

Evacuation and Resettlement Study,
June 3, 1943. DST.

SCHEDULE FOR INDIVIDUAL RESETTLERS

Date of interview Dec. 27, 1943 Interviewer C. Kikuchi

1. Name Yuri Ikeda Tajima 2. Sex, M ☒ F 3. Married stat. ☒ S ☐ D ☐ W ☐ O

4. Present address 742 N. Dearborn St. Date Sept., 1943

5. Later addresses _____ Date _____
_____ " _____
_____ " _____

6. Birthplace Glasgow, Montana 7. Birthdate April 13, 1915

8. Alien or citizen citizen 9. Nisei, Kibei or Issei nisei

10. Addresses between Dec. 1, 1941 and evacuation

(a) Pasadena, California Date 1934-41

(b) _____ " _____

(c) _____ " _____

(d) _____ " _____

(e) _____ " _____

11. Assembly Center _____ Date _____
_____ " _____

12. Relocation Center _____ Date _____
_____ " _____

13. Addresses between time of leaving ~~Relocation Center~~ ^{Texas} and present

(a) Yuji & Yuri Tajima, 6119 Kenwood Date June 23, 1942

(b) 238 E. Erie " Jan., 1943

(c) _____ " _____

14. Persons living in household on Dec. 1, 1941. Relationship to Re-

(a) Kazuo Ikeda (pseudonym) settler Father

(b) Yasuko Ikeda (pseudonym) Mother

(c) Yuri Ikeda Self

(d) Albert Ikeda Brother

(e) Carol Ikeda "

(f) Dorothy Ikeda Sister

(g) Donald Ikeda Brother

(h) Otto Ikeda "

(i) Teddy Ikeda "

(j) _____

(k) _____

(l) _____

(m) _____

15. Persons living in household on evac. day
(If same as 14, enter symbol, e.g. 14(a).) Relationship to Re-

(a) went to Manzanar with advanced crew settler _____

(b) was interned _____

(c) went to Texas on Mar. 23, 1942 _____

(d) d-i went to Tulare AC _____

(e) _____

(f) _____

(g) _____

(h) _____

(i) _____

(j) _____

(k) _____

(l) _____

(m) _____

CH-25

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15. continued	Age	Sex	M.S.	Birthplace	Grade compl. Amer. school	Educ. in Japan	Occupation Dec. 1, 1941	Relig. Affil.
(a)	55	M	M	Japan	Bu. College	H.S.	clerk	none
(b)	49	F	M	"		College	hsewife	Christ. (teacher)
(c)	28	F	M	Glasgow	16th	(stud.)	clerk	Meth.
(d)	27	M	M	"	12th	(whsle driver)	"	"
(e)	25	M	M	"	17th (U.N.)	(Gr. stu. re. asst)	"	Meth.
(f)	21	F	S	Havre	14th	(Stu. domestic)	"	"
(g)	19	M	S	"	13th	(Stu. clerk)	"	"
(h)	18	M	S	"	12th	student	"	"
(i)	17	M	S	"	1th	"	"	"
(j)								
(k)								
(l)								
(m)								

16. If immediate family (parents, siblings, children or spouse) were not included in household group in 15, because of different residence or because deceased, give details regarding them)

	Name	Relationship to resettler	Residence (if deceased write "dec.")	Age (if dec. age at death)	Sex	Mar. Stat.
(a)	Billy	Brother	Army-Texas	23	M	S
(b)						
(c)						
(d)						
(e)						
(f)						

16, continued -

	Birthplace	Grade compl. Amer. school	Educ. in Japan	Occupation Dec. 1, 1941 (for dec. last occupation)	Religion
(a)	Glasgow, Mont.	14th		U.S. Army	Meth.
(b)					
(c)					
(d)					
(e)					
(f)					

17. What members of household and immediate family evacuated together to ~~Assembly~~ Center or Free Zone (give symbols used in 15 and 16).

Yuri, Mrs. Morikawa and two sons and daughter went to Texas with Henry Nagamatsu, Emily Uchiyama and Yuji Tajima

18. Composition of household in Assembly Center or Free Zone (Give symbols from 15 and 16; if others, give sex, age, relationship) Upon arrival:

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18. continued -

Just before departure to Assembly Center or Free Zone _____

19. Composition of household in Relocation Project (Give symbols; if others, give sex, age, relationship).

Upon arrival: _____

Just before leaving Project: _____

20. Composition of household in Chicago at date of interview:
(Give symbols; if others, give details)

	Name	Relationship to resettler	Residence (if deceased write "dec."	Age (if dec. age at death	Sex	Mar. Stat.
(a)	Yuri	Self now				
(b)						
(c)						
(d)						
(e)						
(f)						

20. continued -

	Birthplace	Grade completed American school	Educ. in Japan	Occupation Dec.1, 1941 (for dec.last occupation)	Religion
(a)					
(b)					
(c)					
(d)					
(e)					
(f)					

21. Changes in composition of Household in Chicago: Note departures by symbol and dates. Give details for new households or entries:

	Date	Name	Relation- ship to resettler	Residence (if deceased write "dec."	Age (if dec. age at death)	Sex	Mar. Stat.
(a)							
(b)							
(c)							
(d)							
(e)							
(f)							

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21. continued -

Date	Name	Relation- ship to resettler	Residence (if deceased write "dec.")	Age (if dec. age at death)	Sex	Mar. Stat.
(g)						
(h)						
(i)						
(j)						
(k)						
(l)						
(m)						

21. continued -

Birthplace	Grade compl. Amer. school	Educ. in Japan	Occupation Dec. 1, 1941 (for dec. last occupation)	Religion
(a)				
(b)				
(c)				
(d)				
(e)				
(f)				
(g)				
(h)				
(i)				
(j)				
(k)				
(l)				
(m)				

22. Educational history of resettler

Elementary schools (name and location)	Dates	Grade completed
Glasgow elementary, Montana	1920	
Grammar schools (name and location)	Dates	Grade completed
Glasgow grammar, Montana	1921-22	1st
Washington school, Havre, Montana	1922-23	2nd
Lincoln school, Havre, Montana	1923-25	4th
High schools (name and location)	Dates	Grade completed
McKinley school, Havre, Montana	1925-27	6th
Havre Jr. high, Havre, Montana	1927-29	8th
Havre high, Havre, Montana	1930-34	12th
Colleges, universities and vocational schools (name and location)	Dates	Grade completed Degree
Pasadena J.C., Pasadena, Calif.	1934-36	14th Jr. Cer.
U. of Calif., Berkeley, Calif.	1937-39	16th
Pasadena J.C., Pasadena, Calif.	1941-42	night & day schools
Attendance at Japanese language school, location	Dates	
Adult Ed. school, U. of Calif., Berkeley, Calif.	1940-41	adult ed. day & nite
Northwestern U., Evanston, Ill.	1943	summer quarter
YMCA College, Chicago, Ill.	1943	night school

22. Occupational history (begin with first job). Note periods of unemployment by entering dates continuously and writing "unemp" in Job column to cover such periods. Include employment in Assembly Center and Relocation Project and continue with employment since resettling.

23. Religious connections (begin with first, include assembly center and Relocation project and status after resettlement)				
Dates	Attended what church	Where attended	What Sunday sch.	

24. Political activities

Dates	Voted in what elections	For what party
1936	Presidential	Republican
1938	State	"
1940	Presidential	"
1942	State	"

Charles Kikuchi
Evacuation & Resettlement Study
Chicago Office
Feb. 15, 1944

CH- 25 (Masako Ishida Tashiro)
(pseud.)

KN 38-29
many

Masako Ishida Tashiro is a 28 year old nisei girl. At the present time she is separated from her husband. Masako's case document reveals that she has not had too intimate a contact with the Japanese communities on the coast prior to the war. She is rather independent in her actions and she appears to be fairly well adjusted to her present status. The interviews were conducted over a period of a month and a half. It is expected that further interviews will follow on future progress if there is time available. Various notes on developments will be added from time to time in C.K. Diary.

Ishida

Mrs. ~~Yumi~~ Masako Ishida ^{Tashiro} ~~Tada~~ (pseudonym) is a 28 year old nisei woman

who is tentatively separated from her husband at the present time due to unknown reasons which may be revealed in later interviews. Masako was born in Glasgow, Montana on April 13, 1915. At the time of the outbreak of the war, she was a resident of Pasadena, California where she had lived for the previous seven years. Masako has never been evacuated as she voluntarily left the coast prior to the date of general travel restrictions. She went to Texas on Mar. 29, 1942 with her husband, Mrs. Morikawa and her two sons and a daughter, Henry Nagamatsu and Emily Uchiyama. She and her husband arrived in Chicago on June 3, 1942 and in January, 1943 they moved from the southside to the near northside. In September, 1943, Masako moved to 742 N. Dearborn St. where she is living alone at the present time, as there appears to be some strange relationship between her husband and her.

At the outbreak of the war, Masako was living with her family which consisted of the following members:

Kazuo ~~I~~ Ishida, father
Yasuko Ishida, mother
Masako Ishida, Tada, self
Alfred Ishida, brother
Carl Ishida, brother
Dollie Ishida, sister
David Ishida, brother
Oscar Ishida, brother
Tom Ishida, brother

Mr. Ishida, the father, evacuated to Manzanar alone with an advanced work crew. The mother was interned for a short time. The

*Pseudonym
should be
Ishida*

rest of the family from Alfred down were evacuated to the Tulare Assembly Center. Alfred was responsible for the younger members of the family altho he had been married a short time prior to the evacuation. (His wife is CH-4) At a later time, most of the family were transferred to Manzanar to join the parents altho Alfred and his wife went on to Gila.

Mr. Ishida, the father, is 55 years old and his education consists of high school graduation in Japan and a business college diploma in the United States. He was employed as a clerk on Dec. 1, 1941 and he does not have any religious affiliation. His wife, Yasuko, is 49 years old and she was a graduate of a woman's college in Japan. At the time of the war, she was a housewife and also employed part-time as a language school teacher. She is a Christian. The three oldest children were born in Glasgow, Montana. The second oldest brother, Carl, was a graduate student at the time of evacuation and he is now in Iowa doing research work. Alfred, the oldest son, went to work as a wholesale driver after graduation from high school and he was the main support of the family until the time of evacuation. The rest of the family were born in Havre, Montana. Dollie graduated from junior college just before evacuation and she was working part-time as a domestic. The rest of the family were still in school at the time of evacuation. The whole family are nominally Methodists in their religious affiliation. Five of the family are resettled in Chicago at the present time. Alfred is living with his wife and father and younger brother, Oscar, on the near northside. Dollie is living with some of her friends on the near northside also. A running account of the developments of this family has been noted from time to time in C.K.

Journal. This case document will confine itself largely to Masako's personal history. Another brother, Bob, was in the Army at the outbreak of the war and he is now stationed in Texas.

Masako has been working off and on since 1928 but her main pre-occupation up to the present has been in completing her education. For a short time during high school she worked as a dish washer in a restaurant in Havre, Montana for 50 cents a day. During the summer of 1933, Masako received her next work experience as a domestic in a home in Seattle for \$75 a month. She then did school girl work from 1934 to 1936 during the time she attended the junior college in Pasadena. She received \$10 a month for this work. In 1936 and 1937 Masako did domestic work full time in Pasadena for \$45 a month but this work was terminated to reenroll in school again. From 1937 to the time of evacuation, Masako did domestic work part-time at 50 cents an hour, sometimes making as much as \$25 a week by working out this way. During December, 1941, she was employed as a clerk at \$16 a week but this work was terminated due to the war condition.

When Masako first arrived in Chicago, she was employed as a stripper in a box factory and she made from 40 to 60 cents an hour. She did this work from August, 1942 until January, 1943. She then worked as a switchboard operator and receptionist at the YMCA until September, 1943 and she received a salary of \$90-100 a month. She quit this job in order to work as a typist-clerk at McClurg's for \$120 a month and she is doing this work at the present time altho she hopes to devote more time to her education eventually.

Masako is not a regular church attender at the present time altho she attended the Methodist church regularly during her grammar

and high school days. She has voted as a Republican in every State and Presidential election since 1936.

Masako's school history consists of the following data:

Glasgow elementary school in 1920

Glasgow grammar school, Montana - 1921-22

Washington school, Havre, Montana - 1922-23

Lincoln school, Havre, Montana - 1923-25

McKinley school, Havre, Montana - 1925-27

Havre junior high school, 1927-29

Havre high school, 1930-34

Pasadena junior college, 1934-36

University of California, 1937-39

Berkeley Adult Education Day & Night School , 1940-41

Pasadena junior college, 1941-42

Northwestern University, summer quarter, 1943

Masako is now attending the Central YMCA College. The reason why she did not receive her A.B. diploma to date was because she suddenly changed her field of study from Education to Science and it was necessary for her to complete all of her ^{basic} science courses as she had not fulfilled these requirements ~~previously~~. For this reason she is still classified as an undergraduate altho she could receive her diploma if she wanted it. However, Masako feels that a science diploma would be of much more value to her than a liberal arts degree. She considers that her work is incidental to her education and she is not worried about rushing through.

Masako is a fairly attractive woman altho she tends to be slightly on the serious side. She has a very calm disposition and she rarely reveals her emotions. She appears to be very well ad-

adjusted to life out here due to her school interests which takes a great deal of her time in the evenings. She has very few nisei contacts outside of family members and relatives. This group consists of quite a few members. Further comments on Masako's personality may be obtained thru a perusal of C.K. diary.

Because of her busy life, it has been a little difficult to find time to interview Masako. She is quite cooperative to the writer and she has made a definite attempt to fit the interviews into her busy schedule. The interviews are incomplete at the date of the present dictation, Jan. 6, 1944, however, it is expected that a fairly complete document will be obtained during the early part of this month unless conflicting schedules develop.

