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PACIFIC COAST

Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

(INCORPORATED)

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

February 4, 1945

reply 2/8/45
Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman
2287 Telegraph Avenue
Berkeley, California

Dear Ruth:

This letter is an announcement of my resignation as executive secretary of the Committee in Los Angeles effective one week after the conference is held. As we do not know exactly when that will be, you may assume this to be effective about March 15, 1945.

This may come as somewhat of a surprise to you, although if you remember a conference that I had with Deputy Chief Lester while you were in Los Angeles, you will understand some of the background.

For a long time I have been interested in police problems, with special reference to personnel, training and interpretation in regard to policewomen. After much serious deliberation, I have decided to join the Los Angeles Police Department as I feel that it offers a great field for the kind of work that I may be able to do. This would definitely include the field of race relations, as that is a police problem also.

I knew that the Committee can easily get along without me, as so much of the community organization work has already been done. I understand that the American Council on Race Relations is putting a person full time on this work in California. This person might easily help do the work in Los Angeles as well as elsewhere. In the meantime, I will keep alert to try to find some one to take my place here, unless you would have other plans in that direction.

Needless to say, I have enjoyed my work with you and the Committee and feel that I have learned much from these contacts. If I can ever be of any help in the matters that concern the Committee, please call on me.

Best always,

Katherine

Mrs. Katherine F. Kaplan

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Executive Secretary
MRS. KATHERINE F. KAPLAN
1732 Kelton Ave.
Los Angeles 24, Calif.
Arizona 38839

February 6, 1945

Mrs. Katherine Kaplan
1732 Kelton Avenue
Los Angeles 24, California

Dear Mrs. Kaplan:

The reason for the delay in replying to your wire is that it has been difficult to find out exactly what Senate Bill #139 was.

The information we get is that the Bill amends section 8 and 9 of the Alien Land Law adopted in 1920.

The discriminatory factor in this bill is that it would place the burden of proof upon the Defendant that he did not seek to evade the law, which is contrary to the usual practice of civil law. Even in criminal cases the burden of proof is upon the State, and this bill, to all purposes, would tend to place in a special category in escheat proceedings those residents of the state who are not eligible to citizenship. There is a question of the constitutionality of a procedure which would place the burden of proof upon the defendant. I believe that you might recommend to the League of Women Voters that they oppose this particular Bill and I suggest that you get in touch with Al Wirin of the Civil Liberties Union and discuss this matter with him.

Concerning the matter of the conference in Los Angeles similar to the one held in San Francisco, Ruth thinks it would be difficult to plan such a conference and get it set up before the middle of March, and her thought was that we might plan to arrange conferences to be held immediately following the Los Angeles conference in the Stockton-Sacramento area, Portland, and possibly Spokane; and that is a special speaker is obtained for the conference, that he cover all four.

ob

We are in agreement that for the present it is best to soft pedal the role of the W.R.A. and also not to play up Dillon Myer's leadership in efforts to return the Japanese. It seems to me that we should do all that we possibly can to minimize the W.R.A.'s part in this show and to play up and publicize the fact that the Army is responsible for the return of the evacuees. We can do that by recalling the original orders for the evacuation issued by the Army, the general supervision of relocation in the past few years by the Army; for example, the restriction on colleges which Nisei students might attend, employment in Defense Industries, and free movement within the Eastern Defense Command. Every new policy of the W.R.A. had to be in a sense approved by the War Department and the liberalizing of restrictions against the evacuees has in every case been initiated by the Army. As you know, any restrictions against attendance of Nisei at any University have been removed by the Army. The procedures with regard to employment in Defense Industries have been greatly liberalized by the Army as formerly evacuees had to have special clearance prior to employment in a Defense plant, whereas now, they are treated on the same basis as other Americans and are permitted to work during the period of investigation. We should try to remember that the W.R.A.'s part in this particular problem is that of an agency which during the past three years has been primarily concerned with the affairs and problems of the evacuees and it was logical for the Army, when it lifted the ban, to assign to the W.R.A. certain responsibilities.

