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Yatabe: "Yes, I realize that, but how can we describe ourselves without using that."

Me: "Well, if you don't think that 'American' by itself is not enough, I suppose you could use the term Americans of Japanese extraction. I don't think the terms are that important and why should we be so conscious of it? Then again, it is not too unnatural for the Nisei to be on the defensive. We could use the term 'Nisei', but that is not too good either as it also sets us apart."

Thursday, July 1, 1943

It was cool yesterday! The paper said that it had not been that cold on June 30 for years and years. I thought it was very comfortable weather after all those sticky hot days. I hope that the weather continues this way for a while. However, the farmers don't think that it is so good as it may spoil their crops and who am I to wish that upon them? I have been hearing rumors from native Chicagoans that we are in for one of the hottest summers ever. Where have I heard that before?

Tom and I suddenly got ambitious about noon so that we decided to go downtown to see what was going on. We went down to the WRA office and the usual "Japanese" faces were in great abundance. It was a discouraging sight. Tom and I looked at each other in dismay. Tom was more resigned than I was and he got down to business and looked up the names and addresses of about 50 people whom he thought he would interview.

I guess I have not built up my resistance enough. I am still seeking a "psychological escape." It has been very hard to

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feel that I am being forced into a Nisei society when I thought I had "escaped" it when I left camp. I know that these Nisei are nice individuals and that they are making their attempt to find a new and more desirable life, and I know that it is only the few who are the "trouble makers." Yet knowing all this, I still have a great inhibition about cultivating them on a social basis simply because it is a "defeat" of what I think has to be done for the whole group, a greater degree of social assimilation. That is why these efforts to establish a Nisei society bothers me.

I wandered over to see Doctor Yatabe at the JACL office to see if I could put some "brakes" on Ernie's proposed "Nisei Horizontal" Society plan. He is again devoting his full time on it. Unfortunately Yatabe seems to agree with the arguments which has been proposed for it. More than that, it is now becoming a JACL plan! The Friends are holding out against it, but the WRA has weakened.

The JACL here has grabbed the "plan" since it will give them something to do and Yatabe probably feels that he will gain prestige and recognition if it is publicized as a JACL sponsored plan. He contradicts what he said yesterday when he spoke about his beliefs that the JACL should work for principles rather than actively attempt to solve "problems." I am beginning to think that he is an opportunist like Ernie. It became clear to me that Ernie is just a stooge of Yatabe and he follows him around because he feels

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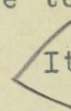
that he can thus gain some recognition and prestige for himself. This falls in with his ambitious schemes. Ernie has no mind of his own the way he shifts from opinion to opinion. Methinks that I am being too harsh on the lad. He says himself that he is "greatly misunderstood" by the very people that he wants to help. Another martyr to the cause!>

> The JACL here (Yatabe) is not clear on what it should be doing. Instead of sticking to public relations work, it has attempted to make inroads into other lines of endeavor. It has failed in employment and housing, but now it feels that its work is in social assimilation. Only the JACL never gets that far. < Clearly its place is in the transitional stage and therefore, it will foster a transitional stage. On paper the "plan" looks good. Yatabe and some of the other old time JACL-ers are grasping it since they feel that they will gain status by being on the "policy forming" steering committee. The argument is that the transition Nisei society is the lesser of two evils. > It is their belief that transitional integration, as they call it, is necessary because the Nisei are lonely and that they did not know other types of caucasian groups before evacuation so that they will have to be educated to expand out more. That's a lot of tripe! It was these very "transition groups", like the Japanese Students Clubs, the JACL, Japanese churches, etc. which prevented the Nisei from making efforts to expand out before.

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It seems to me that the emphasis should be put more on the outside caucasian groups. If they once open up, the Nisei could fit in without any trouble at all. My theory is that the Nisei will segregate eventually anyway if there are no openings at all, but nothing should be done to encourage this congregation. It is much more dangerous to "force" them into these transitional Nisei societies since it is pleasing to them and there will be no attempt to go out any further.

We hear all this talk about the poor Nisei being lonely, etc. and the immediate reaction is to rush out to protect them and do something about it. The Nisei have gotten too dependent now as it is and it is about time that they stood on their own feet. Before evacuation, most of the Nisei were tied to their mother's apron strings. Camp life solidified this feeling of dependency even more. Everything was provided by the WRA down to the last detail. The Nisei accepted this and they still do. But life is not always going to be like that. They have to learn how to solve their own problems eventually.  It is part of the growing up process. Evacuation should have made the Nisei more adult and it did in many respects. But they are still a little fearful and they like the idea of being protected. At the same time, they do want to be recognized as grown up. Well, they can't have their cake and eat it too.

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The advocates of the Nisei transitional integration society fail to recognize this very point. The Nisei aren't going to fall apart and go to pieces psychologically if they are left alone. It takes time to make adjustments. In the first place, they do not have too much time for a recreational life. I feel that on an individual basis, they can solve their problems. A person can go to shows, bowling, concerts, amusement parks, dates, read, visit friends, etc. and still make very good adjustments. There does not appear to be such an overemphasized need for an organized Nisei society, sponsored by groups like the JACL. It will only defeat its own purpose. I am convinced by that. The pre-evacuation example is enough proof of that.

These are abnormal times anyway. All that I hope is that we don't get any more little Tokyos before the war is over. Such developments are dynamite. The emotional feelings can be directed against the "Japs" here much easier if they are concentrated into definite areas and hatred can be stirred up because large groups do exist. There is less danger of race riots. Naturally, the Nisei will be drawn in closer together if they tend to come together geographically and socially. It is very important now that they spread out now and make the wider contacts even if it is harder. It is crazy to encourage Japanese organizations now. I asked Yatabe about the plan and he said that he was not too sure yet, but that he thought it was pretty good. Then I asked him

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if he thought it was good to have Japanese student clubs. He said "no" and that he did not want his own little son to get limited to that. Then I said that a transitional society would do this very thing. I am convinced that there is not a need for a "transitional" Nisei group organized to help the students expand out into the larger student body. And the same thing holds true for churches and the Y's. Thus all the plan amounts to is that certain Japanese groups, like the JACL, want to perpetuate themselves because the leaders will have more status as the directors. Since Yatabe signed the plan, it means that the JACL here has officially adopted it. As self appointed spokesmen for all the Nisei, it will continue to push it. By poo-pooing the advocates of complete integration, it will gain headway, especially since many of the advocates (caucasian) of this approach do not know too much about the Nisei in the first place and they could be convinced that the group is composed of a lot of poor lonely souls that are not able to do anything for themselves. >

I tried my best to subtly sabotage the plan when I was talking to Yatabe yesterday, but Ernie always pops his head in to protect his interests and he is too dogmatic to really see the other side. < Yatabe has had copies of the "plan" sent to all of the interested organizations, and the Friends appear to be the only group that knows enough about the situation to raise any serious objections. The WRA is not too efficient

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yet it holds the balance of power because it is a governmental agency entrusted with working out this mess. There are not enough people in that office that can objectively analyze the "plan". The WRA office is grasping at straws right now, and I think that Shirrell has been fooled into accepting an idea of this sort. A meeting is to be called in the next week or so to discuss the plan and it may be adopted at that time. It will be most unfortunate if the Nisei are represented chiefly by the Yatabe-Takahashi interests. I think one way to sabotage ^{at} the plan is to spread the word around that the JACL is attempting to dominate all of the Nisei again. This should get some reaction. ^{omit p. 2895} Even if the plan does go through, it will not pull in the Nisei who do need the most attention, ie the rowdies. Therefore, it seems to me that it could be worked out if handled on an individual basis rather than pulling all the Nisei into the "transitional horizontal society."

The greatest weakness of the plan is that it goes on the assumption that a Japanese community exists which has been cut off from the rest of the community and therefore there is a need of an organization to bridge the gap. Right now this is not the case and it won't occur unless it is created. The best way would seem to be the individual approach, where specific Nisei are counselled into integrating out into the wider community. If that is the only opening, a greater effort will be made.

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(attached is the Takahashi-Yatabe Memorial to bring all the
Yellow Men and Women in Chicago into a solid racial block.)
Gad, it makes me mad just to think about it! Calm down, ck,
it's not that serious.

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Ernest Takahashi
6/16/43

Proposed Plan for Nisei Integration
in the City of Chicago

I. Introduction

Ever since the evacuation of the Japanese from the Pacific Coast, the United States government has been seriously thinking of the scattering and complete integration of Japanese Americans throughout the United States. Since the early part of October, 1942, under the War Relocation Authority the government has set up special agencies and working committees to bring this about. Early in the year 1943 the War Relocation Authority organized a relocation office in the city of Chicago to place persons of Japanese ancestry in this city. However, they have dealt mainly with the employment of these people and not the integration and assimilation of Japanese, both socially and recreationally. At the time of this proposal, there are approximately 1200 Japanese in this city, 200 of which established their residences after the evacuation of Japanese from the Pacific Coast and the remainder due to the relocation program of the WRA. It is the belief of this organization that approximately 2000 more Japanese will relocate themselves in an about the city of Chicago in the next few months. Until the present time, there has been no need for a social and recreational integration program because the newness of the city and settling of jobs and homes has occupied most of these people to keep them busy. Many of these people now permanently settled are now looking for an outlet for their excess energy and their leisure time activities. For this reason, such a program to be proposed by this paper will be necessary in the months to come.

II. Three tentative plans already proposed.

A. Complete integration. Ideally speaking, complete integration, especially the Japanese Americans, is the thing that all groups are striving for. Many sociologists and religious organizations believe that a complete integration program should be introduced in which no transitional groups of Nisei be formed but that every Japanese coming from the centers should be immediately channeled into some Caucasian organization. It is their belief that transitional groups will become permanent in nature and would be hindering rather than helping the integration program.

B. Nisei segregation. The word "Nisei segregation" is used in this case because no other adequate term can be found. Because of vested interests of several organizations on the Pacific Coast, it has become apparent that there will be several attempts to form Japanese organizations which have existed prior to evacuation. Several home missions of various church groups, both Buddhists and Christian, will attempt to establish themselves in this city. Also, small social organizations that have existed on the coast will attempt to re-organize themselves with the nucleus of their group settling in Chicago. This, we believe, will be definitely detrimental to an integration program and may cause some alarm in the city. It is the opinion of most groups in the city that such groups would cause some Chicago public to segregate those coming into the city as a Japanese organization which will in due time tab the Nisei into a racial group and later become very conspicuous.

C. Many groups in the city adhere to a transitional integration because it is their belief that Nisei due to loneliness and the fact that

they have known only Nisei organizations on the coast need a transitional group to be organized first through which an educational program for gradual integration can be introduced. It is impossible to completely change the pattern of Nisei thinking to complete integration as many of them have set ideas and will want to meet and mix socially with persons of similar racial extraction.

III. Classification of organizations interested in this program.

There are many organizations and agencies that are interested in an integration program for the Japanese American and we will list them briefly into the following six categories:

(1) Governmental agencies. The WRA and other governmental agencies are naturally interested in this relocation program as they realize that it is their job to completely and happily relocate these people in this city.

(2) Religious organizations. Several religious organizations such as the American Friends Service Center, Federal Council of Churches, Brethrens Home have been very active in the integration of Nisei in this city. As you know they have set up hostels to provide temporary residence for the Nisei as well as to introduce them to church organizations of their denomination.

(3) Social agencies such as the YMCA, YWCA and the International House have been particularly helpful not only in the providing of shelter but also in the encouragement of social assimilation in this city.

(4) Educational Institutions such as the University of Chicago, Sociological department and the Northwestern University are interested objectively in this program of integration and assimilation.

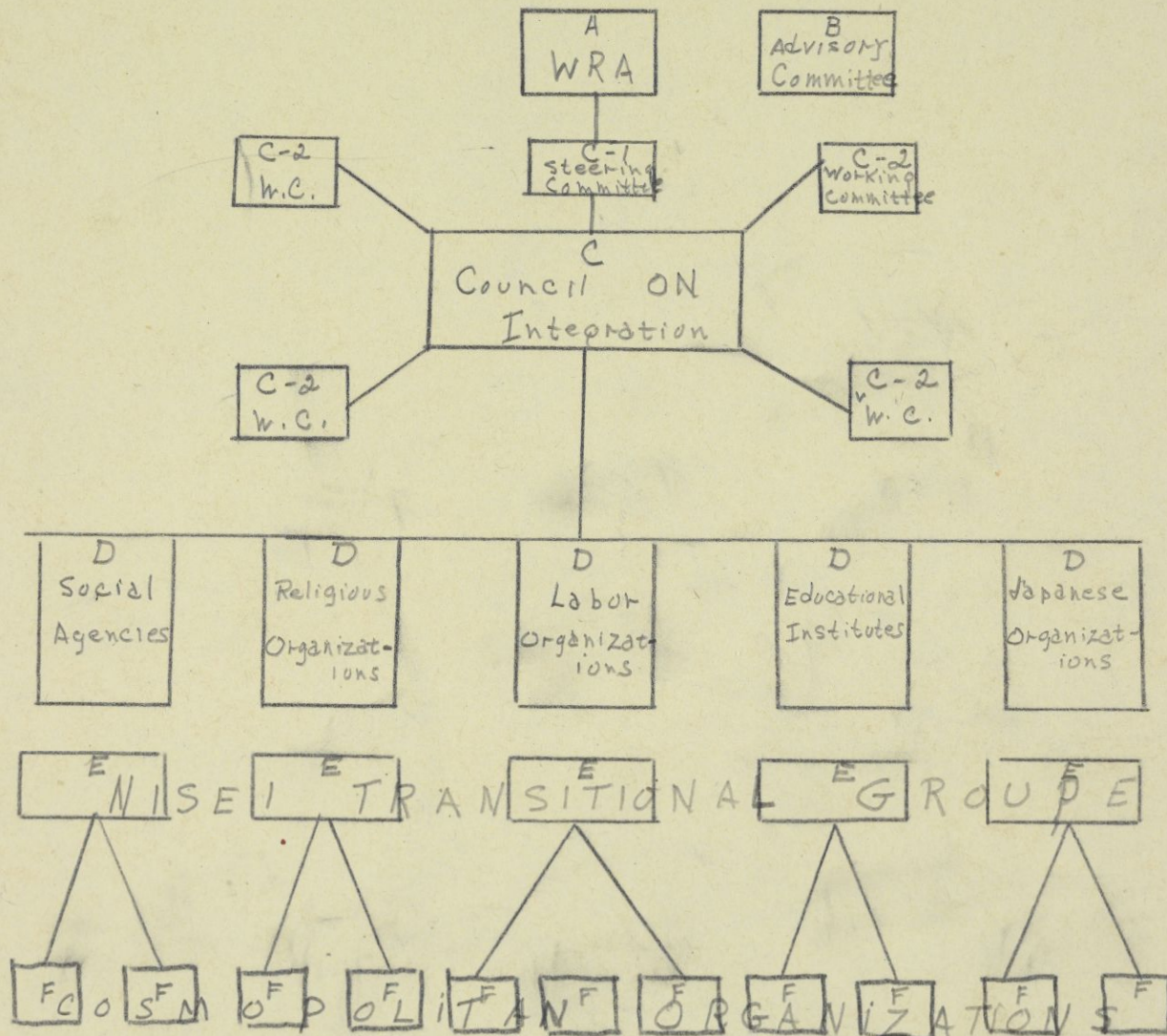
(5) Several Labor organizations and trade unions are interested in the placement of skilled workers in various lines of work. Although they have not been actively participating in this program, they have been very helpful in many instances in placing many Nisei into jobs in which they have been specifically trained.

(6) Japanese organizations such as the JACL have also been working towards a happy assimilation program for their group.

IV. Proposed plan

Here briefly will be outlined a proposed plan which we believe is not only practical but desirable for Nisei integration in this city. Submitted below is a diagram showing the organization of an over-all committee to guide and direct this integration program.

A. Diagram



B. Explanation of diagram

1/ Letter A shows the position of the governmental agencies in this program. Since the WRA has been given the Job for relocation of Japanese, they should be instrumental in the organization of such a group. However, being a governmental organization, they should act in an advisory capacity and lend aid wherever possible to see that such a program is put into effect. They should also be a source of information as well as the governmental voice in the program.

2. Early in the year 1943, the WRA appointed in the city of Chicago an advisory committee composed of thirty-three leaders in this city to aid them in an advisory capacity to plan and organize this integration program. They are shown in this diagram in section B.

3. Council on Assimilation is section C. This Council on assimilation should be composed not only of Caucasian but Japanese residing in the city. The Caucasian to be represented should be those of the advisory committee as well as representatives of organizations and agencies interested in this problem. The Japanese group, which should comprise of at least half of this council, should be members chosen from various Nisei interest groups in the city, key Nisei and Issei who resided in the city prior to evacuation, and Nisei who have shown interest for organizational ability in California as well as in the relocation centers. This group will listen to the proposed plans of the working committees shown in diagram as C-2 and pass judgment and approval after due consideration. Since this group will be too large to become effective, a small steering committee, C-1, composed of half Nisei and Issei should be appointed from the Council to determine policies of the whole group. Working Committees

shown as C-2 should be small effective units chosen from the Council to discuss various phases of the program. Such working committees should deal with specific problems such as speakers bureau, public relations, housing, case workers, etc.

4. Organizations for channeling of duties and responsibilities, section D. For the sake of simplicity these organizations have been divided into the following five categories:

- a. Social agencies
- b. Religious organizations
- c. Labor organizations
- d. Educational institutions
- e. Japanese organizations

Since the Japanese group here in Chicago are very new, it will be necessary to have institutionalized organizations which have existed in the city for a number of years to aid in this program of integration. Also, if these organizations and institutions will foster Nisei organizations under their wing, there will be less chance that such a group will become conspicuous and noticed by the Chicago public. These organizations will also have the facilities available to carry out such a program. The Japanese American Citizens League will play a peculiar position in this program. Since they have been considered as the "voice of the Nisei" in the field of politics and public relations, this group should be horizontally associated with these Nisei organizations for financial and moral support. The JACL should limit themselves purely in the field of public relations and protection of our rights that might be jeopardized by yellow journalists, Jap baiters, etc.

5. Nisei transitional groups (section E.) This proposed Nisei group has caused most of the opposition and debate as to its very existence. To those who believe in complete integration they believe that transitional groups will not remain transitional but permanent in nature. They also claim that this group will become very conspicuous and will be used as a basis of criticism by those who oppose integration and assimilation. Some sociologists claim that minority groups have no transitional organizations but will remain as racial groups as long as they are permitted to exist. Therefore, in the program of assimilation they are hindering the process rather than accelerating it. Especially in religious institutions many denominations because of vested interests in California, wish to organize large Nisei groups under their wings. This, we believe, will be a definite hindrance to this program and may cause suspicion as well as criticism by the Chicago public. The transitional groups that we have in mind will be very small in nature and will be used as an educational group to convince the Nisei that integration is necessary for a happy existence in this city. Without Nisei support in the program as well as the fact that Nisei themselves must be convinced that assimilation is necessary, no program introduced will become effective and realizable. This transitional group will also be necessary to aid organizations which need Nisei support to carry out their program. All minority groups have such organizations and we believe that it is inevitable that such groups will be formed. If, however, under this whole program of integration these groups are formed under guidance and supervision by an over-all steering committee and organizations who foster such committees see to it that such Nisei organizations do not become too large in nature, we believe it will

be permissible. If these agencies in diagram D can be convinced that the proposition of transitional groups is for a gradual integration, they will see to it that these groups will not get out of hand. Since they are under the fostership of institutions already organized in this city, they will be less conspicuous in nature.

6. Finally in diagram F. cosmopolitan organizations which is the ultimate goal of this integration program. The Chicago Park Committee have already agreed to help the Nisei as the YMCA and the YWCA will have several organizations which may be cosmopolitan or completely Caucasian which Nisei may be allowed to join because of their background and interest. These organizations in diagram F should be the permanent organizations from which the Nisei will be integrated in the social and recreational program in this city.

V. Conclusion

This briefly is the proposed plan which we believe will meet the needs of a large group of Nisei who will come to this city totally foreign to the vast facilities and opportunities that face them. Although this program is not perfect by any means, it would be used as a basis for study and consideration and any objections, criticisms and corrections will be greatly appreciated. We submit this plan for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

T. T. Yatabe

E. S. Takahashi

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Alice and Mariko went up to Wisconsin for a picnic today. The Salvation Army has a summer camp up there and every year the staff and all the people working for it go up there for an outing. Emiko had to work today while Bette had school so that I did not go along. We kid Alice a lot about the Salvation Army, but it is not that bad. The organization does have a true religious approach in that it works for the down and outers and the ordinary people. Alice, of course, gets defensive about it because we call her a Salvationist. We know that she is only a secretary in their social agency which has nothing at all to do with the religious part of it. It's just like when we kid Togo about working for the Baptists.

Alice is quite happy these days. She seems to have worked out most of her mental conflicts and she is making very good adjustments to her new role as a wife. Of course, it is a little difficult for her to really get settled down since she only sees Mark on weekends. She will be able to see him more when she moves down to Rockford. Mark appears to be very considerate and they are getting along fine. It's much better for Alice to be an Army wife than to be merely marking time in Chicago with no definite goals in mind.

Alice has been getting a lot of fan mail ever since she got her picture in the papers last Easter. A lot of lonely soldiers write and ask her to give them news of Chicago. Most of the soldiers who write have foreign sounding names--looks like Polish names. Maybe they think that Alice is Polish.

Ran over my income again this month, but it only gives

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me momentary worries. I do wish that I could save a little though. Spent \$170.00 for June. \$30.00 of this was for Bette's tuition so that it will probably go down next month. We are pretty well settled now. We do have to purchase a clock. My work on repairing it was not so hot. The clock only runs about five hours and it is most undependable. Emiko contributed \$20.00 last month so that it helped out quite a lot. She put about \$50.00 in the bank for her school expense starting from next fall.

Another complication may develop over the school situation. Miss Mercer of the WRA office said that there is a possibility that the Army may take over the three JC campus in Chicago for a training school. If this is done, it is going to be a hell of a job to even find a school for Emiko to go to.

My primary reason for going down to the WRA office was the hope of locating Lieberman. I heard that he was transferring out here and thought he would be located in the office downtown. But evidently he was only passing through. Bennett was through with Lieberman after he heard that he was a "Communist." Lieberman had been waiting all this time for a transfer, but it did not come through. When the Dies Committee went to Gila, it investigated him and he was fired for his "Communist activities." How touching, and how reactionary! Lieberman has plenty on the ball so he should not have a difficult time getting another job. I'm sorry that I missed him. Bob Spencer wrote yesterday also and he said that the only reason why he was not investigated by Dies Committee for being friendly with Lieberman was because

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he had just left Gila to take his new job teaching at the University of Calif. He also sent some pictures of his "Lady of the Lake." He is greatly enjoying his marital venture.

While I was down at the WRA office, I got to talking about resettlement with one of the interviewers down there. He said that the evacuees were still coming in fairly large numbers. He indicated that a large percent were coming to Chicago. He figured that it was going to take a lot of work and planning to get all of the evacuees out, but he thought it would be possible to succeed in completely emptying the camps out. In order to empty the camps out by next July, the evacuees will have to resettle at a rate of around 7500 a month. This will be an almost impossible task. During the peak months so far this year, only about 2000 left and I would say that it will get harder to even reach that figure since the most aggressive and daring are the ones who are leaving right now. The number of Issei leaving is only a dribble. A few have come to Chicago recently.

The Chicago WRA is committed to the National WRA policy of getting the people out as fast as possible. Housing has reached a saturation point already and I can't see how this city can take more than 3 or 4 thousand more resettlers at the most. I don't know where the other 80,000 could go in such a short space of time. It is inevitable that the process will be slow. The WRA is following this emphasis on relocation because of three fundamental reasons.

First, we are fighting for certain principles in this war and the rights of citizenship and the rights of law abiding aliens are closely associated with these aims.

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Secondly, most of the Nisei and their parents won't go back to Japan anyway and they plan to remain here so that it is necessary to get them started back on their own feet again.

Thirdly, the camps are not conducive to the assimilation process and it does not contribute to the attitudes of loyalty. Such a condition could not develop in an atmosphere of fear, insecurity, suspicion, and hate.

The WRA is really coming through now. Myer seems to be a man who will follow through with his convictions. It is unfortunate that the personnel in some of the camps are not of this caliber. On the whole, my faith in the WRA has been renewed and I think that there is a chance for success. It is a great social experiment, but not a "crackpot."

There is a lot of work necessary to break down the resistance to resettlement in the camps and out of them, chiefly among those with distorted prejudicial attitudes. The WRA cannot hope to break down the existing fears in the camps unless the sources for these fears are eliminated. One of the unfortunate things about the Pacific Citizen is that it tends to play up these fears merely by recording all of the anti-Japanese sentiments. It gets exaggerated and there is not enough of the other side reported. The Pacific Citizen almost has to take a defensive position since there are many forces that oppose it which are powerful and they get the press to support their fascist views by playing on emotions and hate.

Since these forces get most of the sensational publicity, it is natural that there is a mass feeling of insecurity within the

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camps, almost bordering on the neurotic.

The Community Analysis Section of the WRA seems to be doing some good work. At least it can educate the center WRA personnel so that they will understand better the problems involved. The attached WRA report gives a fairly good list of reasons why the evacuees resist relocation, all of which have elements of truth in them.

(Omitted is War Relocation Authority Community Analysis Report No. 5
June 1943)

June 3, 1943, Saturday

Today is Bette's birthday. She is now 17! It hardly seems possible. Emiko did not have to work this morning as she has until Tuesday off so that we took it easy this morning. I got up and cooked a special breakfast for us. Emiko went downtown to buy some presents and things as we plan to have a party for Bette over at Alice's tonight. We also have a lot of things scheduled for tomorrow and possibly Monday since it is a holiday.

I asked Bette what her plans were and she said that her immediate goal was to get out of high school. After that she wants to go to college. She wondered if that would not be too much to expect of me and I told her that this was the main reason why I brought her out of the camp. Bette is very sensible and she has things sort of planned out for the next few years. She said that I would probably go into the Army sooner or later and that it would be a little difficult in adjusting herself but that she would manage.

Emiko has planned this party all week and she has been getting the things ready. It was supposed to be a secret, but Bette

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better personality development although that is a broad generalization. I think of all the Nisei who have expanded out either by accident or by purpose and I remember these as persons who had more normal personalities which conformed more closely with the caucasian type.

There is a lot of talk that the Nisei here are lonely. I have a suspicion that a lot of this is the figment of imagination for people whose hearts bleed for the Nisei or of Nisei who want to assume some sort of leadership role and thus gain status and prestige for themselves. Take a fellow like Dr. Takahashi. It does not give him much satisfaction to be working as a chemist for \$1.00 an hour (does not give him much satisfaction). What he wants is some sort of recognition equal to the opinion which he has built up for himself. The easiest way for him to reach this level is to create a Nisei society so that he can be a big shot. I think that it was this very reason why so many Japanese student clubs were formed on the campus in the past.

I recognize that complete assimilation is too ambitious a program and that it has not much chance for complete success. If that can be done, then all our racial problems in this country are practically solved. However, I feel that this is the only way to tackle the problem and refuse to take any steps backward.

I think all of this talk about the Nisei lonesomeness is a myth. There are a number of them lonesome, but that is a natural reaction of anybody coming into a strange city. Particularly in the case of the Nisei, many of them who have never been away from their mother's apron strings before. But this is homesickness. The way to attack this problem is to try to get them to adjust to the city life by encouraging them to integrate more.

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knew that it was coming up. Just to give us a hint, she said last night, "Just think I will only be sixteen for a few more hours. I feel almost grown up now." She is upstairs now doing her work. Mrs. Blumenthall has been noticeably more pleasant during the past few days, according to Bette, so that she must have received the letter from Dorothy.