Following is Masako's own life story as told to the writer. In several places the writer has taken the liberty to shift around the sequence order in order to present it in a more chronological order:

"Like most of the nisei, I know very little about my parents! background. [Dad never talked very much about himself. He came to this country when he was 15 years old and he worked as a school boy for a number of years in Seattle, Washington. Dad came from the Ei-mae ken in south Japan. He told us children once that the reason he came to this country was that his father died and his mother married her husband's brother. Dad had heard quite a bit about the United States from the missionaries who came into his ken so that he was filled with an adventurous spirit and he thought that he could come out here and make his fortune. There really wasn't anything for him to stay in Japan for. He came to this country all alone but there was another relative living around Seattle at first

and he sort of looked after dad until he got used to this country. I don't know very much about what he did during the time he was working as a school boy. He managed to go all the way through school and he did tell us once that he went to the ~~Broadway~~ high school in Seattle and he was one of the few Japanese to go there. Later on he went to ~~Smith~~ Business College in Seattle and he got a credential from that place. After that he worked off and on as a court interpreter for a while.

"His first real job was working on the payroll car for the ~~Oriental Trading Company~~. This company was hired by the Great Northern Railway to take care of all of the Japanese laborers, which it hired. Since my dad knew English fairly well, he was able to get this fairly good job. He did this for a number of years. Around 1913 my dad decided to get married. He was about 24 years old then. He contacted his relatives in Japan and one of his uncles arranged the marriage with mother. She arrived in Seattle in 1914 and they were married.

"Dad then decided to start a business of his own so that he went to ~~Glasgow~~, Montana and he became a part owner of the ~~Bank~~ Cafe which was a combination of a restaurant, pool hall and barber shop. I was born in 1915 and there were eight children in all altogether. The youngest is now 17. The cafe did not turn out so well so that between 1916 and 1920 my father owned a photography studio but it finally went bankrupt. Dad then decided to move to Havre, Montana as he heard that there was a good opportunity for jobs there. He worked in a railroad round-house as a boiler washer and he did this work until 1935 when he moved the family to California.

"From 1935 until the evacuation, dad worked as a clerk in an oriental art goods store. He was able to do this work since he had a good command of English. He has also tried various other types of jobs. When the evacuation came along, he volunteered to go in an advanced crew to Manzanar. He resettled out here last November as he had a job as a caretaker at the South Parkway Community Center. He didn't like this work so well, so that he quit it to go work at McClurg's in the parcel post department. He is living with my brother, Alfred, at the present time, but he plans to bring the rest of the family out as soon as he can get a little settled. He has been trying to get a job as a teacher in the language division of the Army Program at the University of Chicago, but he did not get any encouraging replies from that. He is also thinking of trying to get into the Federal Communications to listen to the broadcast from Japan and interpret them. It will take him a little time to get settled.

[My father was always a very gentle person. He never did express himself to his children very much. I suspect that he has had a lot of disappointments during his lifetime, but he never let it twist his personality at all. He was happy having such a large family. There were times when he was quite depressed because he did not have the success in this country that he thought he was capable of, but he never got bitter about it or tried to take it out on the family.] I never could remember him making much of a noise in the family. About all I remember is that he took a lot of pictures of us children during the time he operated the photography studio. He never attempted to assert his personality upon the children. I would say that he was mostly indifferent and I got

along with him okay.

"My mother was much more of a definite personality. At times she revealed quite a violent temper. I know that she punished me a lot of times when I was a little girl. She also gave me good advice at the same time so that I remember a lot of things which she told me. ^{Note} She was quite broadminded for an Issei. She came from a Tokyo ken and had a very good education. Maybe she was disappointed with the life she led over here because she always longed to go back to Japan to live. In 1918 she did go back for one year and I went along with her. Naturally I was too young to remember the trip at all. My mother intended to leave my brothers and myself with some of her relatives in Japan so that we could have the advantages of a good Japanese education. However, she was disappointed with Japan when she got there and she didn't like it at all, so she lugged us right back again. That finished her longing to go back to Japan and she has been fairly contented living in this country ever since then.

"My parents were fairly cooperative with each other. Dad was automatically the boss in business matters but he let mother run the rest of the household. My parents got along well enough on most occasions although they did have a number of financial differences. That was because the family was getting larger every year and it was difficult for my father to take care of all of us in the manner mother expected. Things got tough in 1925 and mother had to take in laundry for a while to supplement the family earnings. By that time our family was fairly big. As I recall it now, I would say that most of the time our standards of living was about average. We never lived in deep poverty although we came pretty close

to the edge of it, when dad moved us to Havre, Montana. At that time we had a very hard time getting a good start and we had to live in a camp section with other Japanese. This was located in about the poorest section of the city. We moved out of there in 1926 after my father got established a little bit. This camp section had a lot of box cars in it which were converted to family dwellings. There were also a lot of shacks thrown together in that area. We had to live in one of those box cars. The kitchen was located at one end and the rest of the box car was our living room and bedroom. There were seven of us living in that box car.

"When we moved out to Havre, there were about four Japanese families and 10 bachelors living in the box car area. There were also six or eight hakujin family units around us and they lived in tarpaper shacks. I don't recall too much of the life there as I was rather young at the time and I did not realize what a hard time my parents had to keep things going. My mother couldn't stand it any longer so that my father finally moved us to a better section of town. We were able to move into a newly built house and that was quite an improvement. That was around 1925, I think, and mother started to take in washing then in order to help with the rent. Our home was located in a white community and our family got along well with them. There never were too many Japanese in Havre, altho the issei did have a Japanese Association and dad belong to it.

"In 1932 the Japanese Association built a Japanese language school in town and mother taught there for a year. There weren't very many children there and my brothers and sisters composed the larger part of the student body in that school and we did not pay too much attention. I don't think that the language school there

was very much of a success.

"We didn't have very many relatives in this country altho I do have two uncles on my mother's side, but they live in Pasadena and Huntington Beach. Dad has some distant relatives in this country but I have never seen them. They were mostly living in the northwest before the evacuation. Dad lost most of his contacts with his family since he left at such a young age. There wasn't very much in his family to give him a close contact with it so that he drifted away from them as the years past. When he got his own family, he more or less put his attention on us.

"I don't have too many vivid memories of my childhood. I just grew up in what I considered a normal American way. The nice part of my childhood was the Xmas season and birthday parties. We had a number of birthday parties since there were so many children in our family. I always got a lot of toys on my birthday and this would give me a great deal of pleasure. Since there was not any Japanese community in our town, most of the activities centered around the family. There were some Japanese women living in town and the minister's wife taught them English in our home. My mother knew English fairly well and she was educated much more than the other issei women in town. Besides that, I don't recall seeing very many Japanese during my childhood. I never had any direct contacts with the older people anyway. Our neighbors were Germans and the women next door got very chummy with my mother and she gave mother all the best and latest directions on how to raise me in the western style. Her daughter was my first playmate and I went to school with her for a while. One of the great family activities in my early childhood was to go to the woods for a picnic on Sundays and

dad would take pictures of all of us.

"One day my mother took me to the grammar school to visit and I was very impressed with the penmanship class right away so that I wanted to go to school. A few days later I was enrolled in classes and I met Charlotte, a Caucasian girl, and I became her close friend for a couple of years. I also remember a Miss Overby who was one of my nicer teachers. This was during the time I was still in Glasgow and I don't remember much more about that place. I had the usual tonsils and whooping cough and I used to hate to go to the dentist. I had to go to Sunday School also but it scared me because the minister talked about going to hell if you were bad.

"There were not very many sharp differences in our home life from the usual American family so that I do not have many vivid recollections of it. We always had a lot of good things to eat at home. Mother also took a great deal of pride in dressing me well. I rode on a train to Seattle when we were going to Japan but I don't remember that at all. We were in Seattle for about a month upon our return from Japan and I have a dim recollection of riding in an elevator. I went to school after that again and the only thing I remember is that they taught us how to take care of our teeth.

2 / < "There were some other Japanese living in Glasgow too and they were always good to me. They always gave me money or things to eat. There weren't any other Japanese children in Glasgow after that. At an early age we left for Havre when my dad went bankrupt and I started school again in Havre. When I was in the second grade, I was on a P.T.-A. program and they dressed me up as a little Japanese girl. I had go go to Sunday School every week.

us? < The pleasant part of this childhood was going ice skating in the winter time and swimming in the summer. My mother did not think that it was proper for a Japanese girl to go swimming so she made me stay home many times to do housework. She gave the reason that she was afraid I would drown. At that time I did not know that many of the old folks had queer superstitions. My mother wasn't too bad in this respect since she had obtained a fairly broad education.

"As long as I can remember, we ate American food for breakfast. At lunch time we had rice with stew. For supper we ate a mixture of American and nihonshoku (Japanese food). The only real nihonshoku we had was on New Year's. Once my mother made some real fancy Japanese food and she worked about three days on it. The Japanese food, especially the noodles, looked so pretty but when we went to eat it none of us children liked it very much. We also had mochi, fish and all kinds of foods cooked in shoyu. I don't know the names of all of these dishes. Dad would have his warm sake at this time. I had to develop a taste for Japanese food and I didn't begin to appreciate it until I got much older. I am not especially fond of it now.

"My Japanese education was very haphazard. It started when I found a Japanese first grade book once and I asked my mother if I could learn the language. She started to give me a few lessons but after 1921 she forgot all about it. Years later I asked her why she didn't teach me Japanese. She told me that it was no use learning the vulgar Japanese. I wanted to learn some of the Japanese songs she used to sing, but she refused to teach me any of them. I think the reason for that was because they were love songs and

she did not think it was proper for me to know those at my age. My mother could use both Japanese and English but she usually conversed with us in Japanese as it was easier for her. Dad used English most of the time since he had learned it in his younger days. That's why I really didn't learn any Japanese at all until after 1931. I don't know it at all now but I have always been able to understand the simple talk. I can't speak it at all except for occasional ^{phrases} praises which are very simplified.

"We didn't have any of those traditional Japanese customs in our home. I guess my parents were too busy making a living for us to be bothered. About the only customs we had was saying prayers at the table and that wasn't Japanese. The reason for this was that I heard a boy say a prayer at the table once and I asked my mother to teach it to me. She went to the Sunday School teacher and got him to write it out in English so that she could teach me. It was the Lord's Prayer. In our house we didn't even have the custom of addressing the older brothers and sisters by the terms 'oneesan' and 'on~~i~~isan', that is the way of showing respect to the older brother and sister. We just called each other by our given names. I don't recall having any Japanese customs at all in our home unless you could call New Year's that. The only time I ever saw any of the Japanese customs was when some older Japanese came to our home for a visit. On these occasions my mother would bow very low in a formal Japanese style and say a very funny introduction. We used to laugh quite a bit at that because we didn't understand why they had to bow so many times. We never behaved ourselves whenever guests were present so that my mother made us children eat alone.

"My parents did read some of those Japanese magazines and they subscribed to a Japanese language paper which was sent from Seattle. My mother also received a college alumnae bulletin from her school in Tokyo. She never told me very much about her life. She was like dad in this respect. I didn't even know that my mother was well educated until I came to California. I thought that most of the issei had a pretty good education and I was surprised to find that this was not true when I first saw a large number of Japanese in California. I never had enough contact with them previously to know any different.

"Dad has always had a very definite aim to stay in this country as far back as I can remember. He had nothing to go back to in Japan as he was an only son but he was not in line to inherit anything since his mother remarried. Dad never had too many outside interests as he kept to himself quite a bit. He wasn't interested in the politics of Japan at all. He was only interested in business and what money he could make from it. He never talked very much about political matters altho I always accepted the fact that he was a typical American. When the registration for the Army came to the camps last year, my father wrote to me and he said that he had volunteered for the Army. He was not accepted because of his age. Now he has no idea of ever going back to Japan and he does not long for it at all. He feels that he belongs here as he has lived here most of his life. He never felt that he had a family in Japan. He has some relatives over there but he doesn't feel close to them at all. Mother has more of that feeling but since the war she has become reconciled to the idea that she will probably remain in this country the rest of her life. There may be some longing left to go

back to Japan, but I think that it is more of a sentimental feeling than anything else.

"I never had a friend who went completely through school with me because I had to change around quite a bit. When I first went to Havre, my friends were among those who lived in the camp section. They were Italians, Polish, English and various other nationalities. I got along fine with them and we never had any serious fights. All of the boys and girls in that area all played together. At school we did the same thing together and during the holidays we would find our own little amusements. It was this group that first taught me how to iceskate.

"Our first contact with nisei near our age was in this camp section. They were the children of the other Japanese families living there. We just accepted them just like we accepted the other little children. Once in a while I would play with a couple of the girls. After we moved to our new home, I never played with these nisei children anymore in spite of the fact that we were only three or four blocks removed. I went to another school and I made new friends. Later on we moved to Fourth St., which was another six blocks away. After that I became more quiet and I didn't play with the other children so much as before. I only went ice skating in the winter and swimming in the summer with a few of the friends I had.

"The reason for that was that I had to help out at home more and more. Mother found it difficult to take care of all of the children and since I was the oldest daughter, it was up to me to help her out. I got along fairly well with my brothers and sisters. Carl and I fought a great deal for some reason but I was indiffer-

erent toward Alfred. Dollie was only a baby then so that I petted her. After the other children began to come along, they were a burden to me as I had to take care of them. They were in my way and I didn't like that. I had to be a second mother to them but I wanted to go out and play instead of doing this. I thought that it was terrible for me to have to do this sort of thing at that time. I resented it very much when it interfered with my swimming or ice skating. I always had to put the baby to sleep before I could go out. I was the oldest of them all and I didn't think that I deserved this kind of treatment. My brothers didn't have to do this kind of work and they were spoiled.

"In junior high school I got into my first real extra curricular activity. I was in the glee club. By that time the children were growing so that I didn't have to help take care of them so much as before. I only had to do the dishes and help with the ironing at home. I continued to go to church all along and I was one of the group which organized the young people's Epworth League. I studied very conscientiously at school altho I wasn't particularly interested in my studies. I got on the honor roll all along. My mother didn't let me study too much as she believed that my home duties came first. After that, it was a choice between my studies or playing and since I was a normal child, I liked to go out and play. It didn't interfere with my studies too much.

