to stumble into this place. It is furnished fairly well and the Landlady is nice. After we fix things up a bit, it will be very homelike.

We went back to Mariko's and found her place full of soldiers and civilians. The place was a madhouse of voices. Mariko, Eileen and their escorts had stayed out until 5:00 A.M. so that they were just getting up. < Sunday is an off day ^{and} the Nisei just wander around and they have no place to go. The "Y" up the street is just crawling with Nisei. There seems to be more evacuees than soldiers there now. They congregate in the Lobby and are very conspicuous.

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Since Mariko is nearby, a friend brings a friend, etc. and soon her room becomes the U.S.O. center. Mariko finally got most of them out and Alice prepared us a big dinner.

Besides Alice, Mariko, Emi, Bette & myself, Mark & Yoshie dined with us. Afterwards, the family, except Alice went to the show. It was the first time that we have been in a theater in a year so that we enjoyed the experience very much. Mariko was embarrassed when we got pop corn and potatoe chips to eat in the show. This is a carryover from the camp practice where everyone brought things to eat.

When we got back to the Hostel, we raided the ice box. Emiko discovered a hamburger roast in the oven so we made some sandwiches. In the hostel, the Sunday noon meal is the only meal served and the residents are supposed to dig up their own dinner from whatever is left over.

We went to bed happy with the thought that we had a place to live. Tomorrow we will move out there. There has been a number of new arrivals at the hostel but we did not see very much of them since we were out most of the time.

Jiro Oishi finally arrived. He said that the F.B.I. had taken him off of the train at Tucson. They were willing to let him go after questioning, but the Army officials made him stay in Jail until he was cleared by the WRA. The other Nisei fellow with him was not even stopped. After Jiro was taken off, a soldier said to the Nisei boy, "I guess he must have been a Jap!" It was a good

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thing that we came by the Santa Fe. All of the civilians were taken off of the train at El Paso to make room for the civilians.

Jiro's wife, Anne, came about two weeks ago. Jiro has a wealthy father so she came out in a pullman. She was frightened to death by being stranded in Ash Fork and she almost went to pieces when she found out that there was no job at the hostel for her. Anne was going to take a domestic job since she does not have much work experience. Fortunately, the WRA easily placed her as a shipping clerk and Anne gets about \$100.00 a month. She says that she is glad that she does not have a specific skill because it would make her too choosy. She and another Nisei girl stays at the Eleanor Club, which is a sort of cooperative for working girls. The rates are fairly cheap. Anne only has to pay about \$30.00 a month for room and board. It's a sort of Christian Club, but I don't know much of the history of it.

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We finally got moved out here after a very hectic time.

Early this morning, I went over to the rationing board to get the books for meat and canned foods. We had planned to leave after the doctor came to look over the people in the house, but he did not show up. I wanted to get Emiko looked after since she is coming down with a sore throat. Bette is also getting a slight cold.

We waited until after lunch and then it began to snow and rain a little. About 2:00 P.M. we decided that we had better get moving since we had to pick up all of our luggage at the Deaborn station. We said our goodbyes; and with the wto small grips, we started for the station. The conductor was very good to us. He asked us if we were "Show people !!" All of the sailors in the streetcar stared at Emiko & Bette -- and not because they were Nisei either. I haven't seen any attractive Oriental-American girls in Chigago yet. Most of the people think Emiko and Bette are twins, in spite of the fact that they don't look alike. It pleases Emiko though because she thinks that she is a little plump and Bette thinks she is slim, or near it.

We went in to see the Social Worker at the Traveler's aid office and we said we were leaving Chicago because it was too cold and dirty. She almost believed us. She was very helpful in helping me find my bearings around the place. If I knew that getting the baggage out was such a difficult task, I would have had it shipped. I had to wait almost an hour in the baggage room and then they could not locate our bags until I went in and picked them out. Almost everybody was impatient with the slow service. I sympathized with

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the man who was looking for our baggage and this made him feel so good that he reduced my storage charge by \$1.00. He even suggested that I take the luggage by Taxi as he felt that the Parmolee service would gyp me. >

no H I went out in front to call a taxi while Emiko & Bette watch the grips. None of the ~~Taxis~~ wanted to go way out to Drexel Blve. because they felt they would be losing milage by making such a long trip. Finally I got one fat old gyy to come around to pick up my "6 small grips." He sputtered all over the place when he saw the large hand trunks that we had. I told him we would pay him 25¢ per trunk extra if he would make the haul. I kept piling the grips in and he kept getting madder and madder. Finally, he said I would break the axle if I put anymore in so I told Emiko and Bette go with the cab while I took the remainder of the stuff in another cab.

< By that time, it was raining fairly steadily.

It took me a long time before I could find another cab that would go out to Drexel Blve. This time I got a yellow cab. The fellow was good natured when he saw the large trunk I wanted to take and he even helped me load it it. He drove like a fiend out here and I arrived only about 5 minutes after Emiko & Bette did. They paid their driver \$2.50 & gave him a 50¢ tip because he growled so much. My driver ~~only~~ charged \$1.55 & I gave him a .45¢ tip. Thus we got ourselves and our luggage moved out here for \$5.00 which saved us several dollars. > It doesn't pay to be timid in Chicago because one will take an awful beating financially. < One fellow got on the "El" and he got lost. So instead of asking question, the fool paid \$8.00 for a taxi ride back to the Hostel.

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It's funny how we skimp on one thing and then splurge on another if it is at our own choosing. Bette took us out to a Chinese dinner and it cost her about \$3.00 & then Emiko took us to the show. The Chinese food here is terrible. The Chinese-American girl didn't even know the names of a lot of Chinese food that we mentioned. I guess one may as well give up and wait until we return to S.F. for a good Chinese meal.

I have to sleep on a couch tonight so I am not too anxious to go to bed. >

Tuesday, April 20, 1943

Physical exhaustion overtook us today after all the rush of getting out here. Emiko has developed a bad cold, and Bette and I have slight colds. The day was dreary, making us feel most miserable. We slept most of the day. I got up to do a little exploring later in the afternoon and to do some shopping. The rationing system is very confusing and I didn't do so well in the shopping. We have new ration books so that as soon as we learn how to use the points, we are going to stock up on a few cans of food. < We are starting from scratch so that there are many things to shop for. There is a good shopping district close to us which makes it very convenient. The district is a little community in itself and it has all sorts of services, including dentists and doctors.