Emiko was a little peeved at me last night. I told her that she was getting a little too old to be buying True Confession magazines now and to be devoting her reading exclusively to this sort of trash. She got on the defensive about it, but I think that she will take the hint. She hasn't read one book since evacuation. I wish that she would hurry up and grow out of this stage.

Alice and Mark sent us a card announcing their wedding. Mark sent them all out since he gets to send all of his letters at government expense. Alice claims that she saved \$5.00 by doing this. She has always been careful in money matters.

Did not do much yesterday. The heat started in again. I had planned to go out and interview Jiro Oishi, but he was not home. Jiro has been waiting around for months now for the Army to call him. Now he says that he is not going to get into the Army. He believes that it is because he is a non citizen. Jiro feels a little bitter about it. He felt that this was the chance for him to prove his loyalty as well as to give him a chance to get his citizenship. Right now he is working in some curtain factory. It is not a defense job. He said that he was not able to get a defense job because he is not a citizen. Jiro

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still has not given up hopes of getting called into the service.

Slocum testified before the Dies Committee in Washington the other day and he told "all" about the un-American activities of the Japs. A lot of it was true, but presented by the Dies Committee, it was painted worse than the actual situation calls for. The paper reports were very superficial without getting at any of the fundamental reasons behind all of the unrest. Slocum also stated that Jap Social Clubs were being organized here in Chicago, intimating that they were subversive. In a way, this may do some good if it discourages Ernie from going ahead with his plan. It may have that effect.

The WRA is getting excited about Nisei prostitutes. There are a few around plying their trade, but I don't think that it is anything to get excited about. There is not much sense in getting highly moral about it since these things can't be controlled from that basis. The WRA feels that these few will give the Nisei a bad name. It's funny that such a thing could happen. We don't judge all Americans by the actions of the prostitutes (white) so why should the Nisei be judged from this basis? I can see how it could happen. That is why it is important that the Nisei do keep in line. It's not fair for the group to be judged by individual actions, but that's the way it is. On this basis, I can hardly blame the local WRA for being concerned over the wayward girls.

Togo was talking to Carey McWilliams yesterday afternoon. McWilliams is going to appear on the Chicago round table this Sunday to talk about racial tensions and he wanted to get some data from Togo. Togo said that he knew Frank's material on the Seattle Japanese

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backwards and forwards. McWilliams is also going to appear on the American Town Hall meeting of the air on July 19. Togo had some of the data which the Home Front Commandos of California is sending out. It reminds one of Hitler's racial doctrines of intolerance. The group is trying to gain support by selling \$1.00 memberships. The avowed purpose of the group is to keep the Japs out of California forever and to deport all of them if possible. Sacramento has always been a hot bed of anti-Japanese feeling. The mental intelligence of the home front Commandos must be very low.

Togo said that it was McWilliams belief that it would be just as well if the JACL went out of existence. It has lost a lot of ground if only because it embarrassed Myer and other governmental officials. We discussed the JACL a little and we all thought that the only function it could possibly be of any value in was to fight for "principles" since the organization is not big enough to work on the actual problems of resettlement. Frank startled us with the information that the JACL was originally started by the Japanese Association to protect the Japanese against Anti-Japanese legislation. "It had a sad beginning, and it will have a sad ending." says Togo. I thought that the JACL had possibilities while I was in camp, but I have been disappointed. It has not fought for "principles" in the way the Gila group felt it should. There are too many opportunists in the national board. It's only hope now rests with Larry who has now assumed a strategic position. If the JACL would follow the Pacific Citizen policies, I think that there is a definite place for it. Otherwise, it may be just as well if it went out of existence.

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The Church Federation is going ahead on its program of social assimilation. A list of counsellors along with a message has been sent to every evacuee to help in the adjustments. 11 evacuees on the list of counsellors. (letter attached is omitted)

INSERT
Copy of letter from Mom to Bette:

June 16, 1943

Dear Betty,

I do not sand letter long time. so I say Hello .
to you now. how are you I am very good condition my self Tom,
Miyako Gorge all right too Gorge (George) is a new boy's namy. he
is good boy but he is not like 13 yares old he is so little and look
like 11 yeres old to me do you remember Eluthe (Elsie) Morita. she
finish school this june some time she sed she is 18 I thought same age
to you all time. I tell to you some news I see many times Kaname
fugishije go to her House or go too take walk. one day her mother
she ask me who is he? becuse I sad Hello Kanamesan, so I sad he is Mr.
Fugishige's son and UC boy too. her mother say "O so deska (is that
so), look like kaname like her very much but dont you tell nobody.
this I tell you that all HA-HA- Kaname say go to chicago very soon.

tell Emiko I sand 2 package for yesterday. All I
fixed her neckless and tell her thank you so much for letter and 13
cooly (cool aid)

You have a new brother now. how is Mr. and Mrs.
Sato? Ha, Ha! (She means Mark and Alice)

Albert and toshi go to Detroit next Week Thursday.

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Kaname go to chicago next three day June 21 and Miss Yanagi go to
Minesota tomorrow.

(IN Romagi below)

Don't fight. I hope all three of you get along well.

I hope you are studying hard, Bette. I pray for all of you.

I guess close now,

good bye

From Mom.

ps. (In English)

Tell Chires I got 2 chack rast week onefor \$17.79
another are \$20.00 this is my chack beekuse last month I go to Mr.
Tutor (Tuttle) Office sign my name.

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Saturday evening we had Bette's birthday party over at Alice's. Toyo and Helen also have had birthdays in the past couple of days so that we had their names on the cake also. There were about 12 people there. Emiko walked around all afternoon to shop for the presents and she ate dinner down there. Bette and I ate here. She was not supposed to know about the party, but she knew that something was up. However, it was a very successful evening and Bette enjoyed it a lot. She got the most presents.

Toyo is the girl that Alice may move in with since her husband is also in the Army. Toyo has nothing particularly appealing about her. She is a very quiet "Japanese" girl. She comes from Spokane. Recently she went back there to visit her parents. Toyo was never evacuated. She has been working in the same office as Alice and going to school. Her husband, Kiyoshi, is also very quite. He is a sort of Kibei. He didn't say one word all evening so that I don't know much about him.

Helen Nakamura is one of Mariko and Alice's old friends. She was in San Francisco for a while. Before evacuation she operated a beauty shop. She evacuated to Tule Lake where she was the cashier for the Coop. She hated the camp life so much that she resettled out here by taking a domestic job. She is not particularly happy in the work. According to Helen, domestic workers out here do not get such a good deal. Helen worked as a domestic for a while in SF and she said that the Chicago people really let you know that you are a servant. "There is not that wasy going relationship like we had out on the coast." She thought that the reason for this was that Negroes have been doing

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most of the domestic work until they got defense jobs.

Helen is quite interested in the Nisei problem and I expect to get her case history for the study. She is a tall, rather sophisticated looking young lady. Helen is engaged to a Nisei in Wisconsin and she may go up there soon. She has a certain feeling of inferiority or inadequacy. It may be due to the fact that she has sort of "dai-kon" legs and a cyst just above her left eye. It does not detract from her nice appearance however. She seems to have a well adjusted personality. Right now Helen is still interested in "jitter-bugging" even though she is about 24 and not exactly the type. She could do better by stressing her intelligence more.

She was telling me about Mits Emoto. I never heard of her before. Helen said that the girl knew me at UC. The other evening they went out to dinner together and Mits started to brag about all the important people she knew. "She didn't say she knew you until I got on the defensive and started to tell her about my friend who is doing some important research work!" Mits then acted as if she knew you real well, but she then tried to belittle your work. It must be a Nisei characteristic to be jealous of any person who is making a success or who tries to do something for others. I just couldn't stand her snobbery. She is too stuffy for me. Just because she graduated from UC, she has to let everybody know about it. If she really had any intelligence, she wouldn't have to put it on and keep reminding people. It would come out in her actions and the way she talked."

It is curious how a person can be directly contradictory sometimes. Helen has a prejudice against the Negroes and she openly

admitted it. Even if it was a party, Emiko, Bette and I started to work on her to find out why she had such a prejudice. It developed that Helen's employer is a teacher whose heart bleeds for the poor uncivilized negroes. This teacher is getting disillusioned because the young Negro children are unresponsive to her. She had Helen almost convinced that the Negroes were of a lower order.

Helen: "Well, there is something about the Negro that makes it sort of useless to try and help them out. They just haven't got the goods. Why, my employer treats them kind and they turn around and they are mean and cheap. She doesn't know what they will do and she can't trust them at all."

Emiko: "You can't say all the Negroes are like that Helen. In Vallejo, there were a few Negro students at the high school and they were just like anybody else."

Bette: "Sure, they say the same things about the Japs, that's why we were evacuated. Everybody is different. If the Negroes had the chance, I think that they could do just as well as anybody."

I took this as an opening cue to I started to give some of my ideas on race. I quoted some of Franz Boas' Mind of Primitive Man to give her some idea how racial prejudice developed. I think I laid it on a little thick, but Helen profited by the conversation. Bette was a little indignant that the Nisei could hold such high and mighty notions about themselves. I thought that the reason for it was that the Nisei wished to identify himself with the majority group, a condition which has been emphasized since Pearl Harbor, and therefore they tended to be a little snooty and act and feel that they were superior

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to other American minority groups.

We then started to talk about intolerance and it was the consensus of opinion that the Nisei were most prejudiced against the Jews, Filipino, and Negroes. Helen felt that a lot of this was due to the Issei attitudes. "The Issei have a lot of racial pride and a good cultural background and they have been infused with the idea that the Japanese are a superior race. Some of this is reflected in the Nisei thinking."

Emiko then said that she knew a lot of these minority people in Vallejo and she did not feel superior to them. She said that any Nisei who thought they were must really have an inferiority complex. I agreed with this and I remarked that tolerance was not enough. I pointed out that there were many caucasians who would say "but you are different from the other Japanese" and then continue to hold bigoted opinions against all the rest of the Nisei without knowint them. I suggested that the Nisei should judge only on the basis of the people they knew and not condemn a whole group. Bette added that we should really act tolerant and not just say that we do. The conversation was getting interesting when Mariko came in. She made some facitious remark that after all everybody was different and that we were therefore all normal, implying that if such a condition existed we could do nothing about it. The discussion then dropped back to the small talk level. One of the things that I want to prevent is for Emiko and Bette to develop a cynical attitude towards things. I'd rather have them build up ideals which are within the range of achievement. They are too young to be getting disillusioned and cynical. I wouldn't mind

mixing in more with the Nisei society if the people were more wholesome and able to talk freely about things without personalizing the topic. This leads rapidly to self pity and I am no longer in the mood to lend my shoulders to Nisei sob stories.

Victor Shintani was also at the party, but he did not make such a good impression because of his comment on the Negroes. He has been a Chicago resident for 15 years and he is supposed to be very intellectual. He only spoke about three times during the whole evening so that I could not size him up very well. His statement about the Negroes was not favorably received however. Emiko remarked that she was going to attend Wilson Junior College. He immediately said, "I wouldn't advise you to go there. There are too many 'niggers' going there." He saw the look on our faces so he quickly added, "I mean that the college is in the Negro area and it is being infiltrated with a Negro invasion."

Emiko said that this didn't make any difference. "That shouldn't affect the courses any. After all, it is democracy to be tolerant, isn't it?" Shintani shut up and he didn't say hardly anything the rest of the evening. He is some sort of architect.

Sesu is his girl friend, but she is much more likeable. She was at Gila with her family until October. (Fujimoto clan) She must be in her middle twenties. Very tall, face not too smooth, pleasant smile and talkative. She knew a lot about us since she had lived with Mariko and Alice for some months. Sesu could not stand the camp life and she was one of the first to resettle from Gila. She got a job as secretary through Tom Holland. The Friends took care of her the

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first month here. Sese now mixes almost exclusively with the Nisei society, chiefly Mariko's circle.

At the same time, Sese deplores the self congregation of the Nisei. She told us that she saw a friend of hers (girl) walking down the street with eight boys and that they took up the whole sidewalk. She said that this group went bowling every Saturday and they were very conspicuous. All of them joined in and agreed that it was not the best thing for the Nisei to segregate. Alice remarked that our group at the party was 'ok' because it was indoors. She and Mark were at the Wabash St. Y earlier in the day. The thing that struck them particularly was the number of Nisei who were very conspicuous. She said that while they were sitting in the lobby, a Nisei fellow in a zoot suit went up and down the elevator three times. "There were also some Nisei girls there and all they do is wander around and then come back to the lobby to see if there is anybody there that they know. I don't blame the caucasian residents for getting a little resentful."

Toshi and Albert Ikeda were the other "outsiders" at Bette's party. Toshi is Mark's sister so that we are related to them in a way. They came out about a week ago. Albert had intended to relocate to Detroit since Toshi's father and brother had worked the Ford's plant for years. Albert said that he went up there for two days the past week.

"It's nothing to get a job that pays 90 an hour or more, but you can't find a house to live in. "I walked around up there for two whole days, and I really did do a lot of walking. I take big steps, you know. There just isn't any houses up there. I figure that I

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may as well get settled here in Chicago. I will make just as much because the cost of living isn't quite as high here."

Albert was a little worried about his present situation. He seemed pre-occupied with the housing problem. He has a child to worry about so that it makes it a bit more difficult to find a place. Albert figures that he should get settled first. He was a little put out by the WRA. He said that the office in Detroit did nothing to help him. While in camp, Albert did not think that he was given the best job possibilities. He said that he had a chance to get a position as a recreational director at about \$200.00 a month, but the WRA was so slow that somebody else (a caucasian) got the job. He had several of these experiences so he decided to come on out.

Albert was working at the camouflage project in Gila. Before that, he was in the recreational department of the elementary schools there. He is a big easy going fellow and Toshie pushes him a lot. She appears to be a bit brighter than him. Toshie has chafed at camp life for months. The only reason why she did not leave earlier was on account of the baby. She is extremely Americanized. She lived in Detroit for quite a while - I think that she was born there. She worked for wuite a while for the American consulate in Japan. Then she came over to work in the Japanese pavilion at the World's Fair in New York.

In order to explain her stay in Japan, Toshie has received a letter of clearance from Ambassador (formerly) Grew. She was working as a telephone switchboard operator and later as a demonstrator of microphone technique. Toshie would like to go to work again if she

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has time away from the baby. She would like to go into radio announcing work which she feels offers her a chance right now. It is not a burning ambition, but more of a pleasant thought. I don't think that she will have time to take a regular job now.

Just before they left Gila, Toshie and Albert had to appear before a hearing board composed of Sawyer, Freeland and others in order to take an oath of loyalty and to get crossed examined. They said that it was rather silly. Toshie was incensed when they asked her if she would ever help her husband commit an act of sabotage or engaged in any subversive activity. She told them that she wore the pants of the family, and that such a question was not necessary anyway as she would never dream of doing anything like that. She did not think that a hearing board would unearth any subversive person anyway and that it was not fair to question the loyalty of the Nisei further since they had proven all along that they have been loyal and that they would continue to be so.

In a way, Toshie regrets leaving camp. She said that it was a life of ease and that she had a good time with her friends and there was little to worry about. I said that this was true, but there was a danger that a person would get over dependent under such a set-up and he would lose ambition. Toshie admitted that this was true. "I guess I feel a little discouraged since our plans did not work out so well. We knew that it would be a problem to get settled, but this is more than what we counted upon. In a couple of weeks, it will be another story."

Their immediate worry was the problem of housing. They are living with Albert's sister right now, but they feel that they should get out as soon as possible as it is imposing upon them and the baby makes things more difficult. Albert wants to find a temporary place right away on the near north side, and then look around for a more permanent place later. He wants to get all of this settled before he takes a job. We got to talking about housing, and Albert and Toshie thought that maybe it would be better to purchase a house. Albert already owns a house in California which is not paid off yet. However, he felt that it would be a good investment. The only question was to raise a down payment of about \$500.00. Alvert felt that he could pay about \$50.00 a month on the house and he would rather buy a place than put the money into rent only. He has a lot of furniture in California which the WRA will ship out here.

Toshie wanted to move out into the suburbs where she could gossip over the back fence with neighbors. The more they talked it over, the more enthusiastic they were. We all thought it would be a fine idea to branch way out and not segregated together. Albert said that his brother and Mark's younger brother could come out then and they could get jobs and help pay the house costs. They then said that Alice and Mark could also move in. At first, Alice thought that this was a fine idea since she would have to have a place to live in case Mark was suddenly sent overseas. And she did not think that she would put them in a hole even if she suddenly pulled out in case Mark was transferred to another post and she followed since Toshie could easily find another couple who would be glad to get a place to stay.

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Suddenly Alice discovered that the thing was getting out of her control and there was a slight note of resentment in her voice when she said that maybe it was not such a good plan because she wanted to have a certain amount of independence. Alice wants to do her own planning about her new housing setup and I can't blame her for getting on the defensive. Mark naturally likes the setup because they are his relatives. I don't think that Alice liked it when everyone started to say that they should move away out in the suburbs and assumed that the decision was mostly up to Albert and Toshie. Nothing was settled, but they are seriously considering the plan.

Alice and Mark are newly married so that they like to be left to each other as much as possible. Alice no doubt feels that if she moves in with Albert and Toshie, her time with Mark would be interfered with. At present, she doesn't get to see him too much. They have sort of let the matter of moving to Rockford slide for a while due to the even more serious housing shortage down there. Alice is definitely going to move soon. She will probably go in with Toyo for a while since both have husbands in the Army.

Alice and Mark also have housing problems even for the weekends now. They don't have ~~to~~ place to go since the apartment has been turned over to Mariko and they could not very well ask her to move out weekends. Saturday night the problem was solved at the last minute by getting a room in a cheap hotel. The hotel said that they would have to bring their marriage license since it was a "respectable hotel." They did as instructed. It was a most miserable night for them because the place had bedbugs. They got out at 6:00 am yesterday morning and wandered around until 11:00 before going to Mariko's again.

They passed some of the time looking for an apartment on the North side. It's a tough life to be so unsettled but I don't think that they mind it too much--yet.

Fireworks on the Fourth, or the Case of the Land-lord villain and the poor defenseless Minority people on Dearborn St.

Sunday is suppose to be a day of rest and peace, but at the Kikuchi residence on Dearborn Ave. on the Near North side, it was a time of crisis. They were threatened with eviction by the dastardly landlord. Mariko, the elder, came to the fore and she led the other three cringing roomers upstairs in her crusade against the wicked landlord. They were: Mrs. Smith, a middle aged single woman, who is a defense worker (at 45¢ per hour in a candy factory) and a very devout Christian; Mr. Fashion, a naturalized American who speaks with an accent; and another single man.

Mariko and Helen were cheerfully gossiping over their breakfast coffee when Mr. O'Brien and his aide de camp came driving up in a convertible coupe. Mr. O'Brien is a red faced individual, very portly, and quite uncouth in voice and manners. His assistant, Mr. Ashmund, was a more civilized person.

Mr. O'Brien, the wicked one, immediately got nasty and demanded his ounce of flesh. He said that he would not accept the \$6.00 weekly rent from Mariko, but he said he would take \$10.00. Mariko, the brave, refused this kind offer with scorn and indignation.

"I will stand upon my constitutional rights," says she without fear.

"You're too damn smart for your own good," yells the villian. This led to words and great excitment. The temperature of the

room went up ten degrees. Mariko summoned the other cowering roomers down and they bravely backed her up and refused to pay the increased rent. Mr. Fashion said that he had been living there for the past seven years and that he had always paid \$2.50 per week. The others said the same. The Landlord Fuehur responded that it was ridiculous for them to be paying such low rents and be cooking on hot plates at the same time. They answered that Mrs. Kemp did not mind, and O'Brien said that she had been cheating him as the housekeeper.

Mariko got very excited at this and she started to talk most sarcastically. She said that she had registered a complaint at the OPA and that he could not evict them without cause. O'Brien said that he did not go by the OPA but his lawyers would protect him. He said that he was not making any money on the house and he wanted them to get out so he could improve the building and rent out at higher prices. But he insisted that they pay the higher rents immediately if they wish to stay. Mariko declined the offer and she said that she had witness that he refused the original rent money.

O'Brien screamed that he had rented her room for \$10.00 a week two years ago. Mr. Fashion contradicted this. He said that he knew the man who lived downstairs for years and the man never paid more than \$5.00 a week.

Chk made his appearance at this point. He rushed bravely upstairs to protect his defenseless sister against the wicked landlord. Mariko was doing very well by herself. In order to calm the excitement, Chk suggested that they cool off since there was no need to argue about it. They all agreed that this was right and then they went on arguing. Chk tried to act as the middle man in order to get them to compromise more, but it

was no use. They just kept on blowing steam.

Ck then said that it was the best thing to go to the OPA and settle the difficulties and that O'Brien should follow the regular procedures. O'Brien refused to do this and he said that Mariko should get out as well as the other three roomers involved. He threatened to turn off the gas and water the next day. He huffed and he puffed. I suggested that he was taking advantage of the housing crisis by raising the rents without cause. Mariko then said that something fishy was going on because she checked at the city hall and the property was not even in O'Brien's name.

It appeared that O'Brien never registered any of his property in his name in order to avoid payment of taxes. He had served 5 years for tax evasion. However, he was too mad to even reason with and Mariko kept getting more sarcastic. Ck thought that they would be coming to blows so he tried to keep it under control. Mariko had fire in her eyes. She wasn't going to let any landlord shove her around, no sir-ee! O'Brien with equal determination was going to get her out and he had firewater all over his breath which made the atmosphere most unpleasant. He said that he had had his say and that was all there was to it. He started to stalk out.

At this point, Mariko made her biggest blunder. "This is what happens when we get an ex convict for a landlord," she says with her voice dripping with scorn. O'Brien's face got two shades redder and he yelled, "If you don't like an ex con for a landlord, get the hell out of here. That's what I get for having a Jap in my place." Ck could hardly do anything about this since name calling on the part of Mariko was unnecessary in the first place and it had nothing to do with the issue. He rebuked Mariko

for character slapping and she realized right away that she should not have said that. O'Brien drove away in great anger.

Ck felt that O'Brien would now go to any means to get Mariko out. And he also felt that he would also carry a prejudice against the Japs hereafter. In talking it over afterwards, ck pointed out to sister Mariko that she had two ways to approach the problem. (1) Mariko could stand up for her constitutional rights and tell the wicked landlord off and thus give herself personal satisfaction and probably end up as a homeless orphan, or, (2) She could decide that the room was more important and thus look for back doors to get around the landlord. This would mean that she would have to eat dirt. By using this feminine tactics she could also win over the OPA. She could stress the fact that her brother in law was in the Army and that she was a loyal American, now out of a job, etc. Ck thought that it would be most diplomatic to use this approach. In this way she could stand up for principles and have a chance to retain her apartment at the same time.

Mariko was quite determined to fight it out to the end, but she said she would give plan two a trial. But she did not think that O'Brien would ever give in since he was such a hasty person, and she wanted to see that he did not get away with anything. Mariko was naturally greatly disturbed and worried about her housing problem. She decided to make her appeal to the OPA on Tuesday and fight to the finish. We all backed her up on this.

Aftermath.

It now appears that Mariko's housing crisis is settled. She phoned over this morning to tell us that Mr. Ashmund made his appearance this morning and he accepted the \$6.00 rent. He apologized for the harsh

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words of his boss yesterday. He said that they had gone drinking for 12 hours straight after leaving Mariko's because Mr. O'Brien was so upset." He said that O'Brien was worried about the high taxes and that was the reason for his getting angry. He said O'Brien was determined never to step foot in that apartment again. Ashmund then asked in a very worried voice: "You're not going to the OPA now, are you? We aren't raising your rent so you won't need to go." Mariko said she was not sure. She is going to use her "facts" as a weapon over O'Brien's head. Evidently something screwy is going on or else O'Brien would never have backed down. I think Mariko threw a scare into him with all the "facts" which she knew. One girl that she knows "moved three times just because the landlord wanted to make a place for one of his friends and she didn't even protest." Mariko was determined that she would not give in so easily. She has O'Brien over the barrel right now, but she should be on guard for any further funny tricks.

Mariko was also put out yesterday because of what Alice did. Just before O'Brien came, Alice had a phone call. When she came downstairs she announced that the plans for the day should be called off because she had to go meet one of Mark's relatives who was just going to be in town for the day and they wanted to take him to China Meshi. Mariko got angry and she said that after all the party for Bette had been planned for a week and Alice had said that she would drop everything to attend. One of the purposes of the party had been to give Mark more of a chance to get acquainted with our end of the family.

Alice said that it was no use to argue: "You go your way and I will go mine." Helen later remarked that Alice had been too blunt and that she could have been more diplomatic in explaining the situation.

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Mariko realized that Alice wanted to make a good impression on her in-laws, but she did not think that Alice should have announced the breaking of the party plans so rudely. Alice probably felt a little guilty about it which may have been the reason why she was so brusque. I think that Mariko was also a little peeved because we have been inviting the in-laws and they don't reciprocate. I told her that it would be best to let Alice alone and go her own way since she was the one who married into that family. "Otherwise you will build up resentment against them when they are perfectly innocent. Why should you take it out on them just because you feel that Alice was not being diplomatic?"

I think that it will also be better for us if we do not make plans together. Something always comes up to disrupt them anyway. Furthermore, it is not good to get Mariko in the habit of planning for us. She travels in a different circle and she has a different purpose. She should not allow herself to get tied to Emiko's and Bette's welfare for her own good. I have told her this so many times. And it is not so hot for her and Alice to each attempt to win Emiko and Betterover to their side. Emiko remarked tonight, "You know, I have a feeling that Mariko and Alice are really getting to the stage of actual dislike. They had better separate before they really do blow up."

We did not get down there until after 2:00 yesterday afternoon. The rest of the afternoon was wasted because of O'Brien and Alice's shift in plans. We were supposed to have a big dinner at 8:00 but

we decided to eat earlier and let Alice and her company have dinner by themselves. She picked up another Nisei soldier on the way. Mariko wanted to eat earlier to get "revenge" and let Alice see how it felt to be "left out." However, we were not interested in this. We did not want to spend another evening sitting around. We planned to go to the 4th Celebration at Soldier's Field and we wanted to get there early.

It was a delicious dinner. When Alice came in she made some unnecessary remarks about "the party of the first part should wash their own dishes."

Mariko: "The party of the first part cooked so that the party of the second part should do the dishes."

Emiko: "The party of the first part had no intention of leaving the dishes for the party of the second part."

Mariko: "The party of the first part are in a hurry and there may not be time to wash the dishes. Since the party of the second part will be in all evening, it should do the dishes, especially since the party of the first part did the cooking."

Alice: "There are not enough dishes for the party of the second part so that the party of the first part should leave things in order for them."

Emiko: "Who said anything about leaving the dishes for you anyway?"

How silly!

The fireworks celebration was very impressive. Since the American Legion was sponsoring this event at Soldier's Field, the theme was ultra patriotic. They imported a number of circus acts for the entertainment part.

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About 75,000 people were present. Emiko and Bette enjoy these things, but Alice and Mariko felt too sophisticated for it. Mariko liked it after we got there. Helen was also along. It rounded out the day just right for us. The Fireworks display was well worth the admission price.

Today we decided not to go to Mariko's as planned because we did not wish to get involved in the spats which developed between Alice and Mariko. Mariko told us that yesterday was the first argument that she and Alice had in a week. But we did not especially care to go down anyway since plans are always so disrupted.

We loafed around all morning. Bette went upstairs to do her work and she studied a bit afterwards.

In the afternoon we went out to the beach and laid around for a while. We walked back and I think I will feel the effects of it tomorrow. In the evening we went to the show. After we came home, Emiko cooked and the rest of the evening was spent in reading, writing, studying. It was 1:00 before we knew it. It is now 2:00 am and I shall retire.