"In high school I joined the glee club again and I was also a member of the girl's sextette. I was also in a school trio. The last two singing groups were competitive in nature and I won a place on both of them as my voice was considered fairly good at that time. I continued to make honors in my school work all the way

though. I graduated among the first ten in my class. I had all Caucasian friends throughout my high school days as there were no other Japanese girls going to the same school. Albert, my brother, and I were in the same class all the way through as I had been kept back in the second grade. I never saw very many other Japanese students. Even in grammar school there was only one Nihonjin besides members of my family. Later on, when I went to junior high school, two kibeï moved into town and they started to attend the school. They had just come over from the old country so that they could hardly speak English. These kibeï were not so dumb as I found out when I took math with them. They were the smartest ones in the class in this course. They didn't do so well in the other classes because they did not know English so well. I guess I sort of looked down upon them.

I don't believe I ever said I was a Japanese or talked about Japan at all until I met these Japanese students who came to our school. All of the people in our town talked about their "old country" in Europe and they used to brag about it. I got a little curious so that I asked my mother a little about Japan and soon I was saying the same thing in order to attract attention. The kibeï students were well accepted in our school after a while and everybody thought they were interesting because they spoke only a little English. At that time, the American people in our town had a good opinion of the Japanese. The kids at school made such a fuss over these kibeï that I thought I should let them know that I was a Japanese too. Up to that time they had never mentioned it to me and I was accepted as one of them.

In high school there were two nisei students besides my brother

and I. They were in a couple of classes below us. Only two nisei had ever graduated from our high school before us. I was the first nisei girl to ever get out of that high school. By that time there were quite a number of younger nisei in the elementary and junior high school. I was the first nisei to graduate from high school with honors as the other two before me did not do so well.

Most of my social relationships during this time was at church. Occasionally I visited my friends in their homes and they came over to see me. During the time I was going to high school I did not have a regular boy friend but I did go to a few college affairs with a Caucasian student from our town. They thought I was quite a novelty. The only time I ever went out with a nisei was the occasion when a fellow, 7 years older than I, took me out. I didn't care so much for him. I didn't miss social affairs as we did not have very many social activities in our town anyways. My mother did not object to my going to school dances but I was not so crazy about it. I only went to about 3 of the large school dances. Most of my social activities was concentrated during the summer vacation.

In the summer of 1933 I went to Seattle as I wanted to know some other Japanese people. I got a job doing domestic work there. It did not take me long to get acquainted with a large ^{number} of nisei. That was the first time I had so many dates in all my life. The nisei fellows took me all over and I enjoyed myself immensely. At first I felt a little out of place among so many nisei but I got used to it very rapidly. The summer went by before I knew it. I was glad to go back home to return to my school classes after the summer was over as I liked high school a lot. I did participate in the girl's basketball team and I was looked upon as one of the better

players.

I also had a couple of other vacations away from home during the high school years. Once I went to Great Falls, Montana to stay with a nisei girl. She was a college graduate and a Phi Beta Kappa. She took me all over to see the country. We went up to the Rocky Mountains and we were camping for several weeks. The camp was operated by a number of Japanese and this was my first real experience at living together with a lot of Japanese. I was indifferent to most of them as they were of the older generation, but I did enjoy the outdoor life. I also had a very interesting time in Great Falls as that was the first time I had ever been in a large city.

Seattle?

"On another occasion I went back to Glasgow and stayed with a friend for several weeks. During this time I renewed all my friendships with old family friends and I went around and visited all of our old neighbors. After that I went to a church camp in the Rockies. That was quite a bit of fun. Each summer the Epworth League group would take a camping trip and I was included that year. At this institute camp I first became aware of racial problems. During the campfire sessions they discussed racial discriminations. There was one other nisei girl there who was a graduate of the University of Montana and she discussed the problem of the Japanese. She took me aside one night and told me that the rest of the camp were discussing me and they thought I was a very good example of how assimilation could work. She said that I was different from most of the nisei and that sort of surprised me as I did not think that other nisei were any different from me. I was only 16 years old at that time. However, from that time on, I realized that I was a little different from the other Caucasian kids. It didn't affect me too much but

What year?

I was conscious of it. Up to then, I had not even given it a thought. as I just figured I was like anybody else. I think that by attracting attention to me in that racial discussion group, I became more conscious of the fact that I was of a different racial group. There was another time that I felt different but that was when I was only about 7 years old. I was in the second grade at that time and it happened that a Caucasian girl friend of mine had a birthday on the same day as I did. She had a large party for all of her school friends but I was not invited. I could not understand this as I was her close friend and my birthday fell on the same day. I asked her why she did not invite me and she said that her mother would not allow her as I was a Japanese. This hurt me a great deal at the time and my Caucasian girl friend and I could not understand it at all. I forgot about it very soon but I think that this was always in the back of my mind some place. When I was a little older, I used to go over to this girl friend's home all the time and her mother approved of me then because I was very active in church affairs at that time. She did not realize how much she had hurt me many years before and I never mentioned it to her.

"After I got out of high school in 1934, I decided that I wanted to go on to college. My parents did not object to this at all. I had an uncle in Pasadena and he wrote to me and told me that I could go down there to enter college and it would be easy for me to earn my way as a school girl. He said that many other nisei girls were doing this. I wanted to go to the University of Washington and live in Seattle but I did not have any relatives or contacts there. That was the reason I went down to Pasadena during the summer of 1934. During this vacation period I worked in a home for \$20 a month. Then

I was invited to stay with Rev. Tashiro's family. I was with them for about four months. It happened that Mrs. Tashiro was an alumna of the same school in Japan as my mother. That was the reason why she issued an invitation for me to come and live with her family for a while. My parents thought this was a good arrangement as I would have proper supervision so that they consented to my going to college down there instead of staying near home.

"My brother Alfred came along with me to Pasadena. He did not know what he wanted to do. He was supposed to enter college with me but he suddenly decided to go to work instead. That is why he did not enroll when the fall term opened. He went to work in a market owned by a Japanese instead. I was determined to go to college and I had great expectations of what a wonderful time I would have. The Pasadena Junior College was a great disappointment to me though. I just could not get adjusted to the situation there. I lost interest entirely and after a few months I only went to my classes. I didn't like the school at all. I suppose that part of the reason for my hard adjustment was because I was homesick. Another thing was that the only people I could get to know in Pasadena were nisei. Even then these nisei were not very friendly to me. I felt sort of lost and different. It was because I wasn't like the other nisei girls. I was surprised to discover that they were so conservative. I had met some nisei up at Seattle during my vacation there several summer preivously, but I did not have enough contacts among the nisei to become fully aware of what they were really like. It was a sad experience not to be accepted by them in Pasadena. Perhaps a lot of it was my own fault as I suppose I acted rather aloof.

"The only friendly nisei were those who attended the Japanese church where Rev. Tashiro preached. There weren't very many of them at that time as a lot of the services were in Japanese. I couldn't stand it any longer so I decided to go work in an American home. I felt that a change of environment would help me in my school work also. My employer was very kind to me as she had many contacts among the Japanese. She was very broad-minded toward the issei because at one time she had taught English to a group of them. I think that she was a former missionary. She even taught Sunday School in the Japanese church and she maintained her strong interest in this group. I wanted to go to a hakujin church but Mrs. Fruley, my employer insisted that I go along with her to the Japanese church. She thought it was so interesting and I could not agree with her viewpoint at that time. I never would have gone to the Japanese church except for that reason. Sometimes I did go to the hakujin Methodist church as I didn't understand Japanese at all. The services therefore were most boring to me and I didn't have an interest in the proceedings. However, I was invited to join the Japanese church choir and that appealed to me as I was interested in music. After that I began to go to the Japanese church a lot more and I stopped my infrequent visits to the hakujin church. Once in a while I visited the Caucasian Epworth League.

"The way I got to know other nisei was through basketball. They found out that I had played for the high school in Montana so that they invited me to join some of their club team. I managed to be pretty good at that so many of the nisei girls began to accept me more and they broke down their cliquish attitude. I also managed to meet many of the nisei girls at the Junior College and also other

nisei from Los Angeles. The funny thing about it all was that I was fully accepted on the nisei girl's basketball team, but I was never asked to join any of their social clubs. I guess I was too different from them. I wasn't too interested in boys and I didn't talk much about clothes. All of the nisei girls I saw talked about these subjects and it was not too appealing to me. My outlet was more in music and I made some hakujin friends at school that way. The other nisei did not seem to be interested in classical music at all. I felt much older than a lot of those nisei because they acted like young kids and they got excited over little things that were not important at all. I guess they had me figured out as a queer person too because I wasn't like the rest of them.

"I was not able to participate in very many junior college activities as I had to go back to my housework job at 5 o'clock. This limited the free time I could spend at school and the only friends I made were in the science lab courses. I went to school for 2 years but I was never completely at ease. It wasn't that I objected to an education as I wanted it very badly. It was more than I didn't fit into a nisei society and I did not have too much time to cultivate the hakujin students.

"In 1936 I quit school for a year. It was at that time that I decided I wasn't interested in the nisei at all so I quit participating in even the limited nisei activities that I had. I wanted to save up some money to go to the University of California as I felt that I would like it much better up there. I also thought that it would be cheaper for me to go to the large university. I wanted to start out all over again anyway. One of my main reasons for picking the University of California was that I wanted to get away from all

the Japanese people that I knew. This was the reason why I did not go to UCLA or USC as many of the Pasadena J.C. nisei were going there. It was about this time that I became very interested in reading and a lot of my time was spent in this activity. I read almost everything I could get my hands on and I found a great deal of satisfaction in it. Maybe I was trying to escape from myself; I don't know. I only know that I wasn't too happy then in the life I was leading.

"I turned 21 in 1936. I was so anxious to vote that I ran down to the City Hall the first thing in the morning so that I could register for the election. It was such a thrill to vote for the first time. 1936 was a presidential election year so that it was a very important election and there was a lot of excitement about it. I didn't know the first thing about choosing a political party to vote for as my background in politics was very weak. I finally decided to vote Republican as most of the people I went around with at that time were of this party. I guess I was more interested in trying to vote for the winning side. I was sure that a Republican would get elected and I was a little disappointed when Landon was defeated. I never met a Democrat up to that time. I did not join the JACL at any time as I was not aware of them at first. Later on, I was against the JACL because I thought that they were too petty. It seemed that they were only a few in the organization who really had the welfare of the group at heart. The rest of them were active in the organization merely for the prestige they could get out of it. I didn't participate in anything that the JACL sponsored. I felt that the organization was not sincere enough. They were too narrow in their ways of showing patriotism and I got a little disgusted

when I saw them flag-waving. My contacts with the nisei up to then had impressed me that they were a very conservative group and I wasn't too sure that they were really that patriotic. I knew that a lot of them were influenced more by the Japanese way of acting. Therefore it made me disgusted to see them proclaim their loyalty from the housetops on occasions like the Fourth of July. The rest of the time they didn't think about it at all. I wasn't too interested in politics myself but I felt that I was much more sincere in my beliefs than most of the people in the JACL. That's why I had no use for this group. To me, it looked like the only excuse for existence was to sponsor social activities for the nisei. Most of them joined the JACL for this reason. Whenever the JACL had any serious discussion, only a few of the older members attended. I don't think that the JACL was ever very strong. The Pasadena chapter was supposed to be more liberal. It didn't join the National JACL organization until just before the war. I really should not condemn it because I don't know everything about it. I just was not interested in the organization at all.

"My father had brought the family down from Montana to Pasadena after I got started in junior college. Dad thought that he would get a fresh start there. Alfred and my uncle had prepared the home for them. I refused to take part in it because I thought that it would mean the breaking up of the family unit. I also did not want all of my contacts in Montana to be broken up that way. I was planning to become a teacher and go back to Montana some day. I had hoped to get into a teaching job in a rural school out there. However, all of this opportunity was gone when my family came down to Pasadena. They came at Alfred's and my uncle's urging. My dad and

two brothers remained behind the rest of the family for a while as my brothers wanted to finish the school year out. After that, they came on down to join the rest of the family. I didn't think it was a good idea for our family to move to Pasadena. I believed that it would be hard for my father to get a good job there. However, Alfred had great ambitions of starting a vegetable store with the family help. I wouldn't cooperate with him at all as I thought that school was more important than working. My uncle encouraged my brother along and that is why I didn't get along with my uncle after that. Alfred did not urge me too much to quit school as he knew that I wanted to get an education. He thought that he would be able to swing everything with the help of the rest of the family and my uncle. As it turned out, my uncle soon lost interest in the store and the result was that Alfred had to carry the bulk of the burden in the family support. I didn't live with the family at all during the time I was going to J.C. except for short periods during the summer, as I had a domestic job during this time. I did not want to put any additional burden by going to live with them.

"I was the first one in our family to stay away from home for a long period of time. Before that, my brothers and I usually left the family for the summer to work or do other things, but we always came back after a couple of months. I was away most of the time after I left Montana. I would go home on Wednesdays and Sundays during the time I was in junior college as these were my days off from my domestic job. When I decided to go off to Berkeley by myself, none of my family objected as they were used to getting along without me by then.

"I enrolled in the University of California in the fall of 1937.

I was quite excited about going to Berkeley as I thought that it would be my chance to get into a happy environment once more. I decided to enter as many activity^s as I possibly could. The first thing that happened when I got there was that I got pledged into the Women's Glee Club. I was thrilled about that because I thought it was rare for a nisei girl to have this honor. However, when I went to the first meeting I was disappointed to find that there were quire a number of nisei girls in that group! I soon found that it was pretty difficult to stay away from nisei as there were so many of them on the campus. I found that this group was not so cliquish as the Pasadena group and they accepted me easier. I got an invitation to join the Japanese Women's Club which I did. However, I did not take a very active part in it.

