

1 January 1948, Thursday

The New Year has started out in a rainy and miserable way, but last night it was nice and crisp. We left the house about 6:30 yesterday and we didn't get back for over 24 hours. It was one of the craziest New Year's Eve we have had, but interesting. This is the third one I have spent in NYC, and by all odds the best. Yuriko got all dressed up and she was looking most attractive. We didn't feel any air of excitement, but felt that it would be entertaining to spend a leisurely evening out with company. Si and Elsie were waiting for us at his studio on 16th street, and we looked at a few of their drawings before starting out for dinner. The paintings which Elsie made while in India were particularly nice. Jo Ann, a striking blond, came in for a few minutes to say "hello" to Si. She worked with him in Washington, and she just returned from Muncie, Ind. where a progressive group has been carrying on some sort of study about how public opinion is moulded. Jo Ann is married to a grandson of Susan B. Anthony, a feminist reformer of the last century. The tradition apparently must have been handed down the family line as all of the descendents are engaged in progressive social action, so Si tells us.

We had a pleasant dinner at Cafe Johnny where the food was excellent, service gracious, and prices high. But, we ate delightful Italian and French food leisurely, and talked about politics and art in between mouthfuls of delicious morsals. Elsie was attractively dressed up also so that the girls drew some looks of approval from the few men at the bar. We chatted about past new year's eve celebrations and what it meant to us. Elsie said that she liked to be gay and with a lot of people, while Si preferred a quieter time. He thought that people celebrated wildly the end of the year because it was the epitome of past disappointments and future hopes. Yuriko said that New Years used to be a very special holiday in Japan. All of a sudden she remembered that we had not thought about getting any of the traditional Japanese foods for New Years. I asked her how she felt about that and she said that it was the first time in her life she did not have mochi but she didn't miss it at all, it wasn't that important anymore, just another day. I was a bit surprised that she passed it off so lightly because she made quite a point of getting mochi last



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year. Yuriko told Si and Elsie that this was one of the last external Japanese traditions she had left, but she could let go of it lightly because it no longer had any significance for her. Thank God, I don't have to eat any of those leaden rice dumplings this year. I told Yuriko last year that they were good because we were newly married and I would have said mud pies were good if she had prepared them! Now that the excitement of marriage is not so new, but on a more sustained level, I can be more discriminating about my food!

About 9:30 we all went up to Kenny's party after promising Si and Elsie that we would go to their artist's party later in the evening. When we got there, Kimi was so glad because not so many people had turned up and the party was very quiet. Warren seemed to be in one of those morose moods, must have been school worries or something. Betty had something wrong with her nose and she had to lie down. Sam Ishikawa, the JACL chamber of commerce man, was expansively telling about his exploits with ADC, moonface smile and all. Tosh Miyamoto and his timid wife just sat. A couple of Kenny's office friends were there, but they left early. Kenny was expecting several more friends and every few minutes he would anxiously go to the door to listen for approaching footsteps. He wanted us to stay for a poker session, but Si wanted to move on, as he had promised other friends he would meet them at the artist's party. We reluctantly took our leave after wishing them a happy new year, but I felt a bit guilty for walking out on them because Kimi was sure to think that we left because it was so dull. Yuriko kept on reassuring me that it was alright because she had explained to Kimi that we had to go to a company party so I felt a little better about it. I more than suspect that Kenny and Warren think that we are getting a bit snobbish about old friends because we haven't gone to any of their parties recently, but it is not that we don't care for them. It is some of their sophomorish friends who irritate me with their constant chatter about the "Nisei problem," no matter what the occasion may be--as if the world is still revolving about the Nisei and they feel an overwhelming urge to talk about it constantly. When I see how Kenny and Warren are slowly being drawn into this net of circumstances,



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I begin to wonder if any person from a minority dare to move in more normal levels; not by desperately avoiding what they are physically, but through positive adjustments to larger circles. I'm sure that the fruits of integration is more than an emotional clinging to the past within small clusters of Nisei who may have the same thinking. I think that Kenny and Warren can do it as they seem equipped intellectually and emotionally to be comfortable in an ever widening social circle. I don't object to their Nisei friends per se, but I'm not interested in the type of thinking they bring with them. I guess this was what bothered me as I was afraid that Kenny might make the interpretation that I was making a subjective rejection. A few years ago this might have been more true, but I think that I have enough personal feeling of security now and I really don't give a damn whether there is a Nisei society or not. And for that reason, I didn't want Kenny and Kimi to misunderstand that we left because we felt it was too much of a "Nisei party." The second reason was: it's not nice to walk out on any party to which one has been kindly invited.

My twinge of guilt was forgotten by the time we got on the crowded subway and started downtown. Si bought a bottle so we could take a nip and keep warm. The artist's party was being held in a loft over a lumber shop, and it was crowded worse than a subway jam when we got there. The large studio room was so filled with people that there was no room to sit or walk. One just stood still with just room enough to move the drinks up to the lips. A large side table was covered with about 100 bottles of liquor. There must have been over 100 people there. We barged in with the easy familiarity of old friends even though Yuriko and I didn't know a soul there. There was so much confusion that nobody cared anyway. At midnight, the excited babble of voices reached its height and everyone started to sing and kiss. This confusion mounted by the minute. I stood by the bar and tried out all of the most expensive brands of liquor, and Yuriko was steadily drinking down all I handed her over the heads of people. When the crowd got too heavy at the bar, we circulated around the room a bit and met some of Si's friends. The host and hostess looked so happy that they were positively sparkling and they welcomed us warmly. Everybody was embracing others with affectionate tenderness even though many were total strangers.



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We met one artist there who does some work for UN and he commented to me, "The UN would be an overwhelming success if people could be just people and forget their differences like tonight." To demonstrate, he went over to a dazzling blond and kissed her, but I am sure he had more emotional motivations than intellectual while making this point! Yuriko and Elsie seemed to be full of surprised delight as they got more than their share of attention. I think some of the single men there would have been happy if I as Yuriko's husband were not around. Si looked bored and indifferent until he started meeting old girl friends, and then Elsie paid more attention to him.

We talked to a lot of people but we didn't get to know any very well because we just circulated here and there. A Thomas of Harvard fell all over us because he had just returned from Japan and he was now studying Japanese at school. While we were talking to him, a couple came up to us and said, "Pardon us, but we were just looking at you and Marcie said to me, "Wouldn't it be nice if we could take them to our party?" so even if we are complete strangers, we would like you to come and honor us with a visit." Both Yuriko and I were a bit high by this time so we took them up on it after telling Si and Elsie that we would meet them at Don and Lee's party about 2:00 am. Paul Moss, the host, didn't want us to leave as he had turkey and ham to be served, but Bob and Marcia were firm. After we got outside, introductions were made all around. It was so amusing for us to be picked up like this and we hadn't the slightest idea of what it was all about. Bob gravely told us that we "stood out" in "that crowd of cattle" and he wanted to know us better so that was the reason why "we are stealing you away." Bob, it turned out, is a businessman, and his wife, Mary Grace, is an associate editor with Fortune Magazine. (She immediately asked us if we knew Mine Okubo.) Marcia's husband, Andy, is a businessman at Swarthmore College. I don't remember any of the other people at that party on Horatio Street. Yuriko was feeling quite gay, but she always holds her drinks in a ladylike manner so I was not worried about her. But when I started to talk to Marcia about the sex life of the younger generation, Yuriko came over to protect her interests as she said I got a "certain" gleam in



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my eyes, and it was to no avail when I tried to convince her that it was only from the drinks. After Marcia squeezed my hands, Yuriko decided we had better leave. We had a pleasant time at that place, and we were laughing all the way back about how we had been picked up. It turned out that Andy thought we were Chinese, and he wanted us at that party so he could tell us about the 50 Chinese students sent to Swarthmore during the war and the memorial the Chinese government built on the campus in commemoration of this. Andy seemed to be a typical YMCA character and we suspected that his wife and Bob were having a triangle affair.

We got to Don and Lee's party about 3:30, and we were there until about 7:00 a.m. About 60 people were moving in and out, lots of drinks flowing. Don said he didn't know half of the people there as they were brought by friends. Not many of the company members were there except Duggy and Bob Johns. There was a folk singer there who was playing his instrument and singing all evening. Sue and Liz were there, and Sue was still as politically minded as ever. She was excited about the third party prospects and she felt that all of us should go out and recruit for Wallace right away. She is going out to Kansas in a couple of days to do some organizing work out there and then return to NYC and campaign actively for the third party until elections. I don't know how she will make a living, but that is not an important consideration for her. Sue is getting more and more masculine, but she got soft and limp when I kissed her. It supports my theory that Sue should find a lover for herself and then her work might be more effective if she had a better balanced life. She doesn't live with Lizz any more as she said that she needed more privacy in order to write. Liz was being very sarcastic to a some tipsy character there who was defending his wife whom Liz called a bent over blond. This blond was one of the dazzling Cafe Society kind of girls, and I couldn't make out if she were a war bride or not. She had an English accent and she was singing French and German and Australian songs all the time.

By 7:00 we were getting tired so we accepted Bob and Duggy's invitation to go home with them for a waffle breakfast. We had coffee and decided to sleep for a while before eating. It was eight in the morning by the time we got to bed.



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Around 3:30 we woke up, and Duggy sent Bob out to the store and she started breakfast. Bob is very funny he grumbles a lot about Duggy ordering him around, and he said that he was going to make a whip so that he could snap it at her. He has a very good sense of humor so Duggy can't get sore at him for too long. They are still adjusting to each other, and Bob doesn't want to get trained to doing dishes and housework so he gently resists. Duggy has to tell him in detail everything to do, and then she gets disgusted and tells him that he can't be trusted to do anything. This hurts Bob's feelings so he goes ahead and sets the table by himself without further directions. We had a very nice breakfast and by the time it was finished it was getting dark outside! Afterwards we listened to the Rose Bowl football game over the radio, and some of the other games. Bob used to play with some of the college football players so he was quite interested in listening to how they were doing. He seems to be doing fairly well with his leather purse business now. They have a nice apartment for which they pay \$75 rent. Duggy has to watch the budget carefully so that they won't go into debt. It helped them out a lot to get many wedding presents from relatives. Her sister is in Chicago now for Life Magazine so that they are using her magnificent radio while she is gone.

We invited them to come over to our apartment for a steak dinner, but Duggy said she was sleepy and it was too wet and cold outside. Bob wanted to come and eat steak, but he didn't want to leave without Duggy. We went over to the Moss studio to pick up Yuriko's jacket on the way home, but nobody was there. It was 8:30 by the time we got here--over 24 hours since we went out! On the way home I saw some anti-semitic literature scrawled on the subway posts: something about "get the kikes out of Hollywood." There has been some vicious rumors going around lately about the Jews of Hollywood, and the bankers seem to be behind some of this as they wish to get financial control of the screen and kill all liberal thinking.

Si and Elsie have invited us to a housewarming party up in Queens tomorrow night.



2 January 1948, Friday

There has not been any heat in the house all day so that I was forced to remain in bed all morning reading "Magic Mountain" by Thomas Mann. Yuriko got up earlier as she had to teach a class. She instructed me to sleep so that I was able to relax in the warm bed without fear of getting chastised for being lazy. Yuriko wants me to enjoy the rest of my vacation. Mr. Sweeney was up a while ago to bring the medicine cabinet which we have been waiting patiently for ever since moving in here. He seems to be a nice guy. He was telling me that his holiday was sort of spoiled as his 75 year old mother fell down and almost lost an eye.

We heard from Jack and Dolores. Jack has been ill with his pleurisy again, but he is better now. We didn't even know of that. He said that Mom had returned all of the money he left in Chicago so he is going to try and get Mariko to share with him in the purchase of a washing machine. Although Dolores mentioned that their financial status was not as good as before, Jack said that they bought a '36 automobile for \$600, but that it was not for pleasure but convenience. Dolores is learning how to drive so that it will not take her so long to go to work. He hopes that they will be able to get out to Chicago next summer and possibly NYC if the car holds out. Dolores quit her job as head nurse at Stanford hospital, and she works part time for the public school system taking care of children. She likes this job much better. The \$160 a month she gets for this is not enough for them so she works part time as a nurse at U.C. hospital. Dolores finally got her naturalization papers. She was born in the Philippines so was not eligible for citizenship until after the law was changed during the war. Jack says she is of Spanish and Chinese descent. Jack says they really have things fairly easy because Mrs. I. gives them a lot of food from the grocery shop. They sound quite happy even though Jack's illness has interrupted his studies. He didn't say when he was returning to his classes at med. school--this would have been his third year there.

Alice dropped us a line thanking us for the presents, and her letter was filled with her usual comments about financial problems. I think Alice gets a pleasure in telling people what a hard time she is having because she always refers to her financial situation when she writes. It might be connected to the poverty of the



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family during her childhood, but I don't know why Alice is affected more by this than the others. Maybe it is because she has children of her own and she is worried that Mark will not be able to give them security.

I don't hear much about family affairs because I don't write. Yuriko urges me to do so, but I don't seem to have much to say to them, and I would prefer it if Yuriko did the writing--like Dolores does for Jack. I guess I sort of drifted away from family affairs with my marriage, and with the knowledge that Emiko and Bette could help out. The family seems to center around Chicago, but my feelings no longer are as preoccupied with family interests like during the years when I was more directly responsible. Since I never lived with the family much, I suppose it is inevitable that I drift away from them easier than the others. It's not a lack of a sense of loyalty, but the main way in which I was able to help the family was through financial responsibility and they don't need it so much now. I don't seem to have the gregarious temperment for relatives and in-laws as the others have, or maybe I escaped it through distance.



3 January 1948, Saturday

Another storm and freeze came over the city, and everything is really in a mess now. There is a terrific fuel shortage, and we did not get any heat at all today. If it does not come on soon, we may be forced to go to a movie or something in order to keep warm. This is just like a cold water flat right now. Last night we didn't know whether to go up to Forest Hills or not to visit Si and Elsie because of the freezing cold, but finally decided to go there because we had no way of notifying them. Very few of the people they invited turned up because it was too far and so cold. It took us about 45 minutes to get up there, and we lost our way after getting off the subway.

Si and Elsie have a beautiful apartment, very modern, ample in space, terrific in looks. He didn't have to build a thing because everything was provided, including many closets. It is in a modern building with elevator service and all of the conveniences. They were so happy to get the place after moving to about 10 places in the two years of married life in NYC. Now they feel that they are permanently settled and they may even raise a family because the neighborhood is so nice. I said that this taste of wealth was going to make him forget the preleitarist and this led to quite a discussion about what economic system provided the best for the people-- if the distribution system was sound and it was not priced out of sight. Si vigorously defended his position that one could enjoy the fruits of private enterprise while at the same time work for a more equitable distribution. I said that this was not living up to one's principles and that Si should move to a slum and be with the people. We were debating this point for the purpose of getting Jimmy to give out with some of his opinions. Elsie picked him up at her ad agency and she has been encouraging him to think about political matters. Jimmy took the Church viewpoint, as expected. He comes from a sheltered and close knit family, brother is a priest, and he believes that the Catholic Church is the last defense against Communism. He said that the Church has strayed away from the people a bit, but it was a living force in which true democracy could be practiced. We agreed with him in theory, but pointed out that there was some difficulty in practice and this was



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one of the main reasons why religion was not such a strong force in the modern world. I told him about how the Church had taken such a reactionary position against the people in some of the European countries because of the desire to preserve material possessions. Jimmy felt that the Catholic Church was reforming. We did not attack his belief in his religion, but discussed religious philosophy in relation to the happiness of the people. Jimmy believed that rich people were more religious because they could afford to be, while Si felt that poorer people clung more to a faith because they had very little else to cling to. Jimmy agreed that a religion would decay if it did not offer anything more positive. Jimmy follows his religion closely, doesn't eat meat on Friday, but drinks like a fish. He has been trying to break away from the controlling hold of his family, but Si pointed out that this was practically asking him to give up his religion. Jimmy is 25, but he giggled like an adolescent. He wants to be a painter, but only paints religious figures, which may be a reflection of some terrific guilt feelings of some kind. Elsie is trying to get him to paint more about life as he sees it about him.

After Jimmy left, Si said that he was a bit discouraged because so many liberals were throwing up the sponge now for fear of being labeled a communist, and he interpreted that the basis for this was economic insecurity. He told of a geologist friend who worked for the government for years suddenly giving up his profession and going into finances, frantically saving up money out in Denver, and writing long letters about how he has solved all of his life's conflicts by finding God. Si believed that this was a reflection of what was going on all over the country, a sort of escapism, and that the danger of it was that fascist forces would take over everything before we awoke to the danger. I didn't think that it would go that far, but agreed that the political developments next year was important for the future of world peace and that Wallace might be able to exert some pressure on the Democrats to return to more liberal policies. I also felt that Russia had to come half way since we could not enforce world peace by ourselves. We talked politics and art until about 3:30, and also about how to go on a diet. Yuriko does not believe that I can stick to a diet, and she may be right because I don't have much

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will power when it comes to food.

We slept until noon and vainly waited for the heat to come on. It was so cold that it was impossible to move around the house without being all bundled out. I went out shopping for a present for Mrs. M. with Yuriko, and then she went on to her rehearsal. I wandered down Atlantic Avenue, and was amazed at the colorful district I stumbled into. Within a space of five blocks, I saw a Syrian bakery, Turkish delicatessen, Hebrew synagogue, Puerto Rican travel agency, Chinese laundry, Swiss Employment agency, Negro barber shop, and a Catholic Church. It's only a couple of blocks from our apartment, but I have never gone that way before. Yuriko will be quite interested in seeing this district as she likes to prowl around the city too. It seemed to be a real melting pot area, but in a blighted and economically depressed area. Right in the middle of it is a Super A and P where I did some shopping for the first time. I bought enough vegetables for several days because it was cheap and we will be able to keep them fresh in the plastic container we have in our refrigerator. Meat prices have gone up sharply as a result of the storms, although the papers report that heavy supplies have been shipped in. I think that store owners are taking advantage of the storm to raise all of the prices. Butter is \$1 a pound or more so we have given up and we use margarine now. Eggs are close to \$1 a dozen too so we use them very sparingly. But if all prices continue to rise, we just can't give up eating so it looks like we are going to get stuck plenty for food prices the rest of this winter. This is what the people get for following the Republican slogan of "Had Enough?" directed against OPA controls. I don't know how Yuriko manages but we seem to have steak at least once a week. She doesn't think I appreciate her shopping, but it is just shock over inflationary prices.



4 January 1948, Sunday

It was so cold last night that we had to go to a movie in order to keep from freezing. It wasn't such a good picture, but at least we were comfortable. We went to bed around 1:30 a.m. Along about 3:30 Yuriko woke me up by going to the window. I asked her what was wrong and she said there was a fire. Sure enough flames and smoke was pouring out from the large building across the street. The fire was next to it--the Jewish synogogue--and it was a goner. The people in the next building were frantically piling all of their belongings into sheets and there were firemen running all over the place. For a while it looked like the huge building would also catch fire, but the church fire was kept under control. We saw it this morning and the entire roof was burned off and the insides were gutted. They must have poured tons of water into the place. I made Yuriko get dressed in case we had to evacuate this building, and said that we could not take anything but a few papers. Yuriko answered that we must get fire insurance on our things, then she went back to sleep. I watched the fire for about an hour and a half until I was convinced that it would not spread and then I went back to bed. I don't know what the cause for the fire was: it might have been sabotage. For the first time, I noticed that a number of Chinese lived in the building across the street.

This morning I was very sleepy when we got ready to go up to Long Island to visit Mrs. M. We had a nice trip up there on the railroad and the countryside was covered with snow yet. When we got up there, I stood in line for an hour waiting to see Dr. Kris, the psychiatrist while Yuriko went in to see her mother. Dr. Kris was so busy that she didn't have much time for anybody and she rushed them out in about three minutes so that I didn't have a chance to really talk to her. She said that Mrs. M. had made very good improvement, and she was eating now, quite cheerful, worked around on the ward, and that she might be ready to leave in a couple of weeks. Dr. Kris said that she wanted Yuriko to stop in before we left so that she could find out what Mrs. M. thought about because she was not able to communicate. She did not think that Mrs. M. should come to live with us as that would definitely be harmful, but suggested that I contact Rev. Matsumoto again to



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see if the placement plan could be re-initiated. Dr. Kris felt that the relapse was due to the shock treatment, but she gave some veiled hints that it was partly the fault of Dr. R. for not understanding the patient too well and inferred that she was a much better psychiatrist. My impression was not that favorable because Dr. Kris seemed to be a dominating type of woman who acted like she knew all of the answers. I got the feeling that she was just anxious to get Mrs. M. out of the hospital as soon as possible in order to enlarge her score of discharges. She did not impress me as having such a personal interest in the patients as persons as Dr. R., she lacked the warm human quality.

