

113

COMMITTEE RECORDS

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP FORM LETTERS

1942-45

C-A

171



~~Proposed to~~

March 15, 1942  
(500 copies)

~~State to have~~  
Capitol Building  
Sacramento, California  
Dear Sir,

Your initial acts as a Legislator have indicated to the people of this State that you regard this session as extraordinary. The standards which guide your decisions, and by which your decisions will be measured, are set above those of ordinary times. We note with satisfaction the evidences that you appreciate this state of affairs.

Recognizing that in times of acute stress people are led easily into the advocacy of extreme and even dangerous measures which in calmer days would find little support, and that safeguards must be taken, we have formed this Committee on American Principles and Fair Play. Our purpose is to support the principles enunciated in the Constitution, and to that end to maintain unimpaired the liberties guaranteed in the Bill of Rights. As a West Coast body the Committee recognizes its distinctive obligation, for the protection of all of us, to defend the liberties of law-abiding persons of Oriental ancestry. Against the background of our nation at war we believe that public impulses resulting from inflamed passions hastily crystallized into ill-considered legislation prior to the peace to be established with the peoples of the Orient, are to be distrusted, and that any proposals for such legislation should be carefully examined.

We are prepared to assist <sup>you in</sup> your manifest intention, as a Legislator, to act not in terms of partisanship, but on the level of statesmanship which this crisis of our nation and of the entire world requires.

Sincerely yours,

Maurice F. Harrison, Chairman  
Arthur Cushman Mc Giffert, Executive Chairman

(Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman, Executive Secretary)



May 15, 1942.

Vice-Chairmen, Members, and Friends of the  
Committee on National Security and Fair Play:

The enclosed Release has been approved in principle by all the Vice-Chairmen who sent regrets for absence and by all those who attended the special meeting held on May 6. Copies of it will be sent to some 300 daily and weekly journals, and to about 300 individuals, both East and West.

But if we expect to bring about the required change in public opinion in the inland states, each of us will need to write a personal note and send the Release to the most influential persons of our acquaintance, such as executives of the national and state organizations with which we are affiliated, publicists, farm and labor leaders, radio commentators, editors, religious leaders, and educators.

Please indicate on the enclosed card the number of copies of the Release that you can thus use. The sooner the better.

It is gratifying to think of Dr. Grady as being in the thick of the momentous developments taking place in India.

Sincerely yours,

Maurice E. Harrison,  
Acting Chairman

Galen M. Fisher, Secretary.



The Pasadena Committee for Fair Play passed the following resolution at its meeting of June 8, 1942:

WHEREAS one James K. Fisk is plaintiff in a suit in the district court of Alameda County to require the defendant G. E. Wade, county clerk and registrar of voters of said county, to remove from the rolls of registered voters the names of all citizens of Japanese ancestry and whereas such action would result in mass disfranchisement on a racial basis; and

WHEREAS here and throughout the nation many citizens realize that if the rights of one group of citizens are trespassed those of all are in danger; and

WHEREAS in addition to important constitutional issues involved, this litigation seeks discrimination on the basis of race and furnishes to the Japanese government further indisputable evidence of white man's arrogance and intolerance for use in that government's campaign of "Asia for Asiatics";

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Pasadena Committee for Fair Play is gravely concerned at the threat to democracy evidenced in this suit and in a similar one in San Francisco County. These suits threaten to break down the protection afforded us all by the Bill of Rights. They are not only un-American but lack the quality of good sportsmanship - attempting to abuse a group when it is at every disadvantage.



# MILLS COLLEGE

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
MILLS COLLEGE · CALIFORNIA

24 December 1942

Dear Member:

Our Committee on National Security and Fair Play in October was nearly unanimous in favoring transfer of its functions in reference to the Japanese and other minorities to a strong agency of national scope. For that purpose, the National Council for Democracy, New York, was found satisfactory and the Council offered to assume the task if we would raise for it \$6,000.00, being half the special funds needed. The undersigned sub-Committee was appointed by our Chairman, Dr. Henry F. Grady, to try to raise this amount.

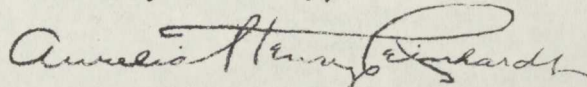
Meanwhile our Secretary, Mr. Galen Fisher, has investigated the situation on the Atlantic coast. He learned the important fact that the War Relocation Authority, the Federal Employment Service, and national and regional church and social agencies were cooperating in the release of Japanese Americans for acceptance as settlers and the finding of jobs for them. The need for special effort, therefore, by the Council for Democracy is less pressing, on behalf of the Japanese, at least, than it was a few weeks ago.

On the other hand, in California the American Legion and the Native Sons have launched a well-financed campaign to prevent Japanese evacuees from returning to this coast and to urge their deportation, disfranchisement, et cetera.

Our Committee was not founded solely to deal with the Japanese problem, but that has been its major concern, and the public still looks to us for information and advice. In view of the fact that reactionary groups are proposing to carry their campaign both to Washington and to Sacramento, and in view of the fact that no coast-wide representative agency exists to oppose them, the question arises concerning what, if anything, our Committee should do.

A consultation will be held on Tuesday, December 29, at four o'clock, at the office of Mr. Maurice Harrison, 111 Sutter Street, San Francisco. You are invited to be present. If unable to attend, you are requested to submit your opinion by mail. Inquiries may be addressed either to the writer, Mills College, Oakland (TRinidad 2700) or to the Secretary, Mr. Fisher, 260 California Street, San Francisco (YUkon 1570).

Yours very earnestly,



Aurelia Henry Reinhardt  
Chairman

Maurice E. Harrison  
Alfred J. Lundberg  
Irving F. Reichert  
Sub-Committee



260 California Street, Room 311  
San Francisco, California  
January 19, 1943

Dear

You are invited to participate in a meeting to consider forming a Committee along the lines of the enclosed draft of Policies, in order to safeguard, especially on this Coast, rights and liberties now being threatened.

Time: Monday, January 25, 4:00 p.m.

Place: Commercial Club, 465 California Street  
San Francisco. (Room reserved by Mr.  
Philip N. McCombs, will be listed on board.)

Committee on Organization:

Aurelia H. Reinhardt  
Alfred J. Lundberg  
Mrs. Robert McWilliams  
Richard R. Perkins

This call is supported by General David P. Barrows, Dr. H. F. Grady, Presidents Robert Gordon Sproul and Raymond Lyman Wilbur, Mr. Maurice Harrison, and the majority of the vice-chairmen of the former Committee on National Security and Fair Play.

Cordially yours,  
GALEN FISHER

by \_\_\_\_\_  
Mrs. Ruth Kingman

P.S. Dr. Robert Millikan and a supporting group of Pasadena friends will be represented at the meeting by Mr. William Carr.



COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN PRINCIPLES AND FAIR PLAY

January 27, 1943

At a well attended meeting at the Commercial Club in San Francisco on Monday, January 25, the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play was definitely organized. The statement of purpose, policies, and general outline of organization were adopted very much as originally sent to you. I have been asked to serve as chairman of the Nominating Committee for the officers and committees of the organization. The other members of the committee are: Mrs. Alfred McLaughlin, Mr. Harry Kingman, Dr. Paul Taylor, and Mr. Galen Fisher.

