1:14 COMMITTEE RECORDS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP FORM LETTERS 1942-45

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It seems appropriate to devote an additional session to the special problems of the return of Americans of Japanese ancestry whose background has been in agriculture.

You are invited, therefore, to attend, in addition to the session on January 10, the session on agriculture January 11, at 9:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

It is expected that representatives of Federal and State agricultural agencies operating in the West, will be present.

PACIFIC COAST

Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

(INCORPORATED)

Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California Street, San Francisco 4

January 3, 1945

You are invited to a conference on Wednesday, January 10, in San Francisco, at the Palace Hotel, Market and New Montgomery Streets, at 9:45. At that time, Mr. Dillon S. Myer, Director of the War Relocation Authority, will discuss the policy of his organization as it effects the return of Americans of Japanese ancestry to the Pacific Coast. Representatives of other Government agencies will discuss breifly their relationship to problems facing the returnees.

We are inviting only persons known to be interested in race relations on the Pacific Coast, feeling that the time has come when some coordination of the efforts of all groups and persons should be effected.

Thus far, the greater part of the work undertaken by the Fair Play Committee has been centered on problems created by the evacuation of persons of Japanese ancestry from the Western Defense Area. With the lifting of the Exclusion Order, and the gradual return of some of the evacuees to their former homes, it is clear that these problems will sooner or later be identified with those of other minority groups.

One of the "high priority" subjects for discussion will be a consideration of how the combined strength of all interracial agencies can be brought to bear on this and on the other racial tensions that are becoming acute on this Coast. More explicitly, the main purposes of the conference may be defined thus:

1) To draw together, for joint planning of programs aimed at facilitating the orderly return and harmonious integration into community life of such evacuees as may return, all those agencies on the West Coast vitally concerned--civic, social, religious.

2) To provide a steering committee or other organizational machinery which will ensure continued coordination of planning and execution of general programs agreed upon.

3) To consider whether it might be well to look forward to bring ing about similar coordinated planning and execution in reference to other problems in the field of the field of race relations, in the Pacific Coast States.

Date: Wednesday, January 10, 1945
Time: 9:45 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Place: Palace Hotel, Market & New Montgomery Streets, San Francisco

Following the opening session, the Conference will divide into five Work Groups, to discuss proposals on specific issues, the results to be laid before the entire group as it reassembles in the late afternoon.

There may be someone you would like to bring with you. If so, will you please let us know in advance, as we are trying to keep the total number down to a point where free discussion will be possible.

Very sincerely yours,

Ruth W. Kingman

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman,
Executive Secretary

RWK:cch

PACIFIC COAST

Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

(INCORPORATED)

Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California Street, San Francisco 4

January 30, 1945

To the Pastors of the Churches
of Southern California

Greeting:

With the lifting of the military orders excluding persons of Japanese ancestry from the Pacific Coast, the excellent statements made by the several church bodies during the past months can be translated into action.

On January 10 and 11, in San Francisco, the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play, called a conference of church, education, labor, industry and welfare organizations, for the purpose of making clear certain policies of our government in relation to the return of the evacuees to their former homes, and decide upon some way whereby interested citizens might assist the government agencies.

At that time, spokesmen for the War Manpower Commission Federal Social Security, Federal Public Housing Administration, Children's Bureau, U.S. Office of Education, Civil Service Commission, President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices, Public Health Service, and several agencies dealing with agricultural programs, stated that their policies will recognize no discrimination based upon race, color or creed, and that these policies will hold in their dealings with persons of Japanese ancestry.

How far these excellent policies will be carried out in local communities will depend upon the alertness of citizens within these areas. May we urge that you, as a leader in your church and any other organization in which you are active, inform them as to the excellent policies of our governmental agencies, and having done that, may we further urge you to do all that you can to keep interested persons in your community alert as to the necessity of maintaining these policies on local application to particular cases. Many look to the church for leadership in this matter.

Policies which are based on truly American principles and fair play have been established. It is the responsibility of thoughtful, loyal and alert citizens to see that they are carried out.

May we count upon your leadership in this important matter?

Sincerely yours,

"... Americanism is not, and never was, a matter of race or ancestry."—*Franklin D. Roosevelt, February 1, 1943*

PACIFIC COAST

Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

(INCORPORATED)

Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California Street, San Francisco 4

Office: 2287 Telegraph Ave., Room 215
Berkeley 4
Telephone: AShberry 6214

To the Pastors of the Churches
of Northern California

Feb (?) 1945

Greetings:

With the lifting of the military orders excluding persons of Japanese ancestry from the Pacific Coast, the excellent statements made by the several church bodies during the past months can be translated into action.

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We hope that the enclosed Guide Posts will be of value as you take counsel with other church and civic leaders and adopt adequate measures to meet your local situation.

May we count upon your leadership in this important matter?

Sincerely yours,

Cushman McGiffert

Arthur Cushman McGiffert, Jr.
Chairman, Executive Committee

G M Fisher

Galen M. Fisher
Assistant Treasurer

add Settle (San Jose)
from Mg 1945

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PACIFIC COAST
Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

(INCORPORATED)

Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California Street, San Francisco 4

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Arthur Cushman McGiffert, Jr.
Chairman, Executive Committee

Galen M. Fisher
Assistant Treasurer

"... Americanism is not, and never was, a matter of race or ancestry."—*Franklin D. Roosevelt, February 1, 1943*

This goes to all key people + Committee chairmen in So. Calif.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN PRINCIPLES
AND FAIR PLAY

875 South Manhattan Place - Los Angeles 5, California

August 21, 1945

Dear Friend:

Enclosed is a list of committees in Southern California communities with the name and address of the chairman of each.

While most of these committees, like your own, were organized primarily to assist in the return of former Japanese and Japanese-American friends and neighbors, the majority of them are also deeply concerned over the need to work for fair play for all minority groups in their community.

To you who are still in process of organization as well as to you who are well organized and following a definite program, it should be encouraging to note how many other communities share in your concern.

It would be of great assistance to our Committee on American Principles and Fair Play to receive, at your earliest convenience, a brief but comprehensive report of the progress of your work. We would also appreciate information regarding special problems or areas of tension where we might be of help; and reports on unpleasant incidents, if any occur.

It would be of interest to know, too, if your organization is representative of a general cross-section of community life such as - Catholic, Protestant, Jewish; as well as labor, professional, legal, educational and realty groups, all working together in an effort to achieve civic unity and fair play for all.

We have asked the American Council on Race Relations and the Council for Civic Unity to mail you some literature on the subject of community relations and organization, which we trust will prove useful.

With best wishes for success in your efforts.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Gracia D. Booth

GDB:aw

Mrs. Gracia D. Booth, Executive Secretary
For Southern California

This goes to all Buddhist, Catholic & Protestant leaders in Relocation Centers

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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN PRINCIPLES
AND FAIR PLAY

875 South Manhattan Place - Los Angeles 5, California

August 22, 1945

Dear Friends:

As you face the closing of the Relocation Centers and the gigantic task of resettling those families and individuals still remaining in the camps, it should be encouraging to know that you have many friends on the outside who are doing everything in their power to aid you.

Enclosed is a list of committees in Southern California communities, with the name and address of each. While most of these committees were organized primarily to assist in the return of their evacuee friends and neighbors, in many cases they are also deeply concerned over the need for fair play for all minority groups in their community.

Do write to the chairman for any information or assistance in regard to the possible return of any of your people to that particular neighborhood. You can be assured of prompt and sympathetic cooperation.

Will you also feel free to write directly to our office in regard to any questions or possible problems in the solution of which the Fair Play Committee might be of assistance?

With sincere good wishes,

Mrs. Gracia D. Booth

Mrs. Gracia D. Booth, Executive
Secretary for Southern California

GDB:aw

[illegible]

SUGGESTED REVISIONS IN LETTER TO
COMMUNITY CHESTS AND COUNCILS, INC.
AND TO THE
AMERICAN WAR COMMUNITY SERVICES

"Roots for the Uprooted" appearing in the June, 1945, issue of Community is of great interest to many of the groups here on the Pacific Coast concerned with the problems of those of Japanese descent. Since these people have been our neighbors and fellow citizens for many years, we feel competent to speak with some knowledge of their needs and of the relative merits of possible solutions.

Though helpful and useful in several respects and perhaps reflective of conditions in many states, yet, from our point of view, the article is not an accurate statement of the Pacific Coast situation at present. Furthermore, it tends to create a favorable impression for the War Relocation Authority's policy of forcing an over-simplified resettlement policy on the evacuees now living in relocation centers.

