

DIARY

Charles Kikuchi
Chicago

September 1, 1943

I had to appear before the clerk who asked me in a very tired and funny voice, "Do you solemnly swear that the statements herein are absolutely true so help you God?" I said, "I do" and I almost laughed when Bette said that it sounded as bad as getting married. < Then Mrs. Foltz went to see the judge and we had to wait in the Probate Court Room for quite a while. He asked it so then we had to go and sit in the Clerk of the Probate Court Room and the final papers were punched. > After that we went back to the Co. Clerk Room and a copy was made for me. On this day, one Charles Kikuchi is now the legal guardian of Miss Bette Kikuchi. What a headache I am letting myself in for, I betcha. After that we went out to drink a coke to toast this memorable occasion.

< We went over to the Central Y High School to ask about the credits. We still do not know if the legal guardianship will enable Bette to get into the public schools free of tuition. It was a little doubtful whether the school will accept the guardianship as sufficient. The Central Y will not put all of the credits on their transcript so that the question of getting the Gila credits accepted is going to come up again. The secretary said that the rules did not allow for such a thing to be done. That is the trouble with this world, too many people stick by the rules that the situation has outgrown and they are afraid to take a chance when a new problem comes up so they become more conservative than ever. The best we could do was to have the Central Y send out Bette's grades from that high school to Hyde Park.

Bette went on home after deliberating whether to: go to a show, go to Hyde Park High School, go shopping, or go home. She finally decided to go on home so that I gave her my coat to take with her.

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I came on over here to the Friends but it was busy so that I did not get to see Togo before lunch. I phoned up the Hostel to arrange for an interview with Mr. Shiramoto, but he has moved out to the near north side. Talked for a few minutes with Mary Sonoda (CH-8) and she said that she just found a place to stay. Two days ago, they were desperate as they did not have a place lined up and they had to be out by today. Then some Nisei phoned in to the JACL and said that he had a two story house way up on 79th North and he wanted to sub lease it. Mary got busy and closed the deal. She likes the place a lot as it is spacious for the seven of them, but she is a bit worried because no papers were signed. The landlord does not know yet that they are moving in today. The owner lives in Vermont right now but he may come in next month on the way to California. The lease runs until October 31 and the owner may decide to stay here, in which case Mary will be out of a home again. She will try to take the lease herself as she wants to bring her parents out and the house is large enough to accomodate them and it is in a good area.

Some of the Niseis around here are elated that Superman has cleared the name of the Niseis. The story is being publicized in all of the center papers and the Pacific citizens. The JACL'ers think that it was its pressure which turned the trick, but I would say that it was more the pressure of the WRA.

I would also venture to say that more Americans will read this message about the Niseis than through any other publicity releases. The comic strip is a potent propaganda instrument in the American life because it reaches so many people who never arise above the funny book level of

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DIARY

Charles Kikuchi
Chicago

September 2, 1943

COPY

over

BOARD OF EDUCATION
City of Chicago

August 25, 1943

Mr. Charles Kikuchi
4743 Drexel Blvd.,
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Kikuchi:

Under the rules of the Board of Education, the application of Bette Kikuchi requesting exemption from the payment of tuition has been denied.

This student can be admitted to the Chicago Public Schools only upon the payment of a non-resident tuition fee, in the sum of \$196.00 per school year.

Yours very truly

/s/ F. H. Landmesser
Secretary

DIARY

September 2, 1943

Charles Kikuchi
Chicago

COPY

LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP

Form 32

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
COUNTY OF COOK)

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COOK COUNTY

In the Matter of the Estate of)	File	43p. 5699
)		
Bette Kikuchi)	Docket	82
)		
)	Page	28

Minor

Know all men by these presents that Charles Kikuchi

has been appointed
guardian of

Bette Kikuchi , a minor born on July 3rd 1926

and is authorized to have under the direction of the Court, the care, management, and investment of the minor's estate (and the custody, nurture and tuition of the minor) and is authorized to perform all duties imposed on him so far as the law charges him and to do all other acts now or hereafter required of him.

(SEAL)

Witness, Frank Lyman, Clerk of the Probate Court of Cook County, and the seal of the Court, at the City of Chicago in said County, this 1st day of Sept., 1943.

Frank Lyman Clerk

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
COUNTY OF COOK)

I, Frank Lyman, Clerk of the Probate Court of Cook County, Illinois, do hereby certify that the within is a true and correct copy of letters granted on the 1st day of Sept. 1943 to Charles Kikuchi as guardian and of Bette Kikuchi minor, and now in force.

(SEAL)

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Court, at Chicago, in said County this 1st day of Sept. 1943.

/s/ Frank Lyman Clerk

File 43 P 5699

Docket 82 Page 2

Probate Court of Cook County

In the Matter of the Estate of

Bette Kikuchi

Minor

LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP

FRANK LYMAN

Clerk of the Probate Court

DIARY

CHARLES KIKUCHI
Chicago

September 1, 1943

reading. The concluding episode of the adventures of Superman in the camps hunting for the Jap Saboteurs had him saying, "It should be remembered that most Japanese Americans are loyal citizens. Many are in combat units of our armed forces, and others are working in war factories. According to government statements, not one act of sabotage was perpetrated in Hawaii or territorial U.S. by a Japanese American." Well, well, if Superman says we are loyal, there should be no more question about it as he knows everything.

< While I was in the office, I used the phone for some calls for possible interviews, but I did not have much luck. Nobody was at home. This means that it will be increasingly difficult to get any person for interviews during the day.

Bette and I went to a show to "celebrate" the fact that I am her legal guardian. It was a good excuse for Bette to go to the show. I thought that with Emiko gone, she would be bored with life, but she is a very adjustable person and she is always keeping occupied. I have no worry about going off for nite interviews.

I don't feel much like writing up the rest of the news I picked up today so that I will have to get at it tomorrow. My schedlue has been disrupted in the past few days anyway.

September 2, 1943

I had intentions of accomplishing a great deal but somehow, a lot of things piled up on me again. When I got to the office, Frank said that Dr. Johnson would like to see me so that I sent down to his office right away.

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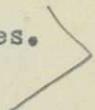
Charles Kikuchi
Chicago *omit p.*

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He told me that Miss Herrick was curious to know of what progress I had made so that I phoned her from his office. She was glad that the main hump of the problems had been solved. She suggested that I get the WRA to do something about the credits for work done/for Emiko and she said to keep the Chicago Teacher's Union in touch with any progress made. She felt that if the Friends would write some sort of a letter to Mr. Humphires of the Jr. College that it might help in getting the exemption for the tuition.

Dr. Johnson said that Miss Herrick was a fearless person and that the Board of Education had a high respect for her so that it was a good idea to follow up her suggestions. I went right upstairs and spent the rest of the morning in writing letters. I told Emiko that it was not quite so urgent for her to get back right away, but to try to arrive by the 15th as the Junior College was starting on the 25th of this month. I did not want to make her think that the chances for tuition exemption were so optimistic so that I told her she would probably have to pay the tuition. However, I said that the National Student Relocation Council was most interested in her so that she should write again to Miss Emmons right away and also write to Mr. Humphries of the Junior College. I had previously written to these two.

Then I wrote to Friends, addressing it to Togo, asking if it could not send a letter of sponsorship and also to mention the situation of why we were out here to the Junior College/a bit perhaps. I gave Togo all the circumstances of the case telling him to stress the fact that Emiko was most desirous of continuing on with her education at this time, but that she did not have sufficient financial resources.



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I ~~also~~ wrote to Mr. Shirrell telling him about the newest procedure of getting out legal guardianship for minors and pointed out that he should steer the Niseis to the Legal Aid Society and not the Probate Courts since the court clerks down there attempt to direct you to a lawyer. < Dr. Johnson told me that I had saved at least \$50.00 in lawyer and court fees and got much speedier results by knowing the proper place to go. > I also pointed out the difficulty of getting credit in the schools and asked if it would be possible for him to write the school to get them to give the Niseis a break. If this did not work, I asked him if he could get the schools to give special examinations on the subjects the Niseis had taken in camp to see if they could reach the Chicago Standards. If this hump is safely gotten over, Bette will be able to go along smoothly from now on. I think that I did the WRA a favor because it was all mixed up on procedures and it did not know how to advise the Nisei students who came here without parents.

I still have not given up the idea that there is a chance for tuition exemption for Emiko so that I wrote to the Board of Education again, pointing out that I was responsible for both Emiko and Bette and it was a little difficult to reconcile the fact that one sister is given exemption and the other is denied. I hope that some good results may come out of this. I still have to see Mr. Levin of the Board of Education, and then there is the possibility that Mrs. Erlanger of the Refugee Bureau of the United Charities, Inc. may be able to help. I got a letter from the Student Relocation Council in regard to Emiko so that the prospects are very bright there. If one or two ^{of} these things come through, it will solve everything. I have to approach it from several different directions as it is hard to

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Charles Kikuchi
Chicago

September 2, 1943

Amount through 3176

4743 S. Drexel Blvd.,
Chicago, Illinois

Mr. F.H. Landmesser
Secretary,
Board of Education,
228 N. La Salle Ave.,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Landmesser:

I am sending in an application for exemption from payment of tuition in the Woodrow Wilson Junior College for my sister, Emiko.

On August 25, 1943, I received a letter from your office denying the application from my other sister, Bette. However, since that time I have received my papers for legal guardianship for Bette, the copy being enclosed. Through a telephone conversation with your office I have been informed that this would be sufficient for enrollment without payment of tuition. This has been verified by Pearl E. Foltz, attorney-at-law for the Legal Aid Bureau of this city; Mr. Elmer Shirrell of the War Relocation Authority; Dr. E. Johnson of the Department of Education at the University of Chicago and Miss Mary Herrick of the Chicago Teachers' Union. I have also made contact with Mr. San Levin, a member of the Board of Education, however, have not been able to interview him as yet due to the fact that he is out of town at the present time.

The present application for exemption for my sister, Emiko, is based on the above facts. Although she is 18 and I cannot obtain legal guardianship for her, she is financially dependent upon me for her livelihood. I brought her to this city with intentions of residing here permanently. At the present time I am employed in the Evacuation and Resettlement Study at the University of Chicago, Room 502, Socail Science Building.

I hope that it will be possible for my sister, Emiko, to be granted exemption from payment of tuition. The college is opening on September 15 so that I will appreciate immensely if some notification of decision reached in this matter can be sent to me as soon as possible. It is my earnest hope that every consideration possible will be given to this application.

Thank you very much.

Yours very truly,

CK:s

Charles Kikuchi

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Charles Kikuchi
Chicago

September 2, 1943

COPY

NATIONAL JAPANESE AMERICAN STUDENT RELOCATION COUNCIL

1201 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

August 25, 1943

Mr. Charles Kikuchi
4743 Drexel Blvd.
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Charles:

Thank you for writing us about your sister, Emiko. I can well understand your concern about her acceptance by Wilson Junior College and her financial arrangements.

I did not realize that Wilson was holding up her acceptance because of her financial status. I will write Mr. Humphries, the Registrar, immediately stating that in all probability, Emiko will be receiving a scholarship from the Presbyterian Board of Education. I assume that Emiko has asked your mother to write the school concerning her legal guardianship and that she has written the San Francisco Junior College asking them to send Wilson Junior College the necessary statement concerning her enrollment there.

I feel sure it will be possible for Emiko to enter in September. We hope she will be willing to take a room and board job to meet her living expenses.

Please accept my deep sympathies in the passing of your father. I can well understand why Emiko felt she should return to the project at this time. Thank you again for writing us and best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ (Mrs.) Elizabeth B. Emlen
Financial Adviser

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Charles Kikuchi
Chicago

September 2, 1943

COPY

NATIONAL JAPANESE AMERICAN STUDENT RELOCATION COUNCIL

1201 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

August 30, 1943

Mr. Charles Kikuchi
Social Science Research Building
Room 502
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Charles:

Bill and I were delighted to hear that you are considering continueing your education. When you have done so much to help your two sisters, it seems only fair that you be able to continue your studies, as well.

I cannot give you any definite information about financial aid. As you know, there are many more students to be helped than there is aid available. We have to consider very carefully the applications from graduate students since there are so many under graduates needing scholarship grants. But we may well be able to secure some assistance for you. Do keep us in touch with your plans. Good luck!

Sincerely yours,

/s/ (Mrs.) Betty Emlen
Financial Adviser

EBE:lch

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Charles Kikuchi
Chicago

September 2, 1943

NATIONAL JAPANESE AMERICAN STUDENT RELOCATION COUNCIL

1201 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

August 30, 1943

Mr. Charles Kikuchi
Social Science Research Bldg.
Room 502
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Charles:

We have received your letter of August 24th and thank you for it. We are happy to hear that you now have considered to further your education as there is a slight possibility that you may be admitted for a part-time course in the School of Social Service Administration at the University of Chicago. We have accordingly requested the University of California to forward one copy of your transcript to Miss Helen R. Wright, Dean of the School.

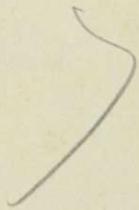
Attached herewith you will find two copies of our student questionnaire forms which we would like you to fill out and return to this office. We are requesting this for our files.

We hope that it will be possible for you to be admitted to the University of Chicago in the very near future. Best of luck!

Sincerely yours,

/s/ William C. Stevenson
Records Department

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tell which is the best bet. There is certainly nothing to lose. The unknown ace in the hole is the Chicago Teacher's Union; it may be able to exert enough pressure to make the Board of Education give in.

It is not a problem of racial discrimination, but simply a matter of the non-residence clause and how to interpret it. The board interprets that Emiko is a non-resident because one parent lives out of the state. My argument is that I came here with the intention of permanently resettling and that Emiko should have the same rights in the public school system as Bette since I am financially responsible for both. The non-residence clause cannot exactly be applied since it was not of my choosing that I had to leave California. It is a technicality that may be interpreted either way and my only hope is to get enough support to make an impression and convince the Board that the unprecedented evacuation should be taken into consideration in any ruling that is made. If that argument is denied by the Board, there is nothing else to be done, unless the Junior College closes its eyes and lets Emiko slip in on the basis that this is a special case. The only thing to do is to rally as much support as possible and this takes time to make contacts where its influence will be felt.

My own chances of getting into the University here are dark and will be so until the Admissions ^gBody acts on it. The Student Relocation Council is sending for the transcripts for me. I am glad that Tom mentioned this to me since it saves me about \$6.00. I can use that money for Emiko's and Bette's school and have earmarked that much out of next month's salary for this purpose. I also made a note of the \$50.00 "saved" in the legal guardianship. If enough of these things happen, it may not cost me very much to

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send them through school. I hate to worry about money matters, but I find that I have been doing it more since I have had the two sisters on hand. Before I did not care if I was broke and spent what I had, but now I have to fulfil a certain obligation which I consider this like a debt to be repaid.

Miss ^{Betty} Emlen of the Relocation Council also suggests that if I can get accepted for enrollment, there may be some possible financial assistance from them, but it is uncertain due to the fact that there are so many undergraduate students in need of help. Maybe things will begin to break for us soon. If I can get the assistance for Emiko, that is all I care about as it will then be possible for me to manage the tuition for any courses that I take.

omit p. 3207

This afternoon, I was alone in the office and Jimmy Sugihara dropped in. I knew him at U.C. He has done a lot of graduate work and so he taught chemistry at Tanforan. His ~~sister~~ is one of the brilliant Nisei intellectuals in N.Y., now working with the American Civil Liberties Union. Jimmy said that he left Topaz ten days after he got there. He had previously made plans to go to the University of Utah, but the Army would not let him out of Tanforan. Jimmy attended one semester at the U. of Utah and found that he had taken all of the courses they offered and then some. At the beginning of this semester, he was offered a job teaching chemistry there so he took it. He taught the Junior students this spring and when he ^{goes} back he will teach Army students. He said that it was easy for him to teach chemistry and he managed to keep well ahead of the class. He said that many of the Niseis teaching in the language schools were having a hard time because they barely managed to keep ahead of the students.

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Jimmy is now taking a short trip to see his parents at the Arkansas center via Minneapolis and Chicago. He is making the rounds looking up old friends. His parents lived in Long Beach so that they were evacuated to Santa Anita and Jimmy has not seen them since evacuation.

Jimmy likes the teaching fairly well, but he does not particularly care for Salt Lake. He said that it was a religious town and they were peculiar in many ways. "The Niseis there have no discrimination in jobs, but they will not be able to hold most of these jobs permanently. A lot of the Niseis there are dissatisfied so that they are beginning to wander all around the country. The number of people coming into Salt Lake has slowed down because there just is not any housing available. It is going to be a tough problem after the war if the Niseis lose their jobs. Chicago is a funny place. You just can't see any Niseis around even though there are 3000 out here, I hear. Maybe it is better that way. They won't be so clannish. Salt Lake and Denver are messes. They get along ok but they are not getting anyplace. At that it is better than staying in the camps. I think that it is too bad that the young kids are not having good educational advantages, because the morale is shot enough as it is and if they do not get a higher level of education, the future is going to be that much darker, and they will become contented merely to drift along. There was too much of that starting before the war. It's such a complicated problem that I do not give much thought to it although I see how the Niseis are going in Salt Lake and I think that it is too bad that they do not think more. Of course, it is hard for many of the young Niseis to get out to go to college. Many of them went before because they had nothing else to do.

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It is too expensive for them to go out to college now and they are not used to going such a long distance away from their parents. Even many of the former Cal students are staying in camp yet and they don't exactly know why they want to finish up their education. It is a sort of hopeless feeling that seems to be in the air, although they just don't talk about it.

"I think that the only chance for the young Niseis now is to go on to college and get their education and have some skill to offer when they go out job hunting and then they may get a chance for better jobs. The war is going to last a couple of years yet and they will not be wasting any time. It would be better if they went to the small towns to resettle because of the better chances for housing and getting to know the neighbors, but the job opportunities are in the crowded cities and you can hardly blame the Niseis for going there."

I asked Jimmy about what the Niseis did in Salt Lake and he said that they were following the same social patterns that they did before the war since many of the Japanese there and in Denver were living there before the war. He pointed out that many of the Niseis had left Utah before the war because of the lack of economic opportunities and went to the Coast so that the future for the Japanese in Salt Lake was not too bright because the community could never become self sufficient. He thought that the Niseis should continue to move east. Jimmy wanted to see some other people before he left town so we had to cut our conversation short. I wish that all the Niseis I interview would talk as readily. Most of them you have to drag the information out even if a good rapport exists because the Niseis by nature are not a talkative group. I got a critique of my cases so far from Dorothy

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and the scientific nature of the thing scared me so much that I left it on Frank's desk and asked him to take the lead on discussion of the critique at our next staff meeting. Some of the gaps in the case documents can be filled in from the schedules which I have filled out for all the people I interviewed. I have not been sending these in because my writing is so bad that I can hardly read them myself.

I was a little disappointed yesterday afternoon while I was downtown because when I went to see Shirrell, Morganroth, and Yatabe, I found them all out of town. I did have a fairly good talk with Bob Forte. He was telling me of the latest Hostel developments. I think that he is a little too optimistic about the whole thing.

Bob said that they were handling the resettlers in good shape now. He was quite concerned about the Tule segregation problem before as he figured that a lot would be coming out from there. However, he said that they have only been getting one or two from there. The system which the hostel uses now makes it a lot easier for him. There is a representative in each camp and when a vacancy occurs, Bob telegrams the opening to the person in camp. He said that more were coming out than last spring because they do not have the requirement that a job has to be lined up first. He figured that the segregation program was shaking a lot of the Niseis from the other camps out, in spite of the fact that the Tule crowd is sitting tight.

The hostel does not get so many from Topaz, Heart Mountain, or Manzanar. These people are going more to Salt Lake, Cincinnati and Cleveland. The fact that Ann and Mitch and some other people from the Bay Area are working in Cleveland may have something to do with this. Bob Iki is also bringing out people from Topaz to Kansas City where he is working for the WRA. The Gila and Arkansas people seem to be coming to Chicago more right now.

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Charles Kikuchi
Chicago

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Bob was very pleased about the fact that he had over 100 people at the hostel last Sunday for the tea which was put on by the 110th Street Quakers. He said that about 36 of the group were Caucasians. Teas are given every Sunday and they are sponsored by the 57th St. Quakers, the FOR and other religious bodies. The turnout has been getting larger recently, and the Niseis drift in and out. Bob does not think that they keep coming back as the turnover is large and new faces show up every week. He said that the Kikuchi's were the only ones who refused his invitations to the teas so that he has not been sending us any more invitations, as it is a standing invitation now. He said that it would be made into a special occasion when they finally got us there.

Bob does not see any harm in these teas. He said that most of the Niseis were bored on Sundays and this gave them a chance to get out and meet new people. At first all the Niseis stuck together, but Bob maintains that they are mixing much more now. He does not think that it is helping segregation as he pointed out that five Niseis got invitations to dinner last Sunday by the Caucasians they met, and three were asked if they would like to visit the homes of these people. He feels that this sort of personal friendships are worth while, but he does not recognize that it is only 5% of what goes on and the other 95 Niseis are being encouraged to stick to themselves merely by bringing them together. Bob said that the best example was one Nisei girl who was invited to dine at the Palmer House and then go to the theater afterwards. He feels that these teas are breaking up the Nisei cliques, but I think that this is a little naive.

Bob said that the teas were so successful that the Hostels in other

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cities are going to start the practice, namely Des Moines and Cincinnati. I asked him if Smeltzer of the Bretherns were going to do it, and Bob said no. Smeltzer is still following his policies. I suppose it does take a fanatic person to try and stem this force towards a Nisei society, but I am still in agreement with Smeltzer even if Bob is a better personality and I like him better as a person.

Bob said that all of the other hostels are going to be based upon the Friends. They will have the same rate of charges and procedures and a close cooperation will exist among the Baptists, Bretherens, Friends and other groups. The Lutherans, Congregationalists, Church Fed. of Washington, Quakers of Philadelphia, and the Fed. Church of N.Y. are also thinking of opening up hostels. Also a group in Minneapolis. Bob said that all of these groups intend to plan cooperatively and give a uniformity of service. In order to discourage drifting from one city to another, the Hostels have made an agreement only to accept people directly from the camps, unless it is a very special case. Bob said that this policy would only be broken if a person came out here and exhausted all the possibilities. This decision was arrived at because of the experience they had with one Nisei who came to Chicago then went to the Cleveland, Cincinnati Hostels before drifting on to New York. He said that this deprived three other people from coming out of camp.

There were some rumors that the WRA was going to open up a Hostel here, but Bob said that this was not so. He said that there might be a possibility that the WRA will open hostels in Kansas City and Columbus.

Bob is still immensely pleased with the record at the Friends Hostel.

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He said that out of the 260 who have gone through, not one had returned to camp because of personal maladjustments. He attempts to keep in touch with all the Niseis and help them as much as he can. His wife does a great deal of this work. Last week there was a very homesick young Nisei girl who took a domestic job, but she wanted to quit and go back, but his wife phoned her every night and sent some of the other Nisei girls at the Hostel to see her. Bob also invited her to dinner tonight and he is going to take her to a show or something. Arrangements have also been made to get her invited into a church and church clubs.

Housing is still the chief problem. In spite of the fact that the Friends have four people part time on house hunting which is channeled to the WRA for clearance, Bob believes that most of the Niseis are finding their own place. They grab anything they can at first and then look for a better place. Bob feels that the housing bottleneck will be the thing that causes the saturation point. He said that right now it was a little easier to find an apartment because the housing leases are up on October 1st and the people are moving. For this reason the turnover at the Hostel has been a little more rapid during the past months and it will continue to be so until after the leases are fixed and then the situation will tighten up again. Bob said that more of the Niseis were taking unfurnished houses as they have families. Large apartments are sub standard as well as all apartments. Bob figured that 60% of the apartments that the Niseis were now getting were sub standard. For \$60.00 to \$75.00 good places are available but few were able to pay that price. Bob has made arrangements with the Sears Roebuck and Salvation Army so that Niseis can buy furniture for un-

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furnished places at discount prices. I suggested the United Charities, Inc. and Goodwill Brotherhood as other prospects. The fact that a few more families are coming in and taking unfurnished apartments indicates to Bob that they have come with the intention of staying here permanently. He believes that the bulk of the single persons still are uncertain and would like to be on the move or else think in terms of going back to California, which is a vague dream for most of them.

Bob expects that more and more students will come in so that the Friends have compiled a list of 75 part time jobs in domestic work which they can do. He said that most of these were for girls as the people here do not know about houseboys.

Bob made the point that housing was even a greater problem than personal adjustments but I cannot quite agree with this. He feels that they are getting to know people and that many of them come out here because their friends pull them out so that lonesomeness is not such a great problem except for the single boys who float around. I think that this is a good point. He pointed out that even if they only knew a Nisei slightly before the war, they look them up now and that the address book at the Hostel was the most popular thing up there. All of this indicates the inevitableness of a Nisei society, I suppose.

As for housing, a certain amount of prejudice is encountered, but Bob thought that right now it has dropped from 25% to 15% because the landlords are favorably impressed with the Niseis. Bob feels that the saturation point will not come for a while yet, but that it will be ^ahousing shortage that causes it. He pointed out that Chicago was 97.7 per cent full last

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Charles Kikuchi
Chicago

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January. This means that the newcomers must be pressing lower and lower into the sub standard depths although I may be wrong. Bob believes that Chicago can handle about 50 to 75 newcomers a week and it is not the lack of jobs but housing that keeps the rate down. Last Spring for a while they were coming in over 100 a week. He feels that this rate can continue for quite some time. Shirrell believes that the saturation point is between 6000 to 7000 but Bob does not think that the 50 to 75 a week can be kept up for over 6 more months yet. He feels that the saturation point is closer to 5000. He said that after the WRA gets its quota in, Shirrell threatens to move on to N.Y. and the rest of the problems will be left up to the Friends. I hardly think that the WRA can cast off its responsibilities this easily, especially if the Niseis start to lose jobs. The saturation point is not going to be reached for the duration in my opinion. Bob said that when the saturation point is reached, the hostels would also close shop and the Friends will work on assimilation. It would be a better plan to concentrate on it more now so that a good start can be made rather than waiting until 7000 Japers and Japesses are in town. Bob is indefinite about the date when this saturation point will be reached but he figures two more years. Bob says that he does not give much thought to the post war problems since all of his energy is spent in getting the people out now. He urges them to take non defense jobs so that there will be more hope for security. I also had a long chat with Fumi Yaki yesterday. She is still in the throas of a happy newly wed role. Fumi is a graduate of S.F. Junior College and a very efficient secretary. She types over 70 and takes 150 dictation, but she is not interested in changing her job yet. She has been working for a

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long while with the JACL in S.F., Salt Lake, and out here and she is very loyal to Kido. She thinks a great deal of him. She does not have too much to do out here as Yatabe is doing mostly public relations work, so that she is getting a little restless. She promised to type up some copies of the office correspondence which has been carried on. The JACL has not done too much since its inception here as an organization. Fumi is a tiny girl and has a fair personality. She cannot understand why the Niseis are so opposed to the JACL. She believes that it is the salvation of the Nisei "because nobody else will help us." She was surprised that I took an active part in the JACL because I had been opposed before. She said that I used to be such a rowdy in S.F. and she was surprised to find that I had changed so much. I told her that I was only studying the rowdies in S.F. so that was the reason why I went around with them. She said I should study the zoot suiters out here because they were going to get all the Niseis in trouble.

Fumi is thinking of taking another job after the first of the year. She is not too interested in work now that she is married. Her husband is one of the Hoshiyama clan and he works for the Illinois Publishing Company or something in a semi-skilled job. Togo has his case written up, I think.

I also passed some time yesterday talking with Togo and Wallace Godfrey on the school business. Walt is supposed to be taking care of the students out here, but he does not know too much about it. He thought that I could take out legal residence for a person even if she were 18 or over, but Togo phoned down to the City Hall and found out different. It was from this conversation that I got the present point that I am working on; if in the eyes of the law 18 is a majority age and if a person is capable of es-

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tablishing her legal residence without the parents or a guardian, why can't the Board of Education consider that residence of such a person is here in Chicago and not where the living parent is living.

There was much going on at the Friends this afternoon and Togo did not have any new information to pass on. While I was there a girl phoned up and said that she was turning down a domestic job in the University area because there were too many Japanese living out there and she did not want to live among them. This had Togo stumped and he did not urge the girl to take the job. He said that this was the first time this particular excuse had been used.

Morton is arriving tomorrow morning, but I may not see him as I have an interview scheduled. I have to do something this week as I have not been able to have an interview since last Monday and have just been picking up the more general news and working on the school business. Frank will go to Washington with Morton next week but he is not anxious to go because of his present housing crisis. He gets along swell with the landlady, but his mother and sister came out and the apartment is too small for the five of them. Michi wanted to move to a larger place and a deposit was put on an apartment, but their landlady said that she would make more room for them downstairs so Frank got his deposit back. Now Michi wants to move so that he does not know what to do. They do not want to live all together, I gather. Frank wants to get this problem settled before he leaves for Washington. On top of that he has some sort of a report to do for the Social Science Research Council so that he is up to his neck. Tom has his troubles too, but they are not so bad. Tomi has lined up a couple of dinners and Tom wants to cram in

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a lot of work in his classes so that he can get away to St. Louis with everything cleared up. He has some sort of a term paper to write and he does not want to be entertaining guests.

Tomi keeps asking me over to dinner, but I put it off. It is not that I don't want to go over there, but she only issues the invitation for me and does not include Emiko and Bette. It is a fine point, but I would feel better if she did this and that is the reason I put her off by saying that she has to save on her meat points, etc.

Well it is now after 6:00 p.m. and I don't think I got much done today although I was busy at writing letters, etc. My back hurts so I think that I shall go home and rest up for the remainder of this day.

Later

This evening I listened to the American Town Hall Meeting of the Air on the subject, "Should the Chinese Exclusion Law be Repealed?" Representative Walter Judd took the positive point of view while Rep. John Bennett of Michigan took the negative. Judd had it all over Bennett who was stuttering all over the place and spouting forth with narrow isolationists arguments which were very weak. The audience definitely seemed to be favorable to the repeal of this outdated law on the basis that equality for China was one way of showing that America and democracy really believed in its ideals. Bennett gave the old arguments about Chinese hordes running all over the country and lowering the standard of living. It only involves 107 Chinese. The repeal bill comes up in Congress this fall and, of course, there will be prejudiced people around to kill the law. There is still a strong force in this country whose credo is the white superiority and diametrically opposed to the real ideals of democracy. The question is not one of getting 107 Chinese into

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the country, but of recognizing them as equals. The war sentiment is favorable to the Chinese right now, but I see no reason why this should not be extended to include the Japanese and other Orientals as well. Only a limited few would come into the United States under the quota and it certainly would give the lie to the argument that this is a race issue and that the colored people of the worlds have to get from under the domination of the white peoples of the globe. Bennett argued entirely from narrow selfish interests. He had the gall to say that America was winning freedom for the Chinese and that was enough. He said that China was more interested in filling its stomachs than in the repeal of a law. Judd had a bright comeback on this by saying that there were men at Valley Forge who were willing to starve and fight for their freedom as well as for their children and grandchildren, and that the Chinese were also fighting for freedom.

There was a CIO representative among the speakers who supported the repeal measure and he said that the CIO does not discriminate on the basis of race. There are definite groups besides the AF of L who are opposed to Chinese coming into this country. The Fascist native sons of California are of course against the measure of Chinese repeal exclusion on the basis that this is not the time to tamper with the exclusion laws of 1924, "even to please our Chinese allies." The grand president of the Native Sons, Wayne Millington, cannot directly condemn the Chinese so that he made the statement that the Chinese government did not ask for the exclusion and that no mention should be made of it until peace times. In such an event, it can be more easily killed.

The CIO does not limit itself to fighting for equal rights of the

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Chinese, as it has consistently done so for the Negro and also the Japanese. All of this is part of the battle for Democracy on the Home Front. Tom was telling me today that in spite of the poor support by the Niseis in Washington to the CIO, the organization has gone ahead to press rights. The civil service workers have a CIO United Federal Workers of America group and it has brought the case of Harno Najima out into the open in action against the unwritten law of the Department of Agriculture that no Nisei will be hired. Harno is working with the WRA, but his real field is in Agriculture. He was unhappy on the Study so that he took the WRA job which had something to do with statistics. Evidently he now sees a chance to get into his real field. He has applied for an opening in the Bureau of Agricultural Economics and he was told that the Department policy was more cautious than ever because of the recent Dies investigation. The CIO took the matter up and pointed out that Harno had already been cleared by a joint Army, Navy Board, etc. and that no further investigation was necessary. Now there is a chance that Harno will get the appointment.

The Dies Committee came out with its report last week and its chief charges were against the WRA saying that it had released subversive persons and promoted cultural ties with Japan in the camps. It demanded immediate segregation, a board to investigate each person released, a program of Americanization in the camps. It did not demand Army control of the camps. The recommendations have already been in practice for a long time so that the Committee only succeeded in smearing the Niseis with out offering anything new in a constructive way. No mention was made of the JACL in the reports so that should take the JACL'ers down a little from their seats of self importance.

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Rep. Eberharter of Pennsylvania gave a minority report charging the committee with prejudice and stating that most of the charges are unproven. He felt that the committee recommendations were meaningless and feeble. He favored that the WRA should be allowed to carry on its work unhampered by such unfair criticism, and repeated Myers statement that no acts of disloyalty have been committed by the 18,000 already released. For all the stink that the Committee made, it certainly ended up ingloriously.