"I found that I had to study a great deal more at U.C. than in the junior college. I was taking a major in education and my minor was in physical ed. I thought about joining the college glee club but I changed my mind when I found that most of the members were of the sorority type. In Berkeley most of my classes were lectures so that I did not have much of an opportunity to make new friends. There were hundreds of students in each class and the contacts were very impersonal. It seemed that the only way to get into the college life was to join various campus clubs. I went to the YWCA at the invitation of the International Club. However, I was not too interested in inter-racial discussions so that I soon dropped out of it. I discovered that most of the people who went to the YWCA meetings were nisei and all they talked about was the nisei problem. I did not care for that at all as I was trying not to identify myself with this group. I also tried out the Epworth

League for a while but I was dissatisfied with that too. It seemed that all of the girls were interested only in boys and they didn't talk about anything else. I managed to take a few lab courses the second semester and I enjoyed them very much as I had an opportunity to make friends among the students in these classes. I also began to take part in extra-curricular courses as well as join in several seminar groups.

"During all of this time more and more I had more and more problems of finding a place to live. I did not have enough money to live in any of the cooperatives and I did not feel like going to the Japanese Women's Student's club to live. There was a great housing problem at the University of California and many students found it difficult to get a proper place to live. Whenever I went to the housing bureau to ask for a vacancy, they steered me away from the place because they said that Japanese students were not allowed there. This made me very angry as I didn't know about housing covenants then. I was not used to being told these things and I resented it very much. I think that they made me more aware of the fact of being different even though they tried to be helpful and save my feelings. I found another girl who was in the same position as I and we finally got together in a room in a Caucasian home. This arrangement did not turn out very well because the house was full of fleas. It certainly weakened my morale. I was pretty desperate about finding a place to live on the campus. Finally I heard that the Buddhist Church had an upstairs section to it which was not used. I went to the Buddhist priest and told him of our housing problem and I asked him if we could not use the upstairs for a group of nisei girls. He agreed to it so that we rounded up 8 nisei girls

and moved in.. I wasn't a Buddhist at all but that did not matter. I think there was only one Buddhist girl in the original group that moved in. I didn't have too many associations with these girls as I was indifferent to their intense emphasis on a nisei social life. I was more interested in my school study as I wanted to get something out of it.

["When I went to the University of California, my ambitions were blocked for the first time. It was quite a bad experience for me and I think that it made me lose some of my self-confidence for a long time. My major was education but when I went to talk to the advisers in the department, they told me that I could not get a teaching credential as there would be no place for me to teach as nisei teachers were not accepted in the California schools. That almost floored me and I did not know what to say. I couldn't say that I was going back to Montana to teach because my family had moved out of that state. However, I remembered a nother nisei girl telling me that there were openings in Hawaii so I went back to the education department and told them that I had a promise f a job in the islands. They were still reluctant but they finally admitted me into the education department. At the same time they still continued to discourage my ambitions in this direction and that did not help my personal zadjustment process any. I had a minor in English as I thought that perhaps I could teach this subject. Because of all of these problems, I became dissatisfied with my choice of a profession.

"I talked to other nisei about job opportunities in the professional fields and they were quite discouraging also. Most of them were in the liberal arts field or in the commerce department

Occupational
blocking - teaching

and they were not specializing in any definite field. I think that they were too immature to really realize what a problem they were up against. They didn't think too much about what they were going to do with their education and when they did talk about it they were most pessimistic. On top of that, the education department was not encouraging at all so that all of these things began to affect me. I became very disorganized and discouraged and I could not see any future ahead for me. These things distracted me so much that I ended up by getting all F's in my English courses. I knew that my goose was cooked as far as teaching English, so that I decided that I would change my major to something else.

"In the meantime, my girl friends told me that she had contact in Hawaii and that I could really get into teaching there. I thought of continuing on with education anyway, but the final blow came when I learned that the territorial government in Hawaii had put in a law saying that a person had to have three years residence there before they could teach in the Hawaiian public school system. It looked hopeless to me as I had no intention of going to Hawaii and trying to get residence there. My interest in education completely dropped at this time.

"I began to think about what other course I could take that would be of practical use to me. Most of the nisei girls were majoring in home economics but I did not think that that field offered any opportunities after graduation. I liked lab work a great deal and these had been my most enjoyable courses that that I finally decided to go into science as a career. I didn't know exactly what aspect of science I could enter, but I felt sure that if I knew my stuff I would get a break. With the determination, I

decided to make the drastic change. This meant that I would have to start all over again and get my basic foundation in science. I was supposed to graduate from college in 1959 but I did not file my application as I did not want to take my comprehensive examination. I knew that I would flunk all of my English courses. I went home after that as my career at the University of California had ended disasterously. I did not have the money to start out all over again in science up there. I figured that the cheapest thing to do would be to go back to junior college and take the basic courses. So I did that.

"I did not come away with a good opinion of the nisei who attended the University of California. I had a very low opinion of them as I thought that they were a lot of narrow-minded and inexperienced young students who were there only for a good time. All they talked about was of trivial things. However, in order to be fair to them I must admit that as I got to know them more, I began to understand why they acted that way. Most of the nisei were frustrated in their ambitions. Their boy-girl relationships were not satisfactory either so that they turned more and more to trivial and superficial things to occupy them. They were not sure of themselves at all. Many of the nisei students went around the campus with a hang-dog expression on their faces and you could see that they had an inferiority complex. The girls tried to act sophisticated at times but they were not successful. They were always fighting over little petty things like a bunch of grammar school kids. You could see that each of them was trying to get prestige so that the other nisei would look up to them. Naturally they tried to get pretige in superficial things which they consi-

dered as collegiate. I didn't join any of the nisei church activities at all while I was in Berkeley. I felt that most of the nisei went into church activities because they wanted to be big-shots and not because they were religiously inclined. Most of the nisei students had come from all over the state and they wanted to find some way to express themselves. But the general nisei leadership was poor because there were too many little cliques and each group was jealous of the other. Many nisei discovered that the best way to angle for leadership was to join church activities and that is what they did.

"Another reason why I did not have a good opinion of these nisei students was that they had no standards to discriminate between excellent work and poor work. For example, they thought that I had a wonderful voice and that I should major in music. That's the way it was in a nisei circle. If anyone had a little talent in some field, the other nisei immediately assumed that they should major in that field without recognizing that the little talent shown was nothing when compared to the general field. Most of the nisei did not have that much talent in any line. I suppose that the group was so eager for recognition that they jumped upon anyone with the smallest talent and they thought it was unusual. There were a number of other faults that the nisei had that I did not care for. It may be that many of their faults made me conscious more than ever that I was one of them and I did not like it. That was one of the reasons why I suppose I did not want to be identified with the rest of the nisei students. However, this was the result more of the personal problem in trying to find a suitable major than anything else. I think that I would have made good

adjustments if it were not for that reason.

"In the fall of 1940 I went back to Berkeley and enrolled in the adult education school. I took Italian, tap dancing, swimming, music and typing. I also took some correspondence university courses in philosophy, psychology, contemporary drama, modern novel and Bible and literature. I think that I took all of these courses just to prove to myself that I was not so dumb but there were other reasons and causes for my dissatisfaction. I felt that I was justified when I got all A's and B's in these courses and it was much harder than at the University of California. I took both day and evening classes. I liked these classes because I could express my own opinions and I did not have to give back to the teacher everything he had said. I still was interested in taking a science course but I had postponed it for a year. I guess I was still in a state of conflict. I didn't know whether I should get my A.B. degree first in education and then change to science, or else go into science right away.

"In December, 1940, I went back to Pasadena. I was supposed to get married then. My fiancé, Yosh Tashiro, had talked to me about it. He was Rev. Tashiro's son and I had known him ever since I came to California in 1934. I still wanted to go to school some more so I postponed it for a while. I then went to the Pasadena J.C. night school and took some courses in Pan-American relationships and economics. I didn't finish these courses because I got interested in a lab career. I started out by helping Yosh who was working at the Cal-Tech laboratory. I found that this was more interesting than economic courses so I decided that I should enter science definitely. Of course, a lot of it was mixed up with my

found out that I was over-age for the NYA program so that I had to start looking for something else. I had no income of my own at that time so I began to work out doing domestic work by the hour. This was around September, 1941. I didn't like the domestic work at all so I decided to try a job as a salesclerk in a Japanese market. Through contacts by friends I managed to get one of these jobs. Quite a few of the nisei were working in these jobs and they didn't get paid very well. I demanded 50 cents an hour and an 8-hour day. I refused to work over-time for the job and would not lift any heavy things like some of the other girls were required to do. Most of the other nisei girls had to work over-time and they did not get paid for it. I told the boss I could not stand for it so he did not ask me to work over-time without at least paying me for it.

"I wanted to use some of the training I had had in college so I volunteered to do some Girl Reserve work at the YWCA. By that time there was some war talk in the air, and the YWCA summer camps were closed. The "Y" decided to have camps in the city instead. I did physical education teaching for these young girls. Then the director of the "Y" wanted me to organize the high school nisei girls into a special Girl Reserves group. I could not do this because most of the nisei girls had to go to Japanese school after their regular classes and many of them had a lot of homework to do so that they did not have time to take part in the YW activity. That's why this program did not go over very well.

"I did not like the job in the market at all and in November I accepted another job which I was offered in an art goods store. It was only for the long Xmas season ahead. I started this job

personal problems. It was mostly in regards to getting married. Soon it was Yosh who didn't want to get married as it would interfere with his career. I don't care to discuss the details of this now as it is rather personal. Anyway, I went up to Berkeley again, early in 1941 as there were some rumors starting about me and Yosh. I wanted to get away from all of these Japanese people so I could think things through and really decide what I should do.

"I went to Berkeley for a visit and I worked in a domestic job. I enrolled in the adult education school once more. As spring and summer approached I began to hear more and more war talk. The embargo against Japanese goods and the cancellation of the trade treaties went into effect during the summer of 1941. I was beginning to get very wary of the U.S.-Japan relationships. The Army was beginning to draft a lot of fellows and my brother, Billy, was taken. As it approached fall it looked like an international crisis was on the way so I decided to go home. I thought that in case any trouble developed it would be better to be nearer my family. However, I decided to go register for some science courses at the junior college right away, as the fall semester was just beginning. As soon as I got back into Pasadena I got on a street car from the station and went out to the junior college. I registered for some chemistry and other courses when I got out there.

"That afternoon I started to look around for a job so that I could support myself. I did not want to do domestic work and I thought that I would be able to get some kind of an NYA job to teach swimming at the junior college as I had had a lot of physical ed courses and some experience. The Dean of Women at the college

right after Thanksgiving. At this time my only plans for the future was to get into some sort of physio-chemical research. That meant that I would have to go to college all over again. I wanted to get the basic courses at the junior college. I had an idea in my mind that I would like to come east and enter a small college after that. I figured that I could have an all-around life on a small campus. I didn't like a big college as the contacts are too limited. I had not definitely picked out the exact school I wanted to go to at that time. I had some plans that I would be going about the fall of 1942.

"The work I was doing was just a means to this end as far as I was concerned. I had no plans for marriage at all. I did not care where I lived as long as I liked the place. I wasn't particularly crazy about California like most of the nisei.

"My plans were suddenly changed when the war broke out. On December 7 I was home and we were all sitting around the house taking it easy. We decided to have a lunch altogether and some of the girls in the family went out to the kitchen to help prepare it. All of my family was home that day except one brother who had been drafted. The radio had not been on at all during the morning. We were almost finished with lunch when one of my brothers came in and told us that Pearl Harbor was bombed. I thought this was one of his fantastic tales so I didn't believe it. He was insistent and said everyone outside was talking about it. I told him to go into the living room and turn on the radio. Immediately we heard the news. That was our first information that war had started.

"Our phone rang all day long because friends phoned to reassure us. The Civic League which later became the JACL chapter,

warned us to stay indoors that day as they feared violence. I began to wonder about my work immediately. We were all pretty excited. We realized right away that the younger boys would probably have to go into the Army. My brothers wanted to go down in Los Angeles in our family car to see what was going on but we would not let them. We did not venture out of the house until evening when we went to church. It was unbelievable news to everyone and all of the people were talking of it. My mother was rather upset by the whole thing. She said that the Japanese would never do anything as dirty as that, especially on a Sunday which was a day of rest. My dad didn't say very much. All he did was to hover over the radio all day long. While I was in church, all of the people I knew remarked that they were afraid to go to school next day for fear of what the hakujin children would say to them. A few of the ~~were~~ ^{er} calm/nisei argued that we should all go to school as usual and continue the normal ways as much as possible so that we agreed to this.

"On Monday I went to school and to my work as usual. When my class work was done, I went to the art goods store where I worked. Nothing happened in the store at all except that one of the nisei fellows took all of the goods with Japanese labels off of the shelves. I thought this was so silly and I had to laugh. The nisei fellow didn't like this very much because he thought it was a serious thing. I told him it didn't make any difference whether the goods had Japanese labels or not because it had been paid for with American money that had already gone to Japan.

"The owner of our store was an issei and he stayed home. He phoned down and asked the nisei to run the business for him. One

of the other girls who was supposed to go to a branch store to take charge but she was afraid to go out in the streets. I told her that nothing would happen so she went. She was so timid. She acted as though she were personally responsible for what happened at Pearl Harbor.

"When I went to work on the second day following the attack, a Caucasian man from the internal tax bureau of Los Angeles came in with ~~th~~ a warrant to close the store. The warrant did not include the branch store. It said that we had to leave everything intact as it was and leave immediately. We all went to the branch store right away and since we felt that a warrant was coming for this store also, we decided to keep the cash out of the cash register.

"We continued business as usual. Most of the customer's attitudes was that they felt sorry for us. Most of them understood our position and they did not mind the Japanese labels at all at that time. There were only two occasions when customers walked out of the store when they discovered that it was Japanese owned. The branch store was closed in a few days and the people who came to issue the warrant were very nice about it. I went home after that and just continued with my schooling.