After seeing Mrs. M. I was convinced that Dr. Kris was a bit too hasty in proposing discharge. She apparently has misinterpreted Mrs. M's cheerfulness as a normal reaction. But from what Yuriko said, Mrs. M. seemed to be unduly exciteable, in a sort of manic state, and her great humor did not coincide with what she was feeling. Mrs. M. did look a lot better physically, seemed to have gained weight, and her speech was more coherent. But she also said many rambling things which did not make sense and there was considerable disconnection of thoughts. She looked suspiciously about her as she talked, cupped her hands over her mouth and spoke in a whisper, said emphatically many times that she was not sick. She renewed her stories about all of this being a plot, and the story has been elaborated to include the doctors and nurses. Yuriko said that her mother definitely seemed to want to separate us from a few things she said. Mrs. M. cannot recognize her illness yet and that is partly because she doesn't have any psychiatric care and partly because she has considerable guilt feeling about it and it is natural for her to project--especially when some slight paranoid traits are already present. Mrs. M. has become intensely religious and sees God as her salvation. She spoke of wanting to help suffering people in the world, especially other patients who were ignored by the doctors and nurses. This religious interest has some positive values even though it is another form of escapism. Mrs. M. gave Yuriko quite a lecture on religion and what it is doing for her, but said that it had to be a secret or harm



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may be done to her. She avoided answering any questions asked by Yuriko, trying desperately to convince us that she was not ill but that it was all a mistake. Then she said that she didn't remember a thing since first coming into the hospital. This may be true enough as the shock treatments sometimes jumbles a person's thinking up for a while. Her explanation of not eating was that there was a plot in the hospital, but now she believes it was a part of the treatment. Of course, she really doesn't need the treatment as she is well. It was difficult to make sense of things she said because it was so jumbled and confused.

When we dropped in to see Dr. Kris again, Yuriko mentioned some of the things said by Mrs. M. and how difficult it was to get any meaning out of the conversation. Dr. Kris stressed the positive improvement which we were aware of. I asked her if I should go ahead with the plans for post-discharge, and Dr. Kris hastily answered that it would be awhile yet and maybe Mrs. M. would need some more treatment. She said that Mrs. M. definitely would not be ready in the next two weeks and admitted that it was hard to get at Mrs. M.'s true feelings because of the language difficulty. From the things she said, I didn't develop the confidence in her as I had in Dr. Rabbinoitch. I am very skeptical of the results of early discharge as it seemed to me that Mrs. M. is still very disturbed. She still talks about "revenge" against Douglas and things like that, and I doubt if she has adjusted to her present situation in anyway. More likely there has been an even greater withdrawal from reality and her seeking refuge in religion is one aspect of this. Mrs. M's swings in mood from depression to hilarity seems to be a cycle and the chances are that it will re-occur. We are hoping that the atmosphere at Rev. Matsumotos home will spur Mrs. M. to positive improvements. If she can really forget herself for a while, this would be possible. But we can't help her to do this very much as Mrs. M. is too busy justifying herself to us and we couldn't give her that spark to push back to reality as she would like to be completely dependent upon Yuriko and re-tell how she was wronged for the rest of her life. This will not do at all and I am relieved that Dr. Kris has recognized this as she remarked that she would never think of sending Mrs. M. to us. The nature of the breakdown still is not clear to the psychiatrist.

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The prognosis is only fair at this point as far as I am concerned even though it is certain Mrs. M. will eventually leave the hospital for a while, but not as "cured."



5 January 1948, Monday

I was awakened with a start by Yuriko at 8:00 am this morning with the plea that I would be late to work. Since I wanted to start out my field work by getting there on time the first day of the new quarter, I dressed madly and rushed to get the train to Grand Central. When I got to the office, it was completely deserted. Miss Glover came in later and explained that due to the fuel shortage, the office would be closed for the day. Everyone but me was notified. It was very chilly in the building but I thought that I might as well send out letters for interviews during the next two weeks when I would be in the office every day. It took me all morning to do this because the phone kept ringing and I had to give out a lot of information. I ate lunch all alone here. Before I left the office, I phoned the school to ask if the Winter Institute course was definitely going to go on at the middle of this month. I was given a hazy reply as the registrar said that there would be an Institute but that those admitted to it would not be notified until later this month. In the event that I am not admitted, I will be in one hell of a fix because it will be too late for me to get into other regular courses. And I need that \$90 army subsistence so I have to have at least 11 units of credit. I don't need it for my degree, just the cash. Finally, I would like the course for the educational value it may have in it! The NY School is a mess and the administration is pretty indefinite. I think that the registrar gets a sadistic delight in making the students squirm a bit in uncertainty on the assumption that anyone would be willing to suffer a bit to get into such a wonderful school! When the vets use up all of their allowances and enrollment falls off, the school will not be so disinterested in signing the students up, but that doesn't help me now. I also phoned the thesis room about my project and I was told that they were very sorry but the typist who is doing my thesis quit the school and she has not brought it in yet. It gripped me no end as the school has no idea where the typist lives. Fortunately I had her address and I wrote a stern note to her telling her that I want the thesis. The typist undoubtedly will interpret it as an anti-Negro sentiment as she is such a sensitive girl and she made much of the point that Negro typists were just as efficient as whites one day when I was talking to her.



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I wandered over to Times Square at lunch time and took the 8th Avenue home from there. I was so cold that I had to get into bed for a couple of hours to warm up as the apartment had no heat until late in the afternoon. Yuriko brought Shirley home to dinner with her, and it caught me unprepared as I had not planned for three but we stretched the food out. Yuriko said it was good for my diet, and Shirley praised my meat loaf lavishly so that I became less of a disturbed "housewife." However, I refused to allow Yuriko to sit down to dinner first as I demanded my "rights" and I didn't want to give Shirley the wrong impression! Yuriko was so amused at my obvious efforts to indicate that I was not a Mr. "Milktoast" and she gave me exaggerated service, while Shirley remarked that we certainly did get along well together and she wanted to have a considerate husband too. She is almost 25, attractive, but not ready for marriage. She would rather live in sin for a while as that is the more sophisticated thing to do. She did not mention anything about her lover from Harvard or Yale so that may have blown over. Shirley is really a rather naive girl despite her external sophistication. I talked politics with her and gave a good picture of Wallace to encourage her to think politically. She said that she wasn't interested in such things, but I elevated her ego by saying that she would assume her citizenship responsibilities when the time came. I didn't try to press any point of view upon her as she would resent that. Shirley is so tied up in her personal problems that she is disinterested in the country at large and she doesn't have any social consciousness at all even if she does do a lot of reading of abstract philosophers like Satre and some of the other moderns. Her most immediate interest is in dancing and Yuriko says that she is getting better now that she is losing a bit of weight. The weight probably is psychosomatic but Shirley is the kind of girl who is easy going and she makes fairly good adjustments. Right now she teaches dancing to ex-GI's and makes \$7.50 per hour. She has urged Yuriko to start an experimental class for herself and seven other girls as they do not get all they desire out of the Graham studio. Yuriko is willing to do this as it will mean a bit of extra cash and she will be able to experiment a bit too with some of her own theory of dancing. I suggested that she save the money from this class and try them



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out for a group number until next spring and then tell them that she wants to do a group dance on a concert stage with them. In this way, she will have the money for her rehearsals, and the girls will have a chance to perform so that everyone will be happy.

After dinner we rushed up to the Museum of Modern Art where the leading dancers of the city have gathered to start discussion of a national organization for dancers. The auditorium only held 500 so that we got there too late despite our early start. About 300 people or more were turned away. Some dance recitals were planned and this was the big attraction. It reinforced my theory that dance concerts could draw tremendous crowds if the price of admission were lower. Yuriko seemed to know all of the dancers there. Dancers are a peculiar fraternity and they all know one another, just like a school student body, even though they study under different dancers.

Yuriko and I walked down Broadway at night and we enjoyed the city lights as we have not seen Times Square at night for many months. We dropped in on Lamar and he was very happy to see us. He seems to have gotten domesticated. He served us tea, and he has a kitten to keep him company while Rhoda is away. She is still in Phila with "Make Mine Manhattan" and it looks like it will be a hit when it comes to Broadway later this month. Rhoda will be making \$85 a week so she naturally hopes for a nice long run, at least a year. This will give her the chance to press discussion about marriage. Lamar has undergone some drastic changes in attitudes about marriage and he was telling us that he wanted it to be something special, like ours, since marriage only happened once in a lifetime and it should not be a drab affair. However, he doesn't want it to be too big an affair like Rhoda proposes. We both encouraged him in talking about marriage as he seems to be ready for it now. After 18 months in NYC, he is finally doing stage work. He has definitely given up the idea of becoming an actor, but he wants to become a stage manager as there is more security in that. He says, "Let's face it, there really are not too many parts to fit me and a stage manager would give me much more satisfaction in being creative." Lamar is working as a stage hand for the New Stages, Inc., which does experimental plays.

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He said that the Galileo play, Lamps at Midnight, was doing fairly well but he had hopes that the company would go on to better things which will hit Broadway. We also talked about Third party (Lamar calls himself a confused and conservative liberal), atomic power and how much it could do for mankind if used for peaceful things, Winchell's screaming that we should drop an atomic bomb in Europe if Russia goes into Greece, how housing could be built if we used the industrial know-how of war for peaceful production for the people, the speed of civilization, what one should get out of life (including a home in the suburbs), and all about the antics of his kitten, Galileo, who has human qualities. We came home after midnight and Yuriko was in a very playful mood all evening.



6 January 1948, Tuesday

I put on my long army woolen underwear this morning to prepare for the cold regions of our office, but Joe, the houseman, had piled on a lot of coal which arrived late yesterday so that my office has been like an oven all day long and I have left the window open. The underwear itch too. Right now it is snowing and the Russian housewreckers across the street have quit. They are down to the second floor now, and the Murray Hill Hotel will be completely torn down in a few more weeks. The space will be used for a business building as business comes before housing, it seems.

It has been an easy day in the office. I went to a staff meeting and didn't concentrate on what was being said. Miss Siebold wants me to discuss one of my cases for the cultural implications as she thinks it is a good example. I interviewed my Greek client, and I found out for sure that there is not a chance that his deportation will be stayed even if there is a shooting war in Greece. The Immigration Service wants to get helpless aliens like Mr. T. out of the country and nobody will put up much of a fuss because he does not have powerful friends. It made me feel very discouraged because there are so many loopholes in the laws for one who has political pull, but not for the average person. This is one of the reasons why so many fascists are allowed to come into this country because they are middle class or better and the "desirable" type. A worker doesn't have much chance. My hands are tied in this case and I can't do a thing so that it is hard to listen to Mr. T. plead not to sent him to certain death as America is the only country he knows. He has been here 25 years illegally.

At noon, we had a long discussion on the Third Party, and there seems to be an even split in the attitude of the workers here. Those who favor it feel that Wallace represents the only choice for real liberalism, and that we do not have to support the Democrats who will not reform anyway, and that the Republicans cannot be much worse than the present administration. We need a real choice against war and for peace is their argument. The others were not so certain as they felt that there were some advantages in maintaining the status quo. None of the staff were for the Republicans. Here is a good example of how a group of liberals can get so

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split up that they cancel out each other's vote. Jean Pickering is leaving the agency and going home to Buffalo, a conservative Republican area, to spread the gospel of the third party. She feels that Wallace will get a tremendous vote from labor and liberals even if he has no chance to actually win, unless there is a depression. She thinks it is the only way in which we can stop the mad rush to another war. Miss Coppins believes that the church will strongly support Wallace because his philosophy appeals to religious people. Miss Martella says Catholics won't support Wallace because the Communists are for him, and she is going to see what the Pope has to say about Russia. However, she says she will vote for Wallace if it is a choice of war or no war as she never will support militarism in any form and we are getting too much of that now. Jean and I worked on her on this point and kept religion out of it since Miss Martella has so much feelings about Catholicism. We felt that if enough liberals became interested in the third party, maybe the Democratic administration will go back more to the New Deal ideas.



7 January 1948, Wednesday

We just finished dinner, and Yuriko is reclining in the chair reading the newspapers. She had to teach late this evening as she started a new class. They want to take it three times a week and Yuriko will use it as an experimental group. Yuriko said that she had a talk with Martha this afternoon, and that Martha seems pretty definite that she wants Yuriko to do her solo dance on the Broadway program. If this does go through, it will mean that Martha has adopted a new policy. Up to this time Erik has been the only one to present an original dance on any of Martha's programs. Martha is going to groom Yuriko and Ethel for bigger specialty dances since Pearl may not come back to the company. Right now Pearl is doing the lead dance for Finian's Rainbow and she may stay with it since she gets a very nice salary.

We ate beef tongue tonight and I cooked it. It didn't turn out as tasty as the one we had at Dr. Young's home recently but it was good enough. Yuriko refuses to cook a tongue because the original "looks of it gives me a peculiar feeling." I put a part of the beef tongue in my own mouth and told her that it had swollen up, but Yuriko did not appreciate my little joke! However, it did not spoil her appetite as she ate about five slices.

I feel very tired this evening because I did intake at the office today. Jean Pickering also came in to tell me about her problems and the real reason why she is resigning from the Institute as a receptionist. She felt that she had to talk about it to somebody and she wondered if she should go to see a psychiatrist. When I asked her why, she said that she had terrible moods and she would swing from one extreme to another. She always seemed to be very cheerful in the office so I was surprised that she was having a great deal of personal problems, although I knew that she was pretty lonely because her husband is a traveling agent for Pepsi Cola. She said that the reason why she quit the job was because her marriage seemed to be headed for the rocks, and she proceeded to tell me all about it. She said that she really was very neurotic and quite bitchy when she drank and she said vile things to her husband. Once he walked out on her for two weeks but they made up. They have been married for a year, but she "lived in sin" with him for six months before that "because he had to get his final divorce." She thought that this might be one of the

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reasons why there was a strain. Her husband is moody and he drinks all of their money up so that they haven't been able to get any place and she is tired of the cold water flat. She felt that she was not making any progress in her marriage, and this worried her quite a bit. Her husband's first wife was also very neurotic. Most of the difference right now is about finances; they don't seem to be able to make the budget meet. I discussed this with her for quite a while and gave her some suggestion which might be worked out. However, the real reason seemed to be much deeper. Jean is worried that her husband might become an alcoholic like his father. Since so much of the money goes for liquor, he is never able to take her out and this gets on her nerves so she drinks too. Last month they spent more for liquor than for rent, and that is why they cannot buy a car so that she can travel around with him.

Jean said that things have come to such a point that a drastic decision had to be made soon. She has almost made up her mind that she will have to become a career girl. She recognizes that quitting her job is escapism, and she was able to see that going home to Buffalo to campaign for Wallace was outwardly a fine motive, but that it really would not solve her problems. She said she guessed she would try once more to save her marriage as she loves her husband. But she has been alone so much that she is not sure that he loves her so much, especially after she said nasty things to him the other night. I said that if they really loved each other, they would be able to talk these things out after they were both cooled off and through nursing hurt egos. Jean grabbed at this and she said that she would certainly try as she didn't want to go through life without a husband. However, it might help if she got a better job since the Institute did not give any security at all. She has a degree in home economics and she has taught before so she may go back into that.

Jean then told me that the real reason for friction might be because of her recent operation. She had to have her ovaries removed (one) and the doctors told her that she only had four more months in which to conceive. She feels that a child will add stability to their marriage, but her husband does not seem to be too



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enthusiastic about giving up liquor for the support of a child so that she may not have any. This will be quite a blow to her as she said that she was like most women who wanted to have a baby, but that this was going to be denied her. When she first began to have difficulties with her husband she even thought of committing suicide and she turned the gas on "but got scared." Then she toyed around with hanging herself and put up a rope in the kitchen, but "decided that life was not that bad." She felt that the hardest thing for her was that she was not able to talk to anyone because her husband is away so much so that a lot of her conflicts are internalized and this creates a great deal of worrying and anxiety. It seems to have gotten to the point where she thinks that nobody in the office liked her, but she was able to admit that this was a projection of her feelings. If she keeps up in this way, she is going to have a breakdown. I said that since she resigned from the job already, maybe it was best that she try a change in environment. She felt that I was a good friend, and she is going to try and make up with her husband this evening. She says that she has been "Quoting" everything I say during lunchtime when she sees her friends. I shall have to tell Yuriko this so that she will realize what a super husband she has! (Mom wrote Yuriko in Japanese that she did not think that her first son would ever make much money because I was not interested in pursuing money so that Yuriko should try and understand me!)

One of my new clients today was a former social worker, Mrs. Schnider, who used to work for the International Institute twenty years ago, and the case was given to me because the other workers all knew her and my supervisor felt that I could be more objective. Mrs. S. married a German in 1929 and went to Germany to live with him. However, she was certain that she never got tainted with any of the Hitler ideas because she taught her two children English and she always thought of returning. Furthermore, her Americanism was proved because she craved "Reader's Digest." (that didn't seem to be much of a recommendation to me but I refrained from comment!) Mrs. S. seemed to be in quite an upset state of mind, alternately fearful and aggressive. She felt that fate had dealt her a bad hand. She had to bolster her ego by reciting a long list of social work jobs she has held in the past. After she went back to

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Germany, she did not do so well and she came back broke with her two children. Her husband got denatizified (a process like de-lousing) and he is here now. Mrs. S. said that her husband has a Ph.D. degree, but he can't get a job here. So she has taken a basement apartment and she works as a baby sitter. Now she wants help in getting a job as a social worker. She worked for the military government in Germany, and she was the official town interpreter when the Americans came in. It seemed to me that she was a little hostile towards her 10 year old son as she wants to put him in a boarding home so she can work. She doesn't consider her husband much either as she has sort of given up on him. She kept mentioning her degree from Columbia and how many languages she spoke, as if she fell from such a high station in life. She is down to her last eight dollars, but does not want to go on relief. She had to pawn her ring in order to buy her children Christmas presents. There is a terrific need for social workers, but Mrs. S. seemed to be a bit old fashioned and I doubt if she could handle a job of this sort now as she was trained in the old YWCA methods over twenty years ago. She feels that America owes her something because she was born here, but I am not too sure of what her attitudes were like in Germany. She impressed me as the type of person who shifts with every change in public opinion. I doubt if I can help her much with her attitudes because she is too old, and she thinks I am just a young sprout anyway. I'll try to help her get a job through some employment agency, but her glibness didn't impress me very much.

I had much more respect for Mrs. Fernung's integrity. She came to ask help in filling out the application for her second papers. She said that she did not do it during the war even though it would have been easier on her as a German subject, but she felt that she could not honestly swear allegiance to this country during the war. Now she is convinced that this is the only country for her and she said that she studied democracy very thoroughly and believes it implicitly. She said that she could have received citizenship during the war but she was not willing to take advantage of a situation when she did not know her own mind. She was very skeptical of Germans who now claim that they were never influenced by the Nazi doctrines because she was even influenced by some of it even though she was in this country



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all the time. Mrs. F. is a chambermaid.

Mrs. Hof had much more of a personal problem. She came from Vienna a year ago. She is 24, rather attractive, has an accent, very frank in what she says. She came by plane, and one month later discovered that she was pregnant. Her father practically disowned her for the disgrace, but she was finally able to get married by proxy. Now she would like to get her husband to this country. The only difficulty is that he served in the German Army and the visa regulations would be very strict for him for some time yet. She said that she went with him for six years, and it was such a terrific conflict because she wanted to come to America but she would have lost her chances if she got married. So they made a vow to wait for each other and to seal it they had one affair, and this resulted in pregnancy. To her surprise she got twins! Mrs. H. is living with her father now, and he is mad at her because he has to support the babies. The reason why he wanted her here was so that she could work and help support him in his old age, but Mrs. H. was much too attractive not to become interested in men. She feels that if her husband can come here she won't have to beg her father for money to buy things for the baby. She wouldn't dare to go back to Europe because she would get ridiculed even more for having children without being married. She explained it as part of the war situation. She said that I was her last hope to help her, and it was hard for me to let her know that the chances of her husband getting her were very slim. The state department does not recognize proxy marriages so that he could not come in as a father, and there is a long wait before he can get on a quota. I tried to get over some of this without letting her down too hard, and then I encouraged her to talk about what she would do for herself in the case he could not come for a while. She said that it looked hopeless, but it came out that she had a nurses certificate from Austria and I suggested that she think about working after her babies were a bit older. She was very surprised and thought that she would never have a chance like this in the U.S. I said that anything was possible, and that she had good possibilities once she got over all of her feeling of self consciousness about herself as an alien and a mother without a father for the children. Her good looks will get her by very satisfactorily, that I am convinced of!

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She said that she was very afraid to come here because of the way her brother was treated by American soldiers. This brother was captured in France and then the GI's shot at his feet and the boy had to go to a hospital with many wounds. Later, the Russians took him and he is still in a PW camp in Siberia if he is alive yet. Mrs. H. said that she was afraid that all Americans would treat her cruelly, but still she wanted to come because the future was so hopeless in her own country and now she is glad she made that decision. But she would be completely happy if her husband could come. I think she is going to have to wait for a very long time before that is realized. I'm going to try and help her get over some of her feeling of shame about her "illegitimate" children since she did get married by proxy before the twins were born. She said, "Do you mind if I come back and tell you all my troubles because Father can't be told anything?" It made me feel so old and mature, but maybe I can be of some help to her. I don't know if I am going to put in all of the details of her sex life in the case record because we have too many old maids in the agency, and I think that sex is incidental in her adjustments for the time being anyway. All she needs is a friend to listen to her and she will be able to make her own decisions as she verbalizes her problems, and I think this is possible. I also had a long talk with her on what America is like, and she said that some day she will tell her twins what a kind friend she had during her time of troubles!