Tuesday, July 6, 1943

Today feels like Blue Monday. My bones all creak and ache. It started to rain a little while ago. I was going over to interview Helen, but it started to rain so I will have to stick around the office since I did not wear anything over my shirt when I came out here this morning.

Emiko received another letter from the Student Relocation Committee and there is a possibility that it will grant a part tuition if we are persistent enough. Emiko will have to get a letter of acceptance from Wilson Junior College before the Council will go any further. We have not heard from the Kobe College Corporation. Mrs. Wilson is away in Wisconsin

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for the summer so that there is no way to contact the group.

Ye gods, what a rain! Thunder and lightning and stuff. The rain is coming down in bucketfuls. And here I am with only a shirt! I guess I will have to stick around until it stops raining. The soldiers are out there marching and singing. I bet half of them catch pneymonia.

Martin Dies now charges that the race riots may have been instigated by Japanese agents. Ho hum! If he keeps making these silly charges, Congress will surely put the Committee out of business soon. I doubt if Dies or anybody else could ever put the finger of blame for the racial riots on foreign sources. Race discrimination has been a thorn in the side of democracy for many years, so that it is foolish to sidestep the issue. What needs to be done is to face the issue and try to solve the problem which is a creation of our economic and social system. Progress towards the true ideals of democracy is a very slow process. Too many people profess democracy in theory but they are not tolerant enough to attempt a trial of these principles. They want the other fellow to do it.

Rev. Eisel of Vallejo was the minister at the Protestant Church when Emiko and Bette used to attend. They always use him as a reference. Dodo, when she was here, said that there were a lot of people in Vallejo who were favorably disposed towards the Nisei because of the Kikuchi's.. She said that all of the Chinese group were opposed to the city council resolution that all evacuees be deported, but they did not protest too loudly because their position was not too secure either. Last week, Rev. Eisel as chairman of the Vallejo Committee of Inter-Racial Affairs filed a formal protest against the resolution. He was accused of seeking to force his opinions on the city council by the City Commissioner and Mayor Stewart.

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The Mayor said that other organizations had spent much time doing research work and they were better qualified to pass judgment. Eisel replied that the statement in the resolution that "all persons of Japanese ancestry are all unqualified and unsuited to be citizens and residents of the US was too sweeping a statement. He urged that the loyal should be liberated and returned to normal civil life to contribute their part to the war effort. Yes, Vallejo has changed a lot since the War. Now they have race riots against the negroes and the town is filled with intolerant individuals. Before, Vallejo was a peaceful little city, very cosmopolitan and very tolerant. Emiko and Bette said that they would not go back to Vallejo now as they would prefer to think of it as they left it. A lot of their friends write to tell them the latest news. Most of Emiko's schoolmates are now earning huge salaries in the Mare Island shipyard or else they are in the Service. Even Bette's classmates are now making big salaries.

Thursday, July 8, 1943

Worked fairly hard for the past three days. I interviewed three Nisei, but didn't complete the conversations so I will have to see them again. I went down to Mariko's yesterday to talk to Toshie. Mariko was going out to look for a job. She started to get ready right after lunch. She takes the longest time. Bette came over about 2:30 to repay her some meat stamps and to take our pan home so that Mariko was delayed some more.

Mariko feels that she may be able to get some sort of art work. She had a lead on a photograph tinting job for one of the big department stores and she is going to apply for it. First she wants to make the rounds of the YWCA and Friends employment office. Mariko feels that she should be able to get work as an individual. She thought she would work for even \$18.00 a week in art work, but a little while later she said that she

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would not consider less than \$22.50 a week. She was not sure whether she would do factory work or not. She felt that she would even go out of town to take a factory job if it paid enough.

However, what Mariko really wants is to get an art job near the Toongs where it will be convenient for her to carry on her social life. Since she has been back the number of visitors has increased.

She is pretty much on the defensive these days. I tried to make some suggestions about Civil Service work, but she took it the wrong way. She has a number of possible jobs checked off from the want-ad columns. Mariko plans to go to the Friends and have them phone about the prospects. For the better jobs she will go inquire herself and attempt to have a personal interview. She figures that she will be able to save carfare and time if she uses this method.

I kept trying to get her out of her apartment so that I could interview. Finally about 4:00 o'clock she decided that she would not go because it was too late and she had a headache. She said it was my fault because I picked on her. Hell, any day that anybody can pick on Mariko, that would be something. She is a little jumpy these days because it does weigh on her mind. She blew up when I told her that she should start looking for a job from early morning instead of sleeping. She hasn't been feeling too well since she got back and therefore she resented it very much. I guess I had better leave her alone. I really was trying to be helpful. Mariko has sinus trouble and this climate does not agree too well with her. Then she is a little jumpy too because Alice is concerned over her. Alice does not wish to leave her until Mariko has a job. For the past two evenings

she has gone house hunting.

Mariko was all cheerful once more when she came back. She invited me to dinner. Toshie, Albert, and Togo were also invited. Mariko was supposed to cook. She went upstairs to tell Emiko that I would come home later. For the next half hour the two of them gossiped about things. Toshie went ahead with the dinner. After Alice came home from shopping, she put the finishing touches on although Markio did fry the meat. She forgot to put the onions in!

I ate my dinner hastily and then came home. I had promised Emiko and Bette that I would take them to the show last night.

Some of the S.F. Rowdies have been dropping over to see Mariko and Alice lately and it sort of ~~initiates~~ initiates them. The fellows just drape themselves all over the furniture and they do not know when to leave. Jimmy Koto just walked in without knocking. Mariko almost threw him out violently. It is most difficult for her to control the people and they drop in just because they are lonesome. Alice does not like it too much because she wants to develop a more choice circle now that she is married.

Mariko is also getting a little fed up. She said she is through coddling the lonesome Nisei. "The milk of human kindness has run dry and curdled." It burns me up when some of them drop over as late as 11:00 p.m.

Toshie was quite worried yesterday over the housing problem. She, Albert and the baby have been staying with Yuri (Albert's sister). Yuri has a lot of visitors all the time. The landlord finally told her that too many Japanese were in his house. He is a naturalized German and he said that the War Department has called upon him a couple of times to investigate. They told him not to rent out any more rooms to Japanese. There was a

vacant apartment next to Yuri's but Toshie decided that she would move. They are now in a temporary dump at \$4.00 a week. The place has bedbugs. Albert has given up the idea of buying a house for a while. He said that he could not raise the down payment. They want to find an unfurnished apartment so that he can send for the furniture. Albert found out today that many apartments with Nisei now in them have set a quota on the number of Japanese it will take. Minky phoned Mariko and he said that he and his brother were told to move by the real estate company because the apartment house had too many Japanese in it.

I didn't get to finish my interview with Toshie so I made another appointment for Friday. God, it takes such a long time to ask them all the things I want for the case history without getting too personal.

Today I interviewed Jiro. I had to get him out of bed. He works from 3:30 to 11:30 at night. I think that his experiences will make a very good case history for me to record. He told me some scandal about Miura. According to his story, Miura was married to a caucasian woman here. He deserted her and went to Calif. His present wife doesn't know that he is a bigamist. Jiro also said that Miura embezzled a large sum of money before he ran off. A Japanese company sent a boat load of tea over to be given away as samples. Miura sold the tea for profit and then scamed. This information is supposed to come from one of the old time Japanese residents here who knows a lot of the local history. After I ate lunch with Jiro, I went across the street to meet Mr. Iwagomi. He is an old time resident. Only his daughter was home. Myra is a very bright girl, very tall, and fairly attractive. She just graduated from the Hyde Park High School. In the fall she is going to Oberlin college. They have a big home. Myra says it has

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been in the family for 50 years (on mother's side).

Her father sounds very interesting so I shall call one of these evenings for possible source material for the Study. He is a graduate of Oxford, happily married to a caucasian woman (Oberlin college graduate) and he has held some good jobs here. At one time he worked for Insull. He lost his job with the Edison Co. after December 7th, but Mayor Kelly helped him get the job back. He is now a specialized engineer in the company. There are only 5 of this type of engineers in the company. He is also supposed to have some sort of patent on a camera. Myra invited me over for a Sunday dinner. One of these days I shall have to make a home call.

Jiro is still waiting to get into the Army. If the call does not come through he is going to register in school next semester. He has one year to go. Tomorrow, I shall start to write up his case history.

Also interviewed Helen today. I don't know where I got all of my sudden ambition. I feel like I can do some real work now. I hope that I don't run into any real conservative Nisei as this will discourage me. I seem to be attracted to the more Americanized Nisei. I won't have any trouble making contacts since working for U.C. seems to hold a lot of prestige. The only trouble is catching the people for a long enough period to interview them.

One of the interesting things I saw today was the block flag which Mr. Iwogami put up. It has a large blue "V" at the base. Several bulletinboards have been put up. It is used by the block's Civilian Defense unit. The names of all the boys in the service are posted there. Other notices of interest are also posted there. Mr. Iwogami seems to have a good standing with the people of this block. His caucasian wife is also active in the Red Cross and Church work.

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All goes well in our household. Bette and Emiko are busy almost every evening. They are usually up until late because they have so much to do. Finally got Emiko to read a book, I gave to Bette "The Moon is Down" by Steinbeck. Emiko now has jumped to the Redbook, Reader's Digest level in magazine reading. Perhaps I have worried too much about her. Still haven't got any clearance on the school situation. Prof. Wirth and Dr. Johnson are working on it. Maybe Emiko and Bette should just go ahead and register without getting clearance from the School Board.

The weather has been very good for the past few days. This may account for some of my sudden energy. My spirits won't sag too much if this weather keeps up. I rather like Chicago, even if it reminds me of a big hick town. It continues to be a most interesting place so I am not bored with it yet.

Mr. Rice, our neighbor, is going into the Army on the 26th of this month. He borrowed \$2.50 from me. As a good neighbor policy, I loaned it to him this time. I think he wants to sneak out for a few drinks. A sister is going to move in with his wife.

Friday July 9, 1943

Worked pretty steadily all day typing up one of my case histories. The weather got warm once more. It has been ideal for the past few days. We had our staff meeting this afternoon, but we did not do very much.

Togo mentioned that there is a Nisei girl who has been soliciting among the Nisei soldiers down by the Y. He said things have been slow this week. One of the things that he has noticed is that many employers are now asking for FBI clearance for Nisei who have been working for them right along. Togo felt that this was the Dies Committee influence. The Herald

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American (Hearst) carried a story that a lot of Japs were loitering around on North Clark and hanging around the saloons. Complaints were made to the FBI that the Japs were forming social and cultural clubs. Shirrell denied this story in the paper.

On 43rd Street, a young Nisei couple was asked by the landlord not to have any more Japanese come to visit them because it aroused the suspicions of the neighbors and it was not so good for her apartment house. The couple are going to move to another place.

Frank said his brother had commented that the race feeling in Evanston was getting more tense and that the police force had been ordered to stand by for possible riots. It would be hell if a race riot broke loose in Chicago. There are about 300,000 Negroes in this city.

There seems to be more of a movement to go east, especially to New York. Togo has gotten wind of several Nisei who suddenly quit their jobs to go there. He said that more and more are passing through on their way east. There is also a very small trickle of Issei coming in. Shirrell claims that one-sixth of all the resettled Japanese are in this city now. >

I was talking to Mr. Frase of the WRA this evening and he told me that I was the first one cleared by the Army Board to do defense work. It must have been that form that Dorothy sent in since we are supposed to be considered as a vital war project on the study. < Frank's name was also on the list. > Frase said that the first five names were cleared today, and that I could now work on any defense job < if I got the job. >

< There is some talk of segregation of the loyal from the disloyal in the air for the camps. Tom claims that Tule will be made the segregation camp. Togo heard that the WRA is going to start the sifting out by September.

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He got the story that the WRA was planning to take out all the loyal, according to the registration forms, and move them to Chicago, St. Louis, Cleveland and other cities and relocate them directly. I don't see how this could be possible. The WRA is having enough trouble getting the people out now as it is. I doubt if a forced resettlement like this would be very healthy. There are many old people who answered in the affirmative I am sure, but they are certainly not employable. Mr. Frase said that about 16,000 are out of the camps now and this represents one-half of the employables. I would say that a good percentage of these were among the "no" answers and they are not going to get out. If my premise is true, we can look forward to a decided slowing down of resettlement. It may even fall off to a trickle after this summer. >

Bette got a student street car ticket at last. Since she usually rode to school, she let Emiko have the card. Emiko is able to save 8 cents a day on carfare by using the ticket. Then yesterday, Bette discovered that she could also get to school on the streetcar rather than taking the L. < She found that it took about the same period of time to get downtown this way. > So today, she went to the secretary of the school and told her that she had left her student permit in her blouse when she washed it so that she needed a duplicate. She was given another card so that she now can save 12¢ a day on carfare. What a bad influence I am! I told Bette to tell this story.

Emiko got a short note from the Kobe College Corporation in answer to her request for a scholarship. She was disappointed because it was only a loan. I will have to go down there next week to see if they won't grant an outright scholarship since a loan does not help the situation too much. Emiko and Bette will not be in a position to repay the money for a

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long time and they don't like to have the thing hanging over their heads.

The school tuition mess is still in a muddle.

INSERT

Copy of the letter

Dear Miss Kikuchi:

The committee approving loans to students has passed upon your application, also on the one of your sister and I am happy to report that you will receive a loan in the amount of \$200.00 and Bette one for \$150.00.

Checks have been made out but are being sent out of town for signatures and as soon as they are returned will forward them to you.

Yours sincerely,

E.M. Ekwall (signed)

Saturday, July 10, 1943

For the past two days, the WRA has been sponsoring a series of talks. Embree was supposed to be one of the featured speakers, but he did not show up. We went to the open meetings, but we did not learn too much. One of the things which struck me was that nobody knows too much about the future of the Japanese in this country and there is a sort of desperate grabbing at straws. That is why anybody with a proposal to advance gets sort of dogmatic. From what I could gather, the field representatives for employment were not too good, except for one or two. Frase was a distinct disappointment. He is on the National WRA Relocation committee. Smeltzer did not tell us anything that we did not know.

The meetings were interesting from the point of view that it revealed the general lack of knowledge of responsible people who are working with this problem. ^{omit to p 2909} Rev. Kitagawa had the greatest insight of the evacuee problems. He has lived through the camp experience so that he has some basis to talk from. Dean Redfield made the most significant comments. Smeltzer was in

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there trying. He was the most dogmatic of the speakers, but he has to be in order to push the program of assimilation over. I think that it is almost imperative that a program of this sort be pushed, at least for the duration.

Smeltzer is a deadly serious, religious, young man who gives the impression that he is tinged with fanaticism. He is often blunt and always direct which makes a bad impression with many of the evacuees. However, in spite of his short comings, he has put his full energy into the resettlement work. He has been consistent in his policy of pushing complete assimilation. For the present, I think that this is the best possible working basis, although in theory it won't work out that way. However, Smeltzer has done more than almost any other caucasian in Chicago to push this point of view in an active way instead of paying lip service to these ideas in an academic way. The WRA has not been too active in the integration program, but the tendency recently has been to devote more thinking to this problem. Most of the active work has been done by the Friends and Brethern. Smeltzer seems to have the confidence of Shirrell of the WRA much more so than the Friends. I get the impression that the Friends embarrassed the WRA during the early days, especailly in its demands for helping the Nisei get another job, so that there is still a residue of this conflict. However, the WRA is now doing most of the employment work so that there is growing cooperation between all of the agencies. The "Y's" have not been as active as they could be although they are cooperating much more now. However, it is clear that the problem of social assimilation is being handled for the most part by the Church groups. Smeltzer of the Bretherns have been most active in this respect. Fort at the Friends Hostel has not been so active in this respect. He has

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been following the line that the best way to keep the Nisei from becoming lonesome is to invite them back to the Hostel on weekends for visits. This is clearly not in line with the Friends policy at the Madison Street office.

Smeltzer in his talk attempted to emphasize the importance of the social assimilation program. He pointed out that for the past six months the primary emphasis has been to get the people out of camp as fast as possible. The 2500 evacuees in Chicago is evidence of that. He then said that the most important task now faced all those who were interested in the adjustments of the resettlers--that of getting them integrated into the social and religious life of the community. He indicated that the resettlement rate, although still comparatively slow, was progressing at a much faster rate than the integration program. He was quite alarmed at this since he felt that the social, religious, and recreational integration was most important since the danger of segregation was great. He was convinced that if such a thing happened, it would only sow the seeds of future resentments and misunderstandings on the part of the general public. He urged that something be done immediately since segregation will come fast and once this process is started the battle would be lost. Smeltzer pointed out that there was a great fear on the part of the public against the Negroes. In the past two weeks we have had several examples of this attitude. The Herald American ran the story of how people were complaining to the FBI that the Japs were loitering around the streets and saloons of the near north side, and also that they were organizing cultural and social clubs. Smeltzer said that the public was expressing its fear of the Japs in this way and that more and more of this sort of resentment

would find voice if the evacuees began to cluster together into a compact racial unit.

Smeltzer urged the representatives of the other cooperating agencies present to take an active step in preventing such a thing from happening. He then recited what the Brethern have been doing. Its avowed purpose is to accomplish the complete absorption of the Japanese into the community life. They realize that this is a two way task. The evacuee coming out here cannot be forced. "Get the evacuee out into the other groups and get the public to invite them. They have to be made to feel welcomed and accepted. The Nisei are reticent and not aggressive enough because of their experiences, fears, and natural timidity. At the same time the public is reluctant to accept them because of the fears of the Japs which have been built up. They need to be educated. It is a push and pull proposition."

In order to overcome the inertia of the Nisei, the Bretherns have organized the counsellors program. At the Brethern Hostel, discussions are also held twice weekly. In the Monday lectures, the residents of the hostel are compelled to attend. Subjects for discussion are of the following type: "What were our mistakes in social life in the past?" "What are the advantages and disadvantages of little Tokyos"? "Should we have mixed parties?" "Do the Nisei really want assimilation?" "How can we break into the caucasian society?" "How important is it for the Nisei to make the break now?"

On Thursday evenings, another discussion meeting is held. This time things of a more tangible and practical nature are discussed, such as:

"How to apply for jobs?" "How should we act in public?" "How should we dress? etc."

In order to reach the other resettlers who never do pass through the hostels, the Chicago Church Federation has organized the United Evacuee Ministry. 15 caucasian and about 8 evacuee ministers have been selected to go out and visit with Nisei. The lists have been compiled from the Friends and Brethern's files. The purpose of this counselling is to help the resettler find a place in his neighborhood. This program has been going on for the past four weeks. After the churches are softened up, the Y's are approached. There are a number of local branches of Y's which have not shown much interest yet. The Chicago Part District has also signified willingness to help the resettlers fit into the recreational programs of the public parks. Mixes social sponsored by the Y's are the next step. This is about as far as the program has gone up to now. Smeltzer concluded by stressing that those interested in this program should be on guard against the Nisei who give the excuse that they are not welcomed. He said that it was up to the Nisei leaders to get them to realize where their future welfare lay. He was aware of the fact that most Nisei did not think seriously about these problems. He felt that they had not learned the lesson. "The Nisei segregated dances which we have is evidence of that." Smeltzer mentioned that there plans for two more Japanese churches which have been strongly discouraged. Thus far the Christian ministers have been taken care of by using them as counsellors in the assimilation program.

Several people in the audience then asked about the non-church goes. It was felt that this was the largest group and they were not being reached. Then again, several of the audience felt that too much emphasis was being placed upon religion. It was pointed out that there were a number of Nisei who were Buddhist. Smeltzer was asked if they

were to be forced into the Christian churches. He said no, but that most of them were not religious and some of their social needs could be filled by the Christian church.

Shirrell said that the WRA could not stop the Buddhists from establishing its own church. In fact, he has given approval to them to go ahead and he would even assist. A group of Buddhists appealed to Myers on this matter. Shortly an English-speaking Buddhist is expected to come out from Topaz to start the church.

Right there, the principle of complete assimilation breaks down. The Buddhists cannot be denied because it then becomes a battle for the freedom of religious worship. At the present time about 90% of the resettlers are Christians nominally, but it is natural to assume that the number of Buddhists coming out will increase. I think that this is the first wedge into the segregated pattern. The next step will be clubs related to the church; then comes athletic and recreational clubs; then the Nisei dance; and from them the process of having a completely segregated Nisei society is well on the way. I think that Shirrell made a mistake in giving cooperation. He should have said nothing and done nothing either one way or the other. At least they may have delayed the process. A Nisei society is not very desirable, at least for the duration.

There has been no cases of discrimination on the level of commercial recreation. The Nisei are generally accepted anywhere in this city. It occurs to me that if a Nisei has a few friends of his racial group there is no reason why he could not find enough to do to keep from getting lonesome. The trouble is that they have not developed their interests along broader lines. If they are working they do not have too much time

for recreation anyway. This is true of everybody these days. Although about 99% of the Nisei give lip service to the principle of assimilation, they do not even try to expand. Most Nisei do not realize that segregation is a subtle thing. When it happens on a racial basis, we may as well forget about assimilation.

One of the women in the WRA office here observed that perhaps the Nisei were acting naturally. They were in a strange, big city and so they looked up former friends. She did not see any harm in having Nisei dances. Smeltzer answered that the problem was to get them to expand and to let them express their desires in a normal way at the same time. He did not think that it was such a good idea to sit by and say that we can do nothing because segregation is going to happen anyway. The woman persisted that segregation was not a racial affair, but a natural urge to see former friends. He did not think that anything could be devised to counteract this tendency on the part of the resettlers. Smeltzer thought that if a solid program was organized, segregation could be avoided "even if you have to drag the resettlers into these programs at first."

Another woman then said that it was wrong to emphasize each individual as a problem and that the counsellors should not do this. She pointed out that the Nisei had a great deal to contribute to the American life and the focus of the counselling should be on this and not so much as a problem.

Smeltzer continued with his thesis that segregation could be avoided. He said that most Nisei leaders will try to get the Nisei together in some way. "It is the strategic moment now to catch them before the Nisei society is formed. Housing prevents geographical segregation right now.

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But they are concentrating in certain areas due to the large number of vacancies there and the desire to be near their friends. If this continues, a Little Tokyo is inevitable."

A WRA field officer observed that many caucasians would not take the Nisei in and this forced them together. Smeltzer reminded him that there was no totally excluded areas yet in Chicago although individual landlords did exclude. He thought that in a way this was a good thing since it forced the resettlers to scatter out. The man persisted that he did not think there was a concentration problem as the actual percentage of the resettlers, even in the area where they are considered to be most highly concentrated, was only slight in terms of total population. Smeltzer then pointed out that the concentration at the Y's and on the near north side was an actual problem now simply because of racial features which makes them conspicuous.

Another field officer then said that it was unnatural to try and spread the Japanese out. He said that the Japanese people had some inherent quality which made them clannish. He said that only about 5% of the total population of Japan have left the Islands. "They are not a group that will scatter. Why should we try to spread them out when we don't try to spread the Chinese, Negroes. Why destroy a unit? They may become completely disorganized." Frank in his calm way squelched the man by saying that the economic conditions had a lot to do with this pre-war segregation and that discrimination had made them withdraw within the group. And that man is a WRA official responsible for the solution of the Japanese problem in this country.

Another woman of the WRA also had her say about this. She felt that the caucasians were narrow in their thinking and that we were following

the Axis pattern when we assumed that the whites were superior.

Smeltzer concluded by going back to a summary of his counsellors group. He said that steps were being taken to bring in social workers to act as counsellors also and that the emphasis was not being put on the religious function. He said that the program was to help in vocational, avocational, personal, and religious problems. At the same time the caucasian ministers on the staff could educate their own congregation. Smeltzer felt that the best way was for the Nisei to get into the church activities himself. He said that several Nisei were already in choirs. He added that the ministers did not have enough material about the evacuees so that a lot of work was necessary on this level.

(Attached Brethern pamphlets omitted.)

Later:

Dean Redfield of the U. of Chicago Social Sciences Department gave the most significant talk in these meetings. He discussed it from the wider issues. He opened his remarks with the statement that minorities have always had a tough time. The toughest time came during war time, especially if they can be identified with the enemy. Redfield felt that the Japanese were the most helpless, most exploited, and most unpopular racial minority which this country has ever had. The Japanese are not strong enough economically to apply any political pressures. They were a people marked by physical features and those from Japan had no choice of citizenship, since this has always been denied to them. And the ancestors of the Nisei are the most fearful and fanatic energy which we have ever had.

Redfield pointed out that under such a situation, the Japs were attacked at the weakest link--against those in this country. (Example: Dies committee actions; Senators Chandlers claims that a single drop of

Japanese blood made one a traitor; Sacramento Home Front Commandos which claimed that a Japanese was not fit to associate with the human race.)

He said that there was little glory for those who chose to work with the Japanese problem in this country. He said that he was not primarily interested in the fate of the 130,000 Japanese as such. His concern was that the evacuation of the Japanese was doing something to the mind of the rest of the 130 million Americans. He thought that evacuation further confused the essential issues facing this country. He realized that in the centers the evacuees were bitter and that individual lives were becoming totally disorganized. But on a cosmic scale, the important thing was what is happening to the 130 million Americans. It is the most difficult problem that we have on the home front. The issues are so blurred that the Axis countries can point to this weakness which we have internally.

Redfield pointed out that the government has created ghettos so that the public justifies. He illustrated this by telling us about the American Legionnaires of a neighboring town. He said that they were honest in their convictions that the "Japs" should be excluded from their city. Their argument was that the government had put the Japanese in the camps for the duration so, therefore, they were justified in assuming that the evacuees were not to be trusted. The real fundamental issues were not even considered.

Redfield pointed out that this development was not sudden since this country had developed two conflicting set of principles. On the one hand we have certain ideals (known as Democracy), which proclaims that civil rights are applicable to all without reference to race or origin. But at the same time, we have developed the conception that the Japanese Americans are in a different category. It is a national prejudice that has

been applied to minorities with different appearances, different customs, etc. Redfield said that all nations suffered from this disease. In this country, the negroes have the status of a second class citizen. Now the Nisei are being put into a 3rd class status, wherein certain groups with to cancel their citizenship.

Redfield said that this was exactly the position of the Axis and if we followed their principles, it would be justification to them that they are in the right. He said that it was an anomylous situation since we are supposed to be fighting the principles of the Axis dictatorships on the war front. Viewed from this angle, the future of the Nisei becomes a crucial problem for this country.

Redfield recognized that the Nisei themselves have become so preoccupied with their immediate problems that do not see this larger problem which is more important. But the allies are supposed to be fighting for the principle of non-discrimination, and recognition of civil rights. "We have to really fight for equalization viewpoint in our country and abroad if we are to avoid becoming overcome by the reactionary forces. The Japanese question as such is therefore not an isolated question. The question is: Which way is the U.S. going to move? We should approach the problem from this basis and not attempt to make the public love the Japs. We should insist that this is a national and international issue and not a Clifornia or local problem. Viewed from this perspective, the WRA has a great responsibility on its hands."

It was refreshing to hear Redfields statements. The discussions after the other speakers all seemed to go around in a circle, hunting for answers without having this fundamental basis to act as the point of

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reference, and therefore getting nowhere. By this, I do not mean to belittle their efforts since most of the audience were sincere in their desires to find a workable solution.

Reverend Kitagawa spoke more of these immediate problems. He is a young Issei from Tule Lake, very liberal, outspoken, and pro-American. He does not take a strong religious approach. He seemed to be quite practical about the problem. He has been out for a month studying the resettlement process so that he can carry the message back to camp.

Father Dai's (Rev. Kiyagawa) thesis was that the Nisei were immature, and that they have not learned to face reality yet. He said that they could not see things objectively as they have been cut off from the world for so long. Because they do think so subjectively, the problem of getting them to accept resettlement becomes most difficult. They have developed a mass neurosis from their frustrated feelings so that they do not think much about the future. They have lost faith in the government and they are uncertain about where they stand.

