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# WESTERN UNION

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A. N. WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

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A236 NL PD=SAN FRANCISCO CALIF 3

MRS RUTH KINGMAN CHAIRMAN AMERICAN PRINCIPLES<sup>3</sup> AND FAIR PLAY<sup>8 06</sup>  
COMMITTEE WRA

WASHDC=

ARMY INSTALLATION AT SAN CARLOS MADE AVAILABLE TO WAR  
RELOCATION FOR USE AS TEMPORARY LIVING QUARTERS HEAD OFFICE  
IN WASHINGTON HAS REFUSED TO CONSIDER IT NO PRIVATE AGENCY  
MAY TAKE IT OVER AS TERMS OF LEASE SPECIFY RETURN TO OWNER  
UNLESS USED BY GOVERNMENT AGENCY CAN YOU PERSUADE OTHERWISE=  
JOSEPHINE W DUVECK.F



# American Friends Service Committee

Philadelphia



Pennsylvania

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Executive Secretary: Clarence E. Pickett

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1830 Sutter Street  
San Francisco 15, California  
Telephone . . . WEst 7873

## Northern California Branch

Chairman: James A. Hull  
Executive Secretary: Joseph W. Conard

April 3, 1945

Mrs. Ruth Kingman  
War Relocation Authority  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Kingman,

Conferences with Mr. Preston Wright do not seem to get us anywhere in the matter of additional housing for which the Council for Civic Unity is plugging.

Do you think you could see Blandford? In the enclosed letter to Senator Johnson he speaks of the "immediate war period and the transition period in the San Francisco bay area."

When the war is over in Europe we all know that the volume of business in San Francisco is going to be tremendous. The only response Wright gives is to talk about the release of ship workers and the present availability of housing in Marinship and Richmond. These units are for single men. Mr. Wright says they hope to persuade people to move out from San Francisco to these projects leaving room for others now ill housed. You and I know that just won't happen. Even if it did, the housing shortage would still remain and will not improve for years after the war is over.

Please give him the works.

Sincerely yours,

Josephine W. Duveneck  
Associate Secretary

JWD:vb



NATIONAL HOUSING AGENCY

C O P Y

Mar. 24, 1945

My dear Senator Johnson:

Your memorandum of March 13th and the letter and report you have received from Mr. Robert E. Gibson, Executive Secretary of the Council for Civic Unity, San Francisco, addressed to the Federal Works Agency, has been referred to this office for attention.

Mr. Gibson has also written a similar letter to us in which it is proposed that a substantial amount of additional housing be authorized for the San Francisco area. I am attaching a copy of my reply to Mr. Gibson's letter, which outlines our position at the present time with respect to the proposal made by the Council for Civic Unity. You may be assured that our Regional Representative in San Francisco, Mr. Preston L. Wright, will be glad to work with the Council in developing housing programs to meet the needs, during both the immediate war period and the transition period, of the San Francisco area.

If there is any further information we can give you on this subject, please do not hesitate to call on us.

Sincerely yours,

John B. Blandford, Jr.  
Administrator



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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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MRS. RUTH W. KINGMAN  
Office: 2287 Telegraph Ave.,  
Room 215  
Berkeley 4  
Telephone: ASHberry 6214

April 5, 1945

Mr. Galen M. Fisher, Assistant Treasurer  
Committee on American Principles and Fair Play  
2287 Telegraph Avenue  
Berkeley, 4, California

Dear Mr. Fisher:

We today received the circular "High Points in 1944  
Activities". With reference to the last paragraph, please be  
advised that Mr. Scott has today contributed \$50.00 to the  
Committee.

Very truly yours,

*H. Murphy*  
H. Murphy



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989 So. El Molino Ave.—5

PACIFIC COAST

Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

PASADENA CHAPTER

466 East California Street  
Pasadena 5, California  
April 9, 1945

Mr. Galen M. Fisher  
Orinda, California

Dear Mr. Fisher:

Thank you for your letter of April 28th. I was very glad to know of Mrs. Kingman's trip to Washington and hope that more cooperation can be secured from the Army. Since Ben Kuroki's visit the Army has not seemed to be helpful, so far as I could judge. Incidentally I thought Secretary Ickes' statement was not helpful to any evacuees who were contemplating return here. There is much fear on their part from all reactions that I hear.

Attorney General Kenny has been outspoken on the subject of protection and I enclose copies of recent material we have distributed.

You suggested "continuing education on interracial relations" in Pasadena but that phase is well covered here and our Chapter does not need to work on that in any new program.

I did not think it was the responsibility of Pasadena Chapter to get Councils for Civic Unity formed "in all the chief cities". Of course the setup is confused with Los Angeles working through members of the Advisory Board and we as a Chapter. That is why I suggested we might disband as such. We have tried to help with suggestions as to people in various communities but we are not the ones to take that responsibility. In fact your mention of such "Councils for Civic Unity" was our first knowledge of such a plan. When you suggest that all minorities be included, it seems to me you have taken a new position since the Conference. Is the Pacific Coast Committee now to work for all minorities? We supposed that we were trying to secure in each community a group of people who would be on the watch for unfavorable publicity on returning evacuees and would help them to become integrated. Has your executive committee decided to widen the base?

Is there no chance for more housing which will be available for the minority groups? There must be rapid work if the Centers are to be closed by January 1, 1946.