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Jean's friend, Jenny, came to the Institute and had lunch with us so we talked a bit more about Wallace and the Third Party. Jenny said that she admired Wallace and his principles, but that she felt liberals must support Truman. She gave a very good picture of the liberal's dilemma. She thought that it was wrong to start a third party now since efforts should be placed in keeping the Democrats in office and work for a more liberal Congress. If this were not done, the Republicans would get in. Thus, the choice was between reaction and progress if Wallace would remain out of the picture. When asked how we could be sure of a liberal Democratic party, she said this was the only chance we had--otherwise we would have nothing. She was not concerned about the charges that Wallace was being supported by Communists since



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his ideals were democratic, but now was not the time for him to run. However, she conceded that Wallace would have served a purpose if he put pressure on the Democrats so they would get liberal, and I had to agree that there was no denying this point. My only question was whether enough pressure could be put on so that Wallace would not have to run. We lengthened our lunch hour to listen to Truman's speech to Congress to see if there were any immediate effects. Truman made a surprisingly good speech, which seemed to be very liberal in principle. Wallace's influence no doubt has to be given the credit. Truman made a definite bid for the liberal vote, and he said many things favorable to labor and minority groups. He asked for a tax cut which would benefit the lower income groups, said that discrimination had to be ended, that housing was needed, and that minimum wages needed to be raised and social security broadened, and we should work for world peace. It sounded very fine and I hope that steps will follow to make these things into law. The only thing which hit me the wrong way were his comments about World Peace. Jean voiced my thoughts when she commented, "I don't see how we are going to have peace when he asks for a stronger military force, and he sure seems to be asking for war with Russia." I didn't like the appeal for universal military training as I don't think that is a step in the direction for peace. However, if the Democrats really return to Roosevelt policies, and even more left of center, then Wallace is doing a hell of a lot of good. But I still have not made up my mind about how I will vote even though I am still favorable to Wallace. Maybe this is the end of the reactionary peak but I am doubtful.

I must go to bed now! I had planned to do some reading this evening but I am too tired. I read a whole book last night, "Around the World in St. Paul" but I thought it was rather naive when it was proposed that minority tension could be resolved by having a lot of folk festivals. I am afraid that these tensions go a bit deeper than that.

9 January 1948, Friday

Most of yesterday at the office I was doing recording and I caught up with my work. Coming every day to the agency is a lot easier in some ways since the time can be rationed out more rationally and there is less pressure--at first! I was tired at the end of the afternoon and looking for an evening of relaxation when I got home. There was a telegram from Clara asking us to come to a party to celebrate her husband's birthday. Since Yuriko did not get home until about nine, we had a late dinner and then decided to go. It was ten by the time we got there. Yuriko had been knitting a pair of socks so that she gave them to Charley when she finished it. We stayed there so late that we did not go home. The talking went on until after three am, and I got up about 8:30 this morning and had breakfast there and dashed to work--only one-half hour late, but I sneaked up the back stairs and didn't announce my tardiness. I didn't feel badly about it since I have done my work and many evenings I did overtime. My greatest worry was that the girls here would notice that I wore exactly the same clothes as yesterday! Charley solved that by giving me a bright yellow tie to wear. He said that he was afraid to wear it since he was a businessman, but it would be okay for me since I am a student. All of the girls have noticed it and made remarks. I think it makes me look like Costello, but the girls are polite and say nice things.

The party last night was very interesting for the stimulating conversation. It was composed mostly of Socialists so that much of the discussion was about politics--from the Socialists point of view. Ted Shapiro, the executive director of Rand School, was there; as well as Mr. Hoffman, a labor leader with the I.L.G.W.; Bell, a former foreign correspondent and now connected with some labor newspaper; Ina Sugahara. Charley was being a good host by provoking little discussions here and there, but Mr. Hoffman was the dissenter who made things really hot. He dared to question the Socialist party and its role in America. Clara mixed her discussion with making job connections as she has quit her job and she may go into publicity work on her own. Miss Vi Sider was also at the party and she is connected with the National Board of Community Chests and Clara wanted me to especially meet her for possible job contacts later on. Charley stimulated discussion of industrial



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counselling with Hoffman. He said that labor unions should go into this area also and use social workers, but Hoffman claimed that labor leaders were afraid of such a new thing and that it didn't have a chance.

Hoffman was the most interesting person at the party. He stated that he was a man of contradictions, and he certainly was. It gave me a good picture of what makes a labor leader tick. He claimed that all labor leaders were neurotic and compensating for this by seeking power, but that was the nature of our society. He did not think that the masses were intelligent enough to do their own thinking so that they had to be led. He did not think this was in opposition to the democratic tradition, and he came out with his intense dislike of Russia. He called himself a realist in political thinking, and that was where the other Socialists disagreed. Hoffman said that Socialism was an end product of democracy and that it could never be successful in America for at least 200 years yet. He felt that democratic practices should be strengthened now, and for this reason he was against Wallace. He said that he had devoted his life to the labor cause, and as one got older, one played ball with politicians. Yet, he said that the end never justifies the means. He was for universal military training and did not think that it was any danger to democratic traditions because Americans had the will to be free. He spoke very frankly and I suspect that a lot of his wild statements were merely for the sake of being contradictory to the rest of the group. He took the position that the Germans had an inherent will to be slaves so that they never could practice democracy. He could not support this argument at all so that he soon had it twisted around so that the rest of us were taking bits of his point of view while he had swung over to the other side. I can see why he is a clever labor leader. In the process, I learned a lot about labor politics, especially of that union and the Socialists. Later on, Hoffman admitted that he was a very lonely man and that the only worthwhile thing in life was to get a wife because a person could only hope to get one individual to really trust him completely. He said that he had power over the lives of thousands of working men, but that was not equal to having a wife. He said that his marriage didn't work out too well, but he had to dedicate himself to his cause. However, he abhors pure idealists as he thinks

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that progress is not made through bootstraps, and it sounded like NAM philosophy to me.

In most of the wild discussion from the socialist point of view, I was not in agreement because I did not believe in their basic premises. It was on the question of Wallace that we really had a hot debate. Clara and Charley, as well as the others, took the view that Wallace was a communist and that he was following its policies straight down the line. They felt that Russia was the greatest danger in the world right now and we had to fight them by every means so that we would not have a slave world. Thus the socialists have to go along with the capitalists, strange bedfellows indeed. Charley said that Wallace's appeasement of Russia was the greatest objection he had, and he did not care for either the Democrats or Republicans. It was the Wallace would sell us down the river to Russia which bothered him, as well as the other socialists. For this reason, they think it is okay if we sell Greece down the river and support a reactionary government there because that fate is better than to be slaves under Russia. It didn't make much sense to me. I said that I was not a communist and I felt that Wallace said very democratic things, and I was especially strong for his position against War and universal military training. Clara felt that another war was inevitable and it could not be avoided, but I am not that pessimistic. It was a revelation to me how intensely the Socialists hate the Communists, and both do it in the name of democracy! I was outnumbered and facing intelligent individuals who knew their stuff so that my argument was not too strong. I refused to argue the issue of a third party on the basis of the communist issue as I felt that this was not the most important issue involved. I felt that it was for the best interest of democracy that the people got a chance to really vote for policies. They finally conceded this point and said that if Wallace were not running then the third party idea was not so bad, but they are convinced he is Communist because he does not disavow Communist support. When I said that Roosevelt didn't do this and it was a smart political move, they said that was different as the issue was not as sharply drawn then but this is a crisis. I refused to get that alarmed over Communists taking over our government and said that there was no chance for that if we really



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strengthened democracy. And so it went on and on until late hours.

This noon I thought I would have to go out for my lunch, but Miss Glovers fixed me up something from the food left over from the board luncheon so I had ample calories. We spent the noon hour talking about sex. There was a news story in the papers about the Nation Magazine being banned in Newark schools because it was supposed to have been offensive to the Catholic Church with its discussion of birth control. Miss Martello said she was not sure if this were the right thing to do but what was the sense of stirring up Catholics by saying that the church policies in regard to birth control were not right? I felt that from the point of view of censorship this was an important issue because it could mean that important social and economic policies could be suppressed if officials were not in agreement. And as for the birth control issue, I felt that the Catholic Church should not be so naive as to believe that its taboo was strictly practiced so that it would help the religion if it reformed and became more realistic. Miss Martello said this was a good point, but sometimes the Church upheld "truths" from a long term point of view and it was no use to stir the members up until it was fully decided which was the best thing. Jean said this was one of the reasons why scientific progress was held back for so many hundreds of years during the time the Church controlled the state. The others all felt that the suppression of the Nation Magazine was a danger to our civil rights.

I was also talking to Mrs. Cole, the executive director of the agency, on the third party issue. She said that it was very confusing but that she was against Wallace now because the Republicans had to keep out of office at all costs--the lesser of the two evils argument. She said that she believed in PCA and its policies, but lately too many communists were dominating it so that she was withdrawing. Her reason for this was that she had a responsibility to the agency as the director and she was asking for public funds so that she could not put it in danger by identifying with any political group with Communists. Talking about playing it safe, that was the best I have heard yet. She calls herself a liberal with conservative tendencies so she can hardly be expected to take a strong stand on principles.

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At the same time she thinks that it is terrible that the liberals are quarrelling so much. I said it was an important issue and it was good that liberals were stirred up because it would bring out a lot of votes, and Wallace would have served his purpose to that extent. She agreed to that, "but isn't it too bad that so many communists support him." I answered that the communists probably would turn out to be only a small percentage of all liberals who backed the third party idea.

Jean Pickering has asked for her job back at the agency and got it. She said that she had thought about what we talked about the other morning and reconciled with her husband. Now she wants Yuriko and I to come to dinner to meet her husband. I said we could go tomorrow evening as we had another engagement so we postponed it until sometime next month when her husband will be in town again. Jean was so happy that her crisis was over and she said that she was going to work hard to save her marriage as it gave her quite a scare to think of being an old maid.

I had a long conference with Miss Martello who is very disturbed about her role in the agency. She concludes that her intercultural activities is the only method to ease social tensions in our society.



10 January 1948, Saturday

We got up at a reasonable time this morning so that we could go shopping. Last night we went to see "Children of Paradise" as it was a Franch film we have been trying to see for quite a time. While walking to the theater we discovered a new district for us and we plan to go exploring around there when the weather gets warmer. Yuriko went to buy box office seats for "Lamp at Midnight" (the Galileo play with which Lamar is connected) but none were available until for next Friday night so we will go then. There is a possibility that we may be able to see a sneak preview of the musical Rhoda is in, "Make Mine Manhattan" next week and Rhoda hopes it will be a big hit with a long run as she will make \$85 a week and then be able to pay Yuriko back some of the money she borrowed, and maybe get married. She told Yuriko that the show grossed over \$40,000 in one week in Philadelphia so it probably will be a hit here. We are keeping our fingers crossed for her as it is very important for Rhoda, artistically and financially, to finally be able to do something in a Broadway show.

Our trip to the super-market down Atlantic Avenue this morning was a pleasant tour and we came back loaded with food for the entire week. We have a bag which keeps vegetables crisp and fresh so that we are able to stock up our refrigerator. We expect to save a bit on our food bill next week since meat prices have been climbing steadily recently. Yuriko is beginning to buy a few canned meats as we don't think we will be able to afford the \$1 a pound and more for meat. We pay around 80¢ a pound for most of the meat now as cheaper cuts are not too plentiful. Yuriko enjoyed the walk to the store and she hopes that we will be able to explore it further when it is not so cold. She calls Atlantic Avenue the international street because we saw so many different nationality stores. We found a wonderful bakery and we couldn't resist buying a fresh apple pie.

Kenny dropped in to return a book so we gave him a big lunch. He worries too much that now he thinks he has an ulcer. He was disappointed because the city will not be able to give him a raise in salary. He doesn't seem to care so much about his job, says there is terrific pressure, but he dares not change jobs because of

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the salary. I don't think his job is giving him much satisfaction as he isn't very enthusiastic about it. However, he seems to have adjusted himself to staying there because of the economic security. He still is the same timid person he always has been, but he thinks big dreams about our society. He said that jobs were not too plentiful for social workers but I can't get too excited about that yet.

Yuriko has to rehearse late this afternoon and I am going to meet her at the studio soon and then we will go to dinner at Doris Avedon and her husband's apartment. He is a well known photographer with Harper's Bazaar and she is one of the Selznick Starlets who takes dancing lessons from Yuriko. They will be leaving for Paris at the end of this month. Yuriko's other starlet has gone to Boston until March to be in a play so that her income from this source will be cut for the next few weeks. However, Martha's company will be opening on Broadway in mid-February so that Yuriko will be very busy. I am hoping that I will be able to get a job by the end of March so that Yuriko won't have to work so hard. I doubt if she will ease up much as she gets tremendous satisfaction out of dancing.

Adamic sent me a copy of his latest magazine, T. and T. dedicated to peace.



11 January 1948, Sunday

After picking Yuriko up at the studio last night, we took the bus uptown to 73rd and Madison to the Avedon's for dinner. On the way, Yuriko told me about what Kenny had told her after leaving here to go home and she was listening to his problems on the subway. Kenny was not as guarded in telling her that he was unhappy at his job. However, he is unable to make up his mind about what to do. He would like to return to California and he believes that he could get a fairly good paying job there in civil service. His reason is that he should be nearer his parents as he feels a sense of responsibility for his mother. Kimi wants to return because her parents desire to return to their pre-war home in Monterey. Kenny gave the impression that life in NYC was a bit speedy and he was not entirely satisfied with his adjustments here because he was not getting enough meaning out of life. I don't know if he will find any more in California. His unspoken sentiment might have been that he did not feel enough sense of personal importance in such an impersonal environment and that he would like to get back into Nisei groups. The impersonality of NYC is one of the reasons why so many of the Nisei have left here. Kenny plans to go out there this summer and explore the possibilities for jobs before he makes any definite moves.

Kenny told Yuriko that Warren had even more of a pressing decision to make. Warren wants to remain here, but Betty has never felt comfortable in this city and she has been putting pressure on him to go back to Hawaii with her where she could be near her mother. Warren had been able to hold out against all of the economic promises of an easy life and financial help from in-laws. But now it appears that Betty might finally get her way. She is pregnant. This has alarmed Warren no end and he is taking every means to find out if Betty is sure, including an expensive blood test. From this, Kenny has deduced that this is an unplanned baby or else Warren would not be taking so much trouble to make sure if it is true, but there doesn't seem to be any doubt about it. Warren has not felt prepared to assume such a responsibility and he is in a tough spot now because he doesn't know how he will support an addition to the family when he hasn't a job. On top of all this Betty has given an ultimatum that she must go back to Hawaii to have the childbirth

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as she would like to be near her mother. It seems that Betty has never broken the umbilical cord even though she is married. Warren doesn't know what to do, but Betty says that she will go back and have the baby, and then return later if Warren still does not want to go to Hawaii. I think that once this is done, Warren will almost be forced to go as Betty probably has no intention of ever returning. The thing which has bothered Betty is that she has no status in NYC while in Hawaii her family is known to be economically successful and has a social position in Japanese society. It looks as if Betty put the supreme pressure on Warren in order to get her way of going back to her mother. Warren feels trapped and it is causing him a lot of worrying but he can't admit that he doesn't want the baby now that it is on the way. Yuriko thought that it would ruin Warren's career but I don't think it will be that bad. I felt that a baby was not that much of a calamity as people have them all the time. And, Warren might as well accept the in-laws offer of financial security. Yuriko said it was a dirty trick anyway and that Betty should have planned it jointly with Warren because it might cause a rupture in their married life later on if resentments developed, as they might.

The Avedon's live in a swanky apartment on 73rd near Central Park, and it has a look of expensiveness about it. It was the first time I have met them, but Yuriko has been giving Doris dancing lessons through the Selznick arrangement and she met Dick before. He seems to make lots of money from Harper's Bazaar as fashion photographer and his name is well known in certain circles. He impressed me as a likeable little boy. He got into photography after leaving the merchant marines and was successful in making the right contacts. He is going to Paris on the 23rd and Doris will go with him as his model. This will be his second trip over and he was very sophisticated about the whole thing, like taking a trip to Chicago or something. They have a lot of "arty" things in their apartment, and a big expensive car. Despite all this success, Dick seemed to be a rather insecure young man. (He had four years of analysis from a psychiatrist; Doris is getting it now and she spends about \$200 a month on this alone, I assume.) They drink a lot (the best brands) and eat handsomely and they spend most of their time going to plays, movies.



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Doris is the beautiful one, intelligent but high strung. She is tall, well proportioned, has a nice sense of humor, well groomed speaking voice, has a terrific drive to win in games and in other things she does. They learned how to play a card game and both of them were trying to solve it when we got there so we got in on it too. Paul and Lillian came in and they had to do it too. It was like a bunch of little children solving a puzzle, including us. I think that it was an excuse to avoid making social conversation as all they talk about is shop. Paul and Lillian also work for Harper's Bazaar and they were in Paris last year with Dick.

Dick and Doris together made a nice combination and we found them charming and interesting after we were there for a while. Dick was a bit high and he was the cook for the evening so that he spilled tomato juice all over the wall and kept saying that Doris would never forget that. She would just pat his hands as if he were a boy and say it was all right in an amused voice. He cooked two terrific steaks which must have cost a fortune, and it was plenty for six people. During dinner they started asking about psychiatry so I told them a bit of what I knew. I figured that they wanted re-inforcement about their analysis, which seems to be a fad among the artistic neurotic. Later, Dick told me that Doris was making such progress in Yuriko's class and that she was able to relax when she danced with him. They have been married about five years. Doris comes from a well off family which moved around the country a lot so that she was afraid of people, felt that her hands were too big, that she was too tall, that she was clumsy, and she has a terrific admiration for Yuriko's trim figure. With her present analysis she has gone to the other extreme and is very extrovert and becoming an actress. She seemed to be a bit controlling of Dick and he acted as if he still were not sure of her. He did all the table waiting and serving and Doris gave the directions as if he were practically a waiter. She drove the car later on when we went out, and she seemed to make the decisions about things. It might be related to the fact that Dick is Jewish and he is not so tall and he idolizes Doris, a Gentile. It made me think of a mother-son relationship more than husband and wife. It seems that Doris is compensating for the childhood insecurity



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she had when her father made fun of her and her brother all the time. Both Dick and Doris are so frank, and I enjoyed them very much. They have a natural sophisticated air, and they seem to be easy to get along with. They don't claim to be intellectual, but I noticed that they had a lot of nice books which looked read. Most of their interest is in the art world, but they also are progressive in political thinking and support Wallace. Dick is particularly threatened with anti-semitism growth as it hits at him even though he has lost his personal identify from the Jewish group. I think he said that he changed his name.

We didn't get to know Paul and Lillian too well as we all went over to another party around 11:00. It was in the apartment of an art dealer, Carl, whom they knew in Paris. Carl was a huge man, soft spoken and mild in manners. He travels back and forth between here and Paris and sells paintings of well known artists. He must get a large commission as he had a nice apartment and he served mountains of tasty refreshments--like French pastries and dainty salmon sandwiches. His wife was rather nice too. However, the party was rather dull. It was formal and some of the young ladies had on evening gowns. They sat around and talked about Art and the Continent, and our little group more or less stayed off to one side, except Paul. There were about 15 or 20 people at the party. We were bored so left about 1:00 and Doris and Dick drove us down to the subway station at Penn Station. They didn't want to take a chance on driving into Brooklyn and getting lost! But they feel perfectly at home in Paris, Rome and other European cities! It was an interesting evening, but I don't think that we would particularly fit into a group like that; they have too much money and we couldn't keep up, and most of their interests are in the art world. This group we met are the more successful people in the art world and not the struggling kind we have met up to now. They are also continental and sophisticated but Yuriko and I didn't feel envious of that: "it is better to be just human." However, I don't begrudge them their rather luxurious life but it seems to me that they should be getting a lot more out of living from all of their world travels. Doris and Dick don't like parties so they only have a few close friends and they spend most of their leisure time going to commercial entertainment and night clubs.



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We slept until noon, and Yuriko went to an afternoon rehearsal. I alternately napped and read all afternoon until Yuriko came back about six. She is cooking now. She brought back a huge fish bowl with her which Isamu gave her and some gadgets to go with it so I guess she will go into the tropical fish business now. I was going to give her a large fish tank for a birthday present too! Yuriko suggested to Isamu that he should try marriage but he said that he was the bachelor type and that few girls would be lucky enough to have an unusual husband like her! Yuriko invited Isamu, Martha and Erick over for dinner at the end of the month as it will mark her fourth year with the company.

12 January 1948, Monday

I was busy in office today so was exhausted by the time I got home. Mr. Abe came in and told me a long sad story about how difficult it was for him to find a wife in NYC. He thinks Nisei girls are too sassy for him. So his goal is to save up \$5000 and he is sure that he will be able to get any girl he wants when he has a bankroll! He is 40 years old, and he has been leading a rather unstable life for the last 15. He measures everything in terms of money as life gives him few other satisfactions. He says that he longs for pre-evacuation days when he could have paid an agent to find a wife for him. I tried to get over the point that making money was not everything and he wasn't getting any younger so maybe he should concentrate on finding a wife. Now he thinks he would rather stay in this country and raise some children for his old age. He wondered if I could help him find a wife, but I said that I wasn't so good at that sort of thing! He is willing to give me a fee if I do!!