This sort of stupidity still continues. The AF of L is opposed to the repeal of the Chinese exclusion because they cannot be assimilated according to Wm. Green, and that a "Chinaman is a Chinaman." The American Legion in California got in its bit by passing resolutions against the resettlement of the Niseis in favor of deporting them. It is opposed to the Japanese on the basis of race entirely and not according to ideological sympathies. It sounds like Hitler and especially Tojo who claim that this is a race war. The American Legion could very well be the Fascist group for this country who takes over, as its work is insidious and it is done in the name of Americanism. When I was sitting in the probate court yesterday, I overheard some of the Legionnaires, apparently bigwigs, say something about "our California posts are going a little too far on the Japanese question." Then they started to discuss the future of the American Legion and one of the men stated that it was the only group to save America from all the foreign isms. They were undecided about the matter of letting the World War veterans into the organization, as one put it: "It is like the father who gave everything he had to his children and then found that he did not have a chair to sit in. All we want to do is to open up the legion for the

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boys and then sit back in our chairs and guide them with our 25 years of experience and not be shoved out into the cold." Whatever organization develops, the returning veterans are going to be a very potent force in our national life for a great many years.

While the Niseis in the U.S. are on the defensive, the Hawaiian Niseis are on the defensive and they have begun a strong fight to get equal treatment in all respects, especially in labor. The Pacific Citizen (August 28) had several articles about this development. It pointed out that the Hawaiian Niseis are trying to apply the principles of Americanism to themselves. These principles have been pounded at them in theory since the war started and now they want its application. There is quite a bit of progress being made because of the development of unions, the acute manpower shortage, and the growing power of the Niseis over the Issei forces. The Hawaiian Niseis emancipation will probably go much further on on the mainland because they are an older group and they have good arguments against the Isseis because of the opportunities they are now getting. In the U.S. the Niseis argument against the Isseis is often weak because of the evacuation and the situation in the camps.

One of the important cases now coming to a head in Hawaii is the struggle of the civil courts with the military. The general there refused to turn over two persons held without charge to the civil courts and a conflict arose. It has important constitutional implications. In the Eastern Defense Command, a federal judge also ruled that the military did not possess the right of excluding citizens arbitrarily. It involved the overruling of an Army order in the case of a naturalized German citizen. If it is upheld, I

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wonder what it does to the evacuation of the Japanese edict. The NCLU is now starting the move that the Niseis be allowed to return to California on the basis that military necessity no longer requires the continued exclusion of loyal Niseis. The Pacific Citizen commits the JACL to this move, as Larry has written a feeler of an editorial bringing this question up. It does not make any difference to Federal Judge Bowren of Seattle who has ruled that Mrs. Chinn, one of Tom's Tule cases, must stay out of the area because of the military order even though she is married to a Chinese doing defense work. I cannot help but think that the evacuation was more on the basis of race, rather than military necessity when this sort of thing happens over and over again and it is not consistent with the action taken against other enemy aliens of German and Italian descent.

It is a good thing that the more liberal forces of America are still strong and although it is not so spectacular in the news, a great deal of good work is going on. It is this force which will win out in the long run. The native facists are a small group and its chief danger is that they are strongly organized and they have money and control of a good section of the press of this country. I seem to be in a philosophical mood this evening. I got tired of sleeping after I ate and I did not feel like reading so I started to type whatever thoughts came into my mind and the result is a worthless jumble. I don't know why I keep up with such tripe. Bette washed laundry all evening. She just came in and she is exhausted. I should have gone and helped her, but I was too lazy.

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The big war news today is that the Allies have invaded the Italian

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mainland just one day over four years since the War started. The Russians are starting a big offensive in the Donets Basin also and pushing the Nazis back. It will be many more bloody months before the hostilities will cease and there is still Japan. It will be at least a couple of years yet before the war ends, in my opinion although the Allies are finally beginning to roll. The Allied-Russian relations do not look so hot on the political front. It seems that the English-American interests still cannot get over the suspicion of Communism and there is a lot of selfish nationalistic motives which explains the lack of cooperation. The rift is growing wider each week. Will this be another useless fight for democracy and only the foundations for another conflict? I am getting cynical. Chicago is not a good place to be in as it is still provincial and one does not really get the feeling that we are engaged in a titanic world war. Life just seems to go smoothly along and the chief worries are rationing and other inconveniences. We still need a big shock to make us wake up, but it is too bad that it is going to be at the expense of the American soldiers.

I am feeling more miserable this morning than I have any day since arriving in Chicago. Last night I had a funny tickling and dryness in my throat and I felt a sign of a cold coming on. I gargled my mouth out with salt and antiseptic, but I could not stave it off. Bette said that it was nothing and quit being a hypochondriac, but I was sure that I was going to get a summer cold,--only I said it was poliomyelitis.(?) There has been so much in the papers about the epidemic lately that I thought I had some of the symptoms. I was almost as bad as Emiko who is always imagining the worst

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sort of illness. I guess I was playing some kind of a suffering hero role and imagining that dire consequences would follow if I got sick. It just happened that I had some trouble with the Sun representative earlier. He tried to collect money for an accident insurance when I was not even getting the paper. Just as he left, he said that he would fix it so that I would not get any coverage from any paper in case I got ill. My, he was mad. But he did put the seed of worry in my mind, darn him, and I wondered what would happen if I really did get seriously ill. The mental processes do some funny tricks when the bodily resistance is low. I think I was just torturing myself! The seeds of suggestion can do funny things to a guy.

This morning I woke up and my throat was feeling funnier than ever. It felt that there was a wad of cotten in it and some sand was making it itch. I decided to finally go and get a haircut and then wait to see how I felt after that. It was the first haircut I have had in Chicago, since Mark has been doing it up to now. He is a sort of amateur barber and he cuts a lot of the fellows hair in the Army camp.

The lunch Bette made was tasteless and I felt weak, but I had made an appointment for an interview so I went all the way up to the North Side to see Mr. Shiramoto. It took about an hour and a half to get there. By that time, my nose was feeling very itchy and my eyes were watery and I did not feel much in the mood for work. I was all tired out before I got there and my back ached. The awful smells that infiltrated in through my clogged up nose was more offensive than ever and the streets in the Negro section seemed so much dirtier. My morale was just shot.

The interview was not so successful as I hoped it would be. Mr.

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Shiramoto is a 65 year old Issei and he had lapses of memory and he was not very talkative although he was cooperative enough. I think that it was more because of general boredom. He has an apartment up on the near north side in a fairly good district with his 38 year old son and 44 year old second wife. Mr. Shiramoto does most of the shopping and cooking for them while they are away to work since he is a semi-invalid. He has had pleuresy for years and in 1939 he had to have some ribs taken out and a hole cut in his bag to drain the puss from his chest. He still has to have his back drained every day. Mr. Shiramoto is a very small fellow and he speaks very good English, even down to slang expressions. He is not very well educated, just an average person who has not any understanding of the wider issues although he is vaguely aware of them.

In spite of his physical condition he is a fairly optimistic person. He made me feel ashamed of myself for making so much over my poor stamina today. He speaks with a slight effort and when he caughs, it is with an effort and it sounds like his whole chest is hollow. He was worried that I would think that he was an active TB so he kept assuring me that he was cured. I had to use the question and answer method and he did not volunteer much information himself and kept insisting that his life was uneventful. He tried hard to give me what I wanted and was frank in his opinions. Perhaps my mind will not be so dull the next interview and I will make more progress. Mr. Shiramoto is in a \$60.00 a month apartment, but I do not think it is worth it. I will see Mr. Shiramoto (CH-10) again on Monday if I feel in good health and if Morton does not plan a meeting for that day. He was supposed to arrive today, but I did not go to the office so that I do not

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know for sure. I was figuring things out on the El and streetcar ride home afterwards and I don't think that I am going to be able to keep the pace of a case a week up although I will try very hard. If I interview a person way up on the north side, it takes about three hours of streetcar riding in all and this cuts down the time for interviewing in the evenings. And some of the cases are not talkative. It takes at least two or three interviews to get any decent information and the initial visit is usually very unsatisfactory from the point of view of getting data. The second visit is usually the most fruitful.

By the time I got home I was in a sweat and had a headache and was feeling at a very low ebb. I had visions of jumping into bed as soon as I got there. However, Mrs. B. had just finished fumigating for cockroaches and the room was close and full of unpleasant fumes. I had to go out in the park for a while. After I came in I took a short nap and felt a little better when I awoke although the stuffy feeling would not go away. As soon as I finish this, I shall jump into bed. I felt a little better at dinner time but did not eat the usual amounts. When I smoke, it is very uncomfortable and it irritates my throat. My nose keeps itching and I am weak from sneezing and blowing my proboscis. Bette demands that I go to bed right away or else she shall not take care of me!

I got my check today and it was only for \$129.12 cents which is a cut from last months \$135.00. I thought that it could be possible that a mistake was made and no deduction was granted for having a dependent so I wrote to Dorothy to check up. Now that I think of it, it was probably some additional taxes that were not deducted last month. It is going to be a

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little harder squeeze after Emiko comes back since she and Bette will both be going to school, but I think that we will be able to manage. I was thinking that family resettlement is practically impossible at present as we are living on a reduced standard from what we have been getting by on since we got back. It is comfortable enough, but it gives me worries that I will not be able to take care of any major emergencies. If Emiko gets a part time job, that will take care of her personal needs so that it will not be so bad. When one's bodily resistance is at a low ebb, one worries a little more. I think that I could worry a lot more, but it is no use as it does not get anyplace. It is a sort of release to think it out while I am writing my daily entries and then I don't have to bring it up for any discussions. It seems that luck usually breaks for me when things don't look so bright and I am confident that it will continue to be this way.

Bette went to the school today to register, but there was not a soul at the school. She walked all around it until she found the sign saying that the registration will take place on Tuesday. So we will not know her status until then. It has been a little trying on her nerves to be kept in such suspense, but she doesn't think of it too much when I am around as she figures that it will all work out eventually. She does not like the possibility of repeating her junior year again; it will be the third time. She decided to go to an afternoon show when she found that the school was not open today so that I got home before she did. I had intended to look in on Mariko today to see how she was coming along, but I figured that she would be at work and I was not feeling in the mood to go visiting while I was downtown. I shall take a "shot" and go to bed right now.

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August 31, 1943

Dear C and B---

Just a line at the office while Miss Harky isn't around. When we get through around 3 in the aft. I'm so tired that I don't feel like doing anything. My cold doesn't help any either. I was in bed all last week again, but feel a little better now. This job that I'm doing is easy -- just filling out cards, and we can come and go any time we please. Alice and I make about \$3.00 a day. This cash will come in handy because I had my tooth made over by Dr. Yamamoto and it cost \$5.00. Imagine! I only paid \$3.50 in Chicago. What a gyp. Remind me to tell you all about that snot, Dr. Yamaguchi--Sachi's husband. He makes me sick.

As we went through each block records we looked at the ones that we know -- lots of fun, but we don't spread it around. I came upon ours, and for remarks it had for Bette - superior attitude, cooperative; for Charles - the same, for me- uncooperative, superior attitude and refused to be interviewed. Imagine! That was when we first came here and I was sick. Remember? Hmph! that gal must have just felt inferior tha's all.

About school -- since I don't feel much like traveling alone, I thought I would plan to go back with Mark and Alice. He has to get back to camp by the 13th, so will you please let me know if that will be all right. That is, if there are any early tests to take, etc. My cold is getting a little better, so by the time we leave, I hope it's all well.

Everyone is okay, and sends their love. Incidentally, if you can, send the kids some more flavorade, huh?

Bette, do you know Geo. Tayoda and Lily Tani? They're both working on the cards we're doing. Geo. sure is a smart kid. Mas Kiga works in this office, and she's sort of cool to us.

Here I should be filling out cards, and instead, I'm writing to you. Oh, well, I guess it's okay for a superior person to write to two other superior people. Right? Incidentally, Hunter Doe says hello to you. Willie Sasaki is running after Suzie S. It makes me laugh. Our block is getting emptier and emptier. Today the 2 Fyimoto girls, Carol, Agnes, Sal, and Anne Watanabe left. Had a big argument with some block 63 kids. They make me darn sick! Same ole story - they think they're being pushed around by the government. Lots of the young kids going to Tule. What fools! They'll regret it later though. Just wait and see.

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C & B Con't--

The brought pop's ashes the other day, and I feel so funny all day long. It rattled when she carried it in, and I just couldn't believe that that little box contained what - used - to be pop. Life and death is sure puzzling isn't it?

Stanley Hagiya also left this morning, and Sawdii sure was bawling. She'll probably feel lost around camp now, after going everywhere with him.

Bob Spencer was supposed to come here in Sept., but he changed his mind and is going to Tule instead. You ought to see Tuttle's baby now. Still funny, but cute. Walks around like anything now. You'd never know him, he's so-o big. Tuttle is a nice guy.

Well, guess I'd better call it quits for now. I keep adding a sentence in between cards -- this will never do. Am relieved now because I've finally written this letter that should have been written long ago.

Answer soon pleez.

Emi

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I am sitting propped up in bed trying to type this. I still feel a little woozy, but I think that the fever is past although I still am perspiring a little. Bette is taking good care of me, but it is too bad that her weekend had to be spoiled. We were intending to go to the Hollywood Rodeo at Soldier's Field. Mariko and Sho phoned a few moments ago so that they may take her someplace and then come back for dinner. We haven't heard from Mariko for two weeks because her phone was disconnected and we did not go down there.

It is a cool day today; it would get that way when I am not able to be up and around. I usually do not feel like doing anything on Sundays anyway. We sleep late and then read the papers or I read a book. By that time the day is almost over. We have been intending to go to the museum for weeks, but we never get enough energy. If we get bored, we may finally go. One of the things that I have discovered about most of the Niseis is that they are so bored on Sundays and they always want to go visiting other Niseis, but this doesn't give them much satisfaction either. We like to take it easy as it is the only day we can really rest. As soon as school is started Emiko and Bette won't have so much time to do the things that they want to do. We don't even have enough time to go visiting Mariko anymore although it is more convenient for us to go down there than for her to come out here.

Yesterday, I had a very rough day. All I did was to have a fever and perspire. The sheets got all wet. My head felt stuffy, my nose was running, and I felt all burnt up. I still have a slight fever now, but I think that it has settled down to a chest cold. I hope that I will be able to go to my interview tomorrow.

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Bette got a letter from one of her friends in camp and she was mighty disgusted to learn that Calvin Ishii, one of her schoolmates there, had left on the Gripsholm for Japan. All she could say was, "What a Jap!" Bette reacted quite strongly to the news. She said that the boy had seemed so Americanized to her and although he used to argue against her about the poor luck of the Niseis, he did not say much before she left and he seemed to agree more with her. It was such a surprise to learn that he was on the way to Japan. This is some more of what Bette said: "I hope the Gripsholm sinks. All they are anyway are a bunch of Japs. It is almost as bad for them to go to Tule. Patsy's boy friend is going there and he brags about it. What a Jap! It will ruin any Nisei to go there. They will get sent to Japan after the war. Serves them right.

"But I can't get over Calvin; he really had me fooled. It just makes me mad to think that anyone I went to school with turns out like that. His folks had money and they think that they will be better off in Japan. Why don't they spend it in this country? I bet they get pushed down just as much in Japan and it will serve them right. I thought that the Gila Niseis were more Japanesy and I sure am finding out now. I think that we were lucky (Kikuchi's) in being brought up in a small town. The Niseis feel inferior and they really don't know how to get along with the Caucasians because they have been among the Japanese too much. That is why they get so lonesome when they come out here. I have been so busy since I came out here that I haven't had time to get lonesome. I miss the family, but I don't miss the Niseis. If there are a lot of Niseis going to Hyde Park Hi, I will keep away from them for a while because if we bunch up, it

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will spoil our chances of mixing in more with the rest of the kids."

Today, Bette was not so angry with Calvin. She said, "If that Calvin writes me a letter from Japan, I'll send it right back. I don't want any letters from Japan. At first I hated him, but now I just pity him. Maybe it was his family that made him go back. I still think that he is too Americanized to get along in Japan. It's too bad because he can't ever come back here, can he? If I even get a letter from Tule Lake, I'll send that right back too. I just don't like the Japanese soldiers. If I ever meet up with one, I think I could run his bayonet right through his stomach. They look so repulsive. Ugh! Well, maybe not all Jap soldiers go around raping the women, but they have been trained to be inhuman and like animals and I just can't stand the thought of them. Maybe the movies have given some propaganda which makes them look worse, but I think that the movies are not too wrong."

Al Kimoto phoned up last night. He was going through all the numbers at the Hostel to try and get a date. He is in town for the Labor Day weekend and he was desperate to get some girl to go night clubbing with him. After I told him that Bette was too young, he was not interested in me anymore. Al is one of the zoot suiters from S.F. and he used to have a lot of girls on the string. He had an affair with one young Nisei girl and then told everybody about it so that the girl's reputation was shot. This was the reason the girls parents went to Tule Lake instead of to Topaz. He said that he had come into town to have "fun" and he was looking up some of the other zoot suiters so that they could get dates and go make the rounds.

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Charles Kikuchi
Chicago

September 6, 1943

Labor Day, and I lie in bed all day! I thought that my cold was getting better yesterday, but toward late afternoon, it settled down into my chest, and combined with a new fever and I felt worse than I had been feeling since Friday. Last night the fever continued and my head felt all stuffed up like one of those stuffed olives. The fever slackened off today, but I am feeling weak and there is a dampish sweat on me which threatens to break out at any moment.

My appetite is unimpaired and I have been drinking huge quantities of lemonade. When my head is not aching, I read and finished up Equinox by Alan Seager and Kabloona by Gantron de ^{no} Ponius, since I took to bed. Also read the last few chapters of I've Come a Long Way by Helena Quo. I did not care for these chapters because as a China born Chinese, she views the Chinese "Nisei" as loyal and patriotic to China and stresses the old myth that East and West will never be able to entirely assimilate, but they can live side by side. Honorable Father and Glorious Descent by Pardre Lowe, an American born Chinese also gives a similar theme, although he shows that the conflict between the old and the new generation is very strong, with the older generation managing to keep the upper hand. Lowe believes that the cultural traditions have to be maintained and hopes that it will not clash with the American cultural pattern, but become a part of it. He marries a white woman and gradually molds her into the Chinese ways.

All this is approved by the American public; at the same time, the Japanese are condemned for hanging onto Japanese cultural traditions and it is viewed as a sinister threat to the American way. It all depends upon which side the ancestors of the group are fighting and whether it will be condoned or condemned.

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Kabloona is a lighter book. It tells of the adventures of a Frenchman living among the pure Eskimos on King William Island, which is north of Hudson's Bay. The Eskimo, as he pictures them, is a primitive person happy in his environment because he knows nothing about the "outside" complex civilization. In a land where one lives by his own skill and prowess. The Eskimo does not think much of the white man coming in with his superiority attitudes.

Yesterday Mariko and Sho were over and they took Bette to the movies after having dinner here. Mariko brought over the "Nutcracker's Suite" by Tscholkowsky which she is giving to Emiko for her birthday (Sept. 9). After we played/through, Sho played some of his Boogie Woogie records by Red Nichols and his five Pennies and so Mariko acted high toned and said it made her nervous and she did not understand such music.

Mariko still is not working. She just doesn't feel much like it until her health picks up a bit. She has enough saved up to take it easy for a while. Mariko said that she does not have the Joint Board clearance for the job which she has lined up. She does not seem worried about not working. I gather that she still does not know what she wants to do. I think she wants to get married and she is playing the field. Neither George nor Sho have proposed yet, I gather. There is also a fellow in Detroit, Toshio Suzuki (?), and a Euro^asion in the Army who are interested. Mariko likes George better than Sho, but she has been going out more with Sho lately, from what I gathered. Sho is a better economic prospect. He is trying to buy a house under \$4,000 in order to bring his family out. Bette says that

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Paul is the most gentlemanly, but he doesn't feel like chasing anymore. Bette prefers Sho over George if she had anysay (!), because George "has bad table manners and he put his chopsticks into the main bowl and acted very greedy the time we had the tempura dinner!!

This evening Mariko is getting together with a lot of old girls from S.F. and she asked if Bette wanted to go along. Bette said that she had better stay home to get ready for school tomorrow and that the group was too old.

Mariko has not mentioned bringing the family out since Pop's death and Alice apparently has decided that camp is best for them for a while. As far as they are concerned, there is no more need to think of it as they have enough immediate problems of their own. This indicates to me that they never thought too seriously about it in the first place. It still is an unsolved problem, but I feel helpless as far as my own position is concerned. If I penetrate deep enough into my own mind, I think that I too have a selfish motive in that I do not want to be burdened down with the rest of the family because the future is so uncertain. At the same time, I don't want Alice and Mariko to assume the burden for their own future good. That does not leave much choice except to say that Emiko and Bette will assume it after they are out of college. But that is a long time from now. I get up against a stone wall when I try to figure it out. In the first place I don't intend to remain permanently in Chicago and I would not like to leave the family stuck out here. And my economic future is uncertain once the Study is over. Then there is still the question of the Army. I still would like to get in, but now it is more because of personal reasons instead of

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ideals as before. I feel that a person who was not in the Army will have one hell of a time in job hunting after the war. At the same time, my mind rebels against a regimented army life and I am more cynical as to the motives of the war, the more I follow current events.

This does not bring me nearer to the solution about what should be done for the family. The fact that Mom says she wants to stay in camp is not the main consideration. What happens to Tom and Miyako if they continue to stay in that environment is the larger question. Will the influences of the camp upon their personalities be too great to overcome? I don't know. I don't think that H.S. in camp is going to do Tom any good. But it takes him longer to make adjustments, like Emiko, and perhaps it is too soon for another drastic change for him. Actually, part of the family has been with Mom and the kids since we left -- first Mariko's long visit and then Alice and Emiko's long visit, so that the strong American influences continue. But I am worried that the kids are not in the right atmosphere at the school in camp.

< We shall drift along until Spring. Then what? If I go into the Army, that means that the rest of the family stays in camp for the duration. Should I get them out? But how about Emiko's and Bette's education? I certainly am not able to assume both of these responsibilities at the same time. It is one hell of a tough problem and I don't know the best answer right now because I don't have a feeling of security myself for the future. >

The family resettlement has to be a joint effort from the practical point of view. But is it fair to call on Mariko and Alice again? In Alice's case it will not work out as she has to go Mark's way and there will be

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conflict if she opposes him. There will come a time when she will not be able to wind him around her little finger and he will exert himself. Alice has \$600.00 for the "family emergency" but she won't let go of it even to help in Emiko's and Bette's education so it's no use relying on that.

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I was feeling woozy yet this morning, but I decided to go down to the office anyway after Mary Ogi phoned and got me out of bed. Mary is in town for a few days. She said that she came down from Detroit to attend some sort of Oriental Institute out at the University, but I did not hear anything about that. She has been out of Topaz for some time now. She must have got tired of being a librarian there. Mary hopes to do some graduate work next term, but she is not sure yet. She did not say what sort of work she was doing in Detroit.

I had expected Morton to be at the office, but he did not show up until this afternoon so I dictated a little to Louise for the first time to see how it would go. We made good progress so I will try to dictate a whole case to her while the rest of the staff is gone.

George Yasukochi phoned in while the rest of the staff was out and he wanted to know when we would be free to pay Hayakawa a call. He said that a tentative meeting had been arranged for Thursday and he wanted to know if we could go out there tomorrow evening instead. When Tom and Frank came in, I asked them about it and they decided that perhaps we should wait until they come back from their trips. Both Frank and Tom were rushing around with last minute details and the office looked very busy for a little while late this afternoon, especially after Morton came in. Tom thinks he will leave

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on Friday and Frank will go on Saturday with Morton. Then I shall have peace. I think that I shall take a little jaunt down to Florida this winter since everyone on the staff seems to be chasing all over the country. Morton said that Tamie and Mr. X decided to take a trip to Gila all of a sudden and Miss Hankey took a flyer back to Berkeley. Jimmy is getting to leave for Minidoka, and Bob Spencer is on the way to Tule to clean up some last minute stuff. Dorothy and WI will head out this way in the latter part of November so that we had better get busy and produce something. We have been getting lots of hints about how tight the budget is right now! It seems that the draft situation makes the study very uncertain and DST wants to get it all organized out here so that we will be able to get some sort of a decent sample.

Bob evidently did not hit such a good spot on his teaching job with Kroeber as Morton said that it will be no more after a couple of months more. There is some uncertainty whether the budget will be able to put him back on the study. I guess DST has forgiven him by this time. Morton said that Miss Hanky was a very good person and she is supposed to be about 5'11". No wonder Emiko complains that she eats so much!

Since I have not been around the office much for the past few days, I missed out on the staff meetings that were held, but I am getting the information in bits. The main concern seems to be the type of sampling we are getting. DST would like more variety. However, I don't think that is an insurmountable difficulty although I do not think it possible to get 10 samples of each compartment, or a total of 340 plus cases. That is going to take a long time at the present rate we are going. Frank and I were talking about our sampling and I told him that it was natural to have a

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little bias at the beginning since we would select the cases we knew. In my cases there is a tendency to stress the Americanization aspect, but that is not quite as big a bias as it appears on the surface. We have to give each case the benefit of the doubt and since it is only an objective interview, it is naturally that they will stress their "loyalty" if questioned on this point. We start with the assumption that everyone out here is loyal since they must be if they were cleared by the WRA. We know that each individual differs in degree, but it would be a difficult matter to find the proper measuring rod, since "loyalty" is such a vague thing to begin with. The same would also be true for "Americanization" although this is a little easier to measure. Perhaps the greater difficulty is that we need some revision or redefinition of what we are looking for in our outline. The way it is at present, it is a broad thing and one may concentrate on any of a number of points; eg. I'm on "Americanization"; Togo on current problems; Frank on "personality adjustments," and Tom on "influence of the family culture." Thus each case when written up is not uniform in structure since the emphasis is on different things. I think that we will be able to work this out in time and also plan more selectivity in our cases so that we will be sure to get samples of as many compartments as possible. One thing we can be certain of--no two cases will be alike since each individual is different.

Morton was busy dictating a long interview with Shirrell so that we did not get too much of a chance to talk. He has quite a few things to get cleaned up before he pulls out on Saturday.

Bette had a hard time getting to sleep last night. I suppose it

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was because the opening of school was on her mind. She got out of the house early this morning, and spent most of the day waiting around. She said that there were 5000 students to be registered and she was quite impressed with the school. There was not any questioning about the fact that I am her guardian and Bette filled out all the blanks with this information. The big worry on her mind is the matter of credits. She thinks that they will not give credit for a lot of work that she had done, even in Jr. High School. She does not know yet what she will have to do to graduate. If they require too much, she will get the diploma from the Vallejo High School.

Bette seems to have found a friend already. She speaks a lot about a Frances, a junior. She said that she had lunch with her and she will meet her again tomorrow. She feels that most of the students and teachers are very friendly so that she is looking forward to the school year. She said that there were quite a few Nisei girls also enrolling and some of them came up to her and asked her name. Bette said that she does not want to be snooty and she does not want to have to avoid them, but she does not think that it will be a good idea to get too chummy with them at the beginning because it will hurt her chances to make friends with some of the other students if all the Niseis start to go around together. ^{cont to 3215} At the same time, there will be some tendency for the Niseis to drift together since they are new to the school. Bette said that there are not too many and there are about 500 who are new to the school from other areas of the country and they all have the same problems. Many of these students are children of defense workers who have come to Chicago.

Bette is trying to make out her program now. It was all confused

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there today so that she does not know exactly what she has to take for graduation. She was told that art and music were two of the subjects required for seniors and she is disgusted about this. She plans to take swimming in her gym class or else horseback riding if it is not too expensive. She said she always wanted to learn how to ride a horse. I am glad that she has taken so well to school. The entrance matter is apparently settled now and there is only the credits situation to get cleared up.

Classes will not actually get started for about a week yet. I breathe a big sigh of relief that she is finally "in" and most of the problems are apparently solved, except the credit business.

It was very windy today. This must be a sample of the famous Chicago wind that I have heard about. In the late afternoon, it was hot but it suddenly got very cool this evening. I forgot to mention that we had a big thunder and rain storm over the weekend. The weather out here is very unpredictable.

Mary in her brief phone call indicated that the policy of dispersal for the Niseis is not being pushed much in Detroit. It seems that Chicago is about the only place that this is being done seriously. Mary said that a large group of Niseis and Caucasians met for a farewell dinner to the local WRA officer there. It was held in one of the churches. She said that there are attempts being made by the Niseis to get better organized up there and she wondered why the Chicago Niseis were so slow about this thing. I did not go into a discussion about the "assimilation" idea. I am convinced

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that the Niseis only believe in giving lip service to the idea of dispersal and they really do not want to spread out. 'Tis a sad state of affairs. I only hope that they do not push it here for a Nisei society, although it is fairly underway in an informal way already, chiefly through contacts of old friends. I have not been around enough to find out if any formal Nisei groups have sprung up yet. I will be greatly shocked when such a thing does happen and be very irritated although I know damn well that it is bound to happen. I must remember that I am not supposed to take sides in issues of this sort since I am only an observer.

There is a school development in Idaho which should convince the WRA that the school problems of the Niseis who are resettled are its responsibilities. The state superintendent in Idaho, C. E. Roberst, sent out a statement to school officials throughout the state upholding an earlier opinion by the attorney general that Japanese children are not entitled to free school privileges. It does not say whether Nisei children resettled are also to be included in this denial of free schooling. Apparently not as Miller's opinion as the attorney general holds that Japanese families "are virtually prisoners or at least charges of the U.S. government, having been taken into custody by the federal authorities and moved from their places of residence." The school districts do not feel responsible for them. But that should only include the people in camp and it should not be extended to any resettled family in Idaho. The news clipping is not very clear on this point. I hardly see how any district can deny this right to a family that has resettled.

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The cold still lingers on. I did not have too much energy yesterday, but I went down to see Mr. Shiramoto (CH-10) and finished up my interview with him. It was a good thing that I did catch him because he is moving way up to the North Side near the Edgewater Beach Hotel. He said that he found a sunnier apartment up there and it would be better for his health as well as cheaper rent. His wife is having an operation this Sunday. There was a chilly wind blowing so that I came on home afterwards. It took seven hours in all by the time I had made the round trip so I figured that this was a day's work. Last night Bette and I went to the movies again.

The thermometer has suddenly dropped about 30 degrees and it is quite chilly. On top of that there has been a biting wind for the past few days. I suppose winter will be coming soon although there will be an Indian summer next month, so they say. I will have to get some additional clothes for the cold weather. I think that I may get some use out of my WRA pea-jacket after all. I shall also have to break down and buy my first hat. I never had one of those things before but it will be a necessity around here. Otherwise those icicles will come dripping down my neck. I haven't been able to find a dry cleaner that will put the water proofing on my raincoat so I may also have to invest in another one unless Mark brings up that military raincoat which he said he was going to get for me. Maybe I shall even have to get earmuffs if it gets ^{cold as they} as/say. I have seen snow before, but I never have been in it when it came down heavy. That will be an experience to look forward to. I bet it will be dirty sooty snow though.

Bette is very enthusiastic about her school and she likes it more

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every day. The credit situation will have to ride along for a while since the school wants Vallejo and Gila to send the transcripts on to them.

Bette has made some good friends already and she got called down in class today for talking. The teacher said, "Now Bette, I don't want you to talk too much in class. I thought that you were going to be one of the quiet girls like the other Japanese girl I have in one of my classes, but I guess I thought wrong." Bette didn't mind because she thought this was a compliment and her classmates told her not to mind the teacher because she was an old bag anyway. One of the girls, Eleanor Johnson sent her an invitation to become a member of the Young People's League of the St. James Methodist Church on 46th and Ellis Streets. I think that it will be a good thing for her and Emiko to go as there will not be other Niseis there. It is largely a high school senior group.

One of her biggest problems is going to be the matter of getting to school on time. She was three minutes late this morning. Our clock has given up entirely from old age or something and it will not respond to my masterful touches. It refuses to even move a finger so I guess permanent rigor mortis has set in. The problem of a clock is serious as it will get darker and darker from now on and that means it will be harder for us to get up in the mornings. Bette has classes from 8:00 until about 2:45. That gives her plenty of time to get home to do the work upstairs. She is worried that she may miss out on the football games, but that should be worked out easily. They come on Saturday anyway. I am glad that Bette likes the school so much because it is more of a normal life for her and she will make a lot of new friends. I have to listen to her accounts of what she does at school

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when I come home, but I suppose the enthusiasm will wear off after a while. It was quite a worry for her to wait anxiously and hope that she could enroll. She thinks that her American Social Problem class will be the most interesting. The Hyde Park High School has a very good standing in this city since it is so near the University and it draws a middle class type of students in larger numbers than some of the other high schools.

As soon as Emiko gets back, we will have to work on her school problem although it is not so hopeful and she will probably have to pay the full tuition. The Board of Education sent a letter today saying that under the rules of the Board her application requesting exemption from the payment of tuition has been denied and she will be admitted to the Junior College only upon the payment of a non-resident fee of \$226.00 per school year. That is pretty stiff.

< omit to p. 3254

Emiko wrote today and she said that she is expecting to be back here before the 15th. She has been ill again from some sort of food poisoning. It is her birthday today and she misses out on a birthday party again for about the fifth year in a row. I got her a \$25.00 War Bond today for a present, that is, she will get \$25.00 ten years from now when she is an old hag of 29! Emiko is grown up now and an adult. It doesn't seem that she has grown up so fast. She said that Mark does not like camp so much and he is grumbling a lot. That is to be expected--they get pampered in the Army, I think. Enough for him to put on a lot of weight.

I went downtown this morning all bundled up in order to protect my cold. I had to go to the bank as I was completely out of money and had been borrowing from Bette. Dorothy wrote today and said that my check was

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Dear Charlie-----

Received your two letters and was glad to hear from you. First of all, I'll have you know that I've written at least a dozen letters to you and Bette since I've been here. You said I haven't written to you much, but I wrote at least twice a week and mom is my witness. As for Bette, I'm just plain mad at her. No even one single letter or card from her all the time I've been here. I keep asking why she doesn't write and she doesn't answer. Is she sick?