It is our feeling that in making these nominations we should have before us the names of prominent citizens and leaders from the various groups that we desire to draw into cooperation. Those suggested should be known to be sympathetic to the purposes of the Committee. Will you assist us by giving careful thought to this matter by noting on the attached sheet the names and addresses of selected individuals within the general classifications noted? Brief comments regarding them, their positions or qualities of leadership and influence will be of great help to the Committee. The suggestions are for consideration as officers or committee members and not for general membership purposes. To facilitate the return of these suggestions promptly, a self-addressed envelope is enclosed.

The committee is meeting on Friday, February 5, and it is important that we receive your suggestions before that date.

Very cordially yours,

Allen C. Blaisdell  
International House  
Berkeley, California

ACB:WLB  
enclosure



MEMBERS OF THE 1943 SESSION  
STATE LEGISLATURE OF CALIFORNIA

Gentlemen:

Your initial acts as a Legislature have indicated to the people of this State that you regard this session as extraordinary. The standards which guide your decisions, and by which your decisions will be measured, are set above those of ordinary times. We note with satisfaction the evidences that you appreciate this.

Recognizing that in times of acute stress people are led easily into the advocacy of extreme and even dangerous measures which in calmer days would find little support, we have formed this Committee on American Principles and Fair Play. Our purpose is to support the principles enunciated in the Constitution, and to that end to maintain unimpaired the liberties guaranteed in the Bill of Rights. As a West Coast body the Committee recognizes its distinctive obligation, for the protection of all of us, to defend the liberties of law-abiding persons of Oriental ancestry. Against the background of our nation at war we believe that public judgments stirred by inflamed passions, grounded in extreme racial partisanship, made in haste, and crystallized by enactment prior to the peace to be established with the peoples of the Orient, clearly are out of place.

We are prepared to assist your manifest intention, as a Legislature, to act not in terms of partisanship, but on the level of statesmanship which this crisis of our nation and of the entire world requires.

Sincerely yours,



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STATE LEGISLATURE OF CALIFORNIA  
Gentlemen:

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Recognizing that in times of acute stress people are led easily into the advocacy of extreme and even dangerous measures which in calmer days would find little support, *and that safeguards must be taken,* we have formed this Committee on American Principles and Fair Play. Our purpose is to support the principles enunciated in the Constitution, and to that end to maintain unimpaired the liberties guaranteed in the Bill of Rights. As a West Coast body the Committee recognizes its distinctive obligation, for the protection of all of us, to defend the liberties of law-abiding persons of Oriental ancestry.

Against the background of our nation at war we believe that public *impulses resulting from* ~~judgments~~ *which may be* stirred by ~~inflamed passions~~ *and* grounded in extreme racial partisanship, ~~made in haste and~~ *crystallized by enactment* prior to the peace to be established with the peoples of the Orient, ~~clearly are out of place.~~ *are to be distrusted, & that any proposals for such legislation should be carefully examined.* We are prepared to assist your manifest intention, as a Legislature, to act not in terms of partisanship, but on the level of statesmanship which this crisis of our nation and of the entire world requires.

Sincerely yours,



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## ADVISORY BOARD

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Chairman  
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RAY LYMAN WILBUR  
C. C. YOUNG

## PACIFIC COAST

# Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California Street, San Francisco

March 15, 1943

Capitol Building  
Sacramento, California

Your initial acts as a legislator have indicated to the people of this State that you regard this session as extraordinary. The standards which guide your decisions and by which your decisions will be measured, are set above those of ordinary times. We note with satisfaction the evidences that you appreciate this state of affairs.

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Sincerely yours,

Maurice E. Harrison, Chairman

Arthur Cushman McGiffert, Executive Chairman

(Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman, Executive Secretary)

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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RICHARD R. PERKINS  
JOHN T. WAGNER  
GEORGE WILSON

Executive Secretary  
MRS. RUTH W. KINGMAN  
Office: 2207 Union St., Berkeley  
Telephone: ASHberry 6214



March 23, 1943

Mr. Charles W. Lyon, Assemblyman  
Capitol Building  
Sacramento, California

My dear Mr. Lyon:

It has been drawn to our attention that our open letter of March 15, 1943, to members of the California State Legislature was sponsored by you, among others, for printing in the Assembly Journal.

We wish to express our appreciation of this courtesy and to tell you that we look forward to a cordial relationship with members of the body of which you are a member.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman

RWK:jns

Copy of this letter also sent to:

Mr. Arthur W. Gardner, Assemblyman  
Mr. Albert C. Wollenberg, Assemblyman  
Mr. Gardiner Johnson, Assemblyman



Same to:  
Earl Snell, Oregon  
Sidney Osborne, Arizona  
John Dempsey, New Mexico  
Herbert Maw, Utah  
C.A. Bottolssen, Idaho  
Sam Ford, Montana  
Earl Warren, California  
John Vivian, Colorado  
E. P. Carville, Nevada

April 8, 1943

His Excellency, Governor Arthur Langlie  
Governor of the State of Washington  
c/o Governor Herbert Maw,  
Capitol Building  
Salt Lake City, Utah

Dear Sir,

With thousands of loyal Japanese-Americans now entering the armed forces at the request of the United States Army, it seems even more essential that the human, as well as the constitutional, rights of the law-abiding persons of Japanese ancestry be fully protected.

The Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play trusts that as the governors of the ten western states meet in Salt Lake City for a discussion of war and post-war problems they will deal with this problem in the perspective of the peace to come as well as of the present sanguinary war. Because of your previous record we have confidence that you will view this significant racial minority problem in a statesmanlike way. And we would like to offer our support. We recognize that in this critical war period, when passions are inflamed, there are those who would penalize persons of Japanese descent solely for the crimes of the government and military caste of Japan. Unfortunately, there are individuals urging a discriminatory policy who directly or indirectly stand to profit from it financially. Please feel free to call on us for assistance in policies or programs you may undertake which would maintain for our law-abiding residents of Japanese ancestry the liberties and rights guaranteed by our Constitution.

Sincerely yours,  
MONROE E. DEUTSCH  
ARTHUR C. MCGINFERT

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman  
Executive Secretary



# Pasadena Committee for Fair Play

\*\*\*\*\*

April 15, 1943

## CHAIRMAN

Mrs. WILLARD J. STONE

## MEMBERS

Mrs. JAMES S. BENNETT

Dr. EUGENE CARSON BLAKE

Mrs. JOHN P. BUWALDA

Mrs. JACKSON CHANCE

STEPHEN CUTTER CLARK, JR.

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MISS ESTHER B. RHODES

Mrs. MAYNARD THAYER

C. B. VOORHIS

Mrs. ARTHUR J. WINGARD

Mrs. WHITNEY B. WRIGHT

## SECRETARY

WM. C. CARR

1360 West Colorado Street  
SYcamore 2-4387

The Pasadena Committee for Fair Play was formed prior to the evacuation inland of the Japanese. It has been instrumental in keeping the lines of friendship and helpfulness open between us and our evacuated neighbors. A like committee has operated in Northern California with marked achievement.

The need now is broader than the simpler matters of friendship and goodwill. Powerful influences threaten to disenfranchise the American citizens of Japanese descent, deprive them of civil and economic rights, and even seek their deportation. To counteract such discrimination an organization of coastal proportions is now being formed. The basic principles of this organization are enclosed.