Exclusion by reason of race for all persons of Japanese ancestry from this region have inflicted demonstrable injustices and inhumanities upon these former excludees. Now, reasonable men will question the short-sighted policy of coerced evacuation under a deadline from relocation centers, with no provision for housing or adequate self-support.

Repeatedly we have advised the War Relocation Authority that with the best will in the world no community can find housing when there is none. Particularly in Los Angeles and San Francisco, housing shortages have brought in its wake family disruptions, lowered moral standards, delinquencies, race tensions, and other attendant problems which have added to the case loads of community agencies. To push more people in these areas under these conditions, in our judgment, compounds this unwholesome situation.

[illegible]

For example, in Los Angeles, about 2500 Japanese resided in the "Little Tokyo" area in the vicinity of First and North San Pedro Streets. Following the Japanese evacuation in 1942, over five thousand Negroes have moved into this area. Now terribly overcrowded, the living conditions are correspondingly bad. The present policy of the War Relocation Authority results in forcing Japanese returnees to resettle in this area. This same situation is being repeated in the Fillmore district of San Francisco, in San Jose, and in other places.

As community consultants thoroughly familiar with Pacific Coast conditions, as researchers in the background of the original evacuation of persons of Japanese ancestry, aware of their civil and citizenship prerogatives, and with a seasoning in problems of social work, we have repeatedly expressed our dissatisfactions with a precipitate resettlement policy. We have, on the contrary, formulated the following program which will, in our judgment, more adequately meet the real needs of the situation.

1. Center closure schedules should be revised and the entire situation reappraised in the light of sound social work practice. Many of the present residents in the centers are aged, unemployable, unrelocatable. As aliens many of these people will be excluded by law from the benefits to which citizens have recourse. Hence, we favor a center closing policy based on the real social needs of the group on an individual basis, giving due weight to those whose chief support is in the army. Doubtless, some center residents should be urged to leave, but under present conditions handicapped evacuees should be allowed alternatives. Government Housing Agencies Must Provide Additional Public Housing To Meet This Resettlement Liquidation.

2. (WRA relocation must provide public housing.) (not discussed with Joe) At the present time, the City and County of San Francisco is some thirty thousand units of housing short of actual need. The City of Los Angeles is about seventy

thousand units short. No amount of good will or effort can overcome these barriers, and to force returnees to undertake resettlement without simultaneously providing more public housing is wishful delusion.

We have advised Dillon S. Myer and other federal officials of our recommendations without success. Our position has been dismissed by War Relocation Authority officials with assurances that housing was available if we would get out and look for it, as proved by their experiences in New York and Chicago. We have visited both these cities, and the situations are not comparable. We are convinced that no program of evacuee resettlement on the Coast which does not contemplate new public housing construction can succeed.

3. Older Japanese non-citizen residents of California are without legal old-age benefits. Consequently, the younger group must accept responsibility for the care of aged relatives. Case after case of this type has come to our attention. Evacuation has destroyed the economic under-pinning which would ordinarily have provided for their support. The efforts of young Japanese American servicemen to make an adjustment to civilian life are greatly complicated by the financial burdens which care for their aged parents will entail. This represents a real and disproportionate burden for many of the younger generation.

An over-simplified resettlement policy which overlooks this feature will result in the eventual shift of dependency loads and pauperization to community agencies. Apparently the federal government has not taken cognizance of this special problem, but we feel that a special federal old-age pension program should be recommended for the benefit of those non-citizen residents of Japanese lineage who cannot qualify, because of citizenship, for legal aid categories.

[illegible]

This three-point program is submitted for your support. The government evacuation of American citizens and nationals of Japanese descent without formal charges, with no court trials and in the absence of martial law imposes inescapable moral responsibilities, particularly when the sons of these selfsame evacuees have compiled one of the most outstanding military records against the enemy in the present war. This moral responsibility does not end with the simple act of closing the centers.

The conscience of the American people will not, we are sure, permit the federal government to so easily sidestep its reciprocal duty. The remarkably bloodless and resistance-free evacuation was made possible by the cooperation of those evacuated under the necessity to aid the war effort. Now, the reverse process must be consummated with an equal participation by the federal agencies.

Withholding this federal aid will mean that communities will be confronted by acute pressures and abrasive race tensions, which will inevitably arise when returnees displace those in already crowded areas. In addition, the initial cost of the evacuation was born by the federal government. The return of evacuees to their communities will mean a shift of the total continuing cost of the evacuation to those communities--where it does not belong! Absence of effective protest will default this federal responsibility to the state and community budgets.

If in our approach to the problems of these war dislocatees, we are motivated by intelligence, justice, and social work techniques, then we afford some measure of comfort to other minority groups who see in this situation the measure of things to come for themselves.

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Dear_____:

Educators have always played a most important role in maintaining and improving our democratic society. Their responsibility today is even greater in this respect than it has ever been. More than ever before, they must lend assistance in interpreting our democratic ideals and making clearer the methods by which they are to be attained. It is becoming increasingly evident that if we are finally to realize these ideals and bring about a more worthwhile life for all, we must be more concerned with our processes as well as our ends. We cannot give lip-service to these principles and violate them in our every day action.

One evidence of this confusion of means and ends is to be found in our practice of racial discrimination and treatment of minorities which tends to violate all the principles of democracy. More specifically, the extreme prejudice and emotionalism in regard to the problem of Americans of Japanese ancestry is an example of our undemocratic processes. No doubt many of you have seen resolutions or have heard speeches, or have read newspaper articles which advocate action against this minority group of citizens which is not only undemocratic, but which is unconstitutional. Such statements have served to inflame the unthinking to such an extent that some have gone out and destroyed valuable property belonging to these citizens which had been stored for safekeeping.

As a war measure, some 120,000 aliens and citizens of Japanese ancestry were removed from the Pacific Coast Area. Approximately two-thirds of these, or 70,000 are citizens of the United States. There is no disagreement with the military necessity for this action. It was meant, however, only to last for the duration and it was never intended that loyal citizens be detained in these camps indefinitely. As soon as their loyalty could be assured and jobs could be found on the outside, they were to be relocated into normal communities outside restricted military areas, again contributing their part to the productive power of the nation. Many Californians by their actions are interfering with this program. The propaganda of poison and hate being disseminated here is bound to spread to other states making such a program of resettlement most difficult to carry out. It must be kept in mind that Americanization and loyalty to our ideals can never be wholly effective within the confines of relocation centers. Those in charge have felt from the beginning that the only effective way to carry on the Americanization process among the evacuees would be to restore those with clear records to normal American communities at the earliest possible date.

After the war we will still have these citizens with us. What happens to them is closely related to the methods by which we reach our ideals. The United States is made up of many minority groups. What happens to this minority group may determine our treatment of other minorities. Their problems and the solutions to these problems are inter-related.

Educators are in a position to give positive leadership in the intelligent solution of these problems. You can gather the facts and give these facts to the people. You have always been at the forefront in the diligent search after truth. The scientific method of approaching problems has long since become your most indispensable tool. Following the principles and leadership shown by great educators in the past, we know you will give consideration to this important problem in your organization and in your institute programs during this coming year.

You have done an excellent job with the 20,000 boys and girls of Japanese ancestry who were in your schools. Reports from relocation center schools tell us that, despite the limiting factors in these centers, the Americanizing influences of the public schools of California are still most deeply felt. They still carry on their formal flag raising and pledge of allegiance ceremonies. Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4H Clubs, Y.M.C.A., Y.W.C.A., and Junior Red Cross are as popular as ever.

Many of the 50,000 citizens who have passed through your school systems are displaying their patriotism in the same way as other Americans. They are buying war bonds and stamps, donating money and blood to the Red Cross, and have participated in salvage campaigns. There are over 9,000 persons of Japanese ancestry now serving in the United States armed services, over 1,200 volunteers for service from behind the wire enclosures of relocation centers. No, they have not lost faith in their America yet.

We know that you will assume this responsibility of helping to a more intelligent approach to this single problem, which is a part of the problem of all minorities and of the maintenance of our great principles.

Yours very sincerely,

National

Gibson - WRA, Doug 8173

PACIFIC COAST COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN PRINCIPLES
AND FAIR PLAY

Dear Member:

We are particularly fortunate to be able to send the enclosed material at this time, as we feel that it provides potent argument.

We are hoping that as many as possible of our members will wish to order a dozen or more of the "American Fighting Men Speak Out", with the idea of passing them on to persons who cannot be reasonably approached in any other way.