Father Dai felt that as long as the WRA centers existed, the Allies could not win a military victory in the war since they were symbols of Axis principles, applied by a democracy. The problem of Issei relocation was more difficult than for the Nisei since they were resentful and suspicious. He said that in Tule the arguments given are that they did not choose to go to the camps in the first place; they were uprooted; they lost all their property; they had no cash resources; it was too difficult on the outside, etc. The problem was to get them to overcome the feeling of dependency and get renewed initiative. He felt that the WRA should establish a strong philosophy of relocation. The matter of getting the evacuees was only the

beginning. The only other alternatives would be deportation or isolation on reservations.

On the practical side, the great age difference had to be recognized. He said that the Issei had been forced to retire so that it was up to the young Nisei to take the responsibilities. Kitagawa felt that the only way to get the people resettled was to get them out on a family basis on farms.

I raised the question that resettlement entirely on an agricultural basis did not seem to be the most sound program. I pointed out that most of the 16,000 now out were in urban communities. I did not think that the 70% of urban Japanese would easily take to farm life. I felt that they could just as well be reestablished in cities. However, Kitagawa and Shirrell both felt that the agricultural solution was the soundest. I didn't think too much of that and said so. Shirrell said that a former businessman could adjust himself to a farm life. I rather doubted this. Kitagawa thought that this was the only solution since the "back to the farm movement was growing all over the country." Another man said that many caucasian businessmen were going back to farming. I reminded him that in these cases it was usually a hobby. A solution like this is grabbing at straws. It is not in line with the WRA policy of fitting the evacuees back into occupational lines for which they were trained.

The other point with which I raised issue was that there seemed to be a tendency to avoid the basic issue both on the part of the WRA and the evacuee leaders. I asked Father Dai how he proposed to overcome the resistance to relocation when many of the Issei firmly believed that Japan was going to win the war. I suggested to him that they would have to be convinced

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first that Japan was not going to win the war before they would consider resettlement. Shirrell felt that part of this problem could be solved by the proposed segregation. Father Dai said that it was a tough question to answer. He said that the arguments he used was that the Issei should consider their children. If they stayed in camp for a long time their children would be ready for reform schools. He said that this appeal seemed to have a lot of effect. I forgot to be an observer and not a participant when I took issue with Father Dai. It was not anything personal; I just did not feel that the discussions were getting any place because the basic issues were not put in their proper place. I can understand the position of the WRA. It reminds me in many ways of the JAOL. It upholds certain principles, but it has to be opportunistic and compromise a lot because it has the responsibility of 130,000 evacuees on its hands. Smaller groups and individuals can take a much more stronger stand on principles since they have only themselves to answer to. These small groups forget this fact and so they snipe away at the large organization which they feel is not fulfilling its responsibilities.

We spent a quiet evening at home because it was warm and we all had something we wanted to get done. It is past 1:00 am already. Emiko has been working all evening fixing her clothes. Bette did some washing and studied a little so that she would not have to do it tomorrow. This has been the busiest week for me in a long time.

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Things have been relatively quiet for the past few days. Sunday
it rained. Emiko had a date with her boy friend who came down from the farm where he works, about 50 miles from here. I have become sort of passive

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about her affairs as I am now sure that she will come out ok. There is not too much possibility that she will become too deeply involved in a Nisei society since she is busy with her work. In the fall she will be in school. She hasn't been pushing it too much lately and since the whole business is rather indefinite yet, I have been letting the school thing ride until something more definite develops. <Bette and I did not do much Sunday except to go to the show. I had some typing I wanted to get done, and Bette had letters to write and also to fix her clothes..>

no 4 The past two days, I have been out for interviews in the evenings so that I don't know much that has been going on in our household. <I get the impression that Emiko is fixing some more clothes because when I get home, there are pieces of thread and clothes all over the place. I can hardly get into my closet these days.>

Bette is getting along fine in school and making new friends. She is also doing very well in her studies. She said that she got an A and a B in her first tests for this session. One of the pupils in her class is a college graduate. He did not get a high school diploma so that he is finishing it up now. The competition in the school is pretty strong since there are a number of older students in Bette's classes. I am sure that Bette will make out all right. Everyone is impressed with her brightness and personality.

<Yesterday morning, our clock failed us completely. It has been most tempermental ever since the time I "fixed" it. Anyway, the alarm does not work in the mornings. I awoke suddenly yesterday and looked at my watch. It said 8:30 so I wok Emiko up. She jumped up and got dressed in about 5 minutes and then she was off. A couple of minutes later I heard the radio announcer say it was only 7:30. I rushed up to the corner

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to tell Emiko, but she was just going down the street on the streetcar.

About 8:00 o'clock we got a phone call from her. She was laughing and she said that she was one hour early to work. She said that on the way to work she did not see any of the people who usually got on so that she thought she was late. She jumped off of the streetcar before it stopped rolling and hurried up to the office. The big clock was pointed at 8:00 am so she knew she was early. The colored janitor came down the hall so Emiko asked him to let her in. He said, "Yuh, huh, youse too early. That's a good joke." This put Emiko in a good humor so she went downstairs to phone Bette all about it. Emiko is getting along well in her work. She even takes a little dictation now. One of the girls quit a couple of weeks ago to go work with her father so that she and Emiko talk over the phone in their spare time. On Monday, I did not even see Emiko since she went downtown to go shopping and I went out on the interview. She was sound asleep when I got home. >

Sad to relate, I kelled two bedbugs the other night. Our hearts dropped when we discovered that the bedbugs were taking up residence with us. They were in my bed, but Emiko also imagines that her bed has some of these guests. She blinks the light on at the most unexpected hour of the night just to catch them unawares. Mrs. Blumenthall is going to fumigate for us.

The way I discovered the bedbugs was funny. I happened to have a nightmare. I dreamt that I went into the Army and after only one month of training I was sent to fight the Japs in the Pacific. In the very first battle, I was captured. A little Jap sergeant has me all tied up and he

leans over me, buck teeth and all, and says in a raspy voice, "So you think that you are an American, huh? I will teach you a lesson." So the Japs tie me to a post and they began to stick long needles in my back. I awoke with a start. I could still feel the pain of the needle jab. I rubbed my back and to my amazement I found big bumps. I jumped up and turned on the lights. A few minutes I discovered the bedbugs. Well, the Japs must have sent them over!

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I did not mind interviewing Helen for three straight times since she fed me a lot. Last night, Emiko tried cooking fish but none of us liked it so well. When I got over to Helen's place, I found out that she had a big bowl of wonderful spaghetti so I had a "tiny" sample. The people that employ Helen spend a lot of money on food so I had a good time "looking" in the icebox. Helen let me have anything I wanted so I ate while I interviewed her. Since she is leaving for Minnesota soon, I invited her to come over for dinner on Thursday as she would like to look at our apartment. Emiko wants her to teach her how to play a guitar.

Deki dropped over yesterday and we talked for quite a while in the office. She has been married for some weeks now. Her husband is a doctor and he is working up in Minnesota. Deki plans to get a social work job here until Octover and then go to St. Louis to the Washington University in order to finish up her MA work.

Right now her chief worry is finding an apartment to stay in. She has been hunting for days without much luck. Deki believes that the landlords are more prejudiced against the Orientals now. I am sure that she will eventually find a place. Right now she is staying at the Wabash Street Y with the countless other "buddha heads" who loiter all over the place. She says that they do not bother her any she only goes back there to sleep. She

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wants to get out as soon as she can locate a more permanent place. I told her that I would not go to visit her until she left all of the other Buddha heads at the Y because it would ruin my reputation to even be seen near that place! I sure am prejudiced.

The other evening I was munching on some candy and one of my fillings was pulled out. I got an appointment with Dr. Tashiro since I felt that I could then cultivate him for the purposes of the study at the same time. This morning I went over.

Dr. Tashiro is not very tall, He is an older Hawaiian, very extrovert. He certainly does like to talk, but it is not objectionable. I rather enjoyed it. I was surprised to find that Hisaye Tanimachi was his receptionist. She used to work for Dr. Hirota in SF. She said that Dr. Hirota had received his commission for the Army and he is now a Lieutenant at Shelby in the Dental Corps.

I was no sooner seated in the chair when Dr. Tashiro started to talk. He said that he had heard a lot about me and I said that was mutual so we got off to a good start. There was not much he could do on my teeth today so for an excuse to keep me there he started to clean them. I had visions of a huge bill since he charges high rates and he has a very good practice. But I did not protest.

Dr. Tashiro is one of the oldest residents of Japanese ancestry in this area. He received his training at the University. Then he worked as an aide for a few years. Finally one of his caucasian friends told him that he should open his own practice. Dr. Tashiro was a little doubtful that a person with a yellow face could make good! However, Tashiro had gained quite a reputation for his skill so he decided to give it a trial. His folks had sent

him over to get his training and they expected him to go back to Hilo to begin his practice. Tashiro was offered, by the Dental Supply Association, \$3,000 worth of equipment to start his own office. However, Tashiro was not too sure that he would be a success so that he only asked for the second hand equipment. "After the first month, I paid off the \$385.00 debt and from then on I made money. I lost \$60,000 in stocks in 1929 but I still am comfortably well off."

His office looks it. He has a nice place with all modern equipment. His hobby is photography so that he has his movie projector there and he insists that his friends look at the movie shots he has taken. He likes flowers so that he had many shots of flowers in the films. Tashiro said that he was quite a ball player in his younger days and many of the men he played with are still his patients. He said that it was through his church and university activities that he got off to a good start. He seems to know many of the prominent people in Chicago. I met a professor while I was there this morning.

Tashiro said that he believes in being a pioneer. He is a bachelor. He honestly believes that he laid the groundwork throughout the years for the church group so that they have an easy time now in getting the Nisei integrated. He also claims a close friendship with the founder of the Mitsui Company, the largest one in Japan.

Now I get the impression that Tashiro rather welcomes the influx of the Nisei. He says that his pioneering days are done. He was quite disgusted with the Saturday meeting at the WRA because they had nothing practical to offer. Tashiro believes that not enough of the local people who know the situation are consulted on the problems of resettlement to this area. Meaning himself? Strangely enough, I did not get the same impression

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of conceited fool as I would label on to a Takahashi or some other ambitious Nisei.

Tashiro believes that the Chicago area and the vicinity within 50 miles of it could take 20,000 Japanese without even noticing it. He does not agree with the dispersion idea. "Look at Chicago. They don't tell the Negroes to move. They don't try to scatter the Chinese. The Jews are all together. This is a very cosmopolitan city and there are many groups here in limited areas. Why should they tell the Japanese to scatter?

Dr. Tashiro does not think that agriculture is the solution, but he feels that there is a fine opportunity for many of those who were in farming before the war. At one time, he was considering buying a house and some land and putting some Issei on it. He feels that there would be a good chance to put the Japanese into truck farming:

"Every weekend over one million cars go out of Chicago and they come back loaded with vegetables. Why couldn't some Japanese locate himself on one of the main highways and open up a vegetable stand. It would be very profitable. The only thing that they would have to learn is that they can only have one crop a year. It is rich land and it yields a lot. In the winter they could get by with a few cows, pigs and poultry.

"The only trouble about getting many of the Nisei on the farms is that they do not have the capital. I have interested George Aratani to come out here and invest some of his old man's money in these truck farms instead of sending all of his men to Colorado. Before the war Aratani was one of the biggest farmers in the Santa Maria Valley. He got his money from his father who died. George would live like a decent American. His family had a decent

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house back in California. I have no use for the Issei like Minami. He was one of the richest Japanese yet he lived in a house no better than camp and saved all of his money.

"I think that it is up to the Issei to help out the Nisei with their money. It would be the best investment in the world. There is no other way this problem will be solved."

I got the impression that Dr. Tashiro is unconsciously looking for prestige. Although he is a prominent dentist, I think that he still feels that he does not get the recognition which he really believes that he is entitled to. Tashiro is a smart man, there is no doubt of that. After all these years outside of the Japanese society, he now is plunging into the work. At the same time, I think he honestly believes that he is working for the evacuees because he wants to help and for that reason alone.

He has some ideas which show that he doesn't know too fully the situation of the Japanese on the Pacific Coast. I think that he makes his judgments on the basis of the Hawaiian Japanese and of those who were in pre-war Chicago where the racial relations are much better. I don't think that he fully realized the dangers which a Japanese community would create. He has one plan that he has been working on for a long while. He would like to see some Nisei and caucasians get together and open up a super Sukiyaki restaurant, like the Chinese chop suey houses. He would like also to see many Nisei open up gift stores. These are practical suggestions, but the setting does not have to be in a Japanese community. I don't know exactly what he means when he says that 20,000 Japanese could come in without much fuss. It could work out if they scattered over a large area but not if they congregated.

One of the things that Dr. Tashiro is working on has definite values. He is worried about the health of the Nisei. He said that hospital expenses were high and it would be most difficult for the worker to get adequate care if they are not covered. He feels that all Nisei should sign up with the Hospital Plan in which they pay \$9.00 a year and all hospital expenses are paid in case of illness. He has gone to see some of his doctor friends at the U. of Chicago hospital to see if some arrangement could not be made.

Tashiro feels that the Nisei are not aggressive enough. He feels that they would not have any difficulty at all in getting good jobs. "The trouble with them is that none of the young kids want to start at the bottom. They all expect to make \$50.00 a week. If they have the skill and experience they can get to the top in time, but they will have to work for it. There is one Hawaiian Nisei who I know. He got a job at 50.00 a week because he was a trained radio man. In two weeks he cleared off the table of repairs that had been laying around for months. The manager was so pleased that he gave him a \$5.00 a week raise. Then he got another offer of a radio job. The man offered him \$60.00 a week. He took it and he was so good that the man made him the manager of the shop. Now he has three Japanese and three caucasians working under him. He makes well over \$300.00 a month. But all of the Nisei cannot expect to have such success. They will have to work hard and long before they ever get into the real money. But they can make a living at many of the smaller paying jobs, a decent living too. The cost of living is not so high that a man has to have \$40.00 a week to live on. With good management they can easily make it on \$20.00-25.00 a week."

I have another dental appointment with Tashiro for next Monday.

Emiko was all burnt today when she came home from work. On the streetcar, a white woman tried to take a seat away from a young Negro woman. She said that for weeks she had been sitting in the same seat everyday. The Negro girl said that the seats were not reserved and she would not give it up. The white woman got ugly and she said that was the reason race riots started, the Negroes were getting too fresh, etc. A man sitting behind the Negro girl then began to mutter about how the Negroes were "black shit", etc. He kept it up all the way home. The Negro girl started to get mad, but another Negro said to ignore him because he was uneducated. Emiko was quite sore and she almost told the dumb man off for being so prejudiced.

As she was coming down the street to our apartment, a woman called her and asked her if she wanted a job. Emiko said she was working already. The woman said she wanted to do something for the Japanese Americans. She has been contacting the WRA, but they have not sent anybody out yet.

Alice has been working almost six months now at her job, and she is thinking of looking for a better paying one. She gets \$50.00 a month dependents allowance, and she is saving all of it. Lately she has been hearing about how much Nisei girls are making. Maudie Yamazaki is supposed to be working for \$35.00 a week doing office work. She graduated the second highest from the Gila High School. Emiko says that she is satisfied with her job since she likes the people there and she will only be doing it for a month or so more. Have heard rumors that Mariko has an art job, but have not received details yet.

We hired Louise Suski to do secretarial work for us. She is very efficient. Frank has been dictating to her for the past few days and she

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gets everything out right away. Tom also has some girl on a part time basis but she is not so good. Louise is an older Nisei. She worked for 14 years with the Rafu Shimpo, and she was the city editor of the Heart Mountain paper. She hopes to get some sort of research work with a magazine soon. She said that she is not interested in the money, but more in the work and that is why she wants to work for us on a half time basis. We already have four staff workers here so that I think it hardly is likely that Dorothy could give her research work. Louise is giving us some leads. However, Togo has most of this data at hand so that we will be able to fill in pretty good.

Dorothy sent the fan to our office today and I had it going most of the day. It kept us pretty cool. Instead of me working harder, I got less typed up today than usual! But that was because I spent the morning talking to Dr. Tashiro.

Another incident happened here and the papers gave it space. Three Filipino sailors were turned over to the naval authorities for stabbing and beating up four Hawaiian Nisei in a brawl on the Near North Side, one block west from where Alice lives. There are scads of Japs down there. Over 10 other Filipino sailors were involved.

The fighting was supposed to be the climax of ill feeling which has been growing. The police said it was precipitated when one of the Nisei made a slighting remark about the U.S. Navy.

Shirrell said that the real story was that the incident started when one of the Filipinos called the Nisei an "insulting name" in the tavern. I will try to get him to give us more details. He was quoted in the paper.

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"The Japanese told the sailor he wouldn't argue or fight because of his respect for the Navy uniform. When the Filipino discovered he was an American citizen, he apologized and shook hands."

The involved Nisei are former members of the Merchant marine. I hope that these sort of incidents do not increase. Every incident of this sort is an argument against Japanese segregation for the duration of the war. These Hawaiian Nisei are necessarily trouble makers. They are used to going to the bars, and I would guess that they were called Japs. The Hawaiians are tough boys and they don't take much of this. They would rather fight than eat.

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We had a very illuminating and interesting evening last night. Helen (CH-3) came over for dinner so that Emiko fixed up a special dinner. It was quite warm again but I stayed and typed at the office later than usual. When I got home I was pretty tired. I took a minute to lay on the bed just for a short rest, I swear, and I fell sound asleep.! Emiko and Bette chastised me severely for this breach of etiquette, but I excused it on the basis that we were old friends. Bette said that if I was so tired I should just have sat there and closed my eyes and taken a little snatch of sleep. She said I may as well get used to being bossed around because when I get married I would be used to it.

After an excellent dinner, we sat in the living room. Bette turned on the radio and we stumbled on the American Town Hall Meeting of the Air which was discussing the problem of whether the Japanese should be allowed on the Coast again for the duration. We missed almost half of the program and were quite disappointed. We heard enough of the discussion

to stimulate us all evening.

Carey McWilliams and Max Radin were taking the positive point of view and Representative Costello and Mr. Groves took the negative view. It was a very heated discussion and the audience were definitely opposed to the return of the Japanese. Several times McWilliams was booed. The meeting was held in Santa Barbara, which explains the anti-sentiment.

The questions from the floor were mostly directed against Mc Williams in order to put him on the spot but he gave a very creditable performance. However, the emotional reasoning prevailed in the minds of his opponents.

Helen, Emiko and Bette were very aroused at some of the outrageous statements made. McWilliams reminded Costello that we were not fighting the 70,000 Nisei, but that we were in a war against the axis and the principles which they upheld. In spite of that several people got up and said that California did not want the Japanese back because they could not be trusted. Costello said that 20% were disloyal and that some of the evacuees who had been released went around insulting the men in the service. He cited the Filipino and Nisei "riot" yesterday in which a Nisei was stabbed. (He is in a critical condition). The trend of thinking as expressed in the opinions of the audience and Costello was that for their own safety, the Japanese should be kept out of California. Costello said that the execution of the Tokyo aviators and the fact that wounded soldiers were coming back from the Pacific made it most unsafe for any Jap.

McWilliams got quite angry at this illogical bit of rationalization. He asked Costello why the Japanese should be put in protective custody because of anticipated fears of mob violence. He said that a

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negro in the south was in daily fear of lynching, but that did not justify putting them all in camps. He said that it was not a democratic procedure and that California should not attempt to overrule the Constitution. Costello answered that the three pacific coast states were in a better position to pass judgment on the Japanese problem because it had 90% of the Japanese before the war. Then he said that they were of a treacherous frame of mind. He cited American soldiers who had fought in the Pacific as authorities. Bette got so disgusted when she heard this. She explained, "Why should the old fool try to say that we are like the Jap soldiers. I'm more of an American than he is even if he is a member of Congress. He's prejudiced." Emiko then commented that she felt that Costello was a disgrace to the American intelligence.

McWilliams answered this charge by saying that the Nisei had no racial characteristic as deceit and treachery as the Joint Immigration Committee were trying to prove. He called it a lot of race baiting, bigotry, and he said that it was about time for us to fight for real democracy. He really did let off a blast against the Joint Immigration Committee.

Then Costello said that it was impossible to tell a loyal Japanese from a disloyal. He said that this was not a racial prejudice since the FBI could always send somebody to listen to a German meeting, "But I defy the FBI to go to a Japanese meeting and come back with what they said! They say they are loyal and then send short wave messages to Japan."

Emiko commented that Costello was a one track minded fool.

Costello went on to say that even a so called loyal Jap could not be trusted. He said that Mike Masooka had lied to him about

confidential material which the Dies Committee seized. McWilliams pointed out that he could not judge from one individual alone.

A college student asked what would become of his Nisei classmate's attitudes against of this country if he was kept in a camp. Costello hinted that he should feel lucky because the government supplied him with good food and a good educational system. This was clearly a distortion of the fact. Costello felt it was dangerous to release the Nisei because they could scatter all over the country and no check could be placed on them. He definitely did not want them in California because it was not safe for their health.

McWilliams then retorted, "When you people talk about the possibilities of mass riots against the Japanese here, you are inciting feeling against them all over the country and you should not make such statements." He went on to say that the Dies Committee was rotten and that all Martin Dies wanted was a poll tax democracy. He wondered what purpose they had in the centers.

Costello said he was the chairman of the Dies Committee on investigating the camps and he wanted to defend it. He said that he found out that the disloyal thinking dominated the center and Dies wanted to promote Americanism. He said that the WRA has not done this.

Helen was buring up by the time the forum was over and we spent most of the evening talking about the future of the Nisei in relation to the world conflict. Emiko and Bette took a very active part in the discussion and they wanted to know how such things could be fought. We decided that the best way would be for each individual Nisei to go out and get to know a number of caucasians and by his own individual actions,

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it would help to give the American public a better and truer view of the group since they would judge on this basis. Helen was shaking and she said that she was going to write a long letter to Costello and tell him that her brother was in the Army and that she was just as good an American as he was. We talked this over and decided that the letter should not be defensive but an attempt should be made to give an honest opinion in order to enlighten men like him with distorted views.

Emiko felt that this was the "most interesting discussion that we have had for a long time and I would not have missed it for anything." We started to talk about the general Nisei apathy. Emiko said that they were too concerned with their individual lives to care about such things. "That's why they are always talking about socials. Good for Emiko! Bette was puzzled why so many Nisei has a feeling of inferiority and why the caucasian Americans should feel superior. "I see a lot of funny white people on the streets and I certainly think that I am just as good as they are. Helen felt that is was a little depressing to realize that the hopeless part of the whole thing was that so many Nisei were ignorant of their own problems. She said that most of them could not educate the public. She wondered what to say to her employer when she talked about the program tomorrow. I suggested that she just alk from her own experiences.

Helen did not know what would happen to the Nisei in the future. She felt that the public feeling against them was rising once more. However, she thought that it was more in relation to the international problems. She agreed with McWilliams that the "eyes of the Axis nations are on us and will be judged by the way the Japanese problem is solved." Helen felt that the American way would win out although it looked bad at times.

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We were greatly encouraged later on in the evening when we heard the WRA speech from Washington which discussed the resettlement of the Japanese Americans. It was pointed out over this national broadcast that there has not been one case of disloyalty among the more than 16,000 who have been released. The contribution of the sugar workers was stressed. The speaker said that the Japanese had harvested enough sugar beets for 10 million people to have a sugar supply for a year. He then explained the process by which the evacuees were released. He said that each person was checked by the FBI files. He concluded by saying that we should handle the problems in the American way,

Emiko wondered if as many people heard this program as the Town Hall Meeting. I did not think so. Bette said that the people won't change their minds easily anyway because they would only believe what they wanted to.

None of us knew what the future held although we had an idea that there would be a great deal more public discussion on this whole issue now and that there might be a move to send the resettlers back to camp. Emiko and Bette said that they would have to drag them back. "This time we won't cooperate. We have to fight it out to finish." Helen was very impressed with the mature views which they expressed.

Helen then told Emiko about Ine, the girl who works downstairs from Emiko. She said that the girl was a very sad case and she just lived the social life which her roommate had. She said that the other girl, Yuki, was a tall and fairly attractive Nisei girl who comes from a pretty well off family. She is 21. The girl has a fairly good defense job and she has led an extreme social life. She goes out almost every evening with caucasian

or Nisei who will take her, and she feels unhappy if she has to stay home one night. Neither of the two girls know how to cook. Three boys living in the next apartment were batching so that the girls suggested that they all eat together and they would do the cooking. It ended up with one of the boys doing all the cooking and shopping. The boy even had to do the housecleaning for the girls.

Helen was over there one night when they had a dinner party. They did not have a thing planned so that she went out and bought \$5.00 worth of food. They have never offered to repay her. On top of that the girls sat in the front room and did not make a move to do the cooking so that Helen helped the boys do all of it. She feels that the girls are headed for trouble if they do not get on to themselves. Helen said that she would never go over there again. She stated that the chief characteristic among many of the Nisei was that they had no conception of social etiquette. At that dinner she went to, the other two girls did not even make a move to do the dishes so that one of the boys had to do it all by himself.

The water on the South side is not so good. It tastes awfully funny. There is a lot of sewage being poured into the lake and there is a definite threat of typhoid, dysentary, and other illness. Emiko says that her stomach has been funny for the past few days and Bette also has been having trouble.

Mr. Joe Lohnman, an instructor in the Sociology Department in the University, came in and he had some interesting comment to make on the Filipino-Nisei stabbing. He felt that there was more to it than the super patriotism of a few emotionally charged Filipinos. "The near north side

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is the center of the Filipino community. I would say that there are over 500 men there. They are all busboys and they have no women. For years they have been suppressed and they are lower in the social order than most other racial minorities. They have accepted this role. Suddenly the war breaks out and their homeland is raped by the Japanese Army. So this gives them a chance to release some of their frustrations. So they step on the necks of the Nisei and say to the white community to which they want to be identified, 'Hell, I'm just as much of an American as you are. These Nisei may have citizenship, but they showed their true colors when the war broke out. That is why they were put in the camps. We don't want them around us.'

"But this incident has to be studied in its real social setting. This area is one of the most transient in Chicago. All of the newcomers to the city go there to make their start. You get Oakies from the South, foreigners, Filipinos, farm people who want to get into the urban life, and so on. These people are all striving for recognition and prestige. The Filipinos have been there for years, and with the coming of the Japanese it becomes a swell chance for them to release their aggressions, and they can do it with the approval of the white community.

"Thus you are going to find that that area is one of social dynamite. This is not an unusual social phenomena. You find it all the way through the city. That is why the Italians in defense plants try to step on the necks of the Negro who attempts to break in. They are conscious that their own status is not secure so they seek it in this way. That is why the Negroes discriminate against the European Jews who try to get into their area. The negro feels that he can release his

frustration on the Jew who is not considered as a white man. That is why the Chinese discriminate against the Negro in his restaurants. He assumes a superior position. The only reason why the Chinese don't attempt against the violence against the Nisei coming in is that he merely has to play defensive role and say, 'I'm not Jap, I'm a Chinese.' Usually that is sufficient.

"It is different for the Filipino. He has been in a low social scale for years. With a one sex society they have built up certain institutions around the taxi dance halls. They feel that they have an ownership claim on the women there. The Nisei coming in are a novelty and they are not so solicitous. So what happens? The Filipino fears that here is a threat to him. So they gang up on the Nisei afterwards, and they can get away with it because they are protecting the honor of the American flag they say.

"I am just making hypotheses as to what actually happened, but you can bet that there is some reason like this and patriotism is only the rationalized reason. I will admit that many of the Filipinos may have lost members of their families when their homeland was taken by the Japanese, but in general it is other reasons which will explain any violence which will develop. It is unfortunate that the Nisei are going into the Ghetto. It makes dispersal a joke. They may not be too concentrated right now but the tendency will be in that direction. If any number of single make Nisei go into the Near north area, you can bet your life that there will be trouble. And it will be with the Filipino because it is such an emotionally charged district.