The Pasadena Committee for Fair Play is considering affiliating with this larger group. To discuss the advisability of this linkage and to consider ways and means of increasing our local activity, a meeting is being called for the evening of April 20 at 8:00 o'clock in the Pasadena Public Library on Walnut Street. Dr. Remsen D. Bird, president of Occidental College, has graciously consented to be our speaker. There will be no public announcement of this meeting, but persons are being invited who are known to be sympathetic to a statesmanlike handling of the future of American citizens of Japanese descent.

We look forward to your presence at this meeting and to your participation in the discussion of the future policies of our Pasadena Committee.

Sincerely,

PASADENA COMMITTEE FOR FAIR PLAY

By

*Mr. Remsen  
I thought you would  
be interested in our  
form of invitation  
to meeting  
W. C. Carr*



P A C I F I C   C O A S T  
COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN PRINCIPLES AND FAIR PLAY

Honorary Chairman - Robert Gordon Sproul  
Chairman of Advisory Board - Maurice E. Harrison  
Chairman of Executive Committee - Arthur Cushman McGiffert  
Executive Secretary, Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman, 2207 Union Street, Berkeley

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POLICIES  
as adopted January 25, 1943

The fundamental purpose of the Committee is to support the principles enunciated in the Constitution of the United States, and to that end to maintain, unimpaired, the liberties guaranteed in the Bill of Rights.

As a West Coast body, the Committee recognizes its distinctive obligation to defend the liberties of law-abiding persons of Oriental ancestry, whether citizens or aliens, including persons of Japanese descent who formerly resided on this Coast but who, under the war emergency, have been deprived of freedom of movement.

The COMMITTEE believes:

- (1) That attacks upon the rights of any minority tend to undermine the rights of the majority.
- (2) That attempts to deprive any law-abiding citizen of his citizenship because of racial descent are contrary to fundamental American principles and jeopardize the citizenship of others.
- (3) That legislation to deprive Americans of Japanese descent of any of their legal rights would set a precedent for depriving other racial groups of their rights, and would weaken the confidence of our Allies, particularly those in Asia and Latin America, in the sincerity of our professions to be fighting for the rights of all peoples.
- (4) That it is un-American to penalize persons of Japanese descent in the United States solely for the crimes of the Government and military caste of Japan.



## ADVISORY BOARD

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EDWARD J. WHELAN  
RAY LYMAN WILBUR  
C. C. YOUNG

## PACIFIC COAST

# Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California Street, San Francisco

April 16, 1943

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Vice-Chairmen

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GEORGE WILSON

Executive Secretary

MRS. RUTH W. KINGMAN

Office: 2207 Union St., Berkeley

Telephone: ASHberry 6214

In view of the fact that there has been little publicity for these statements through the ordinary news channels here in California, we feel that it may be of interest and value to you to know what President Roosevelt and Secretary of War Stimson have said regarding the status and rights of the loyal citizens of Japanese ancestry.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman



COPY OF LETTER SENT TO 12 ENGINEERS, JUNE 9, 1943

Mr. F. E. Baxter  
836 Grosvenor Pl.  
Oakland, California

Dear Mr. Baxter:

A well-known engineer, active in this Committee's work, has suggested that you would probably be glad to join it and thereby help develop a sane and informed public opinion regarding treatment of unpopular minorities such as the Japanese evacuees.

You will see by the list of citizens on the Advisory Board and Executive Committee, and also by the attached statement of principles and program, that the Committee does not take an extreme position, unless it be extreme to defend the Bill of Rights. Specifically, the Committee is giving full support to the Government, including the Army, program for resettling the evacuees in interior states, and treating all the law-abiding evacuees, not as criminals, but as unfortunate victims of the war emergency, who should be allowed to make their maximum contribution to the war effort.

There are three varieties of membership: Regular, \$2.00; Contributing, \$5.00; and Sustaining, \$10.00. Please act on your own preference and return your check in the enclosed prepaid envelope.

Sincerely yours,

GMF:DM  
Encl.

Galen M. Fisher



SENT TO MINISTERS



June 18, 1943

Dear

Please take this as a personal letter, even though mimeographed to save expense.

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. 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, some of them Church leaders. Our purpose in writing you and a selected list of other ministers is first, to invite you to become a member --unless you are one already; and second, to ask you to be good enough to suggest a few church men and women who we should invite to join.

Kindly return the enclosed reply postcard promptly. Every day is precious.

Thanking you heartily for your cooperation,

Galen M. Fisher, Assistant Treasurer



COPY OF LETTER SENT TO 28 PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS  
SUGGESTED BY RABBI IRVING FREDERICK REICHERT

June 22, 1943

Mr. Newton Bissinger  
Davis & Pacific Sts.  
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Mr. Bissinger:

The fight to preserve constitutional safeguards for minorities is nothing new, but right now it is especially intense. On this Coast the attack is being directed chiefly against the Japanese evacuees. Even normally sane people are being swept away by the hysterical demand that all persons of Japanese extraction in America, 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. We do not question the sincerity of many of the persons who are clamoring for the disfranchisement and close confinement or deportation of all evacuees. We do believe that they are ignoring pertinent facts, are hampering the war effort by blocking the policy of the War Department, and are weakening constitutional guarantees for the liberties of us all.

The principles and program of the Committee appear on a separate sheet. If they appeal to you, will you not use the reply envelope to join our growing body of members? Sustaining members give \$10.00 or more a year.

We shall greatly appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Harry S. Scott

HSS:DM  
Encl.



# ADVISORY BOARD

Honorary Chairman  
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Chairman  
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AUGUST VOLLMER  
EDWARD J. WHELAN  
RAY LYMAN WILBUR  
C. C. YOUNG

# PACIFIC COAST

## Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California Street, San Francisco

August 3, 1943

*Stiles Haele Hume in Service*

# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman  
ARTHUR CUSHMAN MCGIFFERT

Vice-Chairmen  
IRVING F. REICHERT  
PAUL S. TAYLOR

Treasurer  
HARRY S. SCOTT

Assistant Treasurer  
GALEN M. FISHER

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MRS. RUTH MEADS FISHER  
ALFRED J. LUNDBERG  
RICHARD R. PERKINS  
JOHN T. WAGNER  
GEORGE WILSON

Executive Secretary  
MRS. RUTH W. KINGMAN  
Office: 2234 Telegraph Ave.,  
Berkeley  
Telephone: ASHberry 6214

Greetings from another of the Kingman family.

In the current West Coast press, there is much prediction of the "inevitable ill-treatment of Japanese Americans at the hands of men in uniform returning from service in the armed forces".

We know that some such deplorable action is possible, but we are convinced that the danger is grossly exaggerated.

In writing to you, we are asking what your reactions are to the presentation of such a dark picture of future treatment of Japanese Americans at the hands of our returning army.

We would like very much to be able to use your reply, and will or will not use your name, as you wish. We promise to be most scrupulous in keeping this promise.