[It is not too difficult to slip into the life of this community. Nobody bothers us or gives us even a second look.] One One store-keeper did ask Bette if she was just in from Arizona, but

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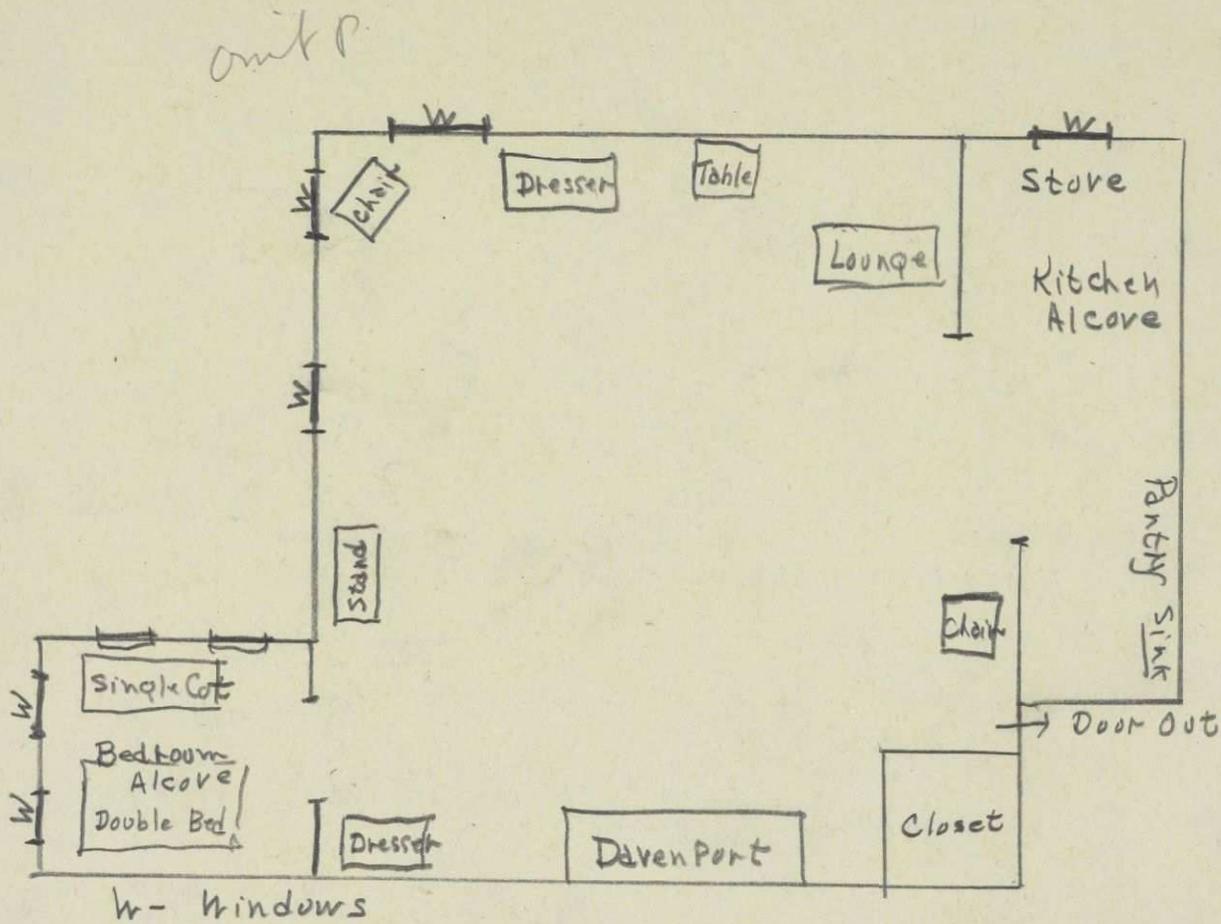
this was because he saw the address on the ration book.

We are living in a very good residential district. From the next block up, there are some impressive apartment houses and houses with limosenes parked in front. Bette and I walked around a bit and we congratulated ourselves on being so fortunate with our housing.

Our apartment needs a lot of fixing up yet. If the landlady will buy the materials, I told her that I would paint the room up. She is agreeable to the idea and will let me know definitely later in the week. She is a very considerate person. When she learned that we did not have an alarm clock, she loaned us one of hers. We tried to buy a second hand one at a junk dealers but the fellow wanted \$5.00 for a very battered clock. The landlady also told Emiko & Bette that they could use her electric iron any time that they wished. There is a large laundry room in the basement that we can use. I don't think we will have too much laundry to do as it will only be personal things. The linen and towels are provided.

Our stove is a little battered, but the landlady has promised to install a newer one later on in the week. She has taken a personal interest in us and all day long she wants to do little things to make us comfortable as possible.

Our apartment is rather roomy and we have plenty of space, except for closet room. It will be quite a headache to find sufficient room for all of Emiko and Bette's clothes! Later on, we plan to get another of those mail order closets. Our freight has not arrived yet so that we are not able to set the household in order.



W - Windows

We ate our first meal in our apartment - all three of us cooked, with Emiko planning the meal. I just got in the way. Every time I wanted to cook something, they said that it was not the right way. I couldn't argue when they said mom did it another way. This was conclusive argument. Anyway we enjoyed the meal.

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Wednesday, April 21, 1943

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Emiko was worse today so she stayed in bed. { Her throat is all swollen and red. She looked much better this evening and I think that the worst part of her cold is now over unless she has a relapse. }

w Bette and I went down to the Hyde Park High School in order to get her enrolled in classes. We got very disappointing news. The school said that it would not accept any of the Assembly Center or Relocation Center credits. The principal said that it could not recognize the Gila units because the standards were not up to par. He pointed out that if his school of 4,000 kids were put into the middle of the desert they could not be expected to learn anything. He did not believe that any college in the midwest would recognize a Relocation Center diploma. I can see his point perfectly, but this is a most discouraging for the pupils. Bette will have to do two more years of high school in order to get out of high school. This is not very fair to these Nisei students. { Ordinarily, Bette would be a senior now. Most of the educated Nisei pupils lost out a term or more. All of the schooling which Bette has received in camp does not count. I would venture to say that Bette learned more last year than most high school kids did in their routine classes. There is a possibility that we may be able to get the Vallejo H.S. to issue Bette a diploma after one more year of H.S. work. }

On top of that, the principal said that I would have to pay a \$18.00 a month tuition charge because Mom is living in Arizona. The fact that I am her guardian does not count. I don't think that I could afford to pay this much each month, but if that is the only

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way I can get Bette into school, I'll just have to do it some way. We are going to try to find a junior college that takes in H.S. seniors so that both Emiko & Bette can go together. It will probably be very expensive and I am hoping that some organization will assist us.

By the time we wandered around a little through the U. of Chicago, the day was almost over. Soon I shall have to get to work. Right now I just feel like loafing around for about a week more. It's been a year since I got a real rest. Camp life was always on the go although there were many dull moments. I keep saying to myself: "I'll settle down and go to work today", but the hours just drift by. I feel more like enjoying myself for a while and not see a Japanese face. It's such a relief to do as one pleases without any restrictions. A noticeable thing about Chicago is that it does not appear to be so conscious of the war as on the Coast. It is an inland city and far removed from the scene of battle. Although there are a number of military persons in town, the grimness of war is lacking. The soldiers all come to town to enjoy themselves.