The Committee is always glad that our own members are able to see the material we prepare, but we are eager that persons who are unfriendly and lacking in information be provided with the type of argument most effective in such cases. It seems to us that the enclosed pamphlet presents an irrefutable case.

May we urge that it be used as widely as possible?

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman
Executive Secretary

2234 Telegraph Ave.
Berkeley 4, Calif

PACIFIC COAST

Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California Street, San Francisco

Your interest in the problems confronting Americans of Japanese ancestry has been shown in the past. We have prepared the enclosed pamphlet with the idea of presenting some of the thoughts and statements of some of our American fighting men on this general subject.

We feel that Yori Wada's experiences offer a definite challenge to what he calls "his America" -- a challenge more sharply expressed by the men quoted in "American Fighting Men Speak Out".

Additional copies are available, and we will be glad to receive any orders, as we hope for a wide circulation of these booklets.

Very sincerely yours,

Ruth W Kingman

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman
Executive Secretary
Committee on American Principles
and Fair Play

RWK:mj

"... Americanism is not, and never was, a matter of race or ancestry."—*Franklin D. Roosevelt, February 1, 1943*

The first act of this Committee--the friendly letter addressed to members of the California Legislature -- seems to have been a ten-strike. The Legislature ordered the letter spread on its records. The Committee's words will carry all the more weight when it has occasion to speak in more emphatic terms.

That we have a hard fight ahead, no one can doubt. The reactionaries rely upon wartime passions to enable them to carry through discriminatory legislation -- especially against the Japanese. They have funds and are backed by groups that stand to profit by such legislation.

In various Western States, anti-Japanese bills that flout the Bill of Rights have already been presented. Even though none of the more objectionable bills are adopted, they will so inflame the public mind that many of the Japanese may be unable to return to their former homes or make a decent living, and their properties will be sacrificed. Many members of this Committee probably would be glad to see half the California Japanese population scattered in other states; but on principle, they will fight for the right of the Japanese, or any other group, to live and work freely under the Constitution.

Our budget is set at a minimum of $2,000 for the first six months. It should be $3,000 if that much can be secured. We have no large donors. We, therefore, count on as liberal a contribution as possible from convinced members like yourself.

Sincerely yours,

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Harry S. Scott, Treasurer

Galen M. Fisher, Assistant Treasurer

In these days of tension and high feeling, it is well to give considered and sober thought to some of the more difficult of the problems facing us as thinking Americans.

There has been, of late, a mounting tide of hate and prejudice directed at the whole of our American Japanese population. A well organized campaign is in operation, the strategy of which is to include all persons of Japanese ancestry, with no recognition of the unquestioned loyalty of a large percentage of them, in the same category with disloyal persons from the same racial group.

As it develops it takes on the pattern of the sort of race persecution which we are so determined shall be no part of our national policy. Its counterparts are to be found in many parts of Europe today, and they must not appear here.

In view of the fact that the War Department is making every effort to cooperate with the War Relocation Authority in segregating the disloyal from the loyal, and is satisfied with the established procedures involved in so doing, it seems of gravest importance at this time to avoid biased thinking and to cooperate in every possible way with our Federal Government. Nor should we ignore the fact that nearly 10,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry are serving in our armed forces, here and abroad. We feel that the War Department is fully aware of the problems involved, and that our confidence in it can pertain to this area as well as to others.

Enclosed you will find some material which explains our position. We hope it will prompt you to join with us in our determination that clear thinking shall replace the hysteria which is behind much of the public expression to be heard at this time.

Very sincerely yours,

PACIFIC COAST

Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California Street, San Francisco

This is a time for cool heads and mature thought. One of the most important factors, next to winning the war, is that of preserving American principles and the normal function of representative government as we know it in the United States.

One of the great difficulties in times like these is that individuals are apt, in their overzealousness, to overlook or disregard the full significance of citizenship in the United States. The enclosed memorandum sets forth the principles of the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play. It has incorporated in it a letter addressed to the State legislators. Won't you please take time to read this memorandum, as it is vital.

It is obvious that if in the heat of war injustices are done, then in time of peace, a heavy price will have to be paid. This Committee has been organized for the purpose of endeavoring to assist in seeing that American methods and principles are continued. The problem of the Japanese born in the United States is one of these problems which is confronting the American public. If our philosophy of life and of government is to endure, it must see that these people are permitted to enjoy the privileges given them under their citizenship.

The expense of carrying on this work is not heavy. It is estimated that it will need between $2,000.00 and $3,000.00 to cover expenses for the first six months. We have no large donors. If you are interested in helping out in preserving these fundamental principles of American citizenship, we should appreciate receiving a contribution from you.

Sincerely yours,

"... Americanism is not, and never was, a matter of race or ancestry."—*Franklin D. Roosevelt, February 1, 1943*

PACIFIC COAST

Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

(INCORPORATED)

Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California Street, San Francisco 4

As the factor of military necessity for the evacuation of persons of Japanese ancestry diminishes, it appears reasonable that the time will come when the War Department will modify or lift the exclusion order.

If and when the order is modified, it is probable that at least some of the evacuees will want to return to their former homes. As the policy of wide dispersal in the Middlewest and East has been urged in resettlement, no sudden or large return is expected. Any evacuees who do elect to return, will do so with the complete approval of the War Department, and will have full rights under the law. We look forward to a strong statement from the Western Defense Command, which will be helpful in maintaining a fair attitude in our California communities, where anti-evacuee feeling has been allowed to develop.

In addition to this, however, it will be necessary that in each community, persons recognized as civic, educational, religious and social leaders shall be vocal in their support of the War Department's decision. Our Committee feels that you, as a recognized community leader in your own field, will wish to assume some degree of responsibility in the maintenance of the constitutional rights of the evacuees if and when they return. Our churches, schools, welfare and social organizations will be faced with specific and detailed problems.

We hope that you can and will give us the names of from six to eight persons in your community whom you feel might be relied upon to take an active interest in this problem. Enclosed you will find a mimeographed form which we hope that you will fill out immediately and mail to us in the return envelope.

As we have been working in the various communities on the West Coast, we have found a gratifying degree of cooperation from the groups you represent, and look forward to continued cooperation through your personal efforts.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman
Executive Secretary

RK:cch

"... Americanism is not, and never was, a matter of race or ancestry."—*Franklin D. Roosevelt, February 1, 1943*

Name	Address	Organization
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		

The Reverend John Doe
Monterey
California

Dear Mr. Doe:

Both Army and Navy spokesmen have stated that all danger of Japanese invasion has passed. Since that danger was the main factor in the "military necessity" on account of which the evacuation of persons of Japanese andestry was ordered by the Army, the exclusion may be ended whenever the War Department deems it wise. That it will be ended during the war is highly probable.

When the Army lifts the bars probably only a limited number of evacuees will return. Many of them, especially the Nisei, are intending to remain East of the Sierras, where they have found congenial work and homes. Caucasian friends are encouraging them in this intention. Furthermore, for a while, only specified groups of evacuees, such as discharged veterans and their immediate families may be allowed to return. Those who do return will probably be confronted with few, if any, legal barriers. The worst barriers will be attempted social and economic boycotts, in certain communities. Against such attempts, every right-minded patriot will fight in the spirit expressed by Dr. Robert Gordon Sproul, Honorary Chairman of the Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play:

> "The right of loyal Japanese to come back if they so elect, cannot be denied without a denial of all that America has hitherto meant to racial and religious minorities, of all that it has symbolized for the hopes of humanity. The dream of America will be over when the color of men's skins or other physical characteristics determine the communities in which they may live."

What will such cooperation demand of individual citizens? Chiefly such actions as these:

1) Making emphatic declaration of support of any modification of Exclusion Orders by the War Department, by the writing of letters to local papers and by speaking to friends and neighbors.
2) Cooperating with local groups that are trying to ensure friendly treatment and jobs for such evacuees as may return.

The cooperation of large numbers of persons will be necessary if our American practice of fair play and Christian spirit are to be made evident during the critical period of the resettlement of our loyal Japanese Americans in their former homes.

May we ask you to read the enclosed material carefully, and to enlist as many as possible of your fellow church members in the program as outlined.

A full list of all persons who will support and develop this program is being compiled by our various church leaders. It is felt that only persons known to be sympathetic should be approached as it it important to avoid stirring up unnecessary antagonism. May we ask you to give this your earnest attention, and to send in, as soon as possible, a list of your own members to whom similar material may be sent?