Sincerely yours,

*Maynard Force Thayer.*



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# PACIFIC COAST

## Committee on American Principles and Fair Play (INCORPORATED)

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

*Mr. Duvenek please send to Dr.  
McSiffert as soon as convenient;  
gmj.*

April 4, 1945

### CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Galen M. Fisher  
11 E 1 S ueno  
Orinda, C alifornia

Dear Galen:

As you see, this typing is peculiarly mine. However, if I were to depend upon my longhand, you would probably give up in despair. So, kindly bear with me---

I arrived in Washington on Sunday, and on Monday had a long conference with Dillon Myer, and on Monday evening a fine two hours with Mr. Fortax, the Undersecretary of the Interior.

Taking them in that order, I will tell you something of the gist of the two conferences.

As you will be delighted to know, Mr. Myer, indeed, the entire Washington staff of the WRA seems to be keenly aware of the many unsurmountable problems facing them in the carrying out of the Jan. II closing plan. Both Mr. Myer and Mr. Tozier (Pub. Rel. and Reports Officer, Washington Office) told me that many of the points the evacuees are making in expressing dissatisfaction have been carefully considered and are being cleared up to the evacuees satisfaction. For instance, the point of the need of additional financial assistance for the purpose of purchasing furniture etc. has already been not only considered, but Mr. Myer himself has emphasized, publicly, in each center, that such assistance is available.

As he indicated to you in his letter, there will be certain specific exceptions to the "out by Jan. 1", but the exact exceptions have not yet been definitely settled upon. However, we can be confident that there will be exceptions. I have still to discuss with Mr. Myer which categories are to be excepted. Until I do, please do not quote me as saying that there will be exceptions, beyond the statement found in Mr. Myer's letter to you. I expect to have an hour or two with him tomorrow, and hope to clear up some of these points at that time. I shall let you know what comes out.

As you know, we have all been greatly disturbed with the slowness with which WRA has approached the whole task of relocation in the Pacific Coast. If nothing else should come of my trip east, I feel

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APR 10 1945



that the whole "Bottle-neck" situation has been clarified and will be rectified within a few weeks at most. This is super confidential. If you and George and I felt that there was a probability that the War Department was unaware of the interpretation of its policy which is being made by its representatives on the Pacific Coast, that certainly has held for the situation in WRA.

The feeling that we have had had for some time, that the conservative, over-cautious policy governing the relocation program was to some degree the result of the interpretation of the West Coast office, was 100% right. Some few weeks ago it was brought to the attention of Mr. Myer, and he has taken steps which should correct the situation immediately. To what extent the entire program has been slowed down, and the potential support antagonized (or at best, frustrated) Mr. Myer did not know until I was able to go into the matter with him. He is deeply grateful, and regrets only that I ~~could not have~~ <sup>could not</sup> come back sooner. As you may well imagine, changing the policy, over the head of the West Coast office, is ~~###~~ a matter requiring a great deal of care, for it would be a bad thing to appear callous to the fine loyalty and courage which has always been found in that office.

As a result of the change, I expect a rather sharp upswing in the number of returnees to be placed in satisfactory jobs ~~#####~~ during the coming three or four months. The relocation officers are now all instructed to go ahead, full swing and to recruit jobs, recruit employers, to loan equipment, to assist with the establishment of hostels, and in general to give the type of assistance necessary to a full relocation program.

Another thing I think that I have been able to impress upon the office back here is the critical nature of the housing problem. (I was asked by one of the staff members here to try to get D.M. to "more than glibly" say that they were giving attention to it, and to sit down with him to impress him with the fact that as matters now stand, there will be no relocation until there is housing). As a result, he has taken all of my notes on the problem (I had about fifteen pages prepared, with the assistance of the S.F. Council of Civic Unity), and D.M. and his assistant Rex Lee are now going over the whole thing carefully, with the idea of presenting their first specific plans to the Housing authority. The fact that they have not been specific up to this time is due to the fact that no specific reports have come from their S.F. office! Isn't that fantastic, when all of the relocation officers know very well that relocation depends upon housing more than any one other ~~#####~~ local factor? This also should be kept quiet, I think, until they've had a chance to rectify their negligence. *They are trying!*

Dillon Myer is going out to the Coast next week, and has asked me what I think he should do while there, other than take a looksee at the offices. I have made a definite suggestion, and both he and Mr. Tozier feel that it will work out well if followed through. Instead of meeting with his "support", as Bob Cozzdens has always preferred, and instead of talking before groups, I am suggesting that he go about quietly, as our "field personnel" do, going into the rural areas, talking with C. of C. men, bankers, Legionnaires, produce growers etc, leaders in his "opposition", using the approach that now that the Army and Supreme Court are permitting these people to come back, their return is apparently creating difficulties for them (I mean for the persons interviewed)—that Mr. Myer was there to try to help them solve some of these problems, and that his experience and information can be of help to them.



As most of the active opposition is made up of fundamentally decent persons, I would like to see how the conciliatory method could work.---At any rate, that is what D. M. expects to try this trip, and it should prove to be an excellent education not only for the leaders of the opposition, but for D.M. as well, and he never has had a real, first hand appreciation of the problems of the Pacific Coast. As he will be going all the way from Brawley up to Washington state, he should have quite an enlightening experience. I am also insisting that he interview, in their homes, at least one returned evacuee, in the hope that he will be able to better understand what they are up against, and what kind of assistance they still need.