Paul Otake, Mariko and Alice dropped over for a surprise visit this evening. I haven't seen Paul for about three years. He was working for the S.F. Japanese Chamber of Commerce when I first knew him. Paul is a liberal Kibei, about 29 years old. He is handsome as hell and he has been proposing to Mariko for the past 6 years. He still hasn't given up hope. The engagement was broken off when he went to Washington D. C. to work for the Japanese Consulate. He took a part time course at Washington University. Paul

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was a little pro Japan when I knew him, but he has changed a lot since. The economic circumstance has been favorable to him so that he has definitely cast his lot with this country. At the outbreak of the war, he was interned for about three months with all the Japanese officials in Georgia. After three months he was cleared by the F.B.I. Paul had quit his job with the Japanese Consulate just before Pearl Harbor.

In Washington Paul was engaged to be married to a caucasian girl, but this was broken off with the outbreak of war. Paul believes that the only solution for the Nisei is to disperse and he cannot understand the present tendency to congregate. <He thinks that in time there may be a reaction against the Nisei in Chicago if they segregate themselves. He does not believe that they are getting good jobs yet and he was discouraged that the standards of living among the Nisei continues to be low.>

W/H Paul has been teaching an advanced Japanese class at the U. of Michigan for the past five months. <He is getting a little restless and he believes that he may go to India to do radio broadcasts for the OWI at \$3,000 a year.> He and I went out and had a few drinks at the bar around the corner. <The bartender set up a couple of rounds on the house. He thought we were government officials or something.> The girls stayed in the apartment and talked. Afterwards we ate ice cream and cake. Mariko and Alice gave us some good ideas on how to improve our apartment and they also gave Emiko & Bette some hints on how to buy canned goods. It was rather late when we retired. Paul came down with Tada who is also teaching at the

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U. of Michigan. Tada is the fellow who got beaten up at Gila.

Tomorrow Paul hopes to show us a little of the city. He has a car and an unlimited gas ration card. Emiko may not be able to go as she has a bad cold yet.

Thursday, April 22, 1943

Emiko was pretty sick today so that she stayed in bed all day. Bette and I went for a long drive around the city with Paul to see the sights. We went along the Lake Shore Drive, up Michigan Bend and around the loop area. The Lake Shore drive is one of the best scenic attractions of Chicago. Spring has been a little late this year so that the trees have not begun to show the green foliage yet. The green lawns, the occasional robins, and the crisp air are all signs that Spring is only a matter of days.

It was very pleasant outdoors today. At first we thought that it was going to rain, but it cleared up rapidly. Paul had a camera along so that we were able to take a number of pictures along the lake. Camera films are hard to get these days and we had to search all around in the Loop to find a camera shop that had any to sell. We took about 35 pictures. We started to go through the Museum, but decided to do this later when Emiko would be able to come along.

Emiko stayed home and she cooked a big dinner for us. Then she went back to bed. I have her a hot lemonade in order to make her perspire her cold out. Her throat is a little swollen and she felt rather miserable. We haven't fixed up our apartment at all since we want to do it all together.

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In the evening we were going to stay home and keep Emiko company, but she fell asleep so we went downtown to see a show, "The Pride of the Yankees." Bette said the picture was so sad that she cried. After the show ^{the evening} we stopped over for a little to see Mariko ^{and} & Alice. Yoshie was also visiting when we arrived although it was after 12:00. I wanted to find out if they still planned on coming with us on Easter to Soldier's Field. We decided that it would not be good for Emiko to go out that early with her cold so we will go to a neighborhood church and Alice and Mariko will come over later. We had planned to have a family get together for the first time next Sunday, but Alice insisted on having her date with Mark so we will have to postpone even that. Mark has been demoted back to a private's rank, with a \$16.00 cut. He worked in a medical dispensary at the Army camp. One of the Kibei soldiers had given the wrong pills to a soldier and the fellow almost died. Mark was blamed for this since he was responsible for the issuance of perscriptions. Alice and Mark appear to be very serious. All they do is hold hands and mush around. Mariko is going to quit her job next week and take a three weeks vacation. She is going to camp to see the family and get rested up. After she returns, she will try to get a better paying job. Mariko is very high strung these days and if she keeps up her present pace, she is going to have a nervous breakdown. I'm glad that she is going to seek a better job. I thought that this would be a difficult job. However, when Mariko once makes up her mind, she acts upon it immediately. She is still inclined to feel that she is not capable to doing a higher level of work, but she can easily

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get adjusted to any type of work. > Doing domestic work for so many years has shaken her self confidence a bit, but Mariko is the aggressive type and she only has to make her decision to act and then she goes ahead. Sometimes she acts impulsively. Just before evacuation, she suddenly decided that she did not want to go to a concentration camp. So she packed all of her things and bought her ticket that night. She was on her way before I even knew about it. < It was a good thing that she did go. Mariko is used to a very social life and her standards of living is liberal. It would have been almost impossible for her to have adjusted herself to a dull camp life. > Doing domestic work in a way was beneficial to her because she acquired a certain amount of culture and a taste for good things. It also helped her to develop her poise and personality although she probably would have made this advance in any line of work she went into. Mariko is thinking of trying out for a Civil Service job when she comes back to Chicago. > Alice will be living alone and this is going to be a critical stage in our relationships since strong arguments will develop for Emiko to go stay with her. I don't know what to do about this. Mariko doesn't want Alice to be alone because Mark will be up weekends and they may go astray emotionally. I told Mariko that there was no need to worry because Alice is level headed and conservative enough to take care of herself. However, Mariko thinks that the emotional factor may become stronger than the intellectual one simply because Alice is on a rebound from Angelo. Mariko believes that camp life has also done something to Alice. Although she trusts Alice, she is not so sure about Mark. He used to have a considerable reputation as a "wolf,"

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and a "zoot suit personality" and Mariko thinks that a restricted Army life may cause him to seek a release for his pent up drives. The fact that Alice elected to stay with him on the Easter weekend rather than with the family is evidence for Mariko that Alice is getting extremely serious, and, therefore, she should not be put into a position where temptation may occur. I think that Alice will be "OK". She is just serious about Mark and she may even marry him. That's her business. ⁹¹ I think that a difference of opinion about Mark may be the cause for the air of tension between Alice and Mariko. It's not jealousy or anything like that because Mariko can get married easily if she wanted to. But she does not think that Mark is the type for Alice. He is easy going and not too ambitious. Alice will try to push him along and mold him and this will only lead to an inevitable breakup. I don't know about such things and it's none of my business. I only come into the picture when I have to decide on whether to allow Emiko to stay with Alice during the time Mariko is gone. Emiko wants to take it easy for a couple of weeks yet and she will get bored around the apartment here once I start work and Bette gets into school.