With warm personal regards,

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman



# ADVISORY BOARD

Honorary Chairman  
ROBERT GORDON SPROUL

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# PACIFIC COAST

## Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California Street, San Francisco

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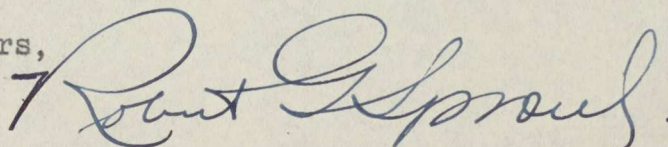
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MRS. RUTH W. KINGMAN  
Office: 2234 Telegraph Ave.,  
Berkeley  
Telephone: ASHberry 6214

September 16, 1943

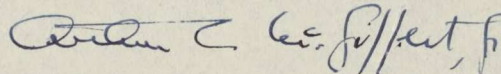
Mrs. Ruth Kingman, Executive Secretary of the Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play, has been requested by the Executive Committee of the organization to call upon you and other persons in high positions of responsibility and authority to present our views and the views of our members relative to fair play and the application of American Principles to people of Japanese ancestry in this country.

This Committee was organized about nine months ago and now has branches in Pasadena, Santa Barbara, Fresno, Palos Verdes, Los Angeles, and Seattle. Our immediate constituency numbers about four hundred and twenty five already and is constantly growing.

Yours,



Robert Gordon Sproul, Honorary Chairman



Arthur Cushman McGiffert, Executive Chairman



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Executive Secretary  
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Office: 2234 Telegraph Ave.,  
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October 11, 1943

Miss Amy A. Aeock  
8989 Victoria Ave.  
South Gate, Calif.

Dear Miss Aeock:

I am enclosing a copy of the series of four articles on the Japanese Evacuation by Mr. Galen Fisher, that were recently published in the Christian Century.

Our Committee feels that you might be interested in obtaining a number of these for distribution in a pamphlet form that we are having published. The pamphlet is to consist of 24 well printed pages about five inches by eight inches, and will include something about the author and the work of the Committee. The prices for the pamphlet form are listed below.

\$ .10 each, if purchased separately  
\$ 1.75 for 25 copies  
\$ 6.00 per hundred  
\$ 1.00 for 12 copies

We will promptly satisfy any orders that are placed through this office.

Since the number printed will depend to some extent on preliminary orders, may we hope to hear from you at an early date?

Very sincerely yours,

Ruth W. Kingman  
Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman

My dear Mrs. Kingman,-

Thank you very much for this kind letter. I should like to order 25 copies of the pamphlet. I am very glad to have the pages of the Christian Century for I was not able to get hold of the copies that had in the last two of the four articles. I take it that you do not want these back. If you do, please let me know.

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

Yours sincerely,

Amy A. Aeock.



Commonwealth Club members

October 26, 1943

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

This letter soliciting your membership on the Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play is sent to you, among a selected list of Commonwealth Club members, because we assume that membership in the Club indicates a 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 government authorities quoted in the enclosed folder. After scanning the folder, we trust you will decide to be enrolled as a member, using the card and reply envelope.

Some persons have raised a question as to why the Committee has focussed attention upon the Japanese evacuees. The answer is that <sup>in connection with the military emergency on this Coast</sup> only ~~these~~ 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, including Dr. Sproul, the honorary chairman, has been to preserve the hard-won constitutional principles under the stress of war. The sympathy of the Committee with the Japanese and Japanese-American evacuees was quite secondary.

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

racial minorities  
12,5000



Hoping that you will find yourself in accord with these views and  
willing to join us in making them effective, I am

Yours sincerely,

---

For the Committee

(RGS:KWH)



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PACIFIC COAST

Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

PASADENA CHAPTER

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WM. C. BURTON  
989 So. El Molino Ave.

November 1, 1943

To the Residents of the Rivers Relocation Center:

Since Mr. Nicholson is coming over to you soon, I take this opportunity to send you my greetings as Acting Chairman of the Pasadena Chapter of the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play.

We know that in the newspapers you read many disturbing things which are said and done in California, yet we want you to know that there are a great many people not swayed by these, who still believe in the integrity of the Constitution of the United States and who are opposed to deciding loyalty to this country on any racial basis.

Many of you in the Relocation Centers and many who have gone out to other sections of the country have proved your determination to act as useful citizens and to aid in the war effort and thus the sooner to end the power of aggressive nations, seeking to dominate all free peoples of the world. We trust you will continue to carry on as loyal citizens of this country.

On our part we shall continue to use our influence to correct unjust public opinion and to influence and educate leaders to carry on in a way which conforms to Americans' principles of justice and fair play.

Many citizens of Pasadena remember you as good citizens of this community and I know would wish to add their greetings to mine.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Maynard F. Thayer  
Acting Chairman



PACIFIC COAST COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN PRINCIPLES AND  
FAIR PLAY

November 6, 1943

Dear Committee Member:

You will be interested to know that we have just sent the following telegram to President Roosevelt, Attorney General Francis Biddle, Assistant Secretary of War, John McCloy, General Emmons, and Dillon Myer, Director of the War Relocation Authority.

"May we urge immediate White House statement differentiating between nature of Tulelake and other relocation centers. Also recognition of loyalty of Japanese Americans in Military units, Intelligence, Food and War Production, and emphasis on excellent results of WRA relocation program which should not be curtailed by public sentiment against disloyal Japanese in Tulelake."

As the reports are still coming in from the disturbances at Tulelake, it will be well for our members to remember that such incidents are to be expected from that Center as a natural result of the proper segregation there of large numbers of persons actively loyal to Japan.

The work of the Committee is progressing well. The Executive Secretary has just returned from a three weeks stay in Washington, where she had profitable and satisfactory conferences with Assistant Secretary of War, John McCloy, Attorney General Biddle and several West Coast and Middle West Congressmen.

We have had many letters in appreciation of the documentary material we sent out last month, and are glad that it is being so widely used.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman  
(Executive Secretary)

Executive Office: 2234 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, Calif.



TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT NOVEMBER 25, 1943

As a Pacific Coast body which recognizes many of the difficulties in administering the Tulelake Segregation Center, difficulties due in part to the diversified groups within the center, in part to the unjustified political and journalistic exaggeration of the disturbances inevitable in such a center, we urge that the following facts be considered by any policy making bodies.

1. The War Department has repeatedly expressed reluctance to assume permanent control of any center.
2. The War Relocation Authority, while established primarily as a relocation agency, has worked out satisfactory techniques for administration of various types of centers.

Unless the War Department wishes to control and operate Tulelake may we respectfully submit the following proposals:

1. Continued operation of Relocation Centers by W.R.A. with emphasis upon resettlement of loyal evacuees.
2. Immediate separation of troublemakers in Tulelake from lawabiding members of the colony, and secure incarceration of aforementioned persons in areas established and secured by the War Department for that purpose.
3. War Department responsibility for external security of entire Tulelake Segregation Center.
4. Administration and operation of the Tulelake Center by W.R.A. whose authority and personnel shall be strengthened to meet local conditions.
5. Full public interpretation by the War Department of the local situation.
6. Full public interpretation by the State Department of the international implications involved, since segregees are not prisoners of war.

Most respectfully submitted,

PACIFIC COAST COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN PRINCIPLES AND FAIR PLAY

(signed)  
Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman  
Executive Secretary



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Executive Secretary  
MRS. RUTH W. KINGMAN  
Office: 2234 Telegraph Ave.,  
Berkeley  
Telephone: ASHberry 6214

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE NOVEMBER 26, 1943

Telegram from:  
Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play  
465 California St.  
San Francisco, Calif.