When I got home, I discovered that Yuriko had the large fish bowl all fixed up and she was sitting there peering intently at the fish. While she cooked dinner, I sat and watched the fishes. They looked so peaceful and they don't have to worry about world problems, and how much of a national budget we have for the military. All they do is swim around in a little bowl without knowing anything else. It reminded me of some people who live in a bowl too.

I thought a little bit about my future and job, but I didn't get very far. I should be enthusiastic about becoming a social worker at last, but now that it is nearly within grasp I am not so sure that this is what I want. The thing which bothers me is that I don't want to be a case worker for the rest of my life and there are limited opportunities to advance in this field. Within a short time, I will have to stop thinking about this and actually getting out and looking for a job. It is about time that I contributed something to the household! I still want to do constructive things. I don't think I would be very happy if I had a job like those workers who are tearing down the Murray Hill Hotel across from our office. They are able to get all of their destructive urges out. Maybe it is more than coincidence



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that these workers are Russian revolutionists and they take out their urges on these buildings they tear apart!

Jean Pickering asked me something about Foster this noon and I said I didn't know who he was. Jean was amazed, and she exclaimed, "Why I thought you were a Marxist?" I asked her how she got that idea and she said from the things I said, and my support of the third party. I said the things I believed in were pretty democratic according to my thinking, and that she was making the same mistake for which she condemned liberals: namely, that she assumed anyone who supports a third party were communists. I didn't ask her if she were a communist although she talks of Trotskyite friends once in a while. It isn't very difficult to see that the propaganda machines are going to play the third party-communist identification for all it is worth in order to scare people away from real democratic thoughts.

13 January 1948, Tuesday.

I did mostly recording at the office today, but did interview a Lt. of the Maritime Service in late afternoon. We had a staff meeting in which there was considerable discussion about fund raising, and I raised some questions about what was the exact philosophy of our work here. Mrs. Cole, the director, gave very much of a YWCA answer when she said that it was to make New Americans. It is much easier said than done. I asked in what ways this was being achieved, and this got us involved in a long discussion of the group work approach versus the individual approach. Miss Martella got quite emotional as it threatened her existence so we were not able to discuss it calmly. As near as I can gather, part of the staff feel that a sort of melting pot idea works when nationality groups are brought together and encouraged to integrate but that they should keep ethnic ideals at the same time. It sounded like a contradictory goal to me. Mrs. Cole said we were stressing democracy and that God was on side of democracy. She cited some figures where it indicated that people were more religious in democratic countries: U.S., Canada, and Australia. Gleisner said that church membership did not mean a thing, and he pointedly remarked that being church members did not necessarily make a nation less war like, witness our present trends.

After the meeting, Miss Siebold came up to the office and said that she had made a reservation for a hotel room for me in Atlantic City for the National Social Work Conference in April, and she wanted to know if I were interested in going. I was surprised that she would do this since I will be finished here in March. I said that I didn't know what I would be doing in April. Then she said that she wondered if I were interested in working in this agency after I got my degree. I replied that I hadn't thought too much of jobs yet, but it was as appealing as any job (I didn't mention salary considerations). She said that agency was having a fund raising campaign, and she did not know if agency would



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fold up or expand. However, if they got enough money to expand, she would be glad to discuss jobs with me if I were interested. I guess the conclusion is that my work here is pretty good! It's my first tentative job offer. The hell of working for a private agency is that one never knows how long the agency will last, and there is no security in it at all. It all depends upon fund collecting and money is going to get less and less plentiful from now on; private agencies are already feeling the pinch. I am interested in the type of work done in this agency, but Yuriko advises that I do not grab the first thing which comes along as she is confident that my talents will be recognized and I will be flooded with job offers! I am not that confident, but I think there will be some job offers once I start looking around. I wish the Bureau of Applied Social Research would offer me a permanent job doing some kind of research with cultural groups as that would appeal to me. I don't think I will leave the field of social work just for pay alone, but if there is something which interests me in the cultural field I might consider it very seriously. The first thing is to get job offers without getting choosy!

This evening we went to see the play "Lamps at Midnight." We thought it was very good. Yuriko said it was timely as it showed the fight Galileo put up against the reactionary Catholic Church of his time. It reminded us of how the Un-American Committee operates these days, and all the business about loyalty tests and so forth which are making people afraid to talk about anything. I don't see how we are going to improve democracy if free speech is censored, said Yuriko after the play.

14 January 1948, Wednesday.

After a very rugged day at field work, I went over to Lamar's apartment near Times Square where we were to have dinner. Rhoda got tickets for us to go see "Make Mine Manhattan" in which she is dancing. It opens to the public tomorrow night. She was so excited about it because it was an important matter to her, primarily for that \$85 a week she will get if it is a hit. Yuriko cooked dinner and we had a very leisurely meal, talked about show business and discussed with Lamar about "Lamp at Midnight" as he is stage manager of it. Rhoda told us about her tour and how it felt to finally get into what appears to be a hit. She hopes that the critics will give it rave reviews.

We went over to the Theater, two blocks down, and were well seated by the time the curtain went up. There was a full house, and it gave the musical revue a good reception. I thought that it was entertaining and that the public will probably go for it. There was a lot of dancing, and Rhoda even had a small speaking part in one act--she spoke 21 words. Yuriko thought that Rhoda's dancing had developed a great deal, and she enjoyed the dancing which was presented. She thought that Broadway dancing had a lot of possibilities so she is now interested in getting into something. Pearl's picture was right in the theater next to Lamar's apartment--she is doing the lead dance in "Finians Rainbow" now. Quite a few of the Graham trained dancers have gone into Broadway shows, but an equally large number are holding out for pure art. The latter do not eat so regularly. However, I think that there are two sides to this and I don't think that it will hurt Yuriko if she tried to get into a show if she could do a specialty dance.

Today was our 16th months' anniversary so we went back to Lamar's place after the show and we ate pig's feet to celebrate the occasion--since that is the sentimental tie-in with our romance at the beach on Fort Hancock. I think I made Yuriko angry by scolding her for not sending out the rent check, but she is a forgiving girl so I guess she won't hold it against me. I gave her \$5.00



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to buy any fishes she wanted for the fish bowl for her birthday present next month. I think married life is very nice for me and every moment of it have been happy ones. Of course, it depends upon getting an ideal wife like Yuriko, but I won't tell her too often as she might get spoiled!

I had five interviews this afternoon, and two in the morning, so that I hardly knew whether I was coming or going at the end of the afternoon. I think that I need more sleep as we have been having many social activities, too. Yuriko says we are going to stay home for a while as she wants to enjoy the apartment, and we do not particularly care to become social butterflies as the strain is too much. Yuriko is rehearsing hard these days and she has not even had a chance to finish her new coat.

16 January 1948, Friday.

I've really been working very hard in field work, and the agency is getting plenty of free work out of me. In the past couple of days, I've also received about \$10.00 from my clients who wanted to donate something to the agency for the service they have been getting. Siebold assures me that my placement here is not for the amount of work I do as she thinks of it in terms of placement, but I was a bit peeved when she said in conference today that it might go through my recording and find out what significant things developed out of the interviews. It seemed to me that she was asking me to do some research for the agency and I did not think it was for my benefit at all so I objected on the basis that other workers didn't do it here. It is hard to resist these things when I am in the position of a student. That is the trouble with a small agency. For example, the I.I. is in the midst of a fund raising campaign and there is a supper rally next week. I decided not to go because of the \$1.00 charge which I felt I could not afford. So the wheels started moving and the pressure applied, and finally Mrs. Cole "invited" Yuriko and I to be her personal guests. Yuriko can't come, but I couldn't very well turn this down. Every one of the regular personnel here feels insecure because they don't know if the agency is going to fold up or not. I don't think that I would particularly want to come in on a situation like this for a first job, even though I feel that the work is very important. I hope that I get better job offers in the line of my interests so that I won't have to make this choice. I do like the work here, but there are some things about agency policy I don't care for: the remnant of YWCA attitudes, involving the workers on the fund raising, insecurity of a private agency when a job is not secure even from year to year which is bad for personnel morale.

Today will be my last full day at the agency for two weeks as I have classes. I phoned the school this afternoon and found out that the Institute courses will go on. It still has not gotten my thesis back from the typist



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and the project office seems to be just as peeved as I am. Mrs. Kingman, the project office director, said that she sent a telegram to the typist and insisted that it be brought in today but there has been no response so her next step is to send a messenger to the typists's home and order that she turn the thesis over whether it is finished or not. Too bad it had to be me as I have been anxious to send a copy to Dorothy.

All this week I have been interviewing people, and I feel worn out. There is tremendous pressure here because of all the anxious people who want to get their status straightened out. Much of the work is frustrating when there is nothing we can do about the technical regulations of the immigration laws. A woman came in this morning. She is from Poland and she has been trying to get her husband here since 1929. Now it is cleared that he can come, but she can't find a sponsor who would be willing to sign an affidavit so I can't blame the woman for being upset. She brought her brother in to be her interpreter and he spoke worse English than she so I had one hell of a time understanding, but did fairly well under the circumstances. The brother is in this country illegally so he can't be sponsor for fear of getting deported himself even if he has saved up \$7,000. The brother began to tell me all his troubles, how his common law wife was unfaithful and how he was taking care of the illegitimate child. The sister hates the common law wife so that it seemed to be a peculiar triangle, but that might only be the workings of a dirty mind of a social worker!

I've been getting a lot of discussion of sex from my clients in the past couple of days. Mrs. H. the pretty Austrian girl who came here and discovered that her fiancée had given her twins now has the idea that he deliberately tried to make her pregnant in order to be able to hold her and she is starting to think that it was a very dirty trick. She said that she was at a party the night before she was scheduled to fly here from Vienna, and her boyfriend would

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not let her go home through the Russian zone because of stories circulating about Russian soldiers tearing clothes off innocent girls and raping them. Mrs. H. took this in so she went to his apartment and he raped her and she had to describe how she bled, how frightened she was and so forth. Now the State Department won't recognize her marriage by proxy after the twins were born so I have been trying to get her to think of in terms of resuming her career, unless she decides to go back to Austria to her husband.

Then there was Walter, the German boy, whose wife is finally coming and he was so worried because he doesn't know a thing about birth control. I was trying to explain it to him but it was hard as hell because he couldn't understand the terms I was using. Talking sex in simple terms is not so easy, I have discovered! In Germany, Hitler wanted lots of blond Nordic children to make soldiers of them so knowledge of birth control was pretty verboten. Walter said he thought he had killed his wife when she started to bleed the first night after marriage, and I had a hard time keeping a straight face at his innocence. But the Europeans who have discussed sex with me seem to be much less inhibited about it than people here and they certainly are frank.

One of the things I have discovered since being here is that shyster lawyers try to get these clients and they charge enormous fees for making out the same documents we do for nothing. They charge anywhere from \$50 as much as the traffic will bear. It is something like crooked funeral parlors who play upon emotions and take advantage of it. Many of these poor people have little money, but they want to get their relatives here so they are willing to pay almost any price. In the past few days, I have talked to British West Indians, Hungarians, Germans, Jews, and Egyptians and they all tell me the same story about how private lawyers clipped them. Some of these clients are in this country illegally and they are willing to pay almost anything for the privilege of remaining in this country. The sad part of it is that there are consulate



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officials which will break the laws for a fee. The blond Nordic types are considered the best material to make good Americans and they have the easiest time in getting into this country. Some of them are pretty much conditioned by fascist thinking of race superiority when they come here, too, but the consulate offices apparently do not consider this as an important eligibility consideration. On the whole, most of the people who come here though will undoubtedly make good citizens in time as they all come to better their economic situation. It is these ignorant people who are poor that most often get picked up for deportation because they didn't know about some technicality in the law. This is the way it is with my Greek client who was arrested the other day and a warrant served for deportation. He may not be deported right away though if the Immigration Service officials decide to give him a break and overlook the law for a while. But he will have the fear of getting deported at any minute hanging constantly over his head and that won't give him any peace of mind. The Immigration laws are so complicated that it is little wonder that so many immigrants get fouled up with the law, and it is not their fault.

18 January 1948, Saturday.

It's been a quiet weekend, and I got some rest. I didn't do a thing yesterday except loaf. In the morning, I did go shopping with Yuriko and we bought a week's supply of food--we figured that prices would go up even more and we could save a few cents. The cost of living have jumped considerably in the little over a year since I got out of the Army. Everybody is talking about inflation but there doesn't seem to be much done about it. Truman has announced a budget of \$39 billion and it doesn't seem to excite too many people; we have been used to hearing of hundreds of billions in the past few war years. Three fourths of the new national budget is dedicated to the military so that it is how we are preparing for peace. That money certainly could build a lot of housing and other useful social welfare things but it has to go down the drain because the generals are screaming about Russia so much, and plenty of war-mongers have taken up the cry. I wish some of those elderly radio announcers like Winchell had to go into the Army, then they wouldn't be so enthusiastic about sending other peoples' sons into wars.

I was thinking about all those things, and about jobs and our future and related subjects yesterday. I got pretty disgusted when I thought about the trend of this country. By the time Yuriko came home from rehearsal I was irritated. She cooked a delicious steak and I even grumbled about that. It was just an off day for me and I wasn't in a good mood. We didn't have words or anything like that, but Yuriko just couldn't please me no matter how hard she tried. Then she brought out a birthday present for me--today is my birthday--and said I could open it. I didn't even expect anything. She had a funny card with it which said that husbands were sometimes difficult to handle and so forth. I got out of the dumps and felt good for the rest of the evening. Yuriko bought me Kinsey's book on Sexual Behavior of Males, and while Yuriko was washing the dishes I read her some of the parts which exploded old ideas



18 January 1948, Sunday.

we have held about sex for many generations. It is a good book for all social workers, among others, to have since this field has such a terrific interest in sex--of other people. Just to be scientific about it, I am reading it from the beginning.

We got up about 9:30 this morning to find that it had snowed around five inches last night and everything was nice and white. The trip to Long Island was beautiful, but it was a bit too stuffy on the train. When we got to the wards, we had to wait for a little while until Mrs. M. was brought down. She appeared to look better physically, but as soon as she sat down she began to whisper things to Yuriko. I asked what it was all about and Mrs. M. got alarmed and said not to tell. Yuriko started to tell anyway, and Mrs. M. slapped Yuriko's wrist and got very upset. Later, Yuriko said that Mrs. M. told a very incoherent story: something about her belief now that the hospital was keeping her there to use Japanese blood to make experiments with, how she was not ill at all, why she was smarter than most people, and that she did not want me to know anything she said because nobody could be trusted. People could read her mind or something and it only got her into trouble. They were rounding up other Japanese to make these experiments upon, and that she saw an old Los Angeles friend in one of the other wards. And so forth. It seemed that a lot of her persecutory references have come back, and her antagonism against me has once more come out into the open. It was a difficult position for Yuriko to be in since there was no way of reasoning with her mother. Mrs. M. has these things fixed in her mind, and she is not going to allow anybody to know about it, especially caucasians. The disturbing thing to us was that the psychiatrist apparently is not aware of this.

We went into Dr. Kris's office to discuss about when Mrs. M. might be discharged to Rev. Matsumoto's home. Dr. Kris's introductory words were, "Well, what can I do for you?" I purposely did not take part in any of the

18 January 1948, Sunday.

discussion since the doctor seems to want to get a report on Mrs. M. from Yuriko. Yuriko said that she was puzzled because her mother said so many incoherent things. Rather than ask what it was in a nice way, Dr. Kris said it a very autocratic manner that Mrs. M. was gaining weight and she was smiling all the time and she never mentioned any of these paranoid things to her. If that is the kind of understanding of a case which Dr. Kris has, I don't have much respect for her ability as a psychiatrist. I have felt all along that she is more anxious to get patients out of the hospital for the sake of the space it will make for others than show a genuine concern for the individual. Yuriko was taken aback and she didn't know what to say as it did sound as if Dr. Kris did not believe the things which were told to her and that Yuriko was just making it up to keep her mother there. Dr. Kris has a difficult personality problem herself I think and I cannot see how she establishes any sort of a relationship with the patients when she butts in all the time and puts words in their mouths. That was what she was trying to do with Yuriko. I cut in at this point and said that Dr. Kris should really have an interpreter so that she could find out these things herself as it was too difficult for Yuriko to do it. Dr. Kris said that she would like us to contact Rev. Matsumoto and ask him to come up.

It bothered us a bit because it seemed to us that Dr. Kris is over-anxious to send Mrs. M. out without knowing anything of what disturbs her now, and she tried to tell us that Mrs. M. was happy and didn't worry about anything now, and she was friendly with everyone, etc. I don't know how she arrived at this conclusion when she can't talk to Mrs. M. any better than I, and I doubt if Mrs. M. would reveal much of her real feelings to a psychiatrist who presents such a forebearing impression as Dr. Kris. (She has an accent, and her mannerisms are somewhat like the domineering German or Austrian stereotypes we have seen in movies.) It is a dilemma because Mrs. M. would be just as maladjusted



18 January 1948, Sunday.

outside of the hospital. I think that Mrs. M. is renewing her efforts to separate Yuriko and I and she doesn't seem to be able to get this out of her head because she has dominating tendencies even yet. Yuriko thought that perhaps the best thing to do under the circumstances is to try and arrange to get her to Japan as soon as possible as there would be a better chance for her to make adjustments there. Mrs. M.'s lifelong hate and suspiciousness against caucasians certainly is coming out in the present illness. For an intelligent woman like her it was too much for her to repress permanently, especially when there were so many personality difficulties involved in her personal life. I don't think the prognosis is too good, but I can't get anything from Dr. Kris as she is an impatient psychiatrist who is working under tremendous pressure herself as she has too many cases to handle. It is too bad that the transfer was made from Dr. Rabinowitch.

We still have not received the cleaning shop money from Douglas.

19 January 1948, Monday

Today was the start of the winter session Institute Classes for two weeks so I had to get up earlier in order to make it. I have arranged to go to my field work only Monday and Wednesday afternoons for the next two weeks. Actually I have made up all my time already, but I have to see the clients occasionally because of their problems which cannot wait. My classes this month will finish up my work at the school, and then there will be about a month or so of field work to finish up the requirements for the M.A. I honestly cannot feel that I gained any more by taking the extra quarter in the school, but if I tell my advisers at school such things, they will say that I am "blocking" so it is the wisest thing to keep quiet at this point. I have been telling my supervisor at field work my feelings about some of the case work which goes on, but I don't know if Siebold likes that or not. She says she is perfectly objective, but a supervisor always has the advantage over a student. I have been discussing the value of case records with her recently, and today we had a big discussion on Mr. Abe. Siebold felt that he had deep seated repressed wishes which I should bring out, and I maintained that it was just a lack of acculturation which was the basis for his maladjustments. Just because it happened to be a case of a Kibei (of which I know more about culturally) Miss Siebold gets the idea that I am blocking and resisting these things because I have unresolved feelings about it myself! You can't win. She hasn't come up with these things very much, but every once in a while she argues like a defensive social worker and then it is no use in trying to be objective about a topic as there is always an answer for every argument presented. Maybe I am learning something out of this process; but my respect for social work doesn't increase when I hear these things. All last quarter I didn't debate issues at length with Siebold and I got a marvelous evaluation, but I have learned that it is not safe to "cross" supervisors and that she would react in the same way as most supervisors I have met if she were threatened in any way. At least, she is better than most supervisors I have had, but I don't like it when she asks that I do research for the I.I. and puts it on the basis that I am learning case work skills by doing it. If I resist too much, she may put on my evaluation that



19 January 1948, Monday.

my progress was slowed down after a wonderful start, so I guess I have to do a certain amount of it in order to keep her happy!

In one of my classes at school, we have a bunch of frustrated women and their personalities repel me. I haven't seen a good looking girl at the NY School yet, whereas at UC there were a few. It is not interesting to talk to them because their life attitudes seem to be a bit distorted. One girl has a scar on her face, another girl is a Mennonite and she doesn't wear makeup, there is a Quaker girl, a girl with a Negro agency, a girl without hands, and a few students. The field of social work draws so many individuals who have personality problems of various sorts and the percentage seems to be larger than in other fields. But, I have met many students who are well-balanced, too, so maybe it is just certain courses which draws the freaks, I don't know. It's the things they say which bother me; such wild claims they make for case work. I wonder who they think they are kidding? I think social work is in need of a more objective scientific approach, and it will make the field more professional if they cut out a lot of the crap they talk about in the classes. Our instructor who is an old maid and badly adjusted tells us about how she resolved family problems, how can I believe that?

63 Hoyt St.  
Brooklyn 2  
January 19, 1948

Dear Rev. Matsumoto:

We went up to the hospital to see Mrs. Mitsuhashi yesterday. She is doing very well now and she has gained a bit of weight. The doctor said that she is very friendly with the hospital personnel, always willing to help, and so forth. Dr. Kris felt that in view of this improvement, it might be possible to reinstitute discussion about her discharge. Dr. Rabinovitch has told Dr. Kris of the original plans worked out with you, and Dr. Kris feels that it might be followed out in the near future.

However, Dr. Kris is a bit puzzled yet about how Mrs. Mitsuhashi really feels inside her, whether she has gotten over the shock of losing all of her security, whether she fully understands why it is not possible for her to live with us, and so forth. For this reason, Dr. Kris wonders if it would be possible for you to see her sometime to discuss these things and act as interpreter. She feels that it would not be advisable to use Yuriko because of the close relationship. Mrs. Mitsuhashi has expressed on several occasions that you were the only one she has confidence in. She distrusts caucasians, and she still has strong feelings about me. Dr. Kris said that Mrs. Mitsuhashi never mentions any of her fears to her and she would like you to help clarify this point, as it would be important to her adjustments once she leaves not to have internal conflicts which caused the nervous breakdown originally.