"The nisei students I saw were quite depressed and a number of them did not come to classes for about a week after Pearl Harbor. Most of the hakujin students at school were indifferent. A few of them felt sorry for us. The teachers were all alarmed and they wanted to do something to make the nisei feel better so that they went to the Triple "J" Japanese Club and asked them to give an assembly program to the whole student body in order to create a better understanding. The Triple "J" ~~students~~ stands for the Japa-

nese from the United States, Hawaii and the kibei Japanese. None of the members had any enthusiasm for this program so that it was called off. I felt that the less said the better it was for the nisei.

"I didn't get too excited after the initial shock. I had to reorganize some of my plans. I also wanted to prepare myself for the war which I thought would last quite a while. The junior college put in some refresher courses and as I had a lot of spare time I enrolled in some of them. I also did part time domestic work since my art goods store and market job were closed to me. In the refresher courses I took ⁽¹⁾psychology of minority morale ⁽¹⁾and I got an 'A' in that but my morale certainly wasn't that high. I also took a courses in mathematics, blue print reading, first aid, and home nursing. I didn't change my plans about going east as that was still in the future.

"Since all of the Japanese schools were closed, I went to the YWCA and told them that I could now go ahead with the Girl Reserves work as there would be no conflict with school now. I thought this was necessary as I wanted to let the issei parents know that there was a definite purpose in such activities. They were called to a large meeting and I told them that the girls needed guidance in such an emergency period. I told them that the war might last for quite a while and it was best for them to enter organized activity. We never even thought of evacuation at that time. After the talks we took the mothers around the YW to show them the facilities that were available to their daughters. I managed to get all of these mothers together as my mother was a Japanese school teacher and I got the names and addresses from her list. Another issie man from

the Japanese Association and the Japanese school went around and spoke in favor of my program to the parents. He also managed to get a lot of names from the Japanese church. Mr. Sugimachi was his name. He was a U.S.C. graduate and he was quite interested in the young people's program. Later on he got interned because of his connection with the language school.

"We got the issei mothers definitely interested in the "Y" program. The heads of the "Y" in turn wanted to help advise nisei girls in times of war and to protect them from possible dangers. Later on they had an idea that if they could get nisei girls interested in the program, these girls would go to the camps and start "Y's" there. This was after I left. I left California before this program got under way real well and Betty Holman took over.

"During the period after the outbreak of the war, and until I left California, I tended to have more responsibility for my family. This was because my mother was interned as a language teacher. We had to think of our income since most of it was cut off. We took out money out of the bank and a Caucasian friend put it in her checking account so that it would not be frozen. My mother was doing house cleaning at various places so I took over this job. I had to quit school after that. This was in February 1942. My mother had about four of these day work jobs and she was apaid by the hour. By that time it became fairly obvious that we were going to be evacuated.

"I didn't see why I should work so hard by the hour in my mother's work. A lot of the Japanese businesses were already closing out and there were plenty of jobs as helpers. My girl

friend got me a job in a Japanese art goods store in Los Angeles. When I went over there to see about the job, the front doors were all locked. I had to enter by the side door and I didn't know why they kept the main doors closed. Inside it was packed with people who were buying out everything. The complete stock of the store was being sold at a sacrifice and they had to ration the number of people coming in and out in order to control them. I began to work as a sales clerk there and it didn't make any difference whether I knew Japanese or not since all customers were Caucasian.

"When the curfew came into effect, I didn't know whether I could go over to Los Angeles or not from my home. I called the WCCA office and they didn't know anything about it. I didn't inquire any further but I continued to drive over to store every day even though it was much over 5 miles from my home. I was careful to get in by 8 o'clock in the evening though. In the mean time evacuation had already started and people were already going to Manzanar. My father went with one of the advance volunteer crew while the rest of us stayed behind. The responsibility of the family rested upon the older children since my mother was interned. All of these movements split the family up quite a bit and we have never been altogether since that time.

"We wanted to get our house all cleared up and ready for the evacuation. I was doing my own personal packing at the same time and it was understood that I wouldn't go with the rest of the family as they knew I was going east to go to school. We had quite a time renting our house out and we all pitched in together and painted it up to make it more attractive.

"I had first started to think of going east along in January. I had originally planned to come out to school some time anyway and I felt that I would have to hasten it. I didn't have any definite school picked out altho I planned to look for a small school in the middlewest or in the east. At that time I didn't know that certain schools would be on the restricted list. My immediate circle of friends were also thinking of voluntary evacuation and I picked up courage from them. I certainly didn't want to remain in the west coast as I figured that eventually that everyone would be put in camps anyway.

"George Morikawa, Henry Nagamatsu and Yosh Tashiro (this is a psuedonym while the other two are real names) came over one day and asked me what I was going to do. I told them that I was trying to go east but I didn't know exactly how I would go. They said they were going to get out of the restricted area also. They said they would go by car and they offered to take me along or else offer to loan me some money to go by train. I knew Yoshi Tashiro well since I lived with his father who was a minister. These fellows all had pretty good jobs in the University except Henry who was working for Douglas Aircraft and they didn't want to get stranded in California. They thought that if they went to a center they might not be able to apply any of their skills since the camp would not be well developed. They had good jobs they had to leave and they thought chances would be better if they got out to another section of the country. Another thing that bothered them was that they didn't like the things that the JACL was doing. They felt that there wouldn't be a chance in camp ^{for} where people like us since the JACL leaders would try to lord it over everyone.

Engaged to
Yosh
and
Henry
before

We figured that if the Japanese could not cooperate outside of camp then it would be a hell hole inside of it and we didn't want any part of it. I can look back upon this thing more calmly now but we certainly were disturbed by many things. We tried to make an adventure out of it and we did have quite a bit of fun, but we also were plenty worried. Now I can look back on it and just remember the exciting and pleasant things but there were moments when I was panicky. I tried to keep calm most of the time so that the nervous feeling would not overcome all of us who went.

"We talked about leaving for several days and we decided to leave before the voluntary evacuation was stopped. Yosh was a non-citizen and he didn't want to get caught in the whole mess. There was another girl who had a car and she wanted me to voluntarily evacuate with her. Her family was pretty well off so that she had money to go back east to school. I told her that I had already planned to go with another group so that she finally decided to stay back and be evacuated and then try to get out later. This girl is still in camp.

"After we made our definite decision to go, George Morikawa went home to find out what his family was planning to do. He didn't want them to think that he was running out on them. We waited around for him but he didn't return. Finally we got impatient since we couldn't wait around much longer so that Henry, Yosh and I decided to go on by ourselves. We had to get our permit from the WCCA before we could leave the state. Yosh had to get a special permit because of his non-citizen status. At the last moment Henry said he was bringing Emily along as they were planning to get married and that was a big surprise to us. At

the last moment George wrote and told us that his mother, brother, Ken, and sister, Riyo, were coming along and he said that his other sister was remaining behind to settle the last family affairs. We all had different cars in our party.

"I had a pretty hard time getting my permit from the WCCA. They told us that we had to have a definite address to go to before a permit would be granted to us. George said that he had a 2-acre place in Burke Bennett, Texas and there was a house there. So Yosh gave ~~as~~ that as his destination. George and his family listed that address also as well as Henry and Emily. I didn't know what to put as my destination as there were too many people going to that place and it looked suspicious. There was a hakujin girl I knew back east so I thought of using her address. However, she lived in Maryland and I would have to pay the transportation from Texas to my hakujin girl friend's home and that would have been too great an expense for me. I didn't know what to do but the WCCA finally accepted Texas as my destination also after George told them he had a big house there.

"I was quite relieved when this was settled but the WCCA still put another obstacle in my way. They said that I had to get my parent's permission to go with this party as it was not in line with social traditions for a single girl to be traveling with 3 fellows. I told them that I was old enough to make up my mind on things and furthermore my parents did not care. I told them that they could write to my father in Manzanar and my mother in the internment camp if they did not believe me. Finally I mentioned that Yosh's father was reverend. I said I could get a written statement from them that Mrs. Morikawa was going along with us and

she would look after the group. It was a Sunday so I went over to Rev. Tashiro's house and he wrote a letter to the WCCA saying that we were old family friends and that he trusted us, etc., etc. The WCCA was convinced and they gave us the permit. This was on Mar. 29, 1942.

"We were all set to go that day but Yosh was having his car overhauled and the mechanics were slow about it. I was having fits as we had to be out of that area by next morning or else our permits would be no longer of any use. We all agreed to travel light and take one grip apiece so that we would have room in the car for all of us. We arranged for having the rest of our things sent out later. George Morikawa got impatient and he left for San Diego to pick up his family members and we agreed to meet later on at some city near the border of California. George was also supposed to pick up Henry and Emily. We decided that we would meet at San Bernardino and then Henry and Emily could get into our car as Yosh was going to be delayed in getting off.

"It was a pretty hectic time but we finally managed to get off. I was pretty excited and it was also quite an experience. We drove right straight through but we missed George's car in San Bernardino so that we went on towards Arizona. Late that night we caught up with them and we were very surprised because Henry and Emily had a car of their own. They had brought all of their baggage with them. We were pretty griped about that because it had been agreed that we take one bag apiece and here we had a whole empty back seat because of that. We could have taken a lot more things if we had known Henry was going to have a car of his own. George had a sedan for his family and he had a small trailer

filled with baggage . It was tied down with canvas and rope.

"George led the way as he could not go very fast since he had a heavier load. Our small caravan looked like an okie migration, only we were going in the other direction. It was quite exciting but Mrs. Morikawa was frightened since she was an issei. As we crossed the bridge into Arizona we were stopped by the border guards. They examined our belongings to see if we had any guns or other contraband goods and after they were satisfied that our permits allowed us to travel, they told us to hurry up and get through the state of Arizona and not to stop any place to live or it would be too bad for us. We didn't pay any attention to him at all.

"We were driving along looking at the desert scene when George and Henry all of a sudden got an idea that they wanted to see the Grand Canyon. This was about 100 miles off our course. We didn't think it was such a good idea as we knew that we should get out of the restricted zone as soon as possible. We stopped and talked it over for 15 minutes and finally we decided to go see Grand Canyon anyway because we would not have a chance for a long time. Mrs. Morikawa was against it and she thought sure that we would get arrested. We drove the rest of the way to Grand Canyon and after we got there we rented a cabin in some resort.

"We enjoyed the view of the Grand Canyon immensely but after a while we got hungry. There wasn't any place to eat and it was fortunate w I had a big box of sandwiches which I brought along. The other people in our caravan were so excited about leaving that they did not think of sandwiches. We had plenty to go around tho.

"This was really the first time in over a week that we had a chance to stop and think calmly. I suppose that's why we had such

a deep and restful sleep, that first night out. Our feeling was that we were running away like fugitive from an awful mess altho we had mixed feelings, I think that we were relieved to think that we were getting out of the mess on the coast. Yet, there was a bewilderment among us because we didn't know exactly what we were going to do after we got to Texas. We didn't know how the hakujin people would treat us and there was also a thought that there might possibly be some violence. We didn't know whether the stores would sell us food and gas because of the rising feeling of antagonism. We didn't have trouble about gasoline because one of my old friends who ran a service station gave me the name of his brother in Arizona who also ran a service station. We stopped there for gasoline and that was enough to take us across the state.

"The next morning we started out on our trip again. We came down from the Grand Canyon and the roads were pretty deserted. I was driving one car and Riyo was driving the other. Henry drove his own. We got to R2 racing a little and all of a sudden a State patrolman stopped us for speeding. We were pretty frightened at this. When he saw us he asked us immediately for our permit. He wanted to know what we were doing out there. We told him our destination and he warned us to stay on our course and keep moving. Then he let us go on without giving us a ticket for speeding. There was a let-down after that and we drove and drove as we wanted to get to Albuquerque where we could get hot food and a bath. We didn't think we should stop at any small town along the way because there might be a hostile feeling toward us. Towards evenings we got into Albuquerque, New Mexico and it was no trouble at all to get reservation in a beautiful modern tourist camp. The beds were

so comfortable. We rented two rooms and four fellows took one room and Mrs. Morikawa and the other girls took the other.

"After we got settled in our cabins we decided to go out and eat. We didn't think it was so wise to go out in one group so we Yosh and I separated from the others. We wanted to get away from the group anyway and go splurge on a big meal in a nice place. We went to one of the larger eating places in Albuquerque. There were a lot of Indian and Mexican waiters there. We were quite surprised when Yosh was mistaken for a Mexican. One of the waiters called him Pancho. We didn't have a single bit of trouble in Albuquerque. We went to one of the bigger hotels to buy boriz acid to wash our eyes out with and everyone was quite courteous to us.

"The next morning we all went in a group to eat breakfast in a restaurant. The hakujin people looked at us curiously but no one bothered us at all. After we ate we went off the shop for about 2 hours as we wanted to get some supplies accumulated. George had to go get his short-wave radio disconnected because we didn't want to get into trouble over that. After that we all started out again. Our next stop was our destination in Texas. This was our third day out.

"We didn't arrive at our destination that third evening so we had to stop in a little town in north Texas. It was getting late so we started to look for a tourist camp. We couldn't find any so we went to ask a gas station attendant for information. He finally directed us to a fairly nice place and we got rooms and started to unpack our things. We were doing this when the police came.

"It was a funny feeling to have those police come and ask us so many questions. We might just as well been fugitives from jus-

tice because they were so suspicious of us. They took us down to the police station for interviews. We were asked a lot of questions about our plans, destinations, etc. Finally they were convinced that we had a definite destination. Then the chief warned us to be careful. He said that a lot of boys in the Army were getting killed by the Jap soldiers and the people of Texas were pretty aroused about this so we had better get on out of the town right away. We told them that we were all out of the military zone and that we could not be forced along like this. We said that we plan to stay in that town for three days in order to rest up. The police saw that he couldn't convince us to go on so he reluctantly okayed us. I thought the whole thing was exciting and kind of fun. I didn't have too many fears about possible violence. Mrs. Morikawa was the only one who was actually frightened by what was said. We managed to calm her down though. I suppose that a lot of our gaiety on the trip was directly due to this. We didn't want to give in to the fears that Mrs. Morikawa had along the trip so that we attempted to dismiss them lightly. I think that this made our trip much better.