To:  
President Franklin Delano Roosevelt  
Honorable John McCloy, Assistant Secretary of War  
Senator Sheridan Downey, Senate Military Affairs Committee

Subject:  
Control and Administration of the Tulelake Segregation Center

Signed:  
Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play  
Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman  
Executive Secretary



PACIFIC COAST COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN PRINCIPLES AND FAIR PLAY

November 26, 1943

Dear Committee Member:

Enclosed you will find a copy of the release sent out by the Office of War Information, concerning the factual story of Tulelake from November 1 to November 4. To our knowledge, it is the only authoritative statement released to date.

We are also sending a copy of the telegram sent by our Committee on November 26, to President Roosevelt, Assistant Secretary of War John McCloy and Senator Sheridan Downey of the Senate Military Affairs Committee, in which we made specific suggestions covering the Tulelake Segregation Center.

We feel that our suggestions will find favorable reaction by the War Department, and are in complete accord with the best public interest. We also are confident that such a policy will assure proper treatment for all lawabiding evacuees.

May we suggest that fullest possible use of this material be made by all of our members, through local groups, civic, church, fraternal, service, and the press. It is high time that some degree of sanity replace the hysterical attitudes which are receiving so much publicity.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman  
Executive Secretary

Executive Office: 2234 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, Calif.



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Executive Secretary

MRS. RUTH W. KINGMAN  
Office: 2234 Telegraph Ave.,  
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Telephone: ASHberry 6214

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,



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3/24/49

Dear Board Member:

As you will notice in the second of Mr. Freeman's letters to our office, he feels that it will be helpful for our members to become acquainted with the entire correspondence.

Because of its length, I have marked certain portions which I feel will be of particular interest.

Mr. Freeman will appreciate any reaction from our members.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman  
Executive Secretary

RWK:mj



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(A)

THE TOWN HOUSE

Wilshire Boulevard - Los Angeles - A Hilton Hotel

Jan. 22, 1944

PERSONAL

Dear Mrs. Kingman:

I gathered from my phone conversation with you the other day that the members of your organization would like to have a clear-cut statement of my position on the Japanese question.

Please write me here where I will be for the next thirty days.

I am sending a copy of this to Mr. Frank Bayley, who also asked for my views and recommendations.

Sincerely

(signed) Miller Freeman

Miller Freeman



C  
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P  
Y

MILLER FREEMAN PUBLICATIONS  
71 Columbia Street  
Seattle, Washington

\*

124 W. Fourth Street  
Los Angeles, Calif.

January 24, 1944

Mrs. Ruth Kingman, Secretary,  
Pacific Coast Committee for  
American Principles and Fair Play,  
465 California St.,  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mrs. Kingman:

As stated to you over the phone, my views as to what should be done about the Japanese in this country are, in effect, as follows:

I am opposed to the proposal to deprive American-born Japanese of their citizenship, provided they want to be loyal citizens, and not subjects of Japan. It just isn't going to be done, it is a political impossibility and it's idle to talk about it. If we did give the Government the power to deprive loyal Japanese of their citizenship rights, (which power the Government doesn't have now), it could and would then be applied against loyal-born of German, Italian or any other ancestry against which prejudice might be aroused. A step further and that power would be applied against any person the current administration didn't like.

I am for internment and punishment of the disloyal in what ever manner may be most salutary and effective, to suit the crime. I am against mollycoddling of such persons.

Japanese who are born in the United States should be told in no uncertain terms that they must throw off the control the Japanese government has always had over the entire Japanese colony in this country. They will have to get on the same basis as the rest of us. There must be an end to the abnormal combinations of the Japanese, financed and directed by Japanese-government-controlled agencies.

I disagree with the doctrine being enunciated by Ambassador Joseph Grew that this Nation should uphold and exert it's official influence to support and maintain the principles of the divinity of the Emperor of Japan. I agree with Generalissimo Chiang Kai Shek's declaration at Cairo, with reference to Japan, in effect advocating creation of a Republic in Japan. In the opinion of this writer this is the first step, promoted by the appeasers, to force a premature peace, "keep Japan strong," etc. The U.S. Department of State has pussyfooted the Japanese question for the past fifty years. It is against the historical principles of our Nation and our people to support the Divinity of the Emperor humbug. We can only insure peace in the Pacific by the



Mrs. Ruth Kingman

- 2 - January 24, 1944

wiping out of the Fascist gangsters who control the Japanese government.

There are some renegade whites who have always exploited the Japanese, and who hope to see the pre-Pearl Harbor status restored, with the Japanese colony in this country controlled by the Japanese government, because they personally profited thereby. The comparatively small number of Japanese in this country do not of themselves alone constitute any real problem; but with the strongly-organized and powerful Japanese elements among the whites they exert tremendous influence.

The United States government has been guilty of failing to put a stop to Japanese machinations. It failed to prevent the violation of the so-called Gentlemen's Agreement by Japan, which was designed to shut off further immigration of her nationals. Between 1907 and 1924 Japan added to the population of the Japanese colony in the United States by 100,000. It is time we put an end to the propaganda of Japan that the 1924 immigration act was a discrimination against that nation, because it did not single out Japan but applied to all Asiatics.

Far more discriminatory is the legislation just passed removing the Chinese exclusion acts, and allowing them the quota. While I am for the legislation correcting the situation as applied to the Chinese, it does not go far enough, and is certainly open to challenge by peoples of other Asiatic nations.

If, in the main, your organization is sympathetic to the principles enunciated above, I will be glad to join with its efforts, which I consider laudable--in fact I believe you are in a position to prevent injustice against minorities, clarify the issues before the public of the Nation, and render a most valuable service to our country and to all humanity.

Yours respectfully,

(signed) Miller Freeman

MILLER FREEMAN



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Pacific Coast  
COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN PRINCIPLES AND FAIR PLAY  
Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California St.  
San Francisco

March 6, 1944

Mr. Miller Freeman  
124 W. Fourth St.  
Los Angeles 13, Calif.

Dear Mr. Freeman:

Thank you for your letter of January 24th, which has had to await my return from a month's absence. In it you clearly set forth your views on the persons of Japanese ancestry in this country, and wish to know how far this Committee agrees with you. Let me reply as explicitly as seems practicable.

1. Maintenance of the full constitutional rights of citizens of Japanese ancestry is one of our basic principles. We believe with you that any steps toward depriving them of those rights is a blow at the rights of all citizens. This cardinal principle underlies our whole program.

2. As to punishment of "the disloyal," we agree with you, provided that disloyalty is determined either by overt act or by the "due process" guaranteed by the Constitution. As to the persons segregated at Tule Lake from our knowledge of the facts, we doubt that the procedures followed in determining "disloyalty" would satisfy a competent court.

3. We have never considered the question of "control by the Japanese Government of the Japanese colony in this country," but every sane American would agree that it should be prevented. Incidentally however, it should be recognized that one reason for the degree to which Japanese residents accepted such control was the severe discrimination practised against them in many phases of life by white Americans.

Furthermore, the likelihood that such control will be attempted after Japan's defeat is greatly diminished by the fact that the alien generation will have practically disappeared within a decade, and if the American-born citizens of



Mr. Miller Freeman

-2-

March 6, 1944

Japanese stock are given a square deal, they would be well-nigh immune to whatever efforts Japan might make to control them.