I'm sorry I didn't write this letter sooner, but "It started all over again!" ---Yep, that's right ----- I've been sick again. Something as last time. It's really torture when that hard vomit comes out, and then I have a terrific case of diarrhea and a fever and back-ache. This time I think it was food poisoning because that same night 40 people landed in the hospital from food poison. They say it was the canned salmon, but I didn't even eat supper -- in fact, I got sick just before supper. It must have been something at lunch time that was bad. Anyway, when Mark came in I was really a sad case, but I feel much better now. My stomach is a little weak yet though.

We are planning to leave on the 9th or 10th so will be in Chicago before the 15th. Gee, I really appreciate your going to all that trouble just to get me into school. I never could have done it myself.

I'm glad to hear that Bette got into Hyde Park Hi. I'll bet she's glad -- you too.

This part I'm going to write makes me m-a-d. I was going to write those letters that you told me to on the someday that your letter came, but I got sick so I postponed it till today. Well, now I can't find the letter that you wrote and it had the names of the people you told me to write to. Mom thought it was a M. Ward letter so she threw it out. She also threw away a letter that Alice was supposed to take to Mr. Satow. She was really worried because she thought what if there was money in Mr. S's letter? It'll be too late for you to write to me again telling me the names because we'll be starting back in a few days.

Mark is being very superior since he was never in camp before. He grumbles about everything. Oh well, he's making me an identification bracelet for my birthday, so I won't say anything. Grr! Everytime my birthday rolls around, I'm moving someplace. Just for that, we just have to go out for China Meshi when I get back - Okay? Food here is lousy -- no meat for two weeks. No wonder Mark is grumbly. The food is really crummy.

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Charles - Sept. 6 - con't

Did I tell you that Tom got a butch? Looks like a peach now - his hair, I mean. Tell Bette to have a good excuse cooked up for not writing to me -- if there's a letter from her in today's mail, I will forgive her. Everyone is okay and send their love to you both.

Love,

Emiko

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lower for the past month because the finance office forgot to deduct my "retirement" amount of \$5.84 in June, but that I would get the \$134.00 again next month. The income tax amounts to about \$9.20 a month for a total deduction of around \$15.00 a month. The \$5.84 is not lost though as I will get it back in case I leave the work with the University. It is not likely that I will be around until I am 60 so that I can retire. The Nisei problem surely should be solved before then!

After I went over to the bank, I dropped in to visit Togo, but he was home sick with a cold. I spent most of the morning talking to Dr. Yatabe, but did not get much new information as things are very slow. The big news of the day, aside from the fall of Italy yesterday and the start of the 15 billion dollar War Bond drive, was the momentous announcement that one, Jack Taigo Miyahara, has opened up the first Nisei barber shop in the history of Chicago! Taigo was running all around the place trying to get Bob Forte, The Friends, the WRA, and his friends to pass out his cards to all of the Niseis so that they could go down there and be scalped by the Master Barber from the Hawaiian Islands. It will probably become a hangout for a certain type of Nisei since it is near the Y where there are so many of them, and who knows, it may become an important institution in the Japanese social structure of this town. The opening of this barber shop took place this afternoon. It is located in the 500 block on South Dearborn in a transient district.

The opening of the shop created a minor crisis among the Friends today. They wanted Taigo to succeed in his venture, but they did not want to pass out cards to the Niseis telling them to go down there. Bob said

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that he would go himself and he would tell his Caucasian friends to go down there, but he was not going to pass out the cards to the Niseis since it was not in line with the policy of dispersal. He thought that Taigo could build up a good clientele among the riff-raff of that district and he would not need to depend upon the Niseis. He thought this would be better anyway. The news of the Nisei barber shop will go around the town in a flash, there is no doubt of that and many of the Niseis will go down there on the excuse that only a Nisei barber knows how to cut a Nisei head of Japanese hair which is straight and coarse like wire. Even Dr. Yatabe said that it takes "a Japanese to cut a Japanese/head of hair because there is something about the hair that the Caucasians do not know how to handle." All Taigo has to do is to open up a back room for cards and a social institution will be established. I had intended to drop in this morning to pay my respects to this new venture and to get Taigo lined up for an interview, but I just had a haircut recently so I will have to hold off for a while. Frank needed a haircut today and we tried to get him to go down there but he said he had too many things to do before going to Washington so he did not have time to go all the way down there even for the sake of science. Taigo is a 36 year old Hawaiian Nisei with a family out here and his shop should get wind of all the rumors going around so that I suppose I should make contacts with him. Togo had said something about a Filipino going in with him, but I did not get a chance to quiz Taigo today as he was breezing hither and yon and passing out his card to every Buddhahead in sight.

The matter of Niseis going into business creates the problem of whether it should cater to only Japanese or try to spread out. There is

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supposed to be one woman Nisei doctor in practice now and she does not want any Japanese patients at all since she wants to build up her practice with the community at large. It would be better if this sort of thing could be done and it would be better for the business venture also. Catering to Japanese only is an invitation to segregation. The Niseis in Chicago are the only large group where the trend towards congregation has been slowed up largely because of the attitudes of the Hostels, Friends, and WRA. I suppose there will come a time, God forbid, when the trend cannot be stopped. The ministers are the first to give in. The evacuee ministers are not so successful with their counseling and now they long to have their own church following. The Caucasian ministers, the blind fools (sorry Miss Divinity), are also being led around to this opinion and getting groups together. There has not been a successful one yet because the Niseis don't go to Church much, but that will come also in time.

I noticed the feeling of jealousy among the Friends, WRA, and JACL today in a little discussion which developed between Bob and Dr. Yatabe about the matter of doctors. Dr. Yatabe was saying that a lot of Niseis ask him which are the best doctors to go to and he does not know who are the quacks and who are not. Bob said that the Friends had two doctors that Niseis were being referred to, but they were so swamped that they had to go out and contact other doctors to find out if they would take Niseis. Yatabe jumped at this and he wanted to know if he could have the list. Bob said that he did not think that the Friends wanted to give it out. He said that the WRA had asked for the list as it wanted to post it up on the bulletin board, but the Friends had asked them to refer the Niseis looking for doctors

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up to them. Yatabe then said that all the Niseis did not go through the Hostel or the WRA and he felt that he should have the list also since many people called the JACL up and wanted its advice on the matter of doctors. Finally Bob said that Yatabe could have a look at the names. The reason he did not want to give up the list was that the Friends had gone around and made the contacts and they felt that they should be the ones to do the referring of Niseis to doctors. After he left, Yatabe mentioned that this was the trouble with the groups, no cooperation, feeling of rivalry, etc. I have noticed that the JACL is the most guilty in this respect as Yatabe tried to make his office the source of all information after the other groups do the dirty work. In this way the prestige of the JACL goes up. I think that the WRA and the Friends work pretty smoothly together on most things and there is not the striving for glory which Yatabe feels there is. The JACL is the only one guilty of this. It is an insignificant organization in practical problems of the Niseis since it does not have the staff nor the finances to do much. Yatabe said that the WRA and the Friends are jealous of the JACL and afraid that he was going to start a JACL chapter here any-day now. Yatabe said he had no intention of doing this. I think he is doing a pretty fair job in public relations so that he does not have to worry about the JACL prestige. He attends the Civil Liberties meetings here and he gave me the minutes of the last meeting he attended. (attached.) The ACLC is more interested in liberal moves of wider scope and the problem of the Niseis is included.

Yatabe was particularly pleased with the fact that the JACL is the only group in the phone directory where the word "Japanese" is used. This

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COPY

MINUTES OF PRELIMINARY MEETING TO ORGANIZE 42nd WARD COUNCIL AFFILIATED
WITH THE CHICAGO CIVIL LIBERTIES COMMITTEE
August 13, 1943

PRESENT: Weisberg (presiding), Latimer (secy.), Mr. & Mrs. Fuchs, Dr. & Mrs. Slive, Miss Hart, Mr. & Mrs. Foley, Mrs. Lowenthal, Atty. Gettleman, Dr. Yatabe. (The meeting was held at the home of Mr. Foley, 20 E. Chestnut St.)

- I. At the suggestion of Mr. Fuchs, the group agreed to make an experiment in the 42nd Ward in the organization of a Ward Council of the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee. All present agreed to serve as volunteer workers, and the office was directed to enlist many more either in the Ward or outside. Assignments will be made by Mr. Foley and Dr. Weisberg to volunteers who will have a personal interview with community leaders to interest them in the War Council. Personal contacts by C.C.L.C. commandos will also be made with Committee members who live in the Ward who can be enlisted as volunteer workers. The office was asked to prepare a list of the 42nd Ward organizations and leaders so that assignments could be made. After the interviews a formal organization meeting will be called. Instead of attempting to reach a large number of individuals in the Ward, C.C.L.C. commandos will speak before other groups in the Ward to explain civil rights issues and solicit support from these groups.
- II. The Exec. Secy. was asked to outline a suggested program which C.C.L.C. commandos would present to community leaders and the Council, when formally established, would act upon. Mr. Latimer listed the following problems and issues:
 - (1) Stop police and judicial lawlessness at the E. Chicago Ave. Police Station, and Branch of the Municipal Court. End drag-net arrests, false

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imprisonment, police brutality, and thrid degree by public education, complaints to Police Commissioner, and court action. Campaign for a new police station, and reform in police methods. Make contacts with near north side Police Dept. Crime Detection Laboratory and "good" police officers.

(2) Hold community rallies on public issues such as the Dies-Kerr-Fleming attacks on federal workers. (Dept. of Interior occupies American Fore Building, and Treasury Dept. occupies Merchandise Mart.)

(3) Secure concerted lobbying by mail and delegations to exert pressure for or against bills in Congress, General Assembly, or City Council affecting civil liberties. For example, Congressmen Dewey voted for the Smith-Connelly Bill and for over-riding its veto. The C.C.L.C. opposed this bill, and a repealer will be introduced. Dewey also voted for the Hobbs racketeering bill which the Committee also opposed. Dewey voted to dismiss Watson-Dobb-Lovett, and continue the Dies Committee. Dewey should be informed of the Committee's views on this legislation. Members of the General Assembly which just ended should have their votes on various civil liberties bills examined and discussed with them. Alderman Dorsey Cros is president pro tem of the City Council, and was one of the several aldermen who voted against a resolution passed in 1941 designating October 28 as "Civil Liberties Day," on the occasion of Mrs. Roosevelt's address for the committee at the Civil Opera House.

(4) A very serious race relations problem exists in the Ward and the Council can promote inter-racial cooperation and oppose all forms of racial discrimination. Besides the 8,000 Negroes there are about 300 Filipinos and 300 Japanese Americans. The Italian community in the west end of the Ward is particularly hostile to their Negro neighbors.

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Copy of C.C.L.C. con't

(5) The "gold coast" and rooming house area present peculiar problems in public education and community organizations which are fundamental to the protection of civil rights and democracy. The Council should protect and promote free speech areas and forums. For example, the Lincoln Park free speech area is meaningless because it is fenced off, and a new and more available area should be secured from the park commissioners. The migratory workers along Clark St. use Washington Square Park ("Bughouse Square") and they have the "social science institute" at 708 No. Clark.

(6) A very important education project the Council can undertake is the exposure of anti-Semitic, anti-Negro, anti-Japanese, and anti-labor propagandists. There are a number of Coughlinites and native Fascist "cells" in the Ward who influence the police and other public officials so as to threaten and infringe the civil rights of other citizens.

Ira Latimer
Executive Secretary

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adds to the JACL prestige, I suppose. He said that he gets many phone calls from people who want domestic workers and then they begin to ask about the JACL so that he has an opportunity to educate them a little. He does this very seriously as he feels that this is a valuable educational process. The JACL office also has started to write character references for Niseis looking for jobs or applying to enter school.

Other Yatabe comments:

On Ernie: "Ernie finally got a job with some large Optical company. it is not what he has been used to doing. It would be like I took a dental technician job after being a dentist all these years, but I told him to swallow his pride and take the job as it would make a man out of him. There is also a chance for him to make future advancements. I know that it is hard for him, but the Niseis will have to realize that they have to start from the bottom again. It is not going to be easy for them. Ernie is one of the most misunderstood Niseis I know. He means well even if he is too idealistic. He creates a wrong impression, but he is a smart boy and I think that he has some good ideas. Many times he is way ahead in thinking of the other Niseis, but he does not know how to put it across. He should be able to judge people since he had a lot of experience in his line meeting the public, but somehow he often makes a bad impression. A lot of this is his fault as he is conceited and he thinks that he is way above the other Niseis and he does not give them a chance to have their say. I do not know what all these professional people are going to do in the future, because it is going to be a hard climb to get back up there again and I do not know if the opportunities will ever open up for them.

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On Nisei students: "Now, look at the problem that is coming up now. Many of the Niseis now working are quitting their jobs to go back to college and the employers do not like that. They think that it is taking advantage of the fact that they are exempt from the Army and they can finish their education when the American boys cannot. I feel this way about it. Many of the Niseis should continue to work and make the sacrifice of staying in their jobs and getting their education after the war just like the boys in the Army have to do. But then, you cannot blame them if their parents send them money to go to school. It is an easy life and they take it. But I do not know what is going to happen to them after they get out of college. They are going into the same fields that they were going into before the war and there is not going to be much opportunity for them. Look at the hard time that the established Nisei professionals have now. I should think that more of the Niseis should face the facts and go into vocational work where there is more chance.

On Niseis as a whole: "I am worried about the Niseis. I don't think that they lost their initiative in camp. They never had it before the war; that is why they were not getting anyplace except for the few. They were sheltered too much by their parents and they are just like babies when they come out here. They are confused and they do not know what to do. It worries me to see so many of them going along the same old ways as before and they do not give one thought to the future. They live from day to day and they do not even think that there are problems ahead. In a way maybe they are better off, but if they do not watch out, they are going to develop the Negro attitude that there is no future anyway and they will lose whatever latent initiative that they do have now. What they need is a terrific jolt.

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The evacuation apparently was not enough. It is surprising to find out how naive they are. You would expect more from a group that has had such a good level of education, but it seems that their education did not take at all.

On role of JACL in future: "Right now, the JACL here is not doing much. I think that the important thing is to keep the organization in the public eye. Mike did the most in this respect and got it recognized as the only group that does represent the Niseis. The Niseis themselves are so apathetic that it becomes discouraging sometimes. It is a thankless job and we can't do it forever. Every month I have to dig into my own pockets as the pay is not much. We do it at a sacrifice. (Yatabe probably gets about \$125.00 a month).

"We have to keep the JACL going because I feel that its biggest work is going to be after the war. If there is any other group that is willing to take over the work, we would gladly give them our files and step out. But there is none among the Niseis and there is not a Caucasian group who will do this work exclusively. It is a full time job. Of course, we have a serious financial problem and I do not know where we are going to get the money unless the existing chapters endow us more heavily. We are working on grants from foundations, but have not made much headway. Most of the money we have spent has gone to the ACLU and staff upkeep. After the war, many of the interested bodies will step out and that will leave much more for us to do. We have done a lot in the past and I think the good we have done overshadows any mistakes we have made. Our biggest mistake was the evacuation, but we cannot be blamed for that. We went on record as

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opposed to it, but most of the Japanese do not believe this. We do not serve just our members here. We give attention to all since it is a common problem, although we do give special attention to our members."

Yatabe gave me a copy of the background of the JACL and the role it is now playing in resettlement out here. A brief historical account is given by Yatabe and he probably knows more about the early history of the JACL than any other Nisei. I hope to get some of it out of him this winter when he has more time for bull sessions in private with me. We get interrupted too much by Niseis coming in to gas for a while with him. Most of them are old JACL members. Sim Togasaki is in town and he is one of the old line JACL'ers so that he and Yatabe are the JACL in Chicago right now. Although Tom and Frank tend to belittle its influence, I believe that it is a definite influence and I think that if it ever decided to form a chapter, the Niseis would flock to it because it would give them a chance for social outlets. That is why I keep telling Yatabe what a good job in public relations he is doing so that he will not get grandiose ideas to organize. He is pretty wellcommitted to the dispersal policy. (JACL brief history attached.)

Another thing the JACL is definitely encouraging is for Niseis to get into Unions. In the old days, the "Republican" JACL leaders did not believe in unions, but they encourage it now. Yatabe said that he hoped many Niseis could get into unions now as it would make their position stronger in the post war period, and it will keep their wage standards up.

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JACL HISTORY

Recognizing the need of an organized body to protect the interests of loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry, as well as to educate them in the true principles of Americanism, the thought of creating a body to represent the American-born Japanese occurred in the minds of a few leaders as early as 1918. The average age of the second generation Japanese was around 12 years of age so as far as the general mass of our group was concerned, little thought was given to their status as American citizens. San Francisco and Seattle were the locales in which most of our pioneering parents settled. Thus in these two cities were found the older second generation in comparison to any of the other coastal cities. Moreover, the Japanese population was concentrated in the Pacific Coast states with a scattered number in the Inter-mountain region.

With the possibility that we would be an asset to our people as well as in our own respective communities, a nucleus of five San Francisco Japanese Americans got together to formulate a plan for a citizens organization. It was first organized so that we who were eligible to vote in San Francisco at the time would have a means of discussing electives, especially in the matter of various amendments which were rather new to us. These discussions and exchange of opinion gradually drifted into just what can we do for our community and our country so that as a minority group of minorities we could be better known. Such meetings continued for about a year and gradually faded out, not because we didn't feel the necessity of such gatherings but because most of us were just out of college and more taken up by ways and means of earning a livelihood and then again the difficulty of recruiting new members because of their age level.

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Threads of this movement were again taken up in 1923 in a larger scale for it was always uppermost in our minds that such an organization was necessary. In order to make our people conscious of their citizenship, leaders of the various communities in which Japanese lived were called to San Francisco for the specific purpose of laying the groundwork for a more active participation as citizens and to create an organization that would be more statewide rather than localized. We were successful in making our leaders conscious of the necessity of such an organization with the pledge that everyone attending that gathering would go back to their respective communities, call the Japanese Americans together and form a citizens organization. Through this method about 10 chapters were formed which in turn sent their representatives to San Francisco again where we met to draw up a constitution and working plans to guide our future activities. Thus was born the American Loyalty League, the first organization of American citizens of Japanese ancestry in California with Dr. T. T. Yatabe elected as its first president. The purpose of this organization was: 1 - Create a better understanding between our people and the Caucasian community; 2 - To educate, foster and spread the true spirit of Americanism among our group; 3 - To educate our group to the full responsibility and meaning of American citizenship; 4 - To lend our efforts towards full participation in the realm of civic welfare. Great deal of credit should be given the young leaders of the community even though just out of college and trying to establish themselves they have given ^a good deal of their time to create a better understanding for our people in their respective communities. Active interest

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was shown in politics and elections, active participation in community chest, red cross, and other community drives. Various discriminations towards our people such as seating in movies, swimming pools, segregation in schools, etc., were investigated and in many cases ironed out to the satisfaction of both parties. Interpretation of the various laws, ordinances, etc., to our people so that they could be better understood by our own English speaking parents.

To keep the various chapters intact and active was very difficult. Due to the age of our young people, they were more socially inclined rather than far sighted enough to prepare for the future, thus the older group had to take the brunt of all activities even to the extent of spending our own hard-earned money to keep the organization alive. Of the 10 chapters, one by one due to inactiveness fell by the wayside with the exception of the Fresno Chapter of the American Loyalty League which was active till the last Japanese was evacuated from Fresno in 1942. Between 1927-1929 very little interest could be aroused amongst our younger group and with only one chapter functioning the future looked rather dark for our organization. In the meantime the Seattle young people feeling citizenship conscious organized a citizens organization under the leadership of Mr. Clarence Arai, an attorney in Seattle. He and a few others came to San Francisco to meet some of the key leaders and here again the interest once more was aroused far more than ever before. Here we had a decidedly older group considering seriously the advisability of a unified organization to be the spokesman for the representative of the second generation group as a whole. By the

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year 1929, more and more of our younger people became established and better economically than heretofore. Now that there businesses, farms and professions were under way, their thoughts were becoming more mature. This decidedly was a better nucleus of older and more serious men and women who were eager to give their share to establish our positions in America.

1929 saw the coalition of the Pacific Northwest group and the California group into a unified body. However, in order to make the name of the organization distinct as to its origin the former American Loyalty League was passed up and in the future to be called the Japanese American Citizens League. Perhaps it was a round about way but we planned first for a National body and then organized chapters to affiliate with it. Thus the first call for a National conference was called in Seattle, Washington, September 1, 1930, with Clarence Arai as chairman. No national officers were elected in the beginning. Instead the city holding the national conventions would call upon the local chapter in that city to honor their chapter officers who were to preside at that particular convention. These conventions were held every two years at various localities designated by a committee. 1932 Los Angeles had the honor of holding the 2nd national convention with Dr. George Takiyama, president of the Los Angeles Chapter, presiding. San Francisco took over the 3rd convention in September, 1934, with Dr. T. Hayashi of the San Francisco Chapter presiding. At all of these conventions, prominent Caucasian speakers were invited. A well rounded program of discussion groups in political, social and economic fields pertinent to us were always well attended. This year for the first time we

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instituted the election of national officers by the delegates of the various chapters represented at the conference. The first national president to be elected by the group was Dr. T. T. Yatabe of Fresno; vice president, James Sakamoto of Seattle; secretary, Saburo Kido of San Francisco; and treasurer, Sim Togasaki of San Francisco. Each officer held office for a term of two years. For the first time we took upon ourselves a major issue which required a lot of lobbying both in the various states as well as in Congress to obtain citizenship for the 700 oriental veterans of World War I, aliens who volunteered for service with the armed forces of America. With very little funds on hand, we were successful in having Congress pass a law granting these men the right of citizenship. This gave the League the recognition which was lacking both among our people as well as the American public. Starting in 1930 with 10 chapters by 1936, there were over 40 chapters from Seattle, Washington, in the north to Brawley, California, in the south. Year by year chapters increased gradually awakening the young people in the Intermountain region to organize.

1936 saw new officers come into being. James Sakamoto, a blind newspaper editor of Seattle handicapped as he was, ably handled his office with a lot of respect from the younger generation, president; vice president, John Ando, Los Angeles; secretary, Walter Tsukamoto, Sacramento; treasurer, S. Togasaki of San Francisco. 1938 convention at Los Angeles elected Walter Tsukamoto, a prominent and capable Sacramento attorney, at present Captain in the U. S. Army, as our president; vice president, Ken Matsumoto of Los Angeles; secretary, Ken Utsunomiya of Santa Maria; treasurer, Hito

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Okada of Portland, Oregon. The Portland, Oregon, convention of 1940 elected Saburo Kido, prominent San Francisco attorney and the backbone of the citizens league, our national president with vice president, Ken Matsumoto of Los Angeles; secretary James Sugioka of Hollister; and treasurer, Hito Okada of Portland, Oregon.

This was our last national convention and today Mr. Saburo Kido and his cabinet members still hold their position in our organization. Mr. Kido has gone through the toughest assignment any man could take with the war, followed by evacuation and all its problems. No man today could have taken his position and ably steer our course as he to the present. Geographically, our organization was divided into the Pacific Northwest District, Northern and Southern California Districts and the Intermountain District. During the intervening years of the National Convention, every district within the jurisdiction of the league held their district conventions to take up problems of their respective districts.

In 1937 we became incorporated under the laws of California. With some 60 odd chapters under our fold, it became necessary for someone to coordinate all the various chapters as well as become a public relations man. Financially though not able, we assessed our chapters to hire a paid field secretary. We were more than fortunate in getting Mr. Mike Masaoka, at that time instructor at the University of Utah, to get a leave and take up our work. If there is any one man that has actually sold our organization to the American public, it is he. His personality and ability as an eloquent speaker has made the JACL what it is today. Our position has become recognized by the various governmental agencies, the war department, department of Justice,

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the W.R.A., the national social agencies, as well as the national federation of churches.

From the day of Pearl Harbor to the total evacuation of our people from the coastal area, we cooperated in every way possible with the governmental agencies as well as the War Department. However this does not mean that we were in accord with the army policy to evacuate us for we tried every means possible to check the mass evacuation of our people. Being a military necessity, as we were told, the league cooperated to its fullest extent as a part of our contribution to the war effort.

The details of the evacuation and our views on the matter can be read in the brief submitted to the Supreme Court.

With the WRA policy of resettling and relocating the loyal Japanese Americans, plans for acceptance as well as job offers and housing became a vital issue. Not alone from WRA policy but from the dignity and character of a man must come the urge to set himself up on his own feet, to earn a living by his own hands, and to rear his children as self-respecting members of a community. To encourage and aid evacuees in this inherent right of every American are marshalled the official forces of the War Relocation Authority, the Japanese American Citizens League, the Committee on American Japanese Resettlement of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, and the Home Missions Council of North America representing some 83 denominations and other independent groups.

Desirable from the standpoint of the individual and the maximum utilization of manpower is the necessity of matching jobs to persons.

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Much headway is already being achieved. From initial openings restricted to domestic or agricultural jobs now professional, technical and skilled positions are being made available.

That there be no carry-over of the Lil Tokios of the West Coast into the midwest, the grouping of Japanese residents conspicuously is to be discouraged. Likewise a saturation point in a community is to be avoided. With a pioneering spirit approach, with a friendly orientation amidst a new environment, with an intelligent participation in local affairs, without too conspicuous fraternizations with large groups of Japanese, the relocatees bearing these things in mind may accomplish for himself and family a new level of success and happiness and fuller living that would have been impossible of attainment in his former habital.

The Japanese American Citizens League's greatly expanded program of resettlement is gaining daily momentum. A staff of field men are readying a comprehensive coverage of many states. The most gigantic task of placing out people in gainful employment in widely scattered areas is now under way.

The JACL will act as consultant, resource liaison with local committees, WRA, Manpower Commission, Social Service Agencies. For such purpose already field offices have been established in Denver under Joe Masaoka, St. Paul in charge of Earl Tanbara and Chicago, the Midwest office in charge of Dr. T. T. Yatabe.

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When I got to the office this afternoon, I had a headache and I did not feel so good. Tom is also coming down with a cold, but he is leaving for St. Louis tomorrow anyway and expects to be gone for a week. He turned on the fan in the office and kept the windows closed so that we could circulate our cold germs in the room only. Frank and Morton were in and out, and Morton brought Embree up for a while so that I did not get much typing done this afternoon. I am way behind schedule now and I just won't be able to catch up now and I probably will get further behind when Emiko comes back and trys to get in school.

John Embree is nothing like what I had pictured him. He is a slim, youthful looking individual and very modest. I had pictured him as a huge, gruff individual with a booming voice for some reason. We just talked in general about the work he is doing now and not much about the WRA or the camps. He will be teaching the Army officers in the Colonial Administration school which has been set up. There are six of them in the country and each one emphasizes certain areas which the Allies expect to rule with military governments. University of California lost the Pacific area one so that Bob lost his job. Morton said that he may try to get into the language school at University of Colorado.

Tom said that he talked to Hayakawa this morning. He came up to the office to get some leads on literature on the evacuation. Tom said he was a little conceited, but he thinks he has the goods. Hayakawa is going to take a month and a half trip to the camps since he has a leave from teaching in Illinois Tech and he plans to gather data on a quick novel about evacuation. He told Tom that he knew he could not get the depth so that he

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was going to try and get the punch. He feels that he is the only Nisei qualified to do this writing and he probably is. A publisher has guaranteed him a sale of 10,000 volumes if he writes the book. Hayakawa plans to do a series of articles for the Sat. Even. Post and then have the book out by January. Tom feels that he will not get much out of the camp if he just gets the introductions to meet the big shots. Hayakawa does not know any of the evacuees since he is from Canada and has been emancipated from the group for years. Tom told him that he should try to live with the people and try to understand them that way in the camps, but Hayakawa did not understand this point. He feels that it is sufficient to breeze in and get the connections with the administration and then the people will recognize that he is an important person and give out. I think that he should be able to produce something worthwhile. There is yet a good book on evacuation to come out. Carey McWilliams is going to have a book out soon, but it will treat all minorities.

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I did not go to the office this morning as I dictated over 35 pages to Louise yesterday, the most I have ever done in one day, and finished up CH-10. I am still one case behind, but I will not be able to catch up unless I happen to get a couple of short cases. Dorothy wrote a long letter and she seems to be satisfied with the progress that we have made so far. We were so rushed this week with one thing or another that we did not hold any staff meeting. Togo was ill yesterday from his cold so he did not come.

Tom got off for St. Louis yesterday morning, and Tomi was in the office and she looked a little sad. She said that it was hard to be separated.

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It's only for a week. Michi was with Frank all day so I guess she is having a hard time letting Frank go for a month. Such is love! Tom could just as well stayed here until Monday. I bet he will be cursing like anything when he gets down there and finds out that the Matsunaga girl was up this way and she will not be back in St. Louis until the 13th. Tom was not too anxious to go because he was coming down with a cold. He will probably have to stay down there for about ten days in order to get the Study under-way for that area.

Morton was not around the office yesterday either. They will get off for Washington today. It will be very quiet around the office next week. I shall be the sole staff member around and office manager pro tem. Frank and Tom gave me some last minute warnings not to start a brothel up here as it would ruin the reputation of dear old Cal. I have not any particular case lined up for next week although I may see if I can corner Bob K.

Frank took Blumer's typewriter down to the bookstore to get cleaned, but there will be another one in the office, only it will be a portable. Frank left some careful directions about some things I should take care of, but I suppose I will manage to forget all about them.

It has been very cold for the past few days even though the sun is shining. I had a sort of relapse from my cold and did not feel well yesterday morning and dragged to the office only in the afternoon, but it was a successful day since I got in about six hours of solid dictating before I came home. I think I should take it easy until Monday, but I would like to get another case lined up as the groundwork takes most of the time for the interviews.

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Got a card from Mary Ogi. Tomi says that Mary is a librarian up in Detroit since she did her graduate year at the U. of Utah or someplace. Tomi does not care for Mary because they had some sort of a feud over the Japanese Woman's Club on the campus the semester the war broke out.

I think that Bette is coming down with a cold also. She has the sniffles right now. It is too bad if she has to take to bed. Today, she slept late and now she is upstairs doing her work. After that she will rush up to the sotre to get the food for the weekend, and after that she will go downtown to shop for a gift for Emiko. Mariko's birthday is tomorrow and Miyako's is on the 27th so that our budget will be a little off kilter this month.

September 12, 1943

After I left here yesterday noon, I dropped over to see Mariko in order to get Bob's phone number. She said that Bob usually slept all day Saturday as he had to work all night at the Chez Paree so I decided to postpone the interview until a more convenient time. She was just getting up and Sho was there playing the piano so I decided to interview him since he has been sufficiently softened up now. We went over to his room and I interviewed him all afternoon until after 6:00. Most of the time Sho (CH-11) rambled on about his pre war life. I think that his is an interesting case and I was quite surprised by some of the things he told me. Sho is a commerical artist, apparently a good one, and he has had a fairly interesting life. He comes from a well off family and he has always had a lot of spending money himself. He is quiet when you first know him; that is why I hesitated to interview him for a while as I figured that I would

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COPY of Card from Mary Ogi

What an awful SOUR PUSS I'll be as long as you are sick!

But I'll be suited PURRfectly If you'll just get well-QUICK!

Charlie---

I can't believe it - you - of all people - in bed. Hope by now, you're rarin' to go. You know - you shouldn't have come to the phone - what if you develop pneumonia - my conscience (I do have one, strangely enough) will haunt me the rest of my days. I would've come to see you except a working gal's time isn't her own and I had a train to catch - seems like that is all I do these days - rush around. I had a swell time attending the conference - almost expected to see you at some of the lectures. Never met a grander bunch of people yet - it was worth it to sit 8 hours on my suitcase, and that is no exaggeration. All the way from Detroit to Chicago I had the alternative of standing or sitting on the handle of my baggage. Take care of yourself - this is no time to be sick.

Mary O.

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have to pry every sentence out of him. However, I was surprised to find out that he was fairly talkative and it did not take a great deal of urging to get him to spill his story. I shall have to finish it in a couple more interviews since we only got up to Dec. 7 yesterday afternoon. Sho is living at the Y on Dearborn St., only a half block from Mariko's. It is a nice room, but I suppose he gets bored staying there all by himself so that he spends a lot of time over visiting Mariko. While I was there, Yoshie (CH-1) phoned over and asked me to have Mariko leave the key out for her. She found out that there would not be many people over there today so she invited Sho to a dinner. Yoshie lost \$20.00 again and this was worrying her. She also lost a wrist watch recently and Mariko thinks she threw it in the garbage pail. Mariko also said that Yoshie apparently has not given up the thought of Marty, a Caucasian, and she felt that Yoshie was headed for trouble. Marty is stationed down in Texas right now. Yoshie told Mariko that I had given her a lot of good advice in our interviews, but she does not seem to have acted on anything and she is still drifting along. I suggested that she join the WAC's as it would make a woman out of her, but she is not much interested in this.