In the event that you can go up there, could you write or phone Dr. Kris? (Bldg. 28, Pilgrim State Hospital, Brentwood.)

Confidentially, I might add that Dr. Kris does not seem to be understanding of patients as Dr. Rabinovitch. She may appear harsh on first impression, but apparently she knows her stuff. However, she apparently does not feel that cultural factors are important enough to use in understanding Mrs. Mitsuhashi's facial expressions and present attitudes. On the other hand, I understand that she is known as an excellent psychiatrist so her gruffness is easier to take if one is prepared!'. The reason I bring this up is because I don't know if Dr. Kris is under pressure to get the patients out as fast as possible due to lack of space, and I would like to see Mrs. Mitsuhashi get the benefit of as much treatment as possible rather than be sent out too early. Mrs. Mitsuhashi is afraid of the "outside" because of her recent disappointments but I think that she will be able to make good adjustments in time. The last time plans were made, it was a bit too sudden for her and she had a relapse so Dr. Kris wants to make sure that Mrs. M. is ready for it within the next few weeks. She will undoubtedly talk to you about this. Mrs. Mitsuhashi has gotten very religious, and she constantly speaks of you and your wife, and she will undoubtedly bring out more of her real current feelings and emotions to you than to us. Please don't mention my interest in the case to Mrs. M. as she still has some pretty hard feelings against me for marrying Yuriko, and I don't want her to know that I have entered into any of the planning at all.

I hope it will be possible for you to go up in the next week or so. Thank you so much. Regards to your wife.



20 January 1948, Tuesday.

I can see right now that this is going to be a hectic next two weeks for me as my schedule is so filled. Yuriko laughs and wonders how I am going to adjust when I actually get a job and have to work steadily. The classes have so many assignments and readings and we only have overnight to do it. I have revised my attitude about the class, and now find some of the people very interesting. The no arm woman, Miss H., is such a fascinating person to observe. She does everything and it is remarkable. There is also a colored girl, Miss Brown, who is very intelligent and she has some good points to offer. Thus far, we seem to be doing most of the discussion but maybe that is because neither of us have been overseas and have not had the experience of the others. I was busy this afternoon ordering my last books on the G.I. Bill, and I got the instructor to add some sociology books on the reading list. The instructor does not think much of these sociology books, but I feel that I might as well get something I was interested in since I have so many social work books already. All the students who can are ordering Kinsey's report of sex and there is a terrific demand for it in the bookstore.

I had to go to the agency for a while this afternoon to make a phone call on a case and to read some immigration legislation. Around six, I went to the dinner put on by the International Institute to start the fund raising campaign. I made my escape early as it was rather dull. They had some people in native costumes and they thought it was rather colorful but it didn't impress me that way. The most phoney thing was when a war bride got up and read a speech of thanks to the I.I. for the help she has received, and Miss Martella must have put it up to her. It left a bad taste in my mouth. There were about 30 different nationalities represented at the gathering.

I sat with a Hungarian minister and his wife, and he told me all about his troubles at his parish in the Bronx. The superintendent of his buildings has

20 January 1948, Tuesday

a pyromaniac son who sets fires all over the place. The minister didn't know what to do about it and he asked my advice. I suggested that he consult a mental hygiene clinic to see if anything can be done if there is a danger to the community, and it might be best to institutionalize the boy. The minister and his wife also told me all about their feelings regarding the communist domination of their native land how they felt. They distorted the story a little bit, I thought, especially the part about how the Church has suffered. I didn't get that impression from the Foreign Affairs magazine. It is expected for everyone to be anti-Russia these days and I am surprised that even educated people are falling into the trap of nationalism. The theme of the supper was "One World" but the conversation certainly was on a different level.

I have studied all evening since coming home. Yuriko is sitting out in the kitchen watching the fish bowl. She announces, "Our little Guppy is going to have little Guppies soon and I want to see her spit them out. I have to nurse them." So she knits socks while watching the bowl, and I shall have a problem getting her to come and join me in bed. She says I am jealous!



21 January 1948, Wednesday

I had a very tiring day, and I am so tired. We had some interesting discussions about the legal complications of immigration laws today and in the other class we discussed cases on an international basis. I have been doing a lot of discussion in class so the subject must be of interest to me. Most of the class are experts in the field of international casework, yet they accept everything I say without question! Yuriko says I must have them fooled plenty!

This afternoon I went to the agency and I had five interviews so that I was worn out by the time I got home. I had to listen to so many problems and try to do something about them in getting things clarified. A German man was in about jobs and he is upset emotionally because his American wife insisted on bringing him to this country and he feels lost here, whereas in Europe he was very successful. The Egyptian boy had a crises and expects to be deported at any time so I have to see him tomorrow to find out if the Jewish Agency will be willing to help as he is half Jewish. The BWI boy was in again about trying to get legalization here as he jumped ship, served in the Army, and now finds that he might be subject to deportation and I have to help him work out some sort of plan. The Austrian woman was in about getting a permit to go see her sister and she cried all over the place, and got so irritated because of the red tape and sort of took it out on me even though I did a lot of extra paper preparation and phoning for her, but I could understand why. Then a GI wanted to know if it would still be possible to get his fiancée in from Yugoslavia, but the Fiancée's Act has expired and he may be out of luck unless Congress passes another bill. From all these cases, I learn a bit more about the complexities of immigration laws but it is so involved that I don't even begin to have a good knowledge of the regulations. However, it does help people to come and talk about their problems, and in the process they are clarified on making better decisions for themselves. I never try to force them to make up their mind or change even impractical plans as that will be up to them, but there certainly is a lot of drama in these human problems.

21 January 1948, Wednesday.

I had planned to study early, but Mr. Nakagawa dropped in. He is an emissary from the Japan Relief Committee and he was sent to ask Yuriko to perform as a feature attraction of a relief program to be put on at Manhattan Center on March 2. It was a bit difficult to turn him down as he put it on such a personal basis, but Yuriko handled it well. She couldn't do it anyway as she will be with the company on Broadway right up to that time. Mr. N. came about seven times to see Yuriko so I felt sorry for him and invited him to dinner. He is an Issei from Seattle, very lonesome, runs an art repair shop, very neatly dressed, excessively polite. When he started to speak Japanese to me, I thought, "Jesus, what a mess, he won't understand if I tell him in English that I can't understand Japanese," but he answered in perfect English. Everytime I said anything to please him, he would get up and politely bow and shake hands solemnly! I think he really enjoyed the visit with us, even though Yuriko had to turn him down on the benefit performance. Now I study for a while, and then drop into bed for a few hours of sleep before the grind starts once more tomorrow.



22 January 1948, Thursday.

Another rushing day. Miss Hurlbutt asked me if I would give a talk on culture and social work in one of her other classes sometime. I don't know anything about the subject, but she seems to think that I could do it. I tentatively agreed, but I am not too enthusiastic about the idea. It is flattering that she asked me though, but I think she does it so that she can get out of teaching for the time.

I had to rush to class without breakfast so that I did not have any breakfast. At 11:00 I dashed to the lunch room in the school and managed to get coffee and doughnuts between class. It was a lifesaver and I was able to keep awake for the last two hours. After classes, I had to go to the agency again on my emergency case. Mr. S., the young man from Egypt, was so agitated that he didn't know what to do. He has decided to go to France tentatively, then go to Italy, and travel around until he is able to get back to this country. He is afraid to go back to Cairo because of the Palestine issue and he is half Jewish. When I phoned the Jewish agency, they refused to take the case until they knew if Mr. S. practiced the Jewish Faith. I was very surprised, and I wondered why they set up such a requirement, but they said that the Catholic agency started it. I said religion should not make any difference when a person needed help, but they said this was a rule. It was such a narrow way of looking at things. The USNA claims to be non-sectarian but they limit themselves to Jewish clients and I don't think they should give out false picture of the functions if that is the case. I was a bit irritated about the whole thing. Mr. S. said he didn't practice the faith but he thought of himself as Jewish as that was the way he was treated and he didn't know what he would do next. So I violated professional ethics and coached him to say he did practice the Faith (technically he did once when he was a child) and then got him a referral. I shall not discuss this with my supervisor as she will try to point out that my own feelings were involved. Hell yes, they were! I think Mr. S. got a lot out of the contact in spite of that.

22 January 1948, Thursday.

Have been studying all evening. There is a lot of warlike talk in papers now that State Dept. has released secret German-Russia papers, and the headlines are extremely ferocious. Yuriko says she didn't marry me to send me to an army for another war, and that is my reaction. The world seems to be so stupidly headed for conflict, and one suspicion is built up on top of another so that the whole idea of UN is in jeopardy. Congressmen are also thinking of passing a law against Communists, which apparently is aimed at Wallace support. We seem to be doing everything backwards these days.

Yuriko doesn't feel good as she is coming down with a cold, and I am worried as she has been working and rehearsing so hard lately. She is giving her solo dance on the Feb. 24 program at the Maxine Elliot Theater with the Graham Company.



23 January 1948, Friday.

The grind of this past week has been hard physically on both of us, and Yuriko is coming down with a cold and she did not go to rehearsal today. Last night we got to bed about midnight and we slept like a log. I was late in getting up so I had to dash in order to make it to class. There was a note pinned on our door from Tagawa saying that an emergency call had come in from Chicago and asking us to phone back immediately. I asked Yuriko to phone and if it were a real serious matter to phone the school and leave me a message.

As a result, I didn't pay much attention to what was going on in class as there was some anxiety in wondering what had happened. I could not figure out why a phone call instead of a telegram so I reassured myself that it couldn't be too serious. Yet it must be a crisis, I thought. In between I got snatches of the lecture and class discussion on the problem of war brides and the responsibility for illegitimate children abroad. A woman from the International Social Service came in and gave some class discussion. The most complex cases were those of mixed marriages, and a lot of the class attitude was reflected in what they said. There is a colored girl in the class, extremely intelligent, and we have been stressing the need for social workers to get culturally conditioned and the discussion this morning certainly brought out the bias of even social workers. However, I didn't participate as much as usual because of my preoccupations. I have also been diverted in one of the classes by the drama of the woman without any arms. Each member of the seminar takes turns in keeping minutes of the discussion, and it is drawing near to the turn of Miss H. I don't know how the instructor is going to handle it. If Miss H. is skipped, she might get sensitive; but if she is not, it might be equally

a problem. It is fascinating to steal glimpses at Miss H. because she does everything a person with hands does. She writes, she smokes cigarettes, she scratches herself, and I wouldn't even be surprised if she picked her nose. It is remarkable to see how a person makes adjustments to a handicap like that, and it certainly does not hold her back in any way. She is a supervisor in a social agency in Phila. and here for the Winter Institute courses. She even talks like a supervisor, very authoritative, but that seems to be an occupational characteristic more than any sensitivity from the handicap.

Yuriko left a message for me to come home, so with some anxiety I came as soon as I could. This was Yuriko's story as she got it from Mariko over the phone: "When I called Mariko, she was so excited that she talked for five minutes straight. She said that Bette had left home with a colored boy and was on her way to NYC, and that they were going to get married. She wants you to try and stop them. I didn't say anything as Mariko was so excited. The colored boy is 21 and he is a Rhodes student and he is going to England to get a scholarship and study at Oxford. Mariko said that they were thinking of giving up citizenship and never returning to the U. S. and the whole family is so upset. Mom tried to hit Bette with a bottle, and now she threatens to commit suicide. Bette just packed up her things and left and Mariko said that she would not listen to anybody. Now Mariko wants to stop them, and she says for you to hold Bette and don't let them get married as the fellow is not a responsible person and he has no final divorce from his first wife. Mariko says that the fellow left his first wife flat, and that it would ruin Bette's life. Emiko wants to come out right away and talk to Bette. I didn't know what to say except that Emiko could come if she wanted to and we would put her up."



I was so relieved that it was not anything more serious than that and I had to laugh at Yuriko's description of how excited Mariko was over the phone. Yuriko said that all she said in the five minute call to Chicago was "hello" and "good bye". We discussed the problem, and concluded that it really was Bette's problem and that I would certainly not take any steps to stop her if her mind is made up. From the family reaction, it seemed that it was because of the racial issue more than the fact that the fellow was not legally divorced. Mariko told Yuriko that it was not the racial issue, but the comments she made led us to believe otherwise. It is a matter of intellectually proclaiming tolerance, but when it becomes a more personal matter, then one reacts in a stereotyped manner. Yuriko and I felt that Bette knows all of the social issues which may be involved, and that if she feels she is in love and it is a practical plan it is up to her to go ahead with it. Yuriko asked if I were going to follow Mariko's plan and try to stop the thing by force, if necessary, and my answer was no. I will have to hear what it is all about, and it is going to be up to Bette to make up her mind. We don't really know if Bette is really on the way here, and she may not look me up if she is so upset about family opposition. Yuriko has a hunch that Bette will come here because she has confidence that I will listen to her side of the story. The entire situation has a lot of emotional overtones, and I see no point in Emiko coming here at all as that is not going to force a change of Bette's mind if she is determined to go through with it. Yuriko says that Emiko probably wants to use this as an excuse to come to NYC, even though she may be agitated by the whole business. The family apparently threw the book at Bette and made it an issue of family honor and so forth. I am surprised that they reacted in this way, although it is understandable why Mom might have felt so threatened. But this is all speculation and we don't know any of the facts. Yuriko understood why Mariko might



have given a biased version and she agrees that we can't do anything but talk it over with Bette reasonably. Mariko threatens to get a private detective on their trail and keep the whole thing very quiet. It was comments like this which made us feel that perhaps they were not thinking of Bette so much but that their own feelings were upset because they were afraid of what people might say about this. Bette has a right to lead her own life, and if she decides in an objective way to get married and there are no legal barriers, the rest of the family should not have deep feelings and be threatened themselves. We never will have tolerance and integration if we cling to stereotyped beliefs and just mouth tolerance. If Bette feels that marriage will lead to happiness, then it is a personal issue. Mariko mentioned that if I had been there, it might not have turned out this way as Bette would have listened to me, but she was just assuming that I would be just as opposed as her and I don't feel that way. I know racial feelings run deep, but Nisei have no business feeling superior to any other minority and this is after all a private issue between Bette and the fellow, whose name we don't know. They are old enough to realize the social situation which might prevail, and it is up to them to decide if they will be willing to face it. The only thing which bothers me is the fact that they plan to leave the U. S. It made me wonder just how much the disillusionment with democracy went in this situation, and was this a running away? If they feel that they can find happiness in Europe, I hope Bette brushes up on her French! Of course, I doubt if they are going to get to England that quickly as it is no easy matter to get a passport and visa, and the procedure is rather involved. This I know from my experience at International Institute! We shall hear from Bette her version if she chooses to look us up, and if she really is on her way to this city. It must have been quite an emotional business for Bette, and the anxiety is not going to be cured easily. As far as Mom's threats of committing suicide, it is the



same old business of a parent losing face and using this sort of weapon to get the upper hand. Mom will get over it in time, and there is not any point of talking to her about it. Mariko wants me to phone her tonight to tell her what to tell mom, but I don't think that is necessary. Kikuchi family affairs has another crises, and a member of the clan is supposed to rally with the majority thinking but I can't get that excited over it. It is a serious business for Bette and her prospective spouse, but I can't solve the social situation for them and if Mariko stopped to think, she would not react so strongly. Mom sent me a carton of cigarettes for a birthday present.

Dorothy writes: "Your Yuriko made a great impression on all of us. She has so much charm, intelligence, poise and friendliness. You are a very lucky guy to have such a happy marriage." Dorothy plans to be prof. of sociology at U. of Penn from next Fall so we may be seeing her occasionally. She is still working on the "salvage."

I'm under so much pressure from the school, and I have to write a couple of papers this weekend. Clara invites us to a party to meet some Viet-nameese friends, and Kenny also plans a party on Sat. evening so our schedule is very full, and we are in conflict as to what to do, especially if Bette actually does land here.

24 January 1948, Saturday.

3:00 pm

All sorts of "crises" today! I got to class this morning in time and we had a four hour session. In between, I went to the cafeteria at the school and made coffee for the class since the school was practically empty today. We had been talking about cultural bias then, and Olga had been trying to make the point that social workers were pretty free of it. But when I went to make the coffee, she said, "Let me do it, a woman can do those things better." That is cultural bias! I made very delicious coffee to prove my point that a man could do these things. We had a strong discussion on the role of social action for social workers. The instructor made the point that the NY School could not take the lead in forcing agencies to adopt a non-discrimination policy for student placement and I disagreed strongly. I felt that it should assume leadership, but the class seemed to feel that all factors should be weighed carefully and that the issue should not be forced if it meant that other students would be deprived of field work experience if the agencies would not give in. I agreed that legislation could not force a change of attitude but that it would help to strengthen the position of the client who is discriminated against, and that if the NY School refused to take leadership then it was not following the philosophy it teaches. I pointed out how it might have helped if the school had taken a stand on the question of allowing Negro students taking field work at Psychiatric Institute, but it didn't say a thing until a newspaper put the pressure on the state government. (P.I. is a state institution.) Anyway it was an interesting discussion, and it proved my point that social workers were not always the leaders in social action and that they helped to perpetuate against the very things against which they were opposed in principle. Columbia has a quota system for students in the graduate schools, particularly medicine, and I don't think that the NY School should wait until "conditions



are ripe" before taking a stand on this sort of thing.

Anyway, I came home in the midst of a terrific snowstorm anticipating a nice quiet afternoon during which I could write my class paper. But there was a telegram from Emiko saying she was arriving on the afternoon train. Then Martha sent a telegram asking Yuriko to come immediately to help her with a costume. Then a letter arrived from Mr. Nakagawa saying how much he enjoyed his visit here and that he would like to come this evening to bring a gift. Then the heat went off and Yuriko worried about the fishes getting cold. So our whole day's plans are changed. On top of that Yuriko has to rehearse this afternoon, and we had planned to go to a party! I phoned Nakagawa and asked him to come tomorrow, if possible, and he said he would. Now I have to phone the station to find when the train will be in.

Yuriko and I were very amused about how the Kikuchi family has been thrown into such a crisis uproar, but Yuriko said for me not to laugh at Emiko since she was seriously concerned. We are convinced though that the primary motivation was an excuse to come to NYC for a visit! It is quite an assumption on their part to assume that Bette is here in the city, and that she will be looking us up. I don't think I would if I were in that situation of intense family opposition, but Yuriko says that Bette will want to come and tell her side to a sympathetic person who will understand her point of view so that she will look us up if she did come to the city. We haven't heard anything yet.

24 January 1948, Saturday.

Later

Emiko arrived from Chicago this evening, and I went to meet her at Penn Station. The train was late three hours because of the severe snow-storm and I almost froze in the station. I almost missed her as she came out of another exit, and I had to go and ask the station master to page her. This didn't help so I was on the point of coming home when I spotted her near the stairway looking a bit frightened. She was relieved when I came up, and she said "hi!" Right away she wanted to tell me all about what had happened, but I told her to relax and she could tell us both later so she wouldn't have to repeat things. Yuriko cooked dinner, and we chatted about things in general while enjoying the hasty meal which Yuriko had whipped up. We were planning to take Emiko to a party, but it was too cold outside and Yuriko's cold seemed to be worse so we decided to stay home. We settled comfortably in the front room, and around 10:30 Emiko was finally able to tell us all about what had brought her to NYC. I made her start at the beginning and tell how the situation developed. This was quite a job for Emiko and her throat was dry by the time she was finished. Her story about Bette's romantic affairs:

"All this business started when Bette got a job in the library of Roosevelt College. She got paid in money and in courses. The idea of interracial education is nice but Mariko thought it had gone to the extreme. I thought in a way this was so because all of the Nisei girls were going around with colored fellows. Bette was doing the same thing, and Mom did not like it. Then Bette met Gene Orro. At first Mom just said that it was not a good idea for Bette to go around with just one fellow. But you know how stubborn Bette is and she never tried to talk this out with Mom and didn't care how Mom felt. Pretty soon Mom began to resent this, especially when Bette began to stay out later and later, up to two and four in the morning--and next morning Bette had to get up



early to go to work. She wouldn't change her job even if she wasn't making much and she lost a lot of weight. Then Mom began to pick on her for not taking care of her health but Bette didn't pay much attention.

"One night when Gene brought Bette home real late, Mom said to him, 'Listen Mr., my kind of people don't stay out so late.' This chased him away, only Bette began to go to his family's home and that worried Mom even more. I was good friends with Gene but I thought I should talk to him and point out Mom's worries about Bette. He said that he understood but he was not going out of his way to please her. Then Bette began to get pretty fresh with Mom.