Very cordially yours,

Board of Directors

_____Chamber of Commerce

_____California

We are addressing you and members of your organization as leaders of the business community in your city, in order to place before you a brief outline of the policies of the Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play relating to the problem of the Japanese-Americans.

We have ascertained that of the original 110,000 Japanese and Japanese-American evacuees 18,500 are in a segregation camp for the disloyal and their release is not contemplated. More than 7,000 from the mainland, with others from Hawaii, have swelled the number in our armed forces to about 15,000. Those who constitute a danger to internal security have never been released from Department of Justice internment camps following the raids after December 7, 1941. The fear of a "mass" return to California is, on the basis of the best evidence obtainable, more acute among the evacuees than among ourselves.

Moreover, the War Relocation Authority is fulfilling the purpose for which it was created admirably by relocating, to date, 33,000 evacuees in eastern states where they are now anchored by strong economic ties. We believe this program of relocation eastward would be more successful were it not for the hate and fear propaganda spread through eastern states by shortsighted California organizations under the guise of "education".

We are not bringing pressure on the military authorities for the lifting of the ban. But we believe that when the ban is lifted, the loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry should be accorded the full protection of the Bill of Rights and treated tolerantly in every community in which they settle. This is a community problem for you. Its consideration cannot be postponed indefinitely. Indeed, it may have to be considered by each community within a relatively short time, for the military authorities may decide at any time that the danger of invasion is past and that there is also little, if any, danger of sabotage.

We are enclosing several copies of the leaflet for distribution to your board members. If you care to exchange ideas upon this subject, we'd be delighted to hear from you.

Yours very truly,

PACIFIC COAST

Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California Street, San Francisco

Dear

The fight for the constitutional rights of minorities has come to a head in California in reference to the Japanese evacuees. Even normally sensible people are being swept away by the hysterical demand that all evacuees, even though citizens, should be punished for the crimes of the military gang in Japan.

To check this hysteria and to insure a constitutionally and socially sound treatment of the evacuees is this Committee's present concern, and we need your help as a member. The folks who are supporting such measures as disfranchisement or deportation or concentration camps for all evacuees probably don't know that they are opposing the Army as well as the War Relocation Authority and the Department of Justice. They need to be faced with the facts and to be moved to act as true patriots.

An instance of the effect of facts on attitude is the way the California Congressional Delegation changed their extreme proposals of a month ago to the comparatively sound ones they put out on June 14th. During the interval, previously overlooked facts and constitutional principles had been faced.

The Committee on American Principles and Fair Play already has several hundred members. The program is to be financed by private subscription and membership dues. We cordially invite you to become a member under whichever of the following heads you may choose: General member $2; Contributing member $5; Sustaining member $10 or over.

For further information feel free to write to our Executive Secretary, Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman.

Very sincerely yours,

Galen M. Fisher
Assistant Treasurer

"... Americanism is not, and never was, a matter of race or ancestry."—*Franklin D. Roosevelt, February 1, 1943*

PACIFIC COAST

Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California Street, San Francisco

Dear Board Member:

Hoping to fulfill a request of many of our members, we have collected various documents which deal authoritatively with the present policy of the United States Government governing the resettling of persons of Japanese ancestry.

We trust that you as a member of our Advisory Board, will read the material carefully, as it provides excellent and pointed information.

We hope that the enclosed material will be used as a reference source in answering uninformed persons.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman
Executive Secretary

"... Americanism is not, and never was, a matter of race or ancestry."—*Franklin D. Roosevelt, February 1, 1943*

Set #3

PACIFIC COAST COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN PRINCIPLES AND FAIR PLAY

Dear Committee Member:

Having received much favorable comment on the material sent out to our members last month, we are sending out an additional release at this time.

There having been so much misrepresentation of conditions in the Relocation Centers, we were greatly pleased to find Maxine Davis' article in Liberty, and having had reprints made, we are sending one to each of our members.

If you wish additional copies, they may be had from this office at five cents per copy.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman
Executive Secretary

PACIFIC COAST

Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California Street, San Francisco

Dear Fellow-member:

This is an accounting for the last year, and a request for a renewal of your membership contribution to this Committee. A partial summary of activities is attached, "partial" because some of the most important achievements don't lend themselves to formal report.

You are one of over 800 members, up and down the Coast. The king-pin of course, is our able Executive Secretary, Mrs. Kingman. She is supplemented by Office Secretary Mary Jefferds, and by Mrs. C.M. Siegley, Secretary at Seattle. Without their resourceful, day by day work, few of the home-runs of the year could have been chalked up. But by the same token, they couldn't get far without the manifold activities of us members, who write letters to the papers and to Eastern friends, discuss with our neighbors, speak to all sorts of forums, and distribute printed matter or interview key persons.

Compared with the bigness of the job and the funds spent by the race-baiters, our budget is very small, only $7,000 for the ten months ending December 31, 1943. For 1944 $8,500 will be needed. Several hundred of this will go toward getting a new Chapter going in Los Angeles from which an equal amount should come to the central treasury. The fight will continue to be as hot as it was last year, even though some significant gains have been won.

You gave $ last year. How about raising it? Please respond promptly in the enclosed envelope.

Cordially yours,

Galen M. Fisher
Assistant Treasurer

"... Americanism is not, and never was, a matter of race or ancestry."—*Franklin D. Roosevelt, February 1, 1943*

PACIFIC COAST
Committee on American Principles and Fair Play
(INCORPORATED)

Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California Street, San Francisco 4

To West Coast Editors--

During the next few days you will receive reports of a conference on race relations which this Committee is sponsoring in San Francisco on January 10 and 11.

A major purpose of the conference--which will be attended by leaders of more than a score of Pacific Coast organizations--is to study ways by which returning Japanese-Americans may be geared into the Coast's war effort promptly and without friction.

The conference will develop the facts regarding job, housing, farm and other problems confronting the Nisei. No doubt many of these facts will be of interest to your readers.

If you want information not contained in our releases will you please call on us for it?

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman

Executive Secretary

RWK:coh

PACIFIC COAST
Committee on American Principles and Fair Play
(INCORPORATED)
Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California Street, San Francisco 4

We have just received a number of copies of the address by Mr. Dillon S. Myer, "RACISM AND REASON"; delivered in Los Angeles on October 2 at a meeting sponsored by our Committee.

Mrs. Kingman has asked me to send you a copy, feeling that you will be interested in what Mr. Myer says about the changing attitudes throughout the country toward loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry:

Enclosed you will also find copies of the old and newly brought up to date forms of our original statement of purpose,

Very sincerely yours,

Connie Halliday
Office Secretary

ch
Enc. 3

PACIFIC COAST

Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California Street, San Francisco 4

This letter soliciting your membership in the Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play is sent to you, among others, because you are known to be keenly aware of th present trend toward a sharpening of lines around our various so-called minorities. We know of your deep concern for democratic processes and constitutional liberties.

While the Committee is an entirely unofficial body, it finds itself in full agreement with Secretary Stimson and the other governmental authorities quoted in the enclosed folder.

Some persons have raised a question as to why the Committee has focused attention upon the Japanese evacuees. The answer is that in connection with the military emergency on this Coast only persons of Japanese race have been denied the due process of law guaranteed by the Bill of Rights. The primary concern of the citizens composing the Committee has been to preserve the hard-won constitutional principles under the stress of war.

However, strict protection of the constitutional rights of the Japanese evacuees is not only good law, but also good tactics in the war effort, since it gives the lie to the Axis propaganda, which has sought to destroy the confidence of our Asiatic allies by charging that evacuation of even citizens of Japanese extraction proves our contempt for all racial minorities.

Our financial support comes from individual contributions supplemented to some extent by a grant from the Columbia Foundation. The success of the comprehensive educational program we are planning for the coming year will depend largely upon a few generous contributions. The importance of pressing this program now needs no argument.

Very sincerely yours,

Monroe E. Deutsch

Monroe E. Deutsch

Irving F. Reichert

"... Americanism is not, and never was, a matter of race or ancestry."—*Franklin D. Roosevelt, February 1, 1943*

PACIFIC COAST

Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California Street, San Francisco 4

This Committee is facing the most challenging mandate of its career. To explain:

Admiral Nimitz and other spokesmen have declared that danger of invasion has passed. Hence, the restrictions imposed on the Japanese evacuees "for reasons of military necessity" can be relaxed. Since the Army ordered the evacuation, the Army should, and almost certainly will, rescind it, before the end of the war. No mass return of evacuees is likely at any time. The legal right of any evacuees to return will doubtless be assured by the Federal courts, in case either State or local bodies attempt to bar them.