Sho is a talented Nisei, with more of a cultured air than most of the Niseis. He is about 5 feet 5 inches in height and weighs 140 pounds. From his story, he has only gone around with Caucasian girls because he never has known any Nisei girls in Seattle. Mariko is the first one he really is interested in, and there are several rivals for her. Sho had a picture of a Caucasian girl whom he says he met here. He also has a large drawing of another Caucasian girl that he was infatuated with just before

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the war. I still have to get to know him better before I can question him on his love life. He is very frank and he does not mind telling me personal things as long as I keep it confidential. I have discovered that he is unconventional in many ways, especially in financial matters. He spends money like water. Sho made over \$300.00 a month as a commercial artist in an advertising agency in Seattle before the war, and he now makes about the same amount, but he never saves a cent. He said that he got \$175.00 a week or so ago in pay, but he only had \$1.00 left. I know because I took him to the movies last night and he was so embarrassed because he was broke. He is generous to his friends and he throws his money around wildly. He is always bringing things to eat for Mariko. Sho has good taste in clothes. I looked at his wardrobe and found that all of his clothes were of very good material. Sho spotted a topcoat and he told me to try it on. It fit perfectly so he said I could have it. He said that he was very fussy about his clothes and he never wore this good topcoat because the sleeves were about an inch too short for him. If I were a social worker out on a case I would not have taken the gift, but it was all right to take it since I am only an interviewer now and he gave it to me as a friend. Perhaps it was to seal the "friendship." He said that he did not care for the Niseis, and I gather from his story that he has not mixed with them hardly at all even in Seattle. He was recognized as an artist so that may have helped him in getting Caucasian friends, as Sho is inclined to be on the quiet side. I guess I must have good rapport with him. I am a hell of a guy because I have my mind fixed in the channel that the only use I have for a Nisei is as a "case." I should make an exception for many of the Niseis, like Sho, but I

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think of him primarily as a good example of "Nisei adjustment." I guess I am just a heel. Whenever I meet a Nisei these days, I mentally measure him up and down to find out what sort of a person he is; and if I interview him later on, I try to see how close my first reaction came. Even in casual conversation, I have to catch myself because I start an interrogation. Most Niseis do not respond easily to even the broadest of informal questions as they are not conversationalists as a rule so that it makes my work a little harder when I have to ask them of their personal life once the contact is made and the person is agreeable. I am much more tolerant of the Niseis now, but I still do not wish to mix with them on a social level as I find that I have to do most of the "giving" and I do not feel like making the effort to keep a conversation going. The usual Nisei discussion is so assinine that I get bored.

I have not stopped to consider what a lot of "preliminary" work is necessary in order to establish rapport with a person, but Sho's case brings it to mind. I suppose I must have seen him ten times or more before I even mentioned a possible interview. I hope to get a fairly decent story out of him without much effort on my part from now on as the groundwork has been laid. I am a hell of a guy for giving him a buildup in front of Mariko just to get his confidence! He is a nice guy, but I do have the ulterior motives with him.

After I finished the interview for the day, I "invited" him over to Mariko's for dinner. Mariko had a date to go out with rival George Taki and he was invited to dinner by her, but it was not an embarrassing situation for me, but it might have made Mariko a little uncomfortable. On top of that, we kept kidding Geo. saying that we were going to tag along and chaperon

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him, and he did not know whether to take us seriously or not! When we got over to Mariko's there were two other wolves there, an Hawaiian Nisei (older), who came to bring Mariko a birthday present. Both of them had first names of Michael. Later on I may interview them if I can catch up a little with my list, so I was nice to them with an effort, although I thought they were drips. Mariko said that Machael #1 had a good heart and he knew her in L.A. The other one was a stranger. Michael #2 is an Hawaiian Nisei who is working as a draftsman. He is married to a Caucasian and his wife and child are still back in L.A. He said that he had just received a notice that he could go back to Los Angeles because of this marriage. This may be due to the fact that General Emons is taking DeWitts place in charge of the Western Command. an indication
Could it be/that the bars for the Niseis to return to California are going to be let down a little in line with the more liberal ideas of General Emons, who formerly was so successful in Hawaii? I will have to check on it to really find out for sure whether Michael #2 had his story straight.

Michael #2 used to have his own business in Los Angeles. I asked him if he was going back and he said that he did not think so. He said that he had nothing to go back to because he lost everything. I asked him if he was going to bring his wife and family out here and he said that he did not know that either. He just does not know what he is going to do. He said that he had parents, etc., back in Manzanar and he had to think about them too. The fellow is about 35, very sharply dressed. He felt insulted because some people out here have mistaken him for a Filipino. He dresses just like one, and he has long hair and a thin mustache that must be plastered down with some starchy rice or some kind of glue. It just did not look natural.



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Michael #2 does not think that he would have a chance to get a job in Los Angeles: "The people are too damn prejudiced out there. They would spot me out as a Jap right away and I know that I could not get a job. As soon as they saw 'Japanese' on an employment application, they would turn me down. Even if I went to the produce stands where so many of the Niseis used to work (and own), the God-damn Jews would tell me to get the hell out. There just is not a chance, that's all. What the hell! I would have more of a chance now if I was a Filipino. If I was back in Hawaii, it would be better, but I can't get back there now. I have too many in the family to think about. It is one hell of a problem. Let's talk about something else."

It was quite amusing to see how Mariko handled four "rivals" for her hand at one time. She did it very diplomatically. I don't see how she keeps so many dangling. She doesn't know what she wants herself. I think she is looking for her Prince Charming to come along. Right now, Geo. Taki has the upper hand. Bette thinks he is a little uncouth, but that may be due to the fact that he has been very active in the past in getting the Alaska cannery workers organized and into the CIO. He says that he wants to stay out of union activities out here. Geo. is a rather handsome lad, but I have heard that he has another girl he is engaged to, in another state, so that Mariko is trying to get him interested in her in a romantic way. What a life! It is these worries and activities on a social level that are the prime concern of most Niseis out here, I am inclined to think. They do not feel that they are affected by the wider issues although they give lip service to them. Mariko said that Wesley Oyama is still interested in trying to get a

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Nisei hotel with a barber shop, beauty shop, pool hall and restaurant down- stairs. He has sent a fellow out here to get Niseis to invest in this venture, but Mariko refused on the basis that it was not good for the Niseis to have such a development here. I almost hit the ceiling when she told me about that. God, what a mess that would be. It is inevitable I suppose, but the very idea makes my bowels go in an uproar. You can't stop various Niseis for wanting to make money, but that sure is a hell of a way to do it. I think that a lot of harm will be done to the Niseis out here if the Niseis go into business and only cater to the Nisei trade. That is not necessary at all. I think that anybody who does this is just as much of a rat as a person who sold scrap iron to Japan before the war just for the profits and without consideration of the human element. Maybe that is a little too drastic a comparison, but...why can't the Niseis really see that any initial attempts to start a little Tokyo out here is dangerous for their future economic and social welfare??? It is bad enough already with a Nisei barber shop attempting to cater to all the Niseis. Cool down CK, this is Sunday!

Mariko said that Chidori Ogawa was in town. She used to do domestic work in SF. Chidori is from Hawaii, a graduate of the University of Hawaii. I think she came over here to learn how to be a beauty operator about six years ago and she has been doing domestic work ever since. Chidori is about 29 or 30 and single. She has a very nice personality, but her appearance is marred a little with a rough, wide pored complexion. She used to be very active in the JACL and in the Hawaiian Club of SF. Chidori has been out in

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Minneapolis for some time doing domestic work I think. I hope to interview her before she goes back to Minneapolis. Chidori has just signed up for the WAC's and she told Mariko that the response was poor. She heard that all of the Nisei girls were going to be in a separate corps so now she is sorry she signed up. I don't think that this will happen though as there will not be too many Niseis volunteering for the WAC's from the camps, although there may be a large response from the Islands. She expects to be called in about two weeks. Two days ago, Chidori went to the race tracks with Taigo Miyahara, the Nisei barber, and for the first time in her life, she put down a \$2.00 bet. Before the afternoon was over, she was winner of \$250.00. She is so delighted by this good luck that she is going to live in style until she is inducted. She plans to go back to Minneapolis next Thursday and stay in a first class hotel until her call to the WAC's. Chidori never has gone around much with the Niseis. She grew up among the Chinese kids in Hawaii and she seems to prefer them. She was engaged to one when she came over to the mainland. Chidori had planned to go back to the Islands just before Pearl Harbor, but the war prevented that. She was going to marry the Chinese fellow. Then she heard subsequently that he was in the Army and killed by the Japs in Java. Then she heard that he was still alive and a captive of war. This is the reason she is going into the WAC's. Bette and I also ran into the Hawaiian Nisei girl who was the dietician at the Hostel when we came to Chicago. She came over to speak to us while we were waiting for a street car at 2:00 a.m. last night. She said that she was a beauty operator worker now. She introduced us to her husband, a small Nisei, typically "oily" like the zoot suiters, but not bad looking. He had a handshake like a clam or a

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dead fish. I felt like throwing his hand into the gutter upon contact. He had absolutely no personality at all. I don't see how such a pretty girl could have married a fellow like that. He must have hidden talents. I don't think I shall interview this girl because her husband looks like the jealous type and he may not like it if I go over to visit her when she is alone.

Bette went shopping for Emiko's and Mariko's birthday presents yesterday afternoon. I was supposed to meet her at Mariko's about 5 or 6 for dinner, but she did not show up until almost 8. George said he had seen her go into the ritzy Palmer House about 5 o'clock. We could not imagine what happened to her and dinner was getting cold. Bette finally came and she said that she had a sudden urge to go to a show and rest her feet after doing all the shopping so she went to see "Presenting Lily Mars." After we ate, George and Mariko went out on their date, and Sho wanted to go to a movie so we went. The pictures were so long that we did not get out until 2:00 a.m.

Mariko got a letter from Alice yesterday saying that they were leaving Gila on Thursday and expecting to pull into Chicago on Sunday morning. (They have not arrived yet.) Mariko said that Emiko mentioned having a joint birthday party since today is Mariko's birthday. Mariko asked if we could have it out here and I said that it was alright. Then I asked her for how many people and she said nine. She said not to talk about it because Sho was there and she wanted to invite George. It was already 5:00 o'clock when she told me about it, and we did not have any food. She rushed out and got some meat and then said it was up to us to get the rest of the stuff. Pretty neat the way she shoved everything on us. She said that she did not want it at her place because it would not seem like a party for her. I told

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her that nine people were too many and we could not possibly feed that many. It also meant that Bette and I would have to do all the cooking. Mariko then pouted and said that it wasn't her idea and that Emiko wanted the party. I told her that this was not the point and it was childish for her to act spoiled and say not to have it then, because the issue was that we could not handle that many. Mariko said that she had not invited Yoshie and Albert yet, and the only reason she had included them was because Alice considered them as a part of the "family" and she would not like it if they were left out. I said that was too bad, but they were not a part of my "family" and so we eliminated them. That makes dinner for seven that we have to prepare. I would not have minded bringing them over, but we could not accommodate that many people in our apartment, and Yoshie has a baby also. Yoshie hinted to Mariko that she wanted to come, and I asked her how about Sho.

I did not think it was a hot idea having the party today since we don't know if the train is going to be late and Mark has to be back in his Army camp tomorrow morning. Mariko was sure they were coming so we went ahead with the plans. So Bette and I were resigned to bear the brunt of the work for the homecoming and birthday party.

When we got home, Bette's cold was worse/^{so}she bundled herself all up in bed. I did not get up until noon so I made breakfast and went to the store and had to pay outrageous prices for vegetables. I thought they overcharged me (52¢ for two pounds of string beans), what a robbery! That is why I did not have any conscience when I lifted two juicy peaches. I wanted to see if my camp technique was still with me! Bette bawled me out for paying so much for the string beans; she said I could have bought them for 40¢ at

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the most in the other store. Heck, I don't know anything about shopping anyway.

It is rainy and cold today so we would have had to stay home anyway. Bette is up now and wrapping presents. It is now 5:00 p.m., and Mariko and George have just arrived. No word from Alice, Emiko and Mark yet. The train must be late. If they don't come, we are going to have a big dinner, yum, yum.

Miyako was very disappointed because she joined the girl scouts in camp a couple of months ago and she was looking forward to going to a summer camp in Prescott, Arizona. She was all set to go when the Governor of that august state suddenly decided that it was too dangerous to let any of the Japs from camp contaminate his state, so he issued a decree saying that the little Nisei girl scouts were too dangerous to be let out so now the trip is off. Emiko was very indignant about the whole thing and she thinks that the Governor of Arizona is an old fat head. Tsk, tsk!

A phone call just came in and Alice said that they just arrived so they should be over in an hour or so. With all those girls gabbing, I won't be able to get a word in edgewise for the rest of the evening. How frustrating! Alice and Mark don't feel like coming over here because they are tired and they want to be alone!

Gossip. Geo. Yamanaka (CH-1) is living with Saye in Denver now and it is quite a scandal among the local Buddhaheads there. He intends to marry her as soon as the divorce decree becomes final. Geo. is going to bring her out here after the marriage, but it is not known whether Wesley will let her bring the baby out here. At the same time, Wesley is having an affair

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with another gal. Making money hand over fist but gambling and drinking it away. He embezzled some money for gambling but made it good so charges will not be pressed. Geo. is still going to remain in chick sexing after the marriage and he also made some money in stocks. All this is rumor from fairly reliable and first hand reports.

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Bette got kicked out of school today! The principal called her in the office and he told her that it was impossible to admit her to the school because she was a non-resident. He said the Board of Education had written him and told him to take this action. Bette told him that I was the legal guardian, but he said that this did not make any difference. He then took Bette's books away in order to make sure that she did not go to any classes until the money was paid. They want \$196.00. Bette told him that she did not have any parents. That was my fault because I had told her to say that if she was questioned. However, I had stated the true facts to the Board of Education and in Togo's phone call, the whole thing apparently had been cleared up. Now this unexpected blow. I just found out about it so that I cannot do anything this evening. It makes me boiling mad, that is all I can say. Inside of me I am cursing up and down, but it doesn't do any good to get all excited about it. I phoned Miss Herrick of the Chicago Teacher's Union, but she was not at home yet. I will try to contact her the first thing in the morning.

Guess I might as well be philosophical about it. Life is full of unexpected crises. Bette is feeling badly about the whole thing and naturally she is deeply disappointed at the turn of events. I do not know

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September 6, 1943

Dear Mariko:

with 3258

Well, why haven't you written?

That much space is reserved for how are you and so forth. You know -- why haven't you written? etc.

Mark finally came 5:30 a.m. Saturday morning and we moved into where Toshi and Albert were living. Mrs. Sato has gone to cook for a church conference in Prescott and will be back today sometime.

Did you get the negatives from Cherie? They are the ones of the funeral, so Mom would like to see them.

Mark's train was 12 hours late and the bus from Coolidge was a few hours late so he took a much longer time to get here than we did -- since we came directly to Casa Grande.

We are leaving here around Thursday morning so you can expect us in Chicago about Sunday. Mark has to go back to camp by Monday morning.

Well, how is the romance coming along? (Maybe I should make it plural) I like Sho because he is a gentleman and seems to have a lot of respect for you - and George makes me laugh - he's such an erratic person. Does he show any sign of falling? I hear he has a steady girl friend someplace in one of the nearby states, but the ones who are closer have a better chance - so they say.

Is Yoshie dear still with you? How are you getting along with her? Give her my love and ask her why she didn't drop me a line.

Mark wants to go to the Ad building to find out about his baggage, so that's all for now. Take care of yourself!

Love,

Alice

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Dear Mariko,

How are you? I am making a bib for Lucy and I'm almost finished.

The Governor of Arizona says that we can't go to Prescott because he doesn't like the idea of the people in camp going out. Mark came on Sept. 4 at 5:00 a.m.

Emiko, Alice and Mark are leaving on the ninth. They will leave on Emiko's birthday and arrive on your birthday. Mrs. H. Satow went to Prescott for a vacation. Well have to close now. Good bye.

Your little sister

Miyako

P.S. Miss you very much.

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Dearest Mariko-----

I have no excuse for not writing to you before this except laziness. I was trying to pay you back for not writing when you came here but I had such a guilty conscience that I couldn't let it go another day.

I've been getting sick and getting well again so often here that it's getting sort of monotonous. I finally got rid of my cold last week--- the same one that I had when I left Chicago. It's really hard to shake off a summer cold isn't it? As for everyone else, they're all okay and send their love to you.

Mark finally got here yesterday morning at 5 a.m. Alice waited up for him. He wants to go back already, and he hasn't even seen his mother yet. She went out to Prescott to work for a few days and will be back tomorrow night.

Tom got a butch and he looks like a different boy. He sure keeps us laughing by imitating Tojo and Hitler.....he's a good boy. Very clever in fixing things around the house too. It's surprising. When we think the fan is on the blink, he fools around with it for awhile and it works again. Miyako and Masaye sure look cute together. Mom made them a twin play suit and they braid their hair--really cute. They were sort of disappointed because they cancelled that trip to Prescott for the Girl Scouts. The Governor of Arizona doesn't like the idea of too many Japanese going out to Ariz. The old fat-head! As if a bunch of kids can sabotage or something!! They really looked forward to that trip too.

Willie and Henry have been over pretty often. What boring company. They hardly talk and yet they don't go. The other day Willie came over x talked to me for awhile x I left. Then he talked to Alice for awhile and she left to go see Mr. Satow. Talked to Mom for awhile and she came in. Played with Miyako and Masaye for awhile and they left. Fooled around with Blackie and sang for awhile and Blackie left. Finally, no one was left so he sat there for about 15 minutes and then he left. Mom was watching from the window and she said it was really funny.

I went to the hospital to have them look at my throat and to see about my cold, they wouldn't take me because I was from the outside. They sure do make me mad though. That boy at the hospital that you took a pictures with (the one you met in Phoenix) came up to me one day and asked if I was your sister. He said he remembered me from Camouflage, but I couldn't quite place him. Was his name George? I forgot. Anyway, he's a nice fellow and is very friendly.

Since we won't be leaving till the 9th or 10th, I want to wish

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Mariko from Emiko cont.

you a happy birthday, and will give you a present when I get back. Let's have a birthday party for us when I get back. Last yest I missed my birthday party because I left for Gila. This year I'll be leaving the family again near my birth date.

Well, it's time for lunch now, so will close. Tell Yoshi that I lost a few lbs. but don't put it on too thick because she might expect to see a Rita Hayworth when I get back. Merry and Nancy did after you got through telling them how much weight I lost when you were here.

Will be seeing you soon.

Love,

Emi



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if the Board of Education will send notices to the other high schools to tell them to check up ^{on} any students who may have slipped in. That would be too bad. That secretary at the Board of Education is more treacherous than a Jap.

Emiko ~~is~~ eating over at Alice's this evening. She went over to pick up some of her bags and I have to go get them later this evening. She got back yesterday. ~~Alice~~ did not come over to dinner with Mark as they wanted to be alone since he had to leave for the Army camp at 12:30.

Emiko was mad at Alice and Mark. I think it was because of a hard train trip and then they made Emiko sit by herself in a corner "just because they are married they think they can take the best of everything." She was mad at Mark because he tried to order her around in camp and he grumbled all the time he was out there. Emiko said that she did not see how Alice was going to be able to live with him after the war because he was so spoiled. Mark thinks he knows all about women now and he went and bought Emiko a hat from him and Alice for a birthday present. Emiko said that she could not say anything, but she never wears a hat so that it was a useless expenditure of money. She said that most of the time, she was getting along with Mark, but she was surprised to find out his true character. She said that Alice did not know enough about him because she only saw him on weekends. Since Emiko was put out with Alice and Mariko and since we did not think it was such good manners to turn down our dinner after it was all ready, we all helped Emiko in her feelings and pulled Alice down. Emiko said that Alice had a little notebook and she kept track of every cent she spent on the way down there. For about an hour all of us remembered this characteristic of Alice and then we would build her up because of a guilty conscience.

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Emiko seems to have lost quite a bit of weight and she has announced that we are all going on a diet. Bette is worried because she gained five pounds since coming to Chicago. I bet I don't get to eat much from now on. Our dinner last night was quite a success.

~~Emiko~~ ^{She} Emiko said that Tom was growing up and getting quite big now. ^{Mariko} said when she saw him he was bragging about the arm muscles he had, but she thought his muscles only looked like a ripe olive. Mom apparently has made up her mind to stay in camp. She said when they were leaving that Tom would be the next one to come out and that would be in two years. She just will not think of relocating because she likes the camp life and she does not give one thought about the future. I was thinking that if we brought her out, all of this school business would be settled--it is going to cost over \$400.00 a year to get them in school now as it is, unless I can get something done about it in the next day or so. Emiko is all ready to go to school and she wants to be among a college group and wear the same kind of clothes that they do. We don't expect to make any progress with the Board in her case.

It was so hot in camp that Emiko said she could not do anything and she was sick for three of the weeks that she was there. She went to some of the dances and seemed to have gone back to the same old crowd. She said that Mom is finally getting rid of Blackie because she gets prudent too often. They are going to keep one of the smaller pups.

Emiko said that the kids left in camp were quite Japanesy and she had some arguments with them. They made some nasty cracks at her because

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she and Alice went around with some of the Caucasians in there, and they were treated as "outsiders." Emiko could not even get her teeth fixed there because she was considered a non-resident. How foolish! < Bette and Emiko were quite indignant because they found out that some of their friends were "no-nos" in the registration and they can't resettle. > Emiko was full of mads at the people in camp, but she had a forgiving attitude later on in the evening and granted that perhaps they could not help it because of their background.

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< Emiko slept most of the day yesterday and today. Bette was feeling sick and disappointed last night so she went to bed early. Emiko went over in the afternoon to Alice's to get her baggage and found that Mariko and Alice slept until 6:00 in the afternoon because the two of them talked most of the night. I went over in the evening to get the baggage for Emiko. It started to rain so that I went over to the Y and interviewed Sho (CH-11) for about three or four hours more and got some good data. It was passed one a.m. when Emiko and I started home and we brought the baggage. We did not get in until almost 2:30.

Mariko said that since her joint board clearance was so indefinite, she was going to look for another apartment. Alice is going to find a new apartment before she looks for a job. Mariko was talking to Mr. O'Brien on Sunday and he told her that he wanted her to move out in three weeks because he wanted to make the basement the entrance to the building. He went on to say that he had another apartment house on LaSalle street and there were about eight Niseis in it. He said that these boys told him that they would

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never fight against Japan because they had relatives over there. Mariko said that most of the Niseis were not this way and she gave him quite a lecture on the Nisei cause. She does not know whether it will do any good or not.

One of the bits of information I picked up today is that a Nisei is going to try to open up an apartment house here. I met the fellow in the JACL office, but I could not question him too much. He is from the Arkansas center and he was one of the councilmen there. Before the war he was in the farming business in Florin. The fellow said that he had a deal on to get an apartment house, but it would not be closed for a few weeks yet so that in the meantime, he was going to go up to Minneapolis to visit friends and relatives.

Dorothy sent me a letter today telling me that under an informal WRA ruling, I would be able to claim Miyako as a dependent and thus reduce my with holding tax from \$9.20 to \$4.00. I shall have to attend to this matter as soon as I can get some time. I have been so busy on the school business that I have had to throw my interviewing in at odd minutes. I did manage to make some more contacts that I will follow through in due time. Chidori will be leaving town Thursday so that I do not think I will be able to interview her. I just won't be able to get around to see her. Another week of this running around and I shall be a nervous wreck. The hell of it is that little progress is shown either in my work or in school clarification.

The WRA interpretation on dependents:

"An evacuee on leave whose wife and children remain at the center can-

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not ordinarily claim his children as dependents (since the Government ordinarily contributes more than 50% of the total cost of support.) However, where several children are involved and the amount contributed by the evacuee parent is less than 50% of the total cost of their support, but more than 50% of the cost of supporting one of the children, it is permissible for the evacuee to treat his contributions as having been made for the support of a particular child and claim this child as a dependent without claiming the others as dependents."

I worked on the school business all day long, but I did not get much satisfaction. This morning I went out to the University in order to see Dr. Johnson, but he was not in. Then I phoned Miss Herrick ^{President of the Teachers Union} but she was off teaching school. This was not such an encouraging start. I was a little peeved because the elevator was not running and I walked down five floors to use the phone and then discovered that I had no money on me so that I had to walk all the way up and down again, huffing and puffing all the way.

I phoned the WRA then, but Miss Young sort of passed the buck. She said that Shirrell would be in Minneapolis until next Thursday so that she advised me to take the matter up with the Legal Aid Dept. as the WRA did not know what to do next. I decided to go downtown to see if I could contact the people myself, but there was such a long waiting line that I went up to the Friends office to use Togo's phone. I talked to Mr. Morganroth about the school matter, and he said that he had one of his staff working on it, but they had not gotten as far as I had. He said that it would not be of much use to have them do the phoning as the American Friends were not that well known. He thought it would be much better if I worked through one of

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the established organizations in the city. I got the impression that the Friends have a policy not to make a fight out of any issue as it is one of their principles.

I phoned the Board of Education next, and I got absolutely no satisfaction. The news from them was all bad. I tried to talk to Mr. Landmesser, the Secretary of the Board, but he referred me to Mr. Frank Buck after ascertaining that I was "Japanese" I told him that this had nothing to do with the matter. Mr. Buck told me that the legal guardianship did not make any difference and that I would have to pay the tuition fee for Bette. He was very evasive when I asked him where I could find out to my own satisfaction about the regulations on the legal guardianship in writing. He tried to tell me that the only copy of the school code was in Springfield, the state capital. I said surely that there must be a copy of the laws in Chicago, and he finally admitted that the public library might have one. He said it would be of no use to go any further than him because the decision was final and that as long as one of the parents was a non-resident, I could not get the exemption. He was not so pleased when he found out that I had contacts with the Chicago Teacher's Union, the WRA, Friends, ^{and} the Legal Aid Department. He said that I need not go any further. I asked him if he could send me an excerpt from the school regulations covering this for my own satisfaction, but he said that this was not necessary as the Board's word was final. I then mentioned that I had spoken to a member of the board and he had given a different opinion, but Mr. Buck said that Mr. Levin was only one member of the Board and that his word did not mean much. I then said that in the phone call to his office last week, I had received the information that Legal guardian-

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ship would be sufficient, but he said this information must have gone out without his knowledge and it was a mistake.

< I was getting no place so I brought up a theoretical case that if I had three dependents out here and they were under 16, what would the school board rule then? He said that I would have to pay the full tuition for them or else they would have to go back to the state of their parent's residence. I pointed out to him that California was a military area and they could not send them back. Then he said that the Juvenile Court would have to handle the matter and he closed the discussion. > ^{WQ} Buck was a little irritated that I pressed the point and he was quite definite that there was nothing further I could do about the matter. I did not feel so good on hearing this.

I contacted Mr. Hunter, the director of the United Charities, Inc. next and he said that he was not too optimistic, < but that there actually was not any written regulation on the matter, and it was a sort of common law. He said that he would try to get some clearance on the matter of a legal guardianship status, but he did not know how far it would get. > He said that I could probably get a writ of mandamus against the Board of Education, but that would cost as much as the tuition so I should try other means first. I phoned Mrs. Foltz of the Legal Aid Bureau and she was not clear on it. She was not so optimistic either. < She said that she would try to get Mr. Hunter to see some of the big shots in the education department and perhaps he could get them to change the opinion since I had a good case and was financially responsible for Bette. I am to contact her again tomorrow to see if any headway has been made. > In the meantime, Bette has to stay out of school. I wanted to see Mr. Shirrell as I knew that he would

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go to bat now and I also wanted to find out the possibilities of a parochial school since he knows some of the Catholic educational leaders. I will have to do this when he gets back.

I talked to Mr. Turly of the Teacher's Union next and he said he would do what he could about the matter, but he did not raise my hopes any. He said that it would be difficult to force the Board of Education to change its ruling since it was pretty autonomous. I told him that other Niseis had slipped into the public school system, but I could not say anything to the Board about that for fear of endangering their status. I also told him about the Board not accepting the campschool credits and he said that the Board was pretty autonomous on this also and they could not be forced.

I dropped in on Dr. Yatabe and he was quite concerned. He wondered if the JACL could do anything about it, but I said that I did not think that there was much of a case on racial discrimination since the Board had never committed itself. It said that the applications for exemptions could be sent in and then proceeded to turn them all down. I may have made my big mistake by being honest about the whole thing. Yatabe said that he did not know any of the big shots around here so that the JACL was pretty powerless in affairs of this sort and he would depend upon me to carry it through and get a definite clarification. Walt Godfrey of the Friends was also anxious about the thing as he has a couple of cases of a similar nature which are pending. There are only a small handful of Nisei students here without their parents. Some have been turned down also and they are in private schools, while others slipped in without notice, but there is the danger that they may be caught in mid-semester and then they may be in a hell of a fix if they could not pay the tuition.

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There was little else that I could do about it today so that I came on home and I was dead tired. Both Emiko and Bette were sleeping peacefully. I phoned Miss Herrick this evening and she was very indignant about the whole thing and she was sure that something could be done about it, but my hopes have been raised too often that I don't know. She said that she would speak to Mr. Turly of the Chicago Teacher's Union the first thing in the morning, and try to get him to see some of the more important officials on the school department of education. She said that it should be rushed since there was no sense in keeping Bette out of classes. She said that the ASCL could make a case of it, and that they would be willing to, but it would be a long dragged out thing and Bette would be losing all that time.

Miss Herrick also mentioned that she had spoken to Mr. Humphries of the Woodrow Wilson Junior College and he had seemed very sympathetic. It will be a terrific sum to pay that \$226.00 that they want. Emiko is going out there tomorrow. It is too much to hope that she will be allowed to slip in as the colleges usually are even tougher. But the Junior College system here is on very insecure grounds and there is a chance that it may fold up soon because of lack of students. A lot of the teachers already are being laid off.

There is not much else I can do for Emiko except for her going to the Central Y College. It is cheaper, but Emiko does not think much of the idea of going there because it does not have much of a college atmosphere. She wants to be a regular co-ed I guess and I can't blame her in spite of the fact that times have changed now with a war going on. Maybe next year we will have to see if she can get a full scholarship at one of the smaller

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colleges. If we ever get to New York, I wonder if the school situation will be as difficult out there. Emiko could not get into the big universities out here like the U. of Chicago and Northwestern because they are still restricted. On top of that, the tuition is too much. It's such a damn headache and I just don't seem to get anywhere on solving the thing in spite of the fact that I have looked for all sorts of loopholes. I did not anticipate that there would be more trouble for Bette as I felt that it was all settled last week. I talked to Kay Nishiyama and she said that the school did not give her sister all the credits for work done in camp so that she was set back a half year. That is a lousy shame. >

I would adopt Bette if I thought that this would solve the problem, only I don't think I could adopt her. Well, I shall sleep on it and hope that tomorrow brings some new hopes and promises. Another thing I hate to think about is next year. I am not saving very much and it will be impossible for me to carry on the school expenses by myself. I probably will get drafted anyway and I would like to get them well started in college. It would be hell now if we had a housing problem again. Mrs. B. has been acting ok lately and I hope that she does not have indigestion. It is not right that we should have these worries, damn it! I get pretty burnt up about it as I don't like to get pushed around.

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Made little progress today on the school business. < I talked to Dr. Johnson for quite a while and he thought that the best bet was to leave the matter in Miss Herrick's hands. He said that she knew all of the officials of the Teachers' Union, especially Mr. Turly, and the most progress could be made through them. >

not I phoned down to the Legal Aid Department several times today to get in touch with Mrs. Foltz. The elevator at the University is out of order and it is hard work running up and down the five flights. Finally I got ahold of Mrs. Foltz, but she did not have any new developments to report. < She said that Mr. Hunter was trying to see somebody on the school board and he had written a letter so that there was nothing else to do but to wait for a few days. I asked her about the possibility of adopting Bette if everything else did not come out but she was not so sure that it could be done. She said to wait and see what happens first. >

This evening, Miss Herrick phoned up and she said that Mr. Turly was not able to talk to the President of the Board of Education, < Mr. McKee (2) > but that he had an appointment with him the first thing tomorrow morning. She was optimistic about the outcome as she said that the whole matter of the Nisei students would be brought up at this meeting and she would let me know tomorrow night what the decision is. < She said that if that failed, we would work on something else. She said that she had talked to Mr. Humphries again and he is expecting to interview Emiko. School registration is the rest of the week and classes will start on Monday. She said that the teachers out at the Junior College may overlook the non-residence as the school wants to get all the students that it can. She says that all we can do in that case is to hope. Emiko was going out there today, but she must have overslept. She said her throat hurt. She and Bette went upstairs to do the work and they did a thorough job just so that Mrs. E. would have no cause for any sort of complaint.

I dictated most of the afternoon and got quite a bit done. Tomi got a letter from Tom and he did not have such a good impression of the Matsunaga girl as he had built up in his mind, but he thinks that she will do. The girl read one of

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my cases and she said that it was too biased. Could be. Tom believes that her production record will put us all to shame. He plans to be back here by Monday and he has a lot of dictating ready for Louise. I am getting used to dictating to her and she sure is fast. She just types it out as I dictate so that it saves a lot of time. I am on my second case for this month which is not too bad considering all the interruptions that I have had, and I don't feel quite so bad about it.

Emiko and Bette did not do anything except write letters this evening. I would have gone to finish the interview with Sho but he is out on a date tonight with Mariko. I haven't been getting too much sleep in the past two evenings so that I am going to go to bed early tonight. Nothing much happens to me the days I go to the office since I am out of things out there.

(Letters from Kikuchi to Dorothy Thomas, September 15, 1943 omitted, also letter from Walter Godfrey to Humphries, Registrar, Junior College, Chicago)

Friday, September 17, 1943

Last night I didn't get home until 3 o'clock in the morning as I interviewed Sho (Ch-11) for about six hours.

I went down town about noon yesterday in order to find out something for more about the school situation Emiko and Bette but things seemed to be at sort of a stalemate right now. I went over to talk to Mr. Shirrell and he evidently had no further suggestions to make. He merely mentioned that I had done as much as I could on this business now and the only thing I could do is to wait for final decisions. He mentioned the fact that the school board here was very tough. Mr. Shirrell said that last year the Board of Education collected over \$3,000 on cases of this sort from various people. The pupils in the surrounding suburbs evidently try to get into the Chicago school system. He also mentioned that perhaps I could try the parochial school system here if everything else fails. He told me to look up Father Wycislo at the Maryknoll House as this organization had an interest in the welfare of Nisei students. If nothing else comes up in the public school system I will have to investigate the parochial school system next for Bette.