Mr. McCloy is out of town, but there is a good chance that I will see him the last of next week. There is no chance that we will be able to set up conferences before April 25, as the amount of ironing out of the relationship between WRA and Army will take some real concentration. Until I can see Mc.C. there is little hope of accomplishing much.

Mr. Grew is unavailable this week, but I expect to see him early next week. I am going to the White House tomorrow, to see Anna Boettiger. Her secretary called me at my hotel, and arranged for me to see her at that time, and as George has already talked with her at some length, I hope to be able to make some headway. If I find that one appointment with her is inadequate, a mutual friend is going to arrange a luncheon for us to get together again.

Dillon M. and his ass't. and I are going into the War Food Administration possibility tomorrow, and will also decide the best approach to the Housing Administration. As soon as I see them, I'll report.

So much for thus far! Last night I had an interesting time. I went to the testimonial dinner for Justice Hugo Black. It was quite exciting-- Senator Bankhead presided, and among the several speakers, in addition to Mr. Bankhead, <sup>Mr. Black,</sup> were Mrs. Roosevelt, Justice Murphy, Judge Minton (newly appointed Circuit Court in S.F.), and Mr. Vinson. "All of Washington" was there, in their best wartime bib 'n tucker, and it was quite a sight.

May I suggest that ~~while~~ while this letter and its contents are to be ~~considered~~ confidential, you might like to show it to Mrs. Duveneck, Cush McGiffert, and possibly Paul Taylor. ~~Connie~~ Connie can show the copy I'm forwarding to the office, to Paul Taylor, so you might let Mrs. Duveneck and Cush see your copy.

My best to everyone, and I'm in there Swingin'

*Paul Kingman*

*Report on Fortes in next installment,*



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MISS CONNIE HALLIDAY 1-38

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TELL HIM I ASKED YOU DO SO. HAD TO GO OVER HIS HEAD  
CRITICIZE PROGRAM. HAVE PHONEED HIM IN PERSON GAVE VERBATUM  
ACCOUNT CRITICISM. HIS FEELINGS AND PRIDE SHARPLY HURT.  
TELL HIM ONLY I WIRED YOU ASSURE HIM ON CONTINUED SUPPORT  
AND MY AFFECTION.

RUTH KINGMAN.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE



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April 9, 1945

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman  
Hotel Ebbetts  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Bpss:

Professor Taylor called, Saturday and offered a suggestion which he wanted me to pass on to you. He thought there might be a possibility of finding a Senator or Congressman who would think it a good idea to sponsor "Homeward Bound" as a sample of the 'good' things that California can do and to combat the criticism against the state. He suggested that either Mr. Havener, Mr. Miller, or Mrs. Douglas might be willing to do it.

I am sending out the News release that Mrs. Turner wrote, today, to all the newspapers.

The report from the 'Fort': alls well, alls well.

Hope you are having an enjoyable as well as profitable time.

Sincerely,



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## PACIFIC COAST

# Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

(INCORPORATED)

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

April 13, 1945

Mr. Galen Fisher  
11 El Sueno 2  
Orinda, California

Dear Mr. Fisher:

I was very glad to receive the copy of your letter to Mr. Crotty and the enclosed pamphlet "Homeward Bound" which I think is very comprehensive and informative. Would it be possible for me to have quite a few more of these? I am sure I would find them very helpful to me in my work. They could be used at once if available.

Also, are there copies of the Attorney General's talk to the sheriffs on March 15, I believe. Ruth Kingman gave me a copy when I was in Berkeley, and I would like to have more of those if you have them. If not, what would you think about our having more copies made here?

I am glad to know that you are going to be in Los Angeles for the conference April 24-26. I expect to be there as much as possible, and hope to be able to talk more fully with you then about our end of the work down here.

Raymond Booth and I went up to Manzanar last Thursday afternoon and stayed until Sunday evening. He spoke at the Federated Church Services on Sunday while I attended the Buddhist services in commemoration of the birth of Buddha, which was a most interesting ceremony. Director Ralph Merritt was the speaker, and the huge auditorium was full.

During our stay we met in groups and individually many people interested in returning to the coast and their interest in the Fair Play Committee made me feel that I have indeed a great responsibility upon my shoulders.

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JOHN HENRY RUSSELL  
WALTER WANGER

Executive Secretary  
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1712 Kellon Ave.  
Los Angeles 24, Calif.  
Arizona 38839

MRS. GRACIA D. BOOTH  
1052 West Sixth Street  
Los Angeles 14, California  
MAdison 2578



Mr. Galen Fisher

April 13, 1945

I went out to Huntington Park on Tuesday and spoke to the Southeast Los Angeles Council of Social Agencies, a group of about fifty men and women most of whom were sympathetic toward the returning evacuee. They are ready to organize at once into a citizens committee to help. Several members of the group asked if I would come back and speak to the agencies they represented such as YWCA, YMCA, etc. I promised to come or send another speaker. I am much interested in following up their organization and work. They have one Japanese man (student) in the community who very much wants to bring his wife and child out of camp, but is still a little uneasy about public acceptance and housing. Their interest stems directly from their concern for him and his future.

Yesterday I spoke to the Wesley Club at City College at the request of Rev. Herman Beimfohr. These students were deeply interested, alert, and "rarin' to go." They also, have asked me to come back and speak to a sociology class and other groups at the college, and again, I promised to either come myself or send another speaker. The point is, that they are interested enough in our work and the problems of the evacuee to want to organize into some sort of student group to help.