4. As to the regulation of Oriental immigration, we have taken no position, but I believe nearly all our members would favor placing all nations, including Japan, upon the quota basis.

5. This Committee, as you know, has strongly supported the Government's efforts to resettle the evacuees East of the Sierras and Cascades, but it has not advocated their return to the West Coast except as the War Department may deem the return of certain law-abiding evacuees, such as service men, compatible with military security. But we do unqualifiedly maintain the right of the evacuees to return after the war. We also maintain that the law-abiding evacuees in the Relocation Centers should be treated, not as criminals or prisoners of war, but with respect and consideration as innocent victims of wartime misfortune.

We rejoice in your powerful defence of the constitutional rights of unpopular minorities and hope that you will see fit to support the chapter of this Committee now being formed in Seattle.

Very sincerely yours,

(signed) Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman



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MILLER FREEMAN  
PUBLICATIONS  
\*

124 West Fourth St.  
Los Angeles 13  
California

(D)

March 10, 1944

Mrs. Ruth Kingman, Secretary  
Pacific Coast Committee for  
American Principles and Fair Play  
465 California Street  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mrs. Kingman:

I acknowledge your letter of March 6, in which you have set forth specifically the points with which your committee agrees with my views as expressed in my letter to you dated January 24.

With reference to Section 3, you say you have never considered the question of control by the Japanese Government of the Japanese Colony in this country. I am glad therefore, to have brought the matter to the attention of your committee because I do hope that you will go fully into this question and take a definite position publicly that such control should not be permitted in the future.

While theoretically the position of the committee appears sound that after the Japanese defeat, control by the Government will be greatly diminished because the alien generation will have disappeared, I think this leaves an obligation on the part of your organization to insist that all Japanese in this country, whether alien or American-born, have impressed upon them that it is requisite that loyalty to this nation be complete and unquestionable.

I believe it also would be fruitful if your organization would set forth in detail just exactly what is meant in Section 3 of your letter when you say, "it should be recognized that one reason for the degree to which Japanese residents accepted such control (of the Japanese Government) was the severe discrimination practised against them in many phases of life by white Americans". I think considerable progress would be made by enumerating the types of discrimination you say have existed among our people toward the Japanese and which you infer influenced the Japanese of the country to turn to Japan.



Mrs. Ruth Kingman

- 2 -

March 10, 1944

While it is only natural that the minds of our people are inflamed now over the revelations not only of Japanese atrocities but over their grandiose program of world conquest and which results in prejudice applied to all the Japanese, including the American born, it is my belief that this condition can be corrected only provided American-born assume the full responsibilities of citizenship and quit being subjects of Japan.

I am disappointed that your committee has not included in its reply my reference to the sophistry of the doctrine of the divinity of the Emperor of Japan. To me it is indefensible that either our Government or the various organizations that have taken on the responsibility of handling the Japanese problem should sponsor, acquiesce in or tolerate the promotion or support of such a doctrine. Certainly none of the members of your committee believes in the divinity humbug.

I favor giving the quota to all peoples and races except the inhabitants of Manhattan Island.

I strongly urge that your committee draw from the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service the detailed records of immigration for your files for the past forty years; and I particularly recommend that you ask for statistics on immigration during the last fifteen years, down to and including 1943.

To what degree are immigration policies being shaped by executive order rather than by legislation of the Congress? What are the figures on immigration since the opening of the war in Europe?

While I have supported the removal of all of the Japanese from the Pacific Coast on the ground of military necessity, it is time a definite position be taken to guarantee the rights of all loyal, law-abiding citizens of Japanese ancestry who may wish to come here as soon as the army ban is lifted. I am against any attempt to exploit these people by labor contractors, who in the past have profited by such exploitation.

In order to assist in bringing our views to a common focus, I will appreciate your making sufficient copies of the exchange of correspondence between us, sending to each member of your committee with the request that they express their views thereon. I will be glad to pay any expense incurred.

I will be in San Francisco from March 17 to March 20. You may reach me by telephone at Garfield 5887 or in the evening at Olympic 5162.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Miller Freeman

Miller Freeman

MF:AB



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## PACIFIC COAST

### Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California Street, San Francisco

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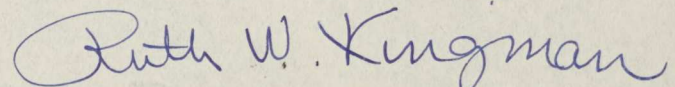
Telephone: ASHberry 6214

April 26, 1944

Dear Sir:

We are happy to send you a copy of our latest pamphlet, and hope that its distribution will prove helpful in a proper interpretation of general attitudes towards Americans of Japanese ancestry.

Very sincerely yours,



Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman  
Executive Secretary



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Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California Street, San Francisco

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Office: 2234 Telegraph Ave.,  
Berkeley  
Telephone: ASHberry 6214

April 27, 1944

Dear Sir:

May we call your attention to the enclosed pamphlet, which we feel might be helpful in your consideration of the present and future status of Americans of Japanese ancestry.

Very sincerely yours,

*Ruth W. Kingman*

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman  
Executive Secretary

RWK:mj



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# PACIFIC COAST

## Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California Street, San Francisco

May 27, 1944

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When Mr. Miller Freeman asked us to send to each of our Committee Board members, copies of the correspondence between this office and Mr. Freeman, we consented to do so. We felt at that time that much of the material covered in the correspondence was not of specific concern to members of the Committee, but, appreciating Mr. Freeman's interest, we acceded to his request.

One of the several persons to whom Mr. Freeman sent copies of the correspondence was the Honorable Joseph E. Grew, of the State Department. Mr. Grew felt that Mr. Freeman entirely misunderstood the point in his address of December 29, 1943, in reference to the Emperor of Japan, and has asked that our members be informed as to his actual position.

Mr. Galen Fisher, a personal friend of Mr. Grew's has also written a letter to Mr. Grew, assuring him of our understanding and appreciation of his point of view, and saying that we feel the importance of clearing up any misapprehensions which might have been created.

Enclosed you will find a copy of Mr. Grew's letter to Mr. Freeman.

Very cordially yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman

RWK:mj



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## PACIFIC COAST

### Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

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

August 14, 1944

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Executive Secretary

MRS. RUTH W. KINGMAN  
Office: 2234 Telegraph Ave.,  
Berkeley 4  
Telephone: ASherberry 6214

This is an appeal for funds for the intensive campaign of community education which this Committee is planning to conduct during the next few months, and it is addressed through you to the constituent Boards who are especially concerned with work among the evacuees of Japanese ancestry.

Although the general record of this Committee is doubtless known to all the Board secretaries, it is in place to review it briefly and to outline the campaign soon to be launched.

The forerunner of the present Committee was formed several months before Pearl Harbor, in order to ensure maintenance of the civil rights of residents of Japanese origin. That has been the central emphasis of the present Committee, as will be apparent in the enclosed folder (Exhibit A), and also in the recent speech made by our Honorary Chairman, President Sproul, (Exhibit B).

It is generally agreed by competent observers that the activities of the Committee have exerted a strong and salutary influence, both upon public opinion and upon Government policy and action. Its most significant achievements have been the result of personal dealings with Government officials and influential citizens. Much special printed matter has been sold or distributed free to selected persons. Among the notable pamphlets have been: American Fighting Men Speak Out; A Balance Sheet on Japanese Evacuation; and Yori Wada's story, the total circulation of which has run to some 40,000 copies.

The Committee has strong chapters at Pasadena, Fresno, and Los Angeles, and groups in Seattle, Portland, and other cities. Instead of trying to organize many local chapters, the Committee has functioned largely through existing agencies, churches, Associations, labor unions, and educational associations.



The Committee is now facing the most challenging situation of its career, as a few sentences will make clear.

"Military necessity" was the reason given by the Army for the summary evacuation. Now both Army and Navy authorities declare that there is no danger of invasion, and that the military necessity no longer exists. As President Sproul says: "The Army should decide when the process (of evacuation) is to be reversed and the evacuees allowed gradually to recover their civil rights." There are good grounds for believing that the reversal will come long before the end of the war. The legal right to return will doubtless be assured by the Federal Courts, even though some local or State bodies may attempt to block it. The grave danger is that there will be a social and economic boycott against returning evacuees, unless a vigorous campaign of education and persuasion creates a public attitude of tolerance and friendliness. To achieve this will call for the mobilizing of all available supporters of constitutional liberties.

This is the mandate resting upon this Committee. To meet it, the quiet but vigorous campaign outlined in Exhibit C is being undertaken.

Even though close cooperation will be given by other organizations and many volunteers will be enlisted, the extra cost to this Committee will be considerable. The total budget for the next six months will run to \$10,000. Toward this, the Columbia Foundation has granted \$3,200.00, and the Juliette M. Atherton Trust, \$500. Committee members and other friends can be counted on to contribute about \$2,000.00. It is to meet a substantial portion of the balance that we are earnestly requesting grants from the interested Boards in the Administrative Committee.

Since the campaign must be started early in September, early and favorable action will be most helpful. Please do not hesitate to call on us for any further information desired.

Sincerely yours,

Galen M. Fisher  
Assistant Treasurer

GMF:mj

Copies of this letter are being sent to



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# PACIFIC COAST

## Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

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

(about Nov. 1944?)

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MRS. RUTH W. KINGMAN  
Office: 2234 Telegraph Ave.,  
Berkeley 4  
Telephone: ASHberry 6214

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

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



466 East California Street  
Pasadena 5, California  
November 1, 1944

To Members of Pasadena Chapter, Committee on American Principles  
and Fair Play:

On October 19th the following questions were addressed to  
candidates for Congress and Assembly in Districts of this  
vicinity:

- (1) In view of the splendid war service being rendered  
by the more than 10,000 U.S. soldiers of Japanese  
ancestry, do you favor the return of these soldiers  
to their California homes when discharged from  
service and of their families when military authori-  
ties give permission?
- (2) Would you uphold the constitutional rights of all  
citizens of Japanese ancestry by favoring their  
return to California when military authorities give  
permission?

#### Candidates and Replies

##### Congressional District #20

Honorable Carl Hinshaw  
Mr. Archibald Young

No reply  
Letter

"Replying to your letter of October 19th will say that at all  
times I have maintained that our Constitution and Bill of Rights  
covered all citizens, and gave equal rights to all, including those  
of Japanese ancestry. We could ill afford to allow Prejudice to  
break down the rights guaranteed to us and other citizens. I be-  
lieve only military necessity should interfere with the freedom  
of movement of any citizens, regardless of ancestry or other  
condition."

Signed -- Arch B. Young

##### Congressional District #12

Honorable Jerry Voorhis  
Mr. Roy P. MacLaughlin

Letter

"I have yours of October 19th in regard to the question of  
residence of Japanese citizens.  
I feel that your organization is doing a grave dis-service, both  
to the people of the State and the Japanese of the South, in bring-  
ing up this question at this time. This is a matter of law and  
the constitutional rights of the people. It is not a matter, in  
my opinion, for public clamor or for the organization of a public  
movement. The rights of all individuals in the United States are  
fixed by law, and only the legislature or the Congress may change  
these laws and the Courts interpret them.

I think you are creating an issue in bringing such matters  
up for public discussion at this time."

Signed -- Roy P. MacLaughlin

"I believe it unnecessary to go into any great detail in  
answering the questions asked in your letter of October 19.  
Under the Constitution of the United States it simply is impossible  
to restrict the movement of citizens in peace time from one part  
of the contry to another, and furthermore, the Constitution does  
not recognize difference between citizens on a racial basis.

Signed -- Jerry Voorhis



Assembly 47th District Mr. A. I. Stewart

(Only candidate)

"Regarding the three questions you propound, especially question #2 wherein you ask "would you uphold the constitutional rights of all citizens of Japanese ancestry by favoring their return to California when military authorities give permission"? Mrs. Thayer, I don't believe that you intended to impugn my appreciation of my oath of office if, as and when I take it as an Assemblyman from the 47th District. I believe that I have the reputation as a public official in the City of Pasadena for the past twelve years of endeavoring to respect the constitutional rights of all citizens. I want to assure you and your committee that any matter that comes before the State Assembly, while I am a member, will receive careful and analytical consideration."

Signed ----- A. I. Stewart

Assembly 48th District

Mr. T. Fenton Knight (only candidate)

"My answer to your letter of October 19th was publicized nearly two years ago when I took the oath of office as Assemblyman representing the 48th District. That is still a valid oath."

Signed ---- T. Fenron Knight

Assembly 53rd District

Mr. Montivel A. Burke

No reply

Mr. Hugo A. Norin

No reply

From the Berkeley office of the Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play, similar letters have gone to candidates for United States Senator, Honorable Sheridan Downey and Lieut-Governor Frederick F. Houser. If replies are received in time that office will send you copies before election.

Sincerely yours,  
Maynard Force Thayer, Chairman



466 East California St.,  
Pasadena, California,  
November 15, 1945.

Memorandum: To Members, Pasadena Chapter, Committee on American Principles & Fair Play.

This is a report on the status, as of November 15, of the Pasadena Chapter, Committee on American Principles & Fair Play.

General Comments, -As is well known, the War Department, in January last, lifted the ban against the Japanese-Americans in the detention camps, and the evacuees have, since that time, been free to return to their homes or settle elsewhere in the United States. The War Relocation Authority office in Los Angeles reports that of the original 110,000 segregated in the camps, only 3500 remained in all camps (except Tule Lake), as on November 8th, and 15,500 in Tule Lake Camp. Of the 15,500 only about one-half are eligible for repatriation. Originally 36,000 were evacuated from Los Angeles County, of whom only 8500 had returned by November 8 (6000 to L.A. City included). Counting about 8,000 "eligibles" in the Tule Lake Camp, plus 3500 in the other camps, it estimated that about one-third of the total, 3800, will return to Los Angeles County by the end of this year. There will, of course, be many Japanese-Americans moving back to California from Mid-Western and Eastern points as time goes on. (A true Californiac could say no less!)

There has been a marked reduction in acts of terrorism against the returnees, only two having been reported in the daily papers in this region within the past several months. One deterrent, no doubt, was the posting by the Civil Liberties Union of an offer of a reward of a thousand dollars for information leading to the conviction, on felony charges, for such acts. The ending of the war with Japan also brought with it a lessening of the racial tension. Everything points to the peaceful return and resettlement of the remaining evacuees. Many agencies, ours among them, have contributed money, time and effort to the solution of this difficult problem.