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Emiko still was not feeling well this morning although she got up this afternoon. The worst part of her cold is now over. She felt much better than yesterday. We have been calling her "Queen" because her every wish has been obeyed while she was sick. Bette has been doing most of the housework, cooking and shopping but Emiko will take over once she is well enough--I'm sure of that. Emiko has to be appreciated a bit and she will do anything. She is so concerned about her weight, but I don't see why she has to worry about that. She is only a little overweight, not enough to cause any undue alarm or self consciousness. In order to compensate for this feeling, Emiko pays a great deal of attention to her clothes--she certainly does have a wardrobe. Fortunately, I got unpacked first and all of my clothes are in the closet already. The closet problem is going to be acute once she starts taking all of her clothes out of her trunk.

Bette and I went to the store today and we had a fine time spending all of our ration points up. It was quite a spree and we are now stocked up for a while. I intended to make some more inquiries about Bette's schooling this afternoon, but Paul, Alice and Mariko came over. Paul is going back to Ann Arbor tomorrow and he wanted to show us around a little more. Emiko did not feel quite up to going for a car ride so she and Alice stayed here to talk and prepare the dinner.

Paul wanted to take some more pictures, including his friends at the U. of Michigan. They are staying with him at the Hotel Sherman. We waited an hour for them, but they failed to make their appearance. It rained earlier in the day so that we did not

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think we could take pictures anyway. There is an aircraft carrier out in the Lake and Paul was quite cute in getting it into the background of a picture. He did not think he would be accused as a Jap spy since he has been cleared by the F.B.I. >

We rode north and went as far as Wilmette. It was an enjoyable ride and it is unfortunate that Emiko missed it. We went through the North-Western U. Campus, but I did not think it was very impressive. Perhaps I am provincial, but I did not think it could even begin to compare with the U. of Calif. or the U. of Washington Campus. < A lot of service men are training and studying there so we were not able to take any pictures of the N.W. University campus. Mariko had a small trunk at Dr. Calkins' place in Evanston so we stopped to pick it up. Mariko stayed at his residence for two months when she first came to Chicago. Dr. Calkins is on the Board of Directors of the Methodist Church and he has been very helpful to the few Nisei that he knows. I asked him about the possibility of schools for Bette and Emiko and he referred me to Dr. Beck of the U. of Chicago. I did not want to go too far in this matter as I feel that Dr. Thomas will be able to help us greatly in this respect. The tuition charge and the matter of credits for courses is looming up as another headache. I thought that it would be a simple matter for me to get Bette into school, but complications have developed. > By the time we got back to our apartment from our scenic drive it was almost 8:00 P.M. Alice and Emiko was a little put out at our long delay, but not as much as they acted. They prepared a delicious meal which we all enjoyed. Since coming to Chicago, we have been eating

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well. It's quite a relief to eat individual meals after one year of messhall food.

Afterwards Paul took Mariko to the show. He wanted to be alone with her for one evening. (Probably to prepose unsuccessfully once more.) When he first came to town, he talked Japanese a lot due to his teaching it, but Emiko & Bette said that we didn't speak the "dead language" any more. Paul has parents in Tokyo and he has not communicated with them since the war. He thought that his mother would be pleased that he was a college teacher, but he believed that his father would object. Paul said that he could not say "Let's Bomb hell out of Tokyo" as casually as we did because he has relatives there. We do too, but we have never seen them. Paul believes that the Japanese militaristic policy is going to be fatal for the Japanese people and he now believes that democracy has to win. Paul has come a long way in his attitudes since I first knew him. He used to be very pro Japan. Perhaps it is an economic opportunistic matter with him -- I'm not sure, although it may be a strong element.

Emiko went to stay overnight with Alice so that Paul could drive her around a little in the morning before he leaves town. The precedent for overnight stops has now been set and I didn't say anything. Already Mariko is planning Emiko's debut although she still says that she agrees with me that Emiko should devote her energies to school until she becomes adjusted to Chicago in order to get a good start. Perhaps I am too much on the defensive about the matter and fear that Mariko ^{and} Alice want to take over my responsibilities. But I'll be

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damned if I am going to let them lead Emiko into a "social butterfly" life. I'm not too sure myself so I feel that I have to tread my way cautiously so I don't make any mistakes that will be harmful to either Emiko or Bette. Once I get them started, I can turn my full attention to my work. In a way I feel that taking care of their initial adjustments is a part of the work on the Study since it shows the process of resettlement viewed from one family.

< Bette and I went to the show again and then we talked until quite late tonight. I drank a lot of coffee so I can't sleep now so I got up to put in today's entry in this journal. I certainly am alipping. I seem to be concentrating too much on Emiko's and Bette's adjustments. In relation to this > I am getting a good picture of a social clique that centers around Mariko's and Alice's apartment. I haven't met all of their group yet, but it is safe enough for me to believe that this group are excessively social minded who do not give a damn about the War or the evacuees in camp as long as they can make money and have a good time. < There are some exceptions to these people, but I haven't seen enough of the Social Groups to determine who is who. > The group is not rigid and the circle is widened as new Nisei come into town. < Up until this year < there were only three or four very popular Nisei girls in Chicago. > Mariko said that there were only 15 eligible Nisei girls in all ranging from 14 to 30. < They got rushed even if they were not so good looking. > A limited student group stayed apart from the workers. > These girls were rushed by about 400 Nisei Soldiers who came to Chicago, chiefly on weekends. At first everyone knew each other. Mariko was in the center of this life and she acted as a social hostess. All the

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soldier boys used to use her place as headquarters since they felt out of place in the regular U.S.O. centers. Gradually more of the civilian Nisei started to come out of the camps < especially in the last month or so. At first the girls all took domestic jobs, but they spread out to other types of employment when they found out that they would be employed. The same was true for the fellows. The civilian Nisei > and they mixed in with the soldier group. There was some resentment on the part of the soldiers since more Nisei fellows than girls came out of camp ^{and} there was considerable competition.

< While the group was small, the various church groups were able to provide social activities; but with so many Nisei coming into town, they are not able to do so anymore. The Nisei themselves feel that it is a waste of time to have dances solely for the Nisei. The dances have not been successful because there were too many stags. The tendency now is for private dates as the Nisei are able to go into any public dancehall without discrimination. For the limited few, the social life is satisfying; but for the majority of fellows, they are sort of left out in the cold as there still is an excessive ratio of male over female Nisei here. >

Eileen is a frequent visitor at Mariko's. She is 20 years old, very sophisticated, and popular. She has never gone around with the Nisei before since she comes from South Dakota. Although she says that she is very disappointed in the Nisei, she still seeks their company. She has gone out a lot with caucasians. The Nisei fellows are a little in awe of her. She has been around and she smokes! Eileen

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is attending a music school in Chicago. She adds to the atmosphere of Mariko's apartment by playing on the battered piano.