We need to get across to the public this thought, that the Army is running the show, and the W.R.A., like the Farm Security Administration, or any other government agency, can only function within the Army program.

Raymond Booth, the Relocation Office in Los Angeles, knows the whole story of evacuation as well as anyone and I think that he can give you a fairly clear picture of how the Army influenced policy of the W.R.A. resettlement program, Student Relocation and evacuee employment.

I understand that Dillon Myer will be in Los Angeles sometime during the week of February 25, stopping on a tour of relocation centers. He is going to Manzanar from Los Angeles. He doesn't have to have a meeting at this time. I understand that he will be available the latter part of February or the first few days of March.

Sincerely,

George Rundquist

February 10, 1945

Mrs. Katherine Kaplan
1732 Helton Avenue
Los Angeles 24, California

Dear Mrs. Kaplan:

I had lunch with Ruth yesterday. It seems she knew all about your plans to become a policeman, since you had phoned her the news. The new job sounds very interesting and certainly offers an opportunity for a person of your ability and interests, and I hope that you will be happy in your new undertaking.

Ruth told me that for the time, at least, you didn't feel that it was particularly necessary to set up a conference for Los Angeles, which relieves me very much. Ruth was delighted that you had come to that conclusion.

Ruth bet me one Life Saver (peppermint flavored) that if the Los Angeles Committee on American Principles and Fair Play ~~did~~ not invite him to a conference or ask him to make a speech, that Dillon would let the Pasadena people know that he was going to be in the vicinity, and, of course, if they asked him to make an address he couldn't refuse. Mind you, I didn't risk more than one Life Saver. I'll be interested in learning if I have lost my bet.

Tomorrow, a small group of us are going to meet to discuss and I hope decide, what the future of the Fair Play Committee should be and how personnel available for full time service, might be used most effectively in the next four to five months.

We hope to sit down with a map and to assign to certain individuals the job of seeing that organizations are set up in the area to aid and service returning evacuees and to help create if not a friendly attitude, one that is neutral to the people of Japanese ancestry who might return to their former homes. If there are some decisions made and we just don't talk about things we'll pass the news along to you.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely,

George E. Rundquist

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PACIFIC COAST

Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

(INCORPORATED)

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

February 14, 1945

Reply 2/20/45
Mr. George Rundquist
2287 Telegraph Avenue
Berkeley 4, California

Dear Mr. Rundquist:

We are very anxious to know what has happened to the findings of the January 10 Conference. The statements of the government agencies and the general summary of that conference is needed by us in the work we are attempting to do here. We feel it is very necessary that direct quotes from these government agencies as to their intentions on the problem of Japanese Americans be included in the letters we write to the pastors in Southern California. These letters are being held up pending this information. Please let me know how soon we may expect these statements.

I am afraid my resignation from the committee will have to be effective as of Friday, March 9. I regret that I have to step out so soon, but it seems as a little surgery is indicated for my general well being before I step into my new job. My doctor recommends that I go to the hospital no later than March 12. Sorry, this is going to add a note of confusion to the plans of the Fair Play Committee, but it can't be helped, and I don't like it any better than you do.

We are very anxious to hear about the statements of the government agencies, so I would appreciate an early reply.

Regards,

Katherine F. Kaplan

Katherine F. Kaplan
Executive Secretary

KFK
rmr

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H. S. SCOTT
PRESIDENT

February 16, 1945

Mr. Lane Summers
Hayden, Merritt, Summers & Stafford
Central Building
Seattle, 4, Washington

Dear Lane:

I have your letter of February 15 concerning the call of Mr. A. J. Ritchie and Mr. E. A. McCroskey with regard to the Japanese situation.

I shall be glad to see them if they will call. As I think I told you, I have been active in an organization known as the "Committee on American Principles and Fair Play" at San Francisco, and have been a member of its executive committee and its Treasurer ever since it was organized some years ago.