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Shirrell said that the camps were having a terrific ^{school} problem. It is almost impossible for the WRA to get teachers. Most of the Caucasian teachers can get good jobs here or in urban areas and they do not feel like going out into the desert to teach Japanese students except those with missionary zeal. Mr. Shirrell said that last year all of the relocation centers had an A rating except Gila which had a B rating and that it was the sole jurisdiction of the school board to determine what credits it will grant. He mentioned that the Chicago Board of Education was similar to the people in camp as they did not know anything except the local problems. Shirrell said that he doubted whether they could get sufficient teachers into the camps for next season and unless the WRA can get more Caucasians in the center schools will not receive an A rating. It is too bad that such a condition exists since the Nisei children are the ones who will suffer the most. There is no doubt that the educational level of the Niseis is falling way below the pre-war levels. Most of the kids who get out of high school in the centers are not going on to college largely because of the lack of finances to enter colleges in the Middle West and the East. One thing about California was that it had chief education and it is difficult to get the same advantages in other areas. The problem is complicated by the fact that non-resident tuition fee must be paid when the parents are not resettled with the children. Very few Isseis are relocating which means that their Nisei children are not going to get the educational advantages in the immediate future. This is a serious problem because every minority group, especially those with distinctive racial characteristics, has a difficult time in getting into the general American society and in most instances the children of these minority groups have to be better educated in order to qualify for jobs in competition against the average run of the population. This is especially true of the Niseis who have been placed in such a peculiar situation due to the war conditions. Of course, all lies become complicated in this country due to the disruption caused by the war. However, the point is that the Niseis had been thrown back in the progress which they have made in the past.

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Looking at it from another point of view, it is also true that the Niseis have had greater opportunity now to make economic adjustment than ever before. They are getting into jobs which they are trained for and which they never dreamed they could achieve. However, this is only true for those Niseis who have attained their training and education in the pre-Pearl Harbor days. The point is that the young Niseis who have not finished their education at the present time are not going to have the same advantage as those Niseis who have already graduated from college and there is little likelihood that a large percentage of the younger Niseis will be going to college.

Take Emiko's case, for example. Under ordinary circumstances she would be finishing up the San Francisco Junior College this year and paying a tuition of only \$5.00 a semester. Now there is a great difficulty in getting her into a college at all. The larger ones are either closed or the tuition fee is too great. Even at the Woodrow Wilson Junior College she will probably have to pay \$226 a year tuition. ^{Emiko} She went out to the Junior College ~~school~~ yesterday and she said that they would not enroll her because the Board of Education has instructed Mr. Humphrey, the registrar, to collect the tuition fee from all non-residents. Miss Herrick phoned last night in regard to the school situation but I was not home. She told Emiko that I should call her back late this afternoon and she would try another plan. Apparently Mr. Turley of the Chicago Teachers' Union did not have much success with the president of the Board of Education. The outlook looks very pessimistic at the present stage. I asked Emiko if she wanted to go to the Central "Y" College. She does not care too much for the idea

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because it has little college atmosphere about it. The tuition there would be about \$30 a semester cheaper. The other possibilities are North Park College and Evanston Collegiate Institute. North Park has a \$200 a year tuition and it is way out on the north side of town while Evanston would also charge a large tuition fee and it is quite a distance from here. I still cannot determine what Emiko's interests are. I mentioned designing to her yesterday and Emiko said that she would like to do this but that she thought I wanted her to go to four years of college. I said that it didn't make any difference what she did as long as she was improving herself. I inquired about the Vogue School of Art yesterday but I discovered that the standards there are not very high. A large tuition is charged and this seems to be the determining factor in eligibility for enrollment. Mariko said that she modelled out there a few times but the type of students was not so good. I also heard about the U.S. Cadet Nurses Corps but Emiko said that she could not make up her mind to be a nurse "just like that." She is more interested in becoming a dental technician and this problem has made it more difficult by the fact that a few institutions in the middlewest give such a course although I think it would be a good thing for her. The U.S. Nurses Cadet Corps will accept Niseis between 18 and 36 and upon graduation they will become eligible for commission as second lieutenant in the Nurses Corps. Mr. Shirrell informed me that Nisei girls from this area will be accepted. There are still about 60 approved nursing schools in the state of Illinois which have not filled their quota. One girl from Gila, who lived in our block, and Watanabe is the first girl to win admission into the corps. The course takes between two and two and a half

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years. Yuki (?) who left camp with Alice to go to a nursing school in Montana has also been accepted and she will have her training financed by the government for the last year of school. This is a good possibility for Bette next year after she gets out of high school since she is interested in becoming a nurse and it will solve the financial problem. However, I would like her to get two years of basic undergraduate training in order to broaden her a little bit before she goes into her actual nurses training but I doubt if the war is going to last that long. I hope not.

I went downtown about noon yesterday and as I was standing on the curb of Jackson St. a lot of cars carrying movie stars came down the street. Among them were Greer Garson, Fred Astaire, James Cagney, Betty Hutton, Kay Kyser, etc. They were going to give a bond selling program at the Soldiers Field last night before 150,000 people. As these cars were coming by there was a funny looking boy who turned toward me and he yelled, "Hiya, brother." I looked up and saw a boy who evidently needed a haircut badly. It was Mickey Rooney so I guess I had a new brother. Just like a Nisei, I blushed and hung my eyes.

I went from there to the bank to draw some money out and I had some difficulty in identifying myself because the bank teller did not think my signature looked the same as that on the card. My writing must be bad. After I showed her my identification paper indicating that I worked for the University of California she was satisfied. The man in front of me drew out \$5000 in \$100 bills and my eyes certainly did pop open. I felt cheap only drawing out \$40. >

I went over to see Mr. Shirrell after that and after we finished

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talking about the school situation Mr. Shirrell proceeded to unload some of his troubles. He was much more optimistic today than I have ever seen him before. Shirrell had just come back from Minnesota and he had talked to Col. Rasmussen, head of the Savage Intelligence School. (He said that) Rasmussen was very pleased with the Niseis who had been trained under him and quite a few of them have gone overseas. (Shirrell asked him why this service had not received more publicity in order to further the Niseis cause and Rasmussen told him that the Army wanted to keep it as quiet as possible for definite reasons.) He told Shirrell that ^{the} Japanese Army was very careless so that the Niseis were able to get quite a bit of information in the field. He said that the Niseis had done a very good piece of work at Kiska. The Army did not want to publicize this work then the Japanese Army would tighten up and it would be more difficult for the Niseis to render the services which they had been giving. (Rasmussen sends these Niseis out as technical sergeants. He said he could promote them to second lieutenants but he wanted the other officers to recognize the Niseis themselves as it would do more good that way. Rasmussen told Shirrell that quite a few Niseis have already received promotions in the field. Shirrell also told me that Hawaiian Niseis who had been stationed at Camp McCoy had gone to Shelby for a few weeks to get the final touches, and they are now overseas, on the European front. I met Ichi Imamura at the WRA office. He is a pharmacist who was at Gila and he volunteered into the Nisei combat unit. He said that the Army life was pretty rugged and quite a few of the Niseis were griping a lot and wish they had never volunteered. However, Ichi said that most of them are getting over this now and becoming more adjusted to the Army life. Ichi is in Chicago for a few days in order to get his family resettled out here before he devotes his full attention

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to the Army training.

Shirrell mentioned the fact that the centers were having a bit of difficulty with the doctors' situation. He said that Ben Kondo was the latest doctor to leave Topaz. He did not know what was going to happen to the health level of the camps since so many of the doctors are leaving for better opportunities outside. He said that the WRA is pledged to maintain the health level and it has been trying to bring in Caucasian doctors between the ages of 55 and 65 to replace Nisei doctors who have left but this has not been very successful. Then Shirrell said "well, it isn't too bad because even in Arizona there are many communities that do not have a doctor within a radius of 200 miles so the camps are a little better in that." I asked him about the dentist situation such as Tule which has one dentist for 17,000 and I asked if the WRA was concerned about what was going to happen to the children's teeth if they are neglected, since it stands to reason that only the emergency cases will be taken care of. Shirrell said that this was a bad situation but nothing much could be done about it since most of the young dentists are being taken into the Army and all American communities are having this difficulty.

Shirrell was rather proud of his record of relocation in the Chicago area. Apparently he still judges the success of resettlement by total numbers. He said that during the month of August 380 evacuees were resettled in Chicago and its suburbs and that one third of these were in the outlying areas. He was a little peeved at George Rundquist of the New York Committee for Resettlement of the Japanese Americans because Rundquist had written him a rather nasty letter regarding the type of

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resettlement work which the WRA is doing in its office here. Shirrell read one or two paragraphs of the letter and I felt that there was some justification for the criticism. One of Rundquist's main points was that the WRA did not fit the evacuees to jobs according to the level of his training so that these evacuees were naturally resentful of the type of services rendered by the WRA. Shirrell said that Rundquist was a nice fellow but he got too excited about things and he could see only the Nisei point of view. He said that he had only 10 workers in his office here and that they worked night and day in order to do the best they could accomplish. ^{Shirrell} He said that a large part of this fault was due to the Nisei themselves because they came out here with distorted ideas about jobs. He said that many of the Nisei who had no job experience prior to evacuation would come into the office and they would sniff their noses at a \$25 a week job offered to them. Shirrell said that the Nisei have to get over the idea that everyone gets the distorted war wages which we hear so much about. He said that if the Nisei were trained for the job and had the experience, then they would get these jobs. Shirrell is quite worried about this increasing criticism of the WRA. He is having a staff meeting next Friday and Saturday and he asked me if I would not come down there to one of the closed sessions and give a frank talk about the general adjustments of the Nisei and some criticism of the WRA which I have heard Nisei make in the course of my work. I was put on a spot because he said that Dorothy had assured him that our staff here would give him the full cooperation and he was calling upon me in order to render him some assistance at the present time. He said that he had selected me because I was "blunt and not afraid to express opinions." I don't think

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that this was the reason as he naturally would have called upon Frank or Tom if they were in town. Shirrell said that I would not be betraying any confidences if I would give a rough description of some of the cases I had run across so that his staff members could have a fuller appreciation of the problems of the resettled Niseis. I did not know what to do because I was on a spot so I reluctantly agreed to give a talk. I suppose that the point I will stress chiefly is that the WRA could render further services and I may be able to give them some very constructive suggestions, particularly the point that the Niseis coming out here are suspicious, insecure and they do not trust the government agencies so that with all of the other problems facing them they are insecure and many of them are greatly maladjusted, therefore, they become very griped at the WRA for not helping them chiefly because the interviewers at Shirrell's office are sometimes blunt and they do not listen carefully to the evacuee story and often they do not appreciate the fact that the evacuation experiences have done a great deal of harm in disorganizing the individual personality stability. There are also other helpful suggestions that I suppose I could make. I am calling on Togo to give me suggestions since he has a more intimate picture of the Niseis problems in his work at the Friends' office. Togo has already agreed to help me work this out and he thinks that it will be a good opportunity for me to do some good. However, I do not particularly relish the idea of giving a talk to the WRA staff because I don't know that much of the Niseis problems. Maybe I can shift the thing on to Tom since he will be back here Monday but I doubt if he will "cooperate" with me even if he is a public speaker and debator. Maybe I will have to tell him that he should do it for the glory of dear old Cal since I am not a good enough representative. This may do the trick because he is a Cal man and devoted to its cultural

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tradition. That is something else I will have to worry about next week. Emiko said that she found a grey hair in my head last night so that proves that I have been worrying! I also talked to Mr. Kendall Smith who is heading the WRA office in Rockford. He said that there were about 150 girls altogether in Rockford, most of them wives of soldiers at Camp Grant. I inquired about the possibility for Alice to move down there and he said that she should look him up at the Rockford Trust Building. He said that housing was extremely difficult down there but places could be found if a person was not too choosy. He said there were about five or six openings listed in the paper every day but a person had to be on the scene to grab them right away since these places do not stay open so very long. He explained that the tent city of Camp Grant was moving out this month so that many of the soldiers' wives will follow their husbands and leave additional openings. Up until Oct. 1 when their leases are up there will be more openings also. He suggested that Alice should go down there except week-ends and stay at the YWCA for \$1.00 a night and devote her full time to house hunting. I asked him about the job possibilities and he wanted to know how good Alice was. I thought that Alice could take dictation of about 120 and type 70. Smith said that it would be easy for her to get a job if she could just take 100 dictation and 50 typing and the job would pay \$100 and up a month. He said that one of the main qualifications was the ability to spell since he found so many of the Niseis make mistakes in plurals. He also mentioned the fact that the job level of the resettled Niseis in Rockford was probably higher than in any other area since there was a certain degree of selectivity there. He mentioned ^{the fact} that one watch maker was making

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\$350 a month but he was having a terrible time finding a house for his wife and five children. They are back in camp yet and his wife insists on coming out and looking at a place before taking it. Smith said that it was impossible since places do not remain open that long. I also asked Shirrell about this matter of Joint Board clearance. I told him that Mariko had a job possibility as a map tracer in a plant which is doing 100 per cent war work. They have told her that she could go to work just as soon as she gets a clearance and she would start at \$135 a month. Mariko thinks that the clearance will come in any time but I have told her that it would take over three months and she would not believe this. I asked Shirrell if the clearance from the Joint Board was coming in any faster and he said that they were not, however, he has a close contact with the colonel who is in charge of the military area and for some types of jobs this colonel will give immediate clearance so that the person can go to work before the Joint Board clearances come from Washington. He suggested that Mariko come to see him and he would see what he could do about the matter.

I went over to the American Friends Service office next and passed about two hours there. I have been down there so much now that they are all calling me by my first name and one of the girls in the office said that maybe I should bring my bed down there since I have been through so often. They are a nice bunch and very conscientious and hard workers. Togo said that he was way behind in his work, because he had so many things to do but I told him that he should not worry about this. He is coming out to the office this afternoon to bang out some stuff and look over the new cases

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that I have. He took all of my previous cases home and he complimented me by saying that he never wastes time by reading dry stuff but he read my cases through very carefully and learned a lot. I think that he was just trying to make me feel good because he said that I should be a journalist. If he only knew how hard it was for me to write, he would not think such a thing. Togo said that about 150 a week were still passing through his office. Most of them were coming in about employment and housing problems although some of them had personal problems to discuss with the staff members. I asked him about how many Niseis were working at McClurg's and Cunios and Togo said that these two publishing houses employed the largest number of Niseis in Chicago. He did not know the exact figures but he felt that there were probably about two or three hundred in the two companies. Togo said that the Friends were not sending any more Niseis out there because the turn over in these two companies is terrific. There is no future to the jobs out there although the salaries are fairly good according to the Nisei standards. He said that the WRA was the one that sent most of the Niseis down there but he did not think that this was such a good idea because it was really not resettlement. It stands to reason that the company will not retain this number of Niseis after the war. However, this would also apply to some of the large hotels like the Edgewater Beach which has about 75 or more Niseis. I agreed with Togo that these jobs really were not resettlement but what could be done? Togo did not know, however, he felt that the Niseis should be more serious and attempt to better their positions now while they had the opportunity so that they could compete for jobs on a higher level. He said that many of the Niseis go down to McClurg's and

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Cunios because their friends are down there and the jobs require no particular training or experience. They go down there with the intention of having a lot of fun and he was worried that so many of the Niseis were so carefree and blind to the wider problems. However, he did not condemn them because he thought that these Niseis were typical of the average population. However, their problems are more acute and therefore they should be more conscious of their future welfare, especially since most of the Niseis will have their Issei parents dependent upon them after the war and they certainly will not be able to support them with the insecure type of job which they are holding at the present time. I also talked to Bill McKee at the Friends' office and he gave me the full story on the YMCA situation. He said that the most persistent rumor going around was that 200 Niseis were thrown out of the "Y." Bill has personally talked with the manager of the "Y" and he was told that this was absolutely not true since the only time a Nisei was denied admittance was that if the hotel happened to be full, which it often is. He said that the Niseis still can go in there and there is no limit on the time of stay. He does not know where this discrimination rumor started. However, the Friends do not encourage any of the Niseis to seek rooms if they can possibly find lodging some other place since it is not good to have so many congested in one place.

Bill said that the most Niseis that the "Y" has had were 126 and this was during the third week of July when the Friends were sending quite a few Niseis down there. Of these 29 were permanent guests and the rest transients. On Aug. 23 there were only 84 Niseis living at the "Y," of whom 24 were permanent guests. Bill did not know the exact figures for

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this month but he figured that it was probably the same as last month. ^{He} Bill said that the manager of the "Y" hotel had two big complaints to make about the Niseis staying there. First, the hotel was wondering why the Niseis did not participate enough in the "Y" programs. They had been invited to all of the events but the Niseis seemed reluctant to mingle in with the other Caucasians, and about the only "Y" activities they entered into were the guide tours even in this activity all Niseis went together as a group and they did not mingle with others on these tours. The hotel did not know how to break down this reluctance on the part of the Niseis. The second great complaint which the "Y" managers had to make was that too many of the Niseis hung around downstairs in the main lobby. He said that this was the thing which created the impression that so many Niseis were staying there. He told Bill that a lot of Niseis who hung around the lobby watching who went in and out were not residents of the hotel but they merely came down there to look up the other Niseis. He did not mind them doing that but he wished they would stay on the second floor in the reception room which had been built for this purpose. He said that he counted the people on the lobby by the door yesterday and out of the 24 people standing around 20 were Niseis. Bill did not know what could be done about this as he did not think that it would be an easy task to contact these Niseis in order to educate them.

I went over to visit Mariko and Alice, chiefly in order to have dinner since it would be convenient to interview Sho afterwards. Chidori was visiting at that time so that I arranged to have an interview with her on Monday. She has decided to remain in Chicago until next Wednesday. My

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interview with her will probably be very brief but I have had previous contacts with her in San Francisco so I know a little about her background.

^{Sho}
~~Chideri~~ is one of the few Nisei girls who has volunteered for the WACs.

George Take¹ was also over there for dinner. He seems to be a frequent guest these days so I suppose he is getting the upper hand over Sho. Mariko was also expecting several other girls to visit. One of them, Watanabe, is a representative of some older Nisei here who is going to sell Japanese food products. He was the one who sent out cards advertising shoyu and other Japanese products to most of the resettled Niseis in this area. I talked with Mariko and Alice for a while about their housing problems. They went out yesterday afternoon to look at an unfurnished apartment for \$40 a month in a very crummy district of the near north side. I did not want to butt into their business but I thought that it would be wiser for them to split up since Alice and Toyo are both married. Mariko said that she didn't want to take anybody in as her roommate and she was not particularly desirous of having Yoshi come in except as a last resort. Yoshi (CH-9) is thinking now of taking some sort of clerical job and apparently she is going to let her plans for attending college drop. She has not done anything about furthering her musical education either. Mariko said that her father has offered to finance this education but Yoshi wants to be independent and she is all mixed up yet about her future plans. She is still having some sort of dream about Marty, the Caucasian soldier but this has apparently been broken up on his part definitely now.

I asked Mariko why she insisted upon staying in the near north side and she gave excuses that it was more convenient to her work since

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she expected to be working in the loop area. I pointed out that the difference in carfare would be only four cents or \$1.00 a month at the most if she lived out further in a more desirable neighborhood. Mariko then said that it took long to commute and I said that it would not take over 15 or 20 minutes more to travel by the L or the I.C. Then she said that it got too cold in the winter and she wanted to be near her work. I think that the real reason is that she does not want to give up her social activity and she probably feels that she may be isolated if she moves out further. I hardly think that this would happen as other Niseis would continue to drop into her place. > Mariko is another worry on my mind but it is not much of my business so that I can't say much. Even when I try to be helpful she gets very much on the defensive and an argument may start. I just can't understand what is wrong with her since she has never been so maladjusted before in her life. This is very unusual because she has such a good personality, ability to make many friends and a great deal of aggressiveness and self-assurance as well as initiative. But something has happened to her in the past few months and I can't quite put my finger on it. She quit her job to go to camp in May and since her return in June she has only worked about one week in a Japanese gift shop. I don't know what it is but she doesn't particularly seem anxious to work and there is always some excuse like health or housing problems. < These are only excuses because she doesn't do much about them. Perhaps she does and I don't see her enough to notice but I get the impression that there is something bothering her which she isn't aware of herself although she must be conscious of it. Mariko has

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sort of built up an escapist dream about her art career but she is still not willing to do anything about it. I don't know why this is because she does have the basic ability. She has offered to give her pointers in art but she sort of lets the thing drift by without doing anything about it. Her excuse is that the type of art she is interested in is of a different sort. During the past month she could easily have made over \$60, according to Sho, in painting those dolls but they are just stacked up in her room and collecting dust. She has plenty of leisure time and I don't know what she does with it. She putters around late at night or else goes out on dates and she sleeps late in the day. Several times I have gone there in the afternoon and she was still in bed. Of course this means that she couldn't put much time to her house hunting or job hunting activities. Perhaps I just catch her on the days that she sleeps late. But other people have made the same remark to me. I think that some of the cause for this is that Mariko is not particularly interested in doing office work since she has no special qualifications but she does not have the self-confidence to seek an art job. She does look for art jobs all right but she is always very pessimistic about being able to do the work and if any mention is made in order to encourage her she gets on the defensive. For example, yesterday she was offered a job in some photo shop, the pay was not much but there was a chance for her to build up a business for herself. I don't know much of the details but the arrangement apparently was that she would get a small salary as a saleswoman and the woman would fit up a shop for her so that she could do photo tinting and all of the profits would be her own if she could develop a business. For some reason she did not take this offer. There may

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have been other circumstances about this offer that weren't desirable but I don't know. Mariko could also be doing her modeling work at the art studio but I doubt if she has gone once during the month and a half or more that she has been back from Gila on her vacation. I know that she will get a job eventually but her savings are not going to last forever and she will have to make a definite decision about what type of work she is going to do and then pursue it intensely, otherwise, she is going to merely mark time like most of the Nisei girls here who hold clerical or other jobs of this sort which actually does not have much meaning to the individual. Naturally under such a condition the excess energy seeks an outlet and it is primarily devoted to a social life. Since there is not an organized Nisei society yet, it is much more difficult to get the contacts. In Mariko's case she probably knows more Niseis in Chicago than any other person and she is continually seeking new acquaintances. She seems to be particularly attracted by individuals who have some particular talent like ^{piano} playing, art or intellectual interests. I don't know why this is true although it may be related to her frustrated ambition to be an artist herself and there is some satisfaction in being in the reflected glory of these individuals. In most cases, however, Mariko manages to dominate the scene since she has a much stronger all around personality. Multiply her case by several hundred or more lonely Niseis in this city with a similar problem, I can understand why there is such a strong effort to organize a Nisei society and this process seems to be inevitable. These individuals as a group do not have a wide range of interests and the primary thing that they are concerned with are the ordinary problems of living and more of a personal nature, such as

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making friends, getting somebody to like them, thinking of marriage, thinking of their personal appearances, having a good time, etc. It is this thing that I have finally concluded will overcome the broader policies of dispersion of the Niseis. Most Niseis only give lip service to this idea and it is too easy for them to seek each other out. In the long run, this probably is not the best thing for them since it is a limitation of the boundaries which they can achieve. It would be more desirable if greater Caucasian contact were made. This is the goal that I see but unfortunately I think I will be doomed to disappointment. However, if this ideal is reached to a fair degree, I suppose that is all that can be expected. At least it is a goal which should be worked toward by all means and I think that the present official policy of the WRA, Friends and other groups is a correct one and they cannot give in at least for the duration.

In trying to find an answer to Mariko's "problems," I come to the conclusion that probably much of the causes for her restlessness is the fact that she is thinking of marriage. This feeling has been intensified since Alice has been married. I don't know why Mariko has not been married before since she is very attractive and has an unusual personality for a Nisei girl. The fact that she is a child of the depression probably has much to do with it since she had to delay marriage for quite a few years while contributing to the family. However, she has not had this burden since 1939 and yet she has not yet found her dream man. Perhaps^{it}/is the very fact that prevented her marriage in the time since 1939. She has led a rather sophisticated life aside from her drab duties as a domestic worker so that she has built up certain ideals of what her husband should be like.

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I think that she places too much stress on physical appearances and a well built physique. I don't know how many times she has been engaged. I would say at least 10 times and I think that she has had two or three times the number of proposals. All of her boy friends had been handsome all right but many of them did not have any intelligence to speak of, and they had no economic future so that they really could not get married and support a wife. I am inclined to believe that the very fact that Mariko was in domestic work limited the possibilities for meeting Niseis of a higher intellectual level. That is not to say that she should marry a person for his brains alone, but she has to think in terms of a long married life and there is a greater chance for a successful marriage if she has a husband who is capable of achieving a little higher economic status than the bulk of the Niseis. Mariko has not been able to meet too many of this type of individuals and I think that if she went to college she would have. But that is a debatable point. Maybe the fact that she is so unsettled right now and restless about her job possibilities, is because marriage possibilities are dominating more of her inner thoughts. That is only a guess but I do feel there is some hint to the truth in it. She has four suitors right now in Chicago, two of whom she is considering fairly seriously and one of whom she is very interested in. She is running a poor second at the present time. George Taki seems to be the man because he is handsome, has a good physique and a fair amount of intelligence and liberal in his thoughts. He used to be a leader in the Union in Seattle among the Niseis. The only catch is that there are certain rumors that he is engaged to another girl in another state. Maybe it will be better for her to get married and then she

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will settle down more but then that is her own problem and I don't think that she should grab anyone as there still are many possibilities. There surely must be other men besides 4-F's out of the Army at the present time.

After I ate dinner I went over to interview Sho. At first I thought I would not be able to catch him because he had a tentative date with a former Powers model. He met this girl through his art contacts and they are apparently good friends although there is nothing serious between them. Sho says that he has taken her to dinners and movies and sometimes they go on picnics but he hesitates to take her to night clubs or a public dance hall because he feels "eyes" on him when he takes Caucasian girls out. I talked to Sho for about six hours last night and he opened up considerably and told me some of his problems. There is no Nisei in Chicago who is fully adjusted and everyone has some sort of a problem but I did not suspect that Sho was one of these. I will have to dictate on his case the rest of today in order to finish up the work for the week.

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< It is just passed midnight so that I guess I can consider it as Saturday. We just got back from the show. I didn't want to go but they dragged me. I gave in as I hope that they will be in school by next week and then they will be fully occupied. >

I did not hear of any further progress on the school situation yesterday. Late in the afternoon Miss Herrick phoned me. She said that Mr. Turly of the Teachers Union had talked with the Board of Education and the whole thing had gone right back to Mr. Buck. < She said that Turly had backed him down on every argument. The final thing was that Mr. Buck said in mom's

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affadavit to him she had stated that she was sending Bette out here for the express purpose of going to the public schools. This is a definite untruth as I wrote the statement myself and mom only signed it after getting it notarized and there certainly was not any statement like this in what was sent in. It is the same old run around again. Miss Herrick said that the "ace" card was now to get either the Friends of the WRA to go to the Board of Education and explain to them that the movement of the evacuees was not voluntary since there were only certain areas open to which the resettler could go. This would mean that actually Bette could not go back to the camp school even if she wanted to. Since the government determines the movement of the evacuees and it is not completely voluntary, there should be no question about admitting the Nisei students into the school system without payment of the tuition. She thought that I should get the Friends to have somebody go talk to Buck, and then have Shirrell send a letter to the Board explaining some of the WRA workings. So after all these months, the thing has gone around in a circle and landed back in the laps of Shirrell and the Friends. I don't hold out much hope now and I don't know what I will do next.

Togo was at the University when Miss Herrick phoned so I had her talk to him to discuss the part the Friends should play in this next step. Afterwards Togo and I talked it over to determine who would be the best person in his office to go face the Board of Education. I felt that Godfrey was too young and he would not command the respect that an older person would. Togo said that Bill McKee was more mature and he was firm so that he is going to try to have him go over to the Board this morning. In the

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meantime, Bette stays out of school. As for Bette, she is quite discouraged. She wondered if there was any possibility for her to take a correspondence course so that she could get her degree from Vallejo High. Emiko will probably have to pay so that she is set to go out to the Junior College next week. It is sort of irritating to have to put out \$226.00 for tuition when it should be free. I have told Emiko to inform the Student Relocation Council of the latest development and she is finally getting down to doing that today. She has been writing a lot of letters lately but all to friends.

For the past couple of days, Emiko and Bette have been going down town to shop. Bette has to buy her winter coat, one at a reasonable price so they are looking around for a bargain. Bette realized that she will have to get a heavy one as the past few days have been quite cold and this gives her some sample of the winter weather here which will drop more than 30 or 40 degrees yet if not more before the rock bottom is reached.

Last night Dr. Bill Furuta phoned up. He was at Gila and one of the key figures in the hectic early political life of the camp #1 politics which culminated in the Tada beating. He has been in for a week and he is now doing some teaching at the U. of Illinois Medical Hospital which is located just outside of Cook County. Bill has been trying to find some Niseis as he wants to get acquainted with them. He wanted to know if I knew of any on the west side, but I didn't. I planned an indefinite call upon him as I figure he will be able to give some interesting information on his opinions of camp life, plus observations of Niseis out here. Perhaps I may even be able to line him up for a future interview. I sort of keep away from the

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professional person usually as they are the easiest to get, and they usually have the most to say of a general nature.

Yesterday afternoon, I dictated for about six hours straight and got about 35 pages done on Sho's case (CH-11). If I am ambitious I should get it finished up this weekend, but I will probably leave it until next week. I am so damn rushed these days, but I don't seem to accomplish anything. I usually try to soften up a person for an intensive interview the week previously so this takes some time. Sho's case will probably be the longest I have done, but I just can't seem to get satisfied with my work as I feel there is a need for more quality. Frank and Tom are too polite about criticisms, and Dorothy is full of praise but not enough of the hard boiled stuff. I know there is something lacking, but I don't know what. Perhaps it is beyond my ability to put out any decent cases. It is a pretty good policy to be aware of my shortcomings so that I don't get too sure about the type of work I am doing at any time and it is an incentive that unconsciously spurs me on to better efforts if possible. I have been thinking of giving up the diary for some time as it is only a bunch of tripe, but there is a certain fascination about it and it has become a sort of a habit. It is one way that I can analyze things to my own satisfaction, and thus it serves as a release for me personally so that it does have its purpose for me, but I don't think it should be done on U.C. time. I wish I could put out some first class stuff like Frank has done at Tule. He is quite thorough and he knows his concepts and he has a lot of insight. All I do is to make hasty generalizations, full of prejudice and I often miss the important trends. All this is part of the vague stirrings of uneasiness which hits me every

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so often, particularly when there is a tough problem to be solved, like the damn school situation which has me running in circles.

Later: Emiko and Bette have gone downtown to go shopping for a coat. Emiko went to a dentist this morning to get her tooth shell put back on. The dentist told her that the whole bridge should be taken out and the shell put on securely. He said that this would cost about \$16.00. Emiko paid \$5.00 in camp to have the shell put on. They break very easily. She is going to Dr. Tashiro next week to see what he can do.)

This evening, Emiko is going to Merry's where the whole Gila gang she knew are meeting. We had some words this afternoon because she wanted to go to public dance halls and night clubs with them. I don't know what to say to her because she is 19 now but I don't think this sort of thing is going to do her any good. According to what she says, Mariko and Alice have been agreeing with her, and then backing me up when I confront them. It is none of their business, but they meddle in without knowing all the facts. Emiko is going through the same old struggle that so many of the Nisei are in and she will get caught in it. I just don't want to argue about it any more. I told Emiko that she would have no restrictions if she went to live with Mariko who is looking for a roommate, but she does not want to do that. I told her that her head strongness made it unpleasant for me and she could only see her point. As usual, I gave in. I want her to have a normal social life and I did not want her to get started in with the same limited Nisei group, but I don't want to use my authority. All I can do is to let it ride and hope that she will snap out of it soon. < If she does not, she is heading

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for the same sort of unsatisfied feelings as Mariko and Alice did for so many years, merely marking time without any purpose in life beyond the little things. Emiko does not realize it, but she is emotional and every time I give in, it leads to the next step. Yet I can't put my foot down, because I am not sure myself if I am doing the right thing. School may solve most of these problems, I hope. I think that perhaps it may be better for her to go off to a distant school and then she will get more independent in her personality. She lets things slide too easily and expects me to take care of them. Often I've wondered what a poor family environment does to a person. It may make him ambitious to hit the heights with great ideals; or it may warp him into living within a limited circle without visions of the possibilities on the outside. Emiko is on the edge, and she needs encouragement towards the wider possibilities, more like Bette. The trouble lies in the fact that she has been confused by what her capabilities are and she has not picked out a definite avocational line and it is easier to drift into a path of least resistance. I don't think I should be responsible for siblings who are not set in their wider plans because conflict arises after a stone wall is reached between mutual understanding. I think I am being too conscientious about my responsibility and overdramatizing it to myself. Such are the headaches of being a "father." I don't feel foiled or anything like that; but I am puzzled by many things and wonder if I am doing the right thing. But then, that's life. I agree with the saying that the only certainties of life are the uncertainties. >

I told Emiko that she could go over there providing that she did not go to a night club or the public dance halls and if she came home around

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12:00. She gave me her word that she would do these things and she said that they were just going to have a sort of get together over there anyway.

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Last night about 1:30, I heard a banging on the window. It was Emiko; she had forgotten her key. I went to open the door and when she came in, I did not say anything. Then she said, "I went to the Aragon Dance Hall after you told me not to go." I did not say anything as I was sleepy. Then she said, "Well, aren't you going to say anything?" I could see that she was feeling very guilty so I just said, "No." Then she said, "Are you going to make me move out?" I did not say anything. Emiko went out for about a half hour. I thought she went to the latrine. About a half hour later she came back in. She was standing outside all the time, but I didn't know why. She said, "I couldn't find a place to stay. Can I stay here tonight?" I said sleepily, "Oh, don't be so silly, go to bed."

WFF "Don't call me silly; I mean it. Tomorrow I am going to move out."

That was supposed to be my cue to beg her to stay. By this time she was very much on the defensive. I just gave her the silent treatment and I went to sleep.