I expect to go to Gardena some day soon, for, I had a call from and correspondence with a Warren Smith, the YMCA Secretary there who is anxious to do all he can, and will perhaps be one of the key people in their community work.

I have been wading through the correspondence and records turned over to me by Mrs. Kaplan and I am gradually getting a more definite idea of the beginnings of the Fair Play Committee and what has gone before, as well as a more comprehensive outlook on the future.

So far, I have almost lived at the office, and I am beginning to wonder if I can possibly begin to do the things I should with all the traveling involved on less than full-time basis. However, if the telephone company allows me a phone at home, I can do part of my work there I suppose, but I find it much more satisfactory to work from the office where everything can be properly filed, and where almost everyday worthwhile contacts are made with individuals who unexpectedly drop in for literature or to discuss the situation personally.

Since I am no typist at all, I find the efficient help of our secretary, Miss Reed, and her understanding of the Fair Play Committee work and personel in Southern California and invaluable aid to me.



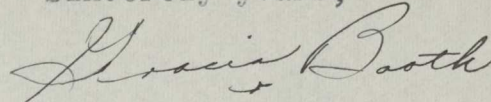
Mr. Galen Fisher

April 13, 1945

Mr. Dillon Myer spent three days this week in Los Angeles and met with Mr. Crotty, Paul Robertson, and myself for one conference, and I talked to him again at the WRA office. We did not know he was coming in time for Mr. Crotty to have the executive committee meet with him. His suggestions were very helpful.

I am anxious to hear regarding Ruth Kingman's trip to Washington, and I am wondering when she will return to Berkeley.

Sincerely yours,



Gracia D. Booth  
Executive Secretary

GDB  
rmr

CC: Mrs. Kingman  
Mr. Crotty



TL. 8983

COPY

April 13, 1945

Mr. H. S. Scott  
Fair Play Committee  
465 California St., Rm. 203  
San Francisco 4, California

Dear Mr. Scott:

Enclosed is the tax withholding certificate which you asked me to fill out and return to you.

Thank you for the check reimbursing me for the expenses of my trip to Berkeley to confer with Mrs. Kingman and Galen Fisher regarding employment with the Fair Play Committee.

Cordially yours,

*Gracia Booth*

Gracia D. Booth  
Executive Secretary

GDB:rar  
Enclosure

CC: Mrs. Kingman  
Mr. Crotty



CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
PASADENA

CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

April 16, 1945

Mr. Galen M. Fisher  
Committee on American Principles and Fair Play  
465 California Street, Room 203  
San Francisco 4, California

Dear Mr. Fisher:

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your letter of April 10th and to thank you for sending me this summary of the recent conference. On the whole it is very encouraging, particularly the address of Mr. Paul Taylor whose figures show the diminishing, rather than the increasing, concentration of any foreign element like the Japanese in California. The race difficulties are almost inevitable when such concentration gets too large in any particular area. Of course this means, so far as the Japanese are concerned, that we should all do our best to spread them throughout other parts of the country, - this primarily in their own interests.

Very cordially yours,

Robert A. Millikan

RAM:IH



April 17, 1945

Mrs. Gracia Booth  
1052 West 6th St. , Rm. 723  
Los Angeles, California

Dear Mrs. Booth:

Mr. Fisher called me yesterday and asked me to send you copies of the pamphlet "Homeward Bound", "Guide Posts", "Next on the Agenda" and copies of Attorney General Kenny's speech. I have sent you some, under separate cover.

The Pasadena Chapter has published some Extracts from Attorney General Kenny's talk which you may wish to use. Copies of this may be had from Mrs. Thayer. This is not so long as the original and may be more useful.

Mrs. Kingman returns to the office tomorrow and I shall call her attention to the copy of your letter to Mr. Fisher.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary

ch



COPY

Mrs. Kingman

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
1031 So. Broadway Ave.  
Los Angeles 15, California

April 20, 1945

Mrs. Gracia Booth  
Field Representative  
Southern California Committee  
American Principles of Fair Play  
1052 West Sixth Street  
Los Angeles, California

Dear Mrs. Booth:

The following information has been distributed to all of our relocation offices in each district in our Area:

"The Area Reports Office advises that Mrs. Gracia Booth is the newly appointed field representative of the Southern California Committee on American Principles and Fair Play. Mrs. Booth, wife of the Los Angeles District Relocation Officer, G. Raymond Booth has had much experience with WRA's relocation program.

"She has asked us to obtain from our field representatives a workable but not too detailed survey of public attitudes in organizing either chapters of the Fair Play Committee, or groups of friendly individuals who can speak with some weight in their communities.

"Mrs. Booth plans to expand her time in communities where public opinion is most hostile, in order to set up a group which will serve as an educational force and an antidote to the poison of race hatred.

"You may present the desired information to this office in any form you wish, but it is suggested you present some sort of "graded" evaluation of communities according to sentiment. Additionally, please note whether hostile attitudes are organized and actively promoted, identifying the source of hostility where possible."

Wishing you much success in your endeavors in fostering principles of Democracy.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Paul G. Robertson  
Area Supervisor



Mrs. Kingman

COPY

April 20, 1945

Mrs. Maynard Force Thayer  
466 East California Street  
Pasadena, California

Dear Mrs. Thayer:

I appreciated very much the opportunity to talk at length with you when I was in Pasadena on Wednesday, and found your suggestions most helpful. I came back to my desk on Thursday with a much clearer idea of the beginnings of the Fair Play Committee and of what has been done to date than I had before.