[Bob Kinoshita is wooing her very seriously, but she does not pay too much attention to him. < There is a lot of intrigue & plotting going on in the kitchen of Mariko's place by fellows who want to eliminate undesirable competition. > Bob flunked out of U. of Calif. just before the war. He has a nice voice and he desired a musical career. He went to S.F. and sought a job in a Chinese night club. Bob is a jitterbug and he was very popular with the Nisei girls. He originally came from Los Angeles. In S. F. he did not have much luck. Bob stayed with Jack & me for awhile. He finally got a job as a bartender in a Chinese bar under a Chinese name. He came on to Chicago just before evacuation. Right now he has a defense job and he is making good money. Bob has limited himself entirely to a Nisei society. He doesn't care about what happens to the evacuees just as long as he gets his dates. His whole interests are personal-- clothes, girls, jitterbugs, etc.]

Yoshie Hibino is another of the group. She is 20 and fat. She doesn't get many dates, but she gets a sort of vicarious thrill out of hanging around Mariko. Yoshie also plays the piano. She puts much more feeling into it than Eileen. Yoshie is doing domestic work now. She completed two years at U.S.C. Her father is a well known artist, originally from Texas. Yoshie has a sister who has gone wrong, but she is intensely loyal to her. Her sister's name is Texas Mary and this girl was quite a character in S.F. Chinatown before

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the War. Texas Mary used to cater to Caucasians who sought out Oriental girls. <Occasionally Texas Mary worked in a Chinese night club as a receptionist or she did domestic work during the lull season.> She evacuated to Tanforan and she was very out of place among the Nisei. <Yoshie is an innocent girl, on the other hand, but she is just asking for some fellow to take advantage of her. She acts very coy & tries to be sophisticated. This does not fit in very well with her 150 pounds. The fellows do not take her very seriously. They kid her about her weight. Yoshie clings a lot to Mariko. She works about 30 miles from the loop, but on all of her off days she comes to Marikos to be with the group there.>

Helen Nakamura is a sophisticated looking Nisei girl. She is a trained Beauty operator who supported her family before evacuation. She is 24. <At Tule Lake. Helen was a head cashier of the coop.> She hated ^{Tule Lake} ~~the place~~ so she took a small paying domestic job in Chicago just to get out of camp. <Helen has not adjusted herself yet.> She has been here only two weeks but she hates the city because she has not been able to meet any Nisei fellows yet. Helen is very depressed and she thinks that Chicago is the dirtiest city in the whole world. <She is above average in intelligence. Since she is a little high strung, there is some danger that she may become extremely neurotic.>

Then there is ^{YUKSAN} ~~Yuk~~ son and his gang of wolves. They have defense jobs also, but their only interest right now are girls and clothes. They are a part of Mark's former gang in L.A. who had a reputation for being sporty. They want to show Emiko a good time, but Emiko plans to go to school and won't have time to run around.

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There are a number of others who come around Mariko's regularly. The emphasis is now shifting from soldiers to civilians. No wonder Mariko finds this group disappointing. It's nothing like her former crowd in L.A. that were known as the "Intellectuals and Sophisticates." I can't blame all of these fellows for wanting to go wild after a year of restriction in camp, but they never know when to stop and they will always be doing the same things.

Saturday & Sunday, April 24 & 25

We had quite a full Easter weekend, most of it on Sunday. Bette and I slept all morning. We thought that Paul would be out early so we did not have anything planned. After cleaning the apartment up a little and doing the shopping for the weekend, we took it easy. Bette wrote letters to her friends in Vallejo & in camp telling them of her adventures in the big city, while I did some light reading. Bette is very concerned about her schooling and I don't seem to be making much progress. I have been trying to get both of them into the same school, but this does not seem possible. Neither Emiko or Bette particularly care about going to the same school so that the problem will be a little less difficult now, I hope.

Emiko spent the day with Alice & Mariko. She went to work with Alice and then all of them, plus Paul went out for lunch since Alice got Saturday afternoon off. Mariko has laryngitis and she couldn't talk. However, she whispered and got her two cents worth in. She was rather irritable and Emiko said that it spoiled the lunch because Mariko and Alice argued so much. They never argued like that before and we

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expect them to have some sort of a blowoff soon. Part of the cause for the disagreement was over Mark. Alice wants to be alone in their room while Mariko is gone; but Mariko does not think it would be safe because the neighborhood is not so good. They finally got a very timid looking girl to come share the apartment, starting from Monday.

In the afternoon Paul, Tada & the other fellow from Ann Arbor took Emiko for a ride around the city so that she could see how large it was. Emiko said that Tada & the other fellow were very timid. She had to urge them quite a while before they would consent to go to Chinatown to eat. They were afraid that there would be an unpleasant incident. Emiko had her way, but the fellows were most uneasy until they got out of the area. This disgusted Emiko and she had a bad impression of them. On top of that they spoke a lot of Japanese in the car and she could not understand what they were saying. Tada is a Kibei, but he is supposed to be quite liberal.

Saturday evening, we didn't do much. Bette and I had a late dinner. Emiko was so tempted that she ate with us again. Most of the evening, they unpacked some of their clothes and ironed so that they would have something to wear for Easter.

We got up early in order to go to the Easter services. Emiko finally decided to wear one of my white shirts with my best tie which she knotted up in a very funny way. It's supposed to be a new style which she copied from Life Magazine. It started to rain lightly, but we went anyway.

The Easter services we attended at a Catholic Church was very disappointing. The church was filled for the mass, but the service did not have an Easter atmosphere. On top of that we had to pay a 15 ¢

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admission to get into the Church! All they did was mumble, mumble and jump up and down on their knees. There wasn't even any choir for the service. Emiko & Bette got tired of kneeling so they just sat. They said that a visitor to the Catholic Church had this prerogative. I made a bad mistake, because instead of kneeling one time I stood up. It was most embarrassing. All the while some bells kept clanging, which reminded us of a streetcar. The Chicago people don't dress very smartly, and we did not see many trim outfits.

After the service, we went to visit Mariko. Her illness spoiled our plans for a day out in the open. Mariko was too sick to get out of bed so we visited with her for a while. By that time, the afternoon was half gone. We went over to see Sesu and her roommates for a while. Then Alice and Mark went with us downtown.

For a Sunday, the traffic was terrific. We could hardly shoulder our way through the crowd. We walked down Michigan Blve. where all the women were parading in their Spring clothes. Then Bette, Emiko & I decided to go to a show. It was crowded so that we had to wait quite a long time in line. Emiko lost her scarf at the show and we were not able to locate it so she left her card with the manager. In the evening we met several Nisei who had just arrived in town from Topaz. We also bumped into Eileen with a couple of her caucasian friends.