We all agreed with him that it was unfortunate that the Nisei were tending to go into the near north side in numbers. They are only

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following a pattern which other migrants have followed. However, there is a control force in the WRA and steps could definitely be taken to prevent this concentration. Alice and Mariko live right in the center of that area, but I don't worry about their safety as no harm will come to them as long as they are careful. But that North Clark congregation is a source of dynamite. There are all sorts of super patriots floating around in that area and the way they can gain status is to take a poke at a "Jap" in defense of the flag or some other superficial reason of this sort.

We are waiting for Togo to come and give us some more information on the stabbing, but I guess he will not show up since it is raining. It started to rain real hard about a half hour ago. I can't leave the office until it lets up a little. It was one of those humid hot days today so that the electric fan came in mighty handy.

Togo did not show up today. We went to the show this evening.

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It was a hot weekend; too hot to do anything but be apathetic. Since I typed all week, I decided not to go to the office on Saturday. I slept most of the day! The late hours must have accumulated and hit me at last. I really wasn't that tired, just lazy. I had an appointment for an interview with Toshie in the afternoon, but had to postpone it until today since she was otherwise engaged. Bette slept all morning and then went upstairs to do her work in the afternoon. Emiko stayed downtown to do some birthday shopping for Tom. Merry works at the same office so that they see a lot of each other. She is supposed to be doing it temporarily until she is clear by the War Department for another job which she has lined up. Emiko makes it a habit of staying down town to go shopping on Saturday.

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I think that she should do the food shopping for the weekend instead of letting Bette do it, but Emiko just doesn't get the hint. She thinks yet that cooking is the hardest part of the keeping up of our apartment. It is funny to see her cook. She had Bette running back and forth to get this and that. On top of that, Bette usually prepares most of the things beforehand and all that Emiko has to do is to light the oven and put it on. It is a good thing that Bette is so good natured. Emiko means well, but she forgets sometimes. Then she is tired when she comes home. However, that does not excuse the fact that Bette is the more ambitious and does most of the work in the apartment. Emiko is busy all evening usually, but it is mostly in fixing her own stuff. Every once in a while she works hard in a streak like Saturday night when she worked around and did the laundry and other things until 2:00 am before flopping into bed in exhaustion. It is not Emiko's fault. She just doesn't see things as well as Bette and is not as steady. But then, she has many other assets which sorts of balances this up. I keep out of this part of our life since I feel that it is up to them to fix up the schedule between them. Up to now, Bette has been getting the worst of it. She works hard upstairs, goes to school, studies, etc. and this keeps her occupied until late at night. Usually she takes a couple of hours off in the evening to listen to her favorite radio programs and read the papers. >

Yesterday, we had another crisis in our housing. The outcome is still indefinite, but we are sort of over the barrel. There seems to be some neighborhood pressure developing against the "Japs" again. There are not very many Nisei in our immediate neighborhood so that the pressure could not be due to the fact that the growing suspicion and antagonism is due to the presence of these few. It is more of a general suspicion which has spread over the whole South Side <being intensified in a few areas around 42nd,

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47th, 63rd and Hyde Park areas.)

I assume that it is the landlords and real estate association which are the primary factor in spreading the suspicion. Mrs. Blumenthal has been nice ever since our first housing crisis. Bette has mentioned several times that she is a person who can be nice as pie one day and crabby as hell the next. From what she said yesterday, I gather that she still is a little worried about having us here because of neighborhood comments. A few days ago another Nisei couple came looking for a place in this building. I didn't know who they were. I was thankful that they did not move in; and at the same time, it irritated me to discover that they were being refused in all the places in this neighborhood. Mrs. Blumenthal told them that she did not have any empty apartments and the sign of vacancy was an old one. Bette tells me that there are two apartments on the second floor which are not occupied.

When we first came into Chicago three months ago, we did not have any difficulty in finding a place. This was the experience of most of the Nisei who moved to the South Side. But as more and more came in, the landlords began to close places to the newcomers. Concentration in some areas was the cause for some of this, but I am wondering whether all the recent publicity of the Dies Committee, etc. did not have something to do with it. At least it brought it more to the public attention. The very fact that there are 2500 in town may have had something to do with it. Bad publicity (like the stabbing of the other day) may also have done a lot of harm. It is fear on the Landlord's part that the Nisei will get them into trouble more than anything else which in many cases causes the discrimination in housing.

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We were just loafing around when Mrs. Blumenthal knocked on the door and said that she would like to talk to Bette. ~~We~~ only had our bathrobes on, but we let her come in anyway. She said in a very nice way that she was not satisfied with the way Bette was cleaning the bathroom upstairs. She said that they were always dirty and that Bette could not follow her instructions. She went on to tell about how dirty it was behind the basins and the smears that were on the walls. This was totally uncalled for since Bette works hard upstairs. I was just on the verge of telling her off and to get somebody else when she said: "I don't know what to say. Of course, you know that if I let Bette go, that means you will have to vacate the apartment. I would have to get somebody else and let her use the apartment in exchange for the work. Now mind you, I think that you are very nice people, but something will have to be done."

I told her that the room had nothing to do with Bette's work since we had been in here before any of this work was started and the only reason why we had agreed to take the room in exchange for Bette's work instead of having her pay Bette directly was to make it more convenient. I did not want to make a big issue of this matter since Emiko got worried right away and she said, "Well, why not let Bette try again. You could tell her what you want done everyday and then look it over before she comes downstairs."

Mrs. Blumenthal said that she wanted to be fair minded, and she would give Bette another ~~trip~~^{try}. "All I ask is for you to put in two and one-half hours a day and keep the bathrooms clean." It then dawned on me that she wants to take advantage of Bette, at the same time having us over the barrel by keeping us in fear of losing the room. You could just see all over her that she was taking advantage of the situation. She would feel relieved if we had moved, although she has not said a

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word and she still acts nicely. But there is that certain uncomfortable feeling. I can't tell her off because she can pick on any flimsy excuse to tell us to move. Well, I have a thick skin and we will hold our ground.

<It is unfortunate that Mrs. B. thinks this apartment is dependent upon how well Bette does the work upstairs. I told Bette not to work more than the two hours a day, but to put extra effort into the work that she does do and try to do it well. Bette was very worried because she feels that if we lose the apartment, it will be on account of her. She said that she would even be a timid Japanese mousy girl if that would do any good. "But she is not going to take advantage of me. If I were easily prejudiced, I would say that she is a Jew and that is why she is trying to get a lot of extra work out of me for nothing."

I told Bette that we would give Blumenthall the benefit of the doubt and assume that the work upstairs could be done a little better, but that her real motive was to get us out of here on any pretext. We mind our own business and don't cause any trouble, but I will raise one hell of a stink if she tries to evict us on any flimsy excuse that the apartment hinges on Bette's work. Mrs. B. left us the victor since we ate dirt and assumed that we were wrong and she was right. I didn't see the sense of making any issue of the thing. <In some way, I will have to detach Bette from the job if this sort of thing keeps up. The job is very convenient for Bette since it gives her a \$30.00 a month income and I only have to put out once by paying her instead of rent. But I'm not going to let anybody take advantage of Bette. > Although the matter is apparently all settled, I am a little fearful that the issue will come up again very unexpectedly. Mrs. B. is a little neurotic.

It is a very unsettled feeling to have the thought hanging over us that we may be suddenly asked to move. It makes me angry and disturbs me at the same time. I don't relish the idea of moving. It is so difficult to find a place and after Emiko and Bette get started in school, it will be one hell of a crisis if it comes up again. I have enough to worry about in getting them into school. I thought our housing problem was all settled, but now I can't ever be certain.

^{not} I have heard rumors, apparently true, that several other Nisei near us were told to move and they did without much protest. Fay Nakagawa came into the office to see me this afternoon and she also has a serious housing crisis. She was certainly worried, but she accepted the fact philosophically. Fay has been out here for about two months. She is working as a secretary for the War department on the university campus. She was given the afternoon off so that she could go look for an apartment.

Fay lives with two other girls in an apartment near 42nd street. When I last saw her about two weeks ago, she was very pleased with the place and getting along well. Suddenly, her landlord made things very uncomfortable for them and now they have to get out by this Saturday. Fay just poured out her story because she was so distressed and she needed somebody to sympathize with her. I could sympathize with her, but that didn't help too much. I only discouraged her when I said that she should fight the matter on general principle, and that she should not expect to find a new place in one afternoon.

Fay: "I don't know what to do. This is the first time that I have ever had to look for an apartment. I always lived at home, except for the time before the war when I worked for the War Department at Camp Roberts.

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The Brethern Hostel got the present apartment for us. At first the landlady was very nice. Then some sort of movement developed in the neighborhood to keep all the Japanese out. There are a lot of Irish people living down there and they did not like to see so many Nisei moving in down there. They have some sort of an association and they got together and made a petition that no Japs could live in their neighborhood. Lately, they have stared at us. Our landlady told us that they have threatened her and they said that they would throw rocks in her house if she did not get rid of the Japs. She is so scared that she just cries and she wants us to move.

"We have lots of visitors coming over to see us but she does not want them to come in. When we were coming home from the picnic yesterday, she said in great alarm, 'Please don't bring them in.' We told our friends to come up anyway, but our afternoon was spoiled. We felt so depressed that we just laid on the beds and didn't say anything.

"Last night, we decided to move. The landlady has not given us a formal notice, but she makes it so uncomfortable that we just don't feel like staying there. One of the girls is going to move in with her sister so that we have to split up. The other girl is working for some church so that she can go live in the dorm which they have. That means that I will have to find a place by myself. I haven't got time to find another girl to room with me and I don't just want to take any girl. Since I am working so near the University, I would like to live around here. The housing department of the University has given me a list of rooms that I can go look at. I will have to eat out, I suppose."

Tom and I told her that she should raise a hell of a stink anyway and tell the landlady that she is liable to a big fine since this is

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eviction without cause. We suggested that she tell her landlady that workers for the War Department are not supposed to be evicted.

Fay: "I guess I will put in a complaint all right, but I just don't want to stay there any more. I try to be nice to the neighbors so that they will judge me as an individual and not have such bad ideas about the Nisei, but they are thick headed and nothing will ever convince them. They are just like the Issei with all their pro-Axis notions. When I walk down the street, I can actually feel all of their unfriendly stares. And my landlady is getting nasty. She says that we mark up the sofas, and have too many visitors. When a girl friend came down to visit me from Michigan, she said that I would have to pay an extra dollar a night while she was there. I only gave her fifty cents. I don't think I should have given her anything since it is our own apartment; just like a home and it is our business who comes in."

Fay was pretty scared about the whole thing. She felt that the WRA just did not care what happened. I suggested that she phone Mariko up in case she did not find a place by Saturday, since Mariko will have to get a roommate when Alice leaves. It is quite an emotional experience for a girl to be away from home for the first time and then be confronted with a situation like this. Deki finally got located after three weeks of searching and she invited me over to look it over sometime after she cleaned it up a bit. She pays about \$60.00 a month. Mose Nisei would not be able to pay this much. Deki is older and has been around so that she can get along by herself, whereas Fay is just a frightened girl, even if she is about 23. Even Deki was pretty worried though and she came into our office a couple of time very depressed over the housing problem.

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I went over to see Toshie (CH-4) this afternoon and she has a housing problem. She lives in a dump of a basement in a very slummy section of the near north side. It's not so good for the baby. Toshie has adjusted herself for the temporary housing, but she plans to move as soon as possible. While she gave me a drink, I took notes on her life history. She was not too talkative today so I will have to fill in a lot of her case history later. Albert is working at McClurgs where about 50 Nisei are employed. He is some sort of clerk. In the evenings he goes to a government training school so that he can get a good paying defense job. They are very indefinite about future plans. Albert would like to go to Detroit if he can find housing. The city is 125% overcrowded now. Toshie told me that a lot of the landlords on the near north side are getting mad because many single Nisei fellows are bringing cots out with them from camp and moving in on their friends until they can find a place of their own. The landlords don't want their apartments overrun with a lot of "Japs."

Mariko was ill in bed with a cold so that we made a short visit over there yesterday afternoon in order to cheer her up. We thought she would be all alone, but she had the usual big company over, about six or eight people. She says she can't keep them away, but none of us believe her anymore. Mariko still seeks the social life.

Their housing problem is not solved yet. Mariko has been back over a month, and Alice still is with her. Alice doesn't want to leave her until Mariko has a steady job. She has been looking around but can't find an apartment. What a hell of a honeymoon for her! They have to go to cheap hotels to spend the weekend.

WFF There is some question whether Mariko will be able to keep her place or not. Last week, Mariko found out from the plumber that O'Brien

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and Ashton had a big fight after they left Marikos a couple of Sundays ago. So Ashton went all around and collected the rent money and then he beat it for parts unknown. This means that O'Brien will raise another stink and try to get double rent. He had a man fix up the upstairs a little and paint the downstairs hallway so that he may still try to raise the rent.

Just heard some big news. The American flyers bombed Rome. The war is a long way from being won yet. The Pacific front is not too active. Russia has started a counter offensive against the Germans. Two unknown Nisei I overheard on the El today said that the war would be over in another six months and then they all could go back to California. What a pipe dream!

Mariko had her art job for one day. She made exactly 45¢! She made a slighting remark that the employer was a "Kuchi" or something. (Anyway it means a Jew and is equivalent to "keto" for a white man---both derogative terms.) I was surprised to hear her make such an intolerant statement. In many ways, both Mariko and Alice continue to have racial prejudice. It always disturbs me, but when I say anything an argument is generated. I can't understand why people, especially Nisei, are so intolerant against other minority groups.

Mariko's job was on a piece work basis, painting dolls faces at 3¢ per face. The boss told her that she could do 300 per day and Mariko did only 15 the first day. She said that it was too much of a strain on her eyes and the place was unsanitary. She caught a cold the first day and has been in bed for about a week. She doesn't get paid for days she is sick. After she gets a little better, she will look for another job.

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She claims that she is down to her last \$7.00 but I don't believe that. It is a slight exaggeration to say the least. Mariko is very independent so that she will get along.

Emiko started to talk about the Town Hall meeting, but they were not very interested. Then we started to talk about the stabbings, but they had few comments. It was a very impersonal matter to them and they felt that it was an individual case like any other sort of stabbing which had no relation to the general problem of the resettlement program. Yoshie then interrupted by telling about her "cute" dress and the conversation swung back to who they knew and other light topics. I told Emiko afterwards that it was not in the nature of that particular group to be interested in things beyond themselves.

Mariko told me about some caucasian woman that she knew who had told her that the Negroes were getting out of their place by strutting down the streets of Washington, DC and pushing the white folks off of them. I answered that Mariko would do the same thing if she were in the Negroes place, but she denied that. She hinted that she agreed with the woman that the Negro should keep their place and not take advantage of the fact that they were being given more and more equal rights. Bette then said that they were not given equality because the white man in a very superior way "gave" these rights to an inferior person, indicating that he was superior because he was giving something away. Emiko added that they did not have equality. I added that just because a few in Washington were strutting around, that was no reason to condemn the whole group anymore than the Nisei should be judged by the zoot suiters. Mariko and Alice profess tolerance and they are in most respects, but once in a while little tinges of prejudices come out. This must be due to the influences of their

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former employers in domestic jobs. Sometimes, when I hear them make comments it reminds me of a labor baiting, stuffy old republican. A lot of the Nisei girls are this way and they must get these attitudes from former domestic work. Most of them did not go beyond high school.

Mariko had her argument that people were all prejudiced anyway and that it was almost inherent in them given weight by the Pegler column which she gave me. She said that it made pretty good sense to her, unfortunate as it was. Pegler's column preached that racial and religious intolerance was not un-American. He suggests that it is a national trait and that prejudice flows in the blood of mankind. Pegler in his reactionary way gives support to the American development that the white man is superior and that the Constitution applies only to him. It is the part of our national life that has not been reconciled with the ideals of democracy yet. It seems to me that it is defeatism to say that this situation can never be changed.

The trouble with Mariko and Alice's crowd is that they don't think deeply about these problems. It is only of superficial interest to them. There are certain individuals in the group who are more aware of the nature of these problems than others. Mariko is one of them, but she is discouraged from going further than the superficial because of the nature of her group which is most ordinary as far as Nisei goes. They do not have any background to discuss any of these things intelligently and not emotionally so that they just avoid talking about them at all and concentrate on the lighter things. It all goes back to the pre-war days when the most popular person was the best dancer, the best dresser, the best looking. In a way, Mariko's group still use this criteria. There is no reason why Mariko cannot break away and broaden herself. I think that

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I am too harsh on Mariko and Alice because they have never measured up to their intellectual potentialities. They give the excuse that the nature of their group prevents more than superficial talk, but this is no excuse. Mariko and Alice are in a position to do a lot for the Nisei because they do have good personalities and a lot of sense, but they fail to make the most of this advantage. At the same time, they continue in their ruts and are not very satisfied with it. I suppose they are being "average Nisei" in this respect and they are not to blame. It is such a limited world for them to be caught in. Since I last saw Mariko she has gone backwards in this respect. She used to go around with the Oyama "radical" group in Los Angeles, but she was always on the fringes. At the same time she had a great deal of success in social popularity and this trend is more dominant right now. (Pegler's column omitted) >

Emiko and Bette were a little indignant at Alice and Mariko because they did not think that their older sisters were thoughtful enough about Tom's birthday. Alice, Mark and Mariko only bought a subscription to the Popular Science Magazine for Tom because they said they were "broke." Mariko is not working and that is understandable, but Alice is much too thrifty with her money. Poor Mark never has a cent anymore and he has to ask Alice for money. It is so noticeable and the groundwork for a future big dispute as to who wears the pants of the family is being laid. Alice must save at least \$90.00 a month for "their future." < She gets the dependents allowance and also saves about half of her monthly salary. Perhaps she will be best off in the long run by this practice, but it is a little extreme. Usually Alice is very thoughtful about birthdays and other presents and she is generous to the point of extravagance. Mariko

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is much more so and she doesn't pinch pennies. I suppose Alice is concerned about her future security as a married person. Alice has always been cautious about her money. This must be due to the fact that she saw the family poverty during the depression and she never wants to be caught in that situation.

Emiko laid in bed yesterday morning and made all sorts of dumb noises with her harmonica. She thought that pop could be taught to talk by this method and she made me listen to her to see if I could understand what she was saying. She says that I have to listen again next Sunday, god forbid! Both Emiko and Bette write to the folks a lot. It must be extremely hot in Gila now. Mom wrote and she said that she still liked the camp life and for us to take care of ourselves. She is getting lazy. She takes Emiko and Bette's letter and writes in the answers to the questions and then sends the letter back. George is getting along well with the family. His older brother wants to send him up to a half sister in Topaz, but George would rather stay with mom and mom wants him to stay. Maudie and the prairie flower are in town now and holding good jobs, but they have not said anything about sending for their little brother. They are too busy chasing around with the boys.

I went to Dr. Tashiro to have him put in the filling. I did not get a chance to talk too much as he had some patients waiting. He wants me to go over to his house for dinner some evening and then he will give me his life history. Dr. Tashiro went out with a lot of art students yesterday and he cooked them all a big suki yaki dinner. Sometimes, I wonder if he does not use cooking, photography, etc. as the opening wedge to get into the Caucasian society. It must be true because they do use

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him because of some specialty which he has. But he probably does not think that even all this recognition measures up to the self estimation which he has of himself. Right now he is going a little JACL. This is due to the Takahashi-Yatabe influences. With Sim Togasaki coming into town, the old guard of the JACL will have a good nucleus to once more attempt to regain their former status and "prestige.(?)" I hope that they do not rope Tashiro in as is most likely. They are the elite "professional" persons. It's a wonder that they even condesend to talk to me. Tashiro is ok. He is well meaning, generous, and he has a heart of gold. He saw Larry the other day when he passed through and he suggested that the Pacific Citizen run some sort of editorial telling the Nisei to look after the health and get into some Hospital plan so that they will be protected in case of serious illness.

Dr. Tashiro thinks that the Nisei in the present labor market are being unjustly condemned. He thinks that it is natural for them to try for the big defense job salaries, but they are using a lack of judgment when they quit domestic jobs and expect to make a fortune right away. He feels that the Nisei will have to work hard for success and that they should get into something that is lasting. He is waiting for the day when some enterprising Nisei opens up a smart gift shop, later on bringing in oriental goods. He feels that there is a good future in this and that the Nisei should open up one of these stores in every town in the middle west, "just like the Chinese laundries."

Tashiro said that the Japanese Church was unduly criticized. "From the beginning, the plan of the Church was to get the members out into other activities. When the war broke out, the FBI closed all of the Japanese churches and the people did not have a place to worship. Through

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the leadership of Rev. Anderson it was decided to open up the present Japanese Church with Rev. Sai at the head. The intention was to spread the Japanese out to other churches eventually, but at that time the caucasian churches were not so receptive due to all the hysteria. As the Nisei came into Chicago from January on of this year, they naturally went to this church at first. They were getting along fine. Then the criticism began about the big congregations. It was only recently that the United Church Federation was started and the Nisei were encouraged to go to the other churches. Now only Issei go to the Japanese Church." Louise said she went yesterday and there were only about 30 Issei there. I hardly think that the Nisei are going to the other churches. As they are getting adjusted to Chicago, they stop going to church altogether and find other activities. Church to most Nisei is largely used to fill in social and not religious needs. Mrs. Sai was at the dentists and I talked to her for a while and made future contacts in order to get Rev. Sai's story.

Dr. Tashiro was a little distressed about the Filipino stabbings. He assumed that the Nisei fellows were the more rowdy sort. "There are these types of persons in every group. But I am sure that if the Nisei get out and make a good record, it will overcome this bad publicity. There are too many of the zoot suit element on the near north side." I got the impression that a class line is developing. Several people have remarked recently that the north side bunch are rowdies. It will be interesting to see if a class line develops. Around the University, more of the college Nisei are settling, while there are more of the single and unstable elements in the Loop and near north area.

Dr. Tashiro had an interesting interpretation of the Filipino-Nisei incident. He said that he had been told from one of his Hawaiian

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friends that there are a number of Hawaiian Nisei in the loop area. A lot of them had been trouble makers in Santa Anita and so they had been sent out to various camps in order to split them up. Now they are getting together here. They write back to the camps and encourage their former friends to come join them. Each Saturday night, they get their paychecks from defense jobs and other types of casual manual labor. Then they dress up in their Hawaiian shirts and take their instruments to saloons where they play and drink. This makes a big hit with the girls who frequent such places and the Filipinos get very jealous. The rest of the weekend, these fellows go to their rooms and gamble so that some of them are broke by Monday morning. Tashiro believes that it was this sort of situation that brought about the stabbings, although he did not know the exact nature of the brawl himself. I suspect that this has a lot to do with it and it bears out what Dr. Lohman said the other day.

Frank was down to the WRA office but he was not able to get many of the details. He was told by Ben that the WRA was first notified of the brawl. Shirrell went down right away and asked all of the papers not to publicize the event because it could lead to race riots like what happened in Los Angeles. All of the papers agreed to suppress the news except the Heart Herald-American. It went ahead and printed the "bad" version. The other papers then decided to print both versions and Shirrell gave out a statement. I am inclined to believe that the Nisei did not start the fight by insulting the Navy, even though the Hawaiian boys do carry a chip on their shoulders.

Deki is helping to organize a Nisei society. About 20 fellows at some hospital want to have a big party because they are so lonesome.

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They have asked Deki is round up any 20 Nisei girls and they will send a station wagon to pick them up. Deki is going to do it, but she thinks the WRA is going to get mad at her. I think these things are inevitable, but I don't think any official sanctions should be given.

Emiko went to a play tonight. One of the salesmen in her office took all of the girls. They went to dinner first and then went to see "The Doughgirls." Emiko got all dressed up, high heels and all. She works near the Wabash Street 'Y' and all the Buddhaheads down there flirt with her. She used to go to the park for lunch but she gets bothered too much so she doesn't go there anymore.

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Wonder of wonders, Emiko and Bette were in bed by 9 pm! Emiko had a severe headache and she was exhausted from the heat and late hours. Bette had stomach trouble. They have been staying up late at night putting around and I don't think that they get enough sleep. They have so many things to do that they never get around to finishing everything. It was hot today, enough to sap all the energy out of anybody. I was quite tired also and so I just layed around until now (9:30) listening to the radio, reading the paper and taking a short nap. It has cooled off considerably and I am not so uncomfortable.

I went down this morning to the Kobe college office with Bette to find out the terms of the loan which they are advancing to Bette and Emiko. The executive secretary said that Mrs. Wilson was out of town for the whole summer. She told us that it was a "loan" rather than a scholarship, but the terms are extremely liberal. They do not have to start repaying until they finish school even if it is as long as five

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years. There is no interest and she said that we should not worry about it.

We still have not heard from the Student Relocation committee. I have left it up with Emiko to write the Junior College to see if she can get admitted in the Fall, but she has been too busy to do it yet. After they are both in school, one of my biggest worries will be over.

I ran into Jiro (CH-2) while I was downtown, and he is looking for another job. He has put in an application with the Friends: "I hope to find a better job. The Western shade Company is all right, but it gets me down because it is so monotonous. I don't want to be cutting shades forever. It is easy work and my boss are satisfied with me, but I think that I'm the only college graduate in the whole outfit. A lot of the workers are ignorant people who don't even speak English correctly and I want to get out of there as quickly as I can. I have asked them many times if I could get into the office, but they give me the brush off. They tell me that I can make more money by cutting shades and that the office work is just for girls. But I would rather work in the office for \$20.00 a week than cutting shades for \$32.00. I am a commerce major and I want to do something to add to my skill. If I work too fast at the factory, the other workers get mad and they tell me to slow down. I'm also looking for a new apartment as my place has bedbugs and it is cramped. I don't have a private bathroom either. The worst part of my job is that I don't get to see enough of Anna. I would like to get a job where I can be home to see her in the evenings."

Stopped in at the Friends Office to have a chat with Togo and Godfry. They had some interesting news about the Hawaiian boys although they did not know the details of the stabbings. Togo said that there

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were 25 Hawaiian Nisei all living in the one boarding house on the Near North Side. A few of them came in yesterday to inquire about job possibilities. It developed that they were not very much interested in working. They wanted an easy job so that they could make some easy money. Togo said that the fellows had been round a lot and they were not in the least frightened like many of the Nisei out of work. They were confident as hell, and they were not dumb by any means. They had a certain sense of humor and they caught on fast. These fellows are very cosmopolitan and they have seen many ports in the world. Godfry added: "The fellows said that they did not have any money, but they don't want to do hard labor. They said that they wanted to go to the Atlantic coast and get in the merchant marine once more because it was easy work and they only had to work six or seven hours a day while on the land they have to work steady all day. The fellows don't know what to do on the land. They admitted that they frequented the saloons because 'a fellow's got ta get a drink once in a while.' It is pretty hard to understand what they are saying because they have such a funny accent. They would like to go back to the islands to see their folks. The fellows are an adventuresome lot and in their way they are extremely Americanized in a rough way."

Togo added that these fellows come from various camps and that some of them were the ones who were shipped out of Santa Anita. They got bored with the relocation camps so they took any kind of a job in the various midwestern cities. Then they quit and have been coming together here in the cheap rooming house area. "They are a cooperative bunch in a negative sort of way. They borrow each others clothes and they all stick together. A few may work for a few days and then they all live off what it made."

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They don't want to work on the Great Lakes because they do not think that they will get into enough interesting ports to see the 'cookies' (girls?)"

Godfry said that they were not an especially bad lot of fellows it was due to their seaman experiences that made them rough and sometimes tough. The fellows hinted around that they wanted the Friends to help them financially, but they would not beg. They would only consider it a loan. Yet when work was mentioned, they backed out. They left saying that the Friends should not worry about them because they knew their way around and they could take care of themselves. These fellows are used to periods of unemployment and the present situation to them is just another lull.