"About one month ago, Bette came home at five in the morning from one of her dates. When Mom scolded her Bette said very freshly that she was going to marry Gene some day. Mom didn't take this seriously and said for Bette not to say such baka (dumb) things. Bette just started to smoke (she took up this habit when things began to get strained) and she went into the kitchen and there were words. Bette just kept saying she was going to marry Gene someday just to infuriate Mom. She had been getting pretty cocky and she didn't even attempt to try to understand how Mom might feel about this. Mom got sore because Bette got so fresh so she slapped her. At that time she was just mad about Bette's attitude. Bette just walked out of the kitchen and Mom got into a rage when Bette flung back that she would get married and that nobody could stop her. Mom grabbed a bottle and started to go after Bette because she was so mad, and Tom and Margaret had to go hold Mom. Then Mom started crying, but Bette didn't do anything. Tom phoned me about it and I told Mariko so we decided to have sort of a meeting at Mariko's next evening to talk about it to Bette. Tom said that Mom cried all night and that Bette was not concerned at all. He asked Bette if she didn't even feel sorry but Bette said how could she when Mom looked at her with hate in her eyes. Tom said he didn't

want to tell me about what had happened but he was worried because things were getting so tense.

"After that Mom began to keep a record of how late Bette was staying out just to prove to her that it was consistently late. Mom's friends at work began to notice that Mom was aging because she was so upset. I decided to talk to Bette and she said that she didn't like all this tension and everything was so nasty at home. At first I sided with Bette but I kept telling her that she should try to understand Mom too. And I said that Mom worried when she stayed out real late as she didn't know what was happening and that it wasn't right for Bette to stay out all the time like that. I never had any arguments with Bette but I told her that it was no fun for me to go home as I could not talk to her since she came in so late everytime. I was in-between everything.

"Then Mom began to reveal her opposition because Gene was colored and this came out more in the open. This was what Bette used to get very defensive about and try to argue it out with Mom. I knew that this was not the way to change Mom's attitude but Bette refused to even discuss it calmly with Mom. All this time Gene was trying to get a Rhodes scholarship to go to England and study but he didn't get it. They were spending all of Bette's money as he was trying to save up a little bit so that if he went to England he would have something to live on. It was then that they decided that they were going to get married. Bette with her romantic dreams said that she would see him through school and that she was going with him. They said that he would go to England and that he could teach school there. This was before everything burst out into the open and I had listened to Bette tell these plans. It was a fantastic plan and so impractical. I felt that Bette should eventually get married to Gene if she was really in love with him, but that plan they talked about was so crazy that I didn't think Bette was really ready to know her own mind and I began to



have some doubts. I suggested that he should go first and get settled and then Bette could follow, but she said that Gene would not go without her. I thought that was kind of funny and that he was being selfish if he were not willing to compromise a bit if he really loved Bette. I talked to Gene and told him how much Mom was worrying and he said that he was in love and that if Bette wanted to go with him he was not going to stop her, and that it was her idea. So I didn't know what to believe as the stories were not straight.

"All this time Margaret was phoning me every night or so to tell me that she couldn't study because of the tense atmosphere at home. Mom would tell all of her worries to Margaret so that she felt that she was being torn between taking Mom's side and Bette's. Either Bette and Mom would argue, or else they would not talk and that was just as hard on Margaret because of the electricity in the air. Margaret said that she felt funny because Mom would keep throwing it up into Bette's face that Margaret was such a good girl and why couldn't Bette be like her. And it was hard for my nerves all this time because I was trying to study for a State Board exam and it would determine whether my three years of study would make me a nurse or not.

"Just around Christmas time, Mariko had one of her parties and Gene and Bette came to it. Gene has a lot of idealistic ideas and he is smart so he wants to tell of his thoughts to everyone. Mariko likes to talk too so that's one of the reasons why she didn't like Gene after she met him. She said that he was too fresh and he talked too much. She took great pains to tell Bette that it was not because of his race either, but this got Bette a bit upset because she felt that it was just as much Mariko's fault that the two of them did not get along and that Mariko could not blame Gene for being too talkative. Then a few days later, at Xmas I think, Mom told Mariko how Bette was going around with the Crombos (colored) boys



at school and how they were having such trouble at home.

"Mariko immediately got all excited about the family and she jumped into the situation and thought that she would have it settled in no time. She didn't know then that Bette was so serious about Gene. Mariko got all wound up and thought that Bette was upsetting the family. Things began to get even more tense, and by this time Bette had announced her plans of definite marriage in June when Gene got his final divorce. It was about then that Mariko decided that we would have a sort of family council meeting at her place and settle the whole matter. I wanted to talk to Bette first but I didn't get a chance. I knew that it might end up in a big free-for-all if Mariko got all excited and Bette got stubborn.

"So last Sunday, we met at Mariko's (Jan. 18). Mariko phoned Bette and told her to come. Bette right away did not like the way in which she was ordered so she said that she couldn't come as she had a date with Gene. Mariko said that this was an important matter and she could skip one date, especially since she had been going out so late all the past weeks. Bette then said that she would phone Gene and have him pick her up afterwards. Mariko got very angry because she had planned for Bette to remain there overnight so that we could talk late. I was really tired but I wanted to find out what was going on, and a bit mad because I gave up a date too. It didn't start off too good because Mariko scolded Bette over the phone about not having enough consideration for the family. Then Gene phoned Bette and gave her instructions on what to say and Bette told him to come to the gathering at Mariko's but he said he would come later and pick her up. So Mariko, Bette, and I had the talk and George did not butt in until later.

"Mariko started the talking. She told Bette how Mom was feeling because Bette was staying out so late at night. Bette said that was not the real reason of Mom's objection, and that it was not pleasant for her



to bring Gene home after what Mom said to him. Mariko broke in and said that Bette didn't attempt to understand Mom's feelings. After that Bette wouldn't say a word and refused to answer any questions as she said that Mariko had her mind made up about everything so there was nothing to say. Mariko kept on talking about how all this issue was affecting the family and she did all of the talking. Mariko said that she was not prejudiced against Negroes, but I jumped in then and pointed out to her how Mariko wouldn't even invite certain white friends when Negro friends were there. Mariko said the only reason she did this was because her white friends did not understand and she would lose their friendship. I said that this did not seem to be a good reason. Then Mariko said that she was really protecting her colored friends from feeling uncomfortable when there were white friends around so that was why she only invited the most understanding caucasians at those times. I got upset and I said that it was these very little things which caused so much harm in race understanding. Mariko got angry and she said why should she do anything about the race problem as she had her own life to live. She said that I was at the stage where I had youthful ideas but I'd get hardened to them. The same for Bette. I said that my feelings about treating Negroes like anyone else were not ideas but the right things. Mariko then said that she used to feel the same way but she was more mature now and she was being realistic and that I would do it in time. Then she got sore at me and said that I was helping Bette's side. Bette then spoke up and said that she thought Mariko had insisted that it was not a matter of prejudice with her.

"So Mariko began to talk about it in terms of Bette's future and the family situation. She had some very good points to make and she told Bette that she was inclined to be romantic, that all the business about going off to Europe to live was not practical at all. She said that Europe would be no better and that Bette should think of all the other



things which went into the matter, and that it had nothing to do with the fact that Mariko might have any prejudiced ideas or not. It was for Bette's sake. Then Mariko said that Bette was still too young to get married (she is 21) because she had led too sheltered a life and that things would not always be so protected for her. Bette denied that she was that sheltered. I think that Bette has been sheltered though because she has always been at home and she did not have to go through the hard things that others in the family did. You helped her with her school and everything so that Bette really has not faced life yet, and I think Mariko was right in saying that Bette was too romantic.

"Even though Mariko said everything in an accusing way, Bette began to think of some of those things. You know that Bette never cries, but I could see that there were tears in her eyes and she was just on the verge of crying. She said that she was confused and she didn't know what to think. She didn't know what to do. Just at that minute, Gene phoned Bette and right away after listening to him she took on her hard attitude again. Mariko did rush things a little quick and it was true that Mom picked on Bette too much, but the social facts which Mariko pointed out were true and Bette needed to think about this more. But she was so much under the influence of Gene that as soon as he phoned she refused to consider these things. All of the feeling which circulated during the past two months seemed to be driving Bette and Gene together. So Mariko didn't get anyplace talking to Bette. Then Gene came to pick her up.

"Mariko invited him to come in very nicely, but he was rude and he said that it was no use to talk. Furthermore, he said very angrily, he resented it very much that we were cross examining Bette and that we should be ashamed of ourselves for not trusting her. This got all of us sore. I was surprised and I said that we wanted to clear things up with Bette and that it was not a cross examination at all. Mariko followed



this up by saying that we had been talking about what this was doing to the family, and that she didn't want any unpleasantness if it could be avoided. She said that it was not fair to Tom's and Margaret's education to have Bette and Mom so angry at each other, and we were just trying to find out if it could be solved in some way. I got mad then and I said that if Bette could leave the family, then I would do the same thing and that Bette was being selfish.

"Mariko took this up and she said that I could not help the family alone and that Bette did have a certain obligation to help out. It was not forced on her but other members of the family had sacrificed for Bette so that she should consider the remaining members. That there were more people than just Bette and Gene to be considered. As soon as Gene came, Bette didn't say one word but leaned back in the chair and let him do all the talking. Since she has been going around with him she has lost her individuality and she doesn't express herself as much as she used to. Anyway when Mariko brought up the matter of family support, Gene got exasperated and he said that it was a disgrace to bring up such a thing and why should Bette have to help the family just because the others did. He said that he was fed up and he would be forced to take Bette away from all this mess if she got it from all sides of her family and nobody was willing to understand her side. He said this meeting was a put up job and everybody was against them.

"Just before Gene had arrived I had been saying that Bette should not have everybody against her, and I got so angry that Bette didn't confirm this when Gene made his remark. Bette just sat in her chair so I shouted to her why didn't she tell Gene that I said the same thing. I was so tired that I got hysterical and started to cry and blow up.

"Then Gene brought up that the real opposition against him and Bette was the racial issue and that all these other things were not the honest reasons at all. He said that we all thought that and he knew it.

I had always gotten along well with him before and he knew how I thought about these things so I didn't think that it was fair to include me in. It was then that Mariko and Gene got into a heated argument. George didn't like Gene either so he got into it.

"Then the subject of Bette going to Gene's home was brought up and Mariko said that although she was not casting any inferences, it was true that young people who thought they were in love often got involved, and that something could happen. Bette said that if she were not trusted, she would refuse to even discuss this and she didn't like the way the thing was said. Then I said that if Bette couldn't bring Gene home, and if Mariko didn't want her to go to Gene's home, then where could she go to visit him? Mariko said that they could come to her place. That wasn't trusting them very much and Gene didn't like the idea and said so. Then Bette said that she didn't go to his place that often and even if they did, Gene's mother was always there to supervise. Mariko acted like she didn't believe Bette even though she said she did as she hinted otherwise with a knowing look. Mariko was firmly convinced that they had been having an affair and I got sore as they put me in a bad spot as I thought that the only issue was with Mom. It came out so clear that it was a racial issue for Mariko and George, and I didn't think that at all. I do admit that I was influenced a bit and I had some doubts. Mariko never came out openly by saying that it really was a racial issue with her, but she would always put it on another basis. She said that Gene's divorce was not final until June, and that he lied when he said he was 28 and his mother said he was only 21. I had phoned his mother and she said that Gene was making a mess out of his life so I began to change in my thinking of him a little. His mother later said that Bette was a nice girl and that Gene was not right for her and she thought that it should be broken up as it might not work. She said that it would be bigamy if they got married, and that



Gene got a lot of wrong ideas at Roosevelt College. (didn't accept his place?)

"Anyway, the discussion at Mariko's did not accomplish anything, and Bette, Gene and I left in a huff, and George was mad because he thought it was rude of us to leave like that. He felt the same way about the whole thing as Mom, purely on race. After we left, I talked with Bette a bit and told her that since she was so confused, maybe she and I should go to California and then she could think it over. I said I would be through with the nursing school and I could get a job in California. I thought that if she went off with me for a while, she could really look at it objectively and find out if she really had thought everything out. Bette said that she would think about this and let me know soon.

"Then on Thursday Bette came home while everybody was out, and packed all her clothes and left a note saying that she was leaving home and that she thought this was the only way as she didn't want the family to be unhappy and the best thing to do was to leave them alone, and that she loved Mom. Then she said for Mom to take her \$150 and consider it a part of the family support and that she would try to send more later. She said that she would write the family when she reached her destination. Margaret got home first and she was very upset when she read this note and she phoned me. I was shocked and I got very angry and I felt like I could sock Bette for going off like that, running away when she knew that it would cause all of us to worry not knowing where she was. I told Mariko not to tell Mom about the note and to let her think that Bette just left the house and that she didn't go off with Gene. I called Mariko but I couldn't contact her at her office so I called Mrs. Orro and asked if I could talk to Gene. She said that she didn't know where he was but would tell him to call back when he came in. Then she said that she was sorry about all the family trouble at home and that she had not known anything



about it until just recently. About 15 minutes later Mrs. Orro called and she was very excited. She said that she had gone to Gene's room and found that he had packed his things and left home. She said that she had no idea that things were that serious and that she never dreamed that it would get to this point, that both Gene and Bette were too impulsive, that Gene was spoiled as he was an only son and nobody could ever tell him anything. Mrs. O. was extremely upset and she said that she didn't think the marriage would work out and she felt sorry for Bette because her son was not the person for her. Then she said the things which really jolted me. She said that she was colored and that she knew Bette did not realize all the subtle little cruelties she would have to go through and that some day she might get very resentful about this and say something cruel to Gene. She said that only colored people knew how hard these things were and it took a very mature person to realize that these things would be important to weigh in an intermarriage. She said that Gene was unstable and sensitive, and that he had married at age 18 against her will and it had only lasted three months. She said Gene then left his wife, and Mrs. O. said that she was afraid that he might do the same thing to Bette. And if Bette had a baby and they broke up, it would mean that Bette could never marry a caucasian (!) because that baby would not be accepted and it would be so hard for both Bette and the child because Bette could not marry again, that even a Nisei wouldn't want to marry her because any baby she had would be looked upon in a different way. Mrs. Orro said that she was realistic and a baby would cause trouble instead of bringing them happiness.

"After I hung up, I thought in amazement that so much of this was true and that it had to come from Mrs. Orro before I realized it. I thought then that I was as sincere as Bette about the Negro people because Bette must have considered these things. I didn't think I would do it after what Mrs. Orro said, but I was pretty excited. When I calmed



down and tried to look at it more objectively the thought entered my mind that maybe I was against Bette getting married because of some feeling about the racial business, but I chased the idea out of my mind right away. It did bother me. I then felt that Bette was too young, and that it was true she felt cocky because she got a college education. She felt superior to Mariko who didn't go to college, but Mariko knows a lot of practical things which Bette did get in school and that was experience. That's why they clashed because there was a lot of feeling about this. But, I suddenly felt that everything was so futile and there just was no answer into this venture which Bette was getting into, and that it did take a lot of guts to make that decision. But, I still felt that Bette's timing was not right and I was sore about the way she left.

"I finally got Mariko on the phone and told her the news. Mariko could hardly believe it was true. Then she got extremely upset. She said rather wildly that she was ready to go plead to Bette on her hands and knees not to do this thing but go back home. Then right away Mariko pulled the excuse that now that family responsibilities were going to be pushed back on her after the way Bette thoughtlessly did such a thing, it would mean that she could not have a baby. I was so upset that I got irritated and I told Mariko not to be a fool and pull that excuse again as I had heard it before and that she could not blame family matters for not having a baby. Mariko was very hurt and she said this was a mean thing to say, then she got mad. In self protection, I said that you had made this statement more than once and it was more than a coincidence about Mariko not having a baby. I was good and mad, upset, and confused. Furthermore, I had to break another important date and I was mad at Bette for that. I agreed with Mariko that it was a silly thing to do and maybe we should try and stop it in some way. Later I didn't think like this. It was hard for me because I feel that I am thinking of Bette's welfare, but I am thinking

of Mom too. Then Mariko had different ideas for opposing than I did. When Mom found out that Bette took her clothes she said that she hated Bette and that she was not a daughter of hers any more for doing such a dumb thing. (She didn't know that Bette had actually run off with Gene yet.) It seems that I was in between and I got very confused. I had told Mom that such violent opposition only brought Bette and Gene together more and that saying nasty things against Negroes in general didn't help matters at all.

"Anyway, all that happened on Thursday. When George heard of it he got so sore that he went right away to phone the police and have them arrest Gene, but Mariko said that it would cause too much publicity and hurt the family. That night she phoned you, but couldn't contact you. Mariko was so upset she was fit to be tied, but we were all pretty excited too.

"Yesterday morning Mrs. Orro phoned to say that a group of students were leaving from Roosevelt College to go to NYC and then on to France. She thought Gene and Bette might be with them. I phoned the school right away but they didn't know anything like that, but they did say some exchange students were going later but the date was indefinite. I then phoned Duncan, Gene's friend, and casually asked if he knew where Gene was. Duncan said that Gene had told him that he was going to NYC on Thursday and that he had shown him two tickets. I told Mariko about this and so she went to City Hall to find out if they had taken out a marriage license. Then she went to see a Judge friend and try to find out what to do and he advised to keep it quiet. It was then that she thought of hiring a private detective to trace Bette. In between, Yuriiko called and Mariko said that Bette was on the way here and for you to stop her by force if necessary.

"Last night, Mariko and George went to tell Mom that Bette had run off. Mom held back her tears for a while and didn't say anything.



She could hardly believe it was true. We thought that Bette would contact you, and we thought there should be someone to tell you our side of it. I didn't think that Bette went about it in a good way and that it was not like Bette to do things impulsively like that. I felt that Gene had put the pressure on her to leave the family like that. That's why I wanted to come here as I don't think it is right for her to take such action now. Bette is just a shadow now and she never says anything so she don't know her own mind. All I want to do is to talk to her and find out if she really wants to go through with it. Mariko sent me out here to be sure that you would get our viewpoint, and that you would find Bette and bring her to her senses but I don't go as far as that."

It was at this point that Emiko paused in her torrent of words so I tried to get at her real reason for coming, but she insisted that it was only to give me the other side of the story. I felt that Emiko might have been motivated partly because of what had been said about the racial issue, and partly because of her own reactions of younger sister getting married, but Emiko was not willing to admit anything like this that placed her mission on an ulterior level. I didn't break in again as Emiko had some more to tell. When I asked just exactly what Mariko expected me to do about it, Emiko said, "she thinks you should send for the police to look for Bette and hold her." I replied, "Let's be reasonable. I can understand why the family got so excited and that it is a crisis for them, but surely you don't think that I could take such action like that. I haven't heard Bette's story and I doubt if she does come here. I don't think I would if I were in her position and there were so much opposition. All I can do is to listen to Bette's story if she does come, and it will be up to her to make her own decision. She is 21 and I wouldn't dream of trying to stop her by force." Yuriko said similar things, and pointed out

to Emiko that we could not do what Mariko said because it would not accomplish anything and probably do more harm than good.

Emiko weakened, and said, "I came in the hopes that I could talk to Bette as I don't think that she really loves Gene and that she is acting partly out of spite because of the ugly issues which were raised which did not agree with her principles and she is only making a martyr out of herself. She did do a lot of things just to irritate Mom. Bette has acted impulsively before. Last year she thought that she was in love with a lawyer because he made a great play for her, and he got her some insurance money from a small auto accident up in Detroit when she went up to visit Alice. This lawyer was a sexy fellow and he was just out for one thing, he was curious about Oriental girls. That broke up. Bette and I have always told a lot of things to each other, and I'm sure that she isn't in love. She always fell for a person with a much broader personality than Gene has. I think it is just a sexual attraction which has been forced because of all the fuss which drove them together."

I said that it was a bit unfair to Bette to label her as immature when she was not here to defend herself, and that I was not as convinced as Mariko and Emiko that Bette was that immature. I said that Bette was bright enough to know her own mind, and that we should give her credit enough to realize that she must have considered a lot of the things which Mariko and the rest were worried about. I thought that a person in love did not listen to reason so that Emiko could not see things from the same way in which Bette did. Emiko then said rather huffily, "Well, if Bette goes off and gets married, I'm stuck and I'm not going to be." I said that was really besides the point, and that Bette couldn't be expected to wait for Emiko to get married first just because she was an older sister as love didn't work that way. I said that if Bette were younger, I might have stepped in like the time when Bette got all excited about Bob Kinoshita in 1944, but this was a different situation as Bette was at the age where



she was legally and socially able to make up her own mind. It was true that the family might be hurt for various motives but sometimes those things did happen, and it was Bette who was getting married and not them so that it was not fair to read into the situation. I asked Emiko if it might not be true that her real motive in wanting to stop the marriage was because she felt that she was being left out. Emiko said that she guessed it might be part of her reasons. Then I asked her what could be accomplished by trying to stop Bette by force.

Emiko guessed nothing: "But I want to know about that doubt in my mind so that she won't regret it later." Emiko then went on to say that she had an affair with a Nisei boy recently and that she was so ashamed of it. "Bette and I were both chasing him and I wanted to prove to myself that he liked me better. I regretted it so much later as it was foolish and I just didn't think. It was the first and last time. I guess I can't really stop Bette. Mariko is planning to go to the Dean of the School at Roosevelt and tell him how much trouble their interracial ideas are causing in practice, and that it created more friction than improved relationships."

Yuriko felt that this was not being very mature and that it was the same line of argument many Southerners gave about the reason for keeping races apart. I said that the most important thing to bear in mind was that these things had to be decided on an individual basis, and that the decision was up to Bette. If Bette came to NYC and wanted to talk to me about it in order to arrive at her decision, that was up to her but I would not put pressure on her one way or the other. By this time Emiko was calmed down and she agreed with many of the points which we made. We concluded that Emiko had performed her mission even though the impulse to come out here might have been a bit hasty so she could report back to Mariko that everything within reason had been done. Emiko said that she felt a lot better by discussing all these things and she was beginning to see things more

clearly. Actually, I said very little, just gave her the opportunity to empty her mind of confusion, which Mariko apparently had not allowed her to do.