Sincerely yours,

H. S. Scott

HSS:HM

cc: Mr. Galen Fisher ✓

Dear Mr. Fisher:

Thought you would be interested in the enclosures.

H. S. S. ✓

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WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

1201

SYMBOLS

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NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

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GEORGE RUNDQUIST=

2287 TELEGRAPH AVE BERKELEY CALIF=

COMMITTEE HERE MUCH CONCERNED ABOUT FRESNO AFFAIR. BELIEVE
CULPRITS MUST BE FOUND AND PUNISHED AS AN EXAMPLE TO THE
REST OF THE STATE STOP STRONGLY URGE YOUR COMMITTEE SUPPORT
ATTORNEY GENERAL KENNY IN THIS MATTER=

KATHERINE KAPLAN..

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Citizens - best American Soldiers -
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Hitler's man
from Battle of
Imperial Valley good
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PACIFIC COAST

Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

PASADENA CHAPTER

466 East California Street
Pasadena, 5, California
February 17, 1945

Committee on American Principles and Fair Play
2287 Telegraph Avenue
Berkeley, 4, California

Gentlemen:

Although I heard in a round-about way that Mrs. Kingman is taking an enforced vacation because of health, I suppose that the office is still functioning, there fore I am asking you several questions.

At the time of the Conference in January, we were told that a resume of the proceedings would be sent, not only to those who attended but to all members. On the train coming south Mrs. Kingman expected that we would receive this in a short time. Not one word have we had from your office in all this time and it is most difficult to carry on and progress without knowing more of what is going on. That Conference seemed to me such a high mark in our work but the material is so delayed now that it can not carry as much influence as it would have had.

Next Wednesday I am to speak in the evening at the Community Church in Claremont on Japanese-American problems and have been asked to say what the Committee is now doing and planning. You can see that latter will be impossible.

(1) Will you kindly send me about fifty of the statements of the folders giving the Policies of the Committee? (2) Does the Committee expect to continue to function and if so along what line?

I shall appreciate an answer for so many of our local members are asking what we are supposed to be doing .

Sincerely yours,

Maynard Force Thayer.

Reply
OK
2/23/45

483 East Villa
Pasadena 4, California
February 20, 1945:

Dear George -

This is simply a memo to remind you of our talk this afternoon relative the names of friendly people up and down the coast to whom we can send a letter of stimulation.

The greater the number of communities the better, and, obviously, the larger the numbers of people reached the better.

We hope to get this material out by the first of next week. If you can see that I get the list as soon as possible it will be very helpful. I'll be back home this week-end.

Thanks ever so much.

And thanks for telling me of the meeting this noon. Perhaps we can get something going in southern California on it. It was good to have seen you and to have met with you again today.

Cordially,

Walt Godfrey

PS - If you haven't the time to make a new list, but can loan me the one you have from WRA, plus your own, I promise to return them to you promptly. W.G.

February 20, 1945

Mrs. Katherine Kaplan
1732 Kelton Avenue
Los Angeles 24, California

Dear Mrs. Kaplan:

We got in touch with the Attorney General, who is now in Los Angeles, with regards to your telegram of February 19.

His chief investigator with several men is now in the valley about Fresno to strengthen the hands of the Sheriff. They are doing what they can to apprehend the people who fired the shots. We are assured that the Attorney General's office will do all that they can to prevent such incidents.

The findings of the January 10 conference are being summarized and readied as rapidly as possible. We hope to have them ready by the first of next week.

Very sincerely yours,

George E. Rundquist

GER:cch

February 21, 1945

Mrs. Maynard Force Thayer
466 East California Street
Pasadena 5, California

Dear Mrs. Thayer:

The statements of policy which you requested in your letter of February 17 are being mailed today.

The resume of the proceedings of the conference will be sent out as soon as they can be completed. It is unfortunate that they could not be ready sooner, but there are limitations of time and personnel which means somethings have to be delayed.