But the practical question is this: will there be a social and economic boycott against returning evacuees sufficiently strong to prevent them from earning a living or dwelling in safety? The answer is: just such a boycott will probably confront them in many communities, unless the tide of contempt and hatred against all evacuees is greatly modified.

It is this situation that constitutes our mandate. To meet it, it is proposed to carry on an intensified campaign of education throughout the West Coast: 1) the formation of scores of local groups whose members will ensure fair-play and work opportunities to returnees; 2) wide use of printed matter such as "American Fighting Men Speak Out" and newspaper publicity, when and where it is desirable; to be followed by 3) conferences of civic leaders in a dozen or more pivotal cities, to be addressed by eminent persons on our Committee and from the East.

All this means extra funds: about $7,000.00 this fall and winter to cover the campaign and maintain regular activities. We hope to secure at least half of this amount from one or two foundations, but much of it must come from our members. We therefore lay the situation before you believing you will wish to have a substantial share in this crucial project.

Plans must be laid at once. Your early response will be most welcome. An addressed envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

Sincerely yours,

G M Fisher

Galen M. Fisher
Assistant Treasurer

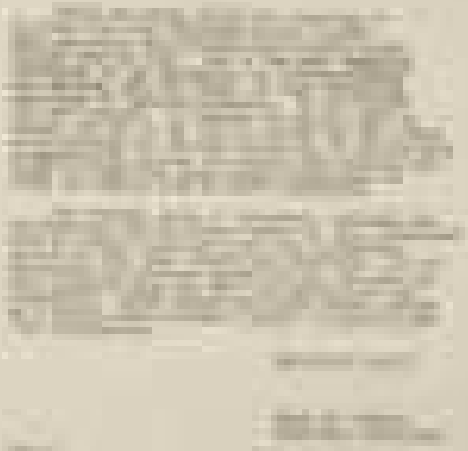
While our armed forces are fighting to maintain the Four Freedoms abroad, a good many patriotic Californians are blindly undermining them at home. One of the most damaging instances is the agitation for disfranchising and barring from the Coast, or even deporting, Americans of Japanese ancestry. It is "blind" for two reasons: it weakens the sacred Bill of Rights for all of us, and it blocks the war effort by alienating our Chinese allies and by giving Axis propagandists grounds for saying that America pretends to fight for human rights regardless of color but really aims at white domination.

The eminent group of educators, business and professional men and women listed on this letterhead were so deeply concerned over this widespread agitation that they formed this Committee. If its principles and program appeal to you, we hope you will promptly sign and mail the application for membership. Every member and every dollar counts. As a Contra Costa resident myself, I urgently ask your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Galen M. Fisher
Assistant Treasurer

GMF:mj



PACIFIC COAST

Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California Street, San Francisco

We feel that in considering some of the legislation in Committee at this time, you might find it helpful to know what some of our leading thinkers in this field have to say concerning the American Japanese.

Knowing of your interest, I am sending copies of some statements which we feel to be significant

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman

PACIFIC COAST COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN PRINCIPLES
AND FAIR PLAY

Dear Member:

We are particularly fortunate to be able to send the enclosed material at this time, as we feel that it provides potent argument.

We are hoping that as many as possible of our members will wish to order a dozen or more of the "American Fighting Men Speak Out", with the idea of passing them on to persons who cannot be reasonably approached in any other way.

The Committee is always glad that our own members are able to see the material we prepare, but we are eager that persons who are unfriendly and lacking in information be provided with the type of argument most effective in such cases. It seems to us that the enclosed pamphlet presents an irrefutable case.

May we urge that it be used as widely as possible?

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman
Executive Secretary

2234 Telegraph Ave.
Berkeley 4, Calif

HDC

for office file 1355-31

PACIFIC COAST

Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

(INCORPORATED)

Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California Street, San Francisco 4

x
x
x

Dear _____:

Our Committee is concerned with the problem of the returning loyal Japanese, when the Government announces that they have a right to return. A large number of American-born Japanese are fighting bravely in the American army and are making a record for themselves. We have no sympathy with the disloyal groups. We, however, sincerely believe that loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry should be permitted to resettle in the manner which, in the judgment of the Federal Government and in accordance with their constitutional rights, will permit them to make the greatest contribution to the national economy.

We are not unmindful that in some communities economic and social barriers or boycotts of a serious kind will be attempted against the returning Japanese Americans. This we believe contrary both to American constitutional principles and to the spirit of tolerance.

We ask the cooperation of individual citizens in seeing that the constitutional rights of these people are not denied them. We suggest that when the modifications of the exclusion orders of the War Department are made that individual citizens declare openly that they support such modifications. Such declaration should be made by letters to the press or to individual persons, friends and neighbors. Each individual should also cooperate with local groups trying to insure friendly treatment and jobs for such evacuees as may return.

The cooperation of large numbers of persons will be necessary if the American spirit of fair play and Christian principles are to prevail during the critical period of resettlement. May we ask you to support and help us to develop this program? We are enclosing certain material which we hope you will read carefully. Will you please send us the names and addresses of persons who may be depended upon to assist in this work, to the address on the envelope supplied?

Cordially yours,

"... Americanism is not, and never was, a matter of race or ancestry."—*Franklin D. Roosevelt, February 1, 1943*

PACIFIC COAST COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN PRINCIPLES AND
FAIR PLAY

Dear Committee Member:

Having received much favorable comment on the material sent out to our members last month, we are sending out an additional release at this time.

There having been so much misrepresentation of conditions in the Relocation Centers, we were greatly pleased to find Maxine Davis' article in Liberty, and having had reprints made, we are sending one to each of our members.

If you wish additional copies, they may be had from this office at five cents per copy.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman
Executive Secretary

PACIFIC COAST

Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California Street, San Francisco

To the Editor:

May we suggest this as excellent material for editorials for Bill of Rights week, December 13-18?

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman
Executive Secretary

enc.
1. Excerpts from Address by Ambassador Joseph C. Grew (Nov. 18, 1943)
2. Editorial from San Francisco Chronicle by Chester Rowell (Nov. 25, 1943)

(SAN FRANCISCO, NOVEMBER 25, 1943)

Chester Rowell

Rights for Unpopular May Be Our Rights

Among the noisiest of the enthusiasts for "Bill of Rights Week" were some who were in the very forefront of movements for violation of the very rights guaranteed by these first ten amendments to the Constitution. For the very foundation of that "bill" was the principle that there must be some things which government, or even the majority of the people, shall not have the authority to do to the rights of the individual, or of minority groups.

As an abstract doctrine, this is obvious. But just now there are two very practical issues involving it, in which the right side is the unpopular one.

One is the controversy between Postmaster General Walker, backed by the Department of Justice and a strong movement in Congress, to bar anti-semitic literature from the mails. There is evidently a great deal of this literature, most of it very vicious. So far as any of it libels individuals, or is obscene or otherwise actionable, there are laws against it now. But so far as it is merely stuff that a majority of us, or a minority pressure group which Congress wishes to please, would rather not have printed, the Postmaster General rightly raises the point that any of the rest of us might be the next minority to be victimized:

There have always been Ku Klux parts of the country, for instance, which would have deprived Catholics of their freedom of religion, if they could, and there are parts in which Negroes do not effectively exercise the civil and political rights guaranteed them by the Constitution. But even here it is done by subterfuge, and not by open laws which the courts would at once declare unconstitutional. Minorities do have their rights, always by law and increasingly in practice, against the will of majorities. And the Postmaster General, in thus defending the freedom of speech of a justly unpopular minority, is protecting an essential right of us all.

Former Ambassador Grew, now special assistant to the Secretary of State, comes out in defense of even more unpopular minority, the loyal American-born citizens of Japanese ancestry. Now, Secretary Grew is as free as anybody in America of the suspicion of being "pro-Japanese." He repeatedly warned the American Government of what the Japanese militarists were plotting, long before the administration, terrorized by the appeasers in Congress, dared act with the definiteness and boldness Grew recommended. Pearl Harbor, as we all know now, was the disastrous consequence. But Grew's record, at least, is clear.

No one, also, would more unconditionally indorse the firm steps now taken against the trouble-makers of the openly enemy Japanese now confined at Tule Lake. If these people have any loyalty, it is to Japan, and some of them, whether of their own motion or instigated from Japan, have undertaken to make trouble, both for the American authorities and especially for the loyal Japanese-Americans, who had remained to raise food for the camp. They will keep the peace now, under whatever compulsion they make necessary, and everybody is for that.