"We went back to our apartments in the tourist camp. There was a kitchentte in one of them so that we decided to cook and eat in so that we wouldn't have too many contacts with the townspeople. However, we did go out for a walk during the day and the townspeople seemed nice to us. We never had any trouble at all. The police watched us all three days we were there. During the evenings we talked until late hours on what we would do after we got to our destination. We couldn't make up our minds so that we finally decided to go to Burke-Bennet, Texas where George had his two

acres and house. We figured that we could make up our minds after we got there. We rested up for a few days. The boys wrote letters back to their former employers and college friends to tell about their plans for going on to school. The rest of us cleaned up as best as we could. I didn't have much clothing as I had only brought one grip.

"When we finally did leave that town, the police escorted us out. They must have phoned to the next town because the police were waiting for us when we got there. They were afraid that we were going to live there too so they warned us to go on. The third time this happened Yosh decided to trick them. We left the caravan and entered the town in another way and we met the rest of the party later on. After that we were not bothered any more with police escorts. We drove all day and all night so that we would not have to stop in any more towns before getting to our destination.

"I was driving the car early the following morning when we hit our destination. I can't describe the feeling of disappointment that came over us. We thought that the town had 7000 population and I was anticipating a town similar to Havre where I had lived. But, it was a stinky little town and there couldn't have been over 500 population in it. There were old men sitting around and darkies walking around the street in a shuffling pace. Women were going around with bonnets and they were dressed very poorly. It was just like those frontier towns which you see in the western movies.

"We looked all over for George's house but we couldn't locate it. Finally I saw a little shack in the distance and I jokingly

said that this was the place. Sure enough, it was the house and the 'farm'. I never saw a more miserable place in all my life. Even the slum districts I have lived in in Montana was luxury compared to this. The windows of the shack were all boarded up. There was a nice stove inside but no gas. The shack was filled with dust and there was no electricity or running water. It consisted of two small rooms which did not occupy a total space of more than 20 by 20 feet.

"In spite of our initial dismay, we were relieved to get to our destination. We tried to joke about it by saying that we were not going to stay there permanently. George said that we could clean the place up and perhaps bunk down for the night. We were wondering when the police would come. We had no sooner said this when sure enough the provost marshal of the Army and the 'City manager' came driving up. They examined our permits and they concluded that it was okay. The provost marshal said that the townspeople had sent him urgent phone call that a Jap invasion had come to their town so he had come out to investigate.

"There was an air corps camp with 34,000 men right near our shack. The city manager told us that we could not get any gas or water unless we got permission from the neighbor. However, he said that this neighbor was in the Navy so we would have to do without. We got worried then so we asked the provost marshal if we could go to Wichita Falls, Texas to stay. He took the boys to the Army camp and they had lunch there. They left Ken, George's younger brother behind, to 'protect us'.

"Several Army men came along in a car and we discussed the dumb people of Burke-Bennet who were so frightened of us. It was

quite a joke. A little later the provost manager came back and he took us personally to Wichita Falls and found us a place in a modern tourist camp. We had to eat out. We couldn't decide on what we should do next. I decided that the immediate thing was to find a larger apartment where we could think and keep out of each other's way. After three days I managed to find a place and we moved in. It was much more convenient for us to set up house-keeping.

"George and his sister, Riyo, finally decided to go on a trip to find out the best school for us to enter. We thought that it would be cheaper if they went and we could wait behind and rest, until they came back. In the meantime Douglas Aircraft Co. was sending Henry letters about possible job contacts in the east. Yosh was sending letters~~se~~ back to Cal-Tech to finish up some of his business there. I was in no hurry as I felt that I could find a school or else go to work if necessary. I figured that the new school term wouldn't open up until summer session or fall anyway. I agreed to stay with the group until everyone was taken care of.

"After a while it got very boring as we had to stay there 3 months altogether. George and Riyo went to investigate all the schools in the middlewest. One night he phoned long distance and told us that all of the universities were closed to us by army orders. This was quite a shock to all of us and we had to decide on something else. I thought it was no use my staying there and holding things together. I was sick for about a week once because of all the nervous tension. It wasn't me that got so excited so much as the other people and this got on my nerves. Yosh and I couldn't leave until George and Riyo got back as we had agreed to

stay.

"In the meantime Henry and Emily suddenly left, as Henry had received a job offer with Curtis Aircraft in Buffalo, N.Y. Henry and Emily had gotten married secretly in Wichita Falls. I happened to see the name of a Japanese couple in the vital statistics section and it all came out. We had champagne and cake to celebrate their marriage just before they left. It must have been hard for them because the girls and boys stayed in the separate rooms until the end. They took naps in the afternoon while we were out of the house though. We were living no better than the people in camp according to some of the letters which we received.

"During the 3 months we were there, we got library cards out and read books. We also wrote letters, listened to the radio and went to movies. A lot of our time was spent in discussing the evacuation, attitude of people in town and our problems. During the day we went swimming, played tennis or else practice golf. Once in a while we would go to drink beer. The rest of the time we loafed around and took it easy. We ~~se~~ slept late almost every day. Yosh and I read or studied until quite late at night.

"In time, we got the household routine organized. At first we had taken turns to cook the meals. However we found that the meals were not well planned and it was costing us too much. We talked the whole thing over and finally I decided to take over all the cooking so I could cut the expense in half. We kept track of all expenditures so we could divide it among us. The other girls did the dishes. The only meal we ate together was dinner. The other meals had to be on their own as none of us got up at the same time. Henry had gone to work soon after arriving in Wichita

for the local Douglas Aircraft plant and Emily went over to help him. Occasionally I also went down to draw some of the blueprints. I think that our stay there was about the hardest on Yosh because he had nothing definite to occupy him during the day. We were also kept busy cooking and doing the washing.

"I didn't have very much to wear as I had only brought one suitcase. That's why I had to wash my things almost every day so that I would have a change. We went down to the Sears Roebuck and shopped for summer clothes. We also sent back for some more of our luggage. All of these things kept us pretty well occupied. On Sundays Riyo and I went to church. Once we took her mother to a special mother's day service and that was about the only time that she ever went out during our stay there. The rest of us would go to Burke-Bennett several times a week for our mail.

"In spite of this, I was getting pretty bored so I decided to try for a regular job. I was also in need of the money since I had no regular income. I put an Ad in the newspaper and then started to go out on my own. I tried to get a job as a typist in a hotel there but I was turned down for this. I got a number of calls for domestic work from my newspaper Ad so I went to interview several of the prospective employer. One lady offered me \$3 a week to do all the housework and cooking for her family of three. I didn't like the hours and the pay so I turned it down. All of the rest of the domestic offers were cheap like this.

"In our evening discussions we began to talk more and more of leaving as soon as George and his sister came back from their tour of middlewest schools. We had to wait for them since he could give us some idea of what schools we could enroll in. I wasn't

too concerned about what I would do as my brother Carl had gone to Madison, Wis. in the meantime and I knew that I could go there anytime to stay. Carl had a teaching fellowship at the University of Wisconsin. There was one other nisei there when Carl arrived. Because of some complications, the University took the fellowship away from Carl. The other nisei ~~go~~^{to} stay on as the Alumni Association paid his wages and some of the instructors also contributed to this fund. Carl did not have anyone like this to back him up so that he was just waiting around hoping that the school would be opened up to him.

"In June, 1942, George finally got back to Wichita. He talked favorably for the University of Minnesota and also said that there were a lot of schools around Chicago. After talking it over for quite a while he suggested that the University of Wisconsin was the best bet for Yosh so we decided to go up there and join Carl. I wanted to go on ahead with Yosh as I couldn't stand waiting around any longer as George kept putting things off too much. I got the house in order and Yosh and I went on ahead.

"George and his family said that they were going to Chicago. They gave Dr. Tashiro's address as their destination so that they could get a permit to travel. Yosh and I decided to go to St. Louis before heading for Wisconsin since he had a possible job prospect there. Originally Yosh had planned to go to the University of Washington in St. Louis but the school was absolutely closed to him when he had contacted them. The school board turned him down as no Japanese was being taken at that time. In St. Louis Yosh went around to some of the large beer plants to try and get a job as a chemist. Nothing definite turned up so that we

continued on to Madison.

"Two days later George and his family left Wichita. They came directly to Chicago so that they were here ahead of us since we had taken a detour to Madison. Originally we did not plan to come to Chicago but events forced us to revise our plans. George rented an apartment on the southside and he wrote to us and said that there would be room for us there if we decided to come to Chicago. At that time we had no intention of doing this. In Madison Yosh and I looked up Carl and then Yosh started to make the rounds to visit the various professors to find out what chance he had. There was nothing there for him in the way of work or in graduate studies. Yosh also contacted the Cancer Research to see about a job but he was turned down. It seems that a lot of places wanted to hire him because of his ability, but they had no authority to put an alien Japanese on the payroll.

"During this time I decided to investigate my chances for enrolling in the university. I went to the undergraduate division and they told me that I would get in. I thought this was strange because they would not allow graduate students to enroll. I wanted to go there but the non-residence tuition fee was too high for me so I had to give up that idea. During the time we were there we looked up quite a few of the nisei. Most of the time we talked about the evacuation problem. Some of the nisei students had been in Madison during the evacuation so they didn't know anything about it. They were pretty worried about their families so we told them about the general situation and this seemed to put them at ease.

"I didn't have any trouble at all in finding an apartment up

there. It happened to be the end of the school term so that there were plenty of vacancies. I found a place right away and I was surprised when the landlady told me that they would not take any Negroes but nisei were okay. I think that it was much easier for me to find an apartment there than in Berkeley during the time I was attending U.C. We spent about another week going around and talking to various nisei. I got fed up with this because they never talked about anything else except the nisei problem. One morning I decided that I couldn't stand it any more so I ditched everybody and wandered off by myself. I went towards the university and I got lost on the campus. I asked a Caucasian girl to give me the direction home. She was very nice and she even went to the trouble of going part way with me. We got to talking to each other and we decided to go have breakfast together. Then she told me all about the University of Wisconsin and she even took me to her sorority house to introduce me to some of her friends. This was really a grand feeling especially when I compared it with my experience at the University of California where people were not that friendly. I wanted more than ever to enroll there. I was so excited about this experience that I even spilled my grapejuice all over myself. I spent the whole morning with this girl and then I went to my brother's apartment.

"That afternoon we finally decided to come on to Chicago as Yosh was getting discouraged and he felt that he had no prospects there. My brother Carl wanted to hang around a little longer because he felt that a break would come sooner or later. I thought that he should come to Chicago and get a job instead of ~~was~~ waiting around there and spending all of his money without having an

income. Carl refused to come so that Yosh and I left for Chicago.

"We arrived here on June 23, 1942. We went directly towards the University of Chicago to look George and the family up. George wanted us to move right in with them as he said that there would be room. Imagine my surprise when we had to go up to the third floor in a dimly lit building. I was shocked when I saw what the apartment was actually like. It was a two-by-four apartment and it was so untidy and dirty. There were bags laying all around the place and the beds were all unmade. I couldn't see how all six of us could possibly live in such a cramped place as that. However, I was too tired to even think about looking around for another place. George said that it was almost impossible to find an apartment, so we decided to stay for a little while.

"That evening we talked for a long time about our plans. I was pretty tired and I kept wondering how we were going to sleep. Riyo and her mother went to bed first and they took the sleeping couch. George and his brother, Kenji, took the other couch. That meant that Yosh and I had to look around for a spot on the floor. It was stifling hot that night and I didn't sleep very well. Riyo discouraged my looking for another apartment the next day when she said that I couldn't find a place. She said that her landlady was an Austrian and that was why she was nice to the nisei. However, I had no intention of sleeping in the floor for any length of time so I asked the landlady if she had another sleeping room in the building. Fortunately she did have one. Riyo and I decided to sleep in this single room. The next night Riyo went to bed first and about an hour later she came running in to tell us that there were hundred of bed bugs in the bed. We did not believe this so

we all went down to look and sure enough there were hundreds of bed bugs crawling all over the bed. It was an amazing sight to me. I think this crushed my morale and I almost broke down and cried. We had to sleep on the floor once more that night.

"Employment was another immediate problem that I had to think about. Riyo was also very anxious to go to work even though her family had a lot of money. It sort of griped me to find out that she was a very grasping individual. Her father operated a nursery on the coast and he had a lot of real estate. When he died he left a big insurance and a lot of property to his family. They were getting a regular income from this property every month. Riyo was only 19 and I thought that she should worry more about making her mother comfortable instead of getting so excited about a job. I knew that they could afford a much better apartment than this. However, I couldn't worry about their problems since I was in need of a job.

"I phoned to the YWCA as I felt that it was vital for me to get a job right away. When I mentioned my "Y" activities on the coast, they gave me an appointment right away. I was relieved at this since I was down almost to my last cent. Riyo was also given an appointment for a day later than I. However, she went down with me and she went in for the interview on my appointment and she was given a job. She was too young to realize what she had done but her brother was pretty sore at that. There wasn't anything I could do about it so I didn't say anything.

"The next day I went to the USES and they offered me a domestic job of taking care of children. There were plenty of domestic job offers but I wasn't too interested. Then the inter-

viewer thought that I might be able to get an office job if I took a battery of test that they had. I was interested but I told them I couldn't wait for that since I wanted a job immediately.

"About that time Riyo started to look for a larger apartment. She wanted us to move in with them but I thought that we should break up. I realized that most of the apartments in Chicago were small. Riyo had the idea that \$40 a month was a terrible rent to pay. She went all over looking for a place and she was never satisfied. In several places she put an initial deposit down but she lost the place because of her indecision. Finally she was able to find an apartment around 44th St. on the southside and her family moved in. Yosh and I remained at the old apartment. After this was all settled, I renewed my efforts for a job.