When one attempts to follow another very efficient person in this type of work, a clear backward look is just as important as the proper perspective for the future.

Constance Halliday sent me a number of copies of the Attorney General Kenney's talk to the sheriffs, suggesting at the same time that I might procure from you the shorter version which I think you mentioned to me the other day. If you have extra copies, I would appreciate very much receiving some of them at your earliest convenience.

Thank you again for giving me so much time.

Sincerely yours,

GDB  
RHF

Gracia D. Booth  
Executive Secretary



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C. C. YOUNG

# PACIFIC COAST

## Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

(INCORPORATED)

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

April 20, 1945

Miss Constance Halliday  
Fair Play Committee  
465 California St., Rm. 203  
San Francisco 4, California

Dear Miss Halliday:

The literature arrived this morning and will be most helpful I am sure. Thank you very much. I would like a great many more of the "Homeward Bound" if you have them for they would be almost invaluable to me and other field workers as we attempt to organize the local civic unity committees, or "what have you" committees in the Southern California area.

I shall contact Mrs. Thayer regarding the shorter version of attorney General Kenny's talk which you mention.

I am writing Mrs. Kingman at my first opportunity. I find I scarcely have "breathing time" as my three-quarter job seems to be developing into one and three-quarter time, and I am just running myself "ragged" and loving it. Mr. Crotty is a wonderful person to work with.

Thank you very much for your prompt attention to my request for literature. I would appreciate receiving anything new as soon as you have it. This pamphlet is the newest and best thing I have seen for a long time.

Our Secretary, Miss Reed, and I have just finished mimeographing the enclosed article "Sneak Attack" with some parts omitted, at Dr. Gillett's suggestion. If you wish more of these, we can run them off for you.

Sincerely yours,

*Gracia D. Booth*

Gracia D. Booth  
Executive Secretary

GDB:rmr  
Enclosure

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Executive Secretary  
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1732 Kilton Ave.  
Los Angeles 24, Calif.  
Arizona 38839  
MRS. GRACIA D. BOOTH  
1052 West Sixth Street  
Los Angeles 14, California  
MAdison 2573



April 23, 1945

Dr. Robert Gordon Sproul, President  
University of California  
Administration Building  
Berkeley, California

Dear Dr. Sproul:

At the suggestion of Mrs. Nelson (whom I have known for some time as a sorority sister of my daughter, Beverly- and who is, incidentally, a very nice person!), I have prepared an informal memo for your use in replying to Mr. Crotty's letter.

I have just returned from Washington, D.C., where I talked with many of the persons whose decisions will effect the return of the Nisei to the West Coast. Attitudes in general, "On the Hill" and in the several departments of the Government--State, Justice, War, Interior, etc. seem to be very open minded. Needless to say, there are still some recalcitrants among our California delegation. May I say that George Outland, formerly a faculty member of the University of California at Santa Barbara, is one of our most outspoken representatives in favor of constitutional treatment of minorities, including the Nisei. As he represents the Salinas Valley, it speaks well for his courage.

As to the work of the Committee, I have constantly insisted that our major task was education. Naturally, we hope that people, acting in the knowledge gained from the information we supply, will lend every effort



to secure the constitutional rights of the returnees.  
Knowledge is rather a poor thing if it leads to inertia.

However, it has been difficult from time to time, to keep the local committees from assuming the role of welfare and/or employment and/or housing agencies. By and large, we have succeeded in hewing to educational lines. You will see that we are increasing our emphasis upon the Government's responsibility for the welfare program. Our own funds and efforts will continue to add to the documentation necessary for informed support of that Government program.

We continue to feel the strength of your support. You may be sure that we shall continue to develop a program toward which you will be glad to contribute.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman  
Executive Secretary

RWK:ceh



April 23, 1945

Mr. Harry S. Scott  
465 California St.  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Scott:

Statement of expenses due Mrs. Kingman  
for her recent trip to Washington, D. C.:

Ticket (Round trip and Pullman (one way-Berkeley to Washington)	\$194.98
Pullman (Washington to Chicago)	7.36
Pullman (Chicago to Berkeley)	27.31
	<u>\$229.65</u>
Hotel (April 5-7)	40.00
Hotel (April 7-13) (voucher lost)	38.50
Meals--including tips \$3.00 daily	60.00
Pullman tips	5.50
Taxi--\$1.00 per day in Washington	13.00
	<u>\$386.65</u>
Forwarded by Mr. Scott (March 21, 1945)	<u>250.00</u>
Balance due	\$136.65

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman  
Executive Secretary

RWK:ech  
Vouchers enclosed



April 24, 1945

Mrs. Gracia D. Booth  
1052 West Sixth Street  
Los Angeles 14, California

Dear Gracia:

Home at last, and I hope that you aren't completely exhausted with trying to do too big a job. I am delighted to find (wire this a.m.) that George Rundquist is coming out again, and I am asking him to start work in Tulare County. Any information you can get from W.R.A. on hot spots thereabouts should be prepared and be waiting for him.

Enclosed you will find a memo prepared for Dr. Sproul. As you know, the work of the Committee has always been planned first of all, as documentation of an informed support of the Government Program-- at first, on an "if and when", and now on an "now they are here" basis.