This morning, we slept late. Emiko was waiting for me to say something, but I acted very disinterested. She did not say anything more about moving out. Finally she could not stand the silence so she came to me and said she was sorry for going to the Dance Hall and that she did not have a good time. I told her to forget it. She said that she would not do it again. Then she asked if she could go out with Tets again and I said

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that I was not stopping her anymore since she was old enough to know what was good for her. They left for a show just a little while ago.

I tried to explain that the act of going to the dance last night was not important, but that if she got back into that old group, it would become easier and easier to stay out late and soon she would be going to night clubs, etc. and acting just like all the rest of the unthinking Niseis in town. I said that if she wanted to move out, I would not stop her and I thought perhaps that she would get ahold of herself if she became independent. I said it was unpleasant for me to speak to her about these things because she should be old enough to know what was best for her. If I tried to stop her, she would only use deception. I said that it was not a matter of not trusting her or anything like that, but I did not think that she was acting wisely when she lets herself drift. Then she brings up the point that Mariko and Alice do it without realizing that she is lots younger. I thought maybe she should consider taking a school girl job or something like that and then she would have to act on her own. I really think that it is better for her that way as she will become more mature. I think that I have been doing too much for her so that she has not assumed the responsibilities that she should have. I asked her to write a couple of letters for her school when she was visiting camp, and she claimed that she had lost the letter with the directions. Yet she had it with her the other day. Alice also told me that she tried to get her to write the letters for her by putting in Alice's name in pencil. Alice said that Emiko never wants to do anything on her own responsibility, and even to go to the postoffice in camp, she would drag Miyako along. And she would get mad if Alice would not go to the showers with her. I can't understand this characteristic of Emikos. Now she is

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clinging to Tets, Merry and that gang and they all have some personality complex. She doesn't have the normal type of friends that Bette has. It couldn't be due to her weight as she is not fat anymore.

I have thought it over, and I just do not want to be bothered with such conflicts anymore because Emiko is so unreasonable that she cannot see that I am trying to do it for her own good. All she sees is her side. If she continues to have this feeling, there is no sense in my trying to oppose her. I could if I used my authority, but that is no solution. It is natural for girls her age to want to go out a lot, and I can't blame her for that. But if she gets into that limited group she is not going to make friends in school and she will also lose interest in school. I suspect that Emiko has some adolescent idea that she is in love because Tets is a sort of cripple and he just worships her and gets mushy all the time. Emiko eats this up. Too many movie magazines. In the past week alone, she has been to about five movies. Alice and Mariko do not think that she is very much interested in school, but it is better than working. I can't find out what she is interested in. She has been at loose ends since evacuation and I hoped that she would snap out of it before this. Maybe all she wants is to get married. I don't think I am helping her any when she comes to me in a coy way to "apologize" and then I give in. She doesn't change any, and it is only a lull until the next time. I wouldn't care if she were not my responsibility. The point is to determine if she is ready to assume her own responsibility now. I've done all I can for her and she has turned out pretty good, although not up to my expectations. The more of the Niseis I see, the more I can understand this. Girls are such funny things!

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Got up early for a change as I had to start my interview with Chidori (CH-12). She said that she would not be ready until about noon so I worked some more on the school business. Emiko is doing our accumulated laundry and Bette is doing the work upstairs. This afternoon, they are going downtown to Alice's so that they can use the sewing machine in order to fix Bette's coat. I told Emiko that perhaps she had better go out and register for the Junior College today so she may go out there this afternoon. I received a letter from the Student Relocation Council saying that she will probably get \$226.00 as a scholarship next week so that solves her problems, only it does seem a dirty shame that the Board of Education is going to get this money. Emiko said that maybe she was interested in the U.S. Cadet Nursing Course when she found out that all expenses will be paid, plus a small subsistence sum. It is a little too late now to work on it, but perhaps next semester if Emiko wants to be a nurse we may be able to do something about it. I don't want to push her into it, but let her make up her own mind. It will not hurt her to get a liberal education at the Junior College for a while. (See letter attached.)

I also contacted Togo and the progress for Bette is still pessimistic. Togo said that he had told Shirrell about what Miss Herrick of the Chicago Teachers Union suggested. Shirrell contacted the Board of Education and also talked with the Legal Aid people. Shirrell said that he had talked with Buck, ^[about Bette's case] but nothing could be done as the WRA was limited as a government agency. Shirrell ^{said} told Togo that the Board had the discretionary power to make its own interpretation in this case and if it was ruled favorably, it would open the doors to thousands of other students (Caucasian) to rush into the Chicago school system from the surrounding suburbs. That is

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National Japanese American Student Relocation Council,
1201 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

September 14, 1943

Mr. Charles Kikuchi
4743 Drexel Blvd.
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Charles:

We were sorry to hear that it will be necessary for Emiko to pay the tuition at the Woodrow Wilson Junior College. We wrote Mr. Humphries asking if she could not be considered a citizen, but he replied this would be impossible.

We have applied to the Presbyterian Board for a full tuition scholarship of \$226 for Emiko. I am sure there will be no difficulty in securing this aid for her.

Emiko has written that she hopes to be able to earn her own living expenses. She says that she has saved enough from her job this summer to take care of her books, clothes and incidentals.

We will let you know just as soon as we receive definite word about this aid. We were sorry to hear that Emiko had been ill. I hope she is back in Chicago and is feeling better.

How are your college plans progressing? Will you be able to go to the School of Social Work of the University of Chicago? Keep us in touch with your plans, and remember we are eager to help you in any way we can. The best of luck.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Mrs. Betty Emlen
Financial advisor

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a lot of baloney because my case is of a different nature. Anyway Shirrell felt that no amount of pressure would make the Board give in, and it was just "no soap." Shirrell told Togo that he thinks it is definitely a matter of discrimination as he got this from some inside sources, but nothing can be done about it because the Board will stick to its non-residence interpretation.

Togo said he talked it over with the staff members at the Friends office. He said that when Shirrell turns things like this over to them, it means that he has reached a stone wall. Togo felt that we should work some more on it for the principle of the thing, but perhaps I should investigate the possibility of a private school for Bette. He said that the Home Baptist group might give her a scholarship and he would write to the Philadelphia office to find out. He did not think it made any difference if the religious background was different as they are pretty liberal about that.

Togo felt that perhaps the Friends should use a different approach since pressure would not make the board change. He felt that it would be best for Morganroth to go contact them. Morgan is out of town and he will be back tomorrow for one day before continuing on to New York so that this end of the problem does not look so encouraging. Togo said that Shirrell had stressed that the evacuees out here had come out with an element of compulsion so that the Board should accept Bette, but they could not see this.

I then phoned Mrs. Foltz of the Legal Aid but she said no further progress had been made. She said that Mr. Hunter, the director of the United Charities, is waiting for an appointment with the Superintendent of Schools. She felt that the only point to decide was whether Bette was a resident of Chicago or not, and my case was strong in this respect, but she did not know

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if the Board would give in. I next phoned Miss Herrick of the Teacher's Union, but she was not in. After that I called Shirrell, but he is away to Indianapolis. Miss Ross talked to me and she tried to tell me that the next step was to fill out the application for exemption blanks! She does not know the full score and I told her that I had contacted all the people she suggested. The whole thing seems to go around in a circle without anybody finding the breaking through point. I still have to talk to Dr. Johnson who says that the Chicago Sun might be interested in pushing the thing, and Miss Herrick feels that the ACLU might help. I still have to find out if it is possible to adopt Bette and then the problem will be solved not only for this year, but also for next. I am getting more and more disgusted with the school system in Chicago. I wish I could go to New York, but the same problems may be there also. In the meantime, Bette is left up in the air and she cannot go to classes. Still have to phone Mr. Levin, a member of the school board.

Tom is probably back from St. Louis but I am not going out to the office today as I have the interview appointment. Mrs. Ross said that the WRA talk had been changed to a panel discussion on Relocation problems and she will be the moderator. Dr. Yatabe, Tom and myself are to be the speakers. Tom will blow a fuse when he finds out that I dragged him in on it.

Later: Later in the afternoon, I contacted Mr. Sam Levin, a member of the school board by phone. He had a very immigrant accent, and he seemed to be very busy so that I did not explain things fully. He did not seem to know too much about this school situation either as he said it was a simple

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matter for Bette to get into school. He said that Hyde Park High School was too hard to get into but perhaps she could get into one of the other public schools. However, he said that he would have to know more of the details so he asked me to write him a letter with all the particulars.

I phoned the Legal Aid Department again, but Mrs. Foltz did not have any further progress to report as she said that it would take a few more days for Mr. Hunter to contact the superintendent of schools. She said that she did not know what to advise me to do next as the Board of Education did not give in very easily on these matters, but some sort of a principle would have to be set in regard to the resettled Nisei students. She said that I could get a writ of mandamus issued by the courts but she did not know that even this would hold water. "You know how it is. The judge may rule the wrong way because there may be prejudice against the Japanese even if you are an American citizen. The best bet is through Mr. Hunter as he may get them to make a definite policy since he is well known in the community. Besides a writ of mandamus costs about \$50.00." I asked her if it was possible to adopt Bette, but she said that even this may not do because the Board may rule that I did it only as a subterfuge. She said the only thing I could do was to wait.

I phoned to Miss Herrick to see what the Teachers Union had done, but I could not reach her at home this evening. That is how things stand now and the only progress made is that Emiko's problems are now settled and she can go to school. I told her to go out there and just register and perhaps they will forget to ask her for the money as this could happen, I hope.

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Emiko is now more sure that she would like to be a nurse. A fine time to tell me! She said that she had thought it over a lot and perhaps she could go in next year with Bette. I told her to take the general course at JC, and I would investigate around for her in regard to the U.S. Cadet Nurses Corps after. Perhaps she may be able to enroll next semester. We have been much more fortunate in Emiko's case since she got two scholarships amounting to about \$400.00, one was a loan. This will take care of almost all of her expenses for the coming ^{school} year. And if she does get into the U.S. Cadet Nurses Corps, that will take care of the rest of her education.

over 2307
But there are many pitfalls and we have to go one step at a time. I will try to find out if a dental technician course will also be offered under this program as this is what Emiko really wants, I think. She does not want business, not even a medical secretary as I suggested. I think that she should be more definite in what she wants to do after she goes to school for a semester or so. Things have been rather uncertain and she is not to be blamed for her indecision as the whole thing does look a little far distant. I hope that a taste of college will help her make up her mind. I don't care what she finally decides upon as long as she has something definite to work on. Then she will not be marking time.

We don't have the luck in regards to Bette's problem and she is really deserving because she is so ambitious and she wants to go to school very much. It is such a pity that her schooling has been disrupted so much since evacuation. She is missing out the opening of the school year again and things are still foggy in regards to the school board policy. Tomorrow

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I think that I had better start investigating the possibility of the parochial schools. I sure have been busy for the past week.

I am also feeling fairly well satisfied with the progress I have been making on the Study this month as I am on the third case this month in spite of the interruptions. Most of the day today when I was not phoning was spent in interviewing Chidori (CH-12) who is in town. She has volunteered for the WAC's and she expects to be called soon. She opened up and talked to me for eight hours straight and I took copious notes during that time and afterwards. A lot of the stuff I had to keep in my mind as I did not want to write it down in front of her so as to keep her talking easily and freely. She really came through in fine style. Emiko and Bette went over to fix Bette's coat.

Afterwards I took her back to Taigo Miyahara's and his wife's apartment since Chidori is visiting them. I talked to Taigo for a few minutes and he was feeling rather discouraged as he is no longer in the barber business. He said that he was so set on being the first Nisei to get into his own business out here. Taigo said that he was getting along fine with the other Filipino customers, but a couple of the older ones came in yesterday and made a nasty scene. Taigo wanted to buy the Filipino owner out, but this has been refused. He said that the older Filipinos had come in and called the owner all sorts of names and a Jap lover and they told him to get rid of the Jap barber. Taigo said he was not afraid of the threats they made to him, but he thought for a while that the Filipino owner was going to be stabbed. Chidori then remarked "You never can tell what a Filipino will do as they are only one step away from barbarism." This was

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surprising coming from her as she is remarkably free of prejudice of any sort and this is something that she condemns the Niseis for mostly.

I asked Taigo what he was going to do next and he said that he would open up a barber shop in his own apartment. He told me to come around and I will as soon as my hair grows a little more as he looks like a good prospect for a case history. He is married to one of the sisters of Johnny Yoshihara, a Gila boy who volunteered into the army. The sister-in-law is married to a Dr. Peterson who has gained some repute as the person who has sailed across the Pacific in a Chinese junk ship with his Nisei wife. They just got back into S.F. with the junk and the wife is being held. Taigo said that there was more of a suspicion against the doctor than his wife as the Army wants to check up to see if he is a Jap spy or something. Taigo looks like he has a lot of company in his apartment so that I don't know if I can ever get him alone for an interview or not. He said that most of the customers he had in his barber shop were Filipinos and very few Niseis went down there in the short time he was in business. Taigo also plays the horses a lot, and he has a car and a nice apartment. He looks pretty prosperous so he must have made a good income before the war. He said that he may go into some other work and do only barbering on the side but he is not sure. He still wants to be the first Nisei to open up his business. He said that he now has the distinction of being the first one to go out of business. He did not appear very bitter about the development, but I only talked to him briefly so I could not tell. Perhaps I will work on him although I have Bob Lee tentatively lined up. Bob is one of the zoot suiter types and he looks fairly interesting. How cold and inhuman I am!

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The only interest in Niseis I have is for a possible case history!

Emiko and Bette came home after seven and they said that Mariko was just getting out of bed when they left. Alice was getting ready to take a trip down to Rockford for a few days in order to see if she could find an apartment to rent down there. They had a disaster down there. Bette said she noticed a sewer smell and they suddenly discovered that the water from the top of the toilet was overflowing and it flowed right into the kitchen. Mariko was trying to get ^{the landlord} O'Brien to get a plumber to come and fix it and she said that if he did not do anything, ^{she} would call the Health Department to take action. They will be much better off to move out of that dump as it is not a very sanitary place and it has many inconveniences. Mariko and Alice even have to take a bath in a galvanized laundry tub, because they can not use the bath tub upstairs any more. I would think that all of these inconveniences would be more than enough to get them to move out and it is not worth the Nisei society that may drop in. They have no access to a phone anymore so that it must be torture to Mariko now with a long list of Nisei friends who drop in. They come anyway, but without notice.

^{over 3311}
I got in a good days work so I feel pretty good, and it would be enough to make me feel even contented if I did not have the school problem to contemplate. I was just thinking that if I had been working at any other type of job, I would never have been able to put all that time into the school business. Emiko is now writing her last letters so that she can have a clear slate to start school with. Suddenly she got the idea that she wanted some pop corn so she is dragging Bette off to the store with her.

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Bette has been sewing on her coat all evening and nothing could interrupt her until she was finished. I bet they try on clothes all night now. Emiko will probably take about two hours to decide what to wear to school tomorrow to register. She does dress nicely so that it is o.k. We have a closet problem here--lack of space. I had the closet I brought from Gila and I was adamant about insisting that only I should use it, but like a fool, I let Emiko put her new coat in it. Then she put in another coat. Then a couple of her suits followed. Then Bette came along with her suit and now her new coat. I am practically out of the closet but struggling desperately. I should have remembered the story about the camel and the Arab. In a few more days, I think I will have to ask permission to use the closet at all.

(Letters from Kikuchi to M. Wilson, Sept. 21, and to Togo, Sept. 21, omitted)

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I got up early and was in the office before 10:00 for a change and worked right through until after 6:00 without stopping for lunch. I got quite a bit accomplished today. There were a lot of office things to get cleared up. I suddenly discovered that the job of office manager pro tem has a lot of work to it. After I got the typewriter rental business all cleared up, I dictated a couple of letters and sent the checks of the office help out and followed the other instructions that Mrs. Wilson of the Berkeley office had in her letter. I had to run up and down the five flights several times today and this is hard work. I made some inquiries as to whether we could get a phone installed, but I do not know if this will be possible. There's no harm in trying and I have to get something accomplished for the

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office during my term in office. Tom got back from St. Louis Friday and he was happy about the progress that he made down there, but he was not so happy when I announced to him that he had to appear on the panel discussion at the WRA meeting with Yatabe and me. He could not get out of it by saying that he had classes to attend as he is between sessions. Tom does not have much of an opinion of Dr. Yatabe and he thinks that he is an old JACL windbag. He made the necessary phone call to Miss Ross at the WRA and he said that we would be there at 10:30 tomorrow morning in order to talk it over with her. He also got a letter from Frank saying that they were making some wonderful progress there and that the WRA was opening its complete files to them so that they work until late at night. They have a secretary to help them. Meyer has given them a use of an office even. What a change in the WRA attitudes! I think that I shall forgive them for the run around the Gila WRA gave me. Frank got diarrhea there so that he was a little ill for a day or so.

Tom went on to tell me about what he did in St. Louis. He feels that the Matsunaga dame is quite a woman and that she should do well as she is sharp. There were a few qualities about her that he did not like so well, but he attributed that to youth. He said that the St. Louis Niseis seem much more adjusted down there and there is not the occupational mobility going on there as in other areas where the resettlers have gone. He did not know how to interpret this except for the fact that the city was more friendly. We got to talking about the reason for the high occupational mobility of the Niseis and Tom felt that this would be a good problem to work upon. I thought that one of the important factors was that the Niseis did not have the limitation of the Japanese community to act as a restraining

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factor now, plus the fact that the occupational horizons of the Niseis have suddenly been expanded and they are doing work for which they never had a chance before. I then added that in many cases, the only criteria of the Niseis was in the salary so that the "6 day Japs" floated from job to job and took the highest offer. Another factor was that they were restless since they had no stabilizing influence and most of them were single. In the camps the Niseis were more reliable because jobs were more at a premium and yet this was the first chance for most of them to achieve prestige by jumping up several notches in the occupational ladder, and there is still this element with them. Tom said that he would try to work out a set of questions which we could possibly use in some of our interviews in order to see if we could find out the true motives of the Niseis who shift around so much. He was a little worried that we would all get drafted before we got much further along on the study.

Yesterday I could not make the appointment with Mrs. Kingman so that Tom had lunch with her. She used to be connected with the Y on the U. of Calif. campus and she has been very much interested in the problems of the evacuees. Right now she is a sort of lobbyist for the Pacific Coast Committee for Fair Play to the Japanese and their American born children. She is on the way to Washington to put some pressure on the California Congressmen or something. She told Tom that they had had some success on applying pressure on some of the Hollywood script writers so that the falsehoods would not appear so much in the movies. There is also a chance that some pressure may be put on Warren if he becomes a presidential candidate since a person running for such a high office should not express

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some of the prejudicial statements that Warren has made. The Republicans must be in a sad fix if that is the best they can do. FDR would be a cinch then.

The rest of the day, I dictated letters and some on my new case. Louise is certainly an efficient secretary and she types the stuff out as I dictate at a remarkable speed and she does not have to stop to find out how to spell words. I would be embarrassed then as I do not know how to spell some of the words I use myself. I felt like a slave driver piling all that work on her.

to the A.C.L.U.

I also got a letter from Mr. Latimer who wants details on the school business as he feels that he may be able to do something. I did not want to take it up with the Civil Liberties Union except as a final resort but I decided that I might as well let him in on it also. I wrote him a long letter on the case, and copied parts of it to send to Mr. Levin, a member of the school board. I suddenly felt that if I was going this far I might as well make as big a noise as possible. So I had Louise type 12 carbon copies and sent the letter to all of the interested organizations and one to the legal office in Washington of the WRA and one to Morton to see if he could apply a little pressure. Dr. Johnson and Prof. Wirth came into the office then and they thought of another person whom they thought could do something. I think they mentioned the name as Mr. Lehman of some organization. Dr. Johnson thought that the only thing that we could do now was to try and crack the thing wide open. Bette's teacher phoned her today and asked if she were coming back to school, and Bette told her that

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Chicago Civil Liberties Committee
166 West Jackson Blvd.

and P

September 20, 1943

Mr. Charles Kikuchi
c/o Social Science Building
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Kikuchi:

I have learned from the WRA that you are experiencing difficulty in securing free admission to the Chicago public schools for your two sisters because of an Illinois law requiring minors whose parents do not live in the local school district to pay \$18 per month. I understand that you were advised by some official of the Chicago Board of Education that if you legally adopted your sisters as your wards that there would be no reason why they should not be admitted, and yet after you had followed this advice, they were still denied free admission.

I should like to have a full statement of your complaint in writing with all dates and names that you can supply. If we are to bring pressure to bear upon the School Board for its discriminatory action, we must have at least one specific case, and in complete detail. The WRA advises me that you will present us with such a case. Since your case will affect a great many others, we wish to proceed immediately.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ Ira Latimer
Executive Secretary

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(Complaint omitted)

it was still indefinite. ⁴ Emiko went down to the Board of Education and paid them \$56.00 of the money as she did not want to give them the satisfaction of counting out the full amount at one time. After I have my appointment with the Civil Liberties Office tomorrow afternoon, I will see what I can do in regards to getting Bette into a parochial school as it is no use for her to be kept out of school all this time and things are too indefinite. I surely am griped at the school board.

Bette went downtown this afternoon to shop for an alarm clock but there was not one in sight. When the two of them start going to school, we will have to have something to wake them up as I am a most undependable alarm clock. The old clock has definitely given up the ghost.

One of the items of news I heard today was that Yoshie's (CH-10) sister, Texas Mary, was coming to town. This was the thing that Yoshie did not want. I have not talked to her recently so that I will have to follow some of these new developments when I have a chance to interview her some more.

Developments of a wider nature on the Japanese problem are that Roosevelt sent a letter attached to the WRA report to the Senate saying that he believed that the great majority of the persons of Japanese ancestry were loyal to the democratic institutions of the U.S., and he also announced that the segregation program to Tule has started, and that all rights to return to the coast would be given as soon as the military situation made such restoration feasible. The WRA report indicated that 900 Niseis

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were going to college which is a very great reduction from the pre-war figures in spite of the fact that there are more Niseis of college age now. There are still 95,000 left in the camps which means that only 14,000 of the 110,000 evacuated have resettled and these are mostly Niseis. There are about 20,000 who were never evacuated since they were living in inland states.

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I spent most of yesterday trying to find out what was happening of the school situation. In the morning Tom and I went to the WRA to discuss our panel discussion which is being held on Friday. We talked to Miss Prudence Ross of the WRA office, who is supposed to be moderator for this discussion. It is titled, "Relocation Results in Chicago" but Miss Ross only had the vaguest of ideas of what it was all about. We tried to outline some of the topics which we could discuss in this meeting and it soon developed that if anything was going to be accomplished that Tom and I would have to outline it ourselves. Every time we mentioned a possible topic, Miss Ross would go way off and start a discussion on it. We just didn't seem to be getting any place so that we just mentioned two or three main topics that we could cover and then we told her that we would plan it out more in detail today. The question of what Dr. Yatabe would cover was a little vague since he was not at the meeting with us. We thought that he would be interested in the general topic of the public opinion and integration progress of the Niseis. The meeting with Miss Ross was not worth the time we spent with her because she seemed a little stupid on many of the things we talked about and apparently she was greatly on the defensive whenever anything about the WRA was mentioned. However, she insisted that

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the WRA wanted some criticism and that it would be taken in good spirit. Tom was very doubtful of this but he did not say it aloud. However, I was still feeling a little irritated about the whole school situation so that I was a little more forward than necessary in discussing the WRA relationships to this program.

The point I was trying to put over was that the WRA should definitely assume the responsibility in clarifying the school situation. Miss Ross is a nice woman who has worked for a number of years in social work but I was rather disgusted at the attitude she took. She said that she realized the school problem was a complicated thing but that it was largely an individual matter. She claimed that the Federal agencies should not interfere with the autonomy of the local school board. I tried to point out that this was not the issue as I felt that the WRA's function was to do the necessary interpretation to the school board since it was a part of the general evacuee problem. Miss Ross just could not see this at all and she got very much on the defensive as if I were condemning the WRA, which I was not.

The more I talked to the personnel of the WRA office, the more I became convinced that there are some misfits in that office. Of course, I realize that this is a new situation and they are still groping for the "light." The result has been that the WRA has degenerated into a glorified employment office, not even fulfilling these functions as adequately as they should be doing. Tom said later on that the WRA policy may change in the near future and more of an emphasis would be placed upon the social adjustment. We both felt that this was the crux of the whole problem and in our panel discussion tomorrow we will attempt to contribute toward this line of thought,

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in the hopes that it may hasten the WRA decision to revise some of its present policies, although I rather doubt that it will go much beyond the point of just considering it without acting for a long time, probably not before the WRA is actually forced to do it by the developing conditions.

This morning we decided that we would both emphasize the necessity for more WRA emphasis on the social adjustment process. Tom will discuss the more general phases of it applying definite concepts to the discussion. I will attempt to emphasize more specific things like the need for social case work on an individual basis. In order to do this I will probably present a general picture of the personal adjustment problems of one of my cases, probably CH-10, since this case is a good example of many of the present individual problems of all Niseis. What we hope to do is to point out that the WRA function is not to solve an occupational placement program but to work within the wider fields of social adjustments. I am becoming more and more convinced that the WRA personnel in the office here is not up to standard and that there is a great lack of understanding of the individual Niseis. The personnel is too concerned with getting a mass of Niseis resettled without taking into consideration that it is a wider problem and that they cannot afford to neglect a follow-up on the social adjustments. The resettlement program here will not be successful unless this is done. The WRA is always inviting criticism but instead of acting upon it as much as it should, it attempts more to justify the path which it has followed up to the present time. As individuals, the personnel of the WRA office are nice people and they really want to have a successful program but they have

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become confused with the mass of minor problems and not actually fitted these things into a general overall policy.

I also talked to Miss Mercer and she was another example of the above confusion. The point under discussion again was the school problem in relationship to the WRA responsibility and Miss Mercer insisted that this was an individual problem although she conceded that the WRA had responsibility in other things such as, the voting rights of the Niseis after the war, the problem of income deductions, the problem of unemployment compensation and other things. I tried to point out to her that all of these problems were related to the whole "Japanese" problem of this country, including the educational difficulties which arise. However, when we got to this last point the same blank wall was reached. That is one of the main reasons why I have had to run around in circles so much since there is too much shifting of responsibility. The WRA wants to leave the whole thing in the hands of the Legal Aid Bureau and other private organizations. Last night I talked over the phone to Miss Herrick of the Chicago Teachers' Union and she was greatly concerned over this same point. She was convinced that it was a WRA responsibility to get a definite clarification on the school business. She even went further than this as she believed that the WRA should go tell the School Board how it should act on this matter of interpretation of the non-residence factor. Her point was that the whole evacuation problem was an act in the nature of a war emergency measure since the Federal government has assumed this attitude; it should also treat all related problems which develop as a result of the evacuation in the same light and not leave it up to the individual. I mentioned the position which Miss Ross and Mr. Shirrell

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had taken and she thought that this was a failure on their part to assume the full WRA obligations. She said that she would do down and talk to Mr. Shirrell or Miss Ross today in order to try and push this point across. I rather doubt that she would have any more success than I did. But she said that perhaps it would do some good and also set the WRA to thinking more along this line than it has in the past. Miss Herrick said that she was not trying to be aggressive about the matter or even attempting to tell the WRA what to do but that she was only trying to get them to fulfill its proper functions which had been conferred upon the WRA by the government.

I also went down to see Mr. Latimer of the Chicago Civil Liberties committee and discussed the case with him. <Dr. Johnson had told me that he did not believe this approach would do much good since the Civil Liberties people got too hot headed and emotional about such matters. But I felt that I should use every means possible in order to get definite clearance on the situation.> It has become a sort of a 'crusade without any intention on my part. Mr. Latimer said that he would bring the case up before the Board of Education and if that was not successful he would get some sort of Federal or Court order in order to force the Board to take a more liberal attitude. I realized then that this problem was not going to be settled in the immediate future and I rather doubted whether the Board of Education would ever change its decision. Miss Herrick had said previously <that the Board of Education was pinching pennies and that was the main reason for its stubbornness. She pointed out > that the Board had been struggling with this non-residence student problem for a number of years and that the large tax payers in the city did not like such large expenditures to be put into the school system.< However, Miss Herrick has said that the Board of Education was not justified in

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claiming that all of the pupils from the outlying suburbs invaded the public school system in Chicago. As she pointed out, there were proportionately more students going out of the city of Chicago into outlying suburbs than coming in. She said that Hyde Park and Austin High Schools were the only large schools in the city that had a high rating in the north central school association. She said that many of the suburbs had much higher ratings than the average Chicago schools.

I decided about noon yesterday that I could not delay Bette's education any further so I began to investigate the possibilities of her enrollingⁱⁿ/a parochial school. However, Miss Herrick advised me to take a chance and pay \$18 to the school board so that Bette could go at least one quarter there and she would receive credit for that amount of work, and if the problem was not settled at the end of another month, I could then put her in a private school. This morning I told Bette to go down to get the money out of the bank and go pay the school board the filthy money it desired so that she could go to classes this afternoon. She has missed out about a week now and she was getting restless over the indefiniteness of the whole thing. In the meantime I plan to follow through on the problem and Latimer will probably give me some definite word in a few days. Mr. Hunter of the United Charities and Mr. Turley of the Chicago Teachers Union are still working on it as well as the other individuals and organizations. I have not heard from Dr. Johnson yet as to his latest plan of seeing a Dr. Lehmann.

omit to 3324

All of this took me most of the day and I felt that I did not accomplish very much. There is a Nisei girl working in the Civil Liberties office but I did not get a chance to speak to her and I do not know her name but I may be able to get acquainted later so that I can get an inter-

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view since she may be an interesting case. I talked to Dr. Yatabe for a while in the afternoon and he was scared stiff about the coming panel discussion. He felt that the WRA was putting him on a spot by asking him to criticize it. He said that he could not jeopardize the JACL position since it was getting along well with the WRA. Yatabe said that he was going to refuse to give a talk on the basis that he had a cold. However, I convinced him that he does not necessarily have to criticize the WRA but he could give a general talk on the present integration of the Niseis and we could fit that into the discussion. I was rather surprised at the appeasement policy which Yatabe apparently follows. He does not want the JACL to be left open to any sort of criticism now largely because of the Dies committee smears. He feels that if he gave any sort of criticism to the WRA they may not like the JACL any more. I rather doubt whether it would make any difference or not since the JACL is only an important organization in the minds of the JACL leaders alone. However, I do feel that Dr. Yatabe is doing a fairly good piece of work here in his public relations work. He is booked for about two or three talks a week for the next two months. In these talks he will present the general Nisei problem and enlighten the public on them. The only trouble is that he does not reach the right groups as he speaks primarily before church and "Y" groups who are already more tolerant about the evacuees. However, the work he does do contributes to greater understanding so that it is justified. I suspect that Yatabe is getting rather restless at his job here since he has not been recognized as an important person up to the level of his expectations. He certainly has not received the prestige which he had as a JACL leader in California. He tries to build it up though but the only point he has to offer is that the JACL

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is the only organization in the telephone directory which mentions the word Japanese and therefore many people phone him up about jobs for the Niseis, which he directs to the WRA.

I was in the Friends office for a while also in order to talk over some points of criticism of the WRA which Togo has in his little red notebook but I was not able to corner him because he was very busy. There was some Issei minister from Los Angeles there to whom I was introduced by Togo. He started to talk to me in Japanese and when I said that I did not understand him he and the six other evacuees in the office looked up in great surprise. I also met a girl, Asako Kubo. She is ^avery attractive Nisei girl about 19 or 20. She is going to an art school here but she was greatly agitated because of her difficulties in finding suitable living quarters. She had been sent out to a couple of places as a part time domestic worker but she could not adjust herself to this work. She said that usually there were children and they disturbed her paints and that was the reason she quit. She was in yesterday to find a new school girl job where there were no children. The girl is from Yakima Valley in Washington and her speech was very peculiar because she pluralized a lot of her words, e.g. "I didn't like the works." She was rather upset about not being able to get settled in the three weeks that she had been here but I did manage to line her up for a possible interview at some future, indefinite date.

I also met a Frank Inouye. He impressed me as an extremely intelligent fellow. He was a senior at UCLA before evacuation, I believe. Frank has a very approachable personality and he is at ease when talking to anybody. He has been out here for four days and he had some rather

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amazing attitudes which probably were due to the fact that he is not able to find a suitable job. He is working as a linotypist right now but he is most dissatisfied with the job as he feels that a person of his education deserves a better position. He has been looking for another job in the past few days and has been rather disappointed. He attributes this to racial discrimination and he was a little agitated as to future occupational possibilities. Because of his recent discouragements, he revealed a slightly bitter and persecutionist attitude. He felt that the Niseis would never be able to overcome racial discrimination and he cited his experience yesterday as an example.

"I went to some aircraft company yesterday in order to get a job. They were very nice to me and they told me that I had to take a test along with some other applicants. I finished the test in 12 minutes and I got 48 out of 50 correct. None of the other Caucasian fellows got over 25. However, when I went to talk to the personnel manager I mentioned the fact that my parents were Japanese. Immediately his attitude changed and he said that there was no job for me. I know it was racial discrimination."