"I put an Ad in the paper for general office work. I put down that I was a Japanese American with a college education and I asked for \$15 a week. I didn't know at that time that the wages I asked were too cheap and below the minimum required for general office work. I got over two dozen calls. Our landlady forgot to take the numbers down for most of these calls, however, there were enough on hand and I started to investigate the best offers. There was one offer that sounded very good so that I went down there. I was puzzled when the address led me to some dirty apartment houses. I asked at a corner drug store and they told me that there were no such company around. I was quite suspicious but I went to the address. I was quite surprised when a single man opened the door. He tried to get me into his apartment. I realized then that he had sent in the job offer because he wanted to lure me to his place for other ~~plac~~ purposes. I left there

pretty fast. I had several calls like this. I think that there must have been some degenerate single men who made a regular practice of doing this. One day I went to the American Friends office to tell them of my experience. I suggested to them that they should investigate all the job leads fully before sending a young girl out to them. A lot of them nisei girls are naive and I didn't think that they wouldn't know how to protect themselves. The interviewer at the Friends office said that they would be more careful of this sort of thing as they had heard of couple of other girls who had the same experience as I did.

"One day, I got a lead thru the Want-Ad section for a job at the paper box factory on the westside so I went out there. I was able to convince the employer that I could do the work so that he gave me the job. It was quite a relief to finally start working. This was in August, 1942.

"Yosh and I continued living in the apartment which the Morikawas had left. Yosh got the idea that he could collect social security so he went down and put an application in. After three weeks of waiting he started to get his money. He was getting \$16 a week and he got it for about four months. During this time he did not look for a job very hard. He just stayed home and rested. It was during this time that my brother Carl came in from Madison. This gave Yosh an excuse to show him the sights and they did not care very much about going to work as they still had some plans about doing graduate study. Yosh didn't want to take any sort of a job and there were few openings in his line. I was a fool as I worked hard all day and then I would come home and cook for them at night. On top of that they talked dirty talk all night long

and they didn't even do the dishes. I got sore one night and I told them off. They only made half hearted attempts at looking for a job and I was pretty disgusted at this. I was a damn fool for being imposed on like this. The two of them didn't work for a month and I got pretty fed up. Carl finally decided to go back to Madison again to pick up his luggage. He was just sitting around waiting for the school to open up for him.

"Yosh and I got back to a more normal life again for a few days and then my brother came back. The trouble was that he was always worrying about his wife and kid in camp and he was afraid to bring them out. I thought he should have done that a long time ago as they would have been able to get along. Carl left immediately to go to Lincoln, Nebraska as he had been accepted into the graduate chemistry school there. That was the last of him then. After that, he had such a hard time trying to get his wife and baby out of Gila. They finally got together after September or October, 1942. Carl took the longest time in getting his wife out because he was so afraid that they could not make a go of it. He just made himself sick worrying about her and I was relieved when he finally left. I got tired listening to all of his troubles.

"In the meantime I continued work at the box factory. When I first started I got 45 cents an hour and every month there was a five cents an hour raise until I got up to about 55 or 60 cents an hour. I also got time and a half for over-time work. I helped around the office and I did some filing work. It was a slack season in the factory but there was also a lot of backlog work that I had to catch up on. However, I finished that up pretty quickly and I just sat around wondering what to do to keep busy.

One day the boss asked me if I would dust the show windows. Since I had a lot of time on my hand I decided to go ahead and do all of the windows in the office and fix the boxes artistically. The boss was very pleased at this. I had been thinking of quitting but he asked me to stay on. I told him that I would not stay permanently as I planned to go to school eventually. We got along very well. My boss always talked about his factory and I had a picture in my mind that it was a huge place. I finally found out that he only had one press man and the factory was very small. Business started to pick up a little again so my boss started to look around for a secretary. He interviewed some Caucasian girls and they were pretty lousy. I thought to myself that if they could qualify for secretaries I could do the same thing.

"One day I went out to the factory with the boss and I asked him if I could help with the boxes instead of doing the general office work for a while as it looked interesting. He agreed to it so I did the stripping of the boxes. I liked the idea of being in a factory and I wanted to get that out of my system while I had the chance. When my curiosity about factory work had been satisfied, I lost interest. The job got very boring after that since it only took me a day or so to get the skill and it was no longer a game for me after that.

"I also continued to work up at his office. My boss wanted me to learn how to do inventory records for him. He said that he would give me a desk and a raise. He had not been having very much success with a secretary. The girl he hired was very stupid and she didn't know how to operate the switch board. My boss sent me down to the Bell Telephone Company to learn switchboard work.

and then I had to teach it to the Caucasian girl. The girl was so dumb that she finally quit and my boss got another secretary. This one quit just before I left.

"It was getting near Xmas and Yosh's social security was running out. He was still trying to pull strings for a good job without much success. I told him that my boss would hire him as a shipping clerk so he swallowed his pride a little and took the job. I was getting tired of my job and I thought that Yosh should work while I looked around for another job for myself.

"It didn't take me long to find another job. I got a position as a mimeograph operator at the "Y" around the beginning of 1943. Yosh and I decided that our apartment was too small and I wanted to get further away from the Morikawas. I couldn't stand the younger brother, Kenji, any longer. He was a high school senior and he never made any attempts to make any friends at school. He moped around all the time. He would always be tagging around with us. Even when I would invite George over for dinner, Kenji would come tagging along without an invitation. Yosh would not tell George to make his brother stay home. Whenever they came to dinner Yosh would talk to George and I had to entertain Kenji. It was too much of an effort so I finally left him alone. He would sit all afternoon on the sofa in a sort of a daze. His sister Riyo was still in a daze too. The other sister who had not voluntarily evacuated finally came out to join the family and she was much more sensible. Mrs. Morikawa was having a difficult time making adjustment because she had a feeling of insecurity and she was always worrying about needless things.

"Riyo used to go down to the Japanese Church at the Fourth

Presbyterian Church, where Rev. Sai preached. Afterwards they would come over to the apartment together. I never went to church with that bunch as I didn't care to go to a Japanese service. Yosh and I just visited them at home about two or three times a week. One day Riyo told me that she was engaged. I thought that she was engaged to do something for the evening so I told her not to mind me as I would go ahead and do some+ knitting. Riyo said again, "But I'm engaged to Rev. Sai and we are getting married pretty soon." I was amazed at this as I was unaware that a romance had been going along under my nose all this time and I was not aware of it. They had a pretty big wedding in a chapel and I went to cut the ~~few~~ cake. There was a large crowd at this wedding and it was a mixed audience. Rev. Sai is a ^{Formosan} ~~Korean~~ and he has been out here for many years. After he finished the theological school he started to preach at the Presbyterian Church and he is still there. The other Morikawa sister is also engaged to a Korean now.

"I was getting pretty sick and tired with this nisei society. I wanted to get away from them so I decided to move. We had too many visitors and it kept us broke trying to feed them. My brother Carl would always bring his friends for dinner during the time he was there. Then for a couple of weeks, my other brother in the Army came up from Texas on a two weeks' furlough with two of his friends and we had to entertain them. All of this was getting on my nerves and it was part of the reason why I decided to get another job. I wanted to register at Northwestern University for a part-time course. After I got my job, Yosh also started to look around for another job. He went at ~~this~~ it very seriously this time. On week-ends we would go around looking for an apartment.

We walked all over the near northside for an apartment. We couldn't find a satisfactory place. I wanted to be within walking distance of the downtown Northwestern University where I planned to register. Yosh also wanted to be down there since he had gotten a lead for a ~~lea~~- job as a chemist at Northwestern. He sold his car about this time since it was too much of an expense to keep it up. Finally in the middle of January, 1943, he found a fairly large apartment which rented at \$70 a month. I liked the place very much so that we moved in immediately and we had a van bring our things over from the south side. It only cost us \$6. The school semester started the next week so that I enrolled. I was feeling quite happy because I had found a new job, a good apartment and I was enrolled at school all within a period of one week.

Feb. 12, 1944

Due to the extreme difficulty of contacting ^{Masako}~~Yuki~~, the interviewer hastily concluded the main part of the interview. It is expected that further details will be obtained from time to time since contacts will be kept up on this individual. There are certain aspects of ^{Masako's}~~Yuki's~~ which she is not willing to reveal now and the interviewer felt that it was not the time to press the matter, that is, her relationship with Yosh Tashiro, her common-law husband. ^{Masako}~~Yuki~~ continued her story from the beginning of 1943.

"Around the middle of January, 1943, I started a more settled phase of my life. I was enrolled in college and I had a more comfortable living quarters and I also had a different job. I was the mimeograph operator for the YWCA. The job was very routine and I quickly managed to catch on to all of the duties. I cut the stencils and I also did some typing and drawing on the side. My salary started at \$80 a month and gradually I worked up to \$110 by the time I left there at the end of August. I never did particularly care for the job altho I enjoyed the switchboard relief work during the summer. The mimeograph work is hard on you ^{physically} and I wasn't getting such a good salary. The environmental set-up was good though as I had pleasant surroundings. A social agency never pays very much and I could not ask for a raise as they had a strict budget to work in. At no time did the work become too boring since I managed to make it as pleasant as possible. At first, I did take part in a limited number of YW activities but I soon found that I did not have the time since I was taking night classes at Northwestern U. I was interested in the integration plan for nisei for a while but I gave it up as hopeless since the nisei did not wish to cooperate with the YW program. I did go to

a few young business women's club meetings but I soon lost interest. I think that most of the nisei girls have too much to do to be going to any of these club meetings. By the time they come home and finish eating the evening is pretty well gone. Girls always have a lot of personal things to do. I know my time was always limited and my social activities were primarily in entertaining a few choice friends.

"Most of my time was spent in the school problems. I gradually lost interest in my mimeograph job and I quit it last September as I felt that I could get a broader experience and make more money some other place. I had been going to Northwestern University right along. Most of my classes were in the evening. There was no trouble at all for me to enroll at that time. I was taking two Math courses and the classes lasted from 7 to 9:30. There were about 15 other students in my class and I got along well with them. I took these Math courses in preparation for my chemistry major as I still had a lot of courses to make up. During the summer I only took one course. In the fall of 1943 I registered again and I did not dream that there would be any difficulty. Another nisei girl and I went to pay our bills after we had registered. The secretary there very casually said that we were very lucky to be enrolled. The nisei girl asked her why. I gave the girl a kick because I knew what was coming but she didn't catch on. The secretary then said, 'You're lucky because you are Chinese. If you were Japanese you wouldn't be able to enroll here.' Then the nisei girl said, 'But we are Japanese'. Right then my goose was cooked. The secretary was very surprised and she said that it had been a mistake to allow us to register since the school was res-

tricted. She said we would have to drop out. I told her that I had already attended the school for two semesters. Then the secretary said that it was a Navy ruling and I would have to drop out. I was quite discouraged but I kept on going to classes anyway. A week later a notice was sent to me saying that the school was sorry but the Navy policy forced them to ask me to drop out immediately. I had an idea that this was coming so I phoned the Central "Y" college immediately to ask if I could enroll there. I found that they were giving the same courses and that it would even be cheaper for me to attend the 'Y' college.

"The next day I went to the 'Y' college and I added one more course to my program. I was taking a lot of chemistry courses by then and I was very interested in doing the lab work. I spent a lot of time down there to do the experiments and I really think it was worthwhile. I registered again this semester and I have two lab courses now which I find most interesting. One of my problems has been on whether I should graduate from there or not. I wanted to get out of a big university and this caused some conflict for a while. I still don't know how much work I will have to do to graduate as my credits have not arrived yet. It is impossible for me to major in any of the fields I had at Cal because the Central 'Y' does not offer these majors. At U.C. I was majoring in P.E. and minoring in English and Education but these courses are not given here. That means that I will have to have two minors besides my chemistry major if I expect to graduate from Central 'Y'. I figure that I would need at least 30 hour semesters yet. I have already completed 8 units at Central 'Y' and this semester I am taking 12 units in the evening. This means that my studies and class attend-

ance takes pretty much of my time since I am also working full time. My only leisure time is during the week-ends.

"I still don't know for sure whether I will graduate from Central 'Y' or not but I don't worry too much about it now. I do want to get a B.S. degree instead of finishing up with an A.B. as that will not do me very much good. I would like to be a chemist-technician after I do some graduate work. I don't know where I will go for this graduate training but that is still in the future. My real ambition is to assist some one in chemist research. I don't know how much longer I will have to go to school. I don't think I'll ever quit entirely even if I have to study on my own. My routine has been established so that I don't find it too difficult to do my homework.

"Another one of my ambitions is to do some general translation work in chemical research. A chemical research librarian is a very good field and I don't think that any nisei has ever gone into that. For a while I thought of going up to the University of Wisconsin to finish up my degree but I can't tell yet what I'm going to do. I can't help but want to get my degree from a name college after going to U.C. for so long. Getting a degree from Central 'Y' college doesn't have too much prestige to it. However, it may not make too much of a difference since I do plan to do some graduate work eventually. That is about my present status in my educational ambitions. I'm definitely going on with a chemistry major and I think that I will be able to make something of it.

"After I quit my job at the YWCA last September, I went down to the personnel department of McClurg's Co. and applied for a job. I felt that I could get an easy job there immediately. My

brother had been working there and he said that even though a large number of nisei were employed there, the company was large and it wouldn't be too noticeable. The company was near my apartment so that I could save on carfare and it would be convenient to school also since I could go to my classes right after work in a very few minutes.

"I was also curious about McClurg's as I had heard so many people talk about it, both bad and good. No one knew exactly how many nisei were employed there. I had been looking for a lab job for a few days before I went to McClurg's but I found that there were only a few ads in the paper for this type of work. I did not go to any of the agencies which have helped nisei find jobs. I felt that I was not any evacuee anyway so that I did not feel like going to the WRA. I understood that this agency was only for people coming out of the camps anyway.