But, Mr. Grew adds, "Like the Americans of German descent, the overwhelming majority of Americans of Japanese origin wish to be and are wholly loyal to the United States, and not only that, but they wish to prove that loyalty in service to their native land." He points out that units of American-born Japanese are serving with distinction in Italy with the Fifth Army, and that their officers are proud of their troops and would not trade their commands for any other in the army.

"I have too great a belief in the sanctity of American citizenship to want to see these Americans of Japanese descent penalized and alienated through blind prejudice. I want to see them given a square deal. I want to see them treated as we rightly treat all other American citizens, regardless of their racial origin—with respect and support, unless and until they have proved themselves unworthy of respect and support. That fundamental principal should apply all along the line, to every citizen of the United States of America."

These quotations are from an address by Mr. Grew to the Holland Society of New York, at which he received the medal of the society for "notable diplomatic service." He was the fifth to receive that medal, for various sorts of distinctions. The others had been J. Edgar Hoover, Henry Ford, Wendell L. Willkie and the late William Lyon Phelps.

This is probably the minority and unpopular view, in California, certainly in noise and perhaps in numbers. There are even those who advocate lynch law, for the enforcement of racial exclusion from California after the war, and there are others, representing large organized groups, who propose transparently unconstitutional State laws or evidently unattainable amendments to the Federal Constitution. This is "majority rule" of precisely the sort which the Bill of Rights was intended to prevent.

And this, without prejudice to the emotional sincerity of those who feel otherwise, is merely a quotation from the one man in the United States who knows most about it and is best qualified to speak. Take it for what these facts, to your mind, make it worth.

(Reprinted by permission of the San Francisco Chronicle)

Charles Revell

[illegible]

EXCERPT FROM TALK GIVEN BY AMBASSADOR JOSEPH C. GREW AT NEW YORK ON NOVEMBER 18 BEFORE THE ANNUAL BANQUET OF THE HOLLAND SOCIETY

"In a few moments I shall speak briefly about that other enemy. But first, let me make an appeal. I realize that this will be a digression from my train of thought, but I do wish, if only for a moment, to dwell on another subject in which I am deeply interested, and I venture to hope that I may interest you gentlemen also.

"One of the proudest achievements of our country is our assimilation of many different races within our borders. We take well-justified pride in the term "melting pot" as applied to our nation. The existence and purpose and membership of the Holland Society are a living testimonial to that great principle, and it is especially interesting to note that even three centuries ago, when the Dutch West India Company had extended to all friendly European countries the privilege of trading with the then province of New Amsterdam, the town of New Ambterdam rapidly assumed the cosmopolitan character for which it has ever since been noted and that according to contemporary reports, eighteen languages were spoken among its 400 or 500 inhabitants in 1643.

"The point I wish to make is this. In time of war, blind prejudice is always rampant. In the last war I remember than even loyal Americans with German names were all too often looked at askance. That bigotry fortunately does not exist today, but it does exist today among a large proportion of our fellow countrymen with regard to American citizens of Japanese descent. In fact many, perhaps most, of our compatriots refer to those fellow-citizens of ours quite indiscriminately as "Japs". In reading the many letters I receive from all over the country on that subject I very seldom know whether the writer is referring to Americans or to outright enemy aliens. There is, or should be, a great difference there.

"In time of war, especially, we must take every proper step to protect our country from hostile acts, especially from espionage or sabotage, within our gates. We have competent official authorities to attend to that consideration, and they are attending to it, constantly and effectively. I do know that like the Americans of German descent, the overwhelming majority of Americans of Japanese origin wish to be and are wholly loyal to the United States, and not only that, but they wish to prove that loyalty in service to their native land. Relman Morin, of the Associated Press, reports from the Fifth Army in Italy that the first unit of American-born Japanese troops went into combat smiling with satisfaction as if they were going to a baseball game; their motto is "Remember Pearl Harbor", and their commander said that he wouldn't trade his command for any other in the Army. Their officers, said Morin, are unanimously enthusiastic about the quality and spirit of those men and said they never had seen any troops

train harder and more assiduously and never had any doubt as to what to expect of them in combat. A German prisoner was brought past their encampment one day; he gaped with surprise when he saw their faces and asked if they were Japanese. An interpreter explained that they were Americans of Japanese parentage. The German shook his head in wonder and said: "Ach; that's American." There are camps in our country today engaged exclusively in training these men for military service. I have met and talked to them. Their officers are proud of their charges.

"What I wish to say is merely this. Those Americans of Japanese descent have grown up in our country, in our democratic atmosphere. Most of them have never known anything else. Among those few who have been to Japan, most of them could not stand the life there and soon returned to the United States. The overwhelming majority of those men want to be loyal to us, and, perhaps surprisingly, the few who don't want to be loyal to us often say so openly. It does not make for loyalty to be constantly under suspicion when grounds for suspicion are absent. I have too great a belief in the sanctity of American citizenship to want to see those Americans of Japanese descent penalized and alienated through blind prejudice. I want to see them given a square deal. I want to see them treated as we rightly treat all other American citizens regardless of their racial origin - with respect and support, unless or until they have proved themselves unworthy of respect and support. That fundamental principle should apply all along the line - to every citizen of the United States of America."

Army and Navy spokesmen have stated that all danger of Japanese invasion has passed. Since the evacuation was ordered chiefly on account of "military necessity", the exclusion may be ended whenever the War Department deems it wise. That it will be ended during the war is highly probable.

When the Army lifts the bars probably only a limited number of evacuees will return. Many of them, especially the Nisei, are intending to remain east of the ~~Sierras~~ Pacific States, where they have found congenial work, and homes. We believe that they should be encouraged in this intention. Furthermore, for a while, only specified groups of evacuees, such as discharged veterans and their immediate families may be allowed to return. Those who do return will probably be confronted with few, if any, legal barriers. In some communities the worst barriers will be attempted social and economic boycotts. Against such attempts, every right-minded patriot will fight in the spirit expressed by Dr. Robert Gordon Sproul, Honorary Chairman of the Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play:

> "The right of loyal Japanese to come back if they so elect, cannot be denied without a denial of all that America has hitherto meant to racial and religious minorities, of all that it has symbolized for the hopes of humanity. The dream of America will be over when the color of men's skins or other physical characteristics determine the communities in which they may live."

What will such cooperation demand of individual citizens? Chiefly such actions as these:

(1) Making emphatic declaration that they support any modification of Exclusion Orders by the War Department, in letters to the press and conversations with friends and neighbors.

(2) Cooperating with local groups that are trying to ensure friendly treatment and jobs for such evacuees as may return.

It is obvious that only persons known to be concerned with the preservation of constitutional rights should be approached with reference to employing evacuees.

The cooperation of large numbers of persons will be necessary if the American spirit of fair play and Christian principles are to prevail during the critical period of the resettlement.

A full list of all persons who will support and develop this program is being compiled. May we ask you to read the enclosed material carefully; to enlist dependable persons to execute the program suggested in the memo; and to send us their names and addresses.

To assure prompt returns, please fill out and return the enclosed blank with information requested, in the business reply envelope.

Cordially yours,

PACIFIC COAST

Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

PASADENA CHAPTER

My dear

As a member of the Pasadena Chapter of the Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play, you are no doubt anxious to assist in its program. The Chapter can be effective only if each individual member feels a responsibility and assumes a share in its work.

During the past year over two hundred people in this community interested in protecting the constitutional rights of loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry, have joined the organization. New chapters are forming in other cities, and the central Pacific Coast Committee is planning many more similar groups throughout the West Coast. But here in Pasadena there are still hundreds of our fellow townsmen whose names should be on our membership list. There are many we feel sure who are sympathetic and would be willing to join if encouraged to do so.

May we enlist your support in widening and making more effective the influence of the Pasadena Chapter by securing at least one of these new members during the summer? The study and circulation of the factual material sent to you from time to time, as well as the use of favorable magazine and newspaper articles, will be found to be the most effective way of interesting people. We enclose a recent speech by Dr. Robert G. Sproul which we suggest would be valuable for those who are ignorant of the real facts. Additional membership cards may be secured from Mr. William C. Burton, Secretary and Treasurer, 989 South El Molino Avenue.

Our boys are fighting a global war to safeguard democracy - they count on us to maintain democracy at home. Will you help ?

Maynard Force Thayer Chairman

Gulinda G. Morse
Chairman of Membership Committee
Pasadena Chapter of Pacific Coast
Committee on American Principles and
Fair Play

[illegible]

Mrs. Kingman
I thought you
would like
to see this if
you do not have
it.