Emiko went on to tell about her German American boyfriend, and how she made an innocent visit up to Minn. to visit him. He wants to marry her when he gets a bit settled, but Emiko said that she wanted to be sure. She particularly wants to be sure what his attitude will be if Bette marries Gene as she does not want to have trouble later. Emiko said that she was thinking of taking a job in Minn. However, she isn't sure if she loves Bob Weist or not. We discussed other aspects involved in intermarriage and Emiko's mind seemed to be set at rest. She said that Tom desired to leave home because he was almost 20 and Jack and I had been on our own at his age. Tom doesn't know what he wants to do yet. Margaret wants to be an interior decorator, Emiko mentioned that she has a strong attachment to Mom and that may cause later difficulties. I suggested that Emiko start getting Mom interested in other things so that the shock would not be so great when Margaret got married in the future. Emiko said that she still gets letters from Kobe College and I suggested that she keep in good relationships with them as Margaret would be ready for college in another year and she might be able to apply for a scholarship from them.

Emiko also told reasons why Mom had sent the \$600 back to Jack. I explained that this was really not necessary as Jack had turned that money over to me for family use and I had not drawn upon it but used my money, and that the reason why I made one account for Mom was so that she would feel independent. Emiko said that Mom didn't like to use that money because Jack got pleurisy from working so hard while in Chicago so he should have his money back. Mom is working in some sort of clock factory, and the antics of Bette's liberal attitudes toward Negroes has been very disturbing



to her as she has been conditioned with another type of thinking. Emiko also said that Alice had left Mark at one time and he went to a psychiatrist to find out what was wrong with him. I think it is because Alice treats him like another one of her children. They are made up now.

Attached Mariko's hysterical letter to me re: Bette which she sent along. (Mariko's letter which apparently had been started before the big blowoff, hastily written. It had been given to Emiko to deliver to me, and Emiko was supposed to fill in the rest of the story.)

Copy.

Dear Charley:

I have been putting off writing this letter for several weeks now, hoping that things could be worked out to a satisfactory conclusion, but recent events concerning Bette have come to a head, and we are all turning to you in desperation. By all, we include Bette, Emi, Mom, myself, Miyako, Tom and George. We realize how immersed you must be in your studies and your happy married life and we hate to trouble you with family matters, but things have reached such a state that only extreme urgency makes us all turn to you for guidance.

You have always shown such vital interest and good common sense and judgement concerning all family matters that we hope you don't mind our imposition in asking you to try to find some time during your busy schedule to devote some serious thought to the following matter and let us know your views.

We assume that you are acquainted with Bette's problem (I wasn't) since she has informed us that she has written to you twice, but has not heard from you as yet. When she started working at Roosevelt College, she began to date a young Negro student there, Gene Orro, and now has fallen madly in love with him. Mom doesn't like the idea of her associating with him at all, since he happens to be a Negro, and has constantly voiced her dislike to Bette and the younger members of the family but to no avail.

To all appearances it looks like a deep infatuation to us, but Bette is convinced that he is the real thing that they want to get married this summer. Gene is about 5'9" tall, has black eyebrows and mustache, kinky faded orange hair and big black freckles all over his face. As far as looks go he has average mulatto features, nice eyes and smile but his nose is as bad as ours. We have all had a chance to meet him. We have all tried to like him but it has been pretty difficult even from the first and as we all get to know him better with successive meetings, pretty nigh impossible--all because his unpleasant personality. Bette tells me he is a brilliant person but he antagonizes everyone with his excessive volubility.

Mom has shown her dislike and distaste for the whole affair and has made life miserable for the whole family as well as making herself sick over the turn of events. She looks terrible and we are all seriously concerned over her, and are afraid that her mind may give away if events follow its due course. She is worried sick that if Bette marries, economically and financially, and in innumerable other ways that a marriage like that has little likelihood of succeeding, and would be a disaster for such an emotionally immature person as Bette. She is suffering from such mental anguish that it has deeply affected the younger kids and especially Emi and ourselves, and although their sympathies (Margaret and Tom) were at first with B, they are beginning to resent B. deeply for all the unhappiness in the household.

Emiko and Bette have both lost a great deal of weight on account of their mental anxiety, sleepless nights (we are all suffering from insomnia--George and I can't get to work on time nowadays because we talk so far into the night, in endless circles; my boss has threatened to fire me if I am tardy many more times), and Miyak's and Tom's school record is being threatened because they can't study in such a troubled atmosphere.



Emi and Bette came over Sunday so we could have a heart to heart discussion and I learned many things I hadn't known previously. First, Bette denied that she had been keeping late hours but Mom has a chart of the late hours Bette has been keeping so that B was lying. Then she told me that she is going to England to live for good. Gene has been offered a Rhodes scholarship there and the reason they are leaving is because he has convinced her that England will offer a better life for them than they can ever find here. He has never been there, incidently, but his father came back with glowing reports--he was the foreign correspondent for the Chicago Defender there. Bette says as long as you stand up for her it gives her strength and she would think she was wrong otherwise. It is one thing to be born under such conditions (Negroes) of democracy, but another to go into it when one is so very young and immature and idealistic.

Bette told me that she and Gene are planning to marry in June. We are all greatly disturbed about Bette's plans for a lot of reasons which you must also be aware of. In the first place we unanimously feel that Be is much too young, emotionally, and too impractical to marry anyone now.

- 1) Her youth--she is legally of age, but we all know that of all us girls she has led the most sheltered life and although she is well educated she really hasn't had much experience in living.
- 2) Emotional immaturity--"Glamour" still has a strong hold on her. Remember how she wanted to become an airline hostess and now the idea of going to England appeals to her spirit of adventure and romance. She gets a thrill in getting a glimpse into his world--his friends, their homes, nightclubs, etc. She doesn't seem to realize that marriage must be based on much more stable foundations than just the purely physical desire to be together. She claims that they have a lot in common--but after all, he is still a student and will be for years--and they have to be practical about such a serious step as marriage. B. doesn't like to work, to cook, can't sew,



seldom does her homework--she doesn't strike us as being particularly prepared for marriage. She is just a shadow of Gene, not like her old self.

Until she met Gene, she used to scare all the fellows away by "chasing them" and being too "anxious". We have all criticized her for indiscriminating necking--but to no avail. This isn't meant to be a criticism--I'm only trying to point out some of the growing pains she is still going through. Another thing, she thinks that she will never love anyone else again and if they don't marry her life will be over--another sign of immaturity--as we all know that we fall in love over and over again--with different requirements of those with whom we fall in love--according to which age we happen to be--life is like that--a person who would appeal to us at 21 years of age could leave us cold five years later.

3) Her inexperience. We all feel that she should date many more men and get to know many more before even contemplating such a serious step as marriage; that she shouldn't marry the first fellow she falls in love with on such short notice. She is at the age now when she should go out on dates and have a few years of fun before settling down to a lifetime of marriage.

She says that after marriage she will keep on working in England and will send money home regularly. At present she claims she is helping the family because she is paying the rent--\$34.50 per month. Actually, she isn't doing any helping at all--when you consider that if she lived out, she couldn't possibly live on less than \$12.00 per week, or \$40 a month on rent alone. What she donates barely pays for the food she consumes now. Emi has just started to give Mom \$10.00 per week, but it still isn't enough to keep the family going as Mom only makes \$24 per week. Living costs have gone up...Bette took the Roosevelt College job so she could get classes of practical value in exchange. But instead, she took Italian and music appreciation, of all things, so that she can enjoy her operas.



Now she refuses to change jobs for the obvious reasons, which means that Emi--who gets none of the benefits of living at home--will have to contribute even more. Mom is so worried about funds...etc., etc.

Mariko.

25 January 1948, Sunday.

We slept late this morning as we had not retired until quite an advanced hour last night. Emiko has had time to think over her initial reactions about Bette leaving home with Gene, and she is not as troubled about it as she was previously. We only mentioned the subject in passing today and I told Emiko that there didn't seem to be anything further that we could do since we did not know Bette's side of the story, and that I could not take any responsibility in tracing her now that she has made a decision. I said that it would only make matters more difficult if Bette did come and then she found out that an opinion had been made only from a one-sided version. Emiko thought that this was fair enough, and that she had done her part. At first she felt that she would "wash my hands of the whole matter" but upon re-consideration she decided that she still had an interest in Bette. She said that she was very hurt that Bette went off like that without letting her know, and I pointed out that some of Emiko's reaction might have been because she felt "let down." Emiko thought this might be true, but did not think it a vital point. However, she was willing to concede that her trip out here was a bit hasty and based upon emotional response; she felt this might have been because Mariko and the rest of the family had reacted in this way and she was a bit carried away without realizing what it meant. She said that she did not hold to Mariko's interpretation that she should come out here as an emissary to get Bette and take her home. All she wanted to do was to talk to Bette and find out if her mind was definitely made up. Personally, Emiko felt that Bette was making a great mistake and not realizing possible consequences. Both Yuriko and I said that this was not the present issue since Bette undoubtedly did act upon impulse, but family opposition had a lot to do with it. We did not think that Bette would admit that she was "wrong" even if she felt that way and go home hanging her head in shame, because she had her dignity



to uphold too. Emiko shook her head and said she just couldn't understand it. However, she feels much better after telling us about the whole business as she felt that it helped to clarify her thinking about the matter; but she does not know what she will tell Mariko when she returns. This bothers her quite a bit. I said just to tell her that: "Charlie did not feel that anything could be done at this point since it was more destructive to force oneself into the matter at this time, and perhaps it was not even necessary and that you are a stranger to NYC so you could not exactly go out hunting for Bette, and I said for you to relax and enjoy yourself since you are out here." Emiko laughed and replied, "It's all very well for you to sit here so calmly and tell me how to explain things to Mariko, but I am the one who has to face her. I think I'll go back to the hospital and keep out of sight!" I said this was not necessary, and maybe she could do a lot of good in trying to help Mariko to look at the matter more rationally. Emiko said this would be hard since there seemed to be a racial basis to the entire reaction and she could see this more clearly now. I suggested that perhaps she could talk to Tom and Margaret so that they would not get distorted ideas about the whole business, and look upon it as an individual case. Emiko agreed that this was very important because Tom and Margaret might be influenced by what Mom and Mariko and George said and make unfair generalizations.

I thought that Bette might not even have come to NYC, and I did not think that it was wise to look for them. Emiko said that George wanted to have the police sent after them on the basis that Gene is a bigamist if he did marry Bette already. I said that this really would not be any grounds for arresting a person since it was just speculation that they got married and that Bette did go off on her own free will. Further, that even if they got married, nothing could be done about it since a bigamy charge would only hold good in Illinois, and that it really was not bigamy



anyway because Gene did get a divorce from his first wife even though it is not final until next June. Emiko remarked, "Mariko is going to be convinced that you are siding with Bette against the family, but I can see things more clearly and we really don't have much grounds for interference because our interpretation that Bette is not ready for marriage yet doesn't necessarily make it true."

One thing I have noticed about Emiko is that she is a bit more mature. After talking to her about many things, it comes out clearly that the race issue is not the important thing to her. It is a matter of feeling hurt about Bette getting married in this way, and Emiko does have some feelings about herself which she hasn't brought out too much yet, but I think she will eventually. She said that she has gone out with Negro fellows too and there has been a lot of criticism about this at the hospital when she at Hines. The thing which has impressed her was reflected by a comment that she made sometime during the day: "I think I'll just tell Mariko that if Yuriko doesn't feel that her career will be threatened by what Bette did, then Mariko shouldn't have feelings like that."

Emiko was planning to go back tonight, but we told her to stay a few days and relax. She says she will stay until Weds. Yuriko went to rehearse this afternoon in preparation for the coming concert. She got a good write-up in the Times and Herald Tribune—at least her name was mentioned in connection with her solo so that she is getting some recognition. She said something about plans being tentative for the company to be sent to Germany by the State Department at the end of March, but this is still uncertain. Yuriko wants Emiko to enjoy herself while in town so she instructed me on a tour to take her today.

Emiko wanted to see Times Square first so we went up there. I walked her right down the middle of Broadway so that she could see both sides of Times Square at once and this amused her greatly. Then we wandered around



the theatrical district and listened to a demonstrator trying to sell some hair oil for a while. When we left there, Emiko slipped and fell and I was quite concerned because I thought her fur coat would get dirty! Then we went over to the East Side for a while. Emiko decided that she did not like the big city so much even though it was interesting. She said that she hopes to live in a small town eventually. Her boyfriend is Bob Wesch and he lives in Minnesota so Emiko thought she might like to go up that way.

We met Yuriko at the studio in early evening and then went over to visit Clara for a while. Afterwards we went down to Chinatown and had a big meal, then went food shopping, and home by nine-thirty.

26 January 1948, Monday.

I had a very busy day at school and field work, and I feel exhausted. I have to turn in a couple of papers and do a lot of reading and there is a lot of pressure. On top of that my cases at field work are piling up and I don't know when I will be able to get around to the recording. I shall be glad when this week is over so I can relax a bit more.

Yuriko was not feeling well this morning so that she did not go to the studio. Her cold is getting worse. She did not stay in bed, but got up to cook for Emiko. Emiko literally is taking us at our word as she sleeps a great deal and has been reading late at night. She also wrote letters today, but said that she had not written to Mariko yet because she did not know what to say. I said just to say that there wasn't anything we could do at this time and that we hoped that Bette was getting along all right. Emiko said that she was restless because there was nothing she could do. She thought that she should be getting back to Chicago. She has just taken her state board exams for nursing. She says that she is sure she passed, but that there was some anxiety in knowing exactly how well she did. She went on to describe some of her handling of patients. She said that one thing she has missed out on is keeping up with current affairs because of her concentration on nursing for the past three years and she wanted to know what she could read in order to keep up. She said that one of the reasons why the doctors at Mt. Sinai want to take her out is because she is able to talk a bit about other things. One of them even proposed to her, but he had a wife already so she stopped seeing him when she found that out. She said that she didn't want to be a home breaker. She said that when she gets married, she is going to think things out and be sure and not act hastily like Bette.

I encouraged Emiko to talk a bit about herself, but she kept it on



impersonal things. She seems to have some insecurity about something, which might be a carryover from past experiences, but she hasn't gotten to the point where she will talk about it. She did mention that it was a good thing for her to be able to discuss her present outlook on life as she can't do that with Mariko. Mariko always interrupts and finishes what she thinks Emiko is trying to say so that Emiko doesn't try anymore. I suggested that this might be because Mariko is basically an unhappy person and doesn't know what she wants out of life. Her routine living does not measure up to her intellectual longings so that she is very blocked in her own life. That is why she tries to control other peoples lives. I pointed out that this may have something to do with her reaction about Bette going against her wishes.

Emiko said that the main thing she is concerned about now is how Mom will take things. I thought that time would tell but that Mom would likely get over it as she is adjustable too. Emiko thought that Mom would disown Bette if she did marry Gene because of her feeling about the racial issue. I thought that this was Bette's problem and she could not be guided by what Mom thought because Mom was too set in her attitudes. Yuriko pointed out how her mother had reacted in a similar way. I suggested that maybe Mom's reaction was like any mother's who hates to lose her children, and that none of us married had ever thought of getting her consent so this present issue was big because of that.

27 January 1948, Tuesday.

I had four hours of classes this morning, then went back for an additional two hour evening session so that I am exhausted. I got my papers done so that is one load off of my mind. The class is interesting and I seem to be getting something out of it. I was so sleepy today though that I did not pay too much attention. The only time I got active was when we discussed more about cultural conditioning. I seem to have done a bit more reading than the others in this area so I am asked to present my interpretations a lot. Mrs. Brown has become particularly interested as she does a lot of work with people from the West Indies. There has been some new ideas presented, and Miss Esau is about the most conservative in accepting them. She is a little religious social worker from the Mennonite group in Penn. and she has been working with their refugee problems in Europe for the past two years.

I talked to Miss Esau after class and from what she says the Mennonite sect is ultra conservative. This group originated in Holland but fled in the 16th century during the Spanish Inquisition. They went to Poland but were chased out in the 17th C. so went to Russia. There the Mennonites maintained their identity and have not given up their Germanic culture. The communist started to persecute them after the revolution so many fled to Canada. The Mennonites who have been in this country since Wm Penn days became interested in them, and they have done a lot of work in resettlement of that group recently. Many are being sent to Paraguay but the group hopes that a lot of them will be able to come to the U. S. when the quota regulations are relaxed a bit. Miss Esau thinks that the European Mennonites have changed too much away from the original doctrines of peace so that missionary work will have to be done to win them back to the old ways. When I suggested that maybe they have progressed while the U. S. group was



static, she was quite surprised. She sees it from a religious viewpoint and not social so that she is not as accepting of the reality of cultural change.

Yuriko still is not feeling well so she remained at home again. Emiko has been giving her the benefit of her nursing experience, but she said that Yuriko did not mind like a good patient. Maybe I should get her a nursing cap so that she can be more official about it. Yuriko wants to go rehearse because the company cannot do certain numbers without her, but I said that it would be better if she got well first or else she might get real ill and be out of the concert entirely. It starts on Feb. 16th. Emiko has found my tanforan notes and she remained up until late hours reading about the family in 1942. It must have started her off thinking about herself as she got talkative and told us what has been bothering her.

Emiko said that she is constipated from a "nervous stomach" and she wondered if it were from other reasons than organic. I said very often it was, and that a person's nervous disposition might have a lot to do with it. Then Emiko said that she guessed she wasn't too sure of herself and it had been a long time trait but she had never admitted it even to herself. She said that it was mostly about her weight, and that might be due to nervous tendencies too. She bites her nails yet. I said that often these were some indications of neurotic traits but it was only a part of a complex of many factors. I asked her if she was aware of her nervous disposition. Emiko said she never considered herself good looking and that Bette used to get all of the attention. I wondered if this might not be the basis of some jealousy of Bette, and how did this enter into the present reactions about Bette? Emiko said she had been thinking of this, and it was probably true that it was a threat to her in some way but she didn't know exactly how it was. She at first thought that she had been left with the family responsibility, but that wasn't the only thing.



It made her wonder about when she was going to get married. That was the thing which increased the resentment because she at first blamed Bette. Now she knows that it is not true at all. It is because she really feels insecure. She doesn't have the confidence in herself that she should have. I said that it was hard for anyone to admit anything like this, and it was a healthy sign on her part to recognize its existence. The thing to do now was to examine all of these things when she got back to Chicago, and eliminate those factors which had no basis. Emiko said that one of the things which hurt her self confidence was when she took the psychometric tests for Cook County hospital and failed. At that time she was told she did not have the attributes to become a good nurse. That is why she drove herself for three years and made such a good record just to prove to herself that she could do it. I asked her if her nursing has improved as a result of this and she said yes. Then I thought that it really was not that harmful, and that maybe she could recognize that psychometric tests are not conclusive and that many people doubt the validity of such testing. Emiko said I told her this before, but it is only recently that she can see it for herself. I thought that maybe some anxiety was reactivated because this is a turning point in her life. Bette left home, and Emiko finished her nursing training. Now she has to look at the future. There is some question about what job she will take. Emiko said this might be the thing which bothers her. She has confidence in her ability as a nurse. She was made a supervisor at Mt. Sinai and she thought it would be permanent, but she was taken off and this was quite a disappointment. She wondered if it was going to happen again as it was hard to take. I said that things always happen to people, but she should not allow it to throw her.

After talking some more in this vein, Emiko decided that she had things straight in her mind now. Actually, all I am doing is to let her talk about her confused thinking on some points and she seems to be arriving at



conclusion because of this process. I haven't said for her to do anything, but she seems to come to the best solutions after airing her problems. It probably was set off by the Bette conflict at home, and Emiko now seems to recognize that a lot of her own feelings went into her reactions. She still is worried about what she is going to say to Mariko because she was sent out here for another mission. I told Emiko that she would clear up her thinking about it by the time she got home and not to worry, that there has been too much emotionalism about the entire issue already. I recognized that it was hard on the family, but Emiko could help them to think about it more rationally once they got calmer. Emiko said this would be a big job. Emiko laughingly commented that maybe part of her reactions was due to the fact that she secretly wondered about her own marriage, but now she did not worry about that. She has several boyfriends proposing to her now so I don't know how much reassurance she wants!!

28 January 1948, Wednesday.

Still rushing between classes and field work, and things are really piling up at the office. Several emergency situations developed in my cases so I had to be at the agency and this kept me busy all afternoon. Tomorrow, I definitely will not go to the agency.

Yuriko was much better and she went to the studio briefly. She is going back into the full swing of things tomorrow. She said that she has been having long talks with Emiko, and Emiko said that she now has her situation separated from Bette's problem and that she is in full agreement with us that nothing can be done from this end. She still has to think out about how she is going to explain this plan of action to Mariko. The reason is that Mariko promised to pay her transportation out here and she will expect something to be done in return. Emiko thought that Mariko would condemn her for "running around the city and enjoying myself when there is such a serious problem." I said we had discussed the matter a few times and there was no point in doing anymore of it since Emiko realized now that this was essentially a situation for Bette to work out herself and that there would be no use in trying to force her to change her mind in anyway as long as Bette feels she has done what is best for her future.