"When I went down to McClurg's, the personnel manager told me that he wouldn't put me in as an order picker like he did the rest of the nisei girls who started there. He took my age into consideration and since I was older and I had certain definite skills, he thought that I could do a better type of work. He also took my educational background into consideration. I did not care what type of work I did, as long as it did not interfere with my school plans. However, I was not able to do any heavy work as my back was weak. I had had a back operation in July so that I could not do any work that would be a strain on me. The personnel manager took all of this into consideration and he finally gave me a job assisting a woman checking invoices. There were about 150 in the office staff and the six nisei in the office were not noticeable at all.

Now there are about 10 nisei girls there in that particular office.

"I started working at 55 cents an hour and now I have worked up to 65 cents an hour. I didn't care for the first job I had down there because it soon got boring and there was no responsibility to it. I didn't get along well with the Caucasian woman I worked with so I thought I would quit after Xmas. Because there was no responsibility to the work, I often went to work late and I had absolutely no interest in it." (See C.K. Diary for her attitude at that time. There are other scattered references to this individual throughout the Diary and eventually this information will all be pulled out and supplemented to this document.)

"I did not have to quit McClurg's because another vacancy opened up in the debits and credit department. I was offered the job of taking care of the correspondence in this department and I accepted it. Now I am working for the head buyer of the company and I write out orders for him. I get over-time pay so I put in 4 hours a week extra, making it a 44-hour work week. The boss does not want us to put any more extra hours than that and I wouldn't care to do it anyway since I don't have the time.

"I make enough in my job to meet all of my present needs so I am fairly well satisfied. However, I do realize that it is only a job. I have other definite aims so I don't mind too much. I think I would feel quite differently if I had to do that job permanently because you can only go so far in it. That is one of the reasons why so many nisei come in and out of that place so rapidly. The work itself is rather easy now and I think that the working conditions are much better. I feel that I have some definite responsibilities so that I am not bored with my position.

Before, when I felt lazy in the mornings I didn't go to work. Now, I feel that I have a definite job to do with responsibility to it so I make a special effort to get there.

"I get along well with my boss and the other employees altho the contacts are quite casual. My boss has a very good attitude toward the nisei. He doesn't treat them any different from his Caucasian employees. I don't have any definite social contacts with any of the workers except a couple of nisei. I don't eat or talk with anyone in particular among the office staff during the lunch period. Sometimes I eat by myself and then spend the rest of the noon hour reading. Occasionally I eat with one of the Caucasian members of the office staff.

"I really don't know how many nisei are employed at McClurg's yet. There must be over a hundred of them but I don't see them too often. McClurg's is a wholesale household goods company and it also handles baby supplies, leather goods and books. The majority of the nisei in the company work in the stock rooms, so I never see them. They are located in the factory part of the company. There is quite a large turnover among the nisei even though the wages are about the same for this unskilled work elsewhere. McClurg's is not a defense factory so that they do not pay those defense wages. I don't blame the nisei for quitting as they all go in there for temporary reasons at first anyways. The company can't offer the nisei fellows with definite skills very much more in the way of jobs. Most of the nisei there are young fellows anyway and they are definitely out for the money that they can earn and spend. They all feel that they are going into the Army soon anyway so that in the past few weeks quite a few of them have quit.

"For most of the nisei at McClurg's, the company does not offer too much of a future altho a few may eventually work up to be a head checker for a department. The employer does not begrudge the nisei who quits to better himself, but they get sore when the nisei don't do it in the proper manner. The only man who get ahead in the company are usually the salesmen. The nisei just do not get these jobs. Not many of the nisei intend to stay there permanently anyway. It seems that the girls with skills have a better opportunity. There is one nisei girl there who is the best billing typist in the company and she puts out about twice as many orders as the Caucasian typist each day. The company has given her a number of raises. Recently she got an offer to teach at night while working part of the day. It is a definite advance for her and it has a future to it because she has made herself indispensable. The majority of the other nisei do not have these skills so that they continue to remain at the unskilled level and there is no guarantee that they will remain there permanently since they have to compete on an equal basis with many Caucasian people. This will be particularly true when the defense factories close down.

"Most of the nisei at McClurg's are young kids and a lot of them come out in gangs from the centers. They know that they can get a job any time at the company. After they get a little more settled, they begin to look for other jobs as they hear rumors about other nisei making fabulous salaries. They forget that they don't have the skills and experience but they go out and try for these jobs also since they are interested only in the salary. Actually they do not think of the job in terms of a future. Working at McClurg's is only good for the recommendations that one can

get. I know that a lot of them will lose their jobs after the war if they stay on at McClurg's. Only a few of the more skilled will be kept permanently. I think that the girls will have more chances for advancement there as there is less prejudice against nisei girls on the whole.

"I don't know too much about the nisei in Chicago, but I think many of them are getting a chance to use the skills they have learned for the first time. At the same time, they still have a lot to learn. One thing I don't like is when the nisei quit their jobs without even giving a notice. That is not a very nice thing to do and it hurts them personally. That is due, primarily to their inexperience in working. Right now they can do this and get other jobs, but I hate to think of what would happen to them if they pulled such a trick when jobs are scarce.

"I don't intend to be in the same position at McClurg's permanently. I guess most of the nisei are like me. However, I do have my education as a goal and many of the nisei out here don't have this ambition any more. It is a difficult situation for them even if they don't realize it now. I think that most of them can only go so far in a business and then they will be blocked. Most of the jobs out here definitely will not satisfy those with a lot of ambition and a desire to make a career out of their jobs. One girl friend of mine who has a lot of ability sees this problem now so that she is at present torn between the desire to join the WAS-WACs or stay on in her present job. She feels that if she could make her job permanent, then it would be worth the time to stay on.

"Under such a condition, it is not unnatural for the young

nisei coming out here to look around for a job that pays more. Most of the girls think in terms of working in a modern office if they are secretarial or clerical ^{workers} ~~office~~. They are not too concerned about their permanent life work so that a lot of them are in a rut. They figure that they will get married eventually so that they won't be working at these jobs all of their lives. That is why a great many of them are much more concerned about the effects of the draft on their marriage problem. I think that many of the girls do not feel the job frustration as much as the fellows because of this reason. The fellows have to think in terms of ~~er~~ permanent work in something in which they are interested and the conditions are such that it looks a little hopeless at the present time. That's why they feel that the only thing to work for is the salary which they want to enjoy while they have the time.

"In spite of that, many of the boys and fellows I know seem to be satisfied with their job. This would not be a true picture of all the nisei fellows since the ones I am speaking of are in professional work of some type. These fellows see definite advancement ahead and the job is more important to them than the salary connected with it. But for the majority of the unkilld nisei, the future does not look so promising as far as I can figure out. The surprising thing is that most of them think only in terms of making as much money as they can and spending it before they get in the Army. This is a rather short-sighted way of looking at things and if this is a true picture of a large majority of the nisei, I am afraid that they are going to be very disillusioned later on. They will continue to be restless because they have not established themselves.

"There is one fellow I know who is batching with three other nisei fellows. They pay \$100 a month for their flat and they blow their large checks every month. This fellow used to save some money each month but in the past couple of months he has developed a devil-may-care attitude. I think this is the influence of the draft announcement and his friends who tend to be carefree. They don't feel that it is worthwhile now to look too far into the future as the draft is upon them and they couldn't achieve their ambitions even if they wanted to. .

"It is true that life is always changing for all of us. It is not only the nisei who have had to make adjustments to a new sort of life. This is happening all over the country, but there are certain peculiar problems attached to the nisei adjustments. I've made several changes myself and I still am not settled. Housing has been one of the big problems. In our apartment where we moved in January, 1943, the landlady was afraid to take us at first. She told the other tenants that we were Chinese. Later when the other tenants found out that we were Nihonjin, one lady said it was okay because we were different as she knew that we were educated. The landlady was quite relieved that there was a favorable attitude toward us. However, she was an Austrian and she did worry very much about our being in that building. There was one person who objected to us but I don't know who it was. At any rate, some FBI agent did check up on us at one time according to our landlady.

"Around March, 1943, a new Austrian landlady came in to manage the building. She and her husband were fairly decent people. I used to have long talks with her and she told me all about her life in Vienna. She was a well-educated woman. At that time we were

paying \$17 a week rent. When my sister came out from camp, she stayed with us for a while and then she took a downstairs apartment in the same building with two other nisei girls. Yosh's brother was also staying with us for a short time. When my younger brother came out of camp we did not have any room for him so that he stayed with another young nisei fellow down the street and just ate with us. There was one Italian fellow who started to complain about all the Japs around all the time. Finally our landlord began to be afraid. She thought that she would lose her other tenants.

"There were certain changes in my personal plans about that time so that I decided to move out. I didn't want to keep up the big place by myself as Yosh's brother had left town and my younger brother went to live with my other brother on the northside. Yosh's brother left because he couldn't get into any of the decent medical schools around here so he went to Ann Arbor. I finally decided to go on my own. I saw a place on Dearborn place one day so I decided to move in since there was no other nisei in the building. The place rented for \$6.50 a week and that was within my budget so I took it. There was a clause in the lease that forbid renting this apartment to Filipinos or Chinese but nothing was mentioned about Japanese so I got in. Later on, another nisei girl (CH-24) moved in. My apartment is large enough so my purposes. I am comfortable enough even though it is a basement apartment. I get enough light and the kitchen is large enough for my purposes. I don't have a private bath and that is one disadvantage. However, it is almost impossible for me to get a larger apartment with a private bath with the income I have since my school is quite an expense.

"I'd rather not discuss about my personal life with Yosh since I have put that out of my mind. Yosh decided to go down to Marshall, Illinois around September. He was only supposed to be gone for two weeks but things got very complicated and he has never come back. He is still down there in some secret defense work and it is all mixed up. He wrote and said he's rather live alone so that there is a tentative separation. He lives at the Hyde Park YMCA on the southside so that he has sort of dropped out of the picture. (There was some difficulty about him running around with a Caucasian woman but details are unknown at the present time.)

"At first I was against all nisei society but lately I have become indifferent to the whole thing. A year ago there were not many nisei out here and it was easy to avoid them. Even at that time I saw that the nisei didn't seem to want to integrate themselves. I felt that if they didn't want to do it, it was no use in trying to push integration. They were quite unsettled for the first six months they were out here as they had to adjust themselves to their work and it took them quite a while to settle down. The direction now has been more and more toward a nisei society. Definite nisei cliques do exist and it is extremely difficult for any nisei to prevent being pulled into it if he has relatives and former friends out here. In my own case, I have noticed that I tend to go toward the limited group I know also. I am often invited out by Caucasian people at the 'Y' but I don't make the effort because I say that I don't have the time. The limited time that I do have is spent in nisei groups. In my own case, the pull has been rather gradual. I was the first of my family out here. Then my brother and his wife came out, and they did not go on to Detroit as they had

planned. Then my sister-in-law's brother got married. In this way, the family clan has gradually gathered so that now I have quite a few direct and indirect relatives out here. (She is speaking of the group which C.K. is studying.)

"The cliques seem to be centered around the former communities where the nisei lived and I have a touch with many of them but I don't belong to any one definitely. I know of a Seattle group, Los Angeles group, church group, YWCA group, San Diego group, Bay District group, University of California group, Stockton group and Pasadena group. There are many others and they seem to be getting interwoven gradually. They are beginning to mingle in more and more and soon there will be a closely knit ~~see~~ nisei society out here which may take in all of these group. It is centered largely around the dances. I don't care to identify myself in any of these groups and I see how difficult it is to remain out of it. I look upon the things as an individual matter and I can take it or leave. I also forgot to mention a Montana group which I knew formerly. It seems that all of these groups are shifting around and they will not become established as definite cliques unless there is a common interest.

"That is about how my life is at present. I do not participate in any definite group outside of my family members and their friends. I do not care for political activities very much and I have not joined any Caucasian clubs. I don't think too much about the war. It isn't because I am indifferent to it. I think that it is more because the war seems to be sort of impersonal to me. I just accept democracy and take it for granted. I know that I am an American in spite of my Japanese ancestry and I don't go around

arguing about it. I don't think that I am in any way connected with Japan. That is a rather silly idea. At the same time I don't believe in going around and waving the flag. I think that it is just as harmful for the nisei to get into a group to do things like donating blood to the Red Cross as it is for them to live in a Japanese community. It will only be misunderstood and people will get more of an impression that before that they are American Japs and the emphasis will be on the Japs. I just want to live alone in peace. I would not like to see a Japanese community developing out here but I don't want to become involved in this whole issue as I would only be getting myself all disturbed. I lived a fairly satisfactory life and I think that I am working towards my goal even though I have not reached them yet. I haven't thought in terms of my family since I am more or less cut myself off from them and become independent. However, if the rest of my family does come out here and they need help, I mostly certainly will do my share. I feel that I should not worry about these things until the time comes. I have an idea that most of the nisei are restless because they are not at peace within themselves. That is why so many of them jump around from city to city. They will not become adjusted ever until they have adjusted their personalities. I suppose that this may be due to their youth and their inability to broaden their perspective.

"My life is not too restless now. I find plenty of things to do to keep me busy and I think that I am developing myself at the same time. Whenever I do have leisure time, I do some reading. I have always been interested in good books and I read whenever I have the chance. I don't entertain other nisei too much. I feel

that the few friends I have are close friends. I don't believe in getting a large number of nisei to surround you because most of them are not real friends and they would leave you flat when an emergency came up. I don't dislike the nisei but I find that I don't have too much in common with the majority of them. I like the friends that I have and it doesn't matter what color of skin they have. Sometimes I worry about what is going to happen in the future to the nisei, but it is an endless sort of thing and I don't spend too much time thinking about it since I am busy enough as it is. I guess I was just made to be easy going and to take things in my stride and not build up too much of a dream which is impossible to achieve. I feel that if I can gain a certain amount of happiness out of life, my life will have been worthwhile. I haven't reached all of my goals and aspirations yet and that is something that I am working towards at the present time." (See C.K. Diary for other attitudes.)