When ^{Today} I went in to see Dr. Yatabe, he told me something that makes one feel a little more sympathetic towards the Hawaiian seamen. They are not particularly the zoot suit bunch since these are more the young Nisei from L.A. and other urban centers. (Camp life did create a lot of new zoot suiters out of the more unstable element of the Nisei youths.)

Dr. Yatabe said that these fellows do have a pretty tough time of it: "One of the fellows is playing in a Negro orchestra on the South side and he is not doing so badly. But I talked to one this morning and he had quite a story to tell me. He is working as a common laborer for \$20.00 a week. After they deduct the income tax, they don't have much left to live on. They just can't make a go of it. The living costs are pretty high. I feel sorry for them, but I don't know what to do. They are a tough lot and I think that they will cause some more trouble or get involved in other brawls as they do hang around the saloons. They

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have nothing else to do for recreation. I am afraid that if any more incidents are created, it is going to be extremely difficult for the other Nisei who are honestly trying to get assimilated.

"The Hawaiian Nisei told me that he has to compete with the Negro for jobs. He only gets about 50¢ an hour for hard manual labor, and he is a slight fellow so that he cannot keep up with the large negro workers. They say that their living conditions are worse here than in camp. They have to live in a very poor environment and they don't get any of the free facilities that they had in camp. The fellow said that he would go back to camp tomorrow as he and a bunch of others don't have a cent. They have no future here and they really would like to get back to Hawaii.

"The fellow asked Shirrell if he could go back to camp and he was told that if they did not behave they would get sent to Leupp, the camp for the incorrigibles. The fellow was worrying about this winter. He did not think he could take the freezing weather and he was also worried that if he had a steady job he would be frozen to it. The fellows would rather go to sea.

"The WRA don't know what to do with the fellows. Shirrell called the whole bunch into his office Saturday and he gave them a lecture on behavior, dressing, etc. I don't know if it will do much good. He has talked to them before and it did not help, but maybe the stabbing has made them realize that they are on the spot. Shirrell told them all to move out of the near north area, around Clark Street, and they are all out now. Most of them went to the 'Y' but they can't stay there long as they have no money."

(I don't know if Shirrell actually did order them to move out.

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Togo believes that the bunch are still living at the same place. It may be another group of the Hawaiian Nisei to which Yatabe referred.)

Yatabe went on to say that the WRA was afraid for their jobs. He said that many Nisei have come in to complain that the WRA staff don't do anything for the Nisei. This checks with many of the comments I have heard of a similar nature. While I was in the JACL office, Yatabe got a phone call from the Civil Liberties office saying that one of the civilian Filipinos who had been arrested was given a release. Yatabe phoned Shirrell to tell him this, but the WRA is not going to do anything about it since it is a governmental agency and it can't interfere in local affairs. (This didn't hold true for the Marengo and other incidents.) Tomorrow, Yatabe is going to the Civil Liberties to see if anything can be done about the matter. He feels that the man should be punished for assault as he would be in most cases during ordinary times.

Yatabe is anxious to get in good with the Civil Liberties group so that he has been asking me for details on housing discrimination, school problems, etc. which can be made a test case. I told him that it would not be wise to make a test case for a principle if it could be settled in other ways, since unfavorable publicity could arise if the Civil Liberties Union jumped into the fight too quick. Yatabe said that the U.S. Civil Service commission is now going to make their own investigation of the Nisei who apply for civil service jobs. He feels that this is a method to keep the Nisei out and he wants to find some Nisei who has been waiting a long time to get into civil service after getting a rating. >

WJH The JACL has not been doing much around here yet. Yatabe has not given any public relations talks recently. This is his greatest value.

He said that he was booked full for the fall months. [<]He has been asked to join the Anselm Forum group of Gary Indiana. Yatabe has accepted the offer. This group is composed of a number of men with a wide range of church affiliations and occupations. It included men of many nationality origins. Among the religions represented are Christian, Albanian Mohammedan, Indian Zoroastrian, Serbian Orthodox, Rosicrucianist, Confusian, etc. The occupations of the members include educators, government officials, businessmen, industrialists, laborers, newspapermen and many other professions. Yatabe said that they meet once a month. Recently this group passed a resolution favoring the employment of the Nisei in the war effort. It felt that the US is in need of the total resources of this country. Since there is a large untapped pool in the centers representing many skills, and since it is not consistent with the American ideals to discriminate, the Forum resolved that the Nisei should be allowed to help prosecute the war against fascism. >

W.H. The JACL office has not attempted to do anything more about organizing Nisei society. The office is more or less a hangout for the old line JACL members who are not working yet. There were about four or five persons there this afternoon and they just sat around and shot the bull. One fellow came in and he said that he had just lost his job as an accountant because some of the customers in the store did not like to see a Jap around. He was the only Nisei in the store. The fellow has no upper teeth and you could hardly understand him. This may have had something to do with his dismissal.

Another Nisei fellow came in and he said that he was leaving town on Thursday as he did not want to be here when the race riots broke

out. He is going to Nebraska. He said that he was out at the Aragon, a large public dancehall, last Sunday and there were a mob of Nisei there. He felt that this was going to be the basis for future discrimination. The fellow said that he would not blame the owners for keeping the Nisei out because they went in such large groups and since the Aragon is one of the biggest dancehalls in Chicago, some resentment may develop. Thus far, the Nisei have not had any trouble getting into the Aragon and other places. I don't think that too many will go since it cost quite a bit for admission.

The oldest of the Takahashi's (George) dropped in for a while at the JACL office. He is more quiet than the rest of the clan. He said that Ernie is not working yet. Geo. is starting to work tomorrow at \$1.00 an hour as a chemist. He is a doctor, but he thinks that he can remember enough of his chemistry to get by. He was a Tule. George is one of the old time Nisei. He is Americanized to a considerable degree. He said that he got out of Tule because the place was too pro-Japan. He read us a letter from Topaz which said that 26 people were pulled out of there because they were pro-Japan and they admitted that they would sabotage the war effort. The Topaz Times gave a short account of this roundup last week so that it checks.

Yatabe and the JACL group were very jubilant because the Dies Committee has called off its investigation. I got the impression that the WRA was only secondary. This is typical JACL. Now it feels completely justified in its program and it feels that it will go ahead to greater heights. Yatabe was quite happy about the whole thing. He said that the Dies Committee was called in by the War Department and told to lay off.

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He said that Mike and Myer were too smart for the committee and he made fools out of them. I was under the impression that Myers had the most to do about the blasting given to the WRA. The JACL still insists upon taking credit for everything, a sure sign that it has not reached maturity. I am glad that the Dies committee has been put in its place, but it certainly will not be the last of the Anti-Japanese moves.

(There is an interesting fight going on in the next house so I think I will stop and listen in. The woman just threw a bottle, crash! and they are cursing each other. My what nice neighbors!)

Tuesday, July 21, 1943

Dr. Yatabe told me a little about his life history yesterday. He is really an old timer. In 1895 his father was sent to this country to learn the shoemaking trade. The Japanese government financed the trip. He went to St. Louis for a while and then returned to San Francisco. It was here that Dr. Yatabe was born. His father then took the family back to Japan. He returned shortly afterwards with the intention of settling. Four years later he sent for his wife and children.

Yatabe's father opened up a shoemaker shop in the mission district. At the time of the earthquake, Yatabe remembers spending two nights on Twin Peaks. When he started school, the family was living in the Japanese section. It was here that Yatabe had to act as interpreter for Dr. Kiyasu and Prof. O'bata who did not know any English. Later, Yatabe lost contact with the Japanese section. He was the only Nisei in the school in the Mission district. When the school exclusion order of 1907 was initiated, Yatabe was very defiant. He says that his teacher was very sympathetic but she could do nothing. Yatabe was in the 7th grade then. He refused

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to go to the oriental school and consequently lost a half year of schooling.

Then for a short time after graduation from grammar school, he lived in Petaluma as he had some idea of going into the chicken business. He decided that he would rather be a dentist so that he came back to Lowell High School. There were many of the Issei students there and they always spoke Japanese. Many of the Issei who later opened up successful businesses in SF were his classmates. After high school, Yatabe went to the U. of Calif Dental School. After graduation, he went to Fresno to open up his practice. He had a good practice built up after 25 years. During this period, he played a leading part in organizing the JACL.

Yatabe now feels that the JACL will go on to new heights since it has been completely vindicated. He thinks that the group is 100% loyal without a doubt now. He wondered how the JACL could be sold to the Nisei more for their own good. I suggested that he work on the Nisei in the Army and sell the Pacific Citizen so that they would know what they were fighting for. Yatabe thought that this was a good idea since there were many Nisei from Hawaii who had never heard of the JACL. He said that he was even willing to donate a little money so that the paper could be given out to them free.

There is a rumor that the FBI have requested Osato and his hostel to close up shop because it is located in a very undesirable area. The FBI also checks the JACL office here occasionally. I suspect that the FBI know more about the Nisei here than the WRA does. It can really dig up the information.

Togo said that he knew one Nisei who was plenty aggressive. He was out of a job so that he phoned up an employer and asked for the

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qualifications. After getting all the details, he asked, "Does it matter whether my ancestry is Japanese?" The employer answered, "Hell no! I don't care if your ancestors are monkeys or kangaroos as long as you can do the work!"

In contrast to him is the 39 year old Hawaiian Nisei with wife and child. He has to write back to camp and ask his father what he should do when he gets in a tough spot. The fellow probably lived in one of those Japanese families where the children have no voice as long as the parents are alive. I am beginning to suspect that this may be the main reason for the dependency of the Nisei. They are young and they have never been on their own before. Thus they come out here to a big city and they are completely bewildered. When they come face to face with a crisis, they don't know what to do. They want the WRA and other agencies to take a paternalistic responsibility over them. They feel angry if this is not done and so condemn the WRA for not fulfilling its responsibilities. Too many Nisei have not had any experience at being on their own. They have developed an institutionalized frame of mind since evacuation.

There is one deaf mute Nisei who would make most of the Nisei look childish. He came out here on his own. The WRA and the Friends did not help him. He went ahead and got his own job as a busboy and a room at the Hyde Park Y. In spite of his handicaps, he took the initiative. His employer was worried about his social adjustments so that the boy has been put in contact with some deaf mute's club.

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The days seem to fly by so rapidly. This week, I was busy on a case and I did not realize that the week was almost over. I now have written up four cases, but I am not very satisfied with my progress. Today is a lull as I have to establish some new contacts. It is not so easy since most of the Nisei are working and the only time to interview would be in the evenings. I find that it takes several interviews to complete a case. The days are spent in typing them up. There is a lot of talk about the Nisei being lonesome and having nothing to do, but I find that they are always out someplace and it is even difficult to contact them in the evenings.

One of the difficulties we had not counted on here was the lack of privacy. We thought that we had left this behind in camp. But I find that most of the people we want to interview are living with friends or relatives due to the housing shortage and it is not so easy to get them to talk when there are other people around. I think that I could get more cases if the people did not live so far out. Usually it takes an hour or so to get to their apartments. This cuts down the time available for an interview. Oh well, it's all in the day's work.

Emiko has been going to bed earlier for the past few evenings. Last night, she only tried out her dresses for two hours, instead of the usual three or four. I'm glad that I'm not a girl. All I have to do is to grab the first clothes that is around and get dressed. I think that it is a waste of time to deliberate over what to wear for so long. I helped Emiko write some letters to the student relocation council for scholarship assistance. The Kobe college grant is a liberal loan. I would like Emiko to get a little reserve so that in case I get drafted, she will not be thrown out in the cold. Lately, I have more or less forced her to do some of the things herself as I don't think it is good for her to let things slide and expect me to do it.

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She can do it if she puts her mind to it. The junior college business is still in a questionable state, but I helped Emiko write a letter applying for entrance.

Bette has been faithfully studying this week. The summer session is intensified so that she has to put a considerable amount of work into the courses. She is doing very well so far. She got a couple of B's for her first reports. That is excellent considering the fact that there are mostly adults in her classes, some of them college people. Her relations with Mrs. B. has also improved. She says that Mrs. B. is very nice to her these days, but she doesn't quite know what to expect because the woman is tempermental. Bette reminds me of the busy little bee the way she is always rushing from one thing to another. She studied until midnight the last couple of evenings because she had two big tests coming up. Bette likes the school very well, but she would like to go to a public school in the fall. I think that would be better for her since it will enable her to meet a lot of young people. She will have no difficulty in making new friends. Bette always manages to get in with the most popular group in school. This was even true when she was attending Vallejo Hi. >

We have been in Chicago over three months now and I find that I am getting used to it. It is not a very invigorating city and I suppose I would like New York better but I am not dissatisfied. Chicago lacks sophistication. <Although it is smelly and dirty, there is a certain something about it that gives the city vitality.> The people don't give me much of an impression as they are mostly a drab, hard working lot. I suppose if I knew them intimately, I would see them in another light. <The city is full of people of all different racial and ethnic origins. I haven't

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seen too much of some of the immigrant districts, but I get a good picture of them as I pass through. I rather enjoy riding on the L although on hot days the odor of perspiring bodies is not so agreeable for my sensitive nostrils. I like it best along the lake front. It feels much cleaner and fresher than the rest of the city. I'm used to living near large bodies of water and I don't think that I could stand this city if it did not have the lake. Somehow a large body of water gives me the impression that the city is more cosmopolitan and not out of touch with the rest of the world. >

Often I wonder what the future holds in store. I cannot see myself living permanently in this city. I have the idea that I want to see the Atlantic Coast and some of the rest of the country before I settle down. I would like to go to Europe after the war just to get the feel of being in a foreign country. It must be the wanderlust in me. One of the things which I tend to condemn is the lack of goals and ambitions among the Nisei who come in, but I wonder if that is not so unusual. In these days of change and relative uncertainty, an individual can not plan far ahead. < I would venture to say that many of the Nisei now in the city who were formerly professionals don't have too clear an idea of what they will do after the war. Most of them vaguely say that they will go back to California. But I wonder if they would go back to a practice? There isn't too many Japanese going back there unless a great economic opportunity for them develops. Most of the Nisei never had any economic roots in California anyway. >

I haven't paused to take stock of myself in a long time. It is much easier to let the days go by pleasantly and not worry too much. Frankly, I have no idea of my future plans although I have some vague general ideas. At the present time, I still have not thought so much of going back to

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school although I would like to. But my personal situation is complicated in that I would like to get Bette and Emiko through since I have committed myself to this purpose.

I still have not convinced myself that another graduate year would do me much good, but I think that this is rationalization. I would have to go into Social Work necessarily unless I suddenly changed my mind. Eventually I would like to get into civil service. I have investigated around a bit and do not find the prospects for social work so hot. I rather doubt that this field will open up too much unless the government hires the Nisei. But then, if this is done, there is the greatest possibility that the Nisei social workers would be used for the evacuee problems. Language thus becomes a qualification and that lets me out. I have been toying with the idea of getting into social research. Statistics can't be that hard and if I really set my mind to it, I could learn it. Maybe I am intellectually lazy.

Right now there doesn't seem to be any practical use in getting my master's degree since I would still be faced with the problem of finding employment in the field afterwards. It is much more logical to stick in the work I am doing now since it is giving me experience and some knowledge of the problems of the evacuees. The only thing I should do is to have more self discipline and go out and cultivate the contacts so that I can get the raw data.

I haven't any definite plans about getting the rest of the family out of camp. Economically, I just cannot do it. And I feel that it is important that Emiko and Bette go to school. They would not be able to do so if the rest of the family is out. The way I have it figured out is that Alice and Mariko are out of the picture as well as Jack. And if I

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am selfish about it, as I may have to be, I will be out of the picture also once Emiko and Bette get out of school. It will be up to them to more or less assume the responsibility next. Mom likes it in camp and pop is too ill to be moved anyway. We wouldn't be able to get any hospital facilities for him our here. I am a little worried about Tom and Miyako. However, even if they are in camp for a couple of years more, I don't think that it will do irreparable damage to their personalities.

If I am drafted into the Army, it will be all taken care of. Then I could get the dependents allowance for them and it would be possible to move the rest of the family out of camp. I have given up the idea of volunteering although I thought about it occasionally during the past two months. In a way I would like to get into the Army because of some idealistic motives; but from a practical point of view, I know that the Army discipline would make me fret. I have made myself believe that I am contributing to the home front battle, but I don't know if there is much evidence for that. It will be a great relief to know just what our army status is going to be. I think that I would seriously have considered volunteering if the army did not have the separate Nisei combat team. I just seem to rebel at the thought of such a thing. Nothing I have seen in print can justify the existence of such a Jim Crow body. It was the next best thing when the question of allowing the Nisei into the Army was brought up, but I can't think that it is a healthy thing.

The majority of the Nisei in the Army do not believe that they are fighting for such an intangible thing as Democracy. They think of it in more concrete terms as fighting for the Nisei cause. Many of them are getting disillusioned because (1) it has not changed public sentiment and (2) the Nisei are letting them down in the camps. Mark says he just

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doesn't think about it in that way as he is not in a segregated Army camp. He doesn't think too much of it anyway. He is mostly interested in getting the war over with so that he can get started on his married life and career. Many of the other Nisei in the Army now feel that their service won't make any difference on the treatment of the evacuees and that they are in for a tough post war adjustment period. However, in a way, the boys in the army are better off since they can give some economic protection to their families.

All this leads me to conclude that the resettled Nisei are making fairly good adjustments despite the unfavorable conditions. There is still an element of uncertainty so that it is not surprising that they still attempt to cling to a dependency role on the WRA. The WRA does have a certain responsibility which is which is not fulfilled merely by getting job placements. Incidents like the Filipino stabbing and the FBI picking up an Alien who admits that he would sabotage the war effort, whether true or not, does make it hard and it is not inconceivable that some drastic event will create another major crisis for this group. I don't dislike the Nisei as individuals, but I have concluded that my reluctance is more due to my personal attempts to avoid becoming identified with the group. I never used to be conscious of the fact that I was of Japanese ancestry, but I am conscious of it when in a Nisei group. The events of the past year has brought this about. To a greater or lesser degree this is true for all of the Nisei. A year ago they would not have said that they were Americans of Japanese ancestry; they would have taken it for granted to say they were Japanese. Now they are on the spot so that they do not want to be identified with the enemy. However, underneath, I find that most of the Nisei are very much race conscious. Those that are not are the ones who never lived in a Japanese community even before the war. It seems that this type of Nisei have a

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This is not an impossibility. In the first place, most of the Nisei don't have an excessive amount of leisure time anyway. And they do have unofficial centers where they meet. A few are the Y's, Hostels, WRA, Hotels which employ a large number of Nisei like the Edgewater Beach, homes, etc. I don't see why an official place has to be delegated as this would only give sanctions to congregation and segregation. Usually the Nisei have something to do in the evening. They must have as it is hard to catch any of them at home. They can go bowling, swimming, dancing, shows etc. without any restrictions. On Sundays the average fellow sleeps after a hard week of work and then washes some laundry in the afternoon. In the evenings they go to a show or visiting. The Nisei are old enough to seek out their own recreation and I fail to see why they have to be guided every step like a child.

A lot of them came out here because they knew friends to begin with. In many cases that was the prime consideration. This means that they do have a nucleus of friends to build up from. Thus it is not a matter of lack of social contacts or recreation so much as a desire to be all together. The prime objective is to get them to know more caucasians as they know enough Nisei around already. Putting a Nisei society together only defeats this purpose.

What is often interpreted as social loneliness is more a case of underlying restlessness which is pretty general all over the country. The Nisei because they have had one bitter experience in evacuation is more consciously seeking security. That is why they do jump from job to job. Most of the positions they hold are transitional in nature anyway. Living in temporary apartments is not real resettlement so that a certain stability is lacking. Many still think in terms of going back to California so that the resettlement experience here is only a stop gap. Thus they do not feel the urge to make

wider contacts. < In many cases they think of it in terms of a drab life and it does become drab because the person refuses to apply any initiative. He would be equally dissatisfied if a Nisei society were created and such a development would be extremely harmful for the group.

It is not fair to say that the bulk of the Nisei do not think of the future. They do think of it, but the outlook is so painful to them that they still seek to avoid it, consequently they drift along and run into all sorts of blind alleys. I think that many of the Nisei are trying to save money but the living costs are high so that even though they are making a greater salary than they ever did before, they are spending proportionately more just to live.

Then we have to recognize that there is a fairly large group of the more unstable Nisei who have come out. The more stable ones stay in camp longer because they are cautious and they try to figure out everything before they actually come out. The unstable ones got bored with camp so they come out here chasing the rainbow and are dissatisfied because they are expected to cool off and try to establish themselves firmly. They are looking for fun and they are less likely to have definite goals for themselves other than the immediate ones. >

The greatest concern of many of these more unstable individuals is the sex problem. They cannot gratify themselves by going to houses of prostitution because they feel a certain stigma about themselves. In order to compensate for this frustration, they wear loud clothes and chase around after the girls, the most of whom are away from home for the first time and therefore more susceptible. < This group have little idea of the general problems of the whole evacuee group. In camp there was a certain identity of feeling because they were all "in the same boat together." Now they tend

to try and break away from that without having any definite idea why. They don't want to face any problems because they are infantile in thinking and they have assumed a role of dependency. Many of these individuals have no body to whom they can talk over their intimate problems so that they build up things in their minds and when a crisis occurs, the resentments burst and it is directed at the WRA or Friends and not at themselves. The more stable individuals are those who are married or who live with close relatives or who have definite goals which they want to achieve. They are more inclined to face problems squarely and some of the tension is released by talking it over when they come home from work.

Underlying a lot of this uncertainty and feeling of insecurity is that many of the Nisei fellows expect to get drafted eventually anyway, but they do not know when. They use this as an excuse for not taking definite steps towards their personal future welfare.

Anyway I look at it, I can't see any immediate solutions for the group. It becomes more of an individual matter and the best way to get recognized as an individual is not to become identified too much in the public mind as a part of a group. Segregation would inevitably lead to this conclusion. In the long run, it is better to take a few knocks with the prospect of integration. Maybe that is expecting too much of the Nisei at this time.

Larry S. is a Nisei who wanted to be treated as an individual so he made a determined effort to get into a caucasian company which had not hired any Orientals previously. After repeated attempts, a large downtown concern decided to give him a trial. Larry worked hard and he made such a good impression on the boss that four other Nisei were hired. Larry did not like this new development so that he quit!

This afternoon, I decided that I would try to make a contact with one of the evacuee ministers who is supposed to be counseling. I walked over to the Chicago Theological Seminary and inquired at the desk. There was a "Japanese man" there so I introduced myself and asked for Rev. Sai or Mass Wakai. He did not seem to know them so I asked him what the Japanese ministers were doing. He looked puzzled and he said that he did not know anything about it. Then I asked him if he were an Issei student. He did not know what I meant. Finally, it dawned on me that he was Chinese so I mumbled an apology and beat a hasty retreat! I just can't tell the difference between a Chinese and a Japanese in many cases. The next time I shall be more cautious.

I walked around the corner to the Seminary Dorms and walked in. I thought it was kind of funny for so many girls to be around but I concluded that it was due to the manpower shortage. Finally a girl came up to me and told me that I was in the women's dorm! Strike two!

I crossed the street and found the men's dorm, but I was informed at the desk that Mas Wakai worked in a boy's club during the day. Seeing that I was not having much luck in establishing contacts, I decided to give it up for the day. I walked up 58th street towards the University Bookstore. Suddenly a voice hailed me and I saw a familar looking Nisei. I didn't remember his name, but I made off that I remembered him well. Gradually I recalled that I had seen him in San Francisco a few times and that he was going to the U. of California Medical school to learn pharmacy. He said that he had a lead on a job and he wanted to know where the University Administration Building was. I looked at his referral card and read his name, Min Tamaki, so that I did not have to get embarrassed and ask him his name.

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Today I met an old acquaintance

~~Min~~¹ and I talked for a few minutes about San Francisco and he asked me what happened to the old gang that I used to run around with. I told him that I didn't run around with them anymore and that was in my younger days when I was more of a rowdy. Min said that he saw some of them in Topaz and they were still running around. He asked me what I was doing and I told him research for the U. of California. In great amazement, he exclaimed, "You! why I though you were a rowdy! How did you ever get a job like that?"
no it I told him that I was lucky. Min couldn't get over the fact that I was not a rowdy anymore. This was very embarrassing to my dignity. He said that he did not think any of the old "Yamato Garage gang" would ever amount to anything because they were always so wild. In order to quiet him ~~up~~ I told him that I had reformed because I got religion.

I could see that Min was worried about something so that I asked him what he was doing. This was his cue and right away he told me his woes.

Min finished his pharmacy training before evacuation. In Topaz, he worked in the hospital, "but after all the recent troubles we have had I thought it was safer for me to get out of camp. Taro could not even go into the messhall because there was always a gang around that wanted to beat up the 'yes-yes' Nisei. I got married at the same time. I didn't volunteer because I could never go home then. (Min must be over 25 years old!) I wish the draft would come and then my folks would think that it is ok.

"My wife and I came out here without a job. She did not have such a hard time and she got a job in a home for \$15.00 a week and a room for both of us. This is in Evanston. The Evanston Y won't take Nisei because they are afraid that it will get like the Loop one. I just came from there and a friend

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of mine said that he heard a Navy officer comment that they should take the 'C' out of YMCA and put 'J' for Jap in there instead. The Nisei just hang around and it makes it look bad. It is not so hard to get an apartment in Evanston I think.

"I have been out here for three weeks now and I am very discouraged at the job prospects. I have been trying to get a position as an assistant chemist, but they don't seem to want to take us. They say that it is a vital industry. I have been to the WRA and the Friends so many times that I am afraid to go there anymore. The damn WRA don't care anyway. They just tell you to go out on your own and you can get a job easily. The Friends are a little better. But they all give you the run around. I go to the USES, but they don't have anything. I have even put an ad in the paper saying that I was a Japanese American chemist, but I did not get one answer. I'm beginning to wonder if I will ever get a job. My best bet has been the American Chemist Society. They have a big thick list of job prospects and they give me leads, but the employers are doubtful about taking a Nisei on. They want me to get a joint board clearance. In order to get this, I have to have a job first so that doesn't help much. By the time the clearance comes through, the employer will have somebody else.

"I have an offer to be a sort of intern at the U. of Michigan Hospital, but I don't want to go up there on account of my wife. They offered me \$125.00 a month and maintenance. If I can't get anything down here, I will take the job. I have to interview for the chemist position at the University here, but I am not too hopeful. I hear that the Army and Navy controls things here. I hope it is not another one of these interviews where they say they will take your name and call you in a day or so. That kind

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of an interview means that they don't want you.

"I have been thinking that the Nisei professional person has a hard time getting placed. A lot of the doctors have left camp but they only get minor jobs in small hospitals with a low salary unless they are commissioned for the Army. Maybe my best chance is in the Army, but I don't want to volunteer because I don't think that I would take to Army life so well. I want to work where I can take my time if I feel like it and be my own boss more or less.



"I haven't heard of a Nisei yet who has a good job. Some of the fellows I know are making fairly good money, but the work is not so good for their health. Art Kariya has a job as a welder at 1.15 an hour but he has to breathe in those metal fumes all day and that is not so good. I suppose though that a professional person has to look longer but he gets the better job in the end. I sure wish that I could get a job soon. It makes to worry a lot to be living off of my wife."



Min had to go for his interview so that our conversation was cut short. When he saw all the soldiers marching by to go to a class, he remarked, "You mean to tell me that they let soldiers go to college?" I explained that they were training for commissions. Min answered, "I bet they will never give the Nisei a chance like that. We have to be buck privates like Taro who has a master's degree. Do these soldiers get mad when they see you?" I explained that they were a nice bunch of fellows and they did not even notice you. Min said that he has not been out of camp long enough to get over his self consciousness and he feels that he draws stares.