The restaurants were all crowded so that we finally decided to come home and eat pork chops. By the time we finished eating it was after 1:00. In the couple of weeks that we have been in town, we have managed to see quite a bit of it and observe the different types of people. Nobody ever takes any notice of us although we did get some glances of curiosity when 5 of us walked around this afternoon.

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I went down town early this morning to find out the school possibilities for Emiko and Bette, but I had absolutely no luck at all. Mr. Morganroth was not in at the Friend's Office so I visited with Dr. Yotabe of the JACL office here.

Yotabe has come out from the Arkansas center in order to take over the JACL field office here. Imagine, the former representative is going into the Military Intelligence school. The JACL has not done much here that I could notice. They have done some public relations work and also advertised job possibilities which the WRA office have informed them about. Resettlement would indeed be a sad mess if it were left in the hands of the JACL. It doesn't have the finance or the organization to even begin the process.

Yotabe is an older Nisei, close to 50, although he looks much younger. He had a rather successful dental practice in Fresno. He has gone into the JACL work on a temporary basis in order to see what he can do for the Nisei cause. He apparently is sincere in his motive as he does not wish to seek prestige.

Yotabe has been trying to get into the Army Dental Corps as it would be almost impossible for him to set up a practice here due to the state board examinations and other requirements. In the week that he has been here, he has made a couple of talks before church groups in order to give them the facts on the plight of the evacuees. Yotabe is a little impatient with the Friends as he believes that this group is too emotional in its approach. He believes that the realistic WRA program is better suited for a mass resettlement of the evacuees. He does not want sympathy for the Nisei as he believes that this would be

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harmful for them in the long run. "The Nisei have certain skills to offer and there is a manpower shortage. If we go upon this basis, we can really get places." One of the things that greatly concerns Yotabe is that some Nisei have replaced negroes in jobs. He believes that racial tension may develop out of this.

Housing is the biggest problem for the Resettlers and the JACL office is not able to cope with it. There are not many old time Japanese residents in this city so that everything has to start from scratch. So far there has not been any self segregation. Yotabe is a little disturbed at the large groups that get together. He believes that this calls attention upon the groups and a reaction may set in. He does not feel that this will happen as long as the evacuees remain scattered.

A little incident happened yesterday which rated front page space in the Chicago Tribune. Three evacuees were removed from their former jobs by the Curtis Candy Company after the American Legion post and other leading citizens in a small town about 20 miles from here raised a protest. Yotabe believes that those tensions will increase as more evacuees pour into the city.

It is his opinion that the Nisei are too choosy about their jobs. Although he believes they should try to get into an occupation in accordance with their training, he does not believe that there should expect too much at first. He also believes that the net workers should remain in camp as it will give them an opportunity to accumulate a little capital. "Families just can't come here to resettle because there are no housing facilities."

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The Tokyo Executions have not had any noticeable repercussions in Chicago, except for that case in the suburbs where the three fellows were dismissed from their jobs. The WRA had intended to send about 16 more evacuees out there, but this was delayed. The evacuees are not being let out of camp for a short time until the public feeling about the Tokyo executions die down a little.

I talked with Mr. Shinell of the WRA office briefly and he made a very good impression. He appears rather brusque but he is a busy man. The U.C. Study is fortunate in having him for an ally. Unfortunately the WRA office here does not have many records so it will make our work more difficult. Something tells me that we will have to emphasize case histories. The WRA eventually will get its records up to date. At present it is short staffed and the main emphasis is being placed upon employment possibilities. Shinell was quite happy because he just received the news that a defense plant was going to send out a personnel man to the various camps to recruit workers. This is the first big break that the Nisei have had for defense work and I certainly do hope that it will work out successfully. The housing problem for war workers is not so difficult since government housing projects are being set up for them at a minimum rental cost.

no H The WRA did not know anything about the school problems here so I went to the Legal Aid office to ask its assistance. I wanted to know if I could adopt Bette and, therefore, eliminate the \$18.00 a month tuition fee. The woman lawyer was very nice, but she said that it would cost \$75.00 and she did not believe that this was the solution. It was her opinion that the WRA should do something about the matter. She said

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that she had never known about the Nisei and^{so}/she asked me a lot of questions about the camps. She was shocked that citizens were interned for no cause at all. She got so worked up that she said she would try to do something about the school situation although she did not believe that there was any legal grounds or loopholes to eliminate the tuition fee. I told her that I would investigate the school situation further and if nothing could be done, I would try to adopt Bette.

↳ Bette & Emiko had a lot of plans for washing the clothes today. But they found a record shop on their shopping tour so they listened to records most of the afternoon and made friends with the storekeeper. I couldn't say anything because they said that they were creating good will.

In the evening we went to the show. We have tentatively set up a budget of 1 show a week, but in the beginning we will go to more in order to catch up. After they start school and I go to work, we won't have so much free time. Emiko may have to work for a while and start the Fall semester. ↘

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We got up early to go out to the U. of Chicago to tour the Campus and inquire about the possibility for school entrance. <Shibutani met us there and he showed us around. He is taking one course there so he has been busy trying to catch up. Shibo is living at a cooperative where he puts in 5 hours of work a week & pays \$30 a month for room & board. Tomi is a dietician there and she gets about \$75.00 a month so they are fixed fairly comfortably.>

wg We had an appointment with Dean Redfield and he was very kind to us. He said he would find out if it would be possible for Emiko & ^{and} Bette to register in the College division. Even if this is cleared, it will not help much since the tuition fees are so high. <It runs about \$106 per quarter and I just wouldn't be able to pay for the two of them. There is not much chance of financial assistance from the University so we will have to look for a smaller college with a fee that is not so expensive.> I think that the best investment would be to spend \$75.00 and adopt Bette in order to get her into the public schools. All this trouble of getting them into school is discouraging.

<Emiko is not completely recovered yet from a cold so she did not feel so good after we came home. I'll have to keep her in bed tomorrow.> ^{Her} This "father" business to a couple of young girls is certainly a lot of responsibility, but I like it. I hope Emiko & Bette don't get bored. They have been writing a lot of letters so answers should come trickling in soon.

<This evening I took a long walk by myself down into the Negro district. Bette & Emiko went to bed early as they did not feel so good. I couldn't sleep early because my mind is disturbed by their school problem.

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I don't seem to be making any headway. Emiko mentioned that she was ready to go to work soon and I hardly think she will be able to start school until Fall and it would be best for her to be kept busy.