B. C.

STATEMENT

Americans of Japanese ancestry are being drafted from behind barbed wire of the relocation centers to risk their lives as full citizens. As this risk is taken in battle, all evacuees will share the anxieties and responsibilities of citizenship. In a democracy it is imperative that citizenship confer on all both equal responsibility and equal rights.

Therefore, we, the undersigned citizens of Pasadena and vicinity, declare it to be our conviction that full civil rights should be restored to the evacuees. One of these rights is that of returning to their west coast homes. We also believe that the same treatment should be accorded loyal Japanese aliens as loyal German aliens.

We propose to work openly for these objectives, as we believe the present contradiction in American democratic theory and practice in the treatment of this group should be resolved quickly. Our slogan is, "Justice delayed is Justice denied." We shall appreciate suggestions of a name befitting the purpose of this newly formed group.

Priscilla Beattie
Beatrice M. Carr
William C. Carr
Katherine Fanning
Gertrude Klause
Jerome W. MacNair
Mary MacNair
Margaret S. Moritz
Mrs. Afton D. Nance
Herbert Nicholson
Alice L. Pearson
Esther F. Rhoads
Gale Seaman
Leonard Oechsli

To the Board of Supervisors of Los Angeles County
220 North Broadway
Los Angeles, California

Gentlemen:

At the meeting sponsored by you and the Altadena office of Civilian Defense at Eliot Junior High School, Altadena on June 30th, there were in ~~attendance~~- in the Audience a large number of children, many of whom were O.C.D. messengers who had been asked to attend.

It seemed to us who heard it that Dr. John Lechner's talk was calculated to instill hatred of all Americans of non-Caucasian ancestry. He failed to distinguish between our citizens of Japanese ancestry and t the Japanese militarists. His thesis seems to be that rwgardless of American citizenship there is no difference between the Japanese war lords and the second and third generations of Japanese born here. We regret this belittling of American environment and education. It was unfortunate that the meeting was so programmed as to omit time for questions.

We request that at another meeting to be sponsored by you a more accurate presentation of facts be presented. We are prepared to furnish a speaker who will make the ppint that we are straying from American principles in condemning individual Americans because of race and that we are hindering the war effort by playing Hitler's game and are giving the Japanese militarists excellent material for Axix propaganda which we are told they are already using in Asia.

In the enclosed pamphlet you will see a statement of the principles for which the Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play stands. Number 4 says "It is un-American to penalize persons of Japanese descant in the United States solely for the crimes of the government and military caste of Japan". With this statement the executive committee of the Pasadena Chapter stands.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Maynard F. Thayer
Acting Chairman

Wm. C. Burton
Secretary

PASADENA CHAPTER

Pasadena Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

Office of the Secretary
989 So. El Molino Ave
Pasadena

Dear Mrs. Bennett, -

This Chapter was organized April 20, 1943 and a year having passed it is necessary to request a renewal of subscriptions by our members. Your officers also wish to give members a brief summary of work done and disposition of funds we have received during the year.

On April 20, 1944 we had 209 members and received in dues $614.00
Contributions from members and friends, and sale of pamphlets..... 56.79
Total receipts $670.79

Of this sum there had been paid as our contribution to the work of the central Pacific Coast Committee...$211.00
Paid for pamphlets for distribution 108.22
Stationery, mimeographing, printing, postage, etc 183.62
502.84

Balance on hand $167.95

In addition to literature sent to members from time to time we have, jointly with Mr. W. C. Carr and friends distributed 18000 copies of the Harper's Magazine reprint - "Japanese in Hawaii" and 17000 copies of the circular "United We Stand." An additional 7200 copies of the Harper's Reprint were sent to two Japanese organizations in Hawaii and paid for by them.

Many copies of other pamphlets and leaflets have been widely circulated. Our committees have sent and are sending daily many letters correcting published incorrect statements and commending favorable actions and articles on the Japanese question.

We have held four general meetings, the last and most successful being addressed by Mr. Dillon S. Meyer, head of the War Relocation Authority.

We enclose a brief statement of the work carried out by the central Pacific Coast Committee in Berkeley. They have expended $7000 on their work and hope to increase their efforts during the coming year. We would like to increase our contribution toward their work, as well as actively continue the work of the Pasadena Chapter. We feel that something has been accomplished, but much remains to be done.

Last year you contributed $ 5.00 on April 1943.

We hope you will promptly renew or if possible increase this subscription for the current year. Mail in the enclosed envelope to the treasurer.

Cordially yours,

Jno A Beaton

Secretary & Treasurer

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PASADENA CHAPTER COMMITTEE
OF AMERICAN PRINCIPLES AND FAIR PLAY

In view of the revocation of the orders providing the return of loyal Japanese Americans to the Coast it is felt that our Committee should, without urging anyone to return, do all it can to facilitate resettlement.

"Time" for March 19, 1945 states "But whether the nation liked it or not the Japanese haters' methods were proven exceedingly effective. Of 33,000 Japanese and Nisei who have left the War Relocation Centers only 1640 have returned to the West Coast".

Members of the committee are urged to assist in the return of loyal persons of Japanese ancestry to normal American life. Will each member question others in his profession, in his factory, in his club, in his Church as to professional, secretarial and mechanical jobs, domestic work, gardening and housing and call Miss Katherine Fanning, SYcamore 2-1790.

The housing problem being as it is we think the Hostel just established by the American Friends Service Committee for the temporary accomodation of returning Japanese Americans until they can obtain possession of their own property or find other accomodation is a most useful project. We have supported it as a committee as have many of our members individually.

The Hostel is open with fifty or more quests but still lacks much equipment. Anyone who can contribute bedding or other material should communicate with the Friends Service Sommittee. We enclose a copy of their statement regarding the Hostel.

We have always been interested in securing full legal protection for all returning evacuees and in this connection we enclose quotations from a speech by Attorney General Kenny at a recent Sheriffs' Convention, which shows that our state officers are active in this matter.

Wm C. Burton
William C. Burton
Secretary

[illegible]

PACIFIC COAST

Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

PASADENA CHAPTER

Due to the many inaccurate statements that are made regarding the objectives of the Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play, and about the Japanese evacuees' situation generally, the members of the Pasadena Chapter hope you will look through the enclosed leaflet carefully and have a better understanding of the policy and Aims of the Committee.

All who are interested in the objectives of the Committee are welcome as members.

Mr. William C. Carr, 1360 West Colorado Street, Pasadena, 2, Chairman, Evacuee and Eastern Contact Committee, and Miss Katherine F. Fanning, Secretary, 305 Kensington Place, Pasadena, 3, Sycamore 2-1790 reports:

Quantities of grateful letters prove the value of the reprint of Lieutenant Commander Coggins' article from Harper's of June, JAPANESE AMERICANS IN HAWAII. The honor roll of Pasadena nisei in the service gave a personal touch appreciated by our Pasadena men and other California boys. The first printing was ten thousand copies; then a second run of three thousand. Twelve hundred were ordered by Hawaiian Japanese Americans.

This committee is now co-operating with the Publicity and Coordinating committees in the distribution of the enclosed UNITED WE STAND leaflet.

The committee continuously carries a heavy correspondence with evacuees and the east. We ask the help of every member of the Pasadena Chapter for fully as important as formal committee work is that personal thing each of us can do "on his own". Its human touch makes it especially effective. Here are things to do:
(Phone Miss Fanning for particulars:)

A few nisei soldiers are returning here on furlough. Lodging and entertaining them packs a thrill.

Write white friends in the army telling them what sports these nisei servicemen are. Enclose copy of UNITED WE STAND.

Write communities and employers where evacuees have gone, making the strangers' way easier.

Send eastern friends copies of THE JAPANESE IN OUR MIDST - 1943 and suggest that each make the acquaintance of some evacuee through his local YWCA or the local Federation of Churches.

Write letters of commendation to magazines and writers responsible for such hate-abating articles as those in Collier's for October 25 and both Harper's and Asia's October issues.

Commend congressmen like Eberharter.

Thanksgiving time would be fitting for notes of thanks and encouragement to leaders of the fight on the home front - Myer, McWilliams, Willkie, Wallace, Roosevelt, Mrs. Roosevelt. McCloy and Biddle.

We know you who are already members are interested. There is much you can do to help.
Will you secure more people as members? Ask Mr. William C. Burton, Secretary and Treasurer, 989 South El Molino, 5, or Mrs. Bennett, Chairman Membership for application cards.

Will you help on one of the committees?

Will you help type, address or send out letters?