Emiko has decided to remain until Saturday. She says she is finding out a lot about herself from my Gila diary and she reads it until late hours. I thought it might be helpful to her as she can view many things she has had doubts about in the past. She said that Tets, her former boyfriend, is now engaged to marry Patsy (from Tanforan.) She mentioned that it was true that Bette could not reason logically when filled with such emotions because she went through the same thing when she first went to Chicago and resented it very much because she was convinced that she was being held down. She said that she did have a lot of indecision before



finally making up her mind to go into nursing school, but she certainly was glad she made the choice. It gives her some sort of satisfaction to think that Bette considered herself the career girl and now things are working out in the opposite direction, and it helps Emiko's ego to think that she has made good. Yuriko has been talking a great deal with Emiko about various things and I think this is helpful to her. Emiko seems to be getting some satisfaction out of doing all that talking to us.

We have been eating terrific meals. Yuriko announced that she gained several pounds during her illness, and she gets such a kick out of devoting her entire attention to being the hostess while Emiko is here. I think Yuriko enjoyed her illness as it gave her a chance to rest up a bit. She says: "All we do is eat and then wash dishes; this is the life, I must say." Later she made fudge. She has been cooking enticing meals and we eat like horses. Emiko is afraid she is gaining too much weight. She said she has gone up eight pounds with all this rest she has been getting. She has written to Mariko to tell her that Bette is not here, but hasn't said much else. She still is worried about what she will say to Mariko; maybe this is one of the reasons why she decided to remain until Saturday although she keeps on saying she must get back to the hospital.

In talking briefly with Emiko this evening, she was able to bring out a bit more of how she used to feel so jealous of Bette and that there was a lot of competition between them for the same boyfriend. Now Emiko feels that she has the better adjustments because the boys seemed to turn to her in the end, and they considered her more practical while Bette was romantic and lived in a "dream world." She wondered how Bette would adjust if she had to starve along with Gene, but I lightly remarked that people do adjust themselves. Emiko seems to have clarified a great deal of her feelings. She says she is not able to tell it to Mom or Mariko, and Bette has been too busy with Gene in recent months so that she has been holding



it in herself in recent months.

One of the things which has bothered her was sexual ethics. She told about an experience of one of her nurse friends, and she wondered how much harm the girl was doing to herself. I said there was no one generalization to govern sexual behavior but that a girl should remember that fellows held very conservative standards when they got ready to marry, but not all. It would depend on the situation. Emiko says she has told Bob all about herself and they seem to be in very good relationship to one another in understanding things. She said that she went up to Minn. for a week recently during a vacation and stayed at the same hotel with him but that nothing "wrong" had happened since they understand each other. Emiko is not sure about whether she wants to get married to Bob Wesch, and he is not sure because he is still getting established but there seems to be some sort of agreement between them. I don't think Emiko is as sure as she lets on--no girl likes to admit that. Emiko says that she is going to consider marriage from an all around angle, and that Bette's experience makes her doubly sure that maturity and an objective approach is needed. Yuriko said when she fell in love that emotions would take control, and that is right. I hope that Emiko is not going to get cautious. She does not view Mariko's and Alice's marriage as the best adjustments and there is question in her mind about Bette's move. On the other hand, she knows that Jack is happily married and that Yuriko and I have a very going concern so that balances things off. Emiko said that she was going back and it would be "Emi for Emi from now on" but I don't think she is going to become an escapist.



29 January 1948, Thursday.

In my dull class this morning, I daydreamed again, and thought about job prospects for myself—a form of anxiety regarding my forthcoming venture into the world of employment and reality! The way I think of the prospects is still not too vague; the only thing I am fairly certain of is that I don't think I want to do case work in a regular agency. I would like to do it in an agency which has a slant towards the cultural problems of minority groups, but there are not many social agencies which operate in this manner. The point is that I would like to use the social work approach now that I am trained in it. I am getting some experience working with immigration problems and I think I might like that, but not particularly at International Institute because of the YW influence there.

The best bet would seem to be in some public agency, but they also have limitations. They do have a better level of salaries to offer and that is one of the appealing aspects. I have some ideas floating around in my head about what I would like to do, but I haven't mapped out a plan of going about looking for a job yet. This I will start doing in another week or so. Not many agencies tie the cultural approach in with the casework so there are some limitations there. Agencies like Common Council only do experimental casework with immigration problems and I haven't heard of any openings coming up there. In fact, the job situation for social work is unusually quiet at this time of the year.

The way I thought out my situation this morning was that I would first like to do cultural work tied in with social work, and that would include social research. Then the V.A. and psychiatric work is my secondary choice. Thirdly, I would like to get in with some Federal or state agencies. I haven't thought about how I would go about job hunting yet. I suppose I might write to Dorothy and find out if she has any suggestions. She might



find out something through Donald Young. Then I could write to Adamic and find out if he has any suggestions. After that, I might contact Dr. Merton and find out if he has any openings at the Bureau of Applied Social Research. Clara might have some leads, and I should register with the school placement bureau and the USES. There are not any announcements on Federal or state jobs right now. That's about as far as my musings went this morning in class.

I did make a couple of qualifications: I want to remain in NYC and I would like to start out with enough of a salary so that I can combat the high cost of living, and yet be in a position where Yuriko will not have to work so hard. At least I am getting down to concrete levels of thinking about job future as the time is about ripe now!

I didn't go to the agency as I promised to show Emiko the town as she hasn't been out much. Yuriko took her down to Orchard Street this morning and they went around bargaining for materials and Emiko seemed to have enjoyed the experience. They got some good bargains and they had quite a time fooling one of the Jewish store keepers about their mission of looking for an escaped Schizoid patient down there. After Yuriko left for the studio, I took Emiko on a tour of the village, Washington Square, up Fifth Avenue on the bus so she could see Empire State Bldg., and over to Radio City. It was very cold. We went to a late afternoon show at Radio City Music Hall so she could see the Rockettes, and Emiko was quite impressed with the setting. The movie stunk!

Afterwards we picked Yuriko up at Ethel's and went to an automat to eat so that Emiko could have this experience. I walked her around so much that she was too tired to eat as much as usual, and besides she is worried about the 8 pounds she has gained in a week. She said that it was hard walking around in Yuriko's tiny shoes too. Emiko is so used to staying in the hospital



that she can't take the colder weather like we do. After eating, Yuriko went back to the studio to rehearse some more and we came home.

There was a rather excited postcard (sent airmail) from Mariko to Emiko which reflected Older Sister's present state of mind. It was dated Tuesday and it said:

"None of us have heard a word yet--we are still waiting. Had hoped to get word from you by today but there was nothing in the morning mail. We are all ok. Mom is keeping her chin up but she doesn't look too well--I think she broods a lot. Have you tried calling the YMCA OR YWCA? Mrs. Orro thought they might go there....Miyako and Tom are very bitter against Bette and now hate Gene to the extent that they Feel resentful to the Whole race...Now that she has gotten over her first wave of bitterness, Mom is extremely worried about Betty's welfare, as are we all. That's all we can think about. I haven't written Jack or Alice as it is no use in worrying them til we get some word from Bette. If you do, will you write them and give them the latest dope? Or perhaps Charlie can squeeze in some time in his busy schedule to write them all what has happened. Mrs. Orro just phoned me here at the office; she is greatly worried because she is afraid his clothes aren't warm enuf and he will catch cold. Wish our worries were that small. Dropped Yoshi and Saye a line and told them to contact you through Yuriko. Hope that was all right. Please apologize to Yuriko for my abrupt way of speaking to her the other morning, but I was upset..."(signed Mariko)

This card reactivated Emiko's anxiety about what she was going to tell Mariko. I said that there was nothing to worry about as she did what she could. Emiko guessed she would be able to handle the situation even though it would be difficult as Mariko might blame her for not doing more in trying to locate Bette. Emiko said: "Gee, I'll have to send Mariko some kind of a report. I



guess I'll tell her I tramped the streets every day in NYC and looked at all the faces, but no Bette. I'll say I wore size four shoes of Yuriko's too. But, gee whiz, when I get back Mariko will sure hound me, and I know she will blame me for not doing something. You know what she said before I came here? She said that you were not interested in the family problems anymore since you got married and you don't care what happens. Why does she make everything so difficult?"

This led to further discussion about Mariko's role in the family situation. I said that Mariko really was not conscious of the things she did, and her passion in trying to control the family had its roots way back in the family history and that it was related to her many dissatisfactions about herself, even though not recognized. Emiko guessed this was so, and she added that Mariko meant well but she just didn't know how much she antagonized members of the family because "she always throws things up in their faces and she isn't tactful in what she says even though it may be meant in a very intelligent way." That about summed it up. It seems to me that Emiko is more afraid of facing Mariko than what has happened to Bette. She seems to be fairly well settled about what can and what can not be done re: Bette and it doesn't disturb her so much. There is some resentment left, but Emiko seems to be able to handle it. She does have a concept of family loyalty and Bette's action is still interpreted as being selfish.

I can sympathize with Emiko's worry about facing Mariko, and we certainly are glad that we are far enough away where it is out of reach for her to try and control our lives; I had enough of that before, when in Chicago. Mariko's comment in her postcard about contacting Saye and Yoshi is so typical of how she tries to guide one's every action even though there is a distance from her. It is all meant in a good spirit, but it can be very irritating. I'm surprised that she mentioned about Tom and Margaret being very



resentful of "the whole race." She didn't say anything about telling them how wrong it is to make generalizations like that, if they made such a statement. It could be a reflections of what Mariko thinks as those things seem to run deep.

I explained to Emiko my views about intermarriage, and she agreed that it was an individual matter—but this was where she and Mariko had a different picture of her mission out here. I thought that if Mariko had thoughts that such a thing would reflect upon her social status, it was something she should give serious thought to and maybe she should re-evaluate her attitudes a bit; but it is more likely that the issue is deep rooted and unconscious in her mind. I am sure that Mariko will continue to put it upon a completely different level and I don't know what to tell Emiko to say about this—just leave it along and don't argue with Mariko is about all she can do. I can't blame Mariko if she has a dogmatic conviction that intermarriage between Nisei and Negro is socially dangerous but she has been conditioned in subtle ways and George's attitudes have a lot to do with it too. It is part of the puritanical racial mores she has picked up, and one doesn't get over these things easily. If Mariko wants to speculate on the grave dangers of intermarriage, that is her right but she shouldn't try to do Bette's thinking for her. Maybe Bette's thoughts are conventionalized in that direction, and she did it for love so that her mind does run in such a groove. The vicious thing about these taboos is that they are based upon the doctrine of white superiority and so many members of minority groups subscribe to them. The color line is a strong American institution which is not limited to the South.

While recognizing social difficulties which might develop, the only thing I could tell Emiko was that this was primarily Bette's problem and that it could be worked out if the marriage is based on firm grounds. Emiko said it would be much easier if Mariko was honest about her feelings regarding Negroes

as it could be discussed on the same level, but the way it is now there is no meeting ground: "At least with Mom, she comes out with it and I know exactly where she stands." Emiko said when she gets married, she is going to be sure that her husband has the same attitude as her so "there won't be misunderstandings when Bette comes to visit."



30 January 1948, Friday.

I had six hours of classes, and that finishes me up for the Winter Institute course! I got home about 7:30 but Yuriko had already left for the evening rehearsal so Emiko cooked for me. Emiko is packing her things now in preparation for leaving tomorrow. She only mentioned about Bette in passing so that she seems to have straightened all of her thoughts out now. I hope that Mariko will not confuse her mind again. Emiko mentioned that part of her confusion was due to the fact that she got it from all sides, and what Mrs. Orro said about intermarriages being difficult made her think momentarily that Bette was making a grave mistake. Now she sees it more on an individual basis, and she says she will go back to Chicago and develop new interests. I hope so. Emiko ate one half pound of nuts while she was thinking these things out today! Most of the evening she has been busy finishing up the skirt which Yuriko made for her today with the material which was bought the other day. Emiko came here with only a small suitcase but she will be going home with a new skirt, new sweater, new slacks and assorted items. Yuriko gave her a bottle of perfume.

I was a bit irritated today. After four months, the school finally got my thesis back from Mrs. Chaney and she had typed exactly eight pages so I have to get another typist to do it. It made me sore as hell. Mrs. Chaney wrote a letter of explanation saying that she had it all typed and it was in a borrowed portable typewriter. She went into a store to buy a dress and it was stolen. That explains why she has been so evasive about the matter. My anger became philosophical after a few minutes, and I felt sorry for Mrs. Chaney as she has to pay for the typewriter which was stolen from her and she won't get paid for doing my thesis as I didn't get it and I can hardly be expected to pay for typing twice and get only the one job done.

Yuriko hasn't come home yet and it is after 11:00. She will be cold and

hungry so I better heat up some soup or something. It is almost zero weather today, and our fishes might get cold as the heat is almost gone from the apartment now; down to 60 degrees. I am interested in the welfare of the fish as they cost so much and it becomes an expensive proposition if they freeze and we have to replace them! Yuriko says the fishes are a part of our family so we have to give them consideration. She asked me last night what I would think if she got a baby but didn't elaborate so I don't know what is in her mind. I said that economically we are not ready for it yet; but if it happens, it happens. I don't think we will have a family for quite some time and it doesn't bother me one way or the other. The only thing is that I don't want Yuriko to have any complications and the doctor did tell her last year that it might be difficult for her to carry a child as she is so small.

Ghandi got assassinated today so there will be civil war in India most likely. I hope that violence like this is not a trend. I was reading in the papers tonight about how U. S. cities could be destroyed if we had a war soon. The forces for Universal Military Training are very strong, and I'm not much in sympathy with the idea as there seems to be more peaceful ways to preserve world peace. I'd rather enjoy the fruits of civilization instead of going on generation after generation to fight for it as it seems to be such an endless and silly cycle, and it is about time our mentality grew with our civilization.



31 January 1948, Saturday.

One month of this year practically gone already; time goes by so rapidly and I always feel a twinge of guilt that I haven't been doing more. At the same time, there don't seem to be enough hours in the day. At least time does not drag, and Yuriko and I are getting full enjoyment of each passing twenty-four hours. Yuriko mentioned just recently that when one feels good all around and there is plenty of physical and mental activity, time flies by. But if one is bored, the hours just drag. So that time is after all relative. Thomas Mann made a point something like this in his book "Magic Mountain".

I'm sure Emiko looked at the past week in a little different way. For her, it was waiting around in the hopes that Bette might show up, and she reassured time in terms of going back to Chicago with her mission either completed or failed. She read until about 5:30 last night about herself in my Gila and Chicago diary, and I felt that it was just as well she did. She was able to see herself very objectively, and she mentioned that she certainly had changed in the past few years since the evacuation. Now she thinks that she is quite mature and she said that she had a lot more self confidence about herself when she measured herself in terms of a long time period: "For example, remember how I used to feel when you pushed me about school in Chicago and I felt tied down? Well, now I feel that it was the best thing for me as it made me think about my future and I had to make a decision. Some of the girls I knew from there are still in the same old rut and always looking to tomorrow for the grand life. I feel that I have it now, and that I am started on a career which will bring me a lot of satisfaction. I think about getting married eventually too, but I don't worry about it as I will live each day as it comes and not regret one minute of it. So many of the girls I knew when I first went to Chicago thought they were having a grand time chasing around

night clubs and things like that, and they are still doing it but it doesn't seem to give them much satisfaction because they feel an emptiness in other parts of their lives. It was a hard lesson for me to learn and I was more fortunate than many of my girlfriends as they did not have somebody to encourage them."

While Emiko was packing her last few belongings in preparation to leaving for Chicago, we summarized some of the things she might say to Mariko in the event that there was difficulty in explaining why there had been no activity in looking for Bette. Emiko said that she knew now that it had been a hasty bit of action for her to rush out here, but at least she did get her thoughts straightened out. She said that it was easier for her to reflect about the entire situation calmly, and that it would be part of her job to help Mariko look at it objectively too. I said that Bette had made a decision, and it did not matter whether it was wise or not, because she was the one who would have to make the adjustments. I pointed out how Emiko had also made adjustments which others did not think possible, and that individuals did have a capacity for doing this. I did not think that Bette was so much out of touch with the realistic situation that she did not consider the important step she was taking. I suggested that Emiko try to get Mariko to look at this as an individual matter, and not to bring any factors of race into it because she did not know Bette's real feelings about it and she (Mariko) could not read her own emotional reactions into it. Emiko commented that she thought George's attitude had a lot to do with it as his remark when he heard of Bette leaving was: "Well, they don't ever need to come around here because they know how we feel about this thing." I said it was not Emiko's job to try and force them to change their attitudes, but just to bring out things on a level where they could see it more calmly. I felt that Margaret and Tom needed more positive advice as they might be influenced by the subtle ways in which the factor of race was brought into the issue. Emiko agreed that this was so.



As far as Mom is concerned, the only thing to do was to comfort her as her attitudes are even more rigid and emotional than George's.

Emiko was just on the point of leaving for the station when Yoshie Hibino dropped in to see her. Yoshie persuaded her to stay at her place over night and leave tomorrow morning, and they just left. Yoshie was here about three hours telling me of her experiences since Chicago. She said that I had a way of "making" her tell things she never planned to tell anyone, so I said that we would drop the conversation about her indecision to get married. Yoshie immediately said she wanted to tell about it and that she would like to talk to me alone about it sometime!

Yoshie is a bit thinner than she used to be, and a bit more poised. Her present job may have a lot to do with it as she is a nursery teacher in a child center up in the Bronx. She has been in NYC since last October. She is just as confused as ever about her personal adjustments though. The prospects look a bit brighter now to her, but she is not sure of what her next step should be. She mentioned that this was an advance from Chicago as at that time she was really in a rut doing domestic work and there were plenty of frustrations. She didn't have a regular boy friend then either.

After talking for a couple of hours, Yoshie said the reason why she had not contacted me before was that she had the impression that we were a bit snobbish, but now she felt that it was all due to her own sensitivity. (Yuriko said later that this was one of the difficulties with the Nisei since they are so sensitive if friends do not make a fuss over them, and they take everything personally; that this was one of the main barriers to integration since they used their sensitivity to cling to their own group and resented as well as envied those who had made a break away from the Nisei society.) Yoshie told me about a few of the Nisei I had interviewed while in Chicago, and their subsequent adjustments.

Albert Ikeda is still in television school and he and Toshie are quite settled now. Fukiko is engaged to a Jewish boy and apparently breaking away from all Nisei contacts because she has always felt that the pull of "American culture" was stronger and that the Nisei don't understand her. Kim (Texas Mary) is now married to her third husband and she has three children, and she lives in Chicago now. Her husband is a clerk for a chain grocery store, and Yoshie gets along with her sister much better now: her parents are out in Chicago now and reconciled to Kim. Eileen is still a lonesome girl; very mixed up and not married yet. Yoshie said that she told her all about her romance with me and that Eileen still feels a bit hurt that she was misunderstood. Since I had to be a gentleman, I could not inform Yoshie that the version she heard from Eileen was not entirely correct!

It was when she started talking about her own experiences that Yoshie verbalized freely and at length. She has been floating back and forth from Chicago seeking her future, but she did not find anything to her satisfaction until she got into nursery school work out here. For the past two years she has been engaged to a Nisei boy from Ogden, but she came out with her doubts about whether she should marry him or not. She said that they were temperamentally different as she likes parties and people while he was only interested in his work (television research). There also is a difference of opinion as to where they shall live in the future. Yoshie would like to remain in NYC while he wants to go to a small community. The engagement has been off and on; they were supposed to be married this month but Yoshie has put it off until April. At that time she will definitely have to make up her mind and that is what she would like to talk to me about. I said that I could not make up her mind for her, but that she would have to think about all of the factors which goes into making a good marriage and then determine if she wants it. From what she says, Yoshie likes the glamor of NYC and her "career" and she isn't sure that she wants to give it up. It might be that



her fiance is a bit tired of the whole thing, but Yoshie didn't tell it in that way. Yoshie has some confusion about possible sexual adjustments and that is what she would like to talk to me about after Emiko leaves. I said that if she had any blocking because of her sister's past and other things in the background, the best thing to do was to talk to a psychiatrist. Yoshie said she preferred to discuss it with me since I knew all about her anyway. I didn't say that I wasn't particularly interested as that might have hurt her feelings as she is so sensitive. I gathered from her that most of her contacts were with Nisei out here, but that she did have other friends made through her job. Yoshie is about 26 or older now and she can't be running away from life all the time. I don't know if she is able to face things as they are now, but she did talk in a more mature manner than when I knew her before. Yoshie is an intelligent girl, but being "fat" has been a terrific source of insecurity for her. It might be that her fatness had psychosomatic connotations, but I wouldn't know about that. I don't know why she picks on me to tell her troubles. She said that she had not mentioned her indecision about marriage to her present Nisei roommates and that she was going to burst if she did not talk about it now. Emiko made the parting comment: "Well, at least you can get it out of your system and then line up all the pro and cons, and look at them objectively, and then come to a decision for yourself. You will be surprised to find out how well that system works when you have a lot of worries."

Yuriko rehearsed until late so that she was very tired when she came home. We had eaten a large steak lunch with Emiko, but we had to eat again in late evening as Yuriko could not stand the hunger pangs. Tomorrow, we are going up to Long Island to visit Mrs. M.