The Negro area is interesting. There were a number of drunk young fellows roaming the streets. I wonder what they have to look forward to. I heard one of them say that he was going to dodge the draft because he had nothing to fight for and that Democracy was a bunch of bull - -----. The other fellows all agreed with him. "Listen here, Nigger, we don't fight for no white bastards. What we got to fight for anyway. Jus give me my women and liquor." I suppose the Negroes do have a funny psychological twist of mind due to the way that they have been suppressed for so many years. They all wear such extreme clothes. I suppose it is an outward expression of their inner frustrations. The Negro problem is far from solved and it is one of the most important issues of the War. The color question won't be solved very easily. The Negro area here is a city in itself and all one sees are dark faces. They talk kind of funny.

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April 28, 1943 (Wednesday)

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Another day walking around downtown trying to find out about schools. ~~Emiko and Bette were not feeling so well so I went by myself.~~ I talked to Mr. Morganroth of the Friends Service, but he could not offer me much help except to refer me to some schools.

^{w A} I had a very interesting talk with Dr. Sparling, the President of the Central YMCA College. ~~He~~ said that he was a classmate of Dr. Koba at Stanford, but he had lost contact with him. I told Dr. Sparling that Koba was at Topaz so he is going to write a letter asking if he can help Koba out. ^{He} Dr. Sparling wanted to know all about the evacuees so I talked for about an hour on the present situation. ~~Sparling is only about 40 years old & he is very liberal educator.~~ He said that he would help out as much as possible. Dean Wayne, the principal of the High School there, was also very helpful. He said that he would try to get Bette lined up with some courses so that she would not lose out on her schoolwork. There is still about 7 weeks to go in the present semester ^{and} Dr. Sparling was willing to make some financial arrangements if possible. The tuition won't be too much.

What I would like to do is to have Bette complete her Junior year so that she can start her senior year in the fall. In the meantime I will have to get legal guardianship over her so that I will not have to pay the \$18.00 a month tuition fee in the public school. I still will have to work on this angle. If the public schools still refuse to accept Bette's credits after doing the makeup work at the Central High, then I'll just have to continue her there until she obtains her H.S. diploma. I would much rather get her into a regular public H.S. The school system in this state has not been very encouraging thus far.

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The tuition fees are heavy and I just wouldn't be able to send both Emiko & Bette.

< Emiko will be able to save up a little if she works thru the summer. I hope that there won't be too many complications about getting her into school when she is ready to enter. >

April 29, 1943 (Thursday)

We finally got Bette enrolled in school. The President of the College and the Dean of the Central High were most sympathetic in getting the program arranged for Bette so that she would not lose any credits. Bette will be able to finish up the work which she started at Rivers and receive credit for it in the school here. The Dean lowered the tuition costs down to minimum and then he gave Bette a scholarship for half of this amount. Tomorrow, I will pay a balance of \$15.00 for the rest of the semester. There will also be some expense for books and laboratory fees. This program will enable Bette to become a senior in the fall. < The next step will be to find out if the public schools will accept the work which she does at Central High, which is an accredited school. The public schools are not supposed to be so good here, yet they certainly do make things tough. >

< In order to get tuition exemption for Bette, I may have to obtain legal guardian ship over her yet. It's such a complicated business. > Bette started with her classes this morning and she will go to the regular classes from now on. It will involve commuting to the loop every day.

I am at a standstill in regards to Emiko. I just can't understand and the workings of her mind. I had been going on the assumption

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that she would be willing to start school in June with the summer quarter. Suddenly she came out with the statement this afternoon that she did not want to start school until Fall. She refused to give any reason, but she said she had a private reason. I don't think that is being very cooperative. Perhaps Emiko thinks I am pushing her. <She is not sure of what she does and I have been trying to encourage her, but I don't get very far.> The only thing that she says is that she will go to school in the fall and take a general course. She hasn't been enthusiastically interested in school like Bette has been.> Maybe she don't want to go to school, but would rather work, I don't know. Gila has done something to Emiko, although I can't put my finger on it.<Now that Bette will be going to school regularly, Emiko will be all the more restless. In a week or so, she will begin to look for work. I don't want to push her on this yet.> As usual, Bette is adjusting to Chicago much easier than Emiko. Emiko writes a lot of letters and tends to cling to camp memories. She has a boy friend back there which may be the reason for it. Now that I think back, this may have been the reason why she had some conflict about leaving camp in the first place. She will get over this fast enough, I hope. I wish she would quit reading those damn True Story magazines, even if they are "good stories."

< I have been so dead set on getting them into school that I have perhaps overlooked Emiko's personal feelings on the matter. I know that once she gets into school, she will like it and it will be a lot better for her than to be doing some routine dead end job. Emiko lacks some initiative and although she still retains a lot more self confidence than most Nisei girls, I am inclined to blame camp for some of her

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present disturbed mental conflicts. So far she has kept her thoughts pretty well hidden so that I don't know where she stands for sure. She hasn't been feeling well ever since coming here and she still has a cold. It may be intestinal flu. I may be misjudging her completely. She may have sound reasons for not wanting to go to school in June of which I am not aware. I know that she "feels funny" about me supporting her in spite of the fact that I want to do it. But I can't believe that the money factor is the cause for her indecision. It seems more conclusive to me that indecision is characteristic of Emiko. Once she makes up her mind she is O.K. but sometimes it takes a long period of time for her to arrive at a definite decision. In this way she is similar to Alice, although she would angrily deny this. The fact that she does not know for sure what she wants to do for a career is a strong factor which cannot be overlooked. Emiko still has an idea that she wants to join the Waacs, and I think it would be a good thing for her. Alice told Emiko that only the cheap girls were joining the waacs, which was a great mistake. I want Emiko to do what she feels will be the best for her; but, at the same time, I don't want her to merely drift along marking time like so many of the Nisei girls are doing. She needs a lot of encouragement. Maybe I say it so much that she is getting tired of it and she doesn't listen. But it does bother me when she refuses to pay full attention when I want to discuss college with her.

We all came downtown today. Right now we are at Alice's place. We were going to a show, but we couldn't decide what picture to see and it started to rain. This evening we will have dinner with Alice and Mariko since Mariko is going to camp to visit the folks for a few weeks.

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She will leave tomorrow or Saturday. When she returns, she will look for a better job. I hope she gets a good one because I did belittle her present job a lot and told her that she could get a higher salary with her talents.

I was over to visit Alice at the Social Service Agency of the Salvation Army for a while this afternoon. The agency does not stress the religious angle too much. The case workers are professionally trained, one of them just finished the training course at the U. of Chicago school for social work. There is another Nisei girl there doing secretarial work. She is formerly of Seattle. Toyo takes a part time course at Loyola University.