~~WILL YOU COME TO THE MEETING ON THE 15TH?~~

Mrs. Maynard F. Thayer, Acting Chairman
Pasadena Chapter Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play
446 East California Street
Pasadena, 5.

As you will note, a meeting had been planned for the 15th of November, but as Mr. Cozzens is unavoidably prevented from attending, this has been given up. It is expected that a general meeting will be held at an early date.

FAIR PLAY COMMITTEE ~~MEETING~~

~~November 15th at 8:30 at McKinley School, DelMar and Oak Knoll.~~

~~Speaker -- Mr. R. B. Cozzens, Pacific Coast Director W. R. A.~~

~~The Pasadena Chapter of the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play will have charge of the second hour at Town Meeting on November 15th and will present as speaker, Mr. Cozzens who works directly under Dillon Myer. A large attendance of our members is desired and you are urged to bring others, including those who are not sympathetic with the W. R. A. program.~~

~~No tickets will be required for the Town Meeting program. The speaker at 7:30 will be Mr. Howard Y. Williams of New York who will discuss "PostWar Economic Reconstruction".~~

Numerous activities have been carried on since the last open meeting of Pasadena Chapter.

Mrs. James S. Bennett, Membership Chairman, 1043 San Pasqual, Pasadena, 5, reports:

Members		
Student	-----	2
Contributing	-----	32
Sustaining	-----	6
General	-----	126

Miss Priscilla Beattie, Publicity Chairman, 421 Sequoia, Pasadena reports:

The Publicity Committee has contacted the "Star-News" and "Post" and has received thoughtful cooperation from Mr. W. L. Blair in his column as well as space concerning the activities of the entire Committee.

Aside from publicity in the Pasadena papers, the Publicity Committee has contacted through letters (1) Congressmen from the State of California (2) Senators and Assemblymen from Southern California in the State Legislature in regard to bills concerning the Japanese.

At Present the committee cooperating in issuing the phamplet, "United We Stand".

The Committee is in need of more workers who can type and who will be interested in writing publicity and letters.

Mr. Gale Seaman, Chairman Coordinating Committee, 1419 North Rosemead Boulevard, San Gabriel, reports:

(1) Our Committee has had two special meetings.

(2) We sent letters to 67 different Pasadena orginizations, enclosing literature, asking their interest and cooperation and inviting them to become members of the Fair Play Committee.

(3) We held a meeting with a special committee of the Pastors Union in Dr. Day's study. The result was that at the next meeting of the Pastors Union it was voted by the ministers present to devote a Sunday in November, preferably Armistice Sunday, to the problems of racial minorities, especially the Japanese at this time. This seems a real victory for our committee in getting public attention centered on these important matters for Democracy and Christianity.

(4) We have made contact with the Roman Catholic Church and the Jewish Synagogue. Rabbi Cohen, a member of the Pastors Union, says he will preach on the question during Armistice week and Monseigneur McCarthy has agreed to cooperate.

(Over)

To the Pastors of Altadena and Pasadena

CONCERNING THE WEST COAST'S CONTINUED PERSECUTION OF ITS EVACUEES

RECENT ARTICLES

Harper's, October - WHAT ABOUT HUGH KIINO? by S. Burton Heath
Collier's, October 16 - A CHALLENGE TO AMERICAN SPORTSMANSHIP, by Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Asia and the Americas, October - THESE ARE OUR PARENTS, by George Morimitsu
Christian Century, August 18 to September 8 - Four articles by Galen Fisher

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In contrast to the above articles, Altadena and Pasadena have played an especially aggressive part in "putting on the heat."

Source	Date	
	1942	
SN	2/3	Pasadena Chamber of Commerce. "It is the profound conviction of all members of the governing board of this Chamber of Commerce that the presence of alien Japanese in our city is a constant menace to the safety of the people of Pasadena and their property rights and interests." "We therefore earnestly recommend to you the immediate transfer of all Japanese aliens to concentration camps - - ."
SN	2/16	Albert I. Stewart, chairman of the Board of Directors of City of Pasadena, reported the unanimous passage of his resolution at the Fresno session of the directors of the League of California Cities. "'The proposal', said Mr. Stewart, 'is that all Japanese, men, women and children, regardless of whether they were born in Japan or in the United States, should be evacuated from the defense areas of California." Following the example of the League, many municipalities passed similar resolutions.
SN	3/2	Altadena American Legion. "A resolution urging the removal from the Pacific Coast of all Japanese, both foreign and American-born, was indorsed by Altadena Post No. 470, American Legion, at its meeting Friday night."
Radio Station Copy	8/19	Congressman Carl Hinshaw over KPAS said of the evacuees at the Santa Anita Reception Center, "- - to have 20,000 milling and frequently ugly Japs set down in our midst - - is a menace - - I want to see the whole kit and kaboodle of them removed. - - Why should we have to stand the presence of these dangerous hordes in our midst. - - This war isn't ended until the Japs change their minds, decide to become civilized and humane people instead of teaching their children these vile beliefs that make them beasts worse than common alley cats - -."
	1943	
Post	5/11	Robert M. McCurdy. "So pleased was the National executive committee of the American Legion with an article written by W.W. Colton of Pasadena regarding exclusion of Japanese from the United States, that the article was adopted as the official viewpoint of the American Legion. Mr. Colton is the editor of the Pasadena Post No. 13 weekly bulletin. News of the committee's action was returned to Pasadena yesterday by Robert M. McCurdy, who attended sessions of the national organization at Indiananpolis last week."

The following quotations are from a Colton article in the May 1, 1943 issue of the Pasadena Bulletin of Post 13, to "repopulate the Far West with unassimilable aliens, whose presence, now or a hundred years from now, could only end in tragedy and disaster. As for making distinctions between "loyal" and "disloyal" Nisei, the people of this area know such a proposal constitutes the ultimate horseradish. - - The mind of the Japanese-American is utterly inscrutable to the Caucasian, though he lives next door to him for a lifetime. - - - Not one instance has been published of a "loyal"

(Over)

Japanese giving information of traitorous activities on the part of a single person among the thousands of his brethren. The grandmothers son't answer that one —" The "grandmothers" of the United States Naval Intelligence had answered "that one."

The above is in contrast to the preamble to the constitution of the American Legion - "to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth, to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy."

Post 6/3 Pasadena American Legion, Post 13 passed a resolution among the seven points of which were (1) the abandonment of the Combat Team then training at Camp Shelby, and (2) forced agricultural labor for every able-bodied male, citizen and alien alike.

SN 6/8 Pasadena Optimists Club, at its luncheon meeting concurred unanimously in the above legion resolution.

6/30 Altadena Area War Council in the Eliot Junior High School auditorium held an overflow patriotic rally. It was a family affair attended and participated in by parents and children. The program opened with the pledge of liberty and justice for all, followed by patriotic recitations and songs, and bestowing of awards for heroism and the presentation of the honor guests including Dr. C. C. Trillingham, county superintendent of schools, Gordon L. McDonough, chairman of the County Board of Supervisors, and Sheriff Eugene Biscailuz. Then came the speaker of the evening, John R. Lechner, LLD., Americanism Commissioner for the 23rd District American Legion. He said he appreciated this second opportunity of addressing the group.

With the large preliminary patriotic build-up, Dr. Lechner plunged into an attack on the bestial qualities of the "Jap" enemy. Promptly he lumped all "Japs" together, the enemy and the American citizen and soldier. The more vehement, abusive and unjust Lechner became toward our evacuees, the more thunderous the applause.

It was startling to witness a large cross- section of a superior community quickly carried to a frenzy of hate toward former neighbors who are still charged with no wrong. It was an evening that would make Goebbels chartle! This demonstration of the creation of mass madness warned of the danger of the master race phobia afflicting America.

Printed copies of this speech are not to be confused with the highly embellished and uncouth tirade.

Ind. 7/14
Times 8/28

Henry Kearns, immediate past president of the Pasadena Junior Chamber of Commerce and president of the State Junior Chamber of Commerce, also Dr. John F. B. Carruthers are among the original incorporators of the Pacific Coast Japanese Problems League, formed for "the protection of the Pacific Coast Area from any and all phases of the Japanese menace."

"In condemning the recruiting plan the league's resolution asserted: '. . . the presence in the W.A.C. of any Japanese of questionable loyalty to the United States would be detrimental, unwise and even of possible danger to the life and security of our nation at war . . .'" Do these men infer that the army's G-2 investigators are incompetent?

PASADENA CHAPTER OF PACIFIC COAST COMMITTEE
ON AMERICAN PRINCIPLES AND FAIR PLAY