While no large-scale outbreak of violence against the Japanese-Americans resulting from race prejudice is anticipated, this group will continue to present problems to the community at large, particularly problems involving housing and employment. These are discussed briefly below:

Aid to Japanese-American Hostel, 305 Kensington Place, Pasadena:

This establishment is badly over-crowded and under-staffed. Help from volunteer workers is urgently needed, or money contributions to pay for hired helpers. A contribution of \$25 from our cash balance has been made to this worthy cause, and as much additional as can be spared from other obligations will follow. However, this will provide only a small part of what is needed.

The hostel is in charge of two devoted women, Miss Fanning and Miss Field. All contributions sent to the Committee for this purpose will be promptly transmitted to them.



### Housing:

This is the most pressing problem now faced by the returnees, and the fact that other groups, including the demobilized soldiers, are also facing it, makes the difficulty even more serious for the Japanese-American family. There appears to be no immediate solution, but a gradual easing of the situation, as part of the post-war readjustment, can be anticipated. For the immediate future, all members are urged to do missionary work in this vineyard where the laborers are so few.

### Employment:

The employment situation is somewhat less disturbing than the housing problem, but it is hoped that no member will miss any opportunity to aid in finding jobs for returning Japanese-Americans or for those already in our midst.

### Finances:

The Pacific Coast headquarters of the Committee, located in Berkeley, succeeded in raising more than \$11,000 in 1945. The Pasadena Chapter contributed to this fund, but by far the larger portion was secured from four Foundations. This support terminated on September 1st, and since that date some of our balance has been pledged to the support of the office of the Secretary for Fair Play groups throughout Southern California, located in Los Angeles, and formerly financed from Berkeley. Under Mrs Gracia Booth, the Los Angeles office has been very active and successful in assisting with the organization of Committees on American Principles and Fair Play and Councils for Civic Unity in Southern California.

Incidentally, the Councils for Civic Unity, being organized to deal with any project designed for civic improvement, appear to be the logical organizations to take over problems such as our Chapter has been working on. Therefore, unless unforeseen developments occur, your Executive Committee may find it advisable to close the Chapter early in 1946.

You may rest assured that your support of the Pasadena Chapter has been thoroughly appreciated. We believe that our combined contributions and the moral support given by our members have played an important part in solving a community problem that urgently demanded a solution.

The Executive Committee,

Pasadena Chapter,  
Committee on American Principles  
& Fair Play.



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# PACIFIC COAST

## Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

(INCORPORATED)

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

November 27, 1944

Mr. Melford E. Smith  
Santa Maria Union High School  
Santa Maria, California

Dear Mr. Smith:

With the gradual relaxation of the order excluding all persons of Japanese ancestry from the Pacific Coast, it is obvious that all persons interested in assisting the returning evacuees should be informed as to what help they can give.

Following the National Council's adoption of the measure urging such assistance on the part of all local associations, Mr. Larry Norrie authorized me to urge you to cooperate in the following manner:

1. Send to us the names, address, and business affiliation of from five to ten of your leading Board members and other civic leaders from whom we might expect active support of a modification of the exclusion orders.

2. Names and addresses of as many persons in or about your community who would be apt to provide housing and/or employment to returning evacuees.

As it is imperative that this information be obtained as speedily as possible, may we urge that you give this priority on your "must do today" list.

Very cordially yours,

*Mrs. Harry L. Kingman*

Mrs. Harry L. Kingman  
Executive Secretary

HLK:ceh

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PACIFIC COAST

Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

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

December 12, 1944

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Executive Secretary

MRS. RUTH W. KINGMAN  
Office: 2234 Telegraph Ave.,  
Berkeley 4  
Telephone: ASHberry 6214

Dear Member:

The enclosed letter from Mrs. Kingman  
is of greatest importance.

May I urge that you follow her suggestion  
and act quickly in this matter?

Very sincerely yours,

*Arthur Cushman McGiffert, Jr.*  
Arthur Cushman McGiffert, Jr.  
Chairman, Executive Committee



PACIFIC COAST COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN  
PRINCIPLES AND FAIR PLAY

December 13, 1944

Dear Member:

As you know, most of my letters have been sent out accompanying material in support of a fair minded approach to problems surrounding our loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry.

This time I am going one step further.

WILL YOU PLEASE READ THIS CAREFULLY, AND THEN ACT.

If and when the War Department acts to modify the military order excluding persons of Japanese ancestry from the Western Defense Command, there may be a great hue and cry from those who for one reason or another will oppose the modification.

It will be of great help to the War Department, if, immediately upon any announcement of a change in policy, a strong expression of support shall appear in the local and national press.

Toward this end, will you please, today ---

- (1) Write a letter to your local paper, expressing your willingness to support the War Department, and your hope that all law abiding citizens will recognize restoration of the Constitutional rights of the evacuees.
- (2) Make two copies of the letter.
- (3) Leave them undated, to be ready for dating and signing if and when a relaxation of orders is announced.
- (4) Hold these letters until an announcement of a change in policy is made by the War Department.

THEN

DATE, SIGN AND SEND

IMMEDIATELY!

You will understand that this suggestion is not based upon any definite information--but is a natural conclusion reached as a result of careful consideration of current radio and press releases.

Very cordially yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman  
Executive Secretary

2234 Telegraph Avenue  
Berkeley 4, California



PACIFIC COAST

COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN PRINCIPLES AND FAIR PLAY  
Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California Street  
San Francisco

December 23, 1944

You are invited to attend a no host luncheon to be held on Thursday, January 4, at 12:15 in the Gold Room of the Mayflower Hotel.

The speaker at the luncheon will be Mr. Dillon S. Myer, National Director of the War Relocation Authority. You will recall a similar luncheon was scheduled in November but due to an emergency Mr. Myer was unable to be with us. He is coming to the West Coast at this time at the request of many persons who are vitally interested in obtaining definite information regarding their program of returning loyal Japanese to the West Coast.

We know that Mr. Myer both in his talk and in the discussion period following will be able to clarify this program as well as broaden our understanding of the question.

We are enclosing a postal card which we will appreciate having you fill out and return on or before December 30.

Sincerely yours,  
Frank S. Bayley  
Henry Elliott, Jr.  
Jesse Steiner

*Ruth W. Kingman*  
(Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman)

RWK/bb  
luncheon \$1.25 plus tax



When the Japanese exclusion order was issued by the Army it was for reasons of military security. The order has now been revoked and the Army states officially that there is no longer any question as to military security and for that reason American citizens of Japanese descent are to be permitted to leave the relocation centers if they desire to return to their former homes.

We must assume that the Army has made a careful investigation as to the loyalty of these citizens and is satisfied in all respects.

The Civic Unity Committee believes that when these American citizens of Japanese birth return to this community they should be extended all the rights, privileges and duties of any American citizen. Further, the Committee believes that Seattle is aware that many of the relatives and friends of these people are now fighting in the American Army and that their record for gallantry is brilliant and their casualties have been numerous.

Bearing all these things in mind, the Committee is hopeful that Seattle will respond as a truly American city and grant the returning American-Japanese citizens all the rights to which they are legally entitled.