Alice and Mark got their picture in the Chicago Daily Times last Monday. They were snapped as they came out of the Church on Easter Sunday. Alice got a lot of copies of the paper to send to her friends. This sort of thing is good publicity for the Nisei since it reveals to the public here that the loyal Nisei are doing their part in the war effort. Most of the people in the Midwest are unaware of the existence of the Nisei group, which is, after all, only a drop in the bucket when compared to the total population. The problems of this group are insignificant when compared to the Total war picture.

Later

Alice got a lot of copies of the Chicago Daily Times (April 26) because her picture was in it. She and Mark are going society. It's not such a good picture of her because it makes her nose too big. The photographer came over to give Alice the original picture.

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Talked to Emiko for a while and she finally said that the reason why she did not want to go to school until fall was because she did not believe she would get much out of a short summer session and that it may give her the wrong start for college if she did not do so well. Mariko has told her that the summer heat was almost unbearable around here and it would be wiser to wait. Emiko said that she would like to work so that she could pay for expenses because ^she always has worked and ~~she~~ did not feel right about letting me carry the full burden.

Friday, April 30, 1943

Took Bette down to school this morning and we experimented with the "E1". Bette has the system worked out fairly well so that she will be able to find her way about by herself ~~after~~ then. { It is a little confusing to her right now. So many people jam into the "L" that one could get lost easily if the system is unknown.

The Central Y College and High Schools occupy four stories of the Y building on La Salle Street in the center of the Loop. It has a sort of collegiate atmosphere. There are about 2000 students in the College and around 400 in the High Schools. Most of the students are older and more mature, even in the high school. ^{not} Bette said that she misses the young kids, but she rather enjoyed some of her classes today. The students are very friendly. There are about four Nisei in the College and High School. There are also a number of older Negroes in the classes. ^{material in []}

Insert [Bette enjoyed the history class. At the beginning of the period the teacher came up to her and apologized because the class was going to discuss current events, particularly about the mass execution of Chinese

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by the Japs who were hunting for Doolittle and the American fliers who bombed Tokyo last year. Bette told the teacher to go right ahead because she was an American too.] The class is composed of older men and women who are working at full time jobs. There are several Negroes and a number of "underprivileged liberals." [Bette said they started to talk about Democracy and wondered what was wrong with it. The subject of evacuation was brought up] and one fellow got all worked up and he pounded on the table and said it was unconsitutional and that German and Italian Americans should be given the same treatment if such an Un-American policy was going to be carried out. [The whole class agreed that the Japanese Concentration camps were a blot on the National record of fair play to all groups of Americans. I think that Bette will get a lot out of this class. The students were surprised that she was not bitter and they are making a lot of her. Bette will probably know all of them in a couple of weeks.] A class like the History group is Democracy in action and such discussions will be valuable for Bette because the subject is not limited to the Japanese in the camps. She will get a clearer picture of the general problems of the Democratic world. On subjects like this, Bette is way ahead of Emiko and Alice. She is concerned about these world problems whereas the other two are less conscious of the war. >

I still do not think that the \$18.00 a month tuition charge is fair and for the sake of a general principle and for other Nisei students who may want to enroll in the Chicago public schools, I went up to the Board of Education to see what could be done. The Board of Education take the position that residence is where the parents are

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located in spite of the fact that the parents may be involuntarily detained in a camp. The argument then goes that the Government is responsible and adequate schools have been set up in camp so that there is no need for the students to leave. At the same time, the Board of Education contradicts itself by taking a position that the credits gained in camp would not be recognized by the Chicago school system because the standards are not up to par. The Board apparently believes that the Nisei children are being taught by Japanese who do not speak English.

I had a very interesting talk with Mr. Buck who is the executive secretary of the Chicago Board of Education I think. He was very much interested in the camps and he asked me a lot of questions. He agreed that the matter of getting the Nis-i into the school, tuition free, was a tough legal problem, but he said that he had to be on the defensive because he was working under the established laws and nothing could be done about it. Mr. Buck said that from talking to me he got the impression that I was a better American than 50% of the caucasian Americans. He asked if the other Nisei had the same opinions. I said that this was generally true for most of the Nis-i although some were a little bitter and disillusioned. Mr. Buck agreed that the problem of minority groups, especially in reference to Negroes, was one of the main problems of this country. By this time about ten of the other people in the Board of Education office came over & they started to ask a lot of questions about the American born Japanese. They were dumbfounded to learn that 70% of the evacuees were American citizens. One woman commented: "But isn't that unconstitutional?" My impression is that Fascist progress in

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our system of government gains because the mass of people including the educated, are unaware of how far the military and political pressure groups are going.

After an hour of talking informally, I didn't make any progress on the school situation, but I do think that a few of those people in that office know a little more about the Nisei. I still think that there must be some loophole in the school situation. I went to see Brigadier Huffman ^{then} of the Salvation Army. He is a member of the Chicago Kiwanis Club and the Head of the Social Service Agency of the Salvation Army. He phoned a couple of high school principals who belong to the Kiwanis to see if something could be done. These men did not think the regulations could be circumvented in spite of the fact that I intend to reside here and that I am assuming responsibility for Bette's education. Finally Huffman ^{He} phoned the Superintendent of the City High Schools and I will have an appointment with him on Monday to discuss the problem.

About three o'clock Emiko, Bette and I went on a window shopping tour downtown. Emiko came down on an "L" and she had to pay two fares, which burnt her up. Emiko and Bette want to get shoes and a coat, and we went into a lot of stores just to look at things. In one shoe store, the salesman took a paper out of a Mexican pair of shoes and he threw it to me saying "This ought to be right up your alley." I didn't know what he was talking about until I opened up the paper. It was a section of a Mexican newspaper, written in Spanish. He thought we were Mexicans!

We walked about four hours and our feet just about gave out. As usual, I ended up by carrying all of the packages. We were tired, but satisfied when we got back to Alice's where we had dinner. Emiko and I

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made a lot of sandwiches for Mariko to take on the train with her. She left for Gila tonight. We did not go down to the station with her. Instead we went to see "Hitler's Children," an interesting propaganda film. It was almost 1:00 A.M. before we got home. On the crowded "L" a drunk Negro picked my pockets and took all the loose change I had in my rain coat.

Emiko and Bette did not see any coats that they liked so they will ^{on} go/another tour next week. They did buy umbrellas. We also bought mom a present for Mother's day and some hard candy for Tom and Miyako. We picked up a second hand electric toaster in an auction store, but could not find an electric iron. When we got home, I found a letter under the door from U. of Calif. Dr. Thomas did not think that I charged enough on my expense account to come out here so they deposited about \$21.00 more for me in the bank.

[I feel guilty as hell about my work. I haven't done anything yet, except make a few contacts. Dr. Thomas will be here next Friday. Then I can get to work in earnest. I hope I have Bette's school problems and Emiko's work situation under control by them.] It has been a little more difficult than I anticipated. Our freight hasn't arrived yet so that we can't fix up the apartment.

- insert