After I left Min, I went into the University bookstore and browsed around for a while. I bought a couple of books and Emiko will probably bawl

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me out because I have gone over my budget. I ran into Dr. Johnson on the way back and he told me that perhaps I should get out legal guardianship for Bette and then I could get her into school right away.  He was not sure that this was the case and he said that he would check up.  Getting out legal guardianship is not such a difficult procedure. It looks now as if getting Emiko into school will be the biggest problem. They will most likely ask her to pay the full out of state tuition fee. I shall have to keep working on it and hope that things will come out ok. I am not too pessimistic about this.

 It was a warm pleasant day today and I felt lazy. At the same time, my conscience told me to go look for another case history prospect. I made the attempt, but did not have success. Tom went off somewhere today with Tomie. He is still having difficulty getting up in the morning. He works in the evenings and he has been trying to get his Tule Lake material out. Frank is very conscientious and he is always typing. He has been working for the past two days on the report we were supposed to turn in. Togo was over Wednesday so we talked about some of the suggestions which could be made. Frank worked too hard on the report, I think. All he has to do is to add a few more pages and he will have a preliminary report on Chicago drawn up. I bet Embree will tack his name on it and send it around as one of his Community Analysis releases. When Frank puts out a report, it is really scientific with just the right amount of technical terminology in it. Togo has more of the journalistic flare, and I make a feeble comparison to him. Tom is more on Frank's side of writing, but he is a little dogmatic and sticks to the sociological concepts yet. He can certainly get the stuff out when he sets his mind to it. (Mimeographed enclosures omitted. "Small Town Relocation", Address by Dillon Myer, July 15, WRA comments on Newspaper Statements made by House Committee on Un-American Activities. 

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< The first case of Japanese exclusion from the Eastern coast that I have heard about was announced during the past week. The Eastern Defense Command has ordered ten Issei out and they will arrive in Chicago next week for resettlement. They were asked to move voluntarily, but they refused to do this so that the Army ordered them out. The Friends are going to try and resettle them in this city. The interesting thing about this group is that seven of these Issei are married to Negro women and two to caucasians. They are from Virginia or one of those states. The group occupys a low economic status. Togo said that they were all employed as cooks in Negro restaurants on Atlantic coast.

There has not been any reason given for the exclusion of these men. There are a number of Issei in New York, but I don't think that they will be excluded. The only reason that I can think of is that they were considered undesirable. They could not have been dangerous in any way since they would then have either have been interned or put in a relocation camp. >

James F. Byrnes the War Mobilization Director issued a press statement last week stating < that the present restrictions against persons of Japanese ancestry will remain in force as long as the military situation so requires. I interpret this as the closing of any hope that the Pacific Coast is going to be reopened for the duration, although you never can tell. The statement was prepared by the War Department and the WRA and it indicates the policy which the government is following towards the evacuees. It also silences the Dies Committee as the WRA seems to have fairly good relationship with the Army now. The policy was supposed to have been prepared at President Roosevelt's request, and it was partly in answer to the Dies charges

that disloyal evacuees were being released for outside employment.

Byrnes' statement reported that there is a close checkup made for each evacuee and that no person was released if he were considered a potential threat to the war effort. The segregation program should go into effect by Fall. Because of all the charges of pampering, Byrnes revealed that:

- 1) Military police have only been summoned once to quell a disturbance in the relocation centers. (Two, if the Poston affair were counted.)
- 2) In milk shortage areas, milk is provided only to small children, nursing or expectant mothers, and special dietary cases.
- 3) Beef served is "third grade" and the evacuees do not get fancy meats.
- 4) The food is nourishing, but definitely below army standards, the average cost a person a day ranging from 34 to 42 cents.
- 5) Wages are from \$12.00 to 19.00 with additional clothing allowance from \$24.00 to \$45.00 a year.

W.H. I doubt if this public announcement will quiet down the fanatics who still insist upon making the evacuees the scapegoats for all the frustrations and personal greeds and for the atrocities of the Japs on the war front which have a wide circulation in order to stir up the hate. Hate for the enemy is something that has to be aroused to a fever pitch and in the minds of the propagandists there is little room to make exceptions for any "Japs" who happened to have been born in this country. After all, they are only a small group and they can't be trusted since the government did remove them is the way the reasoning goes. And Hollywood can be relied on to distort facts and play up the spy and sabotage menace of the Japs on the Pacific Coast. I heard a Nisei fellow say the other day that he hated

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the Jews because they owned all the studios in Hollywood and they were the ones who spread lies about the Nisei. I told Tosh^{him} that they may have slipped up on a lot of things in the movies, but it was hardly fair to blame the Jews. If anything, the Jews are interested in giving minorities a break as they certainly do not agree with Hitler's racial doctrines. Tosh^{He} said that this was not true and that the Jews were the harshest against other minorities because they had gone through a lot themselves. <One of the things I have noticed since coming out here is that most Nisei get so excited when the Nisei are pictured in the movies as disloyal and saboteurs. We went to the picture "Air Force" today just to see how bad it really was. I didn't find it that important as it was only mentioned two or three times that "local Japs sniped at the American soldiers and drove the trucks down the highway and blocked traffic on Dec. 7, but these were actually incidental to the theme of building up a hate against a powerful and feared enemy that resorted to all sorts of treachery.> Methinks that the Nisei are too defensive about matters sometimes. We don't get excited when the movies distort other groups. We have to take such things in stride during wartime and become even more positive. <Mariko, Toshie and some of her other girl friends have been thinking of going to the Hearst Herald American, "dressed in our most glamorous clothes and having a nice friendly talk with him so that the editor can realize that we are just as American as he is and maybe it will help to give them another picture of us."

There has been growing amount of talk about evacuees who are planning to open up enterprises in Chicago, but I have not heard of any actually started among the resettlers yet, although Toshie says that Mrs. Sato opened up an apartment house. An Issei who formerly operated a badminton court in

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Southern California is planning to open up a similar project here shortly. Then there is a "isei barber who is planning to contact the Y's to see if he can't work into one of the barber shops they have connected to the hotels. It won't be long before an enterprising person actually does start in his own business. Financial difficulties stop most of them now. If they keep spread out, it should be a contribution to the community. At least it is more stable than the transitional and marginal types of jobs most of the evacuees are at present holding.

Yesterday afternoon, I went over to visit the Iwagami family and found them most entertaining and interesting. Mr. Iwagami (CH-5) is married to a caucasian woman. He spent most of the afternoon telling me some of his experiences. He is a modest man and I had to pump him a great deal. I think that he has an unusual case history and I plan to start typing it up tomorrow. Mr. Iwagami showed me his latest invention for which he has sent for a patent last week. Chicago is having a great deal of trouble with the contaminated lake water which is most unsanitary for drinking purposes. Iwagami has invented a simple filter which can be manufactured cheaply and it purifies the water. I tasted some water which ran through his purifier and it did not have the fishy taste which is in all the water that I have been drinking the past three months. I think he has something, and it is a definite contribution to American life.

I rushed home about 7:00 expecting to be very late for dinner. Mr. Iwagami insisted on my eating with him and I did not know how I was going to make my explanations since we had company scheduled for the evening. When I got home, Emiko and Bette had just returned from shopping tour downtown. Emiko bought a ~~crochet~~ set for Tom. One of her reasons

Croquet

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for getting this additional present for him was that she wanted to show Mariko and Alice up for not being so generous. When she told Alice about it, Alice said that she was planning to get Tom something else because she was broke at the time of his birthday. This is a pretty weak story since Alice saves quite a huge sum each month from her salary and the Army dependents allowance. I think that it served its purpose. <Of course, Emiko's real reason for buying the additional present was because Tom wanted it badly and she thought that it would add to his pleasure in camp. Bette got a letter from our new "brother" George. She plans to send him a present soon. George enjoys living with Mom and he is a pretty good influence on Tom. Miyako also wrote and she said that she was going to summer school, but it was easy.>

There was a little mixup on the dinner schedule last night. Mariko thought she wasn't invited along with Mark and Alice and she was feeling hurt. <Alice was not sure that Mariko was invited.> We phoned down and told them that it had been made clear that all three were invited. <They came about 8 o'clock and they did not mention it during the evening so I guess they got it straightened out. It was a good thing that they did not come until late as the dinner was not ready until after they came.> Emiko cooked a very tasty dinner. I think that we eat better than Mariko and Alice because we go for food more. <We never have any leftovers.> Mariko brought some of those tiny cans of Japanese fruit which we had asked her to buy for us. She said that she got the last nine cans. The store has been trying to get rid of them because they do not want to carry any more goods made in Japan. <It does not take any points.> Other stores sell this fruit for prices ranging from 10 to 14¢, depending upon how much they hate the japs!

Mariko has not worked since she came back to town except for the one day in which she made 45¢. < She has been in and out of bed for the past three weeks because of her sinus trouble. I wish she would take out some kind of insurance for her health as it will set her back plenty if she gets laid up this winter. Illness may also be a defense for unsatisfactory job prospects, but I kept my mouth shut as I did not want to get it chewed off. Mariko does not let her sinus affect her social life I notice. > Alice said that the same old gang is going over there, but they are just not the kind of people that will satisfy Mariko. I don't know how her romantic life is coming along. < I don't think she has any good prospects. We can't say anything about this as she will chew our heads off and think that we are calling her an old maid and want her to marry the first person that comes along. I think that Mariko would be much happier and more settled if she got married. > She has several prospects to think about, but none of them are satisfactory. What Mariko needs is a man with the strength of Tarzan, calmness of Confucius, wisdom of Solomon, looks of Adonis, and personality of a diplomat. < Some order, I would say. > If Mariko ever married a meek man, I would surely pity him. He would never have any peace of mind thereafter. It makes me laugh to see Mariko acting so coy around her boy friends when I know that she has such a strong and individualistic mind and there is nothing of the clinging vine in her.

< For some strange reason, Mariko got on the defensive when I told her that she could not read my copy of "Ellen Rogers" by James Farrell. She said, "That's the trouble. You don't give me credit for anything. You say that you have to give me a sociological explanation first so that I won't think it is a dirty book. I've been around and you don't have to explain nothing to me. You must think that I am dumb and have to be protected from

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omit p

the evil world." The only reason why I said anything was because Mark said he had read the book and liked it and I suggested that a lot of people read the book because they thought it was racy and daring, without realizing that it was a study in personality deterioration.

Anyway, Mariko started to read the book here like a wildfire. We kidded her and said that she was looking for the dirty parts. She said that it was dull and so she read the end of the book which spoils it for her. Emiko got curious at all the talk about Ellen Rogers so that she is reading it this evening. It won't do any harm and it is more realistic to life than those true confession stories. Emiko started to read "My name is Aram" the other week, but the dust has been collecting on the page she left open. She says she will read it next. I purchases "Syrian Yankee", "Father and Glorious Descent," by Pardee Lose, and "I've come a long way," by Helena Quo this month. I am hoping that Emiko and Bette will read them as these stories give some background into racial problems. From there I can go on to Richard Wright and other things if they take an interest. What I would like them to learn is that assimilation is possible, but there are many problems which often make the process difficult. Alice and Mariko are too busy to be doing any reading right now and they always will be as they did not get in the habit of reading good books, although Mariko has tried to keep up. Her social life interferes with reading. Mark is not much interested in my books. He just wants to talk about jitterbug music with Emiko. Alice and Mariko have a fair knowledge of good music but they can't listen to anything but swing on the radio when Mark is around.

I've tried to engage Mark in a conversation, but he never has anything to say unless it is to tell about his accomplishments which are

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rather on the infantile level. He just has not grown up yet and Alice is way ahead of him intellectually. Mark is not even up to Emiko's speed, but I may be prejudiced. I really haven't heard Mark open up yet. The level of conversation is rather mediocre when we are around them. I don't say this with contempt, but that is an honest impression which I get. It usually bores me after the third hour. >

Alice still has not found an apartment. They can't even get an apartment for the weekend now so that they move Mariko and the single cot out into the kitchen. I think that this is a very undesirable situation and Alice should get a place of her own as soon as she can. < She has given up all ideas of going down to Rockford now! Mark is a good fellow and he has a generous heart and a fair intelligence, but I think he is leaving too much up to Alice. She is already wearing the pants. > She has decided to stay in Chicago if Mark is transferred to Shelby with the Nisei battalion. We talked about bringing some of our household things from Vallejo. Alice wants to get the stuff out here with the rest of her things from San Francisco as she feels she could use a lot of the stuff when she sets up her apartment. I objected to that on the basis that this stuff belonged to Mom and the rest of the family. Alice said she would turn it over when they came out of camp. < "That won't be for a couple of years yet anyway and we may as well be getting the use out of it." A lot of the stuff is already missing and soon we won't have a thing left." This is a good argument, > so I told her to go ahead with the arrangements. There really is no sense in leaving the stuff in Vallejo as the family will never go back there. < But I am not sure that they will settle down in Chicago. Alice assured us that she would not suddenly pull out and leave us with the problem of storing all the things here at our own expense. I don't know where I stand in the whole business anyway.

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I would like Emiko and Bette to take over and not have to depend on Alice and Mariko, but it won't work out this way as long as they feel that it is still their responsibility. This is not so good for them or for Emiko and Bette either. I didn't want to commit myself as I have a vague feeling that I would eventually like to go to New York. And I don't know where the study will take me. It could be back to Berkeley after the war, but I am not looking forward to that prospect so much as I don't think I have much of a future in California. Maybe I am all wrong.

Mariko still has not settled her housing problems as Mr. O'Brien is waging a silent war on them. He won't collect the rent and he will not sign the receipts. The property is not in his name anyway. He has been fixing the upstairs up and he hopes to force Mariko out. The toilet downstairs leaks all over the floor and he refuses to fix it. Mariko and Alice told him that he was only ruining his own property. We got an opinion from the WRA on housing in our office the other day and it did not sound so hopeful. It said that the OPA generally recognized restrictive covenants which has been in effect for a long time and that an owner can evict a Nisei if the landlady had not received permission from the owner first to take in these persons. According to this ruling O'Brien could force Mariko out legally by saying that Mrs. Kemp did not get permission from him. However, he does not know about this interpretation and he is afraid of the OPA after all we said. Furthermore, the property is not registered in his name. But then, he could get his stooge to force the eviction.

We stayed up pretty late last night so that we slept until noon today. Emiko finally got up and cooked a huge lunch. After that I flopped back into bed. Our plans for the day were interrupted because Bette had to study for a test tomorrow and she wanted to put in a whole evening. It was

too humid and hot to do anything anyway. We has planned to go to the Museum and the evening concert. Emiko felt that her day was spoiled so we decided to go to the afternoon show since the theater would be air cooled. On the way up there, we saw seven Nisei. It was a good feature. We have been going to about two shows a week.

After we got home around six-thirty, Emiko said that she would treat us to another show for the evening but I said that was too much as I would get a headache. And Bette said that her studies were more important. I don't know exactly what happened, but Emiko and Bette then got into a big argument. Emiko announced that she was not going to cook. Bette said, "You should, it's your job."

I said I would do the cooking as it was not that hard. There was a big sink of dishes which I did not dry before we left and I asked one of them to do it. Bette thought that Emiko should since she only did the cooking anyway, and this with a lot of help. Then Emiko exploded and got very angry with Bette.

Emiko: "I do all the cooking. You should learn how and not be so helpless."

Bette: "Ok, I'll do the dishes. It's not that much work. They way you talk, you sound like you are killing yourself with overwork."

Emiko: "Yeah, I notice you are helpless in the cooking without me."

Bette: "Humph!"

Emiko: "You think you can get away with everything. Why don't you say that you do all the work around here. You sure talk like you do."

Bette: (very sarcastically) "Well?"

Emiko: (angrily) "Well what? Who does all the cooking?"

Bette: (now she is angry) "You sound like you do so much, but I notice you always want me to fix the vegetables, get stuff from the icebox and fix salads. All you do is stand around like a queen and just light the gas and you think you are working so hard."

Emiko: "Don't get snooty or you will get hurt!"

Bette: "You can't threaten me and think that I will get scared. You would look awfully silly slapping me."

Emiko: "Who said anything about slapping you?"

Bette: "Then how do you expect to hurt me. You can't do it with words."

Emiko: "Humph!"

Me: "Now sisters, don't quarrel. Can't you see that I am cooking. Where is the apron?"

Bette: (muttering) "She sure is a queen. Lays in there and drinks lemonade and thinks she is working hard."

Emiko: "Oh shut up, you snot face!"

Me: "Now girls, don't fight. You..."

Bette: "Listen to her calling herself names." In the meantime, Bette is drying the dishes. Emiko lays quivering with anger on the bed and attempts to read the book. Bette helps me with the dinner.

When it come times to eat, Bette announces she is not hungry and that she will eat later. This burns Emiko up. I almost burn the first steak we have had since we came because I am trying to calm them down. Bette does not eat with us. There is a heavy atmosphere over the table, but I enjoy the meal very much because I like my own cooking. Emiko goes to bed and reads after. A little later she comes out and washes and dries the dishes all by herself

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just to show Bette up. Bette lets her do it. Much later Bette eats by herself. After that they were not mad anymore. I think it was Emiko's fault because she lost her temper over nothing and made an issue of it when it was not necessary. Just a little family squabble. For once, I was not involved. I haven't had a fight with either for weeks and weeks.

The next big issue in camp apparently will be the segregation issue. The purpose is to promote harmony in the centers and facilitate resettlement of the loyal, but I think that there is going to be a lot of excitement. Tom and Frank believe that the MP's will have to go into Tule. Aside from all this, there is going to be a great deal of complications as families will be broken up. They should move all those who want to repatriate first and then carefully review each case by the Hearing Board so that not injustice will be done to innocent families. There should be little doubt about the single Issei and a large part of the Kibei. The attached letter which Togo gave me shows some of the problems which are now developing at Manzanar.

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Extract from letter written by Esther Rhoads, American Friends Service Committee Southern California representative:

Dear Friends:

While at Manzanar last week I had satisfactory conferences with Mr. Walter Heath, the Relocation Officer, with Mrs. D'Ille of Family Welfare, and was privileged to sit in a conference on relocation in Mrs. Lucy Adams' office. Mrs. Adams, as you know, is Chief of Community Services and occasionally calls the heads of her departments together for special conferences.

The problems now facing the evacuees is that of segregation. Mr. Merritt told the block managers while I was there that those with pro-Japanese leanings are to be separated from the pro-American.

This sounds very reasonable as authorized by Washington but is far from easy. The basis of determining loyalty is that of the registration which took place in the winter. As you know, the young men of military age were re-registered first. Practically all the relocation centers were indignant that this should be done in the way it was being done. Individuals reacted in many unexpected ways but the net results were a surprising number of young men who answered "no" to the loyalty question.

This does not mean, in hundreds of cases, that they are really pro-Japanese but that they felt they had to protest against the idea of a segregated combat unit; against the manner of re-registration, using military men and employing what seemed to them pressure methods to get them to sign "yes"; or simply against the evacuation itself.

A few weeks later when the girls were registered the evacuees had begun to get perspective and besides, it is a very different matter to sign up to join the WAACs from joining the regular army; I think that the position of women is so much better in America is another factor which resulted in almost 100% answering "yes."

Then the Issei were questioned. At first they were asked whether they would assist in the war effort against Japan in case of an invasion. This question, of course, was exceedingly difficult as the Issei are not allowed citizenship in this country and if they promised to assist America they would be of course traitors to their own country. The government, realizing they were placed in an impossible position, changed the question to ask whether they would remain neutral in case of invasion. Most of the Issei signed "yes."

In the case of the girls and the Issei the registration was done by Caucasian staff members and capable Japanese members of the local community.

This all means that hundreds of families are split. The parents who are Japanese citizens are eligible for relocation, whereas the son who is actually far more American but signed "no" is ineligible, and according to the new segregation plan will have to be interned.

Opportunity is being given for those who wish to reconsider to make application for a change of status. As I visited about the camp I did not feel that a very large number were going to ask for a change. There is still a stubborn resistance to pressure and though I do not fully believe they fully understand the significance of the choice they have made their faith in America has been so completely shaken they really don't much care what happens.

A survey is being made at Manzanar, and probably at other relocation centers to determine how many there are who are eligible for relocation who have not gone. The expectation is that most of those who can easily relocate have already applied.

The Issei over sixty naturally lack energy and enthusiasm for the experiment. Younger Issei with several minor children feel it safer to stay in the relocation centers. There seems to be quite a slowing up of applications and at the same time an increased number of job offers flowing into the relocation offices.

The next six weeks will be very difficult weeks in the relocation centers. In the winter when registration was announced, indignation accompanied by considerable heat was the prevalent attitude in all relocation centers. The announcement of segregation has been taken much more calmly and it is sadness in the face of separation from relatives and friends that seems to be the typical attitude rather than protest and anger.

I wish I had time to tell you of many individual incidents of hardship resulting from this segregation order. I did not feel that in any case the real reason for submitting to segregation was a whole-hearted pro-Japanese attitude.

A father is interned and the only way to join him is to ask for repatriation. A grandmother is here on special visitor's passport which required a fee of \$50 every six months. If this cannot be paid there seems to be no choice but let the old grandmother go alone to the internment center, or the whole family chooses to go with her, even though they themselves would much prefer to live in America, rather than in Japan. A son who was in the army

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was discharged on December 7 and is too proud to go back again into an organization which he feels treated him so badly, and so father, mother and other brothers and sisters decide to stand by him.

It is going to be very hard for the older minor children whose parents naturally wish to make decisions for them, but these boys and girls realize they are American and because of training and lack of language can never really fit into Japanese life.

At Manzanar the Community Services plan to appoint certain staff members who will give half of each day to consultation with families. One wonders if it will not take more than six weeks to make the rounds on a project with nearly 10,000 residents. WRA officials certainly have had a difficult job foisted upon them.

Sincerely,

Esther B. Rhoads

Monday, July 26, 1943

Another hot day. It was 80 degrees in our room this morning when we got up. Perspiration has been oozing out of me ever since. I typed all day on CH-5 (Iwagami case) but I finished less than 20 pages in all. It was pretty slow going since I had a lot of scattered notes and I had to do a lot of thinking to recall some of the things he said on Saturday. I find myself in a position where I am only getting one case a week completed. I would like to get more, but it takes quite a while to contact the people and write the cases up. The first interview usually is not very comprehensive since we have to get acquainted. In a way I am not too dissatisfied with my progress, but

I wish that I could be more scientific about it like Frank. I just don't have the proper terminology.

Tom asked me today if I would consider going to either Salt Lake or Denver for the Study. He said that one of us would have to go there for six months eventually. I didn't think much of the idea, but Tom said that he would go. It means pulling up roots all over again. The only place I would like to go right now is New York. It has been a sort of Mecca for me for a number of years. If about 1000 more Nisei resettled out there, the trip could be justified.

Mark had a three day leave so that he came over to give me a haircut. I bet that I shed one pound of hair, it felt like it anyway. I told Alice to come over for lunch but she thought that she had another dinner engagement so that she said not to bother. Alice got a day off since she wanted to go get their picture taken, I guess to show to their grandchildren. She knows some Japanese photographer out this way.

After making all the arrangements Alice decided to wait until later because her hair was not just right. She said that Mariko has decided not to go look for a job now until she is completely well. Alice suggested that she get an operation for her sinus and Mariko got mad. She thought that Alice was trying to kick her out of the apartment. Alice says that they have been getting along well enough. She just can't find a place to stay. She wanted a place on the near north side, but she now had decided that she will go a little further north. She said that Mariko even got on the defensive with Mark when he said that she may as well take her time and have her fling. She thought that he said it sarcastically. Now Alice doesn't say anything about her finding a job. I haven't said anything about it for

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a couple of weeks as Mariko is a little touchy. She has been doing some part time Oriental modeling during the past week and she gets a dollar an hour. Mariko told Alice that she definitely was going to start looking for a job tomorrow. She has been back over a month now and she was ill for three weeks of this time. Alice said that a lot of the sinus trouble was due to the irregular hours and not the climate. Last week she sneaked out to the show just because she had an urge. She was also out once. Saturday she was over here until late, and last night she was out until 4 am on a date. They went to two shows in a row. Mariko got mad when Alice mentioned it.

Alice and Mark had a slight conflict over the weekend. It was the first one, and only minor at that. It involved vacation plans. Alice is going to quit her job at the end of August. She will have a one week vacation coming with pay then. Mark will have a two weeks furlough, so that they plan to go to camp. However, Alice would like to stay an additional week before coming back to look for a job. Mark wants her to come back with him. Alice thought it was a little selfish of him. She said that this will be probably the last time she may get to see pop if ever. She realized that the time she is there with Mark she will have to meet all of his relatives and go through a series of parties and receptions as Mr. and Mrs. For this reason she would like the additional week. She feels that the only reason why Mark wants her to come back with him is to keep from getting lonesome. I told her that the best thing was not to make an issue out of it and he would realize her desires once they got there. Alice will look for a new job when she gets back as she feels that she has had enough experience now.

Had a little talk tonight and told her that she was only hurting

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herself by using deception. Alice was worried about it and she thought I should say something. I told Emiko that it was not necessary for her to do such things even if she were only meeting Mary. On Saturdays when this happens it throws the burden of doing all the shopping on Bette and I thought that she should do it and then go do things with Mary. Alice says that Mary is making it hard for Emiko by always inviting her over. They have about 8 people at their place every night and it takes all of their time. It doesn't give Mary's sister much time to study either. I kept calm so that there was no argument. Emiko gets the point so that should be enough.

Tuesday, July 27, 1943

It was so hot last night that I got up and took a cold shower at 5:00 am. I did not feel so well this morning so that I did not go to work until about 1:30. I just sat and typed for the rest of the afternoon until about 6:30. It was a short day but I got quite a deal accomplished. Emiko was ill last night and she had a fever which made her sweat profusely. She did not go to work at all. She wrote a few letters this evening since she was feeling much better. It may be a summer cold.

Bette was busy as a bee all day long. She has so much to do that she does not even have time to wash her socks. She enjoys her school very much and has been making friends with some insurance salesman lately. He is a college graduate in one of her classes. They give her quite a bit of homework to do so that Bette has to study two or three hours every evening.

I was not the only lazy one at the office. Tom arrived just a little before I did, while Frank did not come until afternoon. Louise was there early. I haven't been dictating to her since Frank and Tom have a lot of Tule Lake material to get cleaned up. Tom is getting upset because he

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has so many old cases to do. He has been taking some courses at the University. He said that the school has waived language requirement for a MA degree. If they would eliminate stat, I would be definitely interested. Tom says that they will make a special concession for us and allow us to work for the MA on a part time basis rather than requiring one full year of residence. I don't know how the social service school would be. I just can't see how it is possible to take a course and then do the Study field work at the same time. It doesn't work out, and one or the other suffers.

The downfall of Mussolini seems to be the topic of conversation among the circles now. Some of the Nisei feel that the war is practically won. I think they are way off the beam. The Senate Military affairs committee has reported favorably on the Draft so that many of the Nisei will probably be going into the Army in the fall. The WAC's are also going to enlist a few women volunteers in the Fall. At about the same time the segregation process will be started and Tule will be the center for the "disloyal." There is plenty happening in the camps, but things are a little slow out here. It is difficult to follow the process since the Nisei are keeping fairly well scattered. Most of the Nisei are getting together on an informal basis. Haven't heard much of the plan to organize Nisei society lately. Guess that movement has been pretty well squealched for the time being.

Wednesday, July 28, 1943

We cultivated good relationships with Mrs. B. this evening in order to safeguard our home. She came down to spray for cockroaches and bedbugs. It is the summer season and there has been a few coming around. I just could not stand the thought of bedbugs as I am very sensitive to them. They raise huge welts on my back. We only had a few so that I wanted to get rid of them before they multiplied. I think the stuff she put in the room

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will do the trick. It almost suffocated us, but it was worth it. I loaned Mrs. B. a couple of my books and Emiko and Bette flattered her for her conscientiousness in keeping the building up to par. She was most pleasant, and she gave us a new mattress for the cot. Now I can sleep more in comfort.