Togo pressed him on this point and he said that Frank could not be positive that it was race discrimination. Frank then said that he knew that it was discrimination and that he had gone out to apply for the job "for the hell of it." Togo did not think that this was the proper attitude because he pointed out that other Niseis had met up with the same problems but they had not accepted it and that was the main reason why the types of jobs offered to them now were more varied and the limits of possibility for a Nisei had been greatly expanded since last April. I then added that even

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if he had been turned down because of racial discrimination he had probably made a very good impression on the personnel manager and set him to thinking that not all "Japs" were the stereo types which he may have had in his mind. I pointed out that if two or three other Niseis had approached him with the similar qualifications as Frank, that possibly the personnel manager would eventually give some Nisei a break. Therefore, Frank would have contributed something to the general Nisei advancement. However, Frank was concerned more about his immediate bread and butter problems. He would not give in on the point that racial discrimination was too great a barrier to overcome. Togo and I then pointed out that he would feel much more differently four months from now when he was more settled. Frank rather doubted this. He then went off into the long discussion that democracy did not exist and therefore he had no stakes in this war. He pointed out that the Negroes were treated just as badly as the Jews in Germany and that the only difference between Fascism and Democracy was that Fascism was more honest about the whole thing. Frank said that this belief did not make him any less loyal or less un-American. We talked about Democracy for the next half hour but he would not give in at all. The only point that Frank would concede^{was} that possibly there was a certain amount of democracy in our educational system. Togo then said that he was feeling sorry for himself and a little bitter because his recent experiences were fresh on his mind, but that he would not feel this way in a month or so. Frank said that if he could not find any jobs to suit him, he may go into the Army. To show his mental confusion, a little later he said that he did not believe in fighting for this country because he had nothing to fight for and that

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his personal adjustment was more important. Togo then asked him why he did not plan to continue on with his education. He pointed out that Frank could easily save a large sum of money by doing the linotype work. Frank said that he could not stand this job and he would look for something else. Togo then referred him to the University here in order to interview for a job as a teaching assistant in the Army Colonial Administration schools which are now opening up. Frank immediately picked up interest and he conceded just before he left that perhaps things were not as he thought and to disregard anything he had said because he was feeling low and he wanted to blame somebody. >

Emiko registered for classes yesterday and she is taking about 17 units. She will be finished with the classes fairly early in the day so that she wants to get some sort of a part-time job. < I suggested that perhaps she should see the placement counsellor at the school. One of the girls that she met told her that many of the girls were working for Sears Roebuck Co. in the afternoon so Emiko may follow this up. However, she would like to get a part-time job near the school so that she will not waste so much time in transportation. I suggested that she should not work over three hours during the first semester since it is always a little difficult to get back into the swing of school life and she has been out for over a year and a half now. If Emiko can make a dollar a day, in a part-time job, that should take care of her personal needs. Emiko felt that she should try to make \$8 or \$10 a week so that she could contribute a couple of dollars for her living costs, but I said for her not to worry about that yet as we

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have been getting along. We would wait to see what happens after Bette and she are both in school. Bette is still doing the work upstairs and making \$25 or \$30 a month so that takes care of her expenses. She only has \$7 to her name now because her coat cost quite a bit. I don't know what she has been doing with her money but I suppose it goes here and there. I think that I will be able to manage if Emiko gets a part-time job to take care of her incidental needs. The only thing that throws us off is the \$18 a month tuition fee for Bette, but we can use the loan of \$150 which the Kobe College Corporation granted, although we had thought of returning it. I rather doubt whether I will enroll in classes this semester since my position has not been cleared yet and also I don't think that I will be able to put out any large amount of money for tuition until things get more straightened out. By next year I will have had legal voting residence and if the Army has not opened up Chicago University by then, it will be rather interesting to see if it can keep a legal voting resident out of the school here.

Later: When I got home, Bette announced that Mr. Buck at the Board of Education charged her \$19.60 for tuition and this would only entitle her to go to classes until the 6th of October. He said that she would have to pay for the whole month of September because she had registered. He did not consider the fact that they had booted her out of classes. Bette phoned and wanted to know what to do and I said to pay him as the Board is so damn niggerly. I hope that we will be able to get the exemption by the next month, but if not, I am up that proverbial creek.

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Mr. Latimer dropped in this evening to get some more details for the case that the Civil Liberties will present. He said it was a dirty shame that this money had to be put out and that he would see the assistant superintendent of schools tomorrow morning. The point they will make is that I have residence and that Emiko and Bette have it with me and therefore entitled to go to the public schools without any tuition. I asked him what he thought the chances for success ^{were} and he seemed rather positive that this time we would win out. But I have had my hopes raised too many times and I am waiting until it is definite before cheering again. He said that Mr. Hunter had gone to see Mr. Buck but he did not have any success today.

I have to prepare some sort of definite outline for the panel discussion tomorrow morning, but I just do not feel ambitious enough. I am afraid that I am going to be very ill prepared tomorrow. I dictated all day and I feel exhausted. Bette hunted for a clock again, but it is almost impossible to get one. She is very worried because she has to get up at seven during school ^{of} mornings and we usually oversleep that.

(Pertinent Facts about Relocation Centers and Japanese-Americans omitted)

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This evening Mr. and Mrs. Latimer came over to talk about the school situation some more, but there have been no developments. I talked to Mr. Latimer earlier in the day, but he did not have anything new. He is not so enthusiastic about the chances but he is still optimistic. He went to the office of the Secretary of the Board of Education and talked to Mr. Landmesser and Mr. Buck, but he did not get any satisfaction from them.

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1099 The Board told him that the legal guardianship was no good because it was only a subterfuge for getting Bette into school. Then they said that even if Emiko was 19 years old, that did not make any difference and her residence is still with mom. They interpret it the same for anybody up to the age of 21. However, Landmesser stated that the Board might agree to waive half of the tuition fund if the Federal government would pay the other half. This indicates that they are primarily interested in the money. They also look upon the problem as a federal responsibility. I asked Latimer if the Board would grant this much, would they also extend it to the individual and require me to pay only half of the tuition instead of the whole amount. He said that he did not know, but he could try. It really is up to the Board of Education to decide this and the Secretary's Office was washing its hands of the whole thing and as far as they were concerned, its decision stood. Tomorrow Latimer is going to draw up a memorandum and send it to each member of the Board. He believes now that the ball is rolling, the WRA will come in and take its responsibility as case will be treated as an individual one. He is going to carry through on the Federal subsidy idea, but my/ it did not want to take the lead before. He is working on the same interpretation for both Emiko and Bette and he feels that there may be success. He will send me a copy of his letter to the board (the Civil Liberties' lawyers are drawing it up) and I will have to approve it. I am rather discouraged about the outcome as it seems we have been hitting a solid stone wall and it will not give an inch. Togo told me this afternoon that he rather doubted if the Home Baptist Missions could give me additional money for Bette since it has already put in a budget of \$10,000 mostly for Nisei college students, and it does not deal with the high schools.

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Latimer's wife wanted to know if Emiko or Bette would be interested in going over to watch their baby about once a week for 75¢ while they went to the movies. *◀ It would be on Friday or Saturday nights usually. ▶* The hours would be about four in all, which makes it a very low wage scale. In California, Emiko used to get at least 25¢ per hour. However, Mrs. Latimer explained that her husband did not get such a high wage working for the Civil Liberties. Emiko was willing to do it as she could do her homework over there and there is no other work attached. He will come after her and drive her home. Perhaps they will give her \$1.00 as Emiko asked. She went over this evening.

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I talked to Mr. Moon of the WRA staff here. He is a nice old gentleman, but long winded as hell. He was rather enthused over the plan to place Nisei students in foster homes so that they could go to school. He said that Himmel's woman in Des Plaines had gone ahead and talked to the Legion Commander and some church leaders and got a favorable opinion. Moon felt that this would be a good chance for the Niseis to go to more normal schools as the community out there will not ask the tuition fees. He is also working on a similar plan in Evanston where no tuition is charged as the superintendent of schools is more understanding. Moon hopes that Northwestern will let down the barriers. This plan is good for some select students, but it is not resettlement. I was a little doubtful if there would be many parents in camps who would let their children go out like this unless they realized that their offsprings education was the more important thing. He has a good idea there and I thought that he should work on it for recent high school graduates also. It may be one of the ways that more

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Niseis can get to school. The only trouble is that the kind hearted people around here pay such a cheap scale for work and they think they are giving enough when they just offer room and board for a part time housework job. Then if the Niseis want more like they got in California, the employers think that they are ingrates. I would like to see more Niseis go to college as only a small percentage of the number who went formerly are going now. There is the large problem of out of state tuition and most families in camp cannot afford it.

Moon went on to tell of the Des Plaines setup. He said that the Legion Commander was one of the three persons at the recent national convention who voted no against the resolution asking deportation of all Japs and Niseis. He said that the Himmel person was very helpful as he was a block captain and well known in the community. The only thing that Moon was worried about was the fact that the man was a Pacifist and he did not want the Niseis there to get too closely connected with him. The Niseis down there are making very good adjustments and they are known as "Joe Watanabe" or whatever their names are and not as a "Jap" which is a good sign. If all the Niseis could be judged as individuals, we would make much more progress.

Emiko just phoned up from Latimer's who live out on 59th and she had Bette all mystified. Bette was upstairs during the time that the Latimers were here so that she did not know it was Emiko who was talking to her. When she did find out, she wanted to know where she was. Emiko told her that she got mad at me and ran away because I was bothering her in

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making up her school program. She is having some trouble about getting her course straightened out. Bette just could not figure it out until I told her. Then she said, "Oh how cheap. That's less than 25¢ an hour; even Mr. Tuttle paid me more." Emiko said she did not mind too much because Mr. Latimer was working on the school case for nothing and it was a good place to study over there.

Talked to Kendall Smith of the Rockford WRA office and he said that he had two jobs for secretaries at \$29.00 a week and to tell Alice to come to see him. Alice dropped us a line today and she said that she was paying \$1.75 a night for a room. She was so pleased that she was saving \$2.00 by getting only the single. Mark is only five miles away so he goes to her room every night. She thinks Rockford is a nice clean city and that she is going to like it. Toyo, whose husband is also there quit her job today and she is going down there. I guess she won't go to college anymore, but will spend full time in working. We haven't seen Mariko for a week so that we do not know how her housing problems are coming and whether she is working. The last time we heard, the toilet had overflowed and she was sweeping the water out of the back door. I hope that she is not flooded out by now.

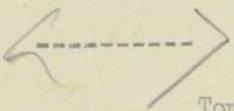
It was a dreary miserable day, cold and biting. It started to rain in the afternoon. I had intended to go over to the city hall and register as a voter, but I did not have the initiative to walk that far from the Friends office. Bette has made "plans" to go to New York next year, after I told

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her that Togo told me that 1000 evacuees have resettled there and if another 1000 or more went by next year, maybe Dorothy would send me there. Bette made friends with a lady up on the 3rd floor and she told her that story. If the Board of Education here ever hears of that, we will never get a tuition exemption. For school purposes, our story is that we intend to stay here permanently which is relatively true as we won't know what will happen in the future. Tom feels that he will get his degree and then beat it out of here. By next year, I might be in the Army so I can't make any plans.



Tom and I went to the WRA this morning and appeared on the panel discussion with Dr. Yatabe. I was very disappointed with Miss Ross and Dr. Yatabe. Miss Ross is such a wishy washy lady and she seemed a little lost and very much on the defensive every time we said anything about the WRA. Yatabe got up and he gave a long winded talk, but did not say a thing except that his son played the piano. He heaped praise on the WRA and was afraid to say some of the things he is always complaining about for fear of hurting his "good standing." What griped both Tom and me was the fact that he kept saying, "I am working for my people," and "our people." Ye gads, surely he should realize that this is setting the Niseis off when he does this. He also argued for a Japanese society in a way. However, his whole talk was very innocuous because he had no definite point to make except that there was more of a need for public relations work, which we all knew anyway. In the discussion that followed, he did not have anything to say as the concepts that Tom and I used seemed to be way over his head. I felt that perhaps, after all, my college education has done me some good as we talked on a way higher level than Doc. Yatabe did.

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Tom and I sort of blasted the WRA in a nice way and we pointed out that the greater problem was social adjustment. I emphasized the point that it was not simply an employment problem, as many of the Niseis had to make personal adjustments. I used Yoshie (CH-9) as an illustration, and pointed out the need for greater social case work and vocational guidance. I thought that the WRA should do more of the preventive work rather than just patch up all the time and put the emphasis on quantity rather than quality. Then I said a few things about the attitudes of the interviewers and the need for greater understanding, a gap which I felt could be partially met by social case work. Tom emphasized the point of greater understanding by pointing out that the Niseis were in a new environment here and they had been uprooted from their close knit communities of the past and they did not know how to act. He said that the Niseis were non-entities here and they could not get identified with anything, and that they were not completely accepted so that they were bewildered.

There were about 20 or more of the WRA staff at the meeting and they took it fairly well. I think that this is what Shirrell wanted. However, the thing that impressed me the most was the sharp cleavage and conflict in the WRA staff. The social worker interviewer and the employment service interviewers just do not think in the same ways. The social workers more or less supported our point of view--Mercer, Smith, Moon, etc. The employment people, Doherty and Yoshioka, objected. They did not feel the need for any case work. The surprising thing about it was that all the interviewers felt they were doing a bang up job. We suggested that they could never get rapport because of belligerent attitudes sometimes. There

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seems to be a tendency to condemn rather than understand the individual. Kendall Smith of the Rockford office has continually stressed quality in resettlement so that he supported our point of view. Shirrell then wondered if there should not be some reevaluation of the policy of his office. I hastened to add that I agreed to his policy of not making the Niseis dependent upon the WRA, but that there were these exceptions of special problems.

I don't know if we did any good although I think that they may have gotten some good points and the interviewers are going to think a little more when they interview other Niseis. The thing that we could not say was that perhaps some of the personnel was inefficient, and not suited to the work. It is hard to give any exact solutions as nobody knows what the solution is. Togo sent me some suggestions for the talk which is in line with Tom's and my point of view. It doesn't do any good to condemn the Niseis for their faults. The one which was harshest on this point was Ben Yoshioka, which may be another example of the fact that a member of a minority group is often the harshest critic. One of the WRA staff then said that we should all stop using the term "six week" Japs in regard to the time they held jobs, as it was his belief from his long years in employment that the turnover of jobs among the Niseis was not as high as that for any other comparable group so let them change if they were not fitted to the job. I think that the meeting was worth while as some definite constructive suggestions came out of it. I still think that the WRA could have more success in the interviewing if more capable Niseis were used. The social workers all agreed to my main point, that there was

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a need for social case work and this would only be for a proportionate few of the total resettlers. Kendall Smith was for a vocational guidance test since most of the Niseis coming out never held jobs before and they could not be blamed for wanting to take the job with the highest pay without regard as to whether they were fitted or not. One astonishing man said that the Niseis did not have any social problems and that case work was a lot of bunk. He was from the Minneapolis office. Tom thought afterwards that they must have thought us very presumptuous to go down there and tell them what to do. Well, Shirrell asked us to do it and he seemed to think that it did some good. When Frank comes back and goes down to the office, he will be perplexed if any of the staff there shows a hostile attitude. The WRA has a thankless job and policies are not clear so that they are the goats of all the complaints, chiefly from the ones who are not settled yet. All of this puts the WRA in a very defensive attitude. I do think that if they put more time into the quality of the resettlement than in quantity, they would make much better progress. Miss Ross was rather useless as the moderator as she was helpless. I can see now why she can't get any rapport from the girls who go into her office. However, the WRA is doing the best it can with a very difficult problem and the people in that office are getting called "Jap lovers" for doing it. Of course, the good salary is a strong motivation also.

(Here's Your "Y" Coupon, omitted)

Togo tells me that Kimi Mukaye needs some education as she is from Denver and an advocate of the Nisei society. In Denver, the YW gave dances for Niseis alone. Now she is out here and an invitation pamphlet has been

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passed out at the WRA which is a call for all Japs to come together for a social afternoon. I am supposed to be neutral but I think that I shall have to get active again and sabotage such programs or else Mukaye will ruin all that has been done so far--that is, the lack of a Nisei society which is not being encouraged by official groups. Maybe I should give in to the inevitable, but I still believe that wide integration is possible. We can't always remain in a transitional period. It is one hell of a dilemma because you have a choice of having a Jap community or else leave the Niseis alone and let them be lonesome. Social integration is the other possibility, but Tom does not believe it is possible because the break is so abrupt. He bases this on WI's Polish Peasant study. I must read it one of these days. I don't think that the Niseis will become completely disorganized if left alone or encouraged to get more integrated into the greater community since they are pretty well Americanized already. But I do see that it is a problem because of their Japanese face. The Caucasians don't know how to take us yet, and it is up to the Niseis to act like any other American and not timid and submissive because if they do that, sooner or later, they will be stepped down on. I saw a letter in the Gila News sent by Tally Earle Usa, and he does not like Richmond, Indiana, so much because of the superiority attitudes of the Caucasians. I think that this is because he is racially conscious himself and he looks for it. If he acted natural, people would accept him, ^{there is no doubt of} that. The thing can't all be done at one time though as this process takes a while, particularly in the case of an oriental group.

While I was at the Friends Office this afternoon, an Issei man

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came in to talk to Togo. He just came from the internment camp in Santa Fe. He was one of the richest Isseis in the U.S., according to Togo. He was on the way back to Buffalo to rejoin his family. He put the touch on Togo for five bucks. The man had two sparrows in a cage and he is evacuating them from New Mexico to New York. The man was a prisoner of war for 17 months for being innocent.

I got an announcement today saying that the fall semester at the University opens on the 28th of this month. I have not been pressing my status because of the other school problems and I have decided to let it go for this quarter since it is more important for Bette and Emiko to go to school. I still want to get my MA in social work, but I have not decided yet what my future lies in. I think I am rationalizing and don't want to think about it like many Niseis because of the uncertainty of things. I have also decided on postponing bringing Mom and the others out as I have learned that dependents of this nature don't get such a good allowance as wives of the servicemen and if I went into the Army in the near future, they would be left stranded.

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Frank Inouye, the rather bitter Nisei boy I met the other day at the Friends, came into the office there again today and he was not feeling so depressed. He has found a defense job that pays about \$200.00 a month so that he will not have to take the linotypist job after all. He said he went to the University for the teaching job, but he was not qualified enough. Frank hopes to save some money to finish his last year in college.

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Sample of the type of interview which Togo does with prospective employers which is on a higher level than what is done at the WRA. Togo said that the Friends are giving the staff some Psychiatric social case work concepts, and a psychiatric social worker is going to be added to the office. Morganroth is a trained social worker too, which is responsible for the higher level of interviewing done at the Friends than at the WRA. Of course, the Friends have more time so that they can afford to do this, but it has definite results. The interview was with a Mrs. Meiser who is the head of a small neighborhood social settlement house in Chicago:

Togo: "How do you do, Mrs. Meiser, what can I do for you today?"

Meiser: "I am looking for a Japanese girl in our settlement house.

We had a Japanese before and I have gotten to the point where I found her very efficient and I want to give a chance to another one."

T: "You may get a lemon this time though."

M: "I'll risk that. I've got this opening and I am anxious to fill it by October 1st. The first girl I had was very satisfactory and she wanted me to take her friend early this summer. I tried June out and I found that she was even better than the first one because she was a little more American. She quit last week so that she could go back to music school and take a full program."

T: "What type of a worker are you looking for?"

M: "I would like a typist who is able to meet people and who knows how to spell. The Japanese seem to have trouble in grammar. I would like her to be intelligent and able to take a little

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dictation. June said for me to get a Nisei who graduated from Heald's in SF because that school is tops."

T: "What would be the arrangement for the position?"

M: "I would like to have her live at the settlement house so that she could meet all the racial groups we handle and she should be acceptable in her attitudes of other groups. There are nine of us working there now and we live like a big family. There would be seven hours of work a day and the pay would be \$110.00 a month. She would pay \$40.00 a month for room and board. She would have her own room and enjoy all the facilities we have. The people of our neighborhood look run down, but the girl should with-hold judgment. I had quite a time getting them to accept a Japanese. They were very prejudiced against the Negroes too, but we broke that down and now we have a colored man working for us. I got the clubs used to the idea of having a Japanese around gradually by mentioning it. They accepted her as an individual in a short time. Then I went to the corner grocery store and mentioned it to Max. After that I went to the other stores and it was not long before the way was paved for her so that now the neighborhood has a very understanding attitude. Only once did the girl have any unpleasant experience. She was on the streetcar and a woman made a scene and muttered Jap under her breath, but she probably lost a son in the Pacific. The girl was a little sensitive so this hurt her

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greatly. However, the children of the clubs in the house are very friendly as well as the neighborhood as a whole. I had the girl play at the annual meeting in order to win over our board. Some of the members are still narrow and they will never become reconciled to it, but I hire whom I please. I've worked with the Negroes for 12 years and it was a hard time to get them accepted. But the interracial plan worked out well. The Jewish boys club was the most opposed to them at first and they quit the house, but they came back later. Then they eventually took one of the Negro boys into their club with them and he was accepted as a person.

"Now we are trying to get the same acceptance for the Japanese. A lot of the Japanese make their own problems because they have it in their minds that people are going to discriminate against them and we try to break this attitude down. I did not know the Japanese before, but I liked the girl we had and I want to give another one a chance because the Japanese have gone through some hard times since the evacuation"

T: "I'll try to get you a good girl down there so that your expectations will not go down. It sounds like a very good opportunity for some girl because it will be an education as well as a job for her to get to know some of the other racial groups in your settlement house. I am glad you called

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on us and I will try to find someone. I don't have anyone in mind right now."

M: "I could get an American girl easily, but I would rather keep up the Japanese relationships as we feel we have done some thing by getting the neighborhood to accept them. But I do insist upon a capable Japanese girl who does not have prejudice towards other groups."

T: "I'll do what I can. Thank you for calling and good-bye."

Then Togo went to work and he had a girl on the way out there within an hour. The woman did not go to the WRA because of the more brusque way the interviewers acted down there. She wanted some appreciation of the work she has done in the Japanese problem. Togo is very good at making the individual feel important regardless of whether they are the worst or best specimen. He is the same way in talking to women who want domestic workers although they do not send any out. He attempts to educate them a little, and if they already have a more favorable attitude, he lets them talk. Togo is a very practical person and smart as hell. I notice that he has been reading some heavy books lately. I don't know when he finds the time to do all his terrific reading. He says he does it on the streetcars. Togo is working on his 22nd or 25th case now. He is doing one long one. The rate he is going, I'll never get up with him. I haven't got a new case definitely lined up yet although I have several in mind. This damn winter weather is going to make it harder to get out, I fear, and I want to complete as many as I can before the stormy weather comes and keeps us at home all the time. Due to the school situation, I have been upset about

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my work and I feel that I am not doing enough and not as well as I should. There is so damn much to cover in an interview that it is hard to decide what to question on. I have been sticking to the general outline, but sometimes I wonder if it is worth it. I feel that my background is very weak, but I don't know what to study. I don't even have any definite concepts to work with.

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Although the sun shines brightly, the air is cold and crisp these days. For a couple of hours in the afternoon, it is warm before the chill which penetrates you sets in. It is quite different from the dry desert heat we were in last year at this time, and I presume that it is hot in Arizona now. I don't mind this weather at all although I am wondering how it is going to be when the temperature drops 50 more degrees. It is just right now; similar to the California weather in early spring. Soon the green leaves will turn brown and the trees will ^{get} black and ugly. The elevator man at the building where the Friends Office is located said that we would have an Indian summer for the next six weeks before winter set in, in earnest. It is the most beautiful and pleasant time of the year, he said. The Chicagoland people make the most of bragging about this season as the rest of the year is either too hot or too cold or just plain too uncomfortable. Even now, the evenings are zippy and we have to wear topcoats. Emiko and Bette have warm thick coats now, but I am beginning to wonder if mine is going to be heavy enough. Last night with my coat on, my teeth began to chatter like anything, but that may have been because I just came out of a warm theater building.

DIARY

Charles Kikuchi
Chicago

September 26, 1943

HOTEL NELSON
Rockford, Illinois
Sept. 23

Hi Kids....

How do you like mah fancy stationary? One guess as to where I am, and what I'm here for.

Sorry I didn't get the chance to see you before I left - but we had a major flood in our bath room - so Mariko and I had to keep sweeping the water out into the back...I was busy packing, have a cold, and was househunting. But all that is behind me - and at last I am here in Rockford - 5 miles from Mark. I have a single room at \$1.75 a day at the best hotel in Rockford - no bath - and registered as single - Mark comes up and spends the nights here - the bed is 3/4 but big enough - otherwise, I have to pay \$2.75 a night if we had registered together - with the same small bed.

Today I am taking it easy, as I have a cold - and had a headache - will start tomorrow to look around for an apartment, or housekeeping rooms.

Rockford is a lovely place - nice big business section - and clean - there are a lot of defense industries here, so the town is quite crowded - besides, the Army wives who are here take up a lot of room also. Tent city closes next week - so I may be able to find some kind of a place to stay.

Toyo is coming up Monday - she has quit her job with S.A.

Well - have to write Miyako a letter, so will close - you can write me c/o Mark - as I don't think I'll be here very long. If an emergency comes up - his phone number is Main 6800 - Ex. 410.

Bye for now - will write again.

Love,

Alice

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Charles Kikuchi
Chicago

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AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE
189 West Madison St.
Chicago, Ill.

September 23, 1943

Mr. Charles Kikuchi
Room 502, Division of Social Sciences
University of Chicago

Dear Charley:

I find it difficult to put in writing suggestions as to specific points you might raise at your meeting with WRA. Most so-called "criticisms" from evacuees which I have heard are warranted only if there is general acceptance of the evacuee's point of view at a given time. Much of the criticism is purely "gripping." It is in many cases not reasonable. It is a symptom of a condition, i.e., largely centering around discrimination and prejudice faced by evacuees in relocation. Some of the criticism is a carry-over from relocation camp experiences; the relocation offices of WRA in a sense inherit the accumulated resentments of a year and a half.

In striking a proper balance to your discussion, it should probably be pointed out that there is a large body of inarticulate opinion among relocated ex-evacuees which is deeply grateful for WRA activity here in Chicago. This, of course, is purely personal opinion, on my part. Since March, I have talked, both in and out of office here, with over 650 former evacuees; we have kept card files of individual callers, so the number is accurate. I am impressed by the fact that complaints come more readily from the unsuccessful relocatee than do expressions of appreciation from the moderately successful. Maladjusted individuals, or rather those who have not had the time to "get over the hump" usually blow their horn the loudest and make their opinions heard. Those who have settled down and are making progress in re-establishing new homes here are generally too busy to be heard from.

If it is the purpose of your talk to specifically enumerate shortcomings of the WRA, you will agree that I am of no help to you at all. I have concluded that most of the specific criticism I have heard evacuees utter is highly debatable opinion, and usually very personal.

It seems, however, there must be room for generalizations which could be helpful to anyone responsible for the rehabilitation of temporary government wards. This may sound trite, but don't you feel that every Chicago WRA staff member would do well to be endowed generously with the two important qualities of patience and imagination in their work? They are not running a commercial enterprise so much as they are dealing with human beings. If one is to successfully overcome resistance to relocation, and you will find this I imagine anywhere in the United States, one simply must have plenty of patience. In helping the evacuee to help himself, it seems those who have enough imag-

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Togo to Charles con't.

ination to project themselves in the shoes of the evacuee are better able to help effectively.

I have learned in these past few months that the approach of an agency such as this one, which operates on a religious motivation, is by nature different from that of a government office. Yet I think we in this office are called upon constantly to remind ourselves of our need to palce ourselves in the exact positions of individual evacuees who call upon us for some assistance.

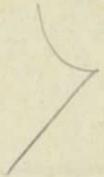
Now these are generalizations too obvious to be of much help to you. But it occurs to me that if somehow in your message you can shift some of your emphasis to these thoughts, it may influence WRA personnel attitudes. The Chicago WRA could get more cooperation from evacuees on one hand, don't you think, if even the worst problem case evacuee could be convinced of the WRA's genuine desire and interest in getting all evacuees relocated? I think it is correct to assume that is WRA's objective.

Perhaps, Charley, you might encourage continued emphasis on good public relations by the WRA. You probably know more than any of us what specifically could be done by WRA in cases of individual discrimination.

This probably will be of almost no value to you, but knowing you as I do now, I'm sure you will constructively organize your thoughts and do a top notch job.

Best wishes,

Togo



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The weekend has been uneventful, mostly spent in sleeping and resting, although I have not anything to get so tired about. It may be an escape from monotony, but I don't think so. $\left\langle \right.$ I slept until noon yesterday, rather I read in bed that long. Then I went to the office to pick up the mail and find out if there were any new developments. I had a case to finish typing up, but my mental attitude was not adjusted to getting down to work. It was so quiet around the building. I also considered going out to start a new interview, but I was not in any mood to be talking to people, particularly of the Buddhahead variety. It was just a passing mood. $\left. \right\rangle$ I decided to take a walk around, rationalizing my mental laziness by making myself believe I needed the exercise. I walked over by the Midway and watched the sailors playing their games and drilling. They looked happy enough to me, but I bet there wasn't a one of them who would not have rather been leading the pre-war carefree life. A thought entered my head that perhaps my work did not have enough meaning right now, and I rather envied those naval students although I well know that I would not like the discipline of a military existence. I suppose I was a little restless simply because I was relaxing and not working conscientiously on a case. It is a hell of a dilemma; I want to do my work well at the same time that I still feel reserved about contacting Niseis. But if I were not doing that, I do not know if I would be any happier. Yesterday was one of those days when I let my imagination idle along. Basic to it, I suppose, was the complex and unanswerable question of what I would be doing after the war. I have a feeling that I should be in the Army, but I don't want to go into any Nisei combat team. I think there is purpose to my work, but sometimes I have doubts.

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I think that I am getting too entangled in a little problem, little in terms of all the world problems but big in terms of my personal life, and the reality of the war is not so vivid to me now as it was in camp. I just go along my way and I see the headlines about the Russian advances into the Dneiper River area, the Yanks on Italy and in the Pacific, and these things seem to be distant and far off. My mind is more occupied with the Nisei problem in spite of what I say to the contrary, simply because I am working in it. Then I get these feelings and wonder if it is justified. I don't know if there is going to be any more democracy after the war, I rather doubt it if these things are going to be greatly changed, but I have built up a sort of faith in it and I feel that it must happen. It is not the kind of democracy that so much propaganda is being passed out now about, but a different sort of thing that escapes putting it down in words; it is more a way of feeling, of hoping that some of the blind prejudice and discrimination will somehow be swept away. It is not because I am racially conscious because I still think of myself as an American and it irritates me when I am considered otherwise. I don't think of that too much, although it too may be at the back of my mind. It goes beyond that to a wondering whether democracy is not just for the white man or for all colored groups. The negroes have made advances, but I wonder if democracy has any meaning to them when they cannot vote, or if the Negro soldier is discriminated against or refused service in a restaurant. These are the things which are important to those individuals and they are not interested in the great principles.

If I analyze myself, I think that the reason why I get angry when I am treated as "different," this has not happened in Chicago yet, is that

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I don't feel different and actually I feel superior. It is this point which I think places me apart from so many of the Niseis who are strongly race conscious and who feel "inferior" because of their present groping around. I try to identify myself as one of many minority groups in this country who feel that things are not right; but often I think in the way of a member of the majority group without being accepted to that status yet. The war certainly isn't going to make too much difference in the life of one of the Negroes in Chicago or a Jew or a member of any of the other nationality groups here. It all comes down to whether one sees the picture from the point of view of the individual or of progress of general principles, vague at the most. I want to see the thing from the point of view of principles, but in my work, I only see the individual position. This is what sets me to wondering. I get irritated and too readily condemn the Niseis for failings which are natural and human. Maybe they are being more honest about it when they view things in terms of being a Nisei and not as an opinion of the majority to which they feel little identity. I don't know. I do know that I would never be happy working in some store all my life and having life goals which are limited in scope, within the limitation of the immediate personal life. I want my life to have more meaning than that. Even though the vague general principles do not give complete satisfaction, it does give more meaning to my life. Following this path, will mean that I will always be more or less restless and have ups and downs in my moods and hopes for achievement. The question is: Would I feel more that I was working towards this goal if I were in the Army or if I continued with my work? I really do not know.

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I wandered down by the lake shore, along Jackson Park, and then down 63rd Street yesterday, having some great day dreams in a way. I was trying to figure out if I was happy or not. I came to the conclusion that I was not because there were so many unanswered questions in my life. It is a vague feeling of discontent, of insecurity. I like to think of myself as fairly well adjusted, but there are problems that bother me. Because I can't find the answers, I project it and am harsh on the other Niseis whom I see with similar problems, only they are not even aware of it as much as I am.

My purpose in going towards 63rd Street was to look for a clock. There was not an alarm clock in sight so I just watched the people. There were a great many of them. As I saw them passing by, I did not envy a single one of them and concluded that I'd rather be what I am. It was fun after that wandering around and looking at people and the store windows. I must have walked ten miles in all, more than I have ever done in a year. Now that I look back and try to find the answers for the slightly melancholy mood yesterday, I think it was financial problems. That is what started my whole stream of thoughts moving. This month, we had an expenditure of \$180.00 which is way beyond my income. This included Bette's school and the War Bond I bought, plus birthday gifts and a loan of \$15.00. The school business has also been on my mind, and related to it is what I should be doing for my own education, if anything. From there, my thoughts wandered to my work, the future, etc., etc. After I got home, I was my own self again and I enjoyed the long hike.

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One of Bette's friends from the high school in Gila came into town and he wanted to take her out on a date before he went on to Cleveland to take a job in a bakery at 80¢ an hour. Johnny Tsuchihara is a fairly bright boy but he had an overbearing manner when I met him in camp, but this can be attributed to the confidence of youth. He comes from a large family and after graduation, he did not know what to do. At one time he was going out to take up beauty work, a male expert, and go into the work with his sisters who are trained beauty operators. Then he decided that he wanted to go to college, but he did not know what to take. Then he thought that he would like to study for law. Bette thinks he has some sort of a scholarship at Boston U. but she is not sure. Anyway, the boy decided to work for a while. He took the Cleveland job with another boy from camp and they came out together. I have an idea, that like many Niseis, Johnny is going to get waylaid in his ambitions for a college education after he starts making a little money. If he gets bored enough, he may go on. The other fellow, Shun, is a boy whom Emiko thought was pro-Japan when she argued with him back in camp during the time she was there for the funeral. The boy just got bored and since his friends were all leaving, he decided to resettle too. Gila has the reputation of having the most from any center to sail on the Gripsholm. The total of those going to Tule is about 2000 which is pretty high considering that the camp population is now only 11,000. In a way, that reflects the greater conservatism of the people there.