Mr. Crotty and Mrs. Thayer join all of us in feeling that a more well defined program should be laid out. Toward that end, I have prepared the memo for Dr. Sproul, --off the record,-- you know that much of the definition of what we are to do depends upon our ability to see through the psychological approach of Dillon Myer as to the development of a program on the West Coast. Until I had gone to Washington,



it was impossible for me to be certain of what I already felt to be his intent. The upshot of it all is this--The Fair Play Committee, The Friends Service Committee and the Church groups I've talked with (all Northern Calif.) have no intention of taking any degree of responsibility for housing, jobs, or welfare, except on a temporary basis.

The Friends Service Committee and the Churches can, and will, provide temporary housing (hostels, etc.). Where they are to be placed permanently is not our job, but that of the Government, good Dillon Myer, notwithstanding.

Our job remains that of creating in communities the sort of an attitude which will make it possible for the Government (in this case, W.R.A.) to carry on its program.

I have told the Undersecretary of the Interior that this is our interpretation of our job and that we do not expect to try to do more.

Toward that end, we expect to employ one or two experienced persons (newspaper) to write material which will be useful in the communities where the opposition is strongest. We will continue to press public officials (including W.R.A.) to carry out their obligations.-- We will send field representatives to "hot spots" and will plan seminars and/or institutes, if the War Department will cooperate.

Galen Fisher is going south and will see you. He will be registered at the Figueroa.

I expect to be in Los Angeles around May 7, for a conference with you and Rundquist, Crotty and Mrs. Thayer. I'll let you know details later.

Meantime, may I suggest that you 1) continue your contacts with surrounding communities; 2) see if you can get members of Los Angeles and Pasadena groups to take responsibility for some of the same type of activity (being sure to avoid repetition and overlapping) and 3) get to us the sort of questions you have had to meet in the several communities



Mrs. Grace Booth

page 3

4/24/45

where you have been. Earle O'Day will be helpful in listing such questions, (as well as a fruitful source of some of the replies on a local interest basis.).

We are really going all-out on this documentation thing.

4) Get from O'Day names of press and radio he feels will be willing to accept material, professionally prepared and timely.

Don't work too hard!

I suggest that except for talking things over with Raymond, you keep my strong criticism of W.R.A. pretty close to our own people. I'm preparing a memo to Abe Fortas and will send you a confidential copy, ("you" always includes Raymond), who can take off his W.R.A. hat when he reads it, and just Make Noises Like A Husband pro tem -- noises-but hushed!

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman  
Executive Secretary

RWK:cch

Enclosures: Memo to Sproul  
Letter to Sproul



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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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Executive Secretary

MRS. RUTH W. KINGMAN

Office: 2234 Telegraph Ave.,

Berkeley 4

Telephone: ASHberry 6214

April 24, 1945

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman, Executive Sec'y.  
 Committee on American Principles and  
 Fair Play  
 2287 Telegraph Avenue  
 Berkeley, 4, Calif.

Dear Mrs. Kingman:

I have your statement of expenses dated April 23,  
 totalling \$386.65 covering your recent trip to Washington and  
 Chicago. Attached is check No. 259 in the amount of \$136.65  
 which is the balance due you after deducting the \$250.00 forwarded  
 to you on March 21 to cover your traveling expenses.

Yours very truly,

H. S. Scott, Treasurer

hm

(Encl.)

cc: Mr. Galen M. Fisher  
 Assistant Treasurer



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# PACIFIC COAST

## Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

(INCORPORATED)

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

April 26, 1945

Mrs. Ruth Kingman  
Fair Play Committee  
2287 Telegraph Ave.  
Berkeley 4, California

Dear Mrs. Kingman:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter distributed to the relocation offices by Mr. Robertson which you may find of interest.

For the last three days I have been busy in conference meetings of the Protestant Church Commission, and also busy conferring with Mr. Crotty and Galen Fisher.

We have received your letters and enclosures, and also the packages of "Homeward Bound." Thank you for these. I will answer in full soon.

Cordially yours,

*Gracia Booth*

Gracia D. Booth  
Executive Secretary

GDB  
rmr

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Office: 2234 Telegraph Ave.,  
Berkeley 4  
Telephone: ASHberry 6214

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MRS. KATHERINE E. KAPLAN  
1732 Kelson Ave.  
Los Angeles 24, Calif.  
Arizona 38839

MRS. GRACIA D. BOOTH  
1052 West Sixth Street  
Los Angeles 14, California  
MADison 2578



Mrs. Ruth Kingman

COPY

April 27, 1948

Mr. Homer D. Crotty  
Floor 10  
634 South Spring St.  
Los Angeles, California

Dear Mr. Crotty:

Upon investigation regarding the insurance company unwilling to accept new business on Japanese owned properties as mentioned in a letter from the George Dickinson and Son Company to Dr. Gillett, I find that this particular representative Miss E. Barker was referring to the New York California Underwriters with an office here headed by a Mr. Grayson and their head office in San Francisco.

I talked to Miss Barker herself who assured me that they were not the only "sinners" in this respect. Quite voluntarily she informed me that many many companies were refusing to do business with Japanese and she said, "Call TRinity 2365 and they will tell you the same." Upon calling TRinity 2365, I found it to be the Charles, Keith, and Rivers, Incorporated Insurance of 510 West Sixth Street. When I asked if they would insure Japanese owned property they said they would not, and when I asked if they knew of anyone who would, the reply was that most insurance companies had decided not to do so.

I did not pursue the subject any further, since I was only seeking to procure the names of insurance companies for you which you need in order to follow up this matter.

Sincerely yours,

GEB  
rnr

Gracia D. Booth  
Executive Secretary



COPY

Mrs. Kingman

April 27, 1946

Mrs. Maynard Force Thayer  
466 East California Street  
Pasadena, California

Dear Mrs. Thayer:

I was extremely sorry not to be able to phone you yesterday morning, but as my secretary probably told you, I just dashed in the office and out again for some pamphlets on the Fair Play Committee and resettlement, and I could not even stop to read my mail but took it along to read on the way.

I am anxious to see you again in the near future, but I am so "head over heels" with correspondence, phone calls, and following up contacts as well as with people who drop in to discuss the work of the Fair Play Committee and resettlement in general, that I sometimes forget to eat.

I was very glad to get your letter the other day with the enclosed telegram. I think such pressure exerted on those in high positions is one of the most efficient weapons we can use.

I am glad that you had a good executive meeting with Mr. Robertson.

If your Mrs. Urquhart attended the meeting, I did not meet her, but I did meet and visit a bit with a lovely Mrs. Mead, and I am going to meet her again soon. I will ask for extra minutes of the meetings and if they are available will send you a copy to read yourself and then forward on to Helen Fleck.

Thank you very much for the copies of the excerpts of the Kenney talk. I will ask Mr. Carr to send us some more.



COPY

-2-

Mrs. Thayer

April 27, 1945

We too have received only a very limited supply of "Homeward Bound" and are needing more very badly; otherwise, I would be able to supply you with more. I think they are very helpful. I am sending you a few extra copies, as you are in a position to use them just as well as, if not better than I.

Hoping to meet you again in the near future,

Sincerely yours,

GDB:rmr  
Enclosures

Gracia D. Booth  
Executive Secretary



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# PACIFIC COAST Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

(INCORPORATED)

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

April 30, 1945

Mr. Galen Fisher  
11 El Sueno 2  
Orinda, California

Dear Mr. Fisher:

I am sending you a copy of a letter to Mrs. Kingman which I marked "Confidential" but I want you to see because I feel I can be perfectly free with you in regard to all our work and problems. Discuss it with her if you see fit.

May I say first, that Raymond is thrilled and happy in anticipation of his broader field in the new job, and the lack of exasperating restrictions he found so galling in WRA.

Yesterday, I suggested to Raymond that perhaps if Mr. Crotty could not see the need of an organized active executive backing me up in the almost overwhelming job the Fair Play Committee ought to be doing, perhaps this would be the solution:

Would it be at all feasible to "liquidate" the Los Angeles Fair Play Committee without "liquidating" the Executive Secretary by merging with the Pasadena Fair Play Committee which has become known all over the country for its very fine work. We should keep Mr. Crotty who is deeply interested in the Japanese problem and other truly interested members of the executive on the board of which someone like Mrs. Thayer would be chairman. I admire her very much and feel that we were in complete accord as we talked over the possibilities for the future of the Southern California branch of the Fair Play Committee, and the absolute need of the organization of sub-committees.

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Arizona 38839  
MRS. GRACIA D. BOOTH  
1052 West Sixth Street  
Los Angeles 14, California  
MAdison 2578



Mr. Galen Fisher

April 30, 1945

Raymond says this is the best idea yet as far as he sees the problem and the need, thinking of course in terms of the work he hopes to do in the Los Angeles area. He knows I am writing to you-- use your own judgment about discussing this suggestion with Mrs. Kingman. I have not mentioned it to Mr. Crotty. If you do not think it worth considering, just say so. It is only an idea, and might not be workable at all.

I so appreciated talking things over with you and wish that I could have discussed my own responsibilities a little bit more, especially after our session in Mr. Crotty's office and our talk with Raymond just as you were leaving.

Please give me any suggestions you may have as to procedure, etc.

Sincerely,

*Gracia D. Booth*

GDB  
rmr

Gracia D. Booth  
Executive Secretary



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# PACIFIC COAST

## Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

(INCORPORATED)

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

April 30, 1945

Mrs. Ruth Kingman  
2287 Telegraph Ave.  
Berkeley 4, California

Dear Mrs. Kingman:

I was very glad to receive your letter of the twenty-fourth with enclosures which helped to clarify my own ideas about work of our committee for the next few months.

Mr. Fisher has no doubt seen you before now and told you of our talk with Mr. Crotty and of how Raymond and I feel.

I am to see Mr. Crotty again on Monday afternoon when I take Mrs. Turner in for an interview and I will talk further then with him about the need of a better organized committee.

I shall be very happy to see you on May 7, also George Rundquist.

I have submitted to Mr. Crotty a pretty definite outline of a program for our committee as I see the need here. Galen Fisher agreed to the plans as I had drawn them up and I am to send the outline on to him when Mr. Crotty returns it.

However, neither one of us felt in our interview with Mr. Crotty that he was fully sympathetic with our <sup>Plan</sup> 1. ~~of~~ organizing sub committees from among our truly interested members, or 2. spreading very far afield in the organizing of civic unity councils outside of Los Angeles proper. Perhaps after he studies the proposed plans, he may come to agree with us to some extent at least.