Emiko did not go to work again as she still had her cold. She perspired profusely all night and day and made the bed all damp. By tomorrow she may be able to go to work again. Bette got a copy of the Gila Hi annual so that she had a lot of fun looking up pictures of people she knew. Tom's picture was in it and I swear he has grown an inch since we last saw him.

Mas Wakaii dropped over just after we finished the fumigating. He is one of the ministers who have been going around to counsel the Nisei. We talked over old times at Tanforan and what happened at Topaz. Mas is a young fellow and he likes to go around to visit the Nisei, especially the girls. He does not think that they respond properly. He tells them all about recreational opportunities, but none of them take advantage of it. Most of them have something to do evenings, although the fellows are never at home. Mas says he can usually find them at some girls place. He told us a little about the International House and Church activities and invited us over. I'm afraid that he did not counsel us much; we were telling him how time could be spent profitably. I made an appointment with him for Monday and I will interview him then.

I finished up my case this morning so that I decided to take a little ride down to the WRA office and pay a visit. I haven't been downtown for quite a while. It was not so hot today so that I did not mind going

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down. > There were not too many Nisei at the WRA office so that Shirrel saw me almost immediately. He looks quite worried these days. I would hate to be in his shoes as he gets it from all sides. I asked him about the street stabbing incident and he let me have the following report he made on it. I have to return the copy so will type it off.

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Mr. Shirrel's report of the Division and Clark Street fight,
July 14, 1943

At approximately 3:00 am this morning Mr. George Green, detective from the Clark and Chicago Avenue station, called me at my home to inform me of a serious street fight which had occurred at approximately 11:00 pm the night before. He told me that two of the Japanese involved were at the Bridewell Hospital and that he was going over there for questioning and asked if I could come.

At approximately 3:30 am I met Mr. Green and another detective at the hospital. They told me that they were parked in a police car at the corner of Division and Clark at 11:00 pm and had observed two Nisei meet two other Nisei and stop to chat at the corner. Suddenly from several directions appeared approximately ten Filipinos in the uniform of the United States Navy, armed with clubs and pieces of steel pipe. A general free for all ensued with two of the Nisei getting away and the other two being knocked down with clubs.

They saw one sailor in a white uniform strike at the abdomen of one of the American Japanese (who was afterwards found to be Frank Hokamura) and later discovered that instead of striking, this sailor had stabbed Hokamura.

The detectives gave chase and found one Nisei victim of the stabbing and finally, through the cooperation of the Shore Police, the Filipino who

Resulting from a street brawl between some Nisei and some Filipinos.

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had run away was arrested several hours later as he arrived at the Naval Station at Glenview. He is now being held by the Navy.

The police succeeded in rounding up three of the sailors and they are now in the city jail. The four Nisei involved are all Hawaiian born American citizens who had formerly been in the Merchant Marine. They are:

Masami Koga, on indefinite leave from Minidoka.
Keiya Horibata, indefinite leave, Rohwer
Jimmy Ishibashi, indefinite from Rohwer.
Frank Hokamura, indefinite Gila

Then, accompanied by the officers, I went to the Bridewell Hospital where I interviewed James Ishabashi who was suffering from a deep stab wound in the groin. He was conscious, recognized me and intelligently answered questions that the detectives and I directed to him. He afterwards signed a statement of his knowledge of the affair which I witnessed. He is Hawaiian born, was evacuated from Stockton and arrived from Wellsville, Kansas about a week ago. He had been on a railroad gang, on seasonal leave from the Rohwer Project which was converted to an indefinite leave on April 23. He stated that he lived at 1219 North Clark Street with Keiya Moribata. These two were on their way home at about 11 o'clock when they met Frank Hokamura and Masami Koga who live at 719 Clark. They stopped to talk at the corner when suddenly, from several directions they saw Filipinos in Navy uniforms descending upon them. They had never seen these sailors before, had had no contacts with them and could not understand why they had been assaulted. At the time the police intervened, Ishibashi said he felt this terrible pain in the groin and thought he had been shot but later learned it was a stab wound. The detectives assisted him into a car from whence he was taken

to the Henrotin Hospital. After treatment he was removed to the Bridewell Hospital. He stated that his only contact with Filipino sailors had been that they had called him names at times to which he had paid no attention and never answered. He told a straight-forward story and his version was corroborated by the statement of the detectives who were witnesses in the affray.

I then attempted to interview Frank Hokamura but found him barely conscious and suffering from much pain from a deep wound in the abdomen which the nurse on duty told me was very serious. He had been treated by Dr. Steinbeck who has offices at 3624 Cermak Road. The chart shows a puncture of the peritonium but the first examination revealed no puncture of the intestines. Dr. Sabortsky, city physician in charge of Bridewell Hospital will see this man this morning and determine what further treatment must be given.

After this interview, I accompanied the detectives to the Police Station at the corner of Clark and Chicago Avenue where, in their presence, I interviewed Masami Koga and Keiya Horibata who were being held by the police as material witnesses.

Koga had come into Chicago May 25 to work at the Edgewater Beach Hotel. He told of stopping to talk at the corner of Division and Clark and repeated practically the same story as was given me by Ishibashi. He had never seen these Philipinos before, had never had any arguments with them and had never talked with them. He ran away from the fight but was very grateful to the police officers who, he said, had saved their lives.

Horibata told practically the same story. He had arrived from Rohwer just four days before on indefinite leave and was trying to get to New York

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so as to get back to the Merchant Marine. He had never seen these Filipinos before until they jumped on them and had had no previous altercations with any of them. He did state that Jimmy Ishibashi had told him that the night before a Filipino in a United States sailor's uniform had insulted him (Ishibashi), and tried to pick a fight with him in a tavern in the immediate neighborhood. Jimmy told him he told the sailor he would not have a row with him because he had too much respect for the uniform the sailor wore. After the sailor understood that Jimmy was an American citizen they shook hands and there were no hard feelings.

I have had one telephonic conversation with Commander Spockholm of the Naval Armory and shall have another interview with him today. He is sending me copies of all reports he has on the incident and I will give him copies of mine. The Filipino sailor accused of doing the stabbing is in the custody at the Glenview Station and will be held there pending the outcome of the situation. The commander expressed a desire that the least amount of publicity be given and I agree heartily with that. The police department makes the same request and will supply me with copies of all their reports. I am very thankful for their cooperation.

Signed,

Elmer Shirrell
Relocation Supervisor

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In talking with Shirrell after I read this report, I asked him what had happened in the interval. He said that the case was practically closed and in the hands of the Naval authorities since it has jurisdiction over all cases except murder and rape. The fellows are out of the hospital now and recovering. The city footed the hospital bill. Shirrell does not appear to have much use for these fellows. He said that one of them had been rejected as an Army volunteer, but he is now reclassified and going into the Army shortly. Shirrell ^{said he} was glad that the thing is closed now because he ^{the Nisei} ~~said that~~ he really could not make much of a case for ~~them~~. He said that they were not willing to work and that some of the fellows in that group had not worked for over eight weeks. He wondered how they managed to live. He said that their standard of living was very low and that they lived in pig-pens. He has ordered them to move out, so they moved to the West Madison Rooming area. This section of the city is not any improvement since it is here that all the down and outers, prostitutes and law breakers live. Apparently Shirrell thinks that the whole thing is settled. ^{He} ~~He~~ said that the Filipino would be court married.

^{He} Shirrell felt that the bad publicity resulting from the stabbing was a strong factor in influencing an undesirable public opinion. ^{He} ~~He~~ also felt that it was another factor to impede the resettlement movement. He sent a report of the incident to all of the camp papers immediately in order to avoid distorted rumors. "They are a bad lot those fellows, and I don't know what to do with them."

Shirrell on job placements: "It is harder to get jobs for the Nisei now because of the way they act. In the past ten days we have had more

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Nisei quitting their jobs than ever before. The Nisei are soft from living in camp a year and they tell me that the work is too hard for them. It is the biggest problem that I have right now. Most of them are single persons from 18 to 23 and they do not seem to have a sense of responsibility. All they want to do is to make more money even if it is only 1/2¢ more an hour. They do not stop to figure out the desirability of the working conditions or other things. I had one fellow who quit his job to make only about \$1.00 a week more. However, he did not stop to think that he had to use this extra dollar for carfare since in his original job he could walk to work. The employers do not like to hire persons who are going to quit on the slightest pretext.

Shirrel comments on effect of Dies Committee: "The Dies committee sets us back quite a bit because the public is willing to believe the sensational charges and they are unaware of the retractions. The Federal agencies are the worst of all. They seem to be taking a very limited and cautious steps now and many of them actually believe the charges. The Civil Service commission has decided that it will make its own investigations of the Nisei so that we are right back to where we were last January. So far as I know the joint clearance is going very slowly and the Nisei are having difficulty getting cleared for defense jobs. I believe that you and Sakai of Tule lake are the only two who have cleared by the Army-Navy board so far. I don't know what is wrong with the Army; I don't know if they are doing it deliberately or whether they are too many other important things to do. I suspect that the latter is true."

Shirrell believes that the segregation program is the best thing that the WRA has done yet. For one thing it may work for greater harmony

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in the camps after the people are separated. The people of Tule will be given a chance to go to Topaz, Minidoka, Heart Mountain, or Granada. The WRA will attempt to get these loyal ones to resettlement in order to save an extra move. All of the resettlement offices will send out a staff member to take applications for employment. Miss Mercer will go from the Chicago office. The other resettlement will not be stopped, but these cases will be given priority. All during August the people will be prepared and hearings given to those who wish to change answers. In September the movement will start. The big shots of the WRA are meeting in Denver now to work out the details.

Shirrell foresees some trouble and perhaps violence when the moves actually get underway. He said that those that stay in Tule can have their Japanese language schools and even wear Japanese clothes if they want to after the separation is made. They will have to stay for the duration. I asked him what about the young kids who are influenced by their parents and he said that they will have to make up their own minds. This is a stiff order since these kids will have to give up the security of their family for the great unknown. I doubt if the more stubborn Issei will change. Shirrell said that it will be up to them to think of their children. He hopes that by stressing this, the Issei will be encouraged to resettle. Those who still remain 'no' will not be given another chance after they are 17.

Shirrell was greatly distressed over the school problems. He said that the Center school will be getting more inferior daily due to the lack of teachers. All of the capable Nisei are leaving, and they cannot get Caucasians for replacements. Gila never did get an A rating so that its credits are not recognized. Shirrell believes that all of the other centers

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will be in a similar position by next year. The young kids suffer most in this instance since they will be getting an inferior education. He added that the children in the Tule center after segregation will be the worst off. An eight foot fence is going to be placed around that camp.

I told Shirrell about Bette's school problem, but he could not make any suggestions. He suggested that I write to the School Board again and try to get a definite answer from them. He said that Bette's was the only application that has gone in thus far. I suggested that I did not mind writing the Board, but I felt that the WRA should take the leadership in this since it was its responsibility to get things cleared up. Shirrell is not too concerned about the school problems.

I do not like the "box score" method of analyzing resettlement ~~as~~ the WRA follows. It is more interested in getting the people out than in seeing that they are making proper adjustments. This is short sighted and it only creates future problems. I think that it should have trained social workers to make follow ups. I wouldn't mind doing that myself. { I told Frank to include that in our monthly report, and also a note on Nisei health problems. }

Shirrell has an idea that the draft will be the ~~the~~ salvation for the WRA. I fail to see that and I told him so. I did not see how he could reconcile resettlement with the draft. He said that it should be on the same basis as for any other American. I answered that in my opinion, I thought a selective process was necessary.

"A selective process is the only way the WRA can protect its resettlement program. A precedent has already been set in handling the Nisei by the very fact of evacuation so that this point should be brought into consideration. Otherwise, how are the old people going to get out? You

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may think that you are taking care of the shiftless young Nisei by getting them all into the Army, but you are only postponing the problem with the likelihood that the problems will be much more severe when the war is over. And above all, you are going to make the WRA centers permanent once all the able bodied Nisei are taken into the Army."

Shirrell did not think that this was necessarily true. He said that the young couples still could resettle. He did not answer my other points, and I think that he probably recognizes the impossibility of reconciling the two programs, but he did not want to say so. Of course the WRA will be able to lighten its problems with the draft but that is only temporary.

Shirrell said that I had him on a hot spot for a while after the recent WRA discussions. At that meeting I made some comment that the Issei would never consider relocation unless they were convinced that Japan was going to lose the war. Shirrell said that a Hearst reporter was at that meeting. "Fortunately, he was half drunk so that he did not have the sense to make anything out of it. I was rather nervous for fear that something would come out in the paper. That meeting was not the place to discuss that point." I did not know that such was the case. Maybe I shouldn't have brought it up then, but I understood it was an open discussion meeting.

Shirrell then went on to tell me a little about the housing problem. According to him, he has received few cases where the Nisei were evicted. I think that is a failure of the WRA since it indicates that the Nisei do not have the confidence in the WRA to come to it with their problems. Shirrell did make a good point however. He said that many of the cases were not actually examples of discrimination. He did not blame some landlords for evicting the Nisei because many of the young girls had many boys over

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every night and they made noise, stayed late, and did not know when to leave. Shirrell pointed out that even American girls do not entertain fellows in their bedrooms and he was not surprised that some of the girls were getting bad reputations. He said that fellows did not think it was not proper for them to want to go to the girls rooms even at the Y.

Got wind of two girls who were kicked out of their apartments this week, but I have not been able to get the reason why. Dr. Tashiro will give me the addresses of the girls so that I can make a follow up. One of the girls, Maria Miyamoto, 19, from San Francisco is studying piano under Rudolph Gans. She and her older sister sub-leased an apartment on Cornell Avenue from a Miss Lemon who is a secretary at the Greyhound Bus Company. She certainly did turn out to be a lemon. According to the story which Louise told me, the woman opened their mail and found something in the letter which made her very angry. This is a federal offense if true.

The woman got so angry that she mistreated and locked them out of their apartments. This was a midnite on Monday. The girls called a friend at the Catholic Home where they stayed until things were settled. Maria was to have accompanied Eiko Yoshisato, a violinist, at a recital last Thursday, but was unable to get into her apartment to get her clothes.

Through Dr. Tashiro, they contacted the police at the Hyde Park Station. Two detectives went to the apartment and found it still locked from inside. They demanded that the door be opened and Miss Lemon only opened the door when she realized it was the police. Upon questioning she mentioned it was something about money or back rent. Detectives told Maria that the best way to settle matters was to pay and get out.

Miss Lemon was told to keep the apartment open on Monday morning so that the girls could get their things out. They have now moved to a new

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address and they did not register any complaints with the OPA or the WRA.

Thursday, July 29, 1943

Nothing much happened today. Emiko was still ill so that she stayed home from work. She must have the summer flu. She was feeling pretty miserable today. I don't think that a doctor is necessary as she seems to have improved since yesterday. Maybe the rest will do her good as she has been working pretty hard at her job.

Went out to interview Mrs. Iwagami this afternoon. It was so cool over there that I stayed all afternoon. It was hot again. Last night there was a mighty thundershower, but everything turned steamy hot before we cooled enjoy the coolness.

Bette went to a show all by herself downtown. She wanted to see Deanna Durbin. Bette has been very busy with school, her friends, and her work so that she is going to need a rest after the semester ends in a couple of weeks.

Did nothing this evening, but read. Emiko got a sudden craving for pop corn, so Bette went out and bought some. It was stale.

July 30, 1943

Very bad news today. I came back to the office after going over to the bookstore with Tom to get a coke. When I returned there was a phone message there telling me to phone my apartment. I had a funny premonition then. At first I thought that something had happened to Emiko. When I got her she was crying. I asked her what had happened and she said "Pop died last night. There was a telegram."

I didn't know what to say at first. I told her that I would come right home. Emiko said that she phoned Alice. Alice left a message for

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Mariko to phone me since Mariko was out job hunting. Bette got the news when she came home. Emiko said that she opened the telegram because she had a funny feeling that something was wrong. >

When I got home, Alice, Bette, and Emiko were just sitting in the room. They took it fairly calmly. There wasn't much that we could say. Alice felt badly because she had missed pop by one day when she left camp, and by one month now. She had intended to go on her vacation there at the end of this month.

The telegram to me said: "Your father passed away tonight. Everything arranged. Don't worry. No need to come. Mother."

We didn't know what to say. The girls were still a bit stunned. Emiko said that she had a feeling that she would never see pop again when she left camp and that was why it was so hard for her to leave. Then she said that she remembered a Nisei at Tanforan who told her that all of the Issei would be dead before evacuation was over.

The girls mostly sat quietly. Emiko's eyes were all red. I sat down to send some telegrams and letters right away. Sent a telegram to Jack. We felt that he would not take it hard since he had been away from home a long time and could be impersonal.

I sent a telegram to Mom and then a special delivery letter which I enclosed with Emiko, Alice, and Bette's letter. Bette said, "Keep your chin up, Mom." It was one of the hardest letters that I ever had to write. I didn't know what to say. I had to put a note at the beginning to tell her to have Mary Obata of the welfare department explain the letter to her. It is difficult for me to communicate with mom because of the

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difficulties on both sides.

Also sent the following telegram to Mary Obata: "Would appreciate greatly your making funeral arrangements for my mother and get floral piece for us. Alice coming shortly. Can funeral be delayed for a few days. If not, please notify date of funeral."

At a time like this there isn't much that we can do. All I can feel is "Pop was a good guy." I didn't know him too well, yet I feel keenly about it. It is going to make a lot of difference in the family re-settlement plans also. Alice suggested that we bring them out right away, but I felt that we should talk about that later. Emiko said that it would seem like we were just waiting for him to pass away if we brought the family out right away.

< Alice has not decided when she can go. She is going to phone Mark to find out when his leave is due. She hopes that he will be able to get it advanced to next week. In that case she will go on ahead for the funeral. She said in a way maybe it was better that she did not see pop when he was so helpless because she remembers him when he was well and strong. Emiko said that she remembers him as he was at Tanforan when he would dance around with Tom. >

Emiko said that she would like to go to camp also to be with mom. She and Bette feel pop's passing keenly because they have not been away from the family until we left Tanforan. She said that she would quit her job and that it would only cost her the round trip fare. Then she could come back in a few weeks to start school.

Feeling as she does about Pop, we felt that perhaps it would be ok for her to go. Alice was going anyway. We did not think that we should worry about the money costs. So tentatively both Alice and Emiko are going.

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The Salvation Army phoned up and they offered us sympathy. They are going to send a floral piece to the funeral. They advanced Alice's vacation. Alice feels that now it is going to be harder for her to tell them that she is going to quit because they have been so nice.

Alice and Bette went over to the photograph^y to get a picture enlarged of pop. It was one of those alien registration ones. This is one of the few pictures that we have of pop. While they were gone Mariko phoned. It was difficult to break the news to her. She took it very hard and she started to cry and say "Poor pop." Then she wished that she had written him that letter which she had intended to do last week. <Just yesterday, Ann Fujimoto had been over to her place. She brought George out to Jean and Maudie from Mom since these girls wanted their brother. Annie told Mariko that mom was looking well and pop was still the same. That is why it was so much of a shock for Mariko.> I told Mariko that maybe she had better stay home, but she said that she would be out as soon as she was able to compose herself. Bette has been very quiet. Alice and Mariko are in the bedroom talking about Pop in the old days. It is very sad.

<Pop was ill for ten months and during that time he was not able to say one word. He just lay there in that hot hospital flat on his back. Mom will take it very hard so that I am glad that Alice is going there to ease her sorrow.

The girls have gotten over the initial shock and we are going ahead with our usual evening. Mariko has not arrived yet.

It's a tough break.

Later.

Mariko arrived about 9:00 pm. She was pretty well shaken up.

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I guess her nerves were on edge because she and Alice had a few minor words about whether there should be a cremation or not. Mariko said that Mom would not want the ashes in the house, while Alice thought it would be better for cremation since pop would not be buried in some potter's field out in the middle of the desert. Alice felt that if pop were cremated, then later on his ashes could be put in a suitable place wherever the family resettled. Mariko agreed that this was right, but we decided that it should be left up to Mom. Mariko then said that the ashes should be sent back to Vallejo since it was pop's desire to live out the rest of his life there and be buried there. She said that pop had once told her that he was going to stay in Vallejo forever. We decided to decide on that later.

no If Mariko took it the hardest so that she was the most upset. That is why we did not want to send out any telegrams until she got here. We talked about who should go. Alice still was not sure that she was going in the next day or so. She will have to see Mark first. If his furlough does not come until the end of the month (August), Alice decided that she would go anyway.

Mariko wanted to send a telegram telling them not to cremate until Alice got there Wednesday. We were not sure that they could wait that long. Alice did not think this was necessary. She said that all that was necessary was to ask them to hold up the funeral pending her arrival. Mariko then said that it was no use going out since the main reason was to go see pop for the last time before cremation. Alice did not agree. She said that the main reason for going was to be with Mom and that she would rather remember pop as he was when he was well. I guess all of us were a little bewildered about

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what to do. I got the telegrams written off after many revisions and Mariko and I went up to the drugstore on the corner to send it out over the phone. The girl at the Western Union Office evidently was new as it took Mariko over 45 minutes to get the messages sent out. For such an exasperating experience, Mariko was certainly patient.

When we got back, Emiko had definitely made up her mind that she was going. Mariko said that this was ok with her since she had a job coming up in two weeks and she had seen pop just recently. Mariko has been doing some part time art work for the past few days for about \$1.00 an hour painting dolls.

Emiko ~~then~~ started packing. Mariko gave her \$5.00 and I gave her \$20.00 to help pay for some of the train fare. I think the rest should do Emiko some good. Part of the cause of her illness was due to overwork and overactivity the past four months. It took her the longest time to decide what clothes to take, but she got her things all packed up.

Mariko spent a couple of hours writing Mom a letter in Romaji, it was a very difficult task. The rest of us wrote in English. It is very late now and Mariko and Alice have just gone home. We are pretty tired out as it has been a pretty hard strain. Bette didn't say much, but I could tell that she feels things keenly.

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4743 Drexel Blvd.
Chicago, Illinois
July 30, 1943

Dear Mom,

(Will you have Mary Obata read this to you).

We just received your telegram informing us that pop passed away. It is difficult to put into words how we feel. It is a sort of helpless feeling being way out here. We know that you are in deep sorrow. All of us feel the loss greatly also.

We have talked the matter over and Alice may be coming to be with you very soon. She does not know when Mark gets his furlough, but she will know by tomorrow night. I think that she may be able to come in about a week.

There is not much that we can say in words. If we could only be there with you. We are in spirit. Take good care of yourself and do not worry too much.

Will you ask Mary Obata to help you make the funeral arrangements? Possibly it will be better to have pop cremated. When Alice comes, she can help you decide what to do with the ashes. We would want to put them someplace near where all of us are going to settle. Ask Mary to get a floral piece from us for the funeral.

Pop lived a full life and all of us will treasure his memory. Many of the good things he taught us will always be remembered and followed by us. We realize that it will be a little hard for Tom and Miyako right now. They are young, and they will understand later why such things happen.

We realize that there is not much that we can say to you in your time of sorrow. Pop was sick for a long time; yet the shock of the news was great. We will always remember him as he was when he was strong, healthy both in mind and body. Much of his wisdom and teachings were passed on to us. We shall think of him always as a swell father who was good to his children.

Do not worry too much. If we can do anything, let us know right away. Write to us soon.

With love, from your children,

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Saturday, July 31, 1943

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Emiko went to work this morning and she turned in her notice. She is waiting over at Alice's now to find out about the train tickets. I was sitting here typing this right now and Bette came staggering in from the bath room. She said that she had a terrible nausea and everything turned black. She shouted for me and then for Mrs. Blumenthal, but nobody heard her. She just managed to stagger down here before flopping into the bed. She had dried herself from the bath, but she was dripping wet with a cold sweat. She could barely move. She said that she had a hollow feeling and a headache. I dried her off and put her into bed and gave her an aspirin. She is sleeping now. I hope that it is nothing serious. Bette said that she feels a little better so I will not send for a doctor unless she starts to feel bad again. I suspect that it is the same sort of summer flu that Emiko had, and it was aggravated by the great strain yesterday. I still have to take a suitcase down to Emiko so that I am in a pickle. I don't want to leave Bette here all alone. God, I hope that nothing is wrong with Bette, except a minor illness.

Later.

Bette was feeling much better this evening so that we left her here for a while. It was evidently a heat nausea. We took Emiko's suitcase down to Alice's.

They were still making sandwiches. It was past 11:00 before we started down for the La Salle Street station to check the grips. There is no direct train to Gila so that Alice had to decide whether to go to Phoenix or Coolege. Since Coolege was closer to camp, she decided to go there. In the meantime, Emiko and I were running all around the station to buy gum to take to the kids. It is a very scarce commodity these days.

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omit P

Toshie and Albert were over there this evening and they wrote a letter in Japanese to Mom. Toshie did all of the writing since Mark and Albert did not know too much about it. They are in laws now. Yoshie was there all day and she upset Mariko because she did not have sense enough to go home. Mariko is very much on edge and I expected her to blow up at any moment. Emiko said that Alice and Mariko had silly words this afternoon. She did not think that Alice was packing the things in the suitcase right so that she tried to supervise it. Then there were differences as to the proper clothes to wear on the train. Alice felt that it was undignified to wear slacks and Mariko insisted that it was the only way to travel. Then Toshie's baby started to cry all over the place and Mariko said, "Oh throw him down on the floor and step on it!" This made Emiko laugh so much that Mariko calmed down. Emiko said that Mariko was making sarcastic remarks all day long to Alice, but Alice was stubborn and she would not even listen to some of Mariko's good advice. Emiko thought that both of them were getting too excited--sort of "evacuation nerves."

On top of that, Yoshie stood around and worried about the seams in her clothes and wanted Alice to fix it. Yoshie is one of those fat girls who require a lot of attention. She consoles herself by getting the best of clothes. Since she works way up in Evanston, it was difficult to send her home. Mariko arranged for her to stay overnight with Eileen, but Yoshiko hung around until midnight.

Toshie was very useful around because she did not get in the way. She got the stuff for the sandwiches. She loaned Emiko a black hat to wear. The girls wanted to have the proper attire for the funeral. Mariko and Emiko went shopping and bought Tom some decent clothes. Mark and Albert had some

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candy to send to the kids, and Toshie wanted Alice to take some things to her mother. It is a good thing that they are leaving on such short notice or else they would have been loaded down with all sorts of stuff to take back to various relatives in camp. >

Emiko and Alice also had a disagreement today. Alice could not make up her mind about going until Mark came in this evening. Emiko thought that she should decide definitely when she was going. Alice had said that she was going anyway even if Mark did not get his furlough right away. Since she was going to do this, Emiko did not see any reason why Alice should wait for Mark's permission. Emiko said this was an emergency and that Alice should think about taking of the final affairs for Pop first. She asked Alice if under such a situation, would she decide between Mark or Pop. Alice said that she would decide in favor of Mark since he was her husband. She told Emiko that she would not understand this until she were married. Emiko still did not think that this condition should call for a decision like that. Then Alice said that Mark may get sent overseas anytime so that she had to consider him first. Of course, she is right in this, but then Emiko can't understand that Alice has her own life to lead now. She still thinks of Alice in terms of one of our family yet.

Sunday, August 1, 1943

omit to p. 3032

After Emiko and I left last night, Mariko had an emotional breakdown and she cried until 4:00 a.m. She was feeling very badly about Pop's passing. Mariko had been holding it in all day because there were non-family members around her place. Then she was so busy rushing around getting the things to send to the family. After everyone left last night, there was a big letdown so that she let loose with her grief.