The two boys brought Emiko and Bette a big box of candy each and then they went on the date for the rest of the afternoon. I bet they will land in Cleveland practically broke.

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Emiko and Bette also did some shopping yesterday. They were supposed to look for a clock downtown in the second hand stores along lower state street. I figured that the stores would be less likely to charge them a high price than if I went. They finally succeeded in finding a clock after going to many stores. The man wanted six dollars for it, but Emiko and Bette finally wormed him down to \$4.00. It is a big Ben clock and it works pretty good--so far. In the pre-war days, the clock would have sold for \$3.00 new. Emiko also bought some candy to send for Miyako for her birthday present. Miyako will be 12 on the 27th of this month.

After that Emiko and Bette went on the date with the two Gila boys. In the evening, we went to a show. I read the papers until early this morning. The Big Ben alarm clock awoke us with a loud noise at 11:00. We had no intention of getting up as Emiko only wanted to try it out. I rolled over and went to sleep again and it was after 2:00 before anybody stirred out of bed. We were going to the Museum, but it was rather late in the afternoon before we had eaten "breakfast." Emiko suddenly remembered she had homework.

Emiko, when she studies, is a dictator as she really does it thoroughly. Hell, I can't even turn the radio on because she says it distracts her. She is going to be kept pretty busy with homework this semester, me thinks. Tomorrow she has to fix up her program some more as there is some conflict in her courses. Bette also is doing homework and happy to get back in school. She likes the atmosphere there because it is more of a normal school. I had thought of putting her in a parochial school or else back at Central Y in the event that we did not win out with the school board,

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but I think that I won't now as I would like to see her happy for one full school year without getting all disrupted. She has not found out yet how many of her credits will be accepted. The work she did at the Y this spring and summer will be accredited and perhaps some of the Gila courses. If this is done, she may be able to get out by June with a diploma.

Emiko has thought the nursing situation over and now she wants to be a nurse. I haven't said anything to her lately about the U.S. Cadet Nursing program as I know little of it and I will have to find out if she can get in. It will not hurt her to take a year of the pre-nursing courses, maybe it will be only a semester if she can get into the other program. Bette wants to take four full years of college work, with a nursing major, and I don't have to worry much about it right now anyway. I think that as long as she gets a little financial help from some organization, I can swing the rest of it. The thing that worries me is that I cannot carry the load for the two of them if we have to continue paying the out of state tuition fees.

I have not stepped out of the house today as I am reading an amusing light book, "My Name is Aram," by William Saroyan. I don't have much ambitions to do any heavy reading right now.

I have a feeling now that if Emiko and Bette can continue to go on to college without too many obstacles, they are going to be glad that they did go, especially if they pick out a definite field of study, so that I don't have to feel so much that maybe I am influencing their lives too much. I hope that Mariko and Alice will be able to see this also. I feel now that if I had given in and let a Nisei hang around our apartment, they would have been more interested in a social life and less inclined to go to

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college. There would have been too many temptations to have a good time instead. I don't know if I am completely right but I think that there is a good argument for the position I took. I would not force them to go to college against their will. I was not entirely sure of Emiko, but I did know that Bette did want to go on. If the present change in Emiko is any indication, I think that she will get a lot out of college. She seems to like it a lot out there. I hope that the Board of Education does not close the junior college system down entirely all of a sudden as I have heard rumors that this was going to happen.

Emiko strikes a hard bargain. I have to help her with an English composition because she made a sandwich for me last night. She has not asked me yet but is doing it herself so maybe she forgot about it. It is better that she does her own work even if it is a little hard for her to get back into the swing of school.

September 27, 1943

The alarm clock worked! It awoke us with a bang this morning. I retired early last night, but the two girls across the hall had some sort of a party and they were making a lot of noise. I did not mind that so much, but it really got me down when they started to sing. I don't know what they were celebrating to make them so happy.

I spent an easy day at the office, but managed to finish up CH-12 and send it in. Also took care of some of the office correspondence. I did not have anything to do by 4:30 since I missed my contact with Bob. I will probably try to interview him tomorrow. He is hard to catch because he works all night and sleeps all day. I could not leave my name with his landlady since she is supposed to think that he is Chinese. I may catch him tomorrow.

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Charles Kikuchi
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I went through the desk today after gently prying it open and found the keys to the locked files. We had taken one of these files at our office for our material, but we were not able to lock it before. Now we can. Frank will see some changes when he gets back! We also found some other old office stuff that we can use.

This evening I was thinking of going out to see Dr. Furuta but I got lazy. He lives too far out and it would take me half of the evening to go out there by street car. I had hoped to hear some word on the school situation but I have not received a phone call yet so that there probably has been no new developments over the weekend. Emiko got good news from the Student Relocation Council today. The Presbyterian Board has given her a \$226.00 scholarship for sure and the check should come next week. That is a great relief and it takes care of her school year. I will not have to worry about next year for some months yet. We have not had so much luck for Bette.

Emiko broke the shell on her tooth again and she had to go to the dentist to get another one put on. It's about the third time this has happened. In order to get a more permanent one, it will cost her about \$16.00. Emiko said that she would do it as soon as she gets more settled in school and gets a part time job. She had to sit around the registrars office all day today in order to get her program changed. This evening she says she is going to do homework. She has just finished fixing up the leather binder I gave her with the loose leaf markers. In a little while I expect to hear her yelling to turn the radio off so that she can study. I can't say anything about it either, but I do think that she could study if I turned it real low.

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Hero Kasamoto was in our office today. He left from Tanforan the same day as we did for Washington U. in St. Louis. He said that they charge quite a large fee there (\$125.00 per semester) and they lopped a lot of his Cal courses off. He was put behind a whole year, but he expects to graduate in January. After that he is going to work for his MA degree in architecture-engineering or something. Hero is a fair artist. He has been going to college for seven years now, but he is in no hurry to finish. He figures that by the time he gets his MA, the war will be over. He doesn't think he will get drafted for a while. Hero's father is pretty rich and he sends money from the Islands every month to finance Hero's education. He likes it a lot down in St. Louis, but he thinks it is a little boring at times. That is why he is up here for a while to look around. There are about 30 Niseis at the university, he says. He believes that the St. Louis people are more friendly because so many of them are German descent. The rest of the city is indifferent to the Niseis, he thinks. Hero figures that there are around 300-400 resettlers there, but only about 10 of these are Isseis. He showed Tom around when Tom was down there. The funny part of the whole thing was that Tom had to ask me what Hero's last name was after he left. I was amazed that he had not asked him while he was down in St. Louis. I guess Tom was too modest to ask the question so that he just used the first name. Hell, if I don't know a person's name or if I had forgotten it, I ask him. There is no disgrace to that and you don't hurt the fellows feelings.

(Letter from Dorothy to Charles omitted -- Sept. 22, 1943)

September 28, 1943

I did not go to the office today as I spent most of the day interviewing

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Bob Kinoshita (CH-13). When I came home there was a message from Tom saying to come tomorrow as Leighton from Poston would like to meet with us. I shall have to cancel the interview for tomorrow until Thursday.

Since I was away most of the day, I did not get any further news on the school situation. Bette mentioned this evening that maybe she is not going to get credit for the Gila work. If this is the case, she will have to spend an extra half year more in school. What a lot of headaches this school business is! I have an idea that the lopping off of the credits is what is going to happen next. It is one thing after another.

When I got home this evening, both Emiko and Bette were studying hard. I could not say one word. Emiko insists upon absolute quiet. I should have reminded her of all the times I wanted it quiet and she did not do it. I don't mind much if she will allow me to do my typing. I have an idea that after she gets started well into the school year, she will not be so fussy. I don't want to do anything that will give her an excuse to say that I prevented her from studying. She is occupying the davenport right now and Bette is using the dining room table. I started to type and Bette said that there was too much vibration so she moved. She is doing the dishes right now. It would be a simple matter if Emiko would study at the dining room table, then I could do my typing on the little table by the davenport. This way, we are all inconvenienced. This is only a little problem of adjustment and I am willing to let them have their own way until we get all straightened out. It is certainly quiet in here though!

I think that I will have a pretty good case on Bob as he is willing to talk. I had to get him out of bed this afternoon. He works at night at

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the Chez Paree. Bob is a good example of a zoot suiter type. He appears to be well adjusted but I have an idea that he has many personal problems. Most of this afternoon I had to listen to him ramble on about his sex life. He is going under the name of Bob Lee and his landlady things that he is a Korean. It is a stuffy old room and not much of a "home." Bob says that he has been taking to drink quite a bit lately. He gets it for nothing so that he has a high priced taste for liquor. He has been getting in the habit of going to one of the all night bars after he gets through work about 5 or 6 a.m. so he passes a few hours drinking.

Bob has great ambitions in singing and he is waiting to be discovered. He is taking singing lessons two or three times a week now. He seems to live a rather lonely life since he does not get much of a chance to see anybody. He used to call upon Mariko a lot, but he says that now her whole time seems to be taken up with two fellows with whom she goes out nightly. According to Bob, Mariko is not working yet. I dropped over to Mariko's just before coming home, but she was not in. Alice has all her stuff packed and Mariko is also making preparations to move although I have not heard whether she has found a place yet or not.

Bob's complexion is getting sort of green. I guess that is because he does not have enough sunlight. He looks horrible with all that pachuco hair which flows all over the place. Bob is very Americanized and any of the disorganizations which he does have is due to the personal maladjustments. The fact that he is of Japanese ancestry may have something to do with some of his complexes, which he has not told me about yet, and that may be the reason why he is going under a Chinese name. He is going around with Eileen of North Dakota now and the thing about her which appeals to him is

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that "she is completely Americanized." Bob was one of the wilder boys around camp and he tried to rape a 16 year old girl in Santa Anita but she would not give in. He claims to have had several affairs there. If I spend enough time with him, I think that he will give forth with all details. He is so lonesome that he welcomes the opportunity to get things off his mind. He said that when he gets a mood, he takes a long walk and the last one was only a week ago. Among the Nisei girls, Bob is considered as a "fast" fellow and they are on guard against him. I suppose they have plenty of reason for this as Bob is no angel and he does not pretend to be one. However, he would like to take Bette out, but I think that he is too smooth for her and he would try to get funny. Besides he is too old for her.

The day was late in getting started for me, but it has been rather long so I think that I shall get into bed early and read Wolfe's "Look Homeward Angel" some more. I plan to get more reading in this winter and I have tried to accumulate some books for a reserve but I read them as fast as I buy them. I can't buy too many books since my budget is limited and I have only been getting novels. I have to be more selective in my book selection. I have some serious books in mind that I plan to read eventually, but I have not gotten around to them yet. Most of my current reading is Time, Survey Graphic and other magazines.

September 29, 1943

I feel physically exhausted this evening as Tom and I did hard physical labor. We had to move our office. Redfield's secretary came up this morning and said that a visiting professor was coming and our office was the only one open. She wanted to know how long we were going to stay there and I said

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indefinitely. Then she said that she would get us a room in the basement. Tom and I did not like that so much but there was nothing we could do about it. She took us down to the basement and offered us two rooms. They were dusty as anything as they had been occupied by some sort of WPA statistical study. Tom and I went to work and we cleaned it all up. We got a locked file and an open one from the secretary. She must have felt guilty for kicking us out of our office as she was very accommodating. We rushed around and got chairs and desks. Now we have more fixtures than ever before and the new office is much larger. We also have the use of the phone which is very convenient. Tom and I took the best office desks in the absence of Frank. After all, as the office manager, I should have some power. Frank will probably revise things all around when he gets back. There are three other smaller desks in the office now so that it is not too bad. Besides all that, we found a lot of WPA and other supplies there and we can use a great deal of it. I got all dirty rumaging through the dirty place. If we can get some of the old stuff dumped out, we will have a very workable office. It is warm in winter and cool in summer. The only drawback is that it is a little dark, but that cannot be helped since we are getting the use of the office gratis. All in all, we had a profitable day. The janitor really should have done all that work, but we did not feel like waiting around for him so we went ahead and did it ourselves. We had no guilty conscience about taking over the supplies, since it would never have been used anyway. Typical government waste!

The rest of the day we waited around for Leighton to show up. Togo came over especially for the meeting. Late in the afternoon, some of

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Leighton's stooges came over. They seemed to be impressed with their own importance so we let them talk on. They obviously wanted to look at our stuff but we did not bring it up. The Poston Bureau of Sociology brought about four of these fellows out. Leighton has been giving them some kind of a line that they may get to put on Navy uniforms and be sent overseas to make studies in areas of occupation.

The names of the Niseis who came out with Leighton were: Toshio Yatsushiro, Iwao Ishimo, and Geo. Yamaguchi. Toshio said that there were about 30 working for the Bureau. They plan to work over the Poston stuff and have it ready for publication by January. After that they are on their own and they want to get into college. Leighton has been giving them close supervision and they probably have a lot of good data. They are not intending to work on the resettlement phase. According to Toshio, the Naval Intelligence, the Office of Indian Affairs and the WRA are financing this study. They are working at the Merchandise Mart right now. Leighton did not show up with his group and the young Nisei fellows did not know too much about the general scope of their Study. Probably next week, I will drop down to their office to see what I can find out. Tom sort of embarrassed the fellows by slinging a lot of sociological terms at them and I caught on so we gave them the works just to find out how much they knew. They did not impress us as having a good understanding of what they were doing/^{so the conversation}drifted mostly to our general description of the Chicago resettlement.

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Togo was over for a while yesterday but he could not stay for our meeting with Leighton's stooges. He mentioned that he was leaving for the

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East in a few days. Apparently he has to arrive at some sort of decision in regard to his future. Togo said that he could work for the Baptist Home Missions another year. If he does not do that he may leave this city and go to New York in order to make contacts for a newspaper job. Togo feels that he may be "drafted" into the Army soon to teach Japanese at one of the schools.. He wants to make the best arrangement possible so that his family will be taken care of. I don't think that he is too enthusiastic about going into the Army, like most people. If Togo does go we are going to lose a valuable contact since he gives us leads on quite a few things that are happening. The decision to change jobs apparently is still indefinite with him. He has to make the trip anyway to some sort of a Baptist conference on this Resettlement question.

There were also two rather quiet Nisei fellows from the University of Missouri who dropped in to visit us. Neither Tom nor I knew them before although they said that they had seen us around the University of California campus. The fellows left camp last January and enrolled at their new school. They only have to pay a \$50 a quarter out of state tuition which is not so bad. However, one of the fellows is going into engineering and he did not think that his degree from the University of Missouri would be much good. Both of the fellows were scouting around for new schools but they will enroll again at Missouri this semester. They said about six Nisei students were going to that institution. It seems to be a new practice for many of the Nisei students to come to Chicago between semesters. Hero Kasamoto was up the day before and he mentioned several others who had come. It seems that there is a certain lack of social adjustment among the students as there are

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not an equal number of girls going to their schools. They come up here in the hopes that they can look up old girl friends and go out and have a good time before settling down to another semester's grind. One of the things that I have noticed is that invariably they boast about their particular center of resettlement and yet after you talk to them a while, you notice that they are looking for green pastures in other areas.

In talking with one of the fellows yesterday, we made the point that there were very few Niseis who had really "resettled." One of the students answered that this was not true for the student group because they were all well adjusted and they had a good view of their future. I answered that it was too early to make a generalization like this because their problems of readjustment will probably be more intense after they are graduated and that they are merely letting the main stream of events pass over them without really thinking about their future occupational adjustments too seriously. Many of the students I have seen are continuing with a pre-war general academic course in the hope that everything will be solved for them after the war. They have not faced the issue squarely although I suppose they do have feelings of insecurity as the time for graduation draws closer and closer. However, I do feel that it is better for the Niseis to go to college rather than take many of the dead-end jobs now available since they will have more chances for advancement with a college degree. There is a certain selective factor in the type of students. It is not necessarily the smartest Nisei or the most ambitious ones who go on to college right now. In most cases they come from slightly better off families who assume the major burden for their children's education. This is necessary more than ever now because the out of state tuition is so high. Among the handful of students

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I have seen or talked to since coming out here, I find that they are being financed by parents. If they do work, as it is done in many cases, they only work for their room and board. It would be impossible for them to save up a large sum for tuition by doing only part time work. This factor is the chief reason why the proportion of Nisei college students is much smaller than in the pre-war period. Of course there are many other factors such as the disruption of the family, influence of camp upon the general morale, feeling of insecurity for the future, the cutting off of the income for most families, etc. I do not think that the Niseis level for education is going to keep up to the former level unless there is some sort of Federal subsidies. The National Student Relocation also is doing a fine job but it is impossible for them to finance the total group and only the more advanced students are being helped. Besides the limitation of finances, there is also a limitation to the type of schools open. A private organization cannot put the pressure on as easily as the Federal agency. It would be very unfortunate if the level of the Niseis education dropped off considerably since the future of this group rests with them. The next group below the college group is at a still greater disadvantage since the WRA schools in the center have a very low academic rating. On the more intangible level, there is a deteriorating effect upon the morale of these children. It stands to reason that the Nisei children will not get an adequate basic education when the staff of teachers is largely Niseis who do not instill confidence in their pupils. For example, 83 out of 100 teachers at Gila are evacuees. In this case it is the children who suffer.

This morning I met Taigo Miyahara on the street car and he was a little discouraged about his job prospect. For the past week he has been

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working in a Caucasian barber shop on 63rd St. He felt that he was not getting as much commission as the other barbers. There are 3 barbers in the shop and Taigo said that there was not enough business to give all of them a good living wage. He has been supplementing his earnings by having Niseis come to his home at night for haircuts since he will not have to pay a commission to the owner of a shop then. Taigo said that it takes about \$3.00 a day at least to operate a shop so that in order to make a fair wage each barber would have to cut about \$10.00 worth of hair a day. Out of this the owner gets his cut. At present Taigo said that they are not doing this level of business. He is trying to get into the "I" house barber shop since he will get a larger percentage there. He added that if this did not work out he would probably go get a job in a factory. Taigo appears to be a pleasant and optimistic sort of person, but I caught him in an off moment and he was feeling quite discouraged. One of these evenings I will try to get over to interview him more fully on his occupational trials and tribulations in Chicago.

The girl who is working with Tomi across the hall in the Statistical office is having a housing crisis right now. Her name is Chiyeko Matsuoka and I understand that she is a Christian sort of girl. Anyway, last night her landlady kicked her and two other girls out of their apartment on 64th St. Chiyeko said that her landlady was very nasty and that she snooped around into their private affairs. It seems that some neighbor also did not like the presence of the "Japs" in their neighborhood and according to Chiyeko they threatened to break the windows in the house if the landlady did not kick them out. The crisis came to a head when one of the girls had

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a male caller who stayed quite late at night. Chiyeko and the other girl did not like this so much either because the girl was having too many male visitors. I asked her if she was going to take the matter up with the OPA. Chiyeko said that she was not going to bother with it because the landlady was too unpleasant and she did not want to live there anymore. When she first came in this morning, she said that she was so upset that she was going to quit her job and go to Minneapolis where her brother has a house. However, she went to the University housing department and they have given her a lead for another apartment so that she changed her mind. Chiyeko has to move out of her present apartment by next Tuesday. She is the office supervisor in the statistical office here but I don't think that she gets very much of a salary because the University wage level is rather low. I doubt if she makes over \$80 a month. Tomi said that if Chiyeko quits she would not take over the supervising job because the work was too monotonous to do 8 hours a day. I have thought of trying to get Emiko into the work for 2 or 3 hours a day, but I have not found out the possibilities yet. Emiko is taking a rather heavy schedule and the registrar at her school has advised her not to work too many hours a day or else she will fall behind in her studies.

Emiko says that about half of the student population at her school are Negroes and they seem to be able to mix fairly well on the campus although there are some Caucasian students who display a prejudiced attitude. She likes the school very much and she is making a number of friends. She has been invited to church by one of the girls. Emiko said that there were a few other Niseis on the campus but she has not seen any yet. She can't

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tell whether they are Chinese or Japanese anyway.

Bette's school problem is still unsolved. Miss Herrick phoned this morning and she said that she would contact Latimer of the Civil Liberties office to see what progress has been made. The Board of Education is meeting this morning and I believe that each member has been sent a letter in regard to this problem. Bette is also a little worried because of her credit status. The school will probably not accept any of her Gila units since that school had a pretty low rating, the lowest of any of the centers. However, Vallejo high gave her credit for the work she did at Tanforan so that she had a low junior status. When she went to Gila she had to repeat that year since they did not start out with the second half of the junior year. Bette received credit for a semester's work at the Central "Y" High School when she came out here and she also received two credits for the summer session so that even if the Gila units are thrown out, she should have a Senior rating and be able to finish up by June. The whole matter is still undecided but we are hoping for the best. In the meantime Bette is making very good adjustment at the high school. She enjoys her classes very much, especially the one in Social Problems. She feels that the class progress is very slow after doing the speeded-up work at the summer session so that she has no difficulty in keeping up with her work. Some of the other students have already recognized that she is bright and they have been asking her to do their homework. Bette said that she did not object to helping other students, but she did not think it would be good for them if she did all the work so that she has been trying to encourage them to do their own lessons. Bette thinks that the level of intelligence among the students is not any different from that at camp and she cannot understand why the Hyde Park high school

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brags so much about its high academic rating.

later

It has been a very long day for me and I was in the office and out in the field for 12 hours today. I did not get home for dinner until after 9:30 this evening. After eating and relaxing and talking for an hour, I decided to type for a while as Emiko is hard at her studies and she gave me a time limit for talking over the days events and then demanded silence. Bette said that she (Emiko), has been studying since 3 this afternoon. Emiko said she was behind so that she wanted to catch up with the class work so that she will get off to a good start this semester. She believes that everything else out at school is under control. I am glad that she is taking such an interest in the school and I am sure that she will make out o.k., although Emiko insists that she is dumb. She could not have made the Honor Society in high school if that were the case.

Still no word on Bette's school problems. She said that Gonley, the "green face" principal called her up to the office today and said that if she did not bring a receipt showing she had paid for the month of October by Monday, she could not remain in class. I don't know why they are being so nasty about this business. Bette thinks that they are a bunch of bloodhounds. I told her to go to the bank on Saturday to get the money and pay the Board of Education because she cannot afford to stay out another eight days or more. *omit 6372* She has not received any final word about her credits.

Bette likes the school very much. This is the Jewish New Year and she said that over half of the student body was absent today. In her social problems class there were only three students -- a Negro girl, a Caucasian boy, and

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Bette. Emiko said that a lot of the students at the college were absent today also. Both Emiko and Bette seem to be making friends rapidly as they have striking personalities. I asked Bette if she was going to her high school football game on Saturday, but she said that she had too much to do. I thought that she should go as it was a part of the school activities. Bette said that she did not know any of the team yet so she did not feel like going to the games until she did. "Besides, the high school has a very poor football team this year." Probably by next semester she will be all pepped up about the school affairs. She wrote a card to Mariko and said we would visit her this Sunday since both she and Emiko did not have much time now and they were busy studying a lot. I don't mind making adjustments about our household as long as they take a strong interest in their studies and in the school life. They deserve it. Neither are shy so they should make a lot of friends now in their own age groups among all types of students. It is a good thing that there are many racial groups, including large numbers of Negroes and Jews, in the schools as it is a good lesson and experience in tolerance and democracy and they will get to understand them better. They are pretty tolerant of other racial groups now. Out here they will get a chance to know Slovacs and Polish students also. There were not many of these in California. Just getting to know people of various groups is an education in itself. Emiko and Bette both say that the kids at school are surprised at how Americanized they are so that they also contribute to better racial relationships. This is the sort of thing that I would like to see a lot of, and I suppose that is why I have not encouraged them to get into a Nisei society. It will broaden them more to stay out of the limited

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Nisei society while they are in school and in the long run they will be better off. If they are well accepted at school, then I will feel justified that I have not been unfair with them, although Emiko sometimes does not understand this clearly, chiefly because of youth. Bette seems to be much more sensible about it and she makes the easier adjustments.

Early this afternoon when I was starting to go down town to interview Bob (CH-13), I saw a Nisei girl come walking down the street and she was sort of staggering along. I thought that this was funny so when I came up to her, I asked her what the trouble was. It was Connie Nakashima whom I have not seen since 1941. She was almost green in the face and after saying hello she said that she was sick. She said that she was working at McClurg's and two days ago she got a funny rash all over her that she thought was hives. It made her ill and she could not eat. She said that she kept vomiting all over. Connie did not know what to do so she decided to come to the U. of Chicago Clinic as it was not far from her apartment. The nurse told her that they could not take her until next month because they were full.

Connie was lost then and when I saw her, she was walking down the street in a daze. She got sick in the street and threw up a little. I asked her if she had phoned the WRA or Friends and she said that she did not think they could help. She had no idea of what to do so I took her into the University and I made about ten phone calls in order to find a doctor. Bill McKee of the Friends office finally gave me a doctor's name who lived on Hyde Park Boulevard so I phoned there and explained the situation. The doctor said to send Connie out to see him right away. She was feeling pretty sick so I decided that I should get a cab for her and send her out. I went to the information office and the Nisei girl phoned to several stations, but it was impossible to get a cab for 45 minutes. Finally I asked the taxi

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to come out as soon as possible and left Connie's name. The Nisei girl said that she would take Connie up to the women's rest room and have her lie down until the cab came so I left her in good hands and went on after Connie weakly thanked me. She certainly was low.

It set me to thinking that the health problem is a serious thing, but nothing has been done to educate the Niseis on what to do by the WRA or the Friends, although they do have a doctor's list to which they refer Niseis. I have suggested before that the WRA could help out by mimeographing instructions on what to do in case of illness, but this has not been done yet. Connie is a good example of what a fix an ill Nisei can get in. She must be about 21, but she was helpless and she had absolutely no idea of what to do. There are doctors who may overcharge the Nisei patients or who may even refuse them. An emergency case cannot fool around hunting for a doctor. The WRA has a list of hospitals open, but most of the cases are referred to the County Hospital.

Illness in the winter is even more serious. The Niseis in the majority of cases don't know what to do when emergencies arise because many of them have never been completely on their own before. The type of jobs that many are holding do not protect them from hazards of this sort. Connie will probably lose out a week's wages or more and also have a doctor's bill. In a case of a long illness, most of the Niseis will be in a very tough spot. That is one of the things I worry about and I only hope that none of us ^{to have} have any serious operations. If I could take out some cheap hospital insurance, I would do it, but the rates are too high for me right now with

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all of my other expenses. It is something that cannot be dismissed lightly. I felt that I had done my good deed for the day by making the calls for her and putting Connie in a cab and I knew that others would help me the same way if I were in a similar spot. After Connie gets better, I think I will follow up the case for an interview since the rapport has now been made! Ulterior motives??

I spent the next four or five hours in interviewing Bob (CH-13) and he gave me some very interesting data, I thought. He is very cooperative and I figure that it will take a couple of interviews yet to finish him. Bob is fussy like a girl when he gets dressed, worse than Emiko! I bet he tried on at least six shirts before he was satisfied. It took him an hour to dress, but I did not mind as I was pumping him for information and listening to him talk all the time I was admiring his good taste in clothes to inflate his ego. It pleases him very much to be called the Nisei Frankie Sinatra as he has high aspirations for a singing career and who knows, he may make it. Bob earns \$57.50 as a bartender per week, and he spends \$10.00 a week for clothes, \$10.00 for dates, and \$10.00 for singing lessons. He pays \$3.50 a week for a cheesy room, and he gets meals at the Chez Paree. The rest of his money is spent for other odds and ends so that he is not saving a cent. He has indefinite plans of resettling his family; he feels that he is on his own now. He would like to bring his 17-year-old sister out to school, but he does not think he could support her. The evacuation has evidently drawn him closer to his family. Bob's chief aims in life right now are sexual, but he is an intelligent fellow and he does have his serious moments. Basically, he is a sensitive person and he covers up in

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many ways. He has a certain talent of singing which helps him out and a very Americanized way of acting. He is going around with Eileen pretty steady now. I think he does exaggerate some of his experiences a little, but he tells them to me matter-of-factly without particularly trying to make an impression. He has probably been lonely for people to talk seriously with so that it is easy to get him to pour forth and he feels that I may help him analyze himself, but I am afraid I cannot do much more than let him tell his story and get it out of his system as any advice I would give would not be taken anyway. The most surprising thing is that he dislikes the yagores, or Nisei zoot suiters and he does not consider himself to be one of the group as his zoot suits are more conservative. He likes to picture himself as a sophisticated night club figure and he has been consistent in his ambitions to have a theatrical career in spite of frustrations and opposition from his folks and the obstacles of his environment. I will not be able to have another interview with him until next Tuesday as he takes singing lessons three days a week and he works every evening. On his days off he has a date.

We went over to Mariko's afterwards as I was wondering what she has been doing. She had dinner for Geo. Taki so we sat in on the soup and coffee. Mariko has been avoiding me because she thinks I will get after her for not going to see Shirrell about the joint board clearance, but I did not say anything about it. (She hasn't done it yet!) It seems that Geo. has won out. I wonder what he is going to do about his engagement to another girl in another state if that is not a rumor? Geo. is a U. of W. graduate I think and he has been active in union circles. He likes M. because she is

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different and not like the other Nisei girls. Could it be that they are contemplating matrimony? I wish they would both make up their minds so that Bette, Emiko and I can quit making guesses as to how serious it is. One of these days, I shall interview George as he is an interesting person in many ways. He is working as a baker right now. Sho, rival #1, and CH-11, has not been heard from lately although Mariko seems to be going out every night with one or the other. He is still trying to get his family out and he has found an apartment that he would like to get a lease on. He is having the star salesman from his office to see if he can swing the deal as Sho feels that he may be denied if the way is not paved first. Also heard that Yoshie (CH-9) is distraught these days because her sister, Texas Mary, threatens to come out here. She is supposed to be marrying the Caucasian fellow in Salt Lake. Yoshie threatens to go to New York if her sister comes out here as she has decided that she cannot live in the same town with her. At present, Yoshie has not made definite plans to go on to school although the semester has started in all of the local colleges. Lack of finances is the excuse. She has not taken any steps to go look for a business job either and I think that she will continue to mark time in her domestic job and put off making a definite decision.

Mariko heard briefly from Alice who told her that she had found a temporary place with the wife of a sergeant who is of German extract. It is a nice place, but it does not have any cooking facilities. Alice will continue to look for another place. Mariko surprised me when she said that Alice was considering a domestic job down there. She said that Alice still has no confidence that she can get a secretarial job down there because she heard a rumor that it was hard. She should get my card telling her to go

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office
to the WRA/and see Kendall Smith who has two \$29.00 a week secretarial jobs waiting for a qualified Nisei girl. I think that Alice will make out o.k. and she should be happy down there close to Mark.

Mariko has made definite plans to move, after which she will look for a job. She claims to be down to her last \$50.00 and she borrowed some money from Bob so that she could make the down payment on her new apartment. It is a small three-room place just around the corner and the rent is \$40.00 a month unfurnished. The landlady will put in some furniture for her and Mariko plans to take all of the furniture from her present place with her. She finally did get a place in the same locality as she finds it more desirable to live down there where her friends have easy access, but she also complains that they bother her. She plans to get a private phone installed also so that she can keep up the communications.

Right now, she will have to go into the new place alone as she has not found any desirable roommates yet. She had figured on Eileen coming to stay with her, but Eileen does not want to come now because she is mad at Mariko, unknown to Mariko. Eileen gave the excuse that she would lose her present Nisei roommate as a friend if she moved out on her. Mariko has some other girl lined up but she decided against her because "the girl has changed and she is boy crazy now and I don't think that I would get along with her." She does not know what to do with Yoshie who still wants to come in with her. Mariko does not think that Yoshie will be able to pay half the rent and then only come down to stay once or twice a week. If there are three in the place, she will take Yoshie in.

Mariko has all the blinds down in her present apartment now. When I

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asked her why she did this, she said that she was avoiding ~~O'Brien~~ the landlord. She says that she is not going to pay him the 2 weeks rent since she plans to move out next Tuesday. She does not feel that she should pay because of all the inconvenience he caused her and she is getting out before he serves eviction notice anyway. On top of that, Mariko is sore because he did not do anything about the toilet when the pipe broke and this caused her a lot of grief. She is making quite a haul if she gets away with all the furniture, and she has no conscience about taking it. It is her business. I would do it myself, I suppose, but it does not look so good when a girl does it. What a quaint mid-Victorian thought! \leftarrow I must be thinking of a double standard for "borrowing" other people's property. The furniture is really not so hot and it is just junk and I think that Mariko will have to invest in some decent stuff after she gets working as the furniture she is taking is about ready to fall apart anyway. The only thing is that she needs it now and it will be convenient. She has quite a bit of her own furniture which she is also taking. After she gets all settled and finds a new roommate she is really going to get a job. She certainly has had a long vacation and I don't think she enjoyed it much as there was always that worry on her mind. \rightarrow

no On second thought, I think she is justified in taking that old furniture away with her because of the nasty way O'Brien has acted, but I am not so sure that she should go off without paying the last two weeks rent. Sooner or later, the guy will trace her down and cause trouble even though it only involves \$12.00.

\leftarrow I feel proud of myself today because I now have put in $14\frac{1}{2}$ hours of

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work today, although I can't say that I have accomplished much. Tom is getting mad at me because I don't slow down. In thinking over the past month, I think I put more effort into my work even with all the school problems because there was more to do and I had a limitation on time. I don't think I am headed for a nervous breakdown from overwork because I don't work that hard! I rather enjoy my interviews when I have interesting cases.

Emiko just gave a big screech at the crack of midnight. She said she saw a big rat the size of a cat which came right at her in the basement hall. I had to escort her to the seat of honor in the latrine armed with a broom to chase Mr. Rat away, but it was gone. Mrs. B. will have to put some rat poison in the basement to get rid of him. It was the first one seen down here. I don't know who was the most scared -- Emiko or Mr. Rat!