You suggest that I continue contacts with surrounding communities, and that is what I am doing. The WRA sent a letter to each office in the area asking the officials there to supply them with a survey (not too detailed) of public attitudes in each district which would serve as a guide for me in

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MAdison 2879



Mrs. Kingman

April 30, 1945

my activities in encouraging the organization of civic unity councils in that community. We expect to select first the areas where public opinion is most hostile. We have several people for instance, ready to organize quietly and get down to business in Gardena one of our "hot spots". Their YMCA Secretary, Warren Smith, lives in Los Angeles and is easily accessible for conferences. I am going down to Gardena early in the week if he thinks advisable.

El Centro and the Imperial Valley is another "red hot spot" and I am only waiting to hear from the WRA official and others to whom local friends of the Japanese are writing before making plans to visit there. *- or send some one else.*

On Tuesday I am going out to the San Fernando Valley and to Burbank and a few other small towns with a member of Raymond's staff, Mr. McCandliss, to investigate some friendly contacts to do with the return of eight or ten old unattached unemployable men who want to come back there and whose return depends entirely on some organized group in the community taking over the responsibility for finding housing for them. They will be on public relief of course. *Ellen Turner is going with us.*

Friday I will spend in Long Beach. A Congregational Minister there is alert and well informed, and there is already in existence a local group who only want a little guidance and some suggestions about what needs to be done first. A similar group is doing good work in Santa Monica where several Japanese have already returned.

Montebello has been a "hard nut to crack" but a Mr. Ash, also on Raymond's staff has made many trips out there--has met all sorts of people, friendly and otherwise, and keeps me well informed regarding the trend of public opinion. There are enough local people to carry the responsibility there, although I am to go myself or send someone else soon to plan with them if they so desire.

Whittier also needs a friendly group. We were out there last Sunday and I talked privately with a number of people whom we have known for a long time and have hopes that a local group may develop.

I will see what information I can get for George Rundquist regarding the "hot spots" in Tulare County.

I think your idea of seminars or institutes to be held soon should meet with the approval and support of the War Department; I hope so.

I spent one very helpful and inspiring afternoon with Mrs. Thayer whom I like very much. She, like myself, feels



Mrs. Ruth Kingman

April 30, 1945

that our Los Angeles Committee should get together and try to organize into a few smaller committees for carrying on. She suggested that Miss Priscilla Beattie, whom you may know, would be a splendid field worker. I immediately contacted Miss Beattie who is eager to help us when school is out about the first of July. She said she would love to give the summer vacation to working with me as a field worker with expenses paid of course, and hoped for some remuneration. We have not yet met, but from our telephone conversation, I was very well impressed with Miss Beattie. Mr. Fisher wished to meet her, but I was not able to contact her by telephone at all while he was here.

Another possible field worker whom I have in mind is Mrs. Eric Thompson whose husband is the WRA official in Santa Barbara. She worked a long time with Mr. Wentnor, Assistant Project Director of Manzanar, in charge of the recreational field. She is much interested and I understand especially capable of dealing with difficult people, and is a good organizer.

Then, I have wondered as I speak to Church groups and meet some of the splendid assistant ministers around here, if some of them might not be able to do some field work giving possibly a few weeks or even just making a few trips now and then to communities where they know the situation and the people better than I or the WRA could in a long, long time, with their expenses paid of course. I am hoping that Esther Breismeister will be able to help some when she comes down.

Earle O'Day as you suggested is most helpful and occasionally sends me materials he thinks will be useful.

Yesterday I spent an hour with Julia Mae Hamilton, the YWCA Secretary whom I had never met before. She tells me that the Board have agreed to the reopening of the old Japanese YWCA in Boyle Heights as a more or less permanent dormitory for single girls and women. YWCA red tape and eviction of the present tenants will take up about three months. Anyway, it is heartening to know that they are getting under the load to that extent. She suggests that Helen Flack might know of some YWCA person who would help as a field worker.

On Monday, I speak to one sociology class at 9:00 o'clock and another at 11:00 o'clock at City College under the same professor who heard me speak out there to a large group of students a couple of weeks ago. They asked me especially to bring literature on the Fair Play Committee and suggested that they might have what might be called campus committees for fair play. The idea being I think to obtain and give out all the information among the other students regarding the Japanese American problem, and trying to find their place in the solution.



Mrs. Ruth Kingman

April 30, 1945

I am trying to take your advice and not work too hard, but it is a big job and an especially hard one for a new-comer to the coast and to the Fair Play Committee work. My concern is not whether I should work too hard or too long, but whether or not the job gets done and gets done properly.

So far, the telephone company will not let me have a phone at home and so I leave early and get home late. As a matter of fact, Raymond nearly always beats me home. I am out quite often in the evenings. This is Saturday and I had hoped not to come to the office, but so far, I have come ~~every day~~ <sup>every day</sup> because visits, speeches, and interviews here consume so much time that I sneak in on Saturday when nobody thinks I am here to get a lot of extra stuff out of the way.

I am very glad that you feel your trip to Washington was worthwhile. I shall be anxious to hear all about it when you come down.

While this letter is strictly confidential in so far as local people here are concerned, I am sending a copy to Galen Fisher with whom I talked quite freely when he was down.

Sincerely,

*Gracia D. Booth*

GDB  
rmr

Gracia D. Booth  
Executive Secretary

CC: Mr. Galen Fisher