The Executive Committee here is working hard to establish the future policies and plans of the Committee. We will have ready shortly a statement of these plans. Until the discussions and planning were completed, it has not been possible to announce any future policy.

From my own personal observation I might just say that the present plans of the Committee are to continue at least for the next six months to meet the problems of public relations with respect to the Japanese-Americans. It is hoped that we can work through already existing community organizations and where possible to foster such groups if they do not already exist.

Mr. Rundquist is working out a statement of the future plans, and as soon as it is completed, I will send you a copy.

I am sorry that the unavoidable delay has inconvenienced the work of the Pasadena members.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary

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Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

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Office: 2234 Telegraph Ave.,
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February 21, 1945

Mr. George Rundquist
Committee on American Principles and Fair Play
2287 Telegraph Avenue
Berkeley, 4, California

Dear Mr. Rundquist:

I am enclosing Employee's Withholding Exemption
Certificate, Form W-4, which please fill in and return at
your earliest convenience.

Yours very truly,

Harry S. Scott
Harry S. Scott

hm/

February 22, 1945

Mr. Homer D. Crotty
634 South Spring Street
Los Angeles, California

Dear Mr. Crotty:

On Saturday, February 10, Dr. Monroe Deutsch, Mr. Galen Fisher, Paul Taylor, Miss Annie Ole Watson and myself, of the Fair Play Committee met with Larry Hewes and Mrs. Ellen Turner, of the American Council on Race Relations, in the office of Dr. Deutsch, to consider the following questions.

1. The activities of the Fair Play Committee for the next six months.
2. Relationships with the American Council on Race Relations and other organizations concerned with racial and nationality prejudices and discriminations.

The sense of the meeting was:

1. The Fair Play Committee for the present, at least, should concentrate its activities on matters concerning people of Japanese ancestry.
2. The Committee through its membership should continue to meet false and inaccurate statements published in the press or made public in any other manner with factual data and continue to encourage intelligent informed citizens to stand firmly for democratic American principles and actions.
3. The bringing together and organization of people of goodwill to aid returning evacuees in rural areas, requires personnel for field work. It was suggested that the Committee request agencies such as the Y.M.C.A., the Y.W.C.A., the American Friends Service Committee and the Conference of Christians and Jews, and so on, to assign members of their staff to work under the guidance of the Committee (in co-operation with the American Council on Race Relations) for a period of ninety days to effect the organization of local committees.

4. The Committee on American Principles and Fair Play should work closely with the American Council on Race Relations which is in a position to render consultant and technical services of a specialized nature. Its services are available to organizations concerned with racial prejudices and discriminations. We should make use of this expert assistance.

5. Realizing the time and personnel limitations of interested groups, committees, agencies and individuals, we should seek to learn what these groups or individuals might specifically undertake and actually accomplish and what resources they have for distribution of information and literature; not only material furnished by the Committee or War Relocation Authority, but propaganda in their own publications.

6. The Committee on American Principles and Fair Play has not yet seen clearly whether or not it should continue as an organization after the Constitutional rights of the people of Japanese ancestry to live in our communities have been fully recognized. As you know, there was some feeling at the conference that the Committee should concern itself with all racial discriminations; others were of the opinion that the Committee should concern itself in the future primarily only with persons of Oriental ancestry and another opinion was that the Committee should go out of existence when West Coast communities have recognized the problems and permit the evacuated people to return to their homes without disturbances.

Sincerely,

George E. Rundquist

GER:cch

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WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

1201

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

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TA80

T.KHA337 NL PD=WUX HUNT IDA 28

GEO RUNDQUST:

2287 TELEGRAPH AVE BERKELEY CALIF:

1945 FEB 28 PM 5 41

=I RECEIVED WIRE FROM RAYMONT REGARDING LOSANGELES FAIR PLAY
COMMITTEE JOB. DEFINITELY INTERESTED. LEAVING HERE THURSDAY
NOON. ARRIVING LOS ANGELES SATURDAY. WRITE ME DETAILS THERE=
GRACIA

FRESNO STATE COLLEGE

Fresno, California

Dean of Women

February 28, 1945

Mr. George E. Rundquist
465 California Street
San Francisco 4, California.

Dear Mr. Rundquist:

Thank you for your good letter of the 12th of February. I have just been talking with Dr. Phillips and he has your recent letter but he has just returned from a short trip and has not had time to look it over. It sounds most interesting and promising to me.

Sunday, Mr. Kirby Paige was here and spoke to me about one hundred people in the YWCA and Mayor Leymel was present and seemed enthusiastic. Some of the women talked with him and urged him to continue with his plan to appoint a committee and I am sure that they were helpful.

I understand that the President of the YWCA and one or two of her board called on the Editor of the Fresno Bee and urged him to be cooperative and received a nice hearing. How effective it will be remains to be seen but they think that the Bee has been more careful since then. The editor frankly acknowledged that all policies were dictated from Sacramento.

Mr. Fisher told me of a serious situation in Orosi where a man has been handling several ranches and apparently receiving large benefits without giving an accounting. He is one of the chief opponents of the returning of the Japanese to that district. Mr. Fisher was highly indignant and said he was going to have the man investigated immediately.

Sincerely yours,

Mary C. Baker

Mary C. Baker
Dean of Women.

MCB:gc

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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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Office: 2234 Telegraph Ave.,
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February 28, 1945

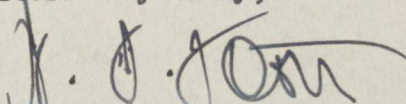
Mr. Galen M. Fisher, Assistant Treasurer
Committee on American Principles and Fair Play
2287 Telegraph Avenue
Berkeley, 4, California

Dear Mr. Fisher:

I am enclosing herewith letter from The Rosenberg Foundation with copy of my reply, from which you will note that we have received the sum of \$2000.00 as a contribution from the Foundation to the Committee.

We have deposited this check to the Committee's account in the American Trust Company.

Yours very truly,


Harry S. Scott

HSS:HM

(Encl. 2)

THE ROSENBERG FOUNDATION

177 POST STREET

SAN FRANCISCO 8, CALIF.

February 27, 1945

Mr. Harry S. Scott, Treasurer
Committee on American
Principles and Fair Play
465 California Street
San Francisco 4, California

Dear Mr. Scott:

I am enclosing a check from the Rosenberg
Foundation for \$2,000.

This represents a grant to the Committee on
American Principles and Fair Play in support
of a terminal program to insure that the con-
stitutional rights may be enjoyed by the
returning Japanese evacuees.

Our best wishes go with you in this program.

Sincerely yours,

Leslie W. Ganyard
Secretary

C

Enc.

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

February 28, 1945

Mr. Leslie W. Ganyard, Secretary
The Rosenberg Foundation
177 Post Street
San Francisco, 8, California

Dear Mr. Ganyard:

I have to thank you sincerely for your Foundation check
in the sum of \$2,000.00 in favor of the Committee on American
Principles and Fair Play as a contribution to the fund in the
support of the Committee's effort to insure the constitutional
rights for the returning Japanese evacuees.

Yours very truly,

Harry S. Scott

HSS:HM

cc: Mr. Galen M. Fisher

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

1201

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TA06

T. SB13 NL PD=TDS WEST LOSANGELES CALIF 1

MRS RUTH W KINGMAN:

-2287 TELEGRAM AVE BERKELEY CALIF-

PLEASE ADVISE ME IMMEDIATELY ON ACTION I SHOULD RECOMMEND
FOR THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS TO TAKE ON SENATE BILL
NUMBER 139 IN REGARDS TO ESCHEATS=

CATHERINE KAPLAN..

Be 9492

An 6214

Secretary
Feb 9 1945
Mail

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE