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Tuesday night I went over to interview Imiko and have dinner at her apartment. She had an 18 pound turkey on Sunday and there was still some left of it so we had that. Imiko was tired out from the strenuous week-end so that I only interviewed her for one and a half hours. Kim, her brother, mentioned that he had an interesting experience that day. He said that the girl at the office was married to a marine and she had written him about the Japanese American boy she knew. The marine wrote back to his wife and told her that his closest buddy had been killed by a Jap soldier the day before. However, he said that he had nothing against the Japanese boy his wife knew and he asked her to have Kim write him a letter. Kim was quite pleased about this. He said, "What do you know, the marine said hello and to write a letter to him. That was pretty decent of him because he knew that I was a Nihonjin." Imiko (CH-23) answered him by saying, "You have nothing to do with the Japanese soldier and I think that it's a good thing. I wish more people would feel that way." Then Paul Ishino, who was visiting, told about an incident which happened at the factory where he works. He said that one of the girls had objected to him so that she quit the job. He added that there were several other Nisei there and the foreman of the crew didn't like them because his son had been killed in the South Pacific. It happened that a 100 pound weight was dropped on the foreman's toe by a Nisei and the foreman got extremely angry at this. He thought it had been done deliberately and it was some form of sabotage. Ishino said that the foreman cooled off later and he told one of the Nisei there that the reason he was touchy that day was that his son had been killed; but that he really did not have any doubts about the loyalty of the Nisei working in that plant.

Imiko was rather upset and we had a sort of crisis regarding the interview. She said that she had told Shug that I was interviewing her. Shug was very displeased about this because he said that his family was checking up on



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Imiko's background and he was afraid that some rumors would go around about her and spoil their marriage. I explained what our work was, but Imiko was still a little doubtful. She asked me not to mention what she had told me about her illness in my report. The only thing I could do was to consent to this as I was on the spot. When I did start interviewing her, Imiko was just as frank as before so I don't think that there is too much to be worried about. I have scheduled another interview with her for next Tuesday.

Imiko said that she was not doing anything about the school situation because there had been some new development. She said that she received a visit from Mr. Stanton of the Immigration Department. He told her that if she got another sponsor in the place of Mr. Sheltzer, her parents would be released from camp within two weeks. Imiko feels fairly certain now that they will be out here before the end of the year and therefore her brother will be able to enroll in the public schools next January without the payment of tuition. Imiko was worried about what sort of work opportunity there would be for her father. She said that he was quite old now and the only work he knew real well was cooking. She was thinking of looking around for a domestic job for her parents. However, I advised her not to plan out things definitely for her parents because her father might object to that because of his pride. I suggested that she survey the whole field and then present these opportunities to her father when he arrived and he could make the final decision himself. Imiko agreed that this was probably the best way to approach it. She then worried a little about her pending housing crisis. She said that Lucy, one of her room-mates, was going up to Glencoe to live with her sister. This leaves only three in the apartment and Imiko did not know whether they would be able to pay the large rent for it. She did not think that she could get another room-mate because there weren't very many people coming out from camp these days. Imiko



thought that she might bring her parents into that apartment as they had no definite plans to move in. However, there is still another girl in that apartment and she would be left out if Imiko's parents moved in. They had some discussion on that, but I did not hear what they were saying.

Imiko was also worried about her job problem. She said that her employer would not give her a letter of availability so that she could not quit her job. She does not think that she is making enough money for living expenses and she would like to get a better job. She had told her employer that she was going to Michigan to get married and her employer will not give her the letter of availability until she does actually go up there. During the interview, Imiko talked mostly about her coming marriage so that it was a little difficult to direct the discussion to cover the points I wanted. However, I expect to make further progress at the next interview.

As I was walking towards the street car, I decided to make a visit on George as I saw a light in his window. I threw a pebble at the window and Mariko's head popped out. Then George came downstairs and he was very anxious to let me know that Sesu and Victor were up there also. The latter two were hiding in George's bedroom when I went up and Mariko put on the air that she was a little tight and up there alone. I fell in with this line of conversation for a while and I kidded Mariko about being alone in a man's room. However, she began to think that I actually meant what I was saying so I went over to the bedroom and told Sesu and Victor to come out. Mariko said that Yoshi and Mary were having a spat over in her apartment so that she decided to bring Sesu and Vic over to George's. They had a drink before I arrived and it almost knocked Mariko out. She said that her heart was throbbing and she felt like her head was stuffed with cotton. After I had a drink I went on home as I was rather tired. George had to escort Mariko home against his will because he had planned to do some washing and his guests interrupted this. He made Mariko wait



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until he washed his socks. As I was leaving George came out into the hall with me and he asked me if I would tell Emiko to buy a \$5 or \$10 Xmas present for Mariko from him. Before I left I lined up Sese for an interview in January.

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When I got home it was about 12:30. Bette said that Emiko was a "stranger" until 5 o'clock as she was studying for a test. After she finished studying, Emiko remarked, "I bet I get a D." I think she is too pessimistic because she has been getting very good grades in some courses. Emiko went shopping that afternoon and about one o'clock she started wrapping the presents. Then she and Bette started to fuss around to get ready for the banquet to which they were invited. They didn't get to bed until about 2 o'clock as we talked for a while. They only got about 5 or 6 hours of sleep.

I was so tired yesterday morning that I slept until noon. Then I went downtown and interviewed Mary (CH-24) for about 2 hours. She had been doing some washing so that the room was very hot and stuffy. She makes the baby sleep all day long and when it starts to cry she spansks it. She was telling me some very interesting things about her life when Wayne came home and I had to stop the interview. He wasn't suspicious any more and he acted very friendly. He said that one of the truck drivers he knew got sent to the penitentiary last week because the fellow opened some cases in the truck and took out some rifles and sub-machine guns. The fellow was going to keep them until after the war to sell to the Chicago gangsters.

It was still late afternoon when I left Mary so I phoned Fay (CH-22) to remind her that I was coming over in the evening. Unfortunately she had caught a severe cold so that I had to postpone the interview until next week. My luck hasn't been so good this week. I then went over to see Yoshi (CH-9) as she was still ill. Yoshi was wobbling around the room in her blue stripe pajamas



when I went over there and it looked quite funny. She is much better but she is stubborn about going back to work for another week. Mrs. B., her employer, is very angry at her for this inconvenience and Yoshi is also acting stubborn. She said that Mary was thinking about working in a glove factory because Miki started there today. This is the same factory that Albert is working in. Mary had mentioned work possibilities to me earlier. She was worried about what type of job she could do. She said that she had no training for anything except a waitress or cashier. She wanted to work full time as she needed money to buy Xmas presents with. She said that most of the friends she met out here were members of my family and in-laws. She said that she liked this group because they did not spread any gossip about her. Mary also had the problem of finding somebody to take care of her baby. She has to take the baby to the Salvation Army clinic about once a week. Mary is thinking of night work in some restaurant. She is a very good cook. She likes to make Mexican dishes and she fed me some chili corn which was very good. Wayne mentioned that he may go on the three weeks truck driving trip as he figures that he could make about \$125 a week. Later on in the evening when I saw Mary, she mentioned that maybe she would not marry Wayne after all. It was quite an adolescent view because she was mad that Wayne would leave her for that long. Wayne does not want her to go to work but Mary said that she doesn't have enough money to buy food for herself and the baby.

Yoshi had figured on playing around for about 4 days but her cold has not improved as rapidly as she expected. She was quite concerned about Wayne leaving Mary so often, as she feels that the marriage will not go through. She wishes Wayne would get another type of job because his trucking trips leave Mary alone too much. Yoshi mentioned that she would be quite relieved when they finally did get married.



Yoshi invited me to have dinner with her so I accepted. I slept for about an hour or so until Mariko and Miki arrived. It was a nice quite evening at Mariko's!

About 5:30, Mariko came rushing in and she said that she was in a hurry to go to Toyo's where she was supposed to have dinner. Just then Mrs. Bazalon phoned about Yoshi and Mariko had to rush down four flights of stairs to answer the phone. Mariko came up fuming mad and she said that Mrs. B. was mad because Yoshi was so indefinite about returning to work. Then Yoshi got mad and she said she would go down there and phone Mrs. B. to tell her to jump in the lake. Then Mariko started looking for Toyo's address in her address book. She got extremely mad when the address book was not to be found. She just fumed all around the place and she said, "Goddamit, where in the hell is my address book?" Then Yoshi mentioned something about Mariko being over at George's last night. Then Mariko got madder and she said, "No wonder you have been looking at me with fish eyes all the time I've been here. You don't have to be so suspicious of me. I don't have to tell you everything that I do. And another thing, I wish that you wouldn't tell Mary about my activity because your sister cross examines me every time she comes over and there have been some rumors about me staying out all night at strange places." Then Yoshi got mad and they had an argument for about 5 minutes while I tried to sleep. Then Yoshi said that Mariko had a guilty feeling or else she wouldn't have gotten so mad. They argued for another 5 minutes and then they started to look for the address book. They threw the furniture all around the room, and Mariko was throwing choice swear words around with the stuff. Finally Mariko decided to follow her instincts and she went to Toyo's by memory because she told us later that she lost her way and a man with a pumpkin face winked at her and tried to pick her up. Mariko was so mad that she said, "Ahhh," to him. Then she apologized for losing her temper; she said that she had a nasty headache and that was the cause of it.



After Mariko left the first time, Miki was annoyed because Yoshi did not prepare the dinner. There was only baked potatoes in the oven and no other food in the house. George came in then and I invited him to stay for dinner. Yoshi then got mad and she wanted George to go out and buy some lamb chops. George got mad when Yoshi henpecked him so much and he refused to go. Finally Miki issued an ultimatum and since I was hungry, I volunteered to go to the store. When I came back, Miki found out that the man had sold me some cottage cheese and she was annoyed about that. I decided to cook so I put a lot of spices on the meat. There was a can of cinnamon among the spices and I put that on two. This made Yoshi mad and she said that the meat was no good. I put some shoyu on the meat then to disguise the cinnamon taste and the dinner turned out fairly well.

After dinner Yoshi got mad at George because he wouldn't wash the dishes correctly and she claimed that he used some vile words on her. However, she calmed down after a while and she and George started to waltz around the room while Miki played the piano. Then we all started to look for the address book and we finally found it under the bed. After 9 o'clock George went home. The whole evening up to then was passed in slamming each other and they talked about movie stars like a bunch of 12 year olds. It created a sensation when Yoshi announced that Betty Grable was going to have a baby. She said that she read it in the newest movie book.

About 9:30 I went after Emiko and Bette and then we went back up to the apartment. Mary was there then and when we entered the room, she and Yoshi were having a big argument about 50 cents. Mary called Yoshi a big fat slob and the two of them almost came to blows. Mary thought that we were all taking Yoshi's side so then they started arguing who ate the most tsukemono out of the jar which their mother sent. Then Yoshi said something about the poor way that Mary took care of her baby. Emiko, Bette, Miki and I tried our best to break it up. After



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that Mariko came home, and it was quiet for the rest of the evening. The last hour of our visit was quite pleasant. Mary said that while she was downstairs a big fat woman, "fatter than Yoshi," had gone to the landlady and she said to her, "I saw some Jap girls going upstairs. I'm sure they are Japsn and they are living here. I'm going to have the FBI <sup>come</sup> /out here and investigate them." Mary got mad at this and she told the fat lady to go to hell and to mind her own business.

Miki is a very nice girl and she is quite even tempered. She is quite a contrast to Yoshi. Nothing seems to bother her very much and Emiko, Bette and I got along with her very nicely. Miki worked at the glove factory today and she was quite discouraged. She said that maybe she would go to New York before next spring.

Mariko was quite calm and pleasant after she came home and her description of the man who tried to pick her up was screamingly funny. It happened that Emiko and Bette were so excited about the dinner that Bette did not discover until the last minute that she did not have any garters. Then they did not know what to do so Emiko used a sanitary belt to keep Bette's silk stockings up. Bette said that it kept slipping so that Mariko had to lend her a pair of garters to take home.

Bette and Emiko enjoyed the banquet of the Kobe College very much. There were four Nisei girls there who had received scholarships from this group. Bette said that Emiko had to make a speech and she did very well at it. The thing that both of them resented was the fact that the people there had the tendency to think of them as Japanese. Emiko said that there was a Chinese man sitting in the restaurant and he listened to everything that was said. She said that this embarrassed her a little. In her speech, she told of the hard time that Tom had in camp in getting used to the Japanese. Apparently Bette and Emiko made quite a hit at the dinner.



Bette used my green wool shirt today. I know when she is going to use it because the night before she takes it out and puts the scented soap in the pocket in order to perfume it up a little. She said that the cigarette smoke on it was a little strong.

Emiko mentioned last night that she was going down to find out if she can get a part-time job with the Time Magazine for the Christmas holidays.

We had our first conference this afternoon and Tamie gave a report on the Poston situation which she is planning to write up in great detail. A lot of the time was spent in discussing the term "Yu-shi" which is supposed to be a public spirited man. Tamie made the point that they were the real power behind the political life of Poston. I never heard of the term before. Tamie is using an anthropological approach using the acculturation study of a primitive community, noting particularly the pre-evacuation background. I wasn't quite clear on what she means by anthropological methods, but I must be a little dense about it.

Dorothy mentioned yesterday that next spring I might go to some of the outlying farm communities to study some of the resettled Nisei there. It will be a change from what I am doing now. I hope to have my teeth well into my present work of case documents by that time. I went to lunch with Dorothy and WI today, and WI mentioned that I was doing a good job and I had no need to worry about my progress. He and Dr. Blumer will be at the Monday conference meeting and I hope to learn a great deal about case document techniques.

(Attached are letters from Shirrell to me and one from Jack to Bette.)

December 3, 1943

I'm the first one in the office this morning -- 9:30! That is a very rare occurrence. Emiko woke me up this morning early so I decided to arise. I didn't get to bed until after 2:00 last night. It is rather disappointing when the scheduled interviews do not work out right. I haven't had too much



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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
226 West Jackson Blvd.  
Chicago 6, Illinois

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November 30, 1943

Mr. Charles Kikuchi  
4743 Drexel Boulevard  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Kikuchi:

I am sorry that your letter of November 9 has waited this long for a reply but I have been in and out of town and have not had a chance to answer it.

I am delighted that your sisters have finally straightened out their difficulty and trust that we will have no further trouble with the Chicago School System. It was a long fight and I am glad that you won it.

I do not want you to think any more about the argument that we had. I had no personal feeling in the matter and I think that our long term objectives are decided in arguments. We may have to take a few detours before we get there but I am certain of our ultimate destination.

You probably know that Dr. Jacoby is now in town and will represent this office in endeavoring to coordinate the activities of various agencies. I showed him your letter and he is very much interested in it and wants to talk to you in the near future about it.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Elmer L. Shirrell  
Relocation Supervisor



## SCHEDULE OF CHICAGO CONFERENCES

Evacuation & Resettlement Study  
(Subject to Adjustments)

Date	Hours	Room	Report by	Subject
Thursday Dec. 2	2-4 p.m.	106	Tsuchiyama	Poston Report
Friday Dec. 3	3-5 p.m.	108	Miyamoto	Tule Lake Report
Saturday Dec. 4	3-5 p.m.	108	Sakoda	Segregation Report
Monday Dec. 6	3-5 p.m.	107	Kikuchi	Case Histories
Tuesday Dec. 7	3-5 p.m.	108	Chicago staff	Report on Chicago study
Wednesday Dec. 8	3-5 p.m.	108	Shibutani Tanaka	Pre-evacuation Report
Thursday Dec. 9	(unassigned)		Staff	General Methodological Problems

Dec. 10-14 (Miscellaneous conferences)

All rooms are in the Social Science Building



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November 27, 1943

Dear Bette:

Just in case someone sends you a record of Tommy Dorsey's Stardust, I'm writing you this letter to explain why you might receive it. Last Sunday I gave a talk at the combined churches of Chatham, the neighboring town from here. The young peoples group have a joint meeting and asked me to be their speaker for the evening. In the course of the talk concerning the Japanese in the U.S., I tried to show that although the Nisei were different in facial characteristics, nevertheless they were Americans at heart. Proceeding along that line I explained how the boys like Hedy Lamarr and the girls are crazy about Frank Sinatra. To further illustrate that the Nisei knew nothing of Japanese culture but only that of American, I mentioned that the young people like swing and Boogie Woogie. To illustrate this point I mentioned that I had a little sister who was very much interested in phonograph records. To add a little interest to it, I told them that I had broken one of your precious little records, "Stardust." It was a little white lie to effect the point, but it was successful. All the girls "Oh'd" in sympathy. I guess they all like that piece too. At any rate at the end of the meeting a young girl about your age, with something about the way she talked which reminded me of you, came to me and asked me for your address. She admitted that she too liked swing and wanted to send you the record because she knew of a place in Madison where she could purchase it. Consequently if she finds it she will no doubt send it to you. Her name is Louise Smith. She's a senior in high school. Talks as much as Mariko and is interested in developing her singing then go into operetta. When I met her last Sunday she had just returned from the all state song festival, in which various groups participated for an award.

I won't be coming to Chicago until after next February. It's taking me longer than I expected to finish a couple of reading courses in Greek and Roman literature which are required for graduation.

Last week at the President's reception the wife of Dean Hough (dean of the seminary who is next to God.) asked me to come over to her house to talk with Fjuji, her houseboy, since he was pretty lonely. All his friends have gone back to Japan. Well, I got acquainted with him rapidly. He's going to teach me some Jap lingo if I want it. Tonight he's inviting all us Japs for a suki-yaki dinner which we are looking forward to. He claims he has a can of take-noko he's been saving for a long time for such an occasion.

Write when you have time.

Jack



luck this week as several of my interviews had to be postponed. In spite of that I did manage to have three or four, which is pretty good when compared to some weeks. We have the conference going right now and that sort of makes our working day very full. The office is too crowded during the day to get very much done. I have notes on three cases piled up now and I will try to start dictation on them in a day or so. I am going to miss the conference meeting this afternoon as I have to interview Mary.

Last night I phoned Mary (CH-24) and she said to come down for an interview so I went down there. When I arrived Yuri told me that Mary was persuaded to go out to dinner by Yoshi and Miki. That sort of griped me, but I couldn't do anything about that since Mary has been very cooperative. She left the baby in the room and it bawled very loudly for two hours. Yuri did not give in and bring it into her room. She said that if she did do it once, then Mary would expect her to do it all the time. Yuri does not think that Mary is bringing the baby up right, but she doesnot feel that it is any of her business to say anything to her. Mary lets the baby sleep all day long and when it cries from restlessness she spansks it rather severely.

Yuri mentioned something about Mary which I thought was rather significant. She said that Mary is suspicious about her true background and she doesn't know whether she is really Yoshi's blood sister or not. This is the first time I have ever heard anything like that and if true, it would explain a lot of things. Yuri says that Mary has it on her mind, and in her confidential moments, she mentions it to her. I don't know whether there is any basis for truth in this story or not. It hardly seems likely although it is not improbable. Since Mary's mother apparently is the one who rejects her, it may be that Mary was an adopted child or else the father may have had her through another woman. This, of course, is all speculation. There is an absolute lack of any physical resemblance of Mary and Yoshi, one is fat and the other thin, but that does not necessarily



prove anything. This story may be one of her mental creations in order to bolster up any feelings of inadequacies which she may have. I don't know whether to question Mary upon this or not since she told it to Yuri in confidence.

Mary came in about 10:30 and she said that she had some sort of a job with a photographer. It is part-time and the hours will be from 6 to 10 in the evening. The work is with some photographer who has a lot of friends which needs finishing. This is the same photographer who offered Mariko a job a couple of months ago. It pays 60 cents an hour and he will pay her for the work. Mary is quite enthusiastic about the job because she was so bored with sitting around and doing nothing. She hasn't been training the baby at all so that even though it is now 7 months old, it still does not sit up. She took it over to Toshi's the other day and made it sit in a chair for two hours. That's a pretty large dose of training for a small baby. The baby cried so much last night that it vomited. The milk bottle was under her neck and the baby could not roll over. Mary went out immediately after returning to look for somebody to watch her baby while she is at work. She will probably get that old woman who is on relief. If she had the landlady watch the baby, she would have to pay her about \$7 a week. This would mean that she would not be making any money in her job. I have a suspicion that Mary will probably feed the baby before going to work and leave it there until she returns at 10. The baby will probably grow up with all sorts of fear complexes. I don't know how much a baby is able to take, but its present care does not seem to be normal, according to the conception I have of baby care, which is extremely limited.

Mary asked if I would come down and interview her this afternoon as she would be very busy once she started to work. She had invited Emiko and Bette down for dinner next week, but she asked me to tell them she was postponing it until some week-end. She said the reason that she did not invite me along the other night was that Wayne was extremely jealous of her and he looked at her very



peculiarly when I was there alone with her. She says that Wayne now understands that my motives are honorable and does not object to me any more. I'm just a harmless social research worker -- and not a bedroom Casanova!

While Yuri and I were there, we talked on general things. Yuri said that she did not go to her night college classes last night on account of a cold and also because she wanted to read some of the recent novels which she has accumulated. Yuri is a very intelligent young woman. She doesn't say too much about her personal life. I haven't asked her why it is that her husband is not living with her now, although I gathered that they had some domestic difficulty after all of her relatives started coming to Chicago. Yuri said that they were more conventional in their attitude regarding marriage and they threw some hints to her to make her marriage legal. Yuri has a sister and several brothers here now and her father came in recently. She has more or less cut off her contacts with her family but she said that since they are in the same city and since she does have a number of in-laws here, it makes it very difficult for her to disassociate herself from the general Nisei society. She did not want her relatives to come here, but she did not think also that she could tell them not to come since they had a right to go whether they pleased. She was living with her younger sister, Dorothy, for a while, but the arrangement did not work out because there was a 10-year age difference between the two. Yuri felt that it was better for her sister to be living with younger girls near her own age. Her sister had been having a lot of housing trouble because when girls live together for a while, personality difficulties are bound to arise and girls take these things more personally than fellows. This, of course, is a generalization. Her sister has had to go through a number of intrigues and personal plotting in order to get the apartment with Ellen now. Dorothy wanted to send for the younger brother, but he refused to come out of camp because he did not wish to be under



the domination of his sister. He also did not wish to leave his friends in camp and he had heard through letters that it was not much fun for a young Nisei to be in Chicago.

Yuri also mentioned something about Bob (CH-13) and the crisis which now faces the Nisei orchestra. She said that Ken Morioka was getting fed up with the orchestra due to unexpected difficulties and because of personality problems among the bad members. She thought that the Nisei orchestra idea would fold up very soon. It seems that the orchestra was in the habit of practicing each Sunday at the Turner Hall. It is unavailable now because there is a bar and club room downstairs. The patrons of the downstairs rooms objected to seeing so many Japs walking through the bar on the way upstairs to practice. Another thing was that Ken's employer, Mr. Walker, pointed out to Ken that the idea of a Nisei orchestra was not very practical at the present time because of the public sentiment against things Japanese. Yuri said that Ken was willing to listen to Mrs. Walker as she is an older person, and he is almost convinced that she is right. It seems that Bob was supposed to be the music manager of the orchestra but he did not get along with some of the people in the group because of his independent airs. He was supposed to split the profits of the orchestra with Ken, but this combination has been broken up. Bob might carry on the orchestra himself. Yuri said that he is not working yet. He turned down a \$35 a week job in a restaurant or a bar and the working hours were much better than his former job at Chez Paree. However, Bob now feels that this is a chance for him to look for a singing job in order to further his career. Another reason why he quit his job was because of his worries about Eileen. He was not able to see her very often in the evenings and he could not see her on holidays when he was working at Chez Paree. It bothered him a great deal so that is why he quit his job. He wanted to protect his interest because he felt that there were too many Nisei "wolves" running around Chicago.



About 11:30 Ken Morioka and his wife, Midori, dropped over. I asked him about the Nisei orchestra and he had the following statement to make:

"I'm getting sick and tired of nursing the Nisei orchestra along. The fellows are just like babies. There is a conflict between the chief trumpeter and chief drummer. I don't think it will be solved until one or the other is dropped from the orchestra. There is also a great deal of jealousy as to who should be the leader of the group. I don't know anything about music and I went into this in the hopes that it would be a good business proposition. Now I am not so sure. I have sunk enough money into the orchestra to buy two new suits already. I put Bob in as the music director because I thought he had a strong interest in music, but he fizzled out. He talks big, but when it comes time to act, he comes running to me and he wants me to do it. Bob is too conceited for his own good and his head is way up in the clouds. He figures that he will get a night club job singing pretty soon and then his brother can be his manager. He got \$10 for singing at Mrs. Walker's party last week and he figures that he is on the way to the top right now. He had a big spat with Eileen last week, but I saw them together this evening so I guess they are made up now. I don't know what I am going to do about the orchestra. It is at the crisis point right now. I am going to look out for myself only after this. That is why I am looking around for some Nisei with a business head to take the band off my hand."

We got to talking on general points and Ken told me a little of his background experiences. He is getting very fed up with doing a domestic job right now and he wants to quit. He figures that he does not have the temperament to be a house man all of his life. He said that no ambitious person would ever remain in a job like this permanently. The reason he took the job was because it was easiest way for him to resettle his wife and baby. Now he is thinking of going back into brick-laying work. He feels that the Union will let



him become a member since there are very few Nisei who are bricklayers. Ken said that he picked up this trade by himself. He had a lot of experience doing it in Berkeley during the three years prior to the outbreak of war. He said that he is paying his own contract and then he would hire a bunch of Nisei fellows at 50 cents an hour to do the work for him. He said there were always unemployed Nisei around and he took advantage of this fact. Ken feels that it was due to his more opportunistic mentality which contributed to what he considered a great occupational success until the outbreak of the war. Ken feels that he would be able to make about \$14 a day as a bricklayer out here if he can get into the Union. He said that he would work for a contractor at first and later on he would do his own contracting and hire some Nisei to work for him. He feels that there is quite a future in this work because many houses in the Midwest are built of bricks. It was rather evident that Ken is becoming extremely restless and he has not made complete adjustments to life out here. He is an ambitious person and he is greatly misplaced in his present work. He does seem to have a great deal of initiative and imagination from the business point of view. He is restricted in some of his other attitudes although that is probably due to a lack of background. Ken said that he had absolutely no use for a college education because it did not do the Nisei any good. He said that it only made them more dissatisfied with life, especially the girls because they expected too much out of life after getting out of college and most Nisei fellows could not meet these expectations. He feels that the economic salvation of the Nisei lies in going into more of the skilled trades, such as brick laying, plumbing, carpenter work, and mechanics. He said that the trouble up to now was that most Nisei tried to jump from domestic work up into the professional field like doctors, dentistry, engineers, etc. He said that each of these fields in turn became popular with the Nisei and they rushed into it but after graduation they became frustrated and they had to go into the Los Angeles fruit and



vegetable stand and Grant Avenue jobs in San Francisco. Ken said that this was the very reason why so many of the Nisei are doing manual unskilled jobs right now. He said there was no chance at all for Nisei to have many professional openings, except for a few exceptional ones. The rest of the Nisei, not having any definite skilled training, have had to fall into the lower brackets of work. He feels that the Nisei are learning the hard way, but they will eventually wake up to the true fact.

Ken had a very interesting attitude to express about the Tule Lake riot. He feels that the government made all of the Japanese disloyal and they forced them to riot because they were pushing the Japanese people down. He said that most of the Japanese evacuated were really Americans because they knew about sanitary conditions and they used cars and radios before the war. Ken interpreted the use of modern conveniences as the determining factor in creating Americanism. He feels that if the people in camp are denied an adequate standard of living, this will be the factor which will cause them to become more Japanese. He said that the WRA forced the Japanese to be disloyal during the registration issue in order to justify the government action of evacuation. In the next breath he made the statement that evacuation was caused by powerful economic interests in California and the Nisei might have been able to prevent it had been an older group with more of a financial backing. The strangest thing which Ken said was that the Jews of Hollywood also helped to cause evacuation because they made propaganda pictures which distorted the Nisei personality and presented him as a stereotyped and disloyal element of our population. Ken is very prejudiced against the Jews and he feels that it is a racial trait of this group to go around cheating people in financial dealings. I had quite a discussion with him on this whole matter of racial prejudice and I tried to point out that the environmental factors were probably more important than any racial traits.



For example, I pointed out that there were many Aryans who were very dishonest in business dealings but we called them dirty bastards and did not attribute it to their racial background. But in the case of the Jews, there is a tendency to condemn the shrewd individual in terms of his racial background. Yuri also had an attitude to express regarding the Negroes. She said that she had never been prejudiced against Negroes, but the other day when she came over for dinner, she noticed on the "L" that the Negroes were really dirty and sloppy in appearance. I did not think that this was any racial trait at all because I told her that these older Negroes probably came up from the South where there environmental surroundings were not conducive to a high standard of living. I also pointed out that sloppy Negro individuals were probably more noticeable than Caucasians of similar disposition. It makes me so damn mad when I hear the expressions of racial prejudice, but if I say too much, I will probably lose all my Nisei friends or else be labelled as some kind of a queer radical.

Setsuko Matsunaga blew into the office this morning. She is a very vivacious personality, and she is quite intelligent. She is going to stay for the conference until next Wednesday. She is quite ambitious and capable from what I have seen of her work. She is feminine too and I wonder how that impresses Dorothy.

December 4, 1943

Yesterday afternoon I went down to interview Mary and I was at it most of the afternoon. We managed to get through most of the data so that I will only have to do follow-ups after this. It should take me most of next week to get the case dictated up as our week will be broken up with our conference meetings. I missed the one held yesterday afternoon.

Emiko went shopping yesterday afternoon and she brought home a big bag of stuff. She got all the food for the weekend. After we had a rather large



dinner, Emiko and Bette started to do the laundry which has been accumulating for the past few weeks. I went up and laid in the bathtub for an hour. Then I read Time Magazine from cover to cover and after that I started to read Adamic's new book on the Balkan situation.

Emiko's finger was all raw from the clothes washing, although Bette did most of it. Emiko was busy wrapping more Xmas presents. Later in the evening, she fixed a hem on a new dress that she bought. She had Bette line it up. Bette was so anxious to get back to her book, Saratoga Trunk, that she made the line crooked. Emiko was certainly mad about this. It took her about two hours to get it fixed up to her satisfaction.

About two o'clock she went up to take a bath. She doesn't seem to have time to do all the things she wants to do. Lately she has been busy in club activities at school. She is on the publicity committee of the College YWCA. Bette has been very busy also. The two of them puttered around until about 3 this morning.

Bette got up at 10 to go upstairs to do her work, and Emiko arise at noon. I got up a short time later. Emiko and Bette rushed downtown to do some more shopping as there are only a couple of Saturdays left. Bette had to go down ahead as I wanted her to get some money from the bank for me.

I walked to the office very leisurely and did not get here until two. We are waiting around right now for the conference meeting to start. Frank and Tom are talking about plans for a group study out here, while Louise and Setsuko are just talking in general. Dorothy and Jimmy are doing a little reading.

Later.

Our meeting this afternoon was rather interesting. Jimmy gave a good report about the segregation study which he is writing up, based upon his observations at Tule Lake. One of the points brought out was that the Tule Japs were being made the scapegoats and thrown to the dogs by the WRA because of



political pressures of reactionary groups. Since I have been out of camp, I have sort of lost the feeling for life there, so that it is a little difficult to realize the full extent of the mental conflicts which must have faced the people there when they had to make up their minds. The future looked very uncertain no matter which way they chose. Jimmy said that many of the families chose to stay in Tule because it offered more security to them and they felt that if they went to the other camps, the WRA would eventually throw them out to the hardships of the outside life. In camp, they feel that there is some measure of security. There was also the fact that many of them chose to stay in Tule because they felt strong blood ties to Japan. Sometimes I think these ties are more determined by economic opportunities here rather than blood ties to the old country. The Japanese in camp and out certainly are mixed personalities. I would certainly hate to be thrown in with them again.

One of the interesting things which Setsuko said to me after the meeting was about the attitude of the Nisei students resettled in St. Louis. She said that the student group was much more optimistic about the future because they were still in their Ivory Towers and that they had not come up against the realities of living yet. She said that the parents of most of this group sent them money and they have not had to go through the usual struggles of the other Nisei who are entering the laboring market right now. She said that the college Nisei still are not fully aware of the problems facing them and they do not have much interest in camp affairs or developments on the political front which relate to their future.

Setsuko has a very strenuous schedule and I have to admire her for sticking to it. She said that she gets her AB in February and she does not know what she will do after that although she is in hopes that she will get a scholarship or continue to work on the study. She has about three part-time jobs now and also



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goes to school. Her college program fits in well with the study work so that she can do both of them at the same time as well as get expert advice from some of her teachers. She said that she did domestic work and it took her an hour to get to college. She gets up early to prepare the breakfast and then goes to school. In the afternoon she works in the library and she often uses this time for interviews. She goes home to cook in the early evening and she is finished about 7:00. After that she goes on an interview. With such a heavy program, it is remarkable that she gets so much work done. She certainly must have a strong drive to keep her going at top speed.

I stopped in the office yesterday to find out about enrolling, but there has been no word about Army clearance yet. It looks like there will be so much red tape that I won't be able to get in for the next quarter. It is going to be quite a financial problem to take any courses at the University. According to Tom, it will cost about \$45 per quarter just to take one course. That is pretty stiff for me and I wouldn't be able to manage it right now. We run just about even on our budget, although I have been saving a few dollars each month. The past couple of months have not been so good -- in October I broke even and last month I went about \$40.00 over. It was because of Christmas. Emiko is spending quite a bit of money for Xmas and most of it is going to the family in camp.

December 5, 1943

Last night we decided to squander so that we went to a big show and also brought a lot of refreshments. We didn't get home until after 2. I read the Sunday papers until 4:30 after that. Emiko and Bette were up almost as long doing things of their own.

We got up about noon and Emiko and Bette got ready to go to the shower which Yoshie is giving for Alice. It is an affair for girls. The husbands and other fellows are going to do something on their own, but I did not feel very



ambitious so I decided to stay around here until later and do several things that I had been postponing. Emiko and Bette took some presents over also. We are having dinner over at Mariko's and one of the reasons why I didn't go with E and B to Toshi's was because I didn't want to carry all the food over there.

Another reason why I didn't want to go out with the assorted fellows during the shower party was that Edward Hatta will be with them. I think I am a little prejudiced against him for no reason at all except that he is Japanesey. Mary is sore as hell at him because he spread some rumors about her and he has tried to put a wedge of suspicion in Toshi's mind regarding Mary and her character.

I really don't know what I want. It doesn't give me any pleasure at all in being among a number of Nisei; it leaves me cold. It is something I don't want to see all over again. There are too many petty intrigues and jealousies in an exclusively Nisei society.

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Hell, I must be weakening! Toshi just phoned over and she insisted that I come over as the "boys" are expecting me to come. They are going to play poker or something at somebody else's house. I couldn't very well turn the offer down without appearing extremely anti-social. Toshi was disturbed because I did not come over with Emiko and Bette. So I guess I will have to go over to keep the peace.

I almost passed out about an hour ago. I was eating a snack all by myself when I got dizzy all of a sudden. The gas on the oven had been left on all night. Bette mentioned that she got up last night to open the window a little because it was so stuffy. It was a good thing that we weren't all gassed to death. We must be more careful about these things after this.

Well, have to shave and get dressed and take a long L ride over to Toshi's now. I hate to be late for any kind of an engagement, regardless of what it is.



That "stag party" yesterday was interesting from the point of view that it revealed how a group of Nisei live and what things interest them. I didn't get over to Toshi's until about 5 o'clock. Mariko, Yoshi, and Geo were just arriving there also. There were about six fellows there and they were waiting for me to go over to another fellow's house out by the Aragon.

There were two cars owned by a couple of the fellows and they gave us a ride out there. The apartment we played cards in belonged to a fellow named "Ig." There were about 14 Nisei fellows there playing cards. We didn't get to talk very much as they were all busy trying to win in the poker game. For the sake of science, I got involved in one of the games, but I only lost 45 cents! Mark and Bob (CH-13) were the big losers as they lost around four or five dollars apiece. Bob said he was not working yet, but he had some plans in regard to the Nisei dance orchestra. We didn't have time to discuss it much further. Edward Hata, of all persons, was the big winner in the poker game. We played until around 9 o'clock before going back to Toshi's.

Shig Matsumoto was the driver of the car I went in. He said that he picked the car up "just to fool around in." He is an alien as he was brought over here when a very young child. He is doing some kind of work as a mechanic, but he was not specific as to what his job was. There were a couple of other fellows there who claimed to be making salaries of around \$300 a month. These fellows get together quite a bit to play poker. Since they have cars, they get around quite a bit and they are rather popular with the other Nisei who do not have such transportation.

Shig said that he used about 15 gallons of gasoline a week. He gets the extra gas by buying black market tickets. His parents live in Michigan and Shig said that he drove up there once but it was too risky to do again since he does not have an OPA permit to cross the state line. For a while he was driving around without a driver's license and the car was not registered in his name.



He said that five Japanese were arrested yesterday by the FBI so that he had to be very careful in his actions or else they might pick him up as a suspicious character. Shig lives on the southside and he drives to work on the west side every day. He said that he did not do very much except go visit friends during the week. Shig said that he was so busy that he didn't have time to do much else and he certainly wasn't lonesome. He is thinking of buying a new car next year. Shig is from Gila and he was one of the English teachers in the high school there. He didn't say much else about his background.

Most of the fellows just talked about cars, the salaries they could make, and dancing. They seemed to be happy enough; about five of the fellows were married and the rest of the group were younger Nisei. This group is rather informal and members move from group to group. It centers around Albert. There are quite a few Nisei living up that way and Toshi seemed to be one of the social centers of a fairly sizable number of Nisei.

When we went back to Toshi's there were about 8 or 10 girls there who had come for Alice's shower. Some of the girls had already gone home. It was mostly Toshi's and Mariko's social group, although there were other people there that I did not know. The people I remember were Toshi and Albert, Alice and Mark, Mariko and George, Yoshi, Miki, Yuri, another Yuri and Ig, Shig Matsumoto, George K., Bob, Dorothy Ikeda, Mr. Ikeda, the father, Edward Hata, Reiko S., Emiko and Bette, myself and some others that I cannot recall right now. The shower party did not go off so well because the people came so late. George did not want to go there at all and Mariko said that was the reason she was so late. Mariko told Toshi that the reason was she found a large nest of cockroaches in the kitchen and she had to clean them out first. Toshi was rather irritated at all of the tardiness of the invited guests but she kept rather calm. Miki did not come until later and Yoshi was pretty upset about this so that



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these two were not in a very good mood. Eileen did not show up at all. Dorothy had a headache and she went home early. Yuri was rather bored and she had to go home to study for an examination so that her heart was not in the party. Mariko had a cold and she was feeling a little upset. Mark had a cold also and he wasn't feeling so well disposed. Emiko and Bette seemed to have enjoyed the party okay. Emiko said that she made friends with everyone so that she would not be involved in any of the intrigues.

For some reason, there was a slight air of tension when we came back to Toshi's from the poker session. I think that a lot of this is due to the fact that there is rivalry between Toshi (CH-4) and Mariko to be the center of the social group. Part of that group revolves around Mariko and another part around Toshi. Add to this all of the in-law complications and one can see the making of a swell feud. Some of this came out during the party yesterday. There was a little conflict about the use of Alice's portable sewing machine. Alice had told Toshi that she could use it for a while. Mariko said that she needed it as she was going to make a shirt for George. Albert didn't like this very much and he made some sort of a nasty crack and they had a public argument although I wasn't there at the time. When Mariko went into the other room, several of the people started to talk about her and they thought that she was being selfish about the sewing machine. Yoshi butted in and she said that she would let them have the key to the apartment and they could come over and take the sewing machine out, while Mariko was not there. Emiko and Bette naturally were angry because these people talked behind Mariko's back in their presence. They did not think that other people besides the members of the family had any right to talk about her. I think that the whole thing goes back to the in-law conflict which is not very strong, but it is noticeable at times. It comes out when there is a big affair which both Toshi and Mariko put on at the same time. Alice is on the spot because she is trying to make a good impression on all of Mark's relatives



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and she tends to side with Toshi. This does not agree so well with Mariko and her immediate relatives. Both groups plan a Xmas dinner and Alice will naturally go with Mark to Toshi's. It isn't a matter of trying to keep Alice with her family group at all as the issue seems to be more in the nature of a social rivalry. It is interesting that this clique which I would say included over 50 people, revolves around relatives and friends of the Ikeda, Sato, and Kikuchi family members. I don't want to get involved in any of this at all. I can see that it is going to be much harder to keep out of the Nisei society because of the relative factor. Toshi has been wanting us to come over for dinner for quite a while and I have been sort of stalling her off. Since she has been living in her new apartment, she has developed her social life to quite an extent. The groups seem to have an equal number of married and single persons. It is not an "intellectual" group. There were not very many professional people in the group. Most of them were office workers and factory workers. Not that I am condemning them, but the level of interest is almost entirely on the social party idea. I mentioned to one of the girls there that Tuesday was the anniversary of Pearl Harbor and she answered, "Gosh, I almost forgot that there is a war going on. It seems to be so far away. I'm back to a normal life now and I never think of these things. I'm more interested in getting my winter clothes!"

Toshi's flat is rather nice although it is not in a very good neighborhood. It is about 20 blocks north. The people living around there are of the worker group and they are much more settled than in the district further down which has a transient population. Some of the houses in that district seem to be a little run down. There are quite a few Nisei living in that area but there does not seem to be too much communication between groups. Toshi and Albert pay \$22.50 for the flat. It consists of a large living room, kitchen, dining room and two bedrooms plus a private bath. Toshi has bought all of the furniture



from second-hand dealers. The coal stove is located in the living room and that is the only way that the flat can be heated up. Toshi takes to the domestic life very easily as she is trying very hard to make a home for her family. I wasn't able to talk to her very much due to the nature of the gathering. Edward Hata is still living with them, but Toshi is getting fed up with him because he is so helpless and she has to do everything for him as if he were a little child. Edward is married and his wife is in camp expecting a child in the spring. He is very conservative. Mary doesn't like him because he believes that he is one of the persons who is spreading nasty rumors about her.

Another reason why Mariko was a little irritated was that she got pickpocketed and she lost \$15. She said that after she left Emiko and Bette on Saturday, she went to another store and she put her money purse in her coat pocket. A woman bumped against her and begged her pardon and started to brush her off. Mariko did not pay any particular attention to that but when she got on the streetcar after that her coin purse with the money in it was gone. She was rather upset about this because she had planned on using that money for Xmas presents. Mariko only started to work a couple of weeks ago and she doesn't want to dip into her bank account any more than necessary. Miki has moved out to the northside and she has a sleeping room of her own. Her sister and girl friend have a room on the same floor, and they do their cooking there. Yoshi is thinking of quitting Bazalon's and taking a factory or office job. She wants to have her evenings and Sundays free. Yoshi is thinking of moving to the northside so that she can be near to her beloved Miki. The two of them were mad at each other though. I think that Alice gave Mark hell because he gambled away some of their rent money! She wouldn't let him take more than \$5 over there or something like that, according to Bette.

We had planned on going over to Mariko's for dinner but it was getting rather late and Mariko wasn't feeling well so that Shig Matsumoto gave us a ride



in his car. I went to bed right away but Emiko and Bette puttered around for another hour or so, washing dishes, etc.

I got up about 8:30 this morning and I was in the office by 9:15. Emiko didn't get up for school. I don't know whether she is cutting a class or whether she didn't have one this morning. She was still asleep when I left. She and Bette plan to go down town this evening to finish up their Xmas shopping for the family in camp.

The anniversary of Pearl Harbor day has a very interesting development. The Tribune for yesterday printed a story entitled "WRA tells Japs: Teach Us How to Take a Bath." According to the story, "The spectacle of the United States government apologizing to the interned Japanese and literally pleading with them to accept transportation to midwestern states 'for the purpose of teaching cleanliness and culture to American farmers' was revealed here today with the discovery of a new undertaking by the war relocation authority."

The publication was not intended to reach the hands of "newspapers or prying congressmen." The WRA advised the interned Japs to "Believe it or not, some few tenants and seasonal workers (in Ohio and Michigan) do not bathe! They think it is unhealthy. We need you people to change our ideas about this. You have a lesson to teach Ohio and Michigan farmers in sanitation. It is a contribution you can make to our way of living.

"We need your faithfulness to your task, your willingness to work and your appreciation of a job well done. There are a lot of workers in the middle west, in Ohio and Michigan, who are not careful, painstaking and accurate."

The congressmen are having a field day over this news item as they feel that an insult to the American farmers has been made. It certainly does come at a helluva time. Senator Robert A. Taft said, "It must be a revelation to the middle west farmer to discover that he is neither clean, sanitary, careful, or painstaking and must now take lessons from the Japanese."



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The California congressmen will probably make a major political issue out of this item which was supposed to have been intended only as a wisecrack. The WRA has one more thing that it is being put on the spot for. The item will probably rate headlines in the California papers. I certainly hope that there is no disturbance in any of the camps tomorrow.

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I have to prepare some sort of an outline for the conference meeting on case history this afternoon as Dorothy is wondering what I have done about it. I didn't even give it a thought during the week-end although I suppose I should have. I don't think that it will be too difficult for me to give a general statement on the case documents. The best part of it will be the discussions anyway.

Later: The meeting this afternoon came out very successfully in my opinion. I droned on for about 40 minutes before I realized it. It was very interesting to hear WI and Blumer discuss the case documents and for what purpose they could be used. Blumer paid me a compliment when he said that I was clever in interviewing, but I don't know about that. Dr. Blumer had some specific points about what we should be seeking. In other words, he suggested that now was the time for me to be thinking about a problem to be working on. The others seemed to agree with him, but I think that WI and Dorothy's approach appeals to me the most, chiefly because I am lazy I guess and it is easier for me to collect data without analyzing it very much. Dorothy got overcome by the close air in the room and she left earlier, and WI followed. I wish that they had been there when we started to talk about the aim of these case documents, because I did not have too much to offer in defense. WI and Blumer had quite a good discussion on whether the Nisei were emotional in a state of "numbness" before the war, or whether their social background made them more intellectually alert. They seem to have a different approach to sociology and it was quite enlightening. WI's



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approach is much more easy going and it doesn't have a "system" to it so I suppose that is why I cater more in that direction. It would have been interesting if WI had been there when the discussion came up about the aim of the documents though. Setsuko wants to work on a specific problem. I think they plan a quiet revolt or something. I really don't see why it makes all that difference. Dorothy has told them that she is not opposed to them working on a problem. I guess it is because they are thinking more in terms of finished manuscripts rather than the collection of data. Setsuko, Jimmy and Tom are thinking in terms of thesis papers also. Hell, the Nisei problem will not be solved for many years so that we shouldn't worry too much about a finished piece of work. It really doesn't make any difference to me at all as I will probably continue along my same old line and later on I will begin to think more of problems. I won't know what the problems are until I get more data anyway. Dr. Blumer did have some very good suggestions to offer about some of the things that we could be looking out for, but Dorothy was a little doubtful that any measuring stick could be devised to determine these things. She felt that many of the changes in Nisei attitudes were a matter of maturation and not so much because of the evacuation crisis and that would be hard to judge. I am certainly glad that I do not have to worry too much about the technical end of the study. We will probably have a long postmortem on this afternoon's meeting tomorrow morning in the office and that should enlighten me. I got more confused than ever when WI and Blumer started to talk of the use of the documents and what they should be aimed towards. Both made very good sense to me, but the approaches are in different directions and I can't follow both. We didn't talk as much about the technical aspects of the case documents as I would like to have done. Maybe I should have prepared more for it, but I had it in my head fairly well. I'll know tomorrow what Dorothy's reactions were, but I am not worried. We will probably talk more on this subject at the staff meeting tomorrow afternoon along



with the discussion on the study of informal and organized Nisei groups.

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Tom seems to feel that the reactions against the Nisei out here appear to be more intense due to the troubles of the camps plus the rantings of the California congressmen. I haven't been in touch with anything like this, although I suppose the public is more conscious of the presence of the Nisei in its midst. But Chicago is a pretty big city.

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Emiko and Bette went down town for shopping and I am planning to do many things before they return. I didn't schedule any more interviews with new cases as I have three to dictate now and there are still several more interviews that I will have to do on them. I plan to address my Christmas cards this evening, but I may not get around to it. Adamic's new book is fairly interesting and I might read that next. If I get started in reading, I won't get anything else done this evening, although I plan to prepare the dinner this evening so that Emiko and Bette will not have to cook when they get home as they will be tired. It rained earlier today and it may rain this evening before they get home. They expect to be back around 10 p.m.

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I got 25 pages on CH-24 dictated today in spite of the conference meeting. I hope to finish it in two or three days. Setsuko said that she was returning to St. Louis tomorrow evening. She has been reading all my cases for the past few days.

December 7, 1943

Two years since Pearl Harbor. A lot has happened since then. I don't seem to be able to get any interest in the "Nisei problem" today. I didn't do a thing all morning. We just sat around the office and talked in general. Dr. Jacoby came in just before noon and he wanted to discuss the integration study



for Chicago with Dorothy. I had planned to do some dictating but my mind was not on it.

Dorothy seemed pleased enough with the meeting yesterday. She definitely did not agree with Blumer on some of the points he advanced. She plans to have a postmortem with the staff this afternoon. Dr. Blumer just stopped in, but he did not have anything to add.

I went to lunch with the Thomases and Jacoby and I ate Boston Baked beans in order to be patriotic. I found that Jacoby was the first WRA man I have met who is not dogmatic and he seems to have quite a good background in this problem. However, he may give way to the "practical" approach like the others as he said something about trying to open up some of the social settlement houses for exclusive Nisei recreational purposes, although there would be an attempt to keep the groups small and to mix them with other groups. I think the WRA should tend to some of its unfinished business like doing something about the housing problem and re-evaluating the employment placement work it has done thus far. It should not get involved in the social adjustment problems. If it has to, it should only do it upon an individual basis.

Setsuko left for St. Louis this evening. She is a very intelligent girl, but she is a little dogmatic, like me. I guess it is because of her youth.

At the conference meeting this afternoon, Dorothy got angry and she put in her final say about the "Intellectual conflict" in the study. She said, quite emphatically:

"I am greatly disturbed and shocked that the Staff still believes we have no problem to work with after all that has been said. The Staff goes back to this point just because a Theorist comes in and talks. (Blumer) I was extremely irritated because we do have a Study Problem. The Theorists are not realistic and we don't need an elaborate body of preconceptions which are impossible to test by empirical methods anyway. We do not need any preconceived



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hypothesis like 'emotional numbness' to work with as the Problem. We have to develop new concepts as we go along using the Behaviorist approach. The Study will fail if the Staff persists with the other idea. I have no confidence in untested grandiose theorizing which can do us no good in the long run. Have I made myself clear? If there are any doubts remaining, I wish you would voice them now." Silence.

WI's words of advice which sounded logical to me were that we should collect all the data we could first. He said that it would be a crime for me to change my approach in the case documents by trying to apply preconceived theories, amen. He felt that we should emphasize the following of the individual careers without trying to dig out any psychological interpretations as we go along as that would limit our work. He added that the whole world was undergoing a process of disorganization right now and none of the problems of a world society in a state of unrest would be solved until society as a whole recognized that there was a need for reorganization. He feels that our case documents may in some way point out clues to a part of this process and he said that there would be no changes until there was a general change in social attitudes. He also believed that segregation should not be fought against in the case of the Japanese as the falling away from the set formal Japanese culture would be fast enough anyway. But, he also did not believe that the Nisei should live together forever. He concluded that the answer to the whole thing was to eliminate the discrimination factor if such a thing were possible.

The rest of the meeting was quite routine and Tom presented his plan for studying the informal Nisei groups and to describe their activities as they are carried on with each other. He will do this primarily by studying the small and large informal Nisei groups and try to determine the circumstances of the origin or reformation of these groups and to find out the major preoccupations of the members such as: things to which they are sensitive, expressed interests



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and desires, dominant attitudes, major discontents and prevalent fear, and rumors and gossip. He hopes to find out what their definitions of the situations are and the influence of leaders in defining these situations. Setsuko may do the same thing as a comparative study in St. Louis, although Dorothy felt that following up the college graduates down there would be an excellent topic too. Setsuko has a definite limitation of time. Another of her achievements which she fits into her busy schedule is to go around and give lectures about the Japs to various groups down there.

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Louise sent in <sup>a</sup>the story about the school exemption to the Heart Mountain Sentinel which was reprinted in the Pacific Citizen. Emiko and Bette were a little excited about seeing their name in print, but the story has had its repercussions. The Board of Christian Education which gave her the scholarship upon the recommendation of the Student Relocation Committee heard about the exemption and they wrote and asked what Emiko plans to do with the \$226 which they granted. I helped Emiko write an answer and listed her expense account which conservatively will add up to over \$300 for the first year in college.

Mark phoned up just now and he said that he had been suddenly transferred up to Fort Sheridan this morning and Alice does not know about it yet. She expects him home this evening! It is tough to be an Army wife. Alice was just getting settled in her work and she got an extra room so that they could cook. I don't know what she will do although I presume that she will move up here. I don't think it would be wise to live in Chicago as she may run into relative complications. She should go to Evanston as that is not far from the Army Post. Fort Sheridan is about 40 minutes from the Loop.

Our own family case shows how difficult it is to get away from the Nisei society as an informal society does exist already, much as I regret it and hope to escape its influence. It revolves around members of the Kikuchi-Ikeda-Satow



Process of formation of a Nisei society which revolves around the members of three family groups, with Mariko and Toshi as the chief rivals for the position of social queen. (The Kikuchi, Ikeda-Satow family.)

1. Mr. Ikeda (father) -- Wife and 2 other children will come out soon.
  2. Toshie Ikeda (Satow) -- Mother and father may come later. Brother on way from Colorado
  3. Abert Ikeda — — — — — → His friends
  4. Baby Ikeda (Toshie's daughter) — — — — — → Her group (60 people)
  5. Yuri Ikeda — — — — — → His group
  6. Yuji Tujima (husband) — — — — — → Her group
  7. His brother here already — — — — — → His group
  8. Otto Ikeda — — — — — → His group
  9. Dorothy Ikeda — — — — — → Her group
  10. Mark Satow — — — — — → His group
  11. Alice Satow (Kikuchi) — — — — — → Her group
- Secondary groups
- + their friends!!
- Jack Kikuchi will arrive Feb. '44
12. Mariko Kikuchi — — — — — → Her group (about 80 people)
  13. Charles Kikuchi — — — — — (Chiefly drawn into above though
  14. Emiko Kikuchi — — — — — { they do have a number of individual
  15. Bette Kikuchi — — — — — { Nisei friends

Say each individual in primary group conservatively have social relationships with 25 different members of secondary group, this would mean that the nucleus for this Nisei society would include 375 individuals right now in just the primary and secondary group, and this is only a conservative estimate. Jacoby gives population of Nisei in Chicago as around 2800. Therefore this primary and secondary group = 13 per cent of total resettlers!!!!



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*[families anxious with conditions 375 diff. from]*  
families. Emiko and Bette are being drawn into it and there does not seem to be much hope in opposing it in favor of a wider integration process through their school contacts. I only get disliked and they don't understand why.

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*omit 3857*  
Yesterday Governor Green of Illinois gave a Pearl Harbor Day speech and he mentioned that the American internees returning from Japan did not give the true story of the conditions in the internment camp of Japan as they had been cautioned not to say too much for fear that the repercussions would affect the other American internees still imprisoned in Japan. Green said that the returning internees should give all the brutal details as "we have thousands of Japs in the camps in this country and we can retaliate upon them if anything happens to American internees." Green naively forgets that these Japn prisoners he is talking about are American citizens. The newspapers never make this distinction because they are more interested in fostering emotional prejudices. Whenever the papers use the term Japanese-Americans, they tend to do it in a more favorable light as some of the California papers which scream headlines that "Citizens Riot at Tule Lake," etc.

I didn't read any of yesterday's newspapers so that the day passed rather quietly, not that I anticipated any disturbances in the camp. However, I did think that Pearl Harbor Day would be used to emphasize the American victories on the war front.

*omit 3857*  
I phoned Fay regarding the interview for tonight and she said that she had the flu yet, but she thought that she would be available Thursday evening. Two of the cases I have been interviewing during the past week or so have flu so that I have not been able to complete the cases as quickly as I had planned. The study conferences have also taken much of our time. This morning Embree, Jacoby and all the staff members had a meeting to discuss the possibilities of writing a report on integration to help the WRA determine how the adjustments



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have been made in the Chicago area and what are the problems of the resettlers. Dorothy stressed the point that we really could not do a report of this nature unless the WRA compiled more basic statistical data. Embree said that the WRA did not have any statistical data on the resettlers because the former policy has been to "shut the gates" once the resettlers have left camp. He said that if the WRA attempted to locate all of the resettled Nisei now, it would be an almost impossible task. He felt that this would put the WRA in a precarious position as it would be subject to attack by the Dies Committee and other groups. Dorothy did not think that this danger was very great. However, Embree was a little dogmatic on this point and he said that he did not think it would be possible because of the expense involved. He felt that we would be able to get a good enough picture of the adjustment process if we studied various aspects of it such as typing certain businesses where large numbers of Nisei were employed. Jacoby added that the employment problem was one aspect of the general problem. I did not think that the WRA should get too alarmed about the adjustment process of the resettlers because they were getting a distorted picture of the resettlers as only those with the greatest problems and those who were most vociferous went to it. Embree felt that other aspects which could be studied would be neighborhood comparisons, church adjustments, etc. No decisions were reached at the meeting although Dorothy did get over her point that both the WRA and our study were helpless unless more statistical data on the resettlers was available. Dorothy does not want the study to become a service group to the WRA and she will continue to stress our independent role.

I hope to get some more dictation done on CH-24 today but it is rather difficult to do it with so many people in the office. Our daily conference will start in a couple of hours and I may not get too much done. Recently I have not been in very close touch with the more general developments among the resettlers and I feel better when such is the case as I do not have to see too many Nisei groups then.

(Alice's reaction to Mark's transfer -- see attached letter.)



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O  
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Dear C, B & E:

It was nice seeing all of you again, and thank you so much for the nice presents. It's too bad everyone there had a cold, and that the rest couldn't be present. The bowls will surely come in handy now that I have started keeping house and so will the dishtowels.

Mark is sure the person to tell a secret to. He can keep his mouth shut - and you can't even tell that there is anything wrong. Monday he was a little sick with the cold he caught in Chicago, but had to go back to camp anyway. We both overslept until 9, so I didn't get to work until 10:30 -- ate my lunch in snatches, and worked through the noon hour, so I'm only  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours off. He called me while at camp and said for me to go straight home from work as he was being "shipped" and when I got there, had a nice steak dinner ready. He was so nonchalant and casual (as usual) I hoped for a minute he was fooling -- but as my luck runs, it's true. There were 7 Nisei in his group at the Station Hospital, and they were to leave Tuesday morning 5:00 a.m. destination unknown. That meant he couldn't even stay home over night -- and had to leave around 10:30 or 11 to be back in camp. All the single boys were supposed to report every two hours, but he, living in town, had permission to stay awhile. Gosh, am I upset. Last night I just couldn't help crying -- although I tried my best not to, and my eyes are burning today. He didn't want me to see him leave at the door, so he made me go to bed, tucked me in, and dashed off before I could say "tabernacle." (Bette, please note!)

This morning when I woke up, it was so lonesome not to have anyone build a fire for me, so I was glad to get to work and keep occupied. But I hate to go home tonight, because I know there won't be anyone there, and for a long time to come, I won't be able to listen for his footsteps. I haven't been thinking about it because I feel so awful -- but as far as it goes now -- I'll stay here



Letter from Alice.

in Rockford until I hear definitely where he is. I may be able to findout tomorrow morning from their postoffice, and if he goes far away, my letter may beat him there. I'm hoping he will go to Ft. Sheridan, near Chicago, so that we can spend Xmas together. But you know how uncertain and full of surprises the army is. I'll just have to wait till tomorrow. (Emiko -- that's what the important news was.) You see, Mark knew on Friday that he was being "shipped out" but didn't tell me right away as it would have spoiled my week-end. He always said he would do that, and I'm glad because when a thing is so sudden you can adjust better than when you have to anticipate and worry over it.

At any rate, I'll let "you all" know as soon as I get word.

Mark makes me mad -- he doesn't even worry over me, because he says I got along without him before -- I admit I'm capable, but sometimes you like to be "taken care of."

Have to get back to work now -- this is my lunch hour ending. Thanks loads for the gifts, and keep your fingers crossed for me. I want to keep that "date" on the 25th.

Bye,

Alice

P.S. Tell Mariko I just need my clock immediately and she can wait for the other things till I let her know what I'm going to do.

Felt much worse this December 7 than I did two years ago.



In yesterday's afternoon's conference, Togo and Tom gave a report on what they are doing in writing up the pre-evacuation material they have. WI had some added words to say about the "Intellectual Conflict": "There is some confusion in the staff and I feel that I may have caused some of it. I did not mean to say that I was opposed to the use of any theories. However, conceptualism, speculation and theory are constant in any study. I used conceptualism in my Polish Peasant and I have been depreciating it ever since. My concept was that the Poles had different mores and how could they assimilate them to America. Since then the melting pot theory has gone out so that my concept was not correct.

"It is best to use a minimum of concepts. In the study, use hunches and avoid exhibitionistic hypothesis and unbridled speculation. It is hard to determine complete reliability in predicting human behavior, but you can get a high degree of probability. The study is trying to get mass material and I feel that the speculations will grow out of the data collected and it is not necessary to formulate all of the problems list."

Last night I was pretty tired when I went home, but I felt better after Emiko fed me a steak dinner. Then Emiko and Bette dragged me off to a show. >

This morning Emiko and I had an argument because I did not have any shirts ironed. Some of them have been unironed for two months. I asked why Emiko did not do some of them as Bette seemed to have so much to do. Emiko got angry and she said that she did all the cooking and the shopping and the laundry. If I remember correctly, Bette and I did them the time before and Bette did most of it last time. Emiko did work on them later as I remember that she got some sore fingers. Anyway, I said that the shirts were not clean and Emiko got sore at that. I was mad too because she said that I never took a bath and that was the reason. Emiko is too fresh. I used to help around with the housework but I don't do it any more as they begin to expect me to do it. Emiko is the only one who yells and she gets Bette to side with her so that there is



not much use in trying to overcome both of them. Emiko gets sore too quick;  
me too, I guess.

←  
Later.

Emiko went downtown to do some more shopping and since Bette was doing work upstairs, I prepared my own dinner as I had to leave for an interview with Fay (CH-22). Bette was delayed as she took a lot of packages to mail out to Arizona and the line was quite long. All the out of town packages have to be sent out by tomorrow according to the postoffice instructions.

When I got home from the interview, Emiko was just finishing up ironing my shirts. I guess Bette did some of them also. There were 12 of my shirts all neatly lined up in plain sight and this was supposed to make me feel very guilty for being nasty about them this morning, and it did. I don't know if Emiko is still angry at me or not; she hasn't said one word yet. Presumably she is doing her homework now. I think she is still angry so I did not say anything about the shirts yet. Bette is washing her hair now and I can't talk at all as Emiko wants absolute silence when she studies.

There is a cold epidemic going around now and I think it is catching. Almost everyone of our staff seems to be coming down with it. Bette said that 20 per cent of the kids at school were out with a cold now. I know it has been going around quite a bit as two of my cases have been laid up recently. I did not feel so well today and I think that the first symptoms are descending upon me -- sore back, cough and sneeze, and stuffy head feeling. I hope that it does not lay me up.

I got quite a bit of dictation done today. This morning we had a staff meeting to work on the outline for the study a little and Dorothy spent the afternoon revising it. I want to get CH-24 finished up so that she can take it back with her. I am on page 80 now and I have about 20 pages to go. I have all



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the data on CH-22 and 67 pages of it dictated, but I don't know if I will have it finished up in time for Dorothy to take it back as there are some other things we have to clean up in the remaining conference meetings. I think Dorothy and WI have too high an estimate of my ability to do these case studies. What I need is some destructive criticism so that I will not have a false security and let down. I have an idea that I will not get too many documents done this month as it is broken up by the Conference and more by the Xmas holidays. It is harder to contact people during this rush. Tom has completed his work on the pre-evacuation rumors and it quite a good report. He has another ambitious report which he is working on now, but he does not expect to finish it for quite some time. He wants to use it for his Master's thesis. Frank and Tamie also have ambitious reports. Tamie said that she may quit the study after her Poston report is done as she wants to go back to Hawaii and do a comparative study on the Island situation. Everybody on the staff seems to be turning in such fine work. I wish I had something more solid to contribute besides the case documents, but I guess I don't have it in me. I don't have the insights as the others have and I can't seem to organize the stuff even if I did think of a point. I'll just plug along on the case documents and hope that it will build up to something substantial over a long period of time.

Jimmy registered for an extension class this afternoon at the University. <sup>[at the University]</sup> Apparently it is o.k. for me to register according to the Student Relocation letters, but I don't think I will have the money this time and there is not much time left before the next quarter opens. The Student Council said that it had heard from two sources that it was o.k. to register as I had a war plant type of clearance and that was all that was necessary to attend one of the "prescribed" colleges.

I interviewed Fay CH-22 for about three hours this evening and finished up the basic data. It was fortunate that I went over there as she is going to



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*mt p.*

move pretty soon. She has a deposit down on an apartment of her own. She said that the landlady was a Jew and she acted funny until she found out that Fay was working for the Army. She wants Fay to tell the other boarders that she is a Chinese, and she does not encourage visiting by other Nisei. Fay said that she was not going to have many friends over anyway because that was the reason why she lost her last place. Fay is one of the first Nisei I have met who is avoiding Nisei society because of the fear of public disapproval. She has to pay about \$45 a month for the two-room apartment. She is trying to get her sister out of camp now to come and live with her. Fay said that although she makes \$146 a month, she does not save a cent except the \$12.50 each month which is taken out for war bonds by her office. She has to pay about \$10.00 a month for income taxes as she is a single person. Fay said that she ate all of her meals out and this ran up to around \$45.00 a month. She has had to pay about \$30.00 in doctor's bills since coming to Chicago also. The rest of her money is spent in buying necessary clothes as an office worker. She said that she did not have enough winter clothes. The Xmas season has also drawn on her money. She has a big family in camp and she said that she enjoyed giving them presents and going shopping on Monday nights. She is also sending small presents to the neighbor kids so that they will not feel left out when they see all the things her family gets. Fay said that the only money she had saved was her bank account she brought here with her and she was not going to touch that except for a serious emergency.

December 11, 1943

Finished up the dictation on CH-24 yesterday. I hope to finish up dictation on CH-22 Monday so that Dorothy will be able to take the two cases back with her. I did not get to the office until noon as I was sleepy, but I bore down in the afternoon. The conference meetings are just winding up now. We spent a little time on the revision of the outline and schedule forms. Next



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
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week, I will get back to the case document data gathering. I haven't any definite person lined up but I have some in mind. I have been thinking of the possibility of studying the Kikuchi-Ikeda-Sato informal group and the circle developed around it to point out how the Nisei society forms. It may be a little too ambitious for me but it has possibilities. I will go along for a few more months to see how things turn out. The group is fairly representative and it cuts across all class lines so that it may be something definite that I can get my teeth into.)

I have lost contact with the more general developments among the Nisei. Louise said that the YWCA is going into the program of having all Nisei parties. She said that one was planned for Jan. 2. There will only be 60 asked for the affair and it will be strictly invitational. There has been other parties of this nature going on, but I have not followed it very closely. Last week there was another party of a mixed nature and it had 60 per cent Nisei and 40 per cent Caucasians. Louise said that it went off fairly well.

( There was an article in the paper yesterday (Tribune) saying that Adamic was under investigation as a Communist by the Dies Committee because of his last book "My Native Land" which sided more with the partisans in Yugoslavia rather than Mihkavitch's Chetniks. Dies objects because Adamic presented a more favorable review of the people's movement. Adamic was supposed to have passed out 10,000 copies of the book to the American soldiers and Dies now feels that he is trying to infuse them with the Communist doctrines.) The other evening I was discussing the Balkan situation with Bette and I pointed out that certain British and American oil interests, which did not represent the sentiments of the American and British people as a whole, were more interested in their personal gains than democratic ideals. That was why they favored the Chetniks who were not as Anti Axis as the Partisans. Bette went to school and told this



to her social problems class and the students got upset and thought that she was anti-British. The liberal teacher of the class was the only one who saw her point of view.  He calls on Bette a lot for confirmation of statements he makes in class. The other students think that Mr. Castner, the teacher, is Bette's boy friend.  Bette said that she has found out that the Nisei students were not the only ones who did not have social consciousness. She said that the class had little knowledge or background in political affairs and cared less. Bette has been reading Time Magazine regularly for the past few months. At first she started out by reading the movie reviews but now she also reads many other sections of the magazine. Bette is very broad-minded and interested in minority groups. She said that if she ever heard me making a prejudiced statement against a minority group, she would lose all faith in me. In this respect, I think that Bette is a little more advanced than Emiko. Emiko, however, is much more advanced than the majority of the Nisei out here in this respect.

 Emiko and Bette went over to visit Grace Yamada last night. Grace is supposed to be another advanced Nisei. She goes to Wilson JC with Emiko. She does not like the Nisei society at all, yet the noose is drawing close. There is a little society around her, all Nisei, with this viewpoint, but they are all Nisei. The circle is very informal so far and the members of this group, I gather, have made other Caucasian contacts. Emiko has made quite a few contacts at school, but she has not gone into social activities with them off campus as much as she could due to the limitation of time. 

-----  
The Chicago Tribune seems to be going anti-evacuee. At first it was for the evacuees because of the papers anti-British policies. Now, it is drifting the other way because the paper is anti-New Deal and the evacuees are tied up with a New Deal Agency politically. In the past few years several articles have appeared. One story carried was an editorial on the "Bathing Instructions Incident."



The editorial objects to a New Deal agency telling the Japanese to teach cleanliness and culture to American farmers. The Tribune takes the position that the WRA is supposed to be the policeman for a dangerous group of aliens in America. It feels that the job requires finesse plus barbed wire and bayonets. It feels that the job should have been handed over by the New Deal to the Army instead of to a bunch of social workers and professional officer-holders, who are so adolescent that they make public statements as the above. It hints that the WRA is pampering the Japs too much with government time and funds. The paper concludes that the Army is in the best position to handle the WRA's problem children as "our fighting men have a reputation in that field and there are many of them in the training camps who are well fitted to do the job that the WRA is bungling." It concludes that the New Deal will be thrown out in 1944 and therefore the Army should continue to administer Tule as well as the other camps, it hints.

The same issue of the Tribune (Dec. 8) carries a story that Stripling of the Dies Committee and a former employee of the WRA testified that the WRA had grossly mishandled public funds and had been guilty of criminal negligence in its program as it had let the evacuees steal food from the government and that one of the WRA teachers had taught her classes that Japan was justified for bombing Pearl Harbor. They object to the Jap lovers who entertain Japs in the camps in the WRA apartments! Meyer testified that Peck the WRA informant had been dismissed for being drunk in a government camp. Jacoby told us the other day that Peck had taken a government camp to a nearby town and got drunk in the taverns there almost every night.

Attorney General Francis Biddle's statement was a mixture of favorable and unfavorable (Tribune Dec. 10). He told the Dies Committee that he had the "gravest doubts" concerning the constitutionality of action removing American citizens from their homes because of their race. Biddle does not believe that



the WRA has the legal technical right of internment of any American citizen. He does not believe that the government has the right to hold them in the centers.

However, Biddle made another statement that looks a little dangerous and it may get out of control if the hotheads push it. He suggested that one way to end the difficulties as at Tule Lake would be to deprive the Nisei who have declared loyalty to Japan of their American citizenship. He also reported that Japan was treating the American prisoners in the Orient "good." Biddle believes that the Kibei are the ones who cause all the trouble and he thinks that these are the ones to have citizenship deprived. The fallacy of that logic is that not all Kibei are disloyal. If that were the case, people like Jimmy and Tamie would lose citizenship as they are technically Kibei. Another difficulty is that the definition of loyalty is a very vague concept at best. The greatest danger is that it would involve the thousands of young Nisei at Tule who had to go there because of their parents' attitudes. They would be the tragic victims of a war hysteria and a great injustice would certainly be done to them. The segregation program in itself did not screen the loyal from the disloyal because the issues were so mixed. Jimmy comes up with this conclusive evidence in his segregation. I have not read it in detail yet as I have only had time to skim through it, but this is the indication that I get. Personally I have little sympathy for the segregates, but as a self-protective measure they become important as depriving them of citizenship would set a dangerous precedent and it would have great repercussions on all the Nisei as well as on other minority groups. I don't see how it could be done constitutionally. The next step would be deportation if such a thing as depriving citizenship became a reality.

← *omit to 3871*  
This morning I slept late again. Emiko and Bette are going shopping again. They plan to take 11 year old Reiko downtown with them and show her around all the large department stores with the Xmas decorations. Bette has a cold again and she is developing laryngitis. I came down to the office this afternoon to do



some typing, but the whole staff was here. Barry Saiki, Frank, Tom, and Dorothy are having a bull session now on the influence of propaganda in the newspapers on the resettled Nisei. Barry cited a few cases of how it has resulted in certain landlords in discriminating against the Nisei in housing here. Tom also pointed out how some landlords got scared and tried to chase some of his friends out of their apartments. I wonder if these cases are isolated and not based upon other motives and considerations. Jimmy and Hattie have finished their two week's honeymoon and they are going back to Minidoka this evening on the Los Angeles Challenger.

After they left Barry pointed out that he went to a show with three other Nisei and they all had popcorn and they attracted attention by making noise with the paper. Dorothy said that he should not worry too much about these things as all people do this. Barry admitted that he might be too self-conscious. Tom maintained that groups of Nisei in shows did not cause any particular notice. He said that many Nisei went to the Kimbark theatre and nobody noticed. He figured that the Nisei were too sensitive and only thought they were conspicuous. Barry said he never felt this before the war, but he was conscious of it now. He did not think of it in terms of personal danger. Dorothy agreed and she said that he did not want attention drawn to him because he felt that people would dislike all the Nisei if his group drew attention.

Tom: "All the dislike and animosities are already here. The public hate the Greeks and other groups and it would not take too much to get irritation against the Nisei. It is already evidenced in housing. A big criminal offence could do a hell of a lot to start the ball rolling towards great discrimination against the Nisei."

Barry: "Movies like Air Force also does a lot to draw attention against the Nisei. If we are in a group in a show when these are shown, we feel more self conscious. Before, these things were not so much in the public eyes. I



went to a show which showed Jap brutality and when I walked out I felt funny, but nobody noticed me as they thought I was another race."

Dorothy: I don't think the public as a whole holds it against the racial groups in America like the Germans, Italians, and Japanese.

Tom: "A lot of letters appear in the papers here which are very emotional, but most of the people do not know that we are Japanese."

Barry: "I heard of two Nisei <sup>working</sup> in a machine shop and they got kicked out after a month without any reason at all. Maybe it was the army. I'm the only one in the machine shop where I work and I don't have any trouble. We have a mixed crowd. The big boss is a Jew. And some of the other key workers are also Jews, although the man in charge of the payroll is a Jew. My crew boss is a British man. There are 35 or 40 girls there -- five are Mexican, 10 Italians, the rest are mixed nationalities. In the second shift that comes on, it is all mixed too. They are very nice. They all say hello to me.

"They have a hard time remembering my name. They tell me of other Japanese they know in Chicago. They think I should know all of them just because they are Nisei."

Dorothy: "If I were giving advice, I would say quit worrying about all that stuff. No use in sitting around worrying."

Barry: "There is a little Negro fellow in my plant making \$45 a week and he is complaining about his wage. I talked to him and he said: 'The Japs are pretty bad, you know. I guess they couldn't help bombing PH. I guess I should not be talking about that to you.' He didn't take me for a Jap. In our plant they don't let any of the Negro employees work on the machines. They are in the basement doing sorting work. They need a lot of machinist but they won't let the Negroes do it."

Dorothy: "Maybe they are not trained."



Tom: "In reference to movies, I was thinking of an easy way of finding all the movies in the past few years that make remarks about the Nisei. We could check it through the Movie Magazine guides."

Barry: "I think Evacuation gave an impetus to making movies putting Nisei in a bad light. The OWI should stop it. But it has to make the people hate the enemy and they don't distinguish the Nisei from the Japanese soldiers. They call all of the Japanese yellow devils and this includes the Nisei. It is a dilemma. They have to do it for propaganda. The WRA said they protested against Little Tokyo but only little revisions were made."

Dorothy: "I think the Americans got all the hate out of their systems in the last war when all the propaganda came out against the Germans. The only thing is that now the German Americans are put in a good light, but the Nisei never are. If some of these middle class families here could only see some of the Japanese girls from Japan, they would change minds quickly. But they would have to change exclusion laws. I'd like to see American soldiers occupy Japan long enough so that they could bring back Japanese wives with them. Charlie what do you think of that as a solution."

Charlie: "Pool I hate all Japs. I'm intolerant."

Barry: "The most recent trend is to make the American people hate the military government of Japan like Tojo and not against Hirohito. In this way the propaganda is effective as it sets the civilians a little more apart. It may be the chief basis of the propaganda warfare later on. I don't think all the Japanese people hate America and this may be the way to win the common people over."

Barry: "What surprises me is that so many Nisei are marrying Kibei in camps. I can't conceive that very well because their way of life is so different."

Tom: "I know of nice Kibei fellows who believe in beating wives in the Japanese way. They get crowded in camps and they tend to do little things in the Japanese way."



Frank: "Yes, this was true during the registration. They were put on the spot. This was true of Koso. But he was for the registration. His wife was so worried when he made a speech in the messhall for registration."

Barry: "Dr. Thomas, what is your impression of the WRA registration?"

Dorothy: "The WRA did not handle it the same in all camps. It was terrible at Tule Lake. They did not educate people at Tule at all."

Barry: "In Arkansas, it was different. Around Feb 10, the Army sent a Lieut-Colonel after announcing it in the papers. I found myself deeply involved as I was on the newspaper. The first thing that came about was when the WRA man came and told me to save space in the Saturday paper. He told me of the registration and not to spread it around until it came out. After it came out, the block managers held a meeting; the Army Team did not come until the next day.

"The block managers held a meeting. The chairman of the group was a Nisei about 40 years old. He had a group of 40 Nisei with him. It was composed of members of the church, council, coop members, and Issei council. They talked of registration and they wanted to know what to do. They thought it was a too touchy question. They did not want to talk of selective service. They decided that they should not oppose it. Others said that they should not favor it either as they had a hazy idea that it was going to be a big issue. They figured that it was going to be the selective service registration. A lot of this group were already suspected of being Inus. They decided that it was an individual problem. Therefore, they asked me not to write any editorials on it at all. They wanted nothing for or against it written. They decided that none of them would go out of their way to be for or against it. They decided that the people had to decide themselves.

"The next day, the Army Team came but they did not know anything about the registration other than the prepared statement that they read. They could not answer all the questions that came up. Naturally, the block managers were very



dissatisfied and some of them told the block people not to register. The Army Team talked to the Block Managers first.

"The registration began a few days later. They tried to cover four blocks a day, and the Army gave the speeches the night before the registration to have a mass meeting in each section. Wednesday night was the first mass meeting. The Team was accompanied by the project director or some WRA officials. The block managers did the interpreting for the Issei. The turnout was very good. They did not have a translation of the speech at all. They just read it in English and the Block Manager interpreted it roughly. Some of the block managers changed the interpretation a little as they did not like selective service.

"They registered everybody in each section. There was a lot of resistance. One of the main objections was that the Issei did not like the Nisei to be drafted. The revised form of question #28 was not in yet and the Issei did not think it was fair. They cooled <sup>off</sup> after it was revised. At first the registration was voluntary, but only about 60 came so they made it compulsory registration.

"The main objection was over 28 and volunteering. The Issei did not like the Nisei to be drafted at all as all the Nisei would be taken as they could not claim dependents. By the time the compulsory registration came, the issues were clear and the people understood that all the Nisei would not be drafted yet.

"I was a teacher then too and all the teachers had to help out. Rowher was one of the slowest centers to complete the registration. They registered by initials and had set hours for each group to come. In the four blocks, the first day 500 came. It was supposed to be finished in 6 days and schools were let out as the teachers had to be the interpreters. The administration did not want to do it as they were marked as Inus. (He means the Nisei administration workers.)



Frank: "At Tule there was a threat that failure to cooperate would mean a fine of \$10,000. They said it was compulsory to register. They did this after #28 was clarified."

Barry: "There was a shift in attitudes after the first voluntary registration in Rowher, because there was no leadership and the people had to decide for themselves. When the people learned that it was compulsory, the opposition died away. There were not many block meetings in between the block registration. There were not any large mass meetings at all. The council and other groups did not make any statements one way or the other. The JACL leaders kept quiet. They did not want to be identified as JACL leaders. Two months ago I got a letter from Larry to get the camp people to support the JACL in fighting court cases. My attitude against JACL is not favorable at all, so I did not write any editorials supporting the JACL although I was thinking of writing an editorial saying that JACL had made mistakes in the past but was not the only group to fight for the Nisei. But the leaders in camp told me not to do it as they were afraid. This was especially true after the Kibei incident.

"One night I was eating in the mess hall with some fellows and a bunch of night shift Kibei firemen came in. They spoke Japanese. They said guys like me should be beaten up. They they said a lot of things about it. I got up to leave. There was one Kibei who recognized me. I spoke to him and then another Kibei pops up and asks me who I was. He said he heard I did not like Kibeis. They said I could not prove anything bad about them. I said I had a lot of friends who would support me. They said they were not afraid of numbers. I told them that I knew a lot of good Kibeis. I told them that just because they had been to Japan, they thought that they knew everything. I told them off.

"After they finished eating, they marched out. One of the Outpost members said that some of the Kibei in the block were getting ready to gang up on me. I heard later that the firemen Kibei were a rough bunch and they pulled knives



so I should not argue with them. This bunch went to Tule Lake later. There were other incidents like this but we did not have any big excitements. Most of the people in camp thought it was a very quiet camp. We did not have any outbursts on the registration at all. It was so quiet that on some days during the summer all the internal security workers went fishing. Once there was a riot when they were gone and some fellows got stabbed in the messhall. There were some Hawaiian seamen, seven in the block. One of them wanted the cook to give him pork chops. The steward was a big man and he told the Hawaiian to get the hell out of the place. The Hawaiians came back in a bunch. They locked the doors and started a fight with the kitchen crew. They chased an old man around the kitchen and hit him. The man picked up a cleaver and he started after the Hawaiian and hit him. A couple of other Hawaiians got hit too. Two of them had to go to the hospital. The other two got slight cuts. The Hawaiians all stuck together and they were a tough bunch. They were pretty big guys."

(The talk goes on until 5:45, but I have some other things to type up so I will have to quit eavesdropping on this conversation.

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I got a letter today from Valerie C. Wickham, the Director of Admissions of the University, and she said that she was happy to report that my application for admission has been approved. She said my name would be sent to the Student Relocation Council for clearance and then she would issue a certificate of admission to me when I made up my mind to enroll. I was the first Nisei to be cleared for the University of Chicago.

This is good news and I have to think about taking a course in the Social Service administration seriously. I would like to take the case work course next quarter. I am not thinking of my M.A. but I would like to do a little on it. I would have quite a few units to do in order to finish up, but I am not thinking in terms of my thesis yet. I figure that I have enough data on hand



to think more of it later. I do want to keep up a little in the field though.

The only drawback is the financial problem. Tom says that it cost about \$50 a quarter to take one course here. That is a little steep for me at the present time. During the past three months, I have only saved \$7 but that was because of the additional expenses that I have had. I want to ask the Student Relocation Council about possible aid, but they want to get the \$226 back from Emiko. She is going to send a letter of explanation to show that she needs all the money for school expenses. After that is all cleared up, I can go ahead and ask for myself. The Student Council will probably feel that it is being run for the Kikuchi family only as Jack and Emiko have already received assistance from it. I want Bette to apply next year and now I am thinking of putting in an application. That seems to be overdoing it a little and it makes me hesitate. I don't think that I will be able to swing it by myself if my present expenditures continue on at the same rate. With a few cuts here and there, I might be able to scrape enough together, but I don't know. We were pretty near to the margin as it is and we are not putting much aside for an emergency cushion. I want to have enough saved up to take care of Bette's schooling in the case I am drafted. It seems that I have many objectives in mind when I think of saving: the family resettlement, the education of Emiko and Bette, my own education, my desire to have something for the post-war, the desire to have something for an emergency like a big illness, possible unemployment after the war, etc. I will have to do some heavy thinking if I am going to make up my mind and enroll for the next quarter. Since some of the other school problems have been solved, I feel a little easier about my own problem of education. I also have to think in terms of not letting any courses interfere with my work. I don't know if it is patriotic to go to school nowadays, but one has to think of personal betterment even during times of war. Maybe that is a selfish motive, but I certainly will be in a better position to do something



constructive if I have more of a background. I still have guilty feelings about not being in the Army. That is a hard situation to explain.

omit 3901  
The Student Relocation Council would never have questioned Emiko if the story had not appeared in the Mt. Mountain Sentinel and reprinted in the Pacific Citizen. It may not have made any difference as Mr. Humphries of the JC would probably have informed the Council anyway. There is nothing underhanded about what we are doing. Emiko really does need the money for school expenses. The other evening we figured out that it will cost her \$300 for the first school year.

The story in question appeared in the Mt. Mountain Sentinel and Pacific Citizen as follows: (It was sent in by Louise.)

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"Chicago .... After almost giving up hopes, two Nisei girls finally were able to attend high school and junior college here without paying a non-resident tuition fee which amounted to \$196.00 and \$226.00 per year respectively.

"Bette Kikuchi, a student at Hyde Park High School, and her sister, Emiko, who is attending Wilson City College, were two happy girls when they received news from the Chicago Board of Education that upon reconsideration of their appeal for exemption of paying the non-resident tuition fee for public school students, the board had decided in their favor.

"It meant the culmination of a seven months' fight in favor of the Nisei. Charles Kikuchi, formerly of S.F., accepted a job with the Evacuation and Resettlement Study of the University of California in the Chicago office while in the Gila Relocation Center. Upon acceptance of this job, Kikuchi brought his two sisters, Bette and Emiko, with him, intending to make his permanent home in Chicago.

"The two girls enrolled in their respective schools but two weeks later were refused on the grounds that they must pay a non-resident fee of \$196 per year for the high school student and \$226 for the JC coed. The payment was made under protest.



"Kikuchi appealed to the Board of Education without avail. He conferred with the Chicago office of the WRA, the Washington office of the WRA, American Friends Service Committee, and various professors and individuals and finally the Chicago Civil Liberties Union. In discussing the matter with Irs Latimer of the Civil Liberties Union, Kikuchi stressed that he did not wish to have the matter brought up as a race issue but on the reason that he brought his sisters here to Chicago with intentions of making their home here permanently.

"The Board of Education contended that inasmuch as the two girls' mother was still at Gila and she being the head of the family and not living in Chicago, the girls were nonresidents and consequently had to pay the tuition fees required. As Kikuchi's father died at Gila after his departure for Chicago and thus became the head of the family, he took out legal guardianship papers in the probate court. As Bette is only 17, the court recognized Kikuchi as her legal guardian, however, Emiko who is 19 was regarded as an individual.

"The action of the Board of Education in granting the exemption paves the way for other Nisei resettlers to enter public schools without payment of the nonresident fee, provided their parents accompany them and make their residence in this city or else some relative takes out legal guardianship papers over that student. The Board's decision is not a blanket ruling for all Nisei. There are other cases of a similar type still pending."

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Dorothy and WI have invited us for a Sunday breakfast date at 11:00 and Emiko and Bette are excited about that. Bette said that the trouble was that nobody appreciated the fact that we knew such important people and had lunch with them. She feels that it is worthy of newspaper mention at her high school, and she said that <sup>she</sup> ~~that~~/was going to tell her social problems teacher of the event as he should know all the important people in Sociology! She is going to wear the dress I gave her for Xmas for the fourth time. She might wear just her suit.



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I told them that we may eat at the Quadrangle Faculty Club and that adds an added zest to the occasion as Bette said that not many students can say they ever ate as the guest of a professor!

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I came to the office with the intention of typing up my notes on Toshio M. of Camp Shelby but I have not gotten around to it. It is past six now and I have to go home to eat. I may do it tonight if we do not go out. In that case it will have to wait until Monday.

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Later .... I've been waiting for two hours for E and B to come home. A few minutes ago, B phoned and said that they were on the way now. They went over to Mariko's for a while after finishing the shopping. I am hungry as a horse. I shined all my shoes, addressed some Xmas cards, fixed my cigarette lighter, read the papers, listened to a gory radio play, and now am typing this to pass the time and forget my hunger. I don't know what Emiko has on the menu for dinner so I could not start the cooking except to soak some rice. I think we are going to have steak this evening.

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Comments made by Tosh Moriyama, PFC, last night.

When I came home last night there was a note for me from Tosh saying that he had a letter from Ken Tashio, pvt., and he would return about seven. He came right on the dot. I did not know him before. It made Bette laugh when he asked for "Mr. Kikuchi." Tosh said that he was in the same regiment as Ken at Shelby. Ken has not written me since leaving Gila for the Army. Tosh said that he was a little afraid of putting comments into letters for fear of censorship, not that he had any vital military information to pass on to me.

Tosh belongs to the 442nd Regiment of Camp Shelby, slightly less famed than the 100th Hawaiian Infantry which has received so many favorable reports from



Italy in the past couple of months. Tosh said that he was on a 15-day furlough. He had no particular place to go as he does not know anybody on the mainland. He is from Hawaii. He said he came up here with a couple of Nisei soldiers from camp and this has been his first opportunity to see any of this country. He has not taken any leaves before. Tosh was not much interested in going to New Orleans or other cities of the South. He is not impressed with Chicago at all. His destination is New York. However, like all the Hawaiian Nisei soldiers, the mecca is Washington, D.C. and Tosh said that this was the only place he was anxious to see. He wants to walk around the National Capitol and see the White House, the Senate Building, the Supreme Court and all of the national historic spots there. He said that this was the desire of all his buddies. New York is the next most important sight-seeing spot for them. The Hawaiian soldiers don't have homes to go to and they do not have relatives in the camps so that they spend their leaves making this sight-seeing trip which includes Chicago, New York, Washington, and then back through New Orleans. Until the time he joined the Army last April, Tosh has never been off of Ohau Island in Hawaii, 22 miles long and 15 miles wide!

Tosh is a quiet-looking fellow. He is about 5'9" and weights 150 pounds. In excellent physical condition. Has a rough complexion. Very large teeth, acid eaten from eating too many pineapples "back home." His face has many abrasions, but not too noticeable. Very friendly in manners. He talks with a slight accent, but his English is better than many of the Hawaiian Nisei I have heard. Quite proud of Hawaii and probably homesick. Later in the evening, he said that he used to be a terrific introvert, but he is getting over that in Shelby. Does not go to town often to get drunk. As we got friendlier he fell back into many pidgin English expressions. Uses quite a few swear words in coloring his stories, like Jesus Christ, Holy Shit, etc. Uses them quite naturally and I suspect that it is a regular part of his speech. He seems to be rather intelligent



in spite of this. Has a strong interest in intellectual affairs, but has not kept up as his Army life is rather strenuous. Keeps informed mostly through bull sessions. Appeared to be under Ken's influence a great deal. Tosh is 22 years old and a hs graduate.

Tosh started the conversation by talking about Ken and his remarks were rather interesting: "Ken is one of the most respected fellows down in Shelby. He is a little older than the rest of them but he does not ask for any quarter. I would say that he is the inspirational force in our outfit. Jesus Christ, he never gripes and he is not a damn 'hu mali-mali! He is the leader type but he does not go around making himself a big shot. That is why he has not got his pfc rating yet. At first he was a little disappointed as he was promised something, but he seems to have been forgotten. Ken did not let that stop him at all. He just dug in and he is the one fellow who keeps the morale in our barracks up. They all go around him in the evenings and listen to him explain the war. He knows what we are fighting for. He never gets too discouraged and that makes him a morale builder. Hell, we are always talking about morale. The boys now think that morale is the way Ken acts. He is a cook in our anti-tank regiment, but the Army marches on its stomach and we think he is a very important part of our lives.

"Jesus, we are always talking about morale. The fellows think that <sup>it</sup> ~~that~~/is going out and getting a piece of tail every time they get a pass. That's all they talk about most of the time. Sometimes I wonder about all this raping by the Japanese soldiers. I got sore as hell when I heard of the rape of Nanking, but I bet the Japanese 'kotunks' will do it just as much. Christ, they sure get hungry for a woman though. The mainlanders are a little timid, but the Island boys don't scare and they go after the 'haoles' (pronounced hollies and meaning white person).



"I don't know what to say about the morale at Shelby. I think it is pretty low. The boys gripe a lot. The Island boys like to stick together, but the mainlanders goes around cutthroating. At first there was a lot of friction because the Hawaiian boys and the mainlanders did not understand each other so well. A lot of them still don't get along, but I like the mainlander. The Island fellows were resentful, by god, because all of the mainlanders got the promotions and rating at first since they went to camp before we did. Now it is not so bad. All the fellows are restless. They want to be on the go. We are going on maneuvers pretty soon. Maybe we will be shipped over after that. All the boys want that. What the hell, there is no use staying in Shelby. It is getting boring. We want to see some action. They have kept us there seven months now and that is more than they usually do. The 'Haole' soldiers go overseas after their basic training and they are put behind the front lines and prepared for action. About the only thing the 442nd has done so far was to go out to guard some German prisoners. I didn't even get to do that. There are always rumors about when we are going over. The fellows think it is pretty soon.

"I have found that many of the mainlanders are quite bitter now. Maybe it was the evacuation. The Island boys are all idealistic and we are fighting for democracy. The mainlander thinks more that he is fighting for the Nisei. I didn't go through that experience so I would not feel that way. I feel like any god damned American. That's the way I was brought up. A lot of the fellows are young and they went into it for the excitement. They don't fight so much among themselves like before. They are getting to know the best of each side and they realize that they will have to be buddies on the front line. The mainlander wants to get out of the combat unit; they like to be spread all out. The Islanders don't feel that way. We think that we get further by cooperation and we don't cut throats as much.



At first the Island boys called the mainlanders 'ko-tunks.' ( I don't know what it means exactly, but they were fighting words. The mainlander would fight at that more than if they were called Japs. Back in the Islands we are used to being called Japs and there was nothing derogatory about that. We never heard the word 'Nisei' until we came over here. We are all Japanese blood, aren't we? We are Americans too and damn proud of that. The mainlanders are too sensitive. Now we all use the word 'ko-tunks' on each other and it means that we are buddies. We call Ken Tashiro the 'Island Kotunk' because he did so much to break down the friction of both groups. He used to tell us to save our fighting strength for the front lines so we can fill out the motto 'Go for broke.' That is a pidgon term and it means 'Let's go and give everything we got.' A lot of mainlanders use pidgon terms now. They are crazy about it. The Island boys can't speak good English at all. They all use pidgon. I feel lucky because I paid attention to English in school and I tried to improve myself.

"The only kotunks we don't like now are the 'ku-mali malis.' That means that they are the kiss asses. These fellows try and make a good impression on the officers so that they can get ratings. They cut throats too. Ken would never ku mali mali. He had a chance to be in the publicity department, but he did not want to cut throat the other fellow out of there. We all resent the ku mali malis. They can't give us fighting spirit.

"One thing I noticed right away was that the mainlander spoke damn good English. They all had good education and many are college fellows. The Island boys are high school graduates too but a lot of them did not get through. They got used to pidgon and it is hard for them to break the habit. It is the lowest form of English and it has a mixture of many languages in it. All of the uneducated in the Islands use it. They learn good English in school and then they forget it just as soon as they leave the class. The mainlanders made fun of them at first but they learned respect when the Island boys came in fighting.



"There are many reasons why so many of the Island boys volunteered. There was a lot of push put on them. They said that it was patriotic. Everybody started to do it. A lot of the fellows went in whole gangs and work crews to volunteer. It was hard to say no. A lot of the young fellows thought it was a good chance to get to the mainland and see the world. I joined up for idealistic reasons. I have a conviction about what I am fighting for. I believe in America and I was willing to do my part. I think the reputation of the 100th infantry had a lot to do with the volunteering. They had a good record and we were proud of it. They set up a standard that will be hard for other outfits to reach.

"Some of the Japanese drafted after the war were put into labor battalions; they call them engineers and they just do labor work. The fellows didn't want that and be forced to stay on the Island so they volunteered for combat.

"I think a lot of the mainlanders joined up for different reasons. They were on the spot and it is a good record for them to have 1,000 volunteers after the evacuation and the camp life. If that was what happened in Hawaii, no 10,000 would have volunteered. I think that is why the mainlanders are more sensitive and they think they are fighting for the Nisei. But there were a lot of them who joined up who were very idealistic. Ken is like that. He got a wife and two kids in camp and yet he signed up. The only thing is that he worries about his 14-year old kid in camp and feels that he may get the wrong influences. He wanted to take his family out to Cincinnati, but that was not practical as the dependents allowance is not big enough yet.

"I think that the economic circumstances determine loyalty. On the mainland the Japanese lost everything so they are not so willing to be loyal. In the Islands, the Japanese got to keep all their business and everybody had the same restrictions. They got to work on most of the defense jobs and many young Nisei are making more money now than ever before. Hell, they make \$10.00 a day



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a day for any simple job and the good jobs pay up to \$20.00 a day. They have something to fight for, ya? (Tosh used this term frequently and it means roughly, 'huh'.)

"That is why the fellows in Shelby are raring to go. The spirit has spread to the mainlanders. Hell, it is not the real thing to charge fake targets. You can't get a fighting spirit up by doing that. That is why the boys are all getting bored. I don't know if they really want to go overseas. They gripe a lot and maybe it is all a bluff. They just want to get away from the monotony. I want to go over through. Christ, why be afraid to die? I figure that the odds of getting it is low. Not too many soldiers get killed. I figure that if I go into battle, I either get shot or I don't. If I get killed, I can't worry. If I get wounded, it is either serious or not serious. If it is not serious, why worry, ya? I am not afraid to die. I just think I will come through.

"Sometimes I wonder what I am going to do after the war. I should think of it now, but what's the use. I don't know what I can do. I only have experience as a worker. I don't know if I will be able to go back to the plantation and be happy after the war. The opportunities on the Islands are small for a Japanese. I think the mainlander has more chance. But I want to get back to the Islands. That is my life and I am used to it. I think most of the Island boys will go back. We belong there. A lot of the fellows are lonesome, Jesus Christ, one kanaka writes 2 letters home every night and he does it with a flashlight after the barracks lights go out. At first a lot of the boys got so lonesome that they cried at night, but they are getting toughened up now. One fellow can get a medical/<sup>dis</sup>charge but he does not want to go back home. It would be a disgrace to go back with a discharge and that is why he refused twice. He hasn't got a chance to go overseas though because his mind is off balance. Not



too many go to pieces. I heard rumors of one suicide at Shelby but I don't know if it is true or not. There are always rumors going around.

"After the war, the veterans threaten to take over everything. I don't know if that is so good. The American Legion has done a lot of un-American things. Next time there will be 10 million veterans. It is going to be hard all around. I don't know how the Nisei will make out.

"It was pretty hard for me to leave the family. My mother approved of my volunteering after I explained it to her. I used to go to her room every night and talk to her until late so that she would get used to it. My mother does not speak a word of English but she said that she would stick by her children and it was my duty to go. A lot of the Issei felt that way and there was no objection to the enlisting. That's why we had 10,000 volunteers in the Islands. I think all the Issei feel the same way although there were a lot who were more sympathetic to Japan. But they were not in a position to say anything. Most of the Issei want to be with their families. They have been in Hawaii and they don't know any other way of living now. They would not get along in Japan at all. Of course, they will not damn the Emperor but they will stick for America. With so many of the second generation in the Army and with thousands of others doing defense work, the old people have no other choice. There were some cases where the parents objected, but there was more of a pressure all around for them to volunteer. All of the leaders set an example and you had to have a pretty good excuse not to do it.

"I don't feel that prejudice will ever be done away with. It is not so bad as it seems in a lot of cases. Maybe we don't have it in the Islands like over here. I am surprised at the way the Negroes are regarded down in Mississippi. I don't believe in that kind of prejudice. But it is natural for people to be a little suspicious of the other groups. In Hawaii the Japanese are not oppressed.



The haole employers have treated them nice and the plantation work is not as bad as it seems. The bosses treat them like cattle. When you have good cattle, you give them a good barn. That is the way with the plantations. The bosses give the Japanese good living conditions and then they do better work. I see a lot of poor people here on the mainland and they are a lot worse off than the Japanese plantation worker. Of course, there is not much chance to have ambition. One thing I notice is that the mainland Nisei have higher ambitions than the Islanders. That is because they have a chance for a better education. At the same time, there is a lot more prejudice against them. I am not bitter about anything in the past or in the present. My life has been fairly good and I have not been deeply unhappy. Maybe the mainlander is a lot more ambitious and Americanized and we are backwards, but I don't think that there is this great difference between them. I could say that the Islander is more loyal because we had more volunteers but I know that is not true. In Hawaii the Japanese communities are much larger and we are 37 per cent of the population. In Shelby I have found many Nisei who can't even speak Japanese. At first I thought they were only being fresh but I have found out that it is true and they can't talk to any of the first generation except their parents. I think most of the Islanders can speak more Japanese but it is a colloquial kind and it would not be understood very well over here because there is a lot of pidgon mixed in with it.

"In spite of the fact that there are so many Japanese in the Islands, we have never been a strong voting block. The second generation vote all ways like any American group. That is why we have few Japanese representatives in the House even though we are 37 per cent of the population. The haoles are afraid that we will vote in a block but that never happens. The Chinese do it more than we do. I have often thought the Japanese should vote in a racial block,<sup>but</sup>/that



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is not so good either. The Nisei over there are loyal enough and they act and live like other Americans. I admit that many of the Issei do not know any English, but the Nisei group are much more powerful now. There are a lot of Japanese things in the communities yet but it is cultural. It has been developed over a long time by the immigrants who came over as contract laborers.

"My father was a contract laborer. He came to Hawaii about 30 years ago. He came to Honolulu first and then he moved all around the Island as a worker. Finally he went to the center of the Island where there is a city of 10,000 people now. It is the third largest city in Hawaii. There are mountain ranges on both sides and the sea next to that. I miss the mountains and sea. Everything is so big over here. They talk about going hundreds of miles here. On my island, it was a great trip to go to the other end of the place 22 miles away. There were 200,000 people on the Island. Honolulu has half of that. That doesn't count in all the military. I hear that Chicago has 4 million people in it, but it doesn't seem to me that the streets are any more crowded than in Honolulu. Of course, 13 stories was the highest building there. They sure have tall buildings here. I hear that they are much higher in New York. Jesus Christ, I wonder what it is going to feel like in a city with 7 million people.

"My home town was a rural place. It was all pineapples and sugar. The military barracks did not develop until much later. My father worked damned hard, by Christ, but he finally died of cancer in 1937. He was 52 years old and he left my mother and five kids. Since then, the kids have supported the family. We did all kinds of work. I only have one sister. I am the second oldest. My older brother was the only one of us who went to Japan. He won some kind of a prize and he went to study in Japan. That is why he got in trouble later on. I missed my chance to go to college after I finished high school in 1939 as I had to go to work. There wasn't such an ambition for the Nisei to go to college anyway as there was only one University.



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"Our town had more Japanese and Koreans than haoles, but a lot of the haoles came in with the army families. The wives of the officers were a little high in the sky but the old timers did not have any prejudice. There were not many Chinese in our town although there are 50,000 in the Islands. There are a lot fewer Koreans but they were lumped in our town. We got along pretty well with them but the Koreans were a little suspicious and I don't think they cared much for the Japanese although the kids used to play with each other. Sometimes the parents on both sides did not like that very much. I think that the Japanese tended to look down a little on the Koreans. The Japanese were very close together and they did not intermarry, so much like the other races there. I heard that some of the Island soldiers married haole girls over here and I wonder how it will be like when they take them back home. I guess the old folks won't object too much.

"The Koreans ran all the laundries in our town. They had all the army concessions and they did the laundry for Schofield barracks which was only one mile away. Hickam field was only about 10 miles further. We didn't know what Negroes were as there were only a couple in town. We did not put them apart though. All the groups mixed good. I went to the 12th grade in Japanese school. Many of my schoolmates went all through Japanese and haole schools with me. Our high school had mostly Nisei in it and we held all the class offices. There were a lot of haoles too and we got along fine although there was a tendency to stick to their own groups. It wasn't because they felt we were inferior though.

"I never did belong to many clubs in high school. I was more of an introvert. I never mixed in with any gangs. I was more of a bookworm. I had a hard time overcoming this feeling. Not all the Islanders are tough. A lot of the seamen came over here and the mainlanders judge just from that. Some of the mainland Nisei in Shelby told me that the Island Japanese in the relocation camps



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made a lot of trouble and that is why the mainlanders think we are all like that. There were plenty of the more introvert Nisei in our town.

"I don't know why I was more serious. I tried to keep up with all the Nisei doings on the mainland and I think that is why I understand them better. Right after high school, I went to work on a plantation farm. I did this work for a whole year. The wages were pretty good by then. Then I got a laboring job with the government contractor and I worked at Schofield Barracks with a mixed crew. There were haoles in our crew of 75 too. We did everything from ditch digging to carpentering. The wages were very good after the war. Just before I volunteered last April I was making over \$220 a month. I made \$100 a week the last month I worked.

"My younger brother got out of high school after the war and now he is making big money. He is a checker and I don't think the high money is any good for him, ya. He runs all around with a gang now and they are wild. I don't know how the young kids will be able to go back to the lower wages of the plantation work after the war. They are starting out with high wages and they may not be willing to work for smaller wages afterwards. They will be very dissatisfied with it. It is not so bad for the older Nisei because they know what it is to work for cheaper wages from before the war. Hell, during the depression a lot of them made less than 20 cents an hour. I was making \$1.55 an hour six months ago. Now I get \$54.00 a month in the army. The high wages sure spoil the young kids ya. The first generation can't control them any more. They don't have any language schools now. All that was put away with the war. The language schools are now used for Red Cross and other things like that.

"Not too many of the first generation were interned after the war. Most of the Buddhist priests were taken. There were a lot of innocent ones. The priest of my church was taken and he was very Americanized even though he was an alien. I have never distinguished much between the generations as I got along



fairly well with all of them. I worked mostly with Japanese, although my last job was with a mixed group. Although the Islands were very tolerant I suppose the social classes were rigid and each group tended to stick more with its own. In work, there wasn't too much opportunity beyond the plantation level for the Nisei except for those with special skills. Even among the Japanese there were many class lines. Many of the Nisei looked down on the Nisei living at the other end of the Island because we considered them to be rural hicks. They were only 15 miles away too. The Honolulu Nisei looked down on us. I was a rural hick to them. I didn't know a single Japanese in the city of Honolulu.

"I did not have too much of a social life after high school as I had to work hard to support my mother. Our standard of living was fairly good. We ate Japanese food most of the time, but I don't miss it too much now. Our outfit gets a lot of rice because the other fellows want it but I can take it or leave it. I never saved any money until after the war started. Then I put aside as much as I could so that my mother would have something after I went off and volunteered.

"I was a fairly contented fellow before the war, ya. I never felt any discrimination and I considered myself as an American although I was conscious that I was Japanese too. Politically, I was all for America. Most of the second generation were like that. There was not much in the Islands that forced me to be more for Japan. We had a good stake in the economic life of Hawaii and many of the Japanese immigrants had made a lot of progress before the war came along.

"There really was not too much to spend money on before the war anyway. Once in a while we would go to Honolulu but it was not a tourist spot for us. I never took the trouble to see all the spots that the tourists go to. I just took the scenic views for granted. The one thing the people had a lot of were automobiles. I guess they would have stretched end on end from one end of the Island to the other if they were put all together. A trip usually consisted



of driving around the Island in four hours. We could never take those long driving trips that the people on the mainland took. It was even more crowded when the defense place began to spring up after 1940.

"Life just went along for us and we never took a deep interest in international politics. I am much more concerned over these things now. I never voted as I got to be 21 after the war. I did try to keep up on some of the current affairs and I think I was better read than a lot of Nisei there.

"I'll never forget the bit of history I lived through. I was working on Schofield field on December 6. I worked overtime. The next day was Sunday so that I got up real early as I wanted to go on a fishing trip for "humu nu mu apa apa" (like in the song). I was melting a little lead on my lines. It was about 6:00 in the morning. All of a sudden I heard a roaring noise. I thought it was just the ocean waves. It got louder and louder. I went outside and, Jesus Christ, I saw some planes dropping bombs. I looked like they were right over Schofield Barracks a mile away. Jesus, that's a hell of a place to have manouvers, I thought. Then I saw the smoke coming up. I didn't know what it was all about. Just then my sister came home and she said that, gee whiz, she sure some one hell of a realistic maouvers at Pearl Harbor and they sunk a lot of ships. Christ, what is happening, I thought. The next door Navy man came running out and he said it was the Japs. Then I knew that it was an attack. What a time!

"The planes would dive down over Schofield and then they would circle right over my house. It was then that I saw the red insignias on the planes. There was a lot of smoke coming up from Schofield. The radios all went off right away. My friend had a Japanese plane fall right on his house and it was burned up. He had to run out in his pajamas. One fellow went out into the streets and a stray bullet went through his stomach and killed him. What a time, what a time! Jesus Christ, the haole avioators had a lot of guts. They took off and they battled the Japanese planes who greatly outnumbered them. I watched it all from



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my front yard. My mother was scared stiff. She thought it was an invasion. The whole town thought it was an invasion. My sister saw the whole mess at Pearl Harbor and she didn't even know it was real. Jesus, can you imagine that? Everybody was caught in a surprise.

"When I realized that it was war, I was quite stunned. We had blackouts right away and life went on at a fast pace after that. So many things happened that I couldn't possibly tell you all of them in one time. Jesus, we were sure caught in surprise. That was even after Kurusu passed through and made a newspaper statement that he was on the way for a last trial to make peace. Naturally there was a great panic after the attack. Everybody was told to stay at home. Hell, I thought that all of Honolulu was destroyed and the invading armies were coming towards our town. I didn't know what to do. The 8th was a black day. I stayed at home in suspense. The radio came on after a while and then we got more of the news. A lot of the Islanders didn't know about the attack until the second day.

"I went back to work with my crew on the 9th. We had to clear out the debris at Schofield barracks. They took all the dead men out the day before. Nobody said anything to me or tried to blame me as a Jap. Some of the men picked up pieces of bombs and they said that this was what the Americans had sent to Japan in the scrap iron and they were sore as hell. I kept one of those bomb pieces for a souvenir. Then we went to Hickam field to clean it up. I did this work until I volunteered in April of this year and I was not dismissed. We had to put a lot of hours to get the fields back in shape. We worked seven days a week. There were plenty of jobs around. They had a volunteer corps to do the cleaning up and many Nisei joined that. They would not allow them to go into Pearl Harbor though. There were some Nisei who were very bitter at the treatment that they got just like on the mainland. My next door neighbor had a job at Pearl Harbor and after attack the other haole workmen told them to get the hell out as



they did not want any Japs. He joined the Volunteer Corps later and he was dismissed from that. I noticed he was one of the few in our town who did not volunteer last April. My brother was interned but he volunteered too after he got out as he realized that mistakes could be made and the government could not afford to take any chances. For the longest time, the Japanese had all kinds of rumors that there would <sup>be</sup> a general evacuation like on the mainland but that did not come about. They only took the unessential people out. My mother had a brother in the Japanese Army and still she stuck along with her kids. That should prove that her choice is for America, ya? The funny thing about the volunteering was that many of the Nisei in the Volunteer Corps did not volunteer for the Army when the time came around. They figured that they had enough of a taste of army life in the work they were doing. Most of the drafted Nisei left in the Islands had to do labor work. I guess they are still doing it. I had no false ideas about the army. I knew that it would be tough, but a lot depends upon the way you look at it. If you have certain beliefs to fight for, then it is not too hard to take. I wasn't too excited when we came to the mainland. Before we pulled out, we had a big parade and our pictures went in all the papers to show how patriotic we were. It was a good feeling to have the confidence of the people.

"I was very impressed with San Francisco. It is such a clean city. We went to Shelby right away and I have not seen much of America since then until this furlough. We may be going across soon. I am homesick for the Islands, but I will never go back there until this job is over. It's not much use thinking of the future now. You just have to live from day to day in the army and try to get the most out of it. I have broadened myself a lot since I left my island home and it will be hard to settle down there again after the war, but I look forward to it. These big places on the mainland make me feel too lost. America is a wonderful place, but I will be contented with just the Island part of it."

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It is now midnight and for the past hour Emiko and Bette have been trying out different clothes to wear to the breakfast engagement with the Thomas's tomorrow morning. These women and their fashions! I bet they don't get to bed for a couple of hours yet!

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It's freezing cold today! This is the first sample of freezing cold weather that we have had. It is only 17° now but it is expected to get down to about 10° this evening. I don't even have any ear muffs or a hat either. Frank said that it is only beginning to get cold now. He said that it gets down to 20 below next month! Wow! My ears were almost frozen off this morning. Tamie was cheerful this morning. She said that we should feel lucky because in the Japanese concentration camps it gets down to such a freezing degree that gangrene sets in. She said that she knew of about six Kibei out here who were thinking about going back to camp because of the cold and the general lack of adjustments. She said that these fellows were making from \$60 to \$90 a week also.

The sky is clear enough outside. It should keep the people indoors now and I shall have to brave the elements to get the interviews. I haven't any immediate one scheduled but I will try to get some more lined up this week. The conference is pretty well lined up. I hope to get Ch-22 finished up today.

Yesterday was a busy day for us. We had a hard time getting up. We puttered around until about 3:30 on Saturday night. I typed, took a bath, and read the papers until that time. Bette read GWTW until very late. Every once in a while she would stop to compare it to the movies. I'm surprised at the detail in which she remembers this picture. Emiko read a magazine.

Sunday morning we overslept a little and we had to rush like anything to get up. It was nice and sunny when we left the house. Emiko brought WI and DS their Xmas present. We were only about 10 or 15 minutes late for the breakfast date.



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We went down to the Hotel Windemeyer<sup>more</sup> for our breakfast. It used to be one of the most fashionable hotels in Chicago. WI said that when he was here in 1890 it was a society center. The world's fair of that year was very near to it. Since then there has been a modern addition to the hotel and it is called the East Side. The atmosphere of the hotel was rather nice and we had a very enjoyable breakfast. We did not finish until almost 1:00 as we talked for a while. We had chopped beef steak for breakfast and Emiko thought it looked just like a hamburger. It was a very tasty breakfast and we had a pleasant conversation afterwards. WI and DS told us jokes.

It started to cloud up about noon and after we left WI and DS we decided to go downtown and see Mariko as I wanted to pick up a carton of cigarettes that Mark had left there. Before we got down there it started to snow. It was the first real good snow that we have seen. Emiko and Bette had a lot of fun walking through it. The snow was too dirty to make snowballs. Mariko was not home but her kitchen door was open so we walked in and made ourselves comfortable for a couple of hours. Emiko tried to do some harmonizing at the piano. Bette looked at the old photograph albums and giggled to herself, while I browsed around and looked into a couple of books. Mariko does not have very many good books. She has a lot of movie magazines and Vogue laying around, but I was not much interested in those. I wish that she would raise her taste of magazine reading a little. Probably most of the movie magazines are Yoshie's.

Mariko was not home all night. She probably stayed over with Sese or Toshi. We got tired of waiting for her so that we went over to see Yuri to get a cup of tea. Yuri is just winding up the semester at the Y college. She said that she may change her job soon but she did not know when. March (Ch-24) lives behind her and she was in and out. She did not look very happy. I asked her how her job was coming and she said that she was not doing the part-time job



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any more. She did not offer to give any further explanation. Yuri said afterwards that Mary quit the job as it was not very steady and the employer was not a very desirable person to work for as he tried to carry it over into social relationships. Mary was in the dumps because Wayne has not come back yet. He is stuck in Toledo where the truck broke down. Mary's difficulties with the landlord increased as the landlord did not think that Mary was keeping the apartment clean enough. The floor is in a mess and the landlord suggested that she <sup>done</sup> clean it. Yuri thinks that Mary should have done it right away, but Mary is postponing it until today. The rent is overdue and Mary seems to be having financial difficulties. Yuri said she had to run all around to get somebody to loan her some money for the rent. Another difficulty is that the phone company took the phone out of the building as somebody has been putting too many slugs in it. There was a long distance phone call which the landlady refuses to pay. This creates another problem as Wayne is on last minute call and there will be no way for his company to notify him now that the phone is out.

There was one thing that Mary was feeling good about. She said that the Herald American had an article in it which said that Nisei could go back to California if they got the army clearance as General Emons will not try to keep them out of the state. Mary feels that this is her chance to go back and she said that she was going to the WRA office to find out more about it as soon as possible. We looked all over for the article but could not find it so I thought it was only a rumor. Tamie said this morning that this referred to only the non-Japanese who were excluded. However, Tom came in a little later and he said that the story was true.

Yuri's reaction to the story yesterday was: "Well, a lot of those Nisei who have been yelling about going back to California will stop now. It was just an excuse for them. I bet not over 100 go back. They haven't anything to go back to. Maybe they will settle down more now that they cannot yell about



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California any more. They wouldn't be able to get jobs out there anyway. I don't think that very many will return. I would like to go back for a visit. Maybe I will try to get a permit to go to Manzanar to see my mother. Then I can stop in on Los Angeles. I heard that it is pretty crowded out there though. I hear that they may close Manzanar up and send all the people to Poston. I'm definitely not going back to California to live. I don't have any future there."

The office staff's reaction was similar to Yuri's. The news does not excite me at all. We jokingly said that we could have our next study conference in Berkeley. There might be a possibility that if a great many did return to California, one of the staff might have to go and do the study there. I hardly think that this is a possibility for a long time.

I have no urge to go back to California at all. I would have no reason to go as I have little ties there now. I hardly see much of an economic future for me in California unless it is in Civil Service. The study won't last forever. It would mean that I would have to completely drop all plans for family resettlement if I returned. I doubt if there would be much of a future for Emiko and Bette there. Of course, if I did go back it would mean that University of California would be open.

It is extremely difficult to plan the future these days. I can't see anything beyond the study right now although I have vague ideas of getting an MA degree in social work. But I do not know what that will lead to. If my outlook is so uncertain, I can well understand how the rest of the Nisei would be in a similar position. It may be a different story for those with property.

DS was telling us about the Bay Area yesterday. She said that it would be difficult to recognize the place now. She said that California must have increased well over a million in population and the concentration was mostly



in the places with defense industries. There are six or more shipyards in the Bay Area alone. She said that housing was a terrific problem and it was almost impossible to find a place. There has been a large influx of Negroes into Oakland and many unpleasant incidents have happened there. She said that many of the Negroes were being shoved off of the streets. After the war, most of those people will remain in the state.

It is not a fear of possible violence that would determine my going back there or not. It is basically an economic problem. The thing that I miss most is the mild climate and it is particularly noticeable right now. It would be foolish to go back solely on the basis of climate, however.

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Ned Spicer of the WRA Community Analysis Section came in this morning to discuss a little further about the report he wanted the study to do in cooperation with the WRA on types of evacuee social adjustments in Chicago. He would like it in terms of various aspects of the resettlers' life, such as, the type who live in hotels; are they all young and unattached fellows? What proportions are girls? What is the rate of mobility? What type of work do they engage in? What is their relationship of social adjustments to the type of work they are in? Where are they concentrated and in what districts, etc.

Dorothy still maintains that there was a statistical basis needed in order to make any survey of this nature. Nothing definite was settled although there will be further discussion on it later this afternoon. Spicer expects to be in Chicago for about a week. He seems to be one of the higher type of WRA personnel and he has had quite a good background in anthropology. He has a Ph.D. degree.

We discussed a little more about the segregation program at Tule Lake. Spicer mentioned that the latest plan was to create two special wards for the



Kibei who will be weeded out by some method which the WRA has not completely devised yet. In other words, they plan to screen the loyal from the disloyal Kibei. I don't know whether this plan will be successful or not. It seems to me that they are carrying out this segregation business to an idiotic degree. I don't think that the WRA will be able to create better harmony at Tule by doing such a thing as this. It will only mean that they will have to do a further segregation later on. The original idea of segregation was good but I think they are refining it too much now and the Kibei are going to be the scape-goats. The WRA personnel has been frustrated in the administration of the camps in many ways and they are releasing this feeling by taking an aggressive attitude towards the Kibei and throwing them to the wolves. They think that they are doing this for the safety of the people in the other nine camps but I sometimes wonder if this purpose will be achieved.

It seems to me that the WRA is treating the evacuees similar to the treatment of prisoners and juvenile delinquents in the old days. They want to keep punishing individuals and groups for their superficial actions without getting at the real roots and causes of the disturbances. In other words, they are treating the symptoms and not the real cause. We have learned from the treatment of prisoners that repressive measures do not necessarily cure them but it only makes them more anti-social and resentful. This is exactly the thing that the WRA now seems to be doing to the so-called disloyal group of evacuees. It is sufficient to separate them from those who believe in this country and I don't think that the disloyal necessarily have to be punished just because they have opposing convictions or because they have been driven to it by frustrating experiences. In the treatment of juvenile delinquency the method now is to get the boy to feel that he is an acceptable part of society and there is an attempt to eliminate the more causative factors in his background. This



seems to be a better way to treat the Kibei also. As long as they do not harm the thinking of the young Nisei, I think that this is sufficient and there is not any particular need for further repressive method once they are segregated. However, there is the problem of many young Nisei at Tule with their parents and they may be unduly influenced towards the Japanese propaganda. Now that I am out of camp I suppose I can view the Kibei and pro-Japan elements more objectively and not condemn them for everything that happened in camp. There is always the larger forces outside the camps to consider and it is these groups that have been the greatest spreaders of prejudice and hate toward the evacuee group.

There is now a bill up in Congress, according to Spicer, which would defranchise all of the Kibei who have answered "no" to the registration or to those who refused to register. This may have been an outcome of the announcement made by Attorney General Biddle previously. However, I am inclined to believe that the bill has been pushed mostly by the California Congressmen and Native Sons groups. It sets the depriving of American citizenship to a citizens sets a dangerous precedent for this country and I hardly think that it is constitutional. However, evacuation was not constitutional either, but it was construed as such. Therefore, anything can happen. In the case of the Nisei, this is a dangerous threat to their future welfare since such a law holds a club over them and there would be a tendency to treat them as a group and not as individuals due to the emotional hatreds raised by the war fever. I would say that the future of the Kibei is much more precarious than that of the Nisei. It looks like that they are behind the eight ball all the way through. I hardly think that even Japan will want this group whose loyalties are superficial and determined by the changing environmental circumstances. I suppose in most cases that loyalty to a country is influenced greatly by the environmental surroundings of that individual.



It occurs to me that if such a law goes into effect, the Nisei will have an even harder time of it because even if they react in an American way, there would be more of a tendency to interpret this as utterances of disloyalty, particularly for the period of the duration anyway. The Nisei would not be able to gripe about working conditions, living standards or anything for fear that it would be interpreted as a statement <sup>of</sup> treason to this country. It doesn't seem conceivable that such a law of depriving American citizenship could pass through Congress, but one cannot predict anything during periods of war. It seems to me that the next step in such an event would be to move to deport not only the disloyal evacuees, but all Japanese and their American-born children on the grounds that they cannot be assimilated to the greater American life. This argument has been fostered for years by the Native Sons, the American Educational League, Joint Immigration Committee, American Legion posts in California and other fascistically inclined organizations and individuals. The trend toward fascism may be general in this country after the war, although I am hoping that the reactionary forces will not be able to achieve political power. It would much rather see a greater trend toward a more socialistic form of government since this would provide more benefits for the largest masses of people. I have an idea that the world in general will swing toward the left after the war if Russia is able to maintain her great influence among the nations. The opposite tendency may result if England gains the upper hand as the British believe in maintaining the pre-war status quo. If that happens, the war will have been meaningless and fought in vain.

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Tom brought in the article about the Nisei return to California which is causing the present sensation in the Nisei circles. There is not much news about it at all. Significantly enough, the Hearst Herald American was the only paper to carry the story and it was buried in the back pages. I plan to file my



application as soon as the details are a little more known as it will not hurt to find out what it is all about. Dorothy said that it would be nice to have a meeting in Berkeley as she figures that we should have a conference very six months or so in order to keep the work integrated. She does not think that there would be much personal danger if only a few Nisei returned to California. She does not expect any large mass to go there even if the area were completely opened up. She thinks the danger of mob violence is much overrated, but the Nisei would have to be willing to take dirty looks and be thick skinned about it. I don't anticipate any immediate return, but I do want to get an application filed just in case there is some need for me to return in the future. The Herald American story is as follows: (December 11, second section, p. 14.)

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#### JAPS MOVE BACK TO WEST COAST

by Ray Richards

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.-- Official confirmation came from the army today that the dreaded movement of Japanese back to the West Coast has started.

Any evacuated Japanese-American who wishes to return need only apply to the civil affair division of the Western Defense Command, and, if the division sees no danger to military security, clearance will be given, according to a letter by Lieut. Gen. C. Emmons, commander of western defenses.

Representative Warren G. Magnuson, Washington Democrat, denounced the plan as confirming in full the high concern felt by Pacific Coast residents since it was first learned last April that Lieut. Gen. John L. DeWitt would be supplanted in the western command by Gen. Emmons.

Representative John M. Costello, California Democrat, greeted the news with the announcement that a special meeting of his Japanese affairs subcommittee



of the Dies House committee on un-American activities will be called next week to hear testimony on the new development from Major Gen. Miller G. White, assistant chief of staff of the War Department, Costello said:

"Common sense and deep west coast experience necessitates that we approach the subject from the standpoint that no examination can be given to Japanese that will bring absolute, undubitable proof of their loyalty, and that their return to the west coast is unnecessary on any grounds. We know we cannot safely have them around our military installations."

Representative Magnuson wrote Gen. Emmons for an explanation when it was reported a Japanese woman had appeared at the home of the family of an American soldier at Seattle, announced she was the wife of the Caucasian owner of the house.

Magnuson wrote Gen. Emmons an inquiry as to whether the incident was to serve as confirmation of a report that the army intended to permit Japanese principals of mixed marriages to return to the combat zone. The reply from Gen. Emmons indicates the army intends to interpose no objections whatsoever to the wholesale return of Japanese, as individuals, against whom there is no evidence to intention to serve as enemy agents.



Charles Kikuchi  
Chicago

DIARY

3901  
Tuesday, December 14, 1943

I didn't go out on interviews last night because Imiko was still ill with the flu. I phoned Sakae to arrange for an interview but she was not in. I will not get a chance to interview Imiko until next week so that I will have to fill in with another case this week if possible. It was just as well that I did not go out last night because it was freezing -- 5 degrees. My ears felt like icicles! It is about the same this morning and the cold wave is expected to last for two more days yet. I don't know if I will be able to go out until it thaws out a little bit or until I get more used to this sudden cold.

Bette has come down with a rather severe cold and I am afraid that she has the flu. She had all kinds of body aches this morning but her headache has eased off quite a bit. Bette went to bed as soon as she came home yesterday afternoon from school. We had been giving her a liquid diet last night. She bundled all up and took a hot water bottle to bed with her. She is staying home from school today. I would like her to stay in for the next few days so that she will not get worse, but Bette insists that she has to go to school to take some tests tomorrow.

Emiko seems to be getting some sort of a cold also. She appears to have a slight infection on her lanced tonsils this morning. She cut a class and she was still in bed when I left. I certainly hope that both of them do not get ill at the same time. One has to be careful about the flu here as it may even lead into pneumonia if not taken care of properly. Emiko went shopping last night with Mariko. She is supposed to buy Mariko's Xmas present for George but she did not know what to get. Therefore, Mariko went down with her last night to get some sort of an idea. Later on George will go down with Emiko and she will get him to select the thing that Mariko wants. Then all parties concerned will be happy. Emiko said that she lost Mariko in a department store and that is why she came home earlier. Mariko got too impatient waiting for Emiko and that is why she went off.

We got an invitation to go to some sort of a Xmas party next Friday out in



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Oak Park but we don't think that we will go to it. The invitation was given by one of the women that Emiko and Bette met at the recent Kobe College banquet. She wrote that she had a family tradition of gathering all of her friends at Xmas time and after a dinner the people would sit around and tell stories, sing Xmas carols, etc. She expects about 40 people for this occasion. I don't think that Bette will be over her cold by that time and I rather suspect that Emiko may come down with a cold later in the week.

Last night I asked Bette where my knife was as I wanted to punch a hole in the typewriter ribbon. Bette said that Emiko took the knife with her on Dec. 7. When Emiko came home I asked her what she was using the knife for and she said that she carried it around for protection! The girls out at school have given her some sort of a scare about all of the recent Negro rapings and Emiko did not want to take any chances. I told her that a knife wouldn't do her much good because she would be so scared that she wouldn't have time to open up the blade anyway. The scare has now passed over so that she returned my knife to me last night!

< In phoning Imiko last night (CH-23). I got quite a story about all of her troubles in the brief time that I talked with her. Imiko is quite worried about all of the problems which now face her and she wanted to know what she could do about it. She said that she has been ill in bed for one week with the flu and she had a high fever for a few days. She did not call a doctor because she said that her funds were so low. Another thing that worries her greatly is that Lucy, one of the roommates, is going to move out of apartment on Jan. 2 to go to Evanston to live with her sister. This will leave Imiko with the major burden of paying the \$54 a month rent. She will have to pay two-thirds of it for herself and her brother. Imiko only makes about \$90 or \$100 a month and taxes are deducted from this. She has been banking on her parents coming out here by Xmas, but now it does not seem that this will be possible for some weeks yet. Imiko doesn't know what to do about her brother's schooling. She has heard that several other Nisei boys have slipped



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into the school system without the payment of tuition. I suggested that she try the same thing with her brother if a solution can not be worked out by the beginning of next semester. Imiko has not done very much about the school problem as she had expected her parents to be out here before next semester. She said that her father had written her the other day saying that the Immigration authorities at Santa Fe are still studying his case before his indefinite release can be granted. Imiko phoned the Immigration officer here but he did not have any further suggestions to make. He told her that she should not be too anxious about the matter as it will take a little time to clear her father. Imiko said that her funds were so low that she didn't know what to do. She is even thinking of going back to camp because she cannot make a go of it here. I told her that she should not become discouraged. I suggested that she write a long letter to the Gila Project director and explain the entire situation to him to see if he can eliminate some of the red tape of getting her parents out here. I told her that I would try to help her write the letter the next time I interview her, which will probably be next week.

The Thomases are leaving Chicago today and the conference is now completed. Our office life will settle down to its routine stages once more. I probably won't be too busy this week unless I happen to get another case lined up. I haven't done much preliminary work on any of the individuals I have in mind so that I may not be able to get around to the formal interviews until later. This has been due to the conferences that we have had in the past 10 days. I will probably dictate some of my notes on Imiko today.

Tuesday, December 15, 1943

It was one degree below zero this morning when I started out for the office. I haven't been able to make my contacts for another interview as Sakae has been out for the past two evenings. I had hoped to get well started on her case but this has been rather unsuccessful. I am not too upset about that, because it is so cold these days and I want to get a little used to it first before venturing out evenings. I still have some data to dictate up for CH-23.



Charles Kikuchi  
Chicago *with P*

DIARY

December 14, 1943 3904

Tom received an announcement for a New Year's Eve dance. It is being sponsored by some guy names T. Mukoyama. The dance will be held at the Skyline Athletic Club at 188 W. Randolph Street and a Caucasian orchestra will play for the event. Evidently the sponsor is hoping to make a lot of money and banking on the fact that most Nisei out here have lots of money to splurge. He is charging \$3.30 a head. At those prices I doubt if great masses of stags will come. I don't wish ~~the~~ sponsor to have a great loss, but it will serve him right if he does. I haven't heard about what the other Nisei orchestra is planning for New Year's Eve but Tom heard a rumor that the band has now disbanded. The last time I saw Ken, he told me he was thinking of dropping the whole thing. I hope that the rumor is true because a Nisei orchestra can serve no useful purpose out here.

Frank mentioned yesterday that he read in the paper that the Japanese government now refuses to exchange ~~any~~ more prisoners of war on the Gripsholm until the Tule Lake business is fully investigated and a report sent to them. I rather suspect that the repatriates who went back on the last boat must have spread some pretty choice stories about the awful conditions of the relocation centers. They probably were under pressure to tell of the worst of camp life and to minimize the better parts of it because of propaganda purposes.

Frank was also worried yesterday because Tamie phoned him just before we left the office and she wanted to know just how essential her work to the Study was. She told Frank that the University of Hawaii and the Army has offered her a job in Hawaii to do morale work. Tamie does not know what to do about it because she feels certain obligations toward the study at the same time. She was here all morning but she did not mention about it to Dorothy. Tamie said that she had a priority status on the boat going to Hawaii so that she could leave pretty quickly. Frank suspected that Tamie wanted him to beg her to stay on the Study because of her essential position in finishing up the Poston report. Frank did not commit himself at all. Tamie does have the tendency to dramatize herself



Charles Kikuchi  
Chicago

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3905  
December 15, 1943

and she may just have been baiting him on. If she does leave, it will knock quite a hole in the Study because she is the only one in a position to write up a complete report on Poston. It is a crisis from the point of view of the Study because it is hard to determine just what Tamie will do. In a way I suppose that it will be better for her to go back to Hawaii because she does have relatives there and there is nothing in Poston that will hold her except possibly X -- and he is a married man. Maybe Dorothy could replace her with Bob in the event that Tamie does decide to leave the Study. She has several crates full of notes on Poston which she has been organizing since she has been out here and she had planned to write a report on the political situation there by next February. Maybe she will wait until then before leaving the Study. If the draft does suddenly go in, I can well see what an administration problem that will be for Dorothy since all of the male members will have little grounds for deferment. That is not anything to worry about for the immediate present.

We spent a couple of hours moving the office around in order to rearrange it. Then Frank went up to ask Redfield if the excess files could be moved out. He came back with the news that we were going to be moved to Room 5 because Redfield does not think that this office is good enough for us. We would rather stay in this office because there is less chance of being moved again, but the office upstairs told Frank that it would not make any difference what room we were in. Room 5 is much larger and better office, but I don't think we will have much feeling of security in there. I don't know when we are scheduled to move in there yet.

Bette is still ill and she did not go to school again today. I suspect that she will have to remain in bed a few more days although she wants to get back to school to make up her examinations. I have been feeling a cold coming on for the past few days, and I hope that it will not get to the point where I have to go to bed.

This morning I went over to talk to Miss Helen Wright of the Social Service Administration. I decided that I would take steps to enroll for a part time course



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3906

in the University here. Miss Wright was very nice to me and she outlined the courses that I have to take yet in order to get my M.A. degree. She said that I need the following courses for the degree: 356, 378 (1/2), 354, 352, 363, 372, 357 or two electives? and field work for two quarters? She said that I had very good recommendations from the University of California so that I would not have to take any more courses than this. This work will take quite some time as I will be able to take one unit per semester only. I was not able to escape the dreaded statistics course. I will probably register for a 4:30 to 6 class on Tuesdays and Thursdays and this should not cut into my work at all. I think I will feel much better by taking even the part time program as it will keep me in touch with the field. Right now I am uncertain as to whether a M.A. degree in social work will have any economic value for me because I don't know exactly what I want to do now.

The field work requirements are a problem. I will have to take at least two quarters of this work and it requires two full days a week. I am not worrying about this for the present as I have the other courses to take. Miss Wright said that perhaps later on I could do this study work on a three-quarter time basis and they could provide a scholarship for me. She also said that I could probably get a scholarship if I went full time right now. I told her this was not a practical idea for the present as I wish to continue my work on the Study. I think that I will be able to manage things if I take a limited program each quarter. I will also have to write some sort of a thesis but I am not going to worry about that for quite some time yet.

Miss Wright asked me about my sisters and I told her that they had received a tuition exemption. She wanted to know if I would be able to manage the financial burden of enrolling here and also supporting <sup>my sisters.</sup> them. I told her that this was quite a problem and Miss Wright immediately became concerned. She said that it was a very unusual procedure to grant any sort of financial assistance to a part-time



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student, but she suggested that I apply for a scholarship anyway and perhaps some special arrangements could be made. The financial problem has been worrying me quite a bit and there is a chance now that I may get some assistance from the Social Service Administration. I won't have to apply through the National Student Relocation Council at all. If I can get some aid, it will certainly relieve my mind of many problems. She gave me a form to fill out and suggested that I write her a letter telling her of my present financial status. I wrote the letter this morning and it was one of the hardest letters that I have written in a long time. I almost felt like it was as hard as undressing public. (See attached letter)

*omit to p. 3925*  
I still have to get a certificate of admission to the college but I do not anticipate any further difficulty with this. Miss Wright wanted to know the procedure for getting an Army clearance because there are some other Nisei students who have sent in inquiries for admittance and she did not know what to tell them. The procedure for this Joint Board clearance is still indefinite. The reason I got mine so quick is because I had a Joint Board clearance for employment and the Student Relocation Council was able to capitalize on that. I still am not positive that I do have the defense plant clearance although Shirrell told me that I did. However, there is no sense in raising questions about it at this time.

Friday, December 17, 1943

I've been taking it very easy the past day or so as I felt one of those colds coming on. Wednesday afternoon Louise came down and she decided to try and shake her cold off by staying home a few days. I went home early as I was not feeling ambitious either. Thursday I did not feel good at all so I stayed in bed all day long. Bette is still in bed, but she plans to get up a little later this afternoon. I did not come to the office until almost noon. Emiko has the beginnings of a cold also but she is determined not to come down with it until her vacation starts next week. She has some sort of an infection on her tonsils



3908  
COPY

National Japanese American Student Relocation Council  
1201 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia 7, Pennsylvania

In reply, refer to: File No. 147

December 4, 1943

Mr. Charles Kikuchi  
4743 Drexel Boulevard  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Charles:

We have recently heard from two sources that it is perfectly okay for you to attend the University of Chicago. We knew that you had obtained your war plant type of clearance. This is similar to the type of clearance you would need to attend one of these so-called "proscribed" colleges.

Also, the system we discussed in our letter of November 18th was successful. Tamotsu Shibutani is also in the same boat with you. We wish there were more of you. We're working strenuously on getting the new procedure solidified. We don't know how long it will take to have a particular student go through the process, as we have been unable to put anyone through except those like yourself who already have war plant clearance.

Cordially,

/s/ Trudy K.  
TRUDY KING  
Permit Department

tk;mt



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Office of Admissions

December 10, 1943

Mr. Charles Kikuchi  
4743 Drexel Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

My dear Mr. Kikuchi:

I am happy to report to you that your application for admission to the University for work in the School of Social Service Administration has been approved. In conformity with the procedure which we are at the present following, your name will be sent to the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council. Upon clearance from them we shall be happy to issue a certificate of admission to you when we know the quarter in which you will enter.

With good wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Valerie C. Wickhem  
Director of Admissions

VCW:er  
CC:Mr. R. Redfield



Rm. 12, Social Science Bldg.,  
University of Chicago,  
Chicago 37, Illinois.

Dec. 15, 1943

Helen Russell Wright,  
Dean of the School of Social Service Administration,  
Cobb Lecture Hall, Room 115,  
University of Chicago,  
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Miss Wright:

At your suggestion, I am writing you the full details of my present financial situation in reference to a possible loan or other financial assistance in order to enroll for a part time program in the Social Service Administration.

I plan to register for one course per quarter (four quarters) during the coming year. I believe that I will be able to fit this into my schedule since my present employment is adjustable. Eventually I hope to obtain my M.A. degree, but conditions are rather indefinite during the present crisis so that one cannot plan too fully for the future. There is a possibility of the draft coming up in the next year, but even this is indefinite. I believe that our research study will be located here in Chicago for some time yet. We are emphasizing the resettlement phase of the evacuees and I have been busy for quite some time in getting case documents of individuals and informal groups since last May. A lot of this work is done in the evening hours, so I find that I will be able to take a part time program during the late afternoons.

My present salary as a research assistant for the University of California is \$150.00 a month. However, after the taxes are deducted, it amounts to only \$135.00. I brought two sisters, ages 18 and 16, out with me and they are fully dependent upon me at the present time. One of my sisters is going to the Wilson Junior College while the other is in Hyde Park High School. Neither are working at the present time. In order to give you a rough idea of my present expenditures, I will state what my present living costs are. I pay \$35 a month for rent and our food bill is approximately \$60 a month. The rest of my salary is spent on necessary incidentals so that I find it extremely difficult to save any amount for my own educational purposes. Confidentially, I have only saved about \$7 during the past three months.

For the above reasons, it will be extremely difficult for me to register for courses, but I may be able to manage without any assistance if we cut our living standards down a little although I dislike to do this. This is a rather delicate subject for me to discuss and I find it a little difficult to state all the facts in the way that I mean them.

I have roughly \$500 in the bank of my own and another \$500 in my name which belongs to the family. This entire amount has been put aside for serious emergencies and resettlement of the rest of my family who are still in camp. My father passed away last July and I still have a mother and a younger brother and sister who are my dependents. The above re-



3910

Rm. 12, Social Science Bldg.,  
University of Chicago,  
Chicago 37, Illinois.

Dec. 15, 1943

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Cobb Lecture Hall, Room 115,  
University of Chicago,  
Chicago, Illinois.

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presents the total assets of our family since my father lost his entire business at the time of evacuation. The sum represents the difference between the security and insecurity for my family even though it is not a large amount. The resettlement process is extremely costly and because of other circumstances, I cannot plan on bringing them out here for some time yet. In addition to my family in camp, I still have further obligations toward my two dependent sisters with me now. I have a married sister and another one who is engaged at the present time but they are not in any position to render assistance as their total incomes are expended in their personal living costs. I could use some of the money set aside for the family resettlement, but I would rather not do this if it can be avoided for obvious reasons.

I realize that my personal life has little to do with the application for financial assistance so that I would like to have this information kept as confidential as possible, except when required for reference to my application.

Thank you very much for all of the helpful suggestions which you have made. I am proceeding with my registration for the winter quarter. Even without any possible assistance, I hope to be able to manage my enrollment in some way.

Very truly yours,

Charles Kikuchi



and it has been giving her some difficulty in swallowing. Yesterday a lump of infected stuff came from her tonsils. Emiko has funny tonsils. It was lanced a couple of years ago, but it still gets infected occasionally. I wanted her to go see her school doctor, but she said that the students out there were not covered for any health protection.

All I did yesterday was read. I caught up on quite a bit of it. Mariko phoned yesterday and she said that she was getting some tickets for the opening of the Ballet on New Year's Eve and she is giving the tickets as Xmas gifts. She said that a group of about six would go that evening. She also wants to take Emiko and Bette the next day as another part of their present.

My interviewing schedule is still mixed up. I do have one scheduled for for next Monday evening, and I may be able to interview Imiko on Tuesday if she is well enough. I hardly think that I will get much done until after Xmas as people seem to be pretty busy.

I finally got my cards sent out. Emiko and Bette are still planning some last minute shopping but I don't know when they will do it. Girls seem to get so excited about this holiday. Emiko and Bette are always running upstairs to see what cards came from them.

There has been a rumor going around that the WRA is going to throw a big Xmas party for the Nisei. Jacoby was here this morning and he said that the only thing he knew that was going on was that he planned to have open house that day and he invited all of us to drop over.

Spicer, Embree and Jacoby were talking with Tom and Frank about the adjustment report that they want us to do for the WRA but I only got in on the tail end of it. Jacoby is very anxious about this report as his work is in this phase of the WRA program and he wants something to go on. They said something about a tentative deadline, but I'll be darned if I am going to drop everything to work on a WRA report for a month. I don't want to get mixed up in the social aspects of the problem anyway as I



Charles Kikuchi  
Chicago

## DIARY

December 17, 1943

feel better if I only stick to the individual case documents. Tom is handling more of the other things.

There are a lot of Japanese teachers around this building and it almost reminds me of camp. Mas Wakai (ch-6) is one of the teachers also, but I have not followed up on him lately. Tom plans to study the group as it is a very interesting clique. He said that he did not know how some of the teachers got out of camp because of their Jappy ways. The group considers itself one of the elite groups among the Nisei out here. Tom said that they had many contacts so that it would be worth while to follow them up.

I guess my morale is low today. I don't seem to have that old interest in the study. I suppose I will be ok when I get back into the old swing again. I don't feel settled at all. That newspaper story about the Japs being allowed to go back to California apparently was reported incorrectly. It only referred to the cases of mixed marriage.

Monday, December 20, 1943

Saturday morning Emiko and Bette decided to do some more shopping so that Bette went upstairs to do her work early. Emiko has been doing it during time Bette was ill so that they split the week's wages. They were supposed to meet Reiko at 3 o'clock to take her around some of the big department stores in the Loop so she could see some of the Xmas displays. Reiko performed a dance routine at the Blackstone with her dancing class. This was for the benefit of some orphans in Chicago. She was so excited about this that she forgot all about her appointment with Emiko and Bette. Reiko was 12 yesterday. Emiko and Bette went down and looked all over for Reiko but she did not show up. I saw Reiko over at Toshi's and she gave me a note to give to E. and B. in order to pacify them. Reiko is quite matured for her age. She goes all over the city by herself and since her mother works until well in the evening, Reiko is left to her own devices. She spends a great deal of time



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over at Toshi's. She has made some Caucasian girl friends, but Reiko said that she still did not like it here and that she would rather be in camp. Everyone sort of spoils her so that she is getting a little conceited for her tender age. She said that she was going to be a dancer like Sono Osato and perform in a ballet company when she grows up. She said that her mother still wants her to go back to Japan.

I went over to Toshi's as she phoned and said that Mark would be around later in the afternoon and he would give me a haircut. However, Mark did not bring his tools so that I didn't get this mission accomplished. I took Alice's and Mark's presents with me so he could take them with him to Rockford. Roshi has been very busy fixing up her home and she seems to be fairly well adjusted to the life out here. She has her hands full in keeping up the house, taking care of the baby, and cooking for the six or seven members of that household. Toshi (CH-4) rarely gets disturbed about anything as she has a very easy going and friendly personality. I feel guilty when I go over there because she invites us over so much and we rarely take her up on it as I don't want to be drawn into her social circle. Toshi rambles on about various things during the two hours that I was there alone with her. After all the rest of the household members came home, there was not an opportunity to talk to any individual member at any great length. Toshi's remarks roughly were as follows:

"Oh, that Edward Hata makes me so mad. He is still boarding here with us but I am getting a little fed up with him. He has such an inferiority complex. He expects discrimination and he is always asking me how people me. I don't even notice anything like that and it gripes me when I see that he is so self-conscious about these matters. He hasn't gone shopping for himself once since coming to Chicago. He certainly is adolescent for a married man. I'm sort of getting used to him now so I don't get as mad as before. The other evening 7 Caucasian fellows came up from McClurg's Co. to visit Albert and they brought me a silver



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set as a present. They had a small poker session to improve the social relationship. Everyone entered into the spirit of the thing except Edward Hata and he played for the money entirely. I felt so disgusted at him that I could have kicked him for his greedy manners. I don't think it made a good impression when he played poker so intensely. The funny part of it was that he won most of the money. Through most of the poker session he seemed to win all the time because he is about the only one so serious about it. Mary (CH-24) doesn't like him at all because he spread some rumors about her. Edward knew her from Los Angeles and he called her Texas Mary to her face and that burned her up. I don't think he had any right in saying that because he showed that he was narrow-minded.

"Our flat is getting a little crowded now because my brother Jack came about a week ago and he is living with us now. Albert's father is also living here temporarily as well as his brother, Otto. That makes six of us living here. My brother Jack was working out in Denver when a boiler blew up and it scarred his face a little bit but it is not noticeable. Jack did not get any compensation for this at all. He decided that he would come out here as he didn't like it in Denver. He had been working in a foundry for the last three days and he made about \$18 for this work. That's pretty good for him. I don't know how long he will be living with us.

"Albert has been doing pretty well in his job and he makes \$50 or \$60 a week now at the glove factory. We hope to be able to move into a defense housing project near Chicago Ave. by spring. Albert's job is semi-defense so that it makes us eligible. We put in our application some time ago. There are some Negroes living in that housing project but that doesn't matter. We have been living here about two months and most of the time has been spent in fixing the place up. I like it fine out here because there are many families living in our neighborhood and the people are quite friendly. I don't do too much entertaining yet as we have been too busy fixing the place up. I have enough Nisei contacts and I want



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to balance it up a little bit. I have some Caucasian contacts that I wish to follow up. I have some contacts with through Mrs. Strickland from camp and I want to develop that. About the only Caucasian friends I visit regularly now are those I made at the other apartment where we lived. Albert has made friends from McClug's and they still come to visit him even though he's working at a different place. My father-in-law works down there now. He has been trying to get into one of the teaching jobs at the University of Chicago but they told him that the quota was filled. He works for a short time in a settlement house on the southside but that didn't turn out so well. He would like to get a little more settled before he brings his wife and son out here. He had an offer to work with the FCC in South America but he wasn't interested in traveling that far. Albert's father is a very educated person. He is a college graduate. In Seattle he worked as a court interpreter for some time. He is very pro-America in his attitudes and he even volunteered for the Army when he was in Manzanar but the Army did not take him because he is over the age limit. I think he is more patriotic than a lot of these Nisei.

"I go to the clinic around here about once a week so that they can check on Lucinda (her baby). I have a very fine relationship with the people in the clinic because they take such a personal interest. They even take care of the whole family in case of a difficulty. One woman came over to see if I was comfortable enough in the apartment. She made a good comment on the crib Albert made for the baby. Lucinda is almost ready to walk now. I think that by next month we'll be able to teach her how to talk. She certainly takes a great deal of my time and I have to watch her constantly or she will swallow moth balls and things like that. I guess I'm pretty pre-occupied with my household duties now. I've given up any plans for working until my baby gets a little older. It takes all my time to make a home and that is my first duty. Maybe I will look for a job after that but I don't know. I am settling down to raising a family that is a full time job. When I first came out here I thought I would go to work but that is not practical. I



suppose the reason for this was that we were worried about making both ends meet since we heard that living expenses out here were pretty high. However, things are coming along smoothly now as Albert is getting a good wage. Edward Hata pays \$40 a month for his share of living here and Albert's father and Jackie will also contribute. It will cut our living costs down but at the same time it means a lot more work for me. It's a good thing that I like cooking. We don't eat anything fancy and we have been able to keep our food bill down to about \$80 a month but it will probably go up to around \$130 a month now that there are six of us living here. Our expenses for keeping the flat up runs up to about \$40 a month and that is pretty cheap. We have to buy two tons of coal yet and that will keep us through the winter. Our stove keeps the house fairly warm and it is not as cold as I expected it to be although the real cold weather has not hit us yet.

"Albert still does not feel settled about his job because he is worried about the future. We have been able to save a little money from his salary. Albert still thinks that he will go into a business of his own, but I don't think that it will be possible until after the war. He is still going to the defense training school. He does piece work at the factory.

"I want to hurry up and move to the Federal Housing project. The rent will be very reasonable and all of the facilities are provided. All we have to do is to bring our furniture and we have already spent \$200 in second hand furniture and we will take that. I don't think Otto will be living with us then and my brother Jack and Albert's father will also have other plans, I suppose. Eddie is going to Granada next month as his wife is going to have a baby and when he comes back here I will tell him that there is no room. He has no initiative to look for a place for himself so that I have to almost force him out.

"Naturally with so many people living here, we are bound to have quite a circle of Nisei friends. However, I have very little social activities among the Nisei. Most of our entertaining is done during the weekends. I have a lot of



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relatives and in-laws in Chicago now and I suppose that is quite a circle in itself. There is only one other family that we are close friends with and they live near us. I've been wanting to go out and see the town more but I can't on account of my baby.

"I haven't had much interest in any of the world events because life seems to be going along so smoothly now and it doesn't touch me very much. I have almost forgotten about the camp although I do write letters to parents and a few friends. It's too bad that they had that riot up at Tule Lake. It will serve the Kibei right if they get all locked up because they cause most of the trouble. I can't understand how some of the people have gone to Tule. There was a girl living in my block at Gila, Mary Furuya, and she is at Tule Lake now with her parents. I don't see how that is possible because she seemed so Americanized. Before the war she was in the Women's Reserve and she did a lot of things like that. Her attitudes have changed now and even her English is getting to be Japanesey. She wrote to me recently and said that news about the riot was exaggerated. She isn't interested in these things anyway and the letter was full of things she wanted me to get for her out here."

Albert, Mark, Jack, Otto and Mr. Ikeda all came home about the same time and the apartment sounded like a mad house. Jack is about 20 years old and he was wearing drapes and one of those long coats. He tends to be slightly of the zoot suit type. However, he is rather a quiet fellow. Toshi made him get a haircut and get rid of the pachute. Mark is letting his hair grow again and Toshi got mad at him for not getting a haircut. Mark's excuse is that the lieutenant at Sheridan tried to order him to get a haircut and that is not within his jurisdiction as the fort is a soldier's pool and they can't give orders like that. Mark said that he was going to let his grow until just before they ship him out.

I started to talk for a while with Albert. Albert is a more serious type of person and very much a family man. He doesn't care too much for Nisei contacts as he feels that he is a married man now and he should settle down and develop only the friends in their circle. Albert is greatly occupied about his future employ-



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ment possibility. He feels that he has reached his peak in salary and he might as well stay in the glove factory. He said that he made \$70 this week and he showed me a check for it. Albert said he could make more but the Union tells them to slow down because they don't want to kill a good thing. He made the following comments about his work:

"I'm doing mostly piece work now and I stamp the gloves. I make well over \$1 an hour. I feel that I have reached my peak and there is no use killing myself. The job is very boring but I am able to talk with the other workers now and take time out since I have learned to work fairly efficiently. There are quite a few Russians in the shop and they have been there for 20 or 30 years. There is not much chance for advancement in this work but it is a good thing for the duration. It is a semi-defense plant and we supply gloves to the Army and Navy. Big companies like the Aircraft factories and shipyards also want a lot of gloves and our company has a contract with them. That's why we're pretty sure of continuing work for the duration. After that I'm afraid that everything will drop out. There are about 300 workers in the factory and 25 of them are Nisei. The company is very favorable toward the Nisei and they want more of them because the Nisei seem to be mechanically fitted to this work and they can do it pretty speedily. The company is even willing to find housing accommodations for the Nisei who come there. I think they plan to send a representative to the camps to pick up more workers. I'm still going to the night school, but I don't know if I will change my job now because I don't think I can make a higher salary even in a full defense job. I haven't got my Army clearance for this type of work although I put in my application a long time ago. Defense work is okay for the duration but I have to think of what I am going to do after that because I have a family to support. That's why I'd like to get into a business of my own eventually."

I plan to interview Albert one of these days and also some of the other members in this circle. It seems to me that if I follow through on the members of



this circle, I will have a fairly good picture of the formation of the Nisei society since the three primary families and the secondary and peripheral contacts established through it constitutes a fairly large segment of the Nisei group.

Mark has been driving an army truck around during the Xmas rush. About 1500 soldiers have been detailed from Ft. Sheridan to do this work in the Chicago area. Mark said that he drives a truck around the Loop area mostly. He does not get any extra pay for doing this since the Post Office is a governmental agency. However, a number of soldiers are working for the express company and they get 65 71 cents per hour. Mark said that the plan was to rotate the soldiers so that everyone would get a chance to make this extra money, but his turn has not come around yet. He expects to be doing this work right up until Xmas. Mark has until Monday morning off so that he went to Rockford later in the evening. I was in the kitchen with Mark and Toshi and Mark seemed to be a little depressed. He is worried about Alice because he doesn't know exactly what should be done. Mark said that the Army is sending all of the Nisei soldiers to the pool at Fort Sheridan and they will be shipped out to either Camp Shelby or Savage from there. Mark feels that he will be shipped out after the first of the year. He said that the Army gave these Nisei soldiers a test for Savage school. He doesn't want to go to Shelby at all because he is not too keen on the idea of a Nisei combat unit.

The more immediate problem, of course, is what Alice is going to do. She has given a notice on her job and she will move up here after Xmas if possible. Mark wants her to be near him because they may have very little time left together. Mark said that if he gets into Savage, then Alice will be able to go to Minneapolis. He doesn't think it will be too good to have her go to Hattiesburg in the event that he sent to Camp Shelby. Mark said that he did not want Alice to be all alone in Rockford until he is definitely shipped out because he doesn't know when it will be although he suspects that the move will come before New Years.

This has created a little problem of what to do about living accommodations. Alice has written Mariko saying that she would like to stay with her a few days as it



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will be difficult to find an apartment right away. I saw this in the letter she wrote Emiko so that it is a definite fact. However, Toshi said that Alice wrote to her and asked her to look for a place for her since she did not want to live with Mariko. Toshi said that she did not want to get mixed up in any of this in-law business so she hasn't done anything about it. She said that Mariko phoned her and said that Yoshi was moving out and that she expects Alice to move in. This will never work out since a temporary stay usually stretches out into an indefinite period. Mark definitely does not want Alice to move in with Mariko. He wants her to move in with another Nisei girl whose husband is at Sheridan. He does not know whether she should get a separate apartment or not since his stay at Sheridan is very indefinite. In any event Mark wants Alice up here near him. It is pretty hard to be an Army wife and Alice is finding that out right now. She will have to jump all over the country to follow Mark, and she cannot settle down or start an apartment of her own because things are not very definite. I think that Alice should make it clear that she is not going to move in with Mariko so that there won't be any hurt feelings. If Alice can get a place of her own, it will be the most satisfactory arrangement.

Toshi mentioned that she was so embarrassed about the sewing machine incident because it really was not that important. She said that Mariko has been phoning her quite often and asking her to come down to get the sewing machine. Toshi suspected that Mariko got angry because Alice was siding more with Mark's side of the family but now she is over that and she wants Toshi to have the sewing machine. I think that relatives should not live too near each other or else it may develop into many "battles" of the sewing machine." Mark and Alice will be at Toshi's for Xmas dinner but I don't know what Mariko's plans are just yet. We are going to hint around to her that she should invite us down to her place rather than to have a dinner in our apartment as Emiko will have to do all the work then. I haven't seen Mariko for quite a while so I don't know how she is getting along in her work and other things. She seems



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to be much more settled person nowadays and she doesn't get so upset as easily as before. I think that the crisis has now passed since she has George around. Mariko said that she was trying to get tickets for the ballet at the Civic Opera House for New Year's Eve and she was going to give us these tickets for a Xmas present so that we should not plan definitely on anything else until she knew for sure. I don't object to this at all since I would not be particularly interested in going to any of the Nisei dances planned for that evening. There is another Nisei dance sponsored for the same evening at the Ashland Auditorium and Louise thought that the admission was \$2.25 a couple. If this is so, there will be quite some competition with the other dance and I doubt if either will be too great a success. There are so many other smaller parties and other events going on that the Nisei may not turn out for these dances. I don't wish them any bad luck, but maybe it will be better if these mob dances don't get to be the pattern out here since it is detrimental to the integration program and since the Nisei are capable of making adjustments. The howls for exclusive Nisei activity on a large scale are not as great as before, but I could not be positive about this since I have not been in contact with their group activities for quite a while.

When I went home on Saturday night, Emiko and Bette were not home from shopping yet so I started to cook the dinner. They did not get back until 9:30. Girls certainly are funny about Xmas. I thought that E. and B. wanted me to make more of a fuss about Xmas because I haven't shown any interest in it at all. That's why I've been expressing curiosity of contents of Xmas packages to show them that I was interested. This was not received very well because they said I spoiling Xmas by being so curious and that I should be patient and open the packages on Xmas and be surprised. How was I to know that this was the procedure they wanted? The Xmas pile on the table seems to be getting fairly large now. Emiko and Bette still have some last minute shopping to do this week.

We had large steak dinner on Saturday again and after that I went out and



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bought the newspaper. Emiko studied for a little while and then she also read the funnies. Bette putted around until about 2:30 and she went up to take a bath and after that she read the papers. I was reading some super-science book and I did not stop reading until 4:30 in the morning. I had a night mare after that about a Man from Mars. It probably was caused by a combination of my reading material and all the food I ate.

Yesterday we slept until about noon. Emiko went out on a date in the afternoon and she got home about 11. She wanted to do some studying for a test she had coming up. Bette and I were going to call upon Mariko to make Xmas plans but she was not at home so that we went to the museum and wer were suprised at the exhibits we saw. We were only there about an hour but Bette was so enthusiastic that she wants to go down there and spend a whole afternoon next Sunday if possible. It was the first time that we got down to the Field Museum although we have planned on going there ever since coming to Chicago. Afterwards we walked down Michigan Ave. and saw an outdoor pageant. There was quite a crowd strolling around as it was not too cold. We then walked down State Street and window shopped. We walked for miles. Afterwards we went to a show and we got home just before Emiko. They have to go to school the next morning so that they did not want to be out too late. After we got through eating it was already past midnight and I went to bed after helping Emiko with a little of her homework. Emiko is studying about labor organizations so that I gave her some of my points of view on the value of labor unions for the common worker. I pointed out that the press was mostly controlled by the employer group so that the news about labor union was a little distorted even though there are grafters in the union. Emiko has a very liberal attitude and I think that she is learning quite a bit at school which helps to broaden her. There are about half Negro students at Wilson so that she is getting to view the Negro students at close hand. The thing which impresses her is that many of the Negro students seem to have an inferiority complex. Emiko does not make any distinction in color and she



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gets along equally well with the Negro and Caucasian students. Emiko still says that she is dumb and she is still worrying about her finals but I think that it is largely imagination. From little comments she has made this semester, I gather that the students look upon her as one of the smartest pupils in the school. She seems to be the top student in the French and English classes, but her physical science classes still bother her. I think that she will come through the semester in a very good manner and there is not much danger that she will flunk any courses. I do agree with her that the teachers out there are below average due to the war situation. I looked at one of her tests and the question seemed to be very unreliable so that it really does not test the student's ability. The important thing is not the grade anyway and her education will be successful if she develops her own thinking capacity and broadens her intellectual interests. I think that this is proceeding at a fairly good pace. Bette is getting along quite well at the Hyde Park high school. I had to write a note for her last night so that she could explain her week's absence from classes. She feels that she can make up the work fairly easily.

We drank coffee last night and it kept Emiko and Bette awake. It didn't bother me at all because I went to sleep right away but I awoke about 3:30 and they were still buzzing away to each other and giggling once in a while. They talked about the usual things that girls talk about I suppose. They will probably be very sleepy tonight.

I dictated the rest of the data on CH-22 but I will not be able to complete the case until after a couple of more interviews. If I can complete this case this month, I suppose I should be satisfied since it is pretty difficult to interview anybody during this Xmas season. I didn't go out on a single case last week because of conflict of schedules. I expect to go out on an interview with Sa kee this evening unless something unexpected comes up. I haven't any back log



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of dictation so that the rest of the afternoon will be spent in organizing my schedule for the balance of the month. I rather suspect that I won't be able to accomplish much until after New Years.

Louise came back to work this morning and she seems to be recovered from her cold. I brought the Xmas presents down for the office staff this morning so that I will not have to send them by mail. Tom went down to the WRA office this afternoon to look over the files down there, as we have a report for them.

Later ... I went to the Social Service office <sup>today</sup> ~~later in the afternoon~~ to ask them if there were any other procedures I had to go through before registering. The girl in the office said that there was a letter being sent out to me to come in, but I had not received it yet. She wanted me to come back in a half hour and as it sounded a bit mysterious, I went to the bookstore and browsed around for a while and then returned to the SS office. The lady announced with a beaming smile: "Mr. Kikuchi, the department has decided to give you a scholarship for the cost of the limited program you take here. The voucher will be ready tomorrow and you can go register. You will have to fill out the preliminary courses now." It was quite a surprise to get such quick action and I had only been hoping. Evidently the school has a lot of money to give out to students. The office secretary said that ordinarily scholarships were not given out for a person taking a limited course and working full time, but a special exception had been made in my case. It's a great break for me and it certainly will help out as the courses at the University charge \$35.00 per unit for tuition. I signed all the blanks for the enrollment and all I have to do now is to get a health exam. Classes will start on Jan. 3 or 4. I still do not know the details of the scholarship as I have not received the letter from the department yet. It is good for one quarter, but there is a possibility that it will be renewed for another quarter if I do well enough in the one unit that I am signed up for. <sup>only to 3935</sup> So in a couple of weeks it will be back to the books again. The SS people have a pretty stiff reading list to cover, but I don't anti-



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ciate too much difficulty and it should not cut into my work at all since my class will be from 4:30 to 6:00 on Tues. and Thurs.

The rest of the afternoon was spent in getting my library card and stack privileges as a Fellow. The librarian took a long time to get it straightened out and I had to wait around for over an hour. It was very tiring on my feet. I am afraid that the Army will find me very poor material as I have flat feet or something! I had intended to get a haircut but I did not get around to that at all.

It was warm today; we must be having a "winter heat wave." I decided to walk home for the exercise as I have not been doing my nightly exercises for a long time now. On the way home, I brought some fruit and a couple of small presents for E and B to make their pile bigger; it is quite big already. I got B an address book which cost \$1.00 since she has been asking me to find one for her. When I got home, I found that there was a package from the family at Gila. I think that mom knitted a sweater for the four daughters out here.

Emiko went to the dentist today and she just left for shopping. I have to eat early tonight as I hope to go on an interview. Bette just came down and she dais that Mrs. B's son is going to get an honorable medical discharge from the Army. The boy was trying to get into the air corps so hard that he had a nervous breakdown. He seems to be very close to his parents and mothered too much.  
Tuesday, December 21, 1943.

I was disappointed last night when Saka did not keep her appointment with me. I walked all the way over there only to find that she had gone out visiting. There was nothing I could do about it since it is only through her cooperation that I will get a case document from her. Up to now, I have been fairly successful in my contacts. This is the sort of thing that is unpredictable and beyond control. It must be the Xmas season as it is hard to catch people home. I wish that some of these people who think that all Nisei are lonely and that they sit around home twiddling their thumbs had my job; then they would find out that it is different.



I was rather tired physically after all the walking and standing around I did. I walked about 4 or 5 miles yesterday. This morning I slept late. After fiddling around for an hour I ate lunch and then started out for the office. Emiko and Bette went shopping again last night and they did not go to bed until late. However, they take a short nap when they come home from school.

I went to the Busar's office to pay me fees, but I had to wait for an hour before it opened. After waiting in a long line, they informed me that the invoice from the SSA had not come through yet and that I would have to wait about a week more before enrolling. It was 2:00 before I got to the office.

Tom has been going through the data at the WRA office for the past few days so that I have not seen him at all. Frank is still busy on his report. I am getting restless because of the delays in my contacts. I hope to interview Imeko tonight, but it may not come through. I am getting philosophical about these things.

I spent the afternoon reading the Winter 1944 edition of Common Ground Magazine.

Emiko refers to the pan which they use to wash their undies as "Bette's pants juice pan." Bette thinks it is very vulgar and she objects.

Wednesday December 22, 1943.

Last night I was supposed to interview Imiko (CH-23) but when I phoned her up she said that she had caught cold again and her flu was coming back. She did not go to work at all yesterday. Imiko went shopping Monday night and that was when her cold came back. She has been down with the flu off and on since the first of the month. Imiko was worried about her other problems also but we did not discuss them at any length over the phone since it was difficult for me to hear her since the phone connection was poor. Imiko does not believe that she will be well enough to be interviewed until next Tuesday at which time we have set a definite interview date. The slack in my interview schedule has really been hit hard during the past



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two weeks and I have been able to go out on about ~~one~~ interview during this period. I haven't been able to start new cases because I had these other contacts previously arranged but they fell through. I had to cancel about five interviews last week and two this week already. I have a tentative one for this evening but that may be cancelled also. I was bound to hit a slump period sooner or later and perhaps it is just as well that it comes during the Xmas season.

I decided to go over to visit Mariko last night because the arrangement for the Xmas dinner has been sliding along and Emiko wanted to know for sure just what the plans would be. Bette said that she did not have any home work and she wanted to go down also. Emiko then decided that she would postpone her homework until today so she came down also. Just before we left, Mrs. Haley, who lives in the same floor as we do, stopped in to look at our Xmas presents on the table. Mrs. Haley has a young daughter about 4 years old. Her husband is working in some sort of a packing plant on the night shift. This family was living in our building before and they have just returned from Kentucky. Mrs. Haley is a rather illiterate woman and she uses the regular Hill Billy language. She told us that her pappy had a farm in Kaintuck. Her brother is in the Army and he has been visiting for a couple of days. This brother was robbed by two Negro soldiers and he had to come up and testify against them. The Negro soldiers got 10 years in prison because they were impersonating an officer during the time they robbed Mrs. Haley's brother of \$150. Mrs. Haley doesn't know how to look up numbers in the telephone directory and she is always calling upon Bette to do it for her.

It suddenly became quite cold and windy last night and we almost froze. When we got to Mariko's, she was busy making a jacket for George for his Xmas present. Yuri was making a dress for her sister and the place was all cluttered up. Mary came up a few minutes later and Bob (CH-13) followed shortly afterwards. Mariko was rushing all around the place, and she was so excited that it was difficult to talk with her for over 5 minutes on any one topic. She is trying to finish the jacket up before



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Xmas. Evidently there is still some feeling about the sewing machine as Mariko claims that Toshi sent Otto over to get it yesterday. She said that she apologized to Albert but neither one was sincere. For some reason she dislikes Albert intensely but I don't know the exact cause! She thinks that he is a stuffy old bag. Yet, his sister, Yuri, is one of her best friends. It certainly is not a simple matter of disagreement over the use of the sewing machine which has started this "feud" as the precipitating causes are deeper and of a longer standing period.

Mariko did not want to have a Xmas dinner at all because she said that it would be too much work. At first she wanted us to have it at our place but I said that this would not be fair since Emiko would have to do all the work. Then Mariko said that Yoshi, Miki, and Yoshio and Mary would be over and that would be too many people to have to dinner for. George would also be there. Mary kept saying that she would bring her dishes and pans over and she could not get Mariko's hint that it was supposed to be more of a family affair. Emiko and Mariko decided to have the dinner but I don't know what they are going to do with the others yet. Mariko said that if Yoshi, etc. had dinner with her, she would have to help with the cooking. She said that Yoshi never cooks when she comes down there as she dislikes it very much and she always eat s out. Mariko said that is was only a rumor that Yoshi was moving out and that she is still sharing the apartment with her. Emiko and Mariko discussed the plans for the dinner in spite of the many interruptions and they decided that Emiko should do all the shopping and prepare some of the things at our apartment for the dinner. On Xmas Eve George and Mariko will come to our place for dinner and after that we will go to a midnight mass as Mariko said that these events were rather colorful. She thought that it would be too cold to go around Xmas caroling. At first she wanted Eileen or Yoshi to come over to her place that evening and play the piano and let the whole group sing carols, but this was not approved by Bob who has other plans for that evening.

Mariko decided to have the dinner without including Mark and Alice since



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they are eating at Toshi's. Yuri is going over there that day also and she said that there would be at least 14 people for dinner that day. I don't think that she gets along with Bob so well because she thinks he has been mooching on Toshi for meals too much.

Mary was sore at her sister, Yoshi because Yoshi wanted to send their parents in camp \$50 of food for a Xmas present and Mary thought this was foolish and she said that she didn't have \$25 anyway to give as her share. She said that it was just like her sister to always be thinking of food. Mary is not working now and she is entirely dependent upon Wayne and he may be getting a call for the Army. Mary said that she wasn't worried though because he had a 3-A classification.

Mariko has not recovered from her cold yet. I didn't talk to her very much because it is impossible to catch her alone for any length of time. Since we have been in Chicago I don't think that I've ever seen Mariko alone. She always has some people over. I think that if she did not have people around her, she would go crazy. I don't see how she can stand it constantly but she seems to like it very much. Mariko said that during the last two weeks she has stayed out from work four days on account of her cold. She said that her salary was rather small after all of the deductions. Mariko is only getting \$25 a week. She does not have an Army clearance for her job yet and she feels that her office is not going to send her fingerprints in because they are afraid that she will not get an Army clearance. Mariko would like to get her Army clearance very much so that she can get a better defense job. She said that Victor Shintani told her it would be impossible to get a defense job because they did not want Japanese. This made Mariko rather angry and she said that the Shintani family was more Japanese in many ways than a lot of the Nisei on the coast. She said that Victor was very conscious of the fact that he was Japanese and that he was not as aggressive as he put on. Emiko mentioned that Dr. Tashiro hired dental receptionists at \$25 a week and Mariko said that she would not mind working for him because it was an easy job compared to the one she has now. Ap-



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parently she has completely given up any ideas about having an art career, something which she talked about for almost 10 years but never did anything about it. Mariko seems much more settled now and I suppose that is George's influence since he puts her in her place once in a while and doesn't let her get too temperamental.

Mariko said that Alice was coming up from Rockford on Saturday and she would stay at her apartment for a few days. Evidently Alice has not made her position clear yet, and there is the possibility of future conflicts if she does move in with Mariko even though it may be only temporary. I don't think that Mark wants this very much.

Mariko said that Alice was coming up from Rockford on Saturday and she would stay at her apartment for a few days. Evidently Alice has not made her position clear yet, and there is the possibility of future conflicts if she does move in with Mariko even though it may be only temporary. I don't think that Mark wants this very much.

I talked to Bob for a short time but I did not get to do it very thoroughly since there were so many people around. Bob was dressed rather expensively and looking quite prosperous. But he had a rather gloomy look on his face. I asked him what was bothering him and he said that he had the "relocation blues." That was a new term to me so I asked him what it meant and he answered, "It's a term all the guys use now, especially the yogores who hang around Clark Street, but it applies to all of the Nisei out here. It means that you have the blues because there is something on your mind. There is that restless feeling and also many problems that bother you. When this happens, the Nisei just say that they have relocation blues and you understand. Then you let him alone because he is in a mood. I think that all of the Nisei are like this right now. There isn't a stable Nisei in all of Chicago, but they manage to keep their spirits up fairly well until they begin to think about all their problems and then the relocation blues hits them."

"There are a lot of things bothering me but it would take me quite a while



to discuss all of them and maybe you can interview me again after New Years and I can tell you everything that happened to me since you last interviewed me two months again. There are six or seven reasons why I quit my job at Chez Paree. I didn't work again until last week when I got a job in a printing shop. It's not a bad job but I don't like factory work. I'm not satisfied with it at all so that I may quit pretty soon. The only reason I have to go to work is that I have to buy some more clothes. I get a dollar an hour and a 48 hour week, so that my pay check isn't so bad--\$52 a week. But the income tax takes out most of it. I got the job through an employment agency. They advertised for a compositor and I went out there and bluffed my way. I told them I knew all about printing because I knew that there would be some guy in the shop who would teach me the ropes. It was a pretty acting job I guess, because they fell for my line without even questioning. I'm supposed to be a compositor but actually I am only a glorified office boy. There is absolutely **no chance** for advancement so that I may go back to bar tending. That work is easier and you make more.

"The reason I laid around so long was that I was a little choosy about whay job I should take. I didn't want to take any old job. I went downtown and walked all around to the big department stores like Marshall Fields and Goldblatts and asked them for a front job as a clerk. I was politely but definitely turned down. Goldblatts led me down easily by saying that there was no opening even though they had an Ad in the paper asking for 400 workers. Hell, I don't like to think it's discrimination but what other conclusion can I draw. I know the other Nisei don't try to get front jobs in the big department stores but I figured I had nothing to lose. I thought it would be interesting to sell men's clothing as clothing is sort of a hobby of mine, but it was no go. One of these days I'll give you the full details. I went down to Marshall Fields too and they **came** right and said that they don't hire orientals. I thought that was rather funny as Marshall Fields is the publisher of the Chicago Sun and that it supposed to be a very liberal newspaper which fights against prejudice and



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discrimination. I didn't get one encouraging offer in all the stores I went around to. It didn't get me down too much as I rather expected something like this to happen but it did set me to thinking. I walked around quite a bit thinking about these things and it struck me that the Nisei were going to be in one helluva time after the war. What are they going to do if they all lose their jobs? They won't be able to get the types of jobs which they hold now because they have oriental faces and the employers won't hire them unless there is a shortage of Caucasian workers. The more I thought of it, the more discouraged I became and that's why I started to get my relocation blues. See what I mean? I moved up to the north side to live for a while but I didn't like it up there so I am back at my old place again. I've been doing quite a bit of reading lately and the book that impressed me very much was Pearl Buck's "Good Earth." I just finished reading "Prodigal Women" also. I picked up the habit of reading because it takes me a half hour to get to work and I read those pocketbook novels to kill time. I've also had some fights with my girlfriend. She got a date for Xmas Eve after one of our fights and now she won't break it to go out with me. I think I'll get swacked on Xmas Eve. There's another dance at the Midland Hotel on Xmas night and it is \$2.50 a couple. I'm taking my girl friend that night and I'll let you know how it turns out. The last Nisei dance I went to on Nov. 20th at the Ashland Auditorium did not turn out so well. There were too many stags and it was worse that camp because all the yogores had that gleam in their eyes. The same group is sponsoring a dance on New Year's eve at the same place and I think they will make money on it because the Nisei won't go to the other dance and pay \$6.60 per couple. That's too much to pay for a dance. The band which we are trying to organize is temporarily disbanded because some of the fellows went back to camp to visit their folks. We plan to start up again after the first of the year. Ken Morioka was financing us for a while because he had some noble idea about making money with a Nisei band but I think that he has pulled out now.

"It's funny how so many of the Nisei are getting the relocation blues right



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right now. This is the Xmas season and everybody should be happy, but they seem to be so restless. Maybe they are homesick because a lot of Nisei out here have never been away from their families at Xmas time before. It won't be such a happy Xmas for some of the Nisei who are living by themselves. My friend, Yukisan, has the relocation blues bad right now. He's having a tough time out here because he can't hold a job. He's had five or six jobs since he came out. Three of these jobs he held with me. He can't get any Army clearance for defense work and they tell him to quit work after a month. It bothers him a lot because he doesn't know why the FBI won't give him a clearance. Maybe it is because his father is in Japan. Before the war his folks were considered pretty well off in Pasadena. They owned a cleaning shop. Yuke was always dressed nicely and he had plenty of money then. I don't think his father belonged to many of these Japanese organizations so I can't figure why they won't give him an Army clearance. He wouldn't sabotage anything. Maybe it's because Yuke was in Japan in 1937. I feel sorry for him because he's on his pins and needles everytime he gets a job and he doesn't know when he'll be given the gate. It certainly looks like the Nisei are going to be in for a tough time after the war though. I try not to be pessimistic but what the hell. You have to be objective about it and the facts speak for themselves. I know that I won't feel quite so low when my mood passes over. I'm sure worried about my girl friend though."

The group started to talk about jobs discrimination and they concluded that it existed against the Nisei although they had not personally felt it yet. They were not sure that it would consolidate their positions by then. She felt that it would be best for the Nisei to get some special training now instead of waiting until after the war. Yuri is interested in becoming a chemist. She could get her A.B. degree right now in education and English, but she does not think that this will do her any good when it comes to looking for a job. That is why she has changed her field to science in order to get a B.S. degree. She attends the night classes at the "Y" College. Yuri did not know for certain what she should do. She would like to get a degree but she doesn't want it from the "Y" college because it doesn't have



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much prestige. She is thinking of enrolling for a part time course at Northwestern University after next term. She feels that she might as well take her time about getting a degree. I told her that it didn't make much difference whether she got an A.B. or a B.S. as long as she was planning to do some further work in science. I thought it would be better for her to have a degree so that her credits would not be lopped off everytime she changed colleges. Yuri did most of her work at U.C. >

Emiko realized for the first time last night that the reason why she did not get a call for postoffice work was possibly discrimination. She had put in her application quite a while ago and she had also written a letter for the postmaster. They wrote a reply saying that they had enough workers. Then she found out that some other girls at her school had applied only last week and they had gotten in. She also knew that there were 1500 soldiers working in the postoffice and it was also rushed and that was the reason why it dawned on her that she was not called because of her Japanese ancestry. She said that it was too late to push the matter now. She wasn't bitter about it at all because she wasn't sure if it actually was discrimination, however, she did realize that it was a funny feeling to be in a group that was not treated equally in everything on an individual basis.

Emiko mentioned that she had a Caucasian girlfriend at school who looked up to her all the time and yet this girl was very prejudiced against the Jews. She could not understand that at all. She said that she went to visit this girl in her home last week and her parents were surprised to find her so Americanized. She said that this girl had a brother in the Army and he was surprised also. I thought that it was a very good thing for her to have the contacts as it does help to educate the public.

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Ben Yoshioka came over to have lunch with Frank yesterday and he stopped in the office and talked for a few minutes. Ben is going around contacting employers for the WRA in order to find their attitudes toward the Nisei workers. Ben is a



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Chamber of Commerce type of individual and he likes to paint the picture brighter.

I suppose that this is because he is so anxious to defend the WRA office here and to prove that they are doing a magnificent job in resettlement. He likes to paint a brighter picture than the actual conditions warrant. We asked him about the joint board clearance for defense workers and Ben said that the Sixth Service Command can only give local Army clearances. He said that Capt. Harris of that office is a Jew so that was the reason why the Army post here was more tolerant in regard to the Nisei. He felt that this was quite a break for the resettlers. However, Ben pointed out that there was nothing the local office could do in regard to the joint board clearance since this has to be done by the coast office in San Francisco and then sent to Washington for further clearance. He felt that many of the resettlers never received their joint board clearance because the people on the coast were hesitant about committing themselves for character reference of Nisei they knew formerly. He said that during the past six weeks only three clearances had come over this desk so that the Nisei might as well forget about defense jobs since there was too much red tape to get a clearance. Ben said that the fact that any Nisei had been to Japan in the past was probably one of the main reasons why the board did not give a clearance. Ben said that the WRA had a confidential list of those getting clearances and that only 25 had received it so far. We were quite surprised at these figures because we were under the impression that the number was much greater. Ben did not know the exact number of Nisei who had been ordered from the jobs by the FBI because of the lack of this clearance but he felt that the figure was not too great. However, the WRA does not hear of all cases since many of these jobs were obtained through the USES and the Nisei discharged does not notify the WRA of it.

Ben felt that the civil service clearance for the Sixth Service Command was about the only encouraging thing that the Nisei could hope for. He said that about 15 Nisei were cleared for civil service during the past couple of months. Ben said that there were many Nisei working in defense plants and the local Sixth Service Command had either passed over these Nisei or else they had not come around to investigating



them. He said that in one place there were about 25 Nisei employees and this was an aircraft company. Ben said he ~~went~~ out to talk to the personnel manager yesterday at this plant.

"When I went in they gave me a visitor's badge. There was an aircraft architect right there and they had aircraft plans all over the room. There were about 30 Nisei in the plant and the Sixth Service Command has given them a blanket okay. I don't know whether they will be taken out <sup>or</sup> not later. It was heartening to me to find out the attitude of the employers. They are quite favorable and I have had a number of experiences of this nature. The plant superintendent in some of the defense factories at first were very suspicious about Japanese, but they found out that they were such good workers that they now fight over getting the Nisei to work in their group. At first the foremen were very much against hiring Nisei. The plant superintendent called three successive meetings but the foremen absolutely refused to have any Nisei. Finally they decided to try a few out because of labor shortage and after that, all of the foremen wanted Nisei workers to be sent to his group. The same foremen were asked whether they would be willing to have Negroes in their crew. The foremen were definitely against it and said they would take any Jap over a Negro even though the Jap was from Tokyo or related to the Emperor. I found that most of the employers are against the Negroes and they don't hire them unless they have to. I don't know how the Nisei workers will make out after the war because the employers don't commit themselves. Some employers told me that they wanted to keep the Nisei after the war because they are so efficient. The attitudes have been sincere and they are getting good impressions of the Nisei. Some of the employers say that if the WRA says that these Nisei fellows are okay, that's good enough for them."

After that Ben went out to lunch with Frank. I finished up a little dictation and then I went on downtown. It was quite cold yesterday because the thermometer suddenly dropped to Zero. Yesterday was also the shortest day in the year. I glanced at a headline on the way downtown and it stated that it was too cold to snow so that there won't be a white Xmas this year.



I stopped in to see Dr. Yatabe but he was not in. I haven't been down to see him for over a month. I haven't seen any of the WRA or Friends personnel during this period either as I have been pretty busy with the individual case documents. Mrs. Yatabe was in the JACL office and she says that she is the regular stenographer there now. I was rather surprised to find such a young looking person. I didn't realize that it was Mrs. Yatabe until she started to talk about her 13 year old son, Douglas. Mrs. Yatabe likes Chicago very well and she feels that she is getting settled here now. She said that her son was making very good adjustment and there were now requests for him to sing over the radio. She said that her son was also active in school and church affairs because of his piano playing ability. She mentioned that her son's music teacher told her that Dougie was able to sing high soprano notes above that which the ordinary women soprano could go. However, they don't want to push him along too fast because his voice will change soon. She said that Dr. Yatabe uses him in some of the meetings in which he gives a talk about the resettlement program and her son has been quite effective in creating a favorable attitude.

I dropped over to the Friends office next and talked to Bill McKee for a few minutes. I haven't seen him for over a month either. He said that the Friends office was still working with the evacuees, but the work has slowed down a little. The Friends office has been shifted around to make room for some added personnel but they are busy gathering clothes for European refugees. Bill said that he was still working on the social adjustment of the Nisei but there was not much he could do about it. I gathered from what he said that there is still a feeling of rivalry between Jacoby of the WRA and McKee. McKee wanted to know all about what the WRA plans were but I could not tell him much of it. Bill gave the following Xmas parties which are listed for Xmas: Central Church, First Methodist Church of Evanston, St. Paul's Methodist Church, Bethany Church and Jacoby and Yarrow are having open house at their respective homes.



Bill still is against the formation of large Nisei groups as he sincerely believes that the Nisei can become integrated into Chicago life through existing channels. He feels that the WRA is finally realizing the fact that the loneliness of the Nisei is not entirely a matter of not knowing other Nisei since the communication has been established to cover most of the Nisei groups and that is why rumors travel around fast. He said that there was a little conflict with the Church Federation group in regard to Nisei parties. Smith of the Church Federation feels that the churches should sponsor all Nisei events in order to give them a good atmosphere in meeting places so that they will not drift into bars and other cheap places. The compromise was finally reached that the Church Federation would not have large parties but will be restricted to small groups like those listed above. Bill does not think that these agency-sponsored gatherings will be too much of a success. He said that he talked to Shirrell over the phone yesterday and I was surprised when Bill mentioned that Shirrell was against the Hotel Midland Dance scheduled for Xmas night. Shirrell evidently has changed his position again and he does not feel that such all Nisei events will be beneficial to the group. Frank mentioned today that I might have influenced Shirrell in his thinking because of the argument I had with him over a month ago. Frank said that Shirrell made the statement: "We can't make the Nisei break from their group completely but we want to discourage unguided Nisei activities like Nisei dances, athletic leagues and other congregations of this sort." This would indicate that Shirrell has changed his position a little as he formerly said that he thought it would be good for the Nisei to have their own gatherings because it was a natural thing for them to do. Shirrell still remains consistent in that he does not object to affairs sponsored by the existing agencies.

Bill McKee also told me yesterday that Shirrell was in a low mood because he did not have any success with the relocation team at Rohwer. He said that Shirrell was almost ready to resign. However, the WRA plans to send the relocation team to all of the centers and the various relocation supervisors like Shirrell and Kennedy will



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start making the rounds in January. Shirrell is one of the key men in the team since Chicago is the largest area of the settlement. For this reason Shirrell is devoting most of his time to the resettlement phase and he is not too concerned with the social adjustment as Jacoby has taken this over.

Jitsuo Morikawa had just returned from a conference of the Christian Church leaders in Denver and I talked with him a little while. He said that the camp attitude were definitely changing in Poston because the people were now more favorable to the WRA as it had been under recent attacks by the Dies Committee and other groups. The main concern for these Christian leaders at Denver was on how they could help the people to resettle more and what should be done about it. The ministers were in favor of a group resettlement with the help of a government subsidy. He said that John Yamazaki from Gila was there and he did not agree with the point of view which Yamazaki presented. Yamazaki felt that he could not resettle because he was indispensable to the people in camp. Jitsuo said that Yamazaki practically accused the Nisei leaders of deserting the ship. Morikawa does not agree with this viewpoint because he thinks it's up to the leaders to leave camp first and pave the way. He does not think any person is indispensable to a community as a leader. He said that if all leaders remained in camp and pushed the other people out the resettlement program would bog down entirely and there would be a feeling of permanency created in the community. I think that Jitsuo is right in this opinion. Jitsuo also mentioned that one of the reasons why resettlement was slowed down was because there was no financial backing among the evacuees and they could not hope to support a family on the outside. He thought that the WRA personnel in camp might be one of the obstacles for resettlement since the administration wants to keep the good evacuee workers in their office. Togo added that they were the bottlenecks and that they had a vested interest in their jobs and they did not want to lose a soft government job. They realized that this would happen if all the people resettled and therefore they were not putting their sincere efforts to the resettlement program as the policies were formulated through the Washington, office. Jitsuo added that it was difficult to get any of the Issei leaders to speak up for resettlement because if they



identified with such a program, they would be called an Inu. He said that political factions in camp were just as strong as ever although the older people do not reveal their true feelings since the segregation program. He felt that there was an element of fear involved.

About 4 o'clock I went down to Marshall Fields to wait for Emiko as I wanted to do some last minute shopping and I almost froze as she was about 10 or 15 minutes overdue. We shopped for about an hour and then came home on the crowded "L". Emiko rushed through with the preparation of dinner as I had an interview scheduled with Sakae. After eating I phoned her place but I discovered that she has gone out on a date with a business manager of the Williams College. Evidently she forgot about the appointment again. I have definitely given up any idea of interviewing any other people until after Xmas. We went to a lousy show after that as Emiko and Bette did not have any homework, and my evening scheduled had been disrupted.

One year ago today, I believe, was the occasion when a couple of Kibei tried to bet me up in camp. How time does fly. Since I have been out here, I have not given much thought to the developments in camp life. I seemed to have lost all interest in the issues such as segregation and repatriation. I suppose that I have become too involved with life on the outside. Jitsuo made an interesting comment yesterday when he said that the church representatives from the camps were disgusted at the resettlers because they forgot all about the people in camp once they left. I suppose this feeling that the Japanese should identify themselves with each other was quite strong in the pre-war days as evidenced through the social welfare work done by the Kens and Japanese Associations. The Japanese were always willing to help a member of their racial group out. This solidarity does not exist any more since there is no Japanese community in existence out here. Another reason is that the resettlers are mostly of the younger group and they are too involved in establishing personal security to think much of the people in camp, except for their own relatives. This is more of the American way of acting. I don't think that the Nisei as a whole have retained the



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the Japanese tradition of a close racial unity. It does exist to some extent in matters of family solidarity. I feel that I have no connection at all with the camp life now and it is a closed chapter of my life. The reason I resettled was to get away from this sort of thing and my only contact with the evacuees at present is in the work that I am doing out here. Probably this is more of a personal motive but I just am not the type to identify myself closely with the whole group of evacuee left in camp. I get enough of that out here. I do think of these things on a more idealistic level but it does not have any direct influences. I think more in terms of group of people in a peculiar situation and that it is a problem which has to be worked out eventually. In other words, I don't see it in terms of the individual family units within the camps. What I am trying to say is that I am just as much interested in the Mexican, Negro or Chinese problem as the Japanese problem and I don't have any close personal relationships with any of these groups, including the Japanese.

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Tek Sakurai dropped into the office today and he reminded me a little of the camp life. Tek used to be a civil service auditor before the war and at Gila I spoke with him on one of the adult education forums. He is working with the Community Analysis division and he is out here on a short term leave to study the resettlement progress. Tek mentioned that he knew Miss Hankey of the study and she got on very well with the community. He said that the community had more confidence in her than in the community analysis division since she was identified with the people and not the administration. Tek said that she was able to go to places where the community analysis section would not dare to go because of public mistrust.

Tek did not believe that the resettlement program would speed up very much in the future because the bulk of the people left in camp strongly resisted it because of various fears. He said that they were talking about asking for \$500 or \$1000 per family in order to help out the resettlement, but he did not believe that many people would go out even if this were granted. He said that the large bulk of people left in camp at Gila were rural people and there would not be anything for them in city life. He



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said that the political factions still existed in camp and the Issei played a fairly prominent role but hardly anyone committed themselves on the resettlement program. He said also that community leaders like Harry Miyake were still on the fence. The JACL at Gila is not functioning anymore as the more vigorous leaders have left the camp. An indication of the conservativeness of the Gila people was revealed when Tek mentioned that 1900 evacuees from Gila went to Tule and 500 more were scheduled to go later. He said that this group consisted of the "no-no" and the repatriates. Gila sent more people to Tule than any other center except Manzanar. Gila also sent the largest group of evacuees back to Japan on the Gripsholm. Tek said that the greatest proportion by block who went to Tule was in the Turlock block, especially Block 55. the Kibei club had their headquarters in this block and there were many Kibei living there. Tek said that every member of the Kibei club had been given a hearing and a large number of them went to Gila. Rev. Ochi, who used to be advisor for the club, had been taken in by the FBI for possible subversive activities. Tek also said that there were other possible subversive people who had resettled and it was difficult to determine just what loyalty meant. Tek is on his way to a Christian conference at Worcester, Ohio and he will stop in at Cleveland before going back to the camp.

One of the newer policies of the WRA is to grant short term leaves for people coming out to take jobs in the urban centers. In Chicago a number of evacuees have come out here to work at the Hotel Stevens and Cuneo Press. Tek said that very few of these people went back to camp, not over 25%. Even the group who went back quickly decided to go out again because all of their friends were gone. It struck me that the WRA could probably get more people out of camp if they could eliminate the fear among the resettlers that they would be left stranded on the outside once they left camp. This fear is created by the fact that the WRA is very adamant on refusing people on indefinite leave the permission to go back to camp. I think that this fear is one of the contributing factors for the lack of greater initiative toward resettlement. I wonder if more people would not resettle if the WRA adopted a policy



of allowing people on indefinite leave the choice of going back to camp any time they felt like it. This would leave an avenue of escape for timid resettlers and they would be more willing and inclined to take the step outside of camp.

Tek also stated that one of the obstacles in resettlement was that some of the personnel at Gila were not qualified for their jobs. He mentioned Bennet and Freeland specifically. He said that Freeland did not handle the leave clearances promptly and often the applications would lie on his desk for several weeks before any action was taken upon it.

Tek then described the recent shooting of Dec. 4 as a good example of this. He said that the boy, Elmer Kira, 22 years old and a sansei, kept very much to himself and he had only two close friends. Both of them left camp so that around June Elmer quit his job with the Gila News and he refused to take another position. He had answered "yes-no" in the registration, that is he answered that he would serve in the armed forces but would not swear allegiance to this country. He said that Terry had drilled Elmer for two hours on the rehearing. In October Elmer's father decided to go out to Cleveland on an indefinite leave. Elmer wanted to go out with him but his clearance was delayed because of his registration answer. Mr. Walters of community service tried to push matter through fast but Freeland failed his job and there was a lot of red tape involved. On Oct. 4 Elmer and his father were supposed to leave but the father delayed his departure a few days because one of his close friends in camp died. In the two or three weeks previous to this Elmer developed quite a persecutionist complex because he felt that the WRA was not treating him fairly. He began to act strangely and he beat up his sister and refused to go to the mess hall to eat. On Oct. 4 he beat up his mother and then went up to get on the truck which took the people out for indefinite leave. His name was not included in the list which has announced over the public address system and this made Elmer very angry. He found out he was on the stop list but he was determined to leave anyway. He started to walk down the road and the sentry at the gate challenged him twice. After this warning the sentry shot



him in the ribs. In the report which went to Washington the sentry claimed that Elmer had shouted that he was the president and Emperor Hirohito. They took him to a hospital and he is under observation at the present time. Tek said that the community reaction was not disturbed over this incident because the people felt that Elmer was a little crazy. They did not know about the red tape of indefinite leave which he went through or else they might have blamed the WRA for causing Elmer psychotic condition. Tek said that some of the Caucasian personnel were afraid that a riot would break out but nothing happened. The aftermath of the incident was that Capt. Harris was relieved of his command of the M.P. post. From what Tek said, I gathered that the precipitating factors for Elmer's strange behavior were developed before the evacuation and the camp experiences probably intensified his personality towards a paranoid stage. Tek felt that the community did not raise a disturbance because the segregation program had forced them to answer one way or another in regard to their loyalties and most of the agitators had been removed. He did not think that the Issei's attitude toward Japan had changed fundamentally but they were very careful not to express their true feelings in public.

Chiyo Nao was also in this afternoon. She is working for the government in Denver but she did not mention what her exact employment was. She said that she was passing through here on her vacation. Chiyo is still as attractive as ever. I am surprised that she is not married yet because she seems to be an outstanding individual. Maybe it is because she is too sophisticated for most of the Nisei fellows. Her sister is living with her in Denver now. Another sister is going to college in Maryland. Chiyo made some comments on the Denver situation. She felt that the future for the Nisei there was not very promising because the wage levels were quite low. She said that the Remington Arms factory had closed down so that a number of Caucasians had to seek other jobs. She indicated that this was a preliminary of what could happen after the war to the Nisei when all the defense work closed down. She said that the Nisei in Denver were a young group and there were a lot of boys and girls running wild. She said that many young girls from



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Granada and Heart Mountain were living alone in hotels and they took fellows up to their rooms. Some of them were running around with soldiers. For a short time the Army placed the Japanese community on Larrimer Street as a restricted area. This may be due to the fact that this district is located in an area of prostitution. Chiyo said that there were 100 instructors and their families at the language school in Boulder and they had quite a bit of prestige. There are also 40 Nisei students at the University of Colorado which forms another group. Chiyo says that she will probably be in Denver for the duration. She said that her folks did not know what they were going to do in the future but she did not think her father would open his art goods store on Grant Avenue again. From the comments that Chiyo made about the Nisei society in Denver, I would tend to think that Larry Tajiri was a little premature when he titled his article in Common Ground, Farewell to Tokyo. Most of the Japanese are still clustered in the 10 relocation centers, Camp Shelby and the Army language schools, the Japanese communities of Denver, Salt Lake and Spokane; and in certain areas like Chicago and Cleveland. There is not a wide dispersal of evacuees such as is claimed by the WRA. It looks now that such a program will not be possible for very long time.

Louise mentioned this afternoon that she talked to Kimi Mukaye who told her about the Nisei party that Mrs. Waddell held for the Nisei domestic workers and friends up in Glencoe. There were about a hundred at this gathering. Mrs. Waddell is one of these Christian individuals whose heart bleeds for the Nisei and she has been bringing her little flock together quite often and she has even arranged for a place for them to meet on their days off. She is the wife of a millionaire who formerly was the president of the Japan Society of Chicago. I met them in San Francisco about two years ago when I was making attempts to enroll at the University of Chicago. Kimi told Louise that there was a fellow who crashed the party as an uninvited guest and this fellow copied names and addresses of Nisei gathered there. Mrs. Waddell caught him doing this and she asked him what was his purpose. The fellow said that he was a representative of the group which is sponsoring a dance at Hotel Midland on Christmas night and they



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want more names to send publicity out to. He told her that they were paying \$500 for the orchestra and that was why they wanted a lot of Nisei there. He told her that he had the okay of the WRA but when he was questioned a little more he did not know who Mr. Shirrell was and he gave a phoney name of a WRA personnel member as the source for the okay. The list of names was not given to him, because Mrs. Waddell said that the list of names she had was her own private list and it would not be given out to anybody since the purpose of it was to bring their own group together for the functions which Mrs. Waddell sponsors. This is a rather interesting angle because I rather suspect Mrs. Waddell is jealous of her private Nisei file of names as she doesn't want any of her flock stolen away from her to other Nisei gatherings.

Friday, December 24, 1943

No interview/<sup>again</sup>last night. I phoned Sakae up and she was very concerned about the two interviews that had not gone through on schedule. Sakae said that she came home ten minutes after I left last Monday evening and she apologized profusely for the Wednesday mixup. I said that she did not have anything to apologize as I was grateful for her cooperation. Sakae is leaving for Green Bay, Wisconsin for the holidays so that we arranged for an interview on January 3. I don't know if I will be able to start another new case this month. I hardly think so. If I can finish Imeko (Ch-23) I will be most happy. Then I can start the new year with a clean slate. >

Emiko started to fix up our room last night about midnight. She rearranged all the Xmas presents on the large dresser and then she drew an artistic fireplace out of a paper wrapping. <She marked the bricks off with black crayon and colored them red. Then she cut out a hole and drew some red flames. A blue tissue paper was put behind the flames to give the fireplace depth. Then she put a lamp behind the "fireplace" and when the lights were turned out, it created quite an artistic effect. Emiko is rather clever in this sort of thing. She also put some candles up. In the meantime, Bette cleaned the kitchen out thoroughly. > Emiko also put pop's picture on the dresser and she was thinking of putting all the pictures of the family members there so that we would all be together "in spirit." However, she decided not



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to leave pop's picture in such a prominent place among the Xmas present as it "may make Mariko cry when she sees it and then I will cry to." Mom sent us a box of tangerines and a pineapple, which were immediately added to the pile.

< After E and B puttered around for hours, they started to fix their Xmas dresses and that took some more time. When they thought I was fast asleep they sneaked into the kitchen and made a big ham sandwich for themselves. I smelled it though and I woke up. I wanted one also but they would not let me have it so I fell asleep again. It was force of habit as I really was not hungry at all. E and B did not go to sleep until about 3:00 a.m. I did not sleep too well; I awoke about 6:30 and I was not able to go to sleep again so I just rested in bed until about 8:30 and then got up and made a big breakfast. I was even willing to serve E and B in bed, but they had stomach aches from the food they ate secretly last night, and they were also too sleepy. >

The Xmas pile really is large now; over 50 packages in all. E and B are still expecting more by mail. I have finished my shopping. It is hard to get things for girls; I gave them 3 books each -- best sellers; earmuffs, dress, address book, memo book, etc. I'm glad for them that they enjoy Xmas so much. < They are out on a vacation from today until next year so that they slept late. > This afternoon Bette has to go downtown and finish her shopping. As usual, she is the last one to get this sort of thing done. Emiko is very prompt when it comes to affairs of this nature while Bette is inclined to let things slide until the last minute. Bette slipped a little in her grades because she was ill with the flu during the week the tests were given and they deducted on the make up tests. She is very mad at her art teacher and she hopes that the woman has a very lonely Xmas! Bette said that the teacher praised the drawing that Emiko did for her, but she would not give her a good grade as last quarter because it was late. Bette does not think that the teacher takes effort into consideration. There is not much danger that she will not graduate next June as Bette is making good grades in her solid courses. < omit to 3956 > She believes that graduation is going to cost her about \$50.00 because she has to get pictures, school rings, etc. I will help her get all these things



as she will only graduate from High School once and it is a great event for her.

This afternoon I decided to go downtown to the WRA office. Frank said that he was going down also so I went to get a haircut first. I went over to the barber shop on 63rd Street where Taigo is working. He was quite busy today so that I did not get a chance to talk to him very long. It is a 3-chair barber shop with a beauty parlor in the back. I had to pay \$1.00 for the haircut since this is the price on Saturdays and the day before a holiday. It was so cold that after Taigo put oil in my hair, it got all frozen when I went outside and my hair stuck straight up in the air. Taigo said that he worked until 7 or 8 in the evenings. Quite a few of the Nisei teachers at the University here patronize his shop now. Frank goes there also and he says that it feels good to have a haircut by a Nisei because the other Caucasian barbers don't know how to cut Nisei's hair very well. I haven't noticed very much difference and I suspect that it might be a sentimental attachment more than any actual fact. The reason I went to Taigo was to continue with some of the interview on him since I am unable to see him at his home.

Taigo wanted me to go over to his house to get a hair cut the next time since he would then get the full profit and not have to share it with the barber shop owner. Since the haircut was so high, I only gave him a 10 cent tip. Usually I give the barber about a quarter if I get a good haircut, but I don't feel like doing this any more since the prices are double these days.

Taigo said he was making about \$50 a week now. He is not completely satisfied with his present place although he plans to stay there until a better opportunity develops. He said he was guaranteed \$32.50 by the barber shop and he has been making more than this guarantee during the holiday season. He says that he makes anywhere from \$10 to \$20 cutting hair at home. Taigo (CH-40) does not think that he is making enough to support his wife and other dependents yet. He said that they spent quite a bit of money for Xmas and didn't mind it because that was what money was for. He said that was the only fun they had and it was no use hoarding a lot of money. However, Taigo says he tries to save a little each month for emergencies. He said his mother-in-law



was not actually his dependent since she keeps the apartment up and does the cooking. The family eats quite a bit of Japanese food. Taigo's sister-in-law is working for one of the departments in the University now and she likes this much better than her former position in a box factory. This sister shares the rent of the apartment with Taigo. Taigo mentioned that for Japanese families, it was much better to have a lot of girls because they have more responsibility towards their parents. He said that his sister-in-law actually was supporting her mother. He also mentioned that one of his brothers-in-law in the Army and he had no right to ask his mother for extra cash since his mother was not well off. Taigo felt that Nisei girls were much more considerate of their parents and they were willing to sacrifice their personal lives in case their families needed help. He did not think that the Nisei fellows would be <sup>quite</sup> so willing to do this.

Taigo also mentioned briefly the fact that he expected to be out here for quite some time yet. He did not think that he would go back to California although he may make attempts later on to go to Hawaii. Taigo seems pretty certain that the war with Japan will last for many years yet. He said that he had cut some soldiers' hair in his shop and they told him about the hardships which our forces had to undergo at Guadalcanal and some of the other South Pacific Islands. This soldier told Taigo that the Japanese soldiers were greatly under-rated by the American newspapers. He said that the Jap soldiers were sharpshooters and they were in the habit of wounding American soldiers in order to further deplete the American forces, since it takes two or three Army personnel, at least, to take care of wounded soldier. This soldier told Taigo that the American Army is also following this tactic. From this story Taigo came to the conclusion that the war should last for many years since the Japanese army was fighting fanatically. He said that the propaganda over here lulled us into a sense of security about the Pacific War, but that the real situation indicated there would be a bitter struggle. Taigo was not definite as to whether it would affect the Nisei very much although he suspected that there would be a rising feeling against them in the



months to come. He pointed out that the next year was an election year and the California politicians would use the Japanese problem as one of the main issues. However, Taigo said that he was not too concerned about this and he would worry about it when the time came. Taigo also remarked, "It's no use worrying about all of these future problems because I have so many of my personal problems of making a living for my family right now. I'm glad I have a family because there really isn't much more to live for right now. I would be a pretty sad case if I were a single person. That is why I believe all Nisei should get married and have children right now and not worry about the future too much." Taigo could not talk to me at great length since the shop was full and he was very busy so I left as soon as my haircut was finished.

I went over to Frank's apartment and I had lunch with Michi, Frank and Shig. Michi said that they were just eating breakfast so that she served eggs, toast and string beans. Frank gave me a present to take home with me. Michi seems to like her teaching very well. She said that after the holidays her assistant would be an Issei and she thought she would have a little trouble with him since the Issei think they know everything about teaching Japanese. Michi said she would rather teach with a Nisei because their minds were more flexible. She believes that she is making fairly good progress with her classes. Frank said that they went to have dinner with Capt. Harris the night before and during the evening's discussion. Frank was rather surprised to hear the bitter denunciation of the Jews. Frank felt that the feeling against the Jews was more intense than against any other racial or cultural group in the world because this problem was world-wide and it had been developed over a period of many centuries. When W.I. was here, he mentioned that some of the prejudice against the Jews was due to the fact that the Jewish individuals had been forced into a very competitive state and this had developed certain characteristics in them which was resented by the wider population and which was the basis for prejudice against the Jews was due to the fact that the Jewish individuals had been forced into a very competitive state and this had developed certain characteristics



in them which was resented by the wider population and which was the basis for prejudice in believing that the whole Jewish group were "Shylocks". Frank said that the Army officer was more paternalistic towards the Negroes. He said that Capt. Harris was from the south and in some respects his attitudes were much more tolerant toward the Negroes than Japanese. He said that the Army personnel present at the dinner last night did not show feeling of prejudice against the Japanese and they accepted them (Frank and Michi) on an equal social basis. I suppose the reason for that is that these men have not had any to do with the oriental problem at all. Another reason would be that they are learning Japanese from the Nisei teachers. Michi did not think that very many of the Caucasian soldiers learning Japanese would be able to master it sufficiently during their training period. For this reason she believes that the Nisei soldiers would be used mostly for this sort of work. She rather suspected that the Army was realizing this since the Savage <sup>Language</sup> School is being expanded. However, she felt that the Army program in the Japanese school would also be expanded at the same time and there would not be much of a danger that the whole system would fold up in the near future.

We left Frank's apartment about 1:30 and started downtown on the "L". The WRA office was not very busy when Frank and I got down there. They were having some sort of a Xmas party for the office personnel in the back room. Tom was busy going through the files and Louise was down there typing up some of the material that we wanted copied. Tom has been down there all week but he said that most of his time had been spent in compiling some statistics for the WRA office. He was a little cynical about our value to the WRA. He said that Jacoby wanted a very comprehensive report which would include almost everything that we had gathered in our files to date. Frank said that we could not do this since we were not a sub-office of the WRA and we would have to be very careful to avoid being used in this way. After we started looking through the files, we discovered that there was no system to it at all and



that it would probably take us quite a while to go through all the data. Tom is the only conscientious one and he probably will do the bulk of it. I merely skimmed through some of the files in order to get an idea of what they contained. There is not much of a separation between the local and national data so that we will have to be very selective in the material we pick out. We decided to take extra copies of any material we needed if carbons were available.

Mr. Shirrell came over for a few minutes and he greeted me very friendly-like so I guess he has forgotten about the past differences of opinion. He is more concerned with getting the people out of camps anyway and he has not put any particular stress on what happens to them after they get here, except when heavy pressure is applied.

I looked through the file on Joint Board Clearances and I found that about 250 Nisei have received this clearance as of this month. Only about 30 or 40 of this total were located in the Chicago area. Tom and I have our clearances but we did not find Frank's name on the list. Previously Shirrell had told us that Frank and I were on the list but Tom was not. The WRA has a chronological file of all field office reports and Tom is having Louise type up the most interesting ones which reflect upon the local situation. There is also a chronological file on all resettlers but the data on each case is not complete. My case record has the WRA form 26 in it, but that was due to the fact that it was necessary in order to get the school exemption. There were quite a number of letters in regards to the school situation in my files. Most of the other folders were very incomplete and I doubt if we can get any kind of statistical material out of it since all the information is not available. Tom wants to look through this whole file since he believes that it may be useful in locating addresses and things of that nature.

We got some extra copies of some of the file data which we will place in our own files. I looked through the list of job openings for both men and women and I discovered that the majority of the jobs were of the unskilled or semi-skilled type



although some of these wages were fairly good.

I looked through the files of folders which had data on organizations interested in the "Japanese problem." Most of them were not too favorable. The Army agencies seems to be quite favorable in this problem although there was one of the Army officers in Chicago refused employment to a Nisei because of his race. This case was brought to the attention of the President's Fair Employment Committee, but the Army post disclaimed any discrimination so the matter evidently was dropped. The private "patriotic" organizations were out and out discriminatory in their attitudes. There was one mimeographed pamphlet from the Salinas Chamber of Commerce which revealed the biased feelings of the people in that area toward the evacuees. The American Legion folder had the usual stuff in it except for the one resolution by the Gary American Legion Post No. 17 which was quite favorable. It seems that the Legion posts out this way are not so fascistically minded as the coast organizations. The Gary resolution on evacuees follows:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Gary Memorial Post No. 17, the American Legion, Department of Indiana, has appointed five members constituting the Committee to investigate the desirability to employ certain American citizens of Japanese descent in the City of Gary, County of Lake, State of Indiana.

WHEREAS, your Committee has attended two sessions concerning the subject matter and at the last session, Mr. Herbert Keno, a representative of the War Relocation Authority of the United States of America, was present to furnish the necessary information to your Committee relating to the subject matter, and

WHEREAS, your Committee is informed through said authority as follows:

1. That the FBI does not investigate persons without the request of Federal, State, County or City authorities, or from individuals.
2. That said American citizens are on duty at Fort Benjamin Harrison Receiving Center, in Marion County, State of Indiana.
3. That the vast majority of said citizens are Christians.
4. That the U.S. Army and the FBI have segregated about four thousand of said citizens definitely known disloyal and assumed from records to be agents of the Japanese Government; that nineteen hundred others have been subjected to trial as possible detrimentals; that nine hundred are held for the duration of the War; that four hundred are on parole, and six hundred have been cleared, and



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WHEREAS, industry and others to avail themselves of said help should apply to any United States Employment Office or War Man Power Commission, request will then be submitted to the War Relocation Authority for clearance, and before clearance is issued, the case must come before the joint Board at Washington, D.C., for a decision based on their investigation. Said joint Board is composed of two members of the Military Intelligence, two members of the Naval Intelligence, two members of the War Relocation Authorities and one from the Provost Marshall's office, and

WHEREAS, after clearance and before actively engaging said citizens in employment in a city, the War Relocation Authority will consult the civil authorities to the number of persons to be employed as per clearance, and seek their approval, and

WHEREAS, The Chiefs of the City Police Departments are furnished with the list of names of said employee, and

WHEREAS, said employees are not place in competition with local labor, and

WHEREAS, there are about twenty thousand on the East Coast and there has been no evidence of disloyalty or sabotage, and

WHEREAS, there are Relocation Centers at the following states: two in Arkansas; two in Arizona; two in California; one in Colorado; one in Utah; one in Idaho and in Wyoming, and

WHEREAS, the cost of "location Centers" runs about \$1,000,000.00 per week and the faster these persons are placed in employment the less will be the taxpayers' burden, and

WHEREAS, the War Relocation Authority must be satisfied that each person placed in employment is of unquestionable integrity and a loyal citizen of the United States of America and that there is a definite need for his employment.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Gary Memorial Post No. 17, the American Legion, Department of Indiana, approves the action of the War Relocation Authority of the United States of America in placing said loyal citizens in some necessary employment in Gary, Indiana, where said employment is definitely needed for the successful operation of World War II.

Respectfully Submitted,

INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE OF AMERICAN  
CITIZENS OF JAPANESE DESCENT

/s/ Mor W. Oppman, chairman  
/s/ M.S. Montgomery  
/s/ R.S. Papich  
/s/ Robert G. Phillips  
/s/ H.E. Davis

I hereby certify that the above and foregoing resolution was unanimously adopted by Gary Memorial Post No. 17, at its regular meeting held on the 5th day of August, 1943.

Attest: /s/ Edw. F. Brown, Commander  
/s/ S.M. Allen, Adjutant



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*omit p*  
I got home about 5:30 on Christmas Eve but Emiko and Bette were still out. I had to wait about 3 hours for them. I was rather tired so that I slept most of this time in order to rest up for the evening's events. Larry Mihara (CH-15) phoned out of a blue sky to thank me for the Xmas card. I gathered from what he said that he was rather lonesome and he didn't have anything special to do. Larry said that he was working on the same job at the candy factory and he was resigned to the fact that he would not get a joint board clearance to go back to Republic Steel Co. He said that he had heard of several other Nisei that had been put off defense jobs by the Army. Larry then went on to tell me that the steel company job had been a great opportunity because they promised him just before he was ordered out that they would send him to a special technical school and pay him \$125 a month while he was doing this. He said he would have made about \$300 a month if these plans were allowed to go through. Larry was a little worried about the threatened strike of steel workers right now. He figured that nation-wide steel strike would tie up the war effort completely and he felt that there would be some violence. I asked Larry if he felt that the steel workers were justified in getting high wages at this time and Larry said that they were because living costs had gone up so much. Larry does not know whether he will ever get back with Republic Steel. He said he was still looking around for other work, but he would stay in the candy factory until a real good opportunity came up. He said that he was making fairly good wages now and there was no use of jumping from job to job. He felt that he may have to wait until after the war before he found a real opportunity for himself. Larry then wanted to know what social activities were going on during the Xmas week-end. I could not tell him of very many. He said that this was the first time that he had been away from a large group of Nisei and he felt that he was missing something. Then he added that all the Nisei out here probably felt the same way because it was their first Xmas away from their families. I told him that there was a Nisei dance at Hotel Midland on Xmas night and he said he'd probably go to that.



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COPY

Wednesday

Dear Emi, Bette, and Charlie:

This will probably be my last letter to all of you for awhile, as I will be in Chicago Friday evening at 9:15 I.C., or if I can't possibly make that train, I'll be there Saturday afternoon. Where will you kids be -- at Mariko's? Friday is Xmas Eve you know. Remember last year when you all went around singing Christmas Carols?

Am all packed and ready to go -- in fact -- so well packed that I have to eat dinner out from now till the time I leave. Tomorrow night our club at the Y is giving a 10¢ Josh Xmas gift party so I'll be going with Shizu Karee (Mrs. Mas Karee from Belmont -- near San Mateo -- maybe Charlie knows him.).

Tonight Clara Nakamura may come over with her sister. She was in Peoria as a Nurse's Aide and left before the family -- is here for the holiday season. Helen (CH-3) got married Dec. 18 with white gown, etc., military wedding -- announcements and all that goes with it.

Haven't written to Arizona for a long time as I've been so busy. By the time I get home, bring coal up from the basement, start my fire, cook dinner, and write Mark a letter, it's already near midnight and time to go to bed. And the last two weekends Mark came in (He says he saw Charlie at Toshi's) so I just haven't gotten around to any letter writing except for the most important one.

And in the office two people are out so I have to make our invoices, etc. besides my regular work, so no time for letter writing, except at noon.

It'll be a relief to be back in Chicago -- I do hope I won't have to be moving again any more -- but I probably will -- and where do I accumulate the stuff? I came to Rockford with 1 small suitcase, 1 large one and a hat box and already I've sent out 2 big boxes, 1 trunk, 1 hatbox, a large suitcase that Mark took in, and have a small one left. I'll have to get me some suitcases for sure as the ones I'm using now are Toshi's and if I go anyplace else I can't be borrowing them again.

Well, I think I'll write Miyako and Tom a letter now, so I'll be see you this weekend. And once again will start the merry circle of house hunting and job hunting.

Emiko, I have a small gift for Merry -- it's probably at Toshi's now, as I sent it in a box full of gifts. If you see her, or hear from her, tell her it may be late getting to her, but she'll get it -- sooner or later.

Did you, Emi, forward those Xmas cards for me? Thanks.

Also, thanks Charlie, for the card -- the Mr. is now a Buck Private once again, so its Pvt. and Mrs. Mark Satow.

Bette, that's a super dress you wore at my shower. I'd charge 10¢ a look for that, and no overtime -- as the line would be too long.

Bye now,

Love,  
/ s / Alice



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Emiko phoned about 7 and she said that she was waiting for Bette at Mariko's. She said that Alice and Mark were in town but Mark would not be able to join us until after one. Emiko was very worried because Bette had not shown up yet. She said she worried so much that she ate a whole bag of cookies up without knowing it. I told her to phone me right back as soon as she found out about Bette as I was a little concerned also since the stores were all closed by that time.

About 7:30 Bette came in and she said that she had tried to phone Emiko at Mariko's place but the landlady told her that there was nobody upstairs. She said that she had a Xmas present for Emiko which was unwrapped and she didn't want her to see it. Just then Mariko phoned again and she was very worried by this time. I told her that Bette was home and this explanation satisfied her. She said that Emiko and Alice would come right out and she and George would follow a little later. She was still working on George's jacket. By the time we had dinner, it was already after 10 o'clock. Emiko did most of the work on it. We never asked Mariko to help with the cooking when she comes over to our place, but when we go over there Emiko has to do the largest share of the work because Mariko gets distracted by other things so easily.

(Attached is a letter written by Alice to us. She moved into Chicago today and she is going to stay with Mariko for a few days until she can locate a place of her own. Alice said that she did not send the family fund check to me yet because she thought she might as well wait until the end of the year and get the interest on the sum. She said she would send it next month some time. Alice has no definite plans for the immediate future since it is very uncertain as to what Mark will be doing. He may get transferred to another Army center any time.)

Saturday, December 25, 1943 (Christmas Day)

We did not get to bed until after 4 a.m. last night. The dinner was very successful. It was around 11 o'clock before we finished with it. I wanted to go to a mid-



night mass as I thought that Emiko and Bette would enjoy it. However, everybody except Alice was against the idea as they were rather tired. I was determined to go as I had waited around 5 hours for them. Then I discovered that Mariko had not looked up the churches where masses would be held so we decided not to go. Mariko wanted us to open our Xmas presents for we said that we should at least wait until midnight. Then I suggested that we go over and sing a Xmas carol to Frank and Tom, however, I was not sure whether they would be home or not. We were going to go anyway when George decided that this would not be very exciting, since he felt that the atmosphere would be too solemn. George was in good spirits and he said that he felt like celebrating. We decided to drag him out anyway and just before we left Mariko phoned Dr. Tashiro and he told her that there would be a big midnight mass at the Church of the Redeemer, an Episcopal church, on 56th and Blackstone Ave. We decided to go there immediately and George gave in.

The church was jammed full. There were a number of Chinese in the choir. We also saw a few Nisei around. Most of the service was musical but we got rather restless when they had the communion services which lasted about 45 minutes. Bette said that her knees got so sore from jumping up and down that she gave up following the congregation and she remained in her seat as did the rest of us. There were quite a number of University of Chicago students at this mass. We went mostly to hear the Xmas music.

Afterwards Rev. White, the rector of the church, came up to us and he invited us to attend his church regularly. He said that a number of Nisei went to the Brent House regularly and they also attended his church. He wanted to know whether we were newcomers to Chicago and he wanted us to promise to call him back. None of us would commit ourselves. However, he was very nice to us.

We rode back to our apartment in a taxi. On the way out we had gone by street car. Mariko decided that we should sing Xmas hymns so we all joined in except George. George lost all of his bravado and he was a bright red because he



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was so self-conscious and embarrassed. There was one Nisei in the middle of the street car and he slumped down lower and lower in his seat because he was embarrassed too. The people in the car liked the singing and a few of them joined in. After we got off they all turned around and waved to us. The conductor was so pleased with our singing that he forgot the street number and he said he made a mistake because he was paying so much attention to our singing. There was also a drunk negro who stood around and made complimentary comments. He said, "Yuh caint beat that singing, no sirree. Yuh caint beat it with a hammer!"

After we got home we waited around a few minutes and around 1:30 Mark came in. He said that he had been out drinking with 47 other of his buddies and he brought over a glass as a souvenir. Emiko and Bette were getting very impatient about opening their Xmas presents so that around 2 o'clock I started to pass them around. It took over an hour for them to open all of their presents. I couldn't even begin to list all of the things that they got. Around 3 o'clock Mariko decided to go home and they took the vegetables for the Xmas dinner with them. On the way home they lost the cheese and the lettuce.

We were pretty tired but Emiko and Bette admired their parents for about another hour. Emiko got 2 phonograph record cases and some semi-classical records and she started to play these just before going to sleep. Tom sent me three of the latest funny books from camp and he expected me to read them in my leisure time. It was a good thought anyway. Mom sent the girls some bed jackets which she had knitted herself. She gave Emiko and Bette red ones and Alice and Mariko white ones. The girls were very pleased with this present. We did not open all our presents since Mariko and Alice had some more for us over at their place which they were saving for today. Mariko gave me some nice pigskin gloves while Alice and Mark gave me a wine-colored scarf. Emiko gave me a \$5 order for a hat and some Argyle socks. Bette gave me a nice shirt and a pale green tie which is supposed to be the latest style. I don't think I'll ever use the tie but I couldn't tell her at that time, since she spent so much effort in picking it out.



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Women should never pick out men's ties for them, anyway! Emiko said that she would take it downtown next week and exchange it for a more conservative color. I also got a number of other miscellaneous presents. Mariko gave us tickets to the Russian Ballet for New Year's Eve and George, Yuri and Mariko will go along with us that evening. She also gave Emiko and Bette another ticket for the Saturday matinee ballet for New Year's Day.

Today, Christmas Day, we did not get up until around 2 o'clock because we were so sleepy. Mariko was expecting us around 3 so the girls could help her cook. She said they did not have to do much as she would take care of most of the cooking. We were rather suspicious about this because we know how Mariko is. That's why we didn't go over there until about 4 o'clock. All dishes in our kitchen were stacked up and our room was quite a mess.

When we got over there, Mariko and the rest of them had just gotten up and George was there also. We ate breakfast then. Mariko was rushing around trying to get George's present finished and she wasn't even dressed yet. As usual, Emiko got stuck with the cooking. There were quite a few people dropping in and out during the day and the following is an incomplete list of those I noticed: Mariko, Emiko, Bette, Yoshi, Mary and the baby, George, Sho, Yuri, Mark, Alice, Otto, Jack, Hiroshi, Corp. Nakamura, Bob, Eileen, Miki and a few other unassorted characters.

I think it was a rather dirty trick for Emiko to have to do the cooking.

Mariko finally managed to get George's present done about 8 o'clock and then she went to take a shower and to get dressed afterwards. Bette went over with a whole gang to drop in at Toshi's. I didn't want to go over there because there were about 12 in a group and I said that that was too many for one street car. I didn't like much like going over there. Bette said that there were about 20 people over at Toshi's and Albert and Eddie cooked a buffet turkey dinner for the whole group. Albert wanted me to have some drinks with him but I did not feel like it. Bette said that they all drank a Xmas toast but Otto, Reiko and Bette had to drink



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cokes instead of liquor. Bette got back to Mariko's place around 7:30 and she brought some more presents back for us. After dinner Mariko started to open up her presents and Bette and Emiko got a number of other things. Yoshi gave me a carton of cigarettes and Toshi gave me some handkerchiefs. This was around 11 o'clock as our dinner was delayed three hours because of so many people, going in and out. George brought Corp. Karl Nakamura from Camp Savage back with him and he had dinner with us also. There were about 10 eating and the dinner had been planned for six people.

George got so impatient about waiting so long that we opened up Mariko's bottle of rum from Bob and started to drink it. We got to feeling very good and we only left one shot in the bottle for Bob. George also had another bottle with him and we finished that up too.

I wasn't really drunk but I was feeling pretty good and I also was doing "research." We gave Miki and Yoshi and Mary a few drinks and they were feeling good too. Mary got sick and she had to lay down for a while. I was quite worried as to what Bette's and Emiko's reaction would be so I stayed out in the kitchen most of the time. Miki was feeling quite gay and we were kidding each other quite a bit. Yoshi and I even sang a song to her. Miki wanted me to take her out to a bar but I said that she had enough. We were joking around about our undying love to each other. However, I was more anxious to get Yoshi talking. She spilled quite a bit but I don't remember everything she said. She made some comments about her weight and she was feeling a little sorry for herself. George gave her some excessive attention and that made her a little happier. Yoshi said that her employer had given her a defense bond, some defense stamps and an expensive compact, a bottle of Black and White Scotch and some other presents. She isn't as mad at the Bazalons as she was recently when she had her flu. She said that she was treated as one of the family and she talked to the assembled guests about three hours. She said that Mrs. B. made her put on her best clothes and join them in the living room. Yoshi said also that she had reconsidered about



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quitting her job right away and that she would not change for a while yet. She hasn't been taking her piano lessons for a couple of weeks now due to the Xmas rush.

Because of the excitement around, the roast in the oven was neglected and it burned a little. Mariko blamed Emiko for this and this made Emiko feel bad and she went off in a corner and started to cry. I told her that it wasn't her fault at all. Miki then told her that it was really Yoshi's fault because she was feeling so good that she did not pay any attention to dinner. Mariko then went to Emiko and apologized so that Emiko forgot all about it right away. Emiko didn't like the idea of doing the cooking but she didn't say anything about it. I didn't think that it was fair to ask her to do most of it either. After Mark, Alice and some of the others came back from Toshi's we had another drink. Corp. Nakamura evidently doesn't drink very much because he almost passed out on one drink. He wanted to get a date for the dance and George asked me if it was okay if Bette went. I told George that I didn't particularly think it would be a good idea because it would be the same old thing as before. I thought for a minute to myself and here <sup>we</sup> were getting all involved in a Nisei society and it was damn difficult to prevent it in spite of my efforts. However, my mind didn't dwell on this too much. It was not the time to be thinking of such things. Corp. Nakamura wanted to know all about the work I was doing on the "Nisei Problem" but I told him that I was not feeling "intellectual." Bette and Emiko had him going quite a bit because they gave him a big line. Bette said that she usually got drunk about once a week but she was not in the mood to drink excessively on Xmas. Emiko told him that Mary's baby was her child and Carl was rather surprised at that. They told these fibs with such straight faces that he didn't know what to believe. After a while he got a little pesty so that Emiko treated him coolly so that he would not bother her.

Around midnight Sho started to play boogie-woogie on the piano and the next door neighbor got irritated at this and he banged on the wall about 7 times so that we had to keep quiet. Mariko had gone out with George to the Nisei dance a little before



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this so she is unaware that her neighbor is mad at her. George wanted to go to the Nisei dance since he seems to feel that a Nisei society is necessary for himself. He also wants Mariko to meet some of his friends since he has been Mariko's friends up to now. Mariko said that she was not particularly interested in the Nisei dance but I noticed that she went willingly enough. Later on Sho and Yoshi and Miki and Carl went to the dance also. Miki and I made a great scene about how hard it would be to be separated and Carl thought that he was breaking up a romance so that he came to me and asked if I would mind (Miki is about 5ft. 5 in.).

Bob and Eileen also went to the Nisei dance. I don't see where Mariko thinks that Eileen is so different from the other Nisei. She seems to be typical in many respects even though she never knew other Nisei before. She likes Nisei dances because this is the first chance she has to be the center of attraction among a large number of Nisei fellows. I talked to her briefly before she left and she said that she only went to Nisei dances out of curiosity but that obviously was not the true reason. Bob has been frank in saying that a Nisei society is necessary out here and he does not make any pretenses about it like most of the others.

Yoshi said this was about the first or second time that she went to an all Nisei dance and she wasn't sure whether she would enjoy it or not. Sho (Chell) has been taking her around because they seem to have mutual interest in music and concerts. Sho remained a gentleman during the time he was there. He came in and out several times during the course of the evening. He said that he was offered a raise in salary but he had to turn it down because that would have placed him in another tax bracket and his actual increase in wages would only have amounted to \$4 a month as he is listed as a single person. He said that his employers would give him a bonus periodically instead of the wage so that he would benefit more by it.

Yuri and her friend Miyoshi came in around one and we talked until about 2 o'clock. There were still about 8 people left in the group: Mark, Alice, Yuri, Miyoshi, Emiko, Bette, Mary and baby and myself. Mark and Alice did not go to the Nisei dance as



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Mark felt that it was not worth \$2.50. Mark was feeling rather good and he spent a long time talking to Bette about his experiences in the Army. He said that he had lost his rank 4 times and he was still a buck private. Mark doesn't get much of an opportunity to talk about himself because there are always so many other people around who dominate the situation. Around 2:30 Mark very mysteriously and seriously asked me to come out into the hall with him for a private talk. I couldn't imagine what he wanted. When we got out there he started to tell me about Alice's and his plans. He said that Alice was going to stay with Mariko for a few days but he would start looking for an apartment right after the holidays. He did not think that Alice and Mariko would get along if they stayed together. Mark felt that he did not have enough time with Alice when so many of his relatives were around. I agreed that a young married couple should have as much privacy as possible. It struck me funny because Mark brought this problem to me and I'm not even concerned with it, since it is not any of my business. However, I felt that Mark was right and I agreed with him in everything he said. Mark felt much better after that and he thought that Mark's feelings would not be hurt if they went through with their own personal plans. It seems that Alice does most of the planning for them and this is a hint that Mark is beginning to resent it as he feels that it is a husband's place to make the important decisions. Alice is rather independent and quite calculating in her ways. She likes to figure out every step in advance while Mark is more concerned with the immediate results. Mark said that if he was sent to Camp Shelby, then Alice and Mariko would probably live together and they could, perhaps, get along well then. He said it was too difficult now to plan anything because all he did was to follow along after Mariko and Alice made the plans ahead of time. He said that he was very anxious to make his marriage a success and he knew that things were rather unsettled now because he was in the Army and they could not plan too far into the future.

Alice made a funny remark about the Nisei in the Army later on in the evening and



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it seems to reflect the thinking of a lot of the Nisei in the service. She said that Nisei soldiers were all being put into the front lines and quite a few of them were being killed off. I pointed out that the casualty list given out by the War Department so far only had 34 Nisei casualties in the 100th Battalion so far. I asked her where she picked up this idea and she said all of the soldier's wives in Rockford believed this to be true. I can see Alice's point of view since she is a little fearful that Mark will be sent overseas any time now. Emiko was little more hard boiled about it because she felt that soldiers were taken into the Army to fight battles and they should not expect to have soft positions. Then she added that maybe she would feel a little differently or if she were a man who had to go and fight these battles.

We hardly noticed Yuri's friend since he is one of those innocuous self-efacing type of Nisei who never says anything so that he remains unnoticed. Miyoshi is a graduate student in biochemistry at the University of Wisconsin Yuri is interested in chemistry also and she mentioned that she went to school with Miyoshi for a while. There was nothing left to eat at Mariko's so Yuri invited us over to her place to have some pie. We went over there about 3 a.m. We discovered the remnants of a chicken dinner so that Emiko, Bette and I finished it up for her. Yuri is a very good cook. She said that she had a book for a Xmas present for me and I would get it in a few days. She did not eat over at Toshi's since she had four fellows for dinner at her place. I like Yuri more than the rest of the combined groups that I know because she is so natural in her ways and there is no pretense about her. For a Xmas present she is going to let me interview her next week and I'm hoping that she will tell me all about her past life although she may be hesitant about telling her common law marriage. It seems that the relationship with her husband is a little strained right now and he hasn't been living with her for a couple of months. It is rumored that he is running around with a Caucasian girl but I don't know if that is true or not.



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I had a chance to talk with Mary (CH-24) for a few minutes in her room before going home. We did not get home until after 4 a.m. Mary said that this was the loneliest Xmas that she has ever had. She said that Wayne came in on Xmas eve but he went right back on another driving trip after that. She didn't have a thing to do today so that she asked if we would go to a show as her Xmas present to us. I said that this was not necessary since she did not have too much money. However she insisted upon it so that we agreed to go with her. She also invited Miki and Yoshi, however, our dinner today was so delayed that the show was postponed until tomorrow. I could see that Mary was feeling very blue so I asked her what was the matter. Then she began to tell me a little of her trouble.

"I am so worried these days. I just discovered that I am pregnant again. I didn't have my period this month and I have been having vomiting fits for the past few days that's why the rum affected me this evening. I'm never going to drink again. I don't know what I'm going to do because there's so many worries on my mind. I'm worried sick because Wayne got notice for induction Jan. 6. We can't get married until next June as that is when his divorce becomes final. It will be bigamy if we get married before then.

"I had to tell my sister about it and she is sore as hell at me. I can't help it because I am a human being and those things do happen. It was aslip and it was something we didn't plan for. Wayne thought I could get an abortion but I told him we might as well go through with it as it wasn't <sup>worth</sup> tripping myself. I heard that once you get an abortion you may die from it. The baby id not due until next August or September. I don't know what I will do if Wayne gets drafted. Maybe I will have to go to work. Wayne is not too worried because he thinks he will be rejected as a 4-F because of tumors in his stomach from driving a truck too much. He is going to drive night and day until his examination comes up so that his physical condition won't be so good. He has been taking No-Doz tablets to keep awake on the road. He is confident that he will get rejected but I'm worried about it. I just



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don't know what I'm going to do. I'll just have to wait and see what happens to Wayne. I don't want anything to do with the WRA as they will act ugly and send me back to camp. I can't stand camp life again. It's not a good time to have those kinds of worries on your mind. You're supposed to be happy at Xmas but I'm not. I'm worried sick. I'm not sorry what is happening because that is something that was unpreventable. We just couldn't help it if it turned out that way. My sister better not say anything nasty to me as I'll get sore and really tell her off if she does."

Today Yoshi and Mary were real nice to each other and they didn't have one single argument which is a record of some kind. Both of them went out of their way to be courteous to each other. Mary was dressed very attractively and not in the usual slacks which she wears. The soldier, Carl Nakamura, sort of fell for her and he paid a lot of attention to her but Mary ignored him. Mary still has a feeling of not belonging to the group and she is so anxious to be accepted. I think that she is accepted well enough but most of the people are single and there is not much in common that they can do with a girl who is married and who has a child. Mary has been clinging to Toshi (CH-4) because <sup>both</sup> of them have a child. Lately she has been sort of clinging to Emiko, Bette and myself because we act quite friendly towards her. Bette is her favorite and Mary will not allow anyone to say anything about her without jumping to her protection in a very obvious way.

There are many rumors going about Mary even here in Chicago. Any time a group of fellows get together and start talking about fast Nisei women, Texas Mary's name is always included. For example, Tom told me of a bull session that he had with some fellows and the subject of Nisei prostitutes was brought up. Immediately Peter Yamamoto, an 18 year old boy, started to brag about his acquaintance with Mary in Salt Lake. Tom felt that the boy was trying to create an impression because he was the youngest of the group. He said Peter was a fat boy and he was formerly of San Francisco. Tom's story: "Peter claims that he got involved with Mary in Salt Lake City. There was a rumor going around that he was going to marry her. Peter is very



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and when his mother found out about it in camp she was greatly upset for fear of a scandal. She did not want her family name to be connected with the horrible Mary and she gave Peter hell. Peter told the group that when he went back to Tanforan the rumor had gone all around that he was going to marry Texas Mary. It happened that he worked in the same restaurant with Mary in Salt Lake. He thought the rumor started when a gang went to look at Mary as they had heard a lot about her. While they were there Mary made a joking remark to Peter and they interpreted this as being a personal relationship. He claims to have taken her out occasionally. He said that some people thought Mary had a kind heart underneath but he could not see it. He said that Mary almost burned her kid to death once because she went out to have a good time and left the gas stove on and the room got so hot that the baby almost suffocated. Peter told the group that Mary had quite a reputation as a prostitute. He used to go around with a Kibei who married Mary. The gang decided to buy a wedding present for him and then they found out Mary was the girl and she had a baby shortly after the marriage. They all knew that it was not his baby and the fellows felt that Mary married the Kibei just to give the baby a name. They didn't give him the wedding present but they went and gambled the money away with a Chinaman." This is the sort of rumor going around about Mary out here even now and it does have an element of truth to it, but it is not being fair to the girl as it is none of their business. Mary has not conducted herself in an immoral manner out here. Of course, the fact that she is living with Wayne does create a shocking scandal to the Nisei out here and the word goes around very quickly. Mary has enough problems of her own and the latrine gossip spreaders should confine their malicious talk to other subjects without adding more trouble to Mary."

Monday, December 27, 1943

We slept until about 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon because we were still tired from the previous 2 evenings. Emiko was just getting up and she was ironing one of her suits. She was wearing my shirt as a nightgown and it was quite a sight. She said that Bette Davis did this in the movies so it was the latest fad. My poor shirts



take a terrible beating! Emiko was ironing like this when there was a knock at the door. I jumped up and put a bathrobe and scarf on and it was some of Emiko's friends, four of them to be exact. They brought over a present for Emiko and we did not want to let them in because the room was in such a mess. There were dishes scattered all over the place. Emiko threw her blue suit on right away while Bette hid under the covers. I tried to act as nonchalant as possible with my robe and scarf on but I felt practically naked. They came in for half an hour and one of the fellows had to go catch a train. Merry and her sister look like they have put on a lot of weight since coming up here. This was part of Emiko's group at Gila.

We didn't straighten up the room at all since we had promised Mary to meet her at the State Lake Theatre at 3:30. We ate a hasty breakfast and then rushed down there. We didn't have to wait at all because Mary got there first and the ushers let her right through. There was a line about a block long waiting to get in to see the picture, "Thousands Cheer". Mary got us in right away and her baby seemed to have attracted a lot of attention. We managed to get seats all together. Mary's baby did not even cry once during the show. Afterwards we took Mary to Thompson's restaurant and I bought her a turkey dinner. We did not eat because we'd planned to go to Chinatown afterwards and eat. It was too far for Mary to take her baby and return. Emiko and Bette went on ahead afterwards to Chinatown and I took Mary home. She wanted to go up to Mariko's so I had to lug the baby all the way up there. Mary said it weighed about 15 pounds but it felt like 50 pounds by the time I got to the top of four flights in Mariko's building. Mariko and George were just going out to some kind of party. She said Alice and Mark had left 15 minutes previously to go to the same show that we went to. They were supposed to have joined us but they did not get up until after 4. Yoshi and Miki were late in joining us so they went back to Mariko's. They left for the same show about 15 minutes before we arrived. Mariko said that the dance last night was fairly successful. She said there were very few yogores there. There were about 100 to 200 couples in her



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estimation, although she is not sure since people were going in and out. She felt that there weren't the usual number of stags because they did not care about spending \$2.50 to go in and stand around. Mariko and George got in free because they went late and there was no one at the door.

After I walked home with Mary, I went on down to Chinatown and met Emiko and Bette. We were practically starved since we didn't have more than a bite to eat all day long. Emiko and Bette shopped around for Chinese food during the time they waited. We went to a Chinese restaurant and ordered about \$4 worth of food with which we stuffed ourselves right up to our ears. We were not able to finish all of it and Emiko decided that it should not be wasted so she put it into one of the paper cartons which contained the tofu which she had purchased. We got home around midnight and I read the papers until about one before going to sleep. Emiko and Bette were still asleep when I left this morning and the pile of dishes is waiting for them after they wake up.

A post-mortem on the developments within Nisei circles shows that the society is being rapidly developed and the Xmas holiday was an opportunity for many of these informal groups to get together. Quite a few of the Nisei seems to be at loose ends because they had a vague feeling of lonesomeness. Several of the Nisei I talked to over the weekend mentioned this in one way or another. This is the first time that Emiko and Bette have been away from the family on Xmas and I suppose it's true about a lot of Nisei out here. There were a number of Nisei who felt "blue" because the <sup>Xmas</sup> holiday was so unnatural to them. There were few homes that the Nisei could go visit, but many informal groups gathered at certain individual's or couple's apartments. For example, Toshi's and Mariko's circles had a gathering of over 40 people and there were 30 others who dropped in during the day making a total of around 70 persons in this informal society. I gather from what Frank and Tom says that there were a number of other informal groups among the Nisei since many Nisei had nothing to do except go social visiting.



All the Nisei need now is a large gathering place and they would flock to it in droves. The dance on Xmas night was a large center of gathering. Many of the Nisei like Mariko, Yoshi, Eileen, etc. claim that they want to get away from an exclusive Nisei society and yet they are rapidly going in that direction. They give excuses like they are going out of curiosity or that their boy friends want to go, etc., but actually they want to go also. Now they are justifying these gatherings because "it was a nice crowd," "there's no other place to go," "this dance was an exception," "there weren't many yagores there," etc. I suppose that it is true that many Nisei are not particularly anxious to become too involved in a Nisei society, but they don't have any other place to go. They feel that they are being pulled into it because of the situation out here. It doesn't take much to start a stampede in the direction of Nisei socials, and most of the Nisei out here will follow like sheep. In this way the Nisei society is becoming more and more consolidated. There has not been very much integration on the social level, except for a few individuals. There has been a lot of integration in other aspects of Nisei life, but this is not recognized at all by the group. They think more in terms of marriages and parties and it is very easy for them to drift back into an exclusive Nisei society. Even though many individuals honestly do not like the idea of this, they drift in because they feel that they are missing out on something if they do not join the circles. They talk about assimilation and integration, but they can't reconcile <sup>this</sup> with reality so that they are contented about merely talking about the illusion of assimilation without making very many efforts to achieve it.

I feel that it is not a matter of knowing a lot of Caucasians to achieve integration since there are desirable and undesirable people in this group also. The basis of it seems to be more in the nature of having common interests. The Nisei have many inhibitions and they still retain a feeling of "inferiority complex" and that is why it is so difficult for them to break down this reserve. The inte-



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gration program cannot hope to reach any measure of success unless there is a <sup>radical</sup> racial revision of Nisei personality. I don't know how this will be possible but it seems to me that it has to be done on an individual basis since no two Nisei are alike. I suppose I am a little too harsh in blaming the Nisei for their lacks when it is really the environmental forces which has given the impetus in this direction. These precipitating factors have been more intensified since the evacuation as the Nisei are more than ever aware of the fact now that they are viewed as a racial minority group, which is not very favorably received by the public due to the war situation. I don't know how the problem of adjusting the Nisei personality can be solved, but I don't think that the WRA policy of treating all Nisei as a group will solve the problem any more than my belief that Nisei society should be discouraged in all possible ways for the good of the Nisei themselves.

I realize that this is a most difficult problem, much harder than what I had anticipated when I first came out here with Emiko and Bette. It seems that we are being pulled into a Nisei society through Mariko as much as I try to resist being dragged into it. I had hoped that the school adjustments would more than compensate these other desires but I am not so sure that this is possible now. I would say that Bette has made the adjustment more successfully than Emiko since she does not have the former contacts to cling to out here. Another factor has been the pull which Mariko and Alice exert. I think that the situation should have been handled much more successfully if we were in separate cities. I don't know what the solution is. All I can say is that it is a very difficult problem and I don't know where the answer lies. By next year the question will be answered one way or the other. It is impossible to make a complete break away from Nisei society but I feel that the integration process does not eliminate the contacts since they can be retained in an informal manner. The important thing is that E. and B. get their thinking straight on this matter so that their outlook will be broader and not like the usual Nisei thinking which views integration in terms of limited



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social relationships and marriage. As for myself, I can <sup>resent</sup> exist this pressure for a Nisei society indefinitely but I don't know whether I am being entirely fair to Emiko and Bette when I pull them in this direction as I am not sure whether their thinking is in this direction along with me although I think that they agree with me on a large part of it. <sup>to</sup> It is hard enough for parents/guide girls in their late teens and I don't know if I am qualified enough to do it. I only hope that they will lead a happy life. That will be an accomplishment in itself. We have been going along fairly well for the past couple of months now and on the surface things seem to be functioning smoothly, but sometimes I wonder whether I should not compromise and give in to Mariko's point of view, in spite of the fact that I will not do Emiko and Bette any good to lead Mariko's sort of life. The difficult point is that I don't know to what degree I should intrude upon their private lives even though I feel that it is better for them to have a broader prospective than Mariko and Alice. I think that this can be achieved through their college education and it doesn't help them to have conflicts when this goal has to compete against an intense social life which looks like more fun for the immediate present. I can't back out of this situation now since it is a responsibility that I willingly assumed and the problem is not as difficult as I sometimes think. In the long run, I suppose that these little problems will assume their proper place in proportion to the proposal of the total picture. I have been responsible for them now for almost two years. Little did I dream before evacuation that things would turn out this way. I think that the family as a whole is making a forward progress although the family in camp is still a big question mark since Mom does resist resettlement and I can't give her any definite guarantee due to the uncertainty of the war situation. I think that I would not be in a position to assume any further responsibilities right now and it will be more up to Emiko and Bette to take the lead after they finish their education.

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I have to go interview Yuri and go have dinner with her now. I probably won't get too much definite information as our conversation will be very informal for the first meeting.



Lt. Hosch of the Civil Affairs Training School here was brought in by Prof. Wirth to consult Frank about how the relief program of Japan should be organized when the Allies exert a military occupation of Hirohito's islands. Hosch said that they were working on a program of rehabilitation and they wanted to fit it in with the existing system in Japan. He did not know how the function of relief operated in Japan. Frank said that he did not know too much about the Japanese system but he gave him some book references to read up on. There really isn't much literature on that subject as the public welfare program in Japan has lagged greatly since the Army took over the government there after 1930. The unemployment problem had been artificially solved by conscription and other types of government work directed towards a wartime economy. We did not know very much about how relief functioned in Japan although some mention was made of the family system, mutual aid society, missionary work, etc. Frank remarked that Japan had been greatly industrialized during the past 20 years so that the internal system had been greatly disorganized for this reason he believed that the rehabilitation work would have to use many new concepts of relief which would be new to the Japanese people.

Tuesday, December 28, 1943

Last night I went over to have dinner and to start interviewing Yuri. She served me a steak dinner. Yuri is quite an accomplished cook and she makes the most delicious pies. She has a rather ambitious program as she works during the day at McClurg's as a typist clerk and in the evenings she is enrolled at the YMCA college. She is thinking of getting a job on a night shift in some factory and enrolling in college classes during the day. She feels that if she works 6 or 7 hours in the evening, she would make just as good a salary as working day times. Yuri makes about \$120 a month now.

Yuri is rather unusual in many ways. She is one of those self-sufficient type of individuals and she rarely talks about herself. For this reason I had to be rather careful not to let her have the impression that I was prying into her



personal life. I don't know whether she will tell me much about her relationship with her "husband." They evidently have broken up, but they still seem to be on rather friendly terms.

Yuji came in just about midnight and I was introduced to him. He is a rather large fellow but he seems to have a slightly surly attitude. I didn't get a chance to talk to him enough so that I don't know what he really is like. He appeared to be rather cold towards me. He went to his chemistry books and started looking up something. Yuji comes in occasionally. I don't know what type of work he is doing right now. Yuri said earlier in the evening that Yuji was doing graduate work at Cal-Tech before the war in chemistry. She did not know whether he still had the great ambitions which he formerly possessed. She mentioned that her friend, Miyoshi, remarked that Yuji seemed to have changed since the evacuation and that he may turn out to be an "executive" -- sit around making big plans but never pushing them through. Yuji is the son of Rev. Tajima of Pasadena. It seems that in 1934 Yuri went down to Pasadena from Montana after finishing high school since she wanted to continue on with college. Her uncle found out that Mrs. Tajima was an alumna of the same college in Tokyo where Yuri's mother graduated. Through this connection, Yuri was invited to stay at their home for several months after arriving in California. She mentioned during the evening very casually that she was supposed to marry Yuji in 1940 but he called it off. She did not go into any details on this and I did not press the matter. Evidently this was the cause for her going back to Berkeley until the war talk began to get stronger. Perhaps she may give additional details of this phase of her life during the next interview. She is rather busy so that it is difficult to fit an interview into her schedule.

Yuri is rather intelligent, although not exceptional. She appears to be very well read and she is much more mature in her outlook on life than most of the Nisei. She seems to have a great deal of confidence in her self outwardly although I suspect that her marital problems may bother her somewhat. However, She doesn't talk about these things to anyone. Yuri is quite objective in her plans and she never



seems to get excited about anything. She is one of those comfortable types of individuals to be around. Yuri does not care for the Nisei society and I suspect that she is a little irritated because so many of her relatives are in Chicago now. She doesn't mix in too much with either Mariko's or Toshi's circles. She is on the periphial of both of these groups. Yuri has a circle of her own but she limits it to a fewer number of people. She doesn't particularly care to have large numbers of people around her apartment. She said that when she lived on the outside so many people came over that she decided to move out. She is glad that there is no telephone in her building now. Yuri mentioned that something was wrong with the Nisei because they never visited around so often and hung around until all hours. She said that she had her work and her school program and that occupied most of her time so that she was quite contented not to have an excessive amount of social life. She wondered whether Mariko enjoyed having all of those people around her apartment. We concluded that Mariko was a social type of individual and that she probably did get a lot of pleasure by having people around her all the time even though it disrupted her other activities. Mariko doesn't have very many other hobbies to occupy her leisure time so that her spare time is spent in social entertaining. She doesn't have very many books in her apartment and the only magazines are movie magazines and fashion magazine. Mariko just doesn't seem to have the time to do much reading although she does have a good taste in literature. Yuri, on the other hand, does a great deal of reading and she enjoys it very much. She has quite a number of books scattered around her apartment. Yuri could have graduated from U.C. in 1938 but she suddenly decided that teaching did not offer much opportunity for her. She said that she was discouraged in this ambition by the education department at U.C., because they told her that she could not get a job very easily. Yuri remarked that this sort of thing made her feel different from the other Caucasian students and she was not much aware of this prior to coming to California.



Yuri made an interesting remark about the Nisei. She said that the Nisei she knew had distorted sense of values. If any Nisei showed the least bit of talent in anything the other Nisei would either be jealous or else they would make a great deal out of it. Yuri feels that this is due to the fact that the Nisei as a whole have a sense of inferiority and they have not experienced enough in life to put values in their proper perspective. Yuri said that she used to sing a little bit and the Nisei who praised her thought that she should go in for grand opera. Yuri knew that she was not this exceptional, although it was unusual for Nisei girls to sing at that time. She also added that the Nisei concentrated too much in certain fields. She felt that the resettlement phase would probably level off these economic ambitions to quite a degree and the bulk of the Nisei would realize that they could not all be professional people, although Yuri felt that this may be quite a disillusionment to the Nisei when they finally had to accept the realities.

I probably will get the interviews finished with Yuri some time next month. I have found that it is a better procedure to go along leisurely and not try to rush the interviewee. It is not too important that I accumulate a vast number of cases and do them sketchily. I think that W.I.'s advice of doing intensive cases is a more realistic approach and I probably will get better cases in the long run. For this reason I am not going to worry too much if I do not get one case a week, although I will try to get three or four cases completed per month if it is possible.

Yuri also told me a little bit about Mary (CH-24) who lives in a back room in the same building. She said that she had little sympathy for Mary now as it was her own fault for getting into a pregnant condition. She had advised Mary about birth control and even told her what clinic to go to but Mary still used a very unsafe method with the result that she is now going to have a baby which was not planned for. Yuri said that Mary was rather disgusted at Wayne because he was not too concerned over the coming baby. It seems a little premature for Mary to be announcing another child, 9 months ahead of time. Maybe she isn't even pregnant at all but just



thinks she is. I heard a very funny thing yesterday. There has been some rumors going around connecting Mary and me. I knew that this sort of thing was bound to happen as the Nisei like to wag their tongues very much. It doesn't bother me at all since I am not too concerned with the Nisei society. Yuri mentioned yesterday that there was some talk about her and Yuji also but she did not lose sleep over it, as she felt that this sort of talk was cheap and she should not get all excited about it.

Yuri said also that their landlord believes that Mary is out street walking at night and sometimes she spies on her. Yuri has assured her that this is not true at all. The basis for this suspicion is that Mary goes out a great deal in the evenings. However, she only goes to Mariko's. The only other people she ever visits are Mrs. Stevens, Toshi and a Hawaiian girl with whom she formerly roomed. The landlady does not know this so that she jumps to conclusions which are not fair to Mary. There are small minded people in all classes of society and it is not only the Nisei who are this way.

Emiko and Bette were still up when I came home. They cleaned the house up spic and span so that it looked entirely different from the messy condition it was in over the holidays. They slept until 4:30, that is, they remained in bed and wrote letters and talked. After that they got up and Bette went upstairs to clean the house while Emiko cleaned the apartment. I think that Emiko feels that she had a lonesome Xmas because she was away from the family in camp for the first time. She is inclined to have deep feelings at times. I suppose this is one of the reasons why it is more difficult for her to make adjustments than Bette. Emiko assumed a great deal of responsibility during the Xmas season and she bought most of the presents for the family, wrapped them, and sent them out. She did everything very efficiently and did not leave it until the last minute. She also is impatient when the apartment is dirty and as soon as the mood strikes her, she starts house cleaning even though it may be 2 a.m. in the morning. She shows this same conscientious characteristic in doing her school work and she has worked out a fairly good



program of study for herself. Both Emiko and Bette were rather worn out over the week-end so that they rested up most of yesterday and they probably will take it easy again today.

Frank received a letter from a friend in Washington who was a brilliant student in the sociology department with him. He is working under Stanford in the Army Morale Division which studies the **morale** of minority groups in the Army. He had this to say in regards to Nisei soldiers' reactions: "I ~~never~~ heard the rumor you mentioned of Nisei soldiers being locked up when the President came to camp. I have seen a number of letters from Nisei soldiers sent from camps in the U.S. to relatives in Hawaii. These are opened regularly before they are put on the boat and 'interesting' ones are copied. A chief complaint in one large southern camp seems to be the fact that while <sup>+</sup> Southerners treat Nisei as they have always treated Negroes. There is much sympathy for Negroes. There has been violence one or two times. White officers vary of course, in their attitude toward Nisei. I have heard of at least one very friendly officer but I suspect he was rare."

Alfred Doi came into the office after lunch today to talk as he does not have any teaching duties in the language division here during the holidays. He wanted to know if I knew Eileen and I told him that I did. So he asked if ~~there~~ was any chance of getting an introduction to her. He said he met her at the Hotel Midland Nisei dance on Xmas night and he was struck by her appearance. I asked him what the dance was like and he had the following comments to make which Louise took some notes on: "I didn't go to that dance until 11:45. When I got there my date knew your sister who arrived at the same time so I got introduced. Your sister got us into the dance for half price. I didn't mind paying even the whole sum because I was flush. I made \$10 in a poker game from the boys and that's why I didn't go to the dance until so late. When I went into the door there was a bunch of Sacramento stags there that I didn't know and they made a common 'Hiya, bright eyes.' I wasn't going to give way to those sonuvabitches so I just shoved right through. Then a couple of fellows said, 'You want to start something?' I didn't say nothing to nobody. Then a couple of them yelled out



that they could beat up anybody in the hall. I looked around for my boys but they were not there so I decided 'touch nobody, feel nobody.' I wasn't even drunk at all as I was playing before.

"When I got inside I noticed that the crowd was very big. I would estimate that there were 250 people there altogether. There were about 60-80 stags standing around. There wasn't any brawl during the time I was there. A six-piece dance orchestra played good music and the dance was fairly orderly. Down below, in the bar a bunch of fellows were standing around. When I went into the can, there were empty bottles all over the floor. There were some fellows from Sacramento there but I didn't know them. Two of them were puking into the latrine. They were sick.

"I stayed about one and a half hours at the dance. I saw some bootchie guys with three keto women. They had been drinking a little but they did not create any scene. They just circulated in their own group. I think they were with a couple of ainoko guys. They weren't too many zoot suiters around. I only noticed five or six real zoot suiters. There was a distinction between the gentleman and zoot suiters though. The crowd seemed to have a good time. There were no bouncers around as far as I could see. Some of the fellows said that the WRA sponsored the dance and I thought that was true. Bill Shiota said he went to the WRA and someone there in the office told him to pass the word around to the boys about this dance. It may have been Ben Yoshioka.

"I saw your sister at the dance. She's a good rhumba dancer. Eileen was a good jitterbug but did not notice very many other girls who stood out. I think that this dance was better organized than the Ashland affair. I don't know if they made money on it or not. I'd say they probably only broke about even. None of my Stockton friends went to the dance because they all went back to Rohwer for the Xmas vacation. There were 10 or 11 of them.

"The dance wasn't too crowded as it was a pretty big hall. The stags



all stood near the door and they didn't tag too much. The funny thing was that it was mostly couples and I hardly knew any of the people there. I only knew about 10 people there altogether. Not very many of them went to the other dance at Ashland Hall. The Keto women weren't very conspicuous but they looked like B-girls to me. The rest of the crowd did not circulate very much as they kept more to their own groups. I think a lot of fellows with dates figured that there would be many drunk stags there and they would try to cut in on the girls and get nasty but not much of that happened."

Doi then made some remarks about the New Year's affair at Hull House which the Pacific Northwest Nisei are sponsoring for their own group. The word of this affair has gone around in the Nisei circles and there seems to be some resentment about this closed affair. Frank and Michi have been invited as patrons at this affair and we will probably have to get a suit of armor for Frank because Tom believes there will be a lot of crashing going on and perhaps some fights. Doi made the following remark which also indicates his own attitude toward the northwest Nisei: "The Californians are sore as hell about this dance. Some guys I knew said that the the northwest bunch had a helluva nerve for sponsoring such a thing when they talk about assimilation and then turn around and have their own exclusive socials. Who do they think they are? They think that they are too good for the Californians. One of the fellows said that he met a couple of Seattle Nisei who were different and they wouldn't have nothing to do with this exclusive affair. I think the Washingtonians like California girls because they're better looking. Maybe they're all jealous of each other."

Tom added that he overheard one group of Stockton fellows who were sore about the dance and they said that they should go over to the Hull House on New Year's Eve and throw a stink bomb in there. They figured that there weren't many big bouncers from Washington. Frank remarked that this sort of sectional strike among the Nisei was most acute in the boy-girl relationships. I rather suspect



that this is true. Dances are the one subject that most Nisei out here can talk endlessly about and these sectional strikes are very important issues to them. They probably are more concerned about the so-called clannishness of the north-west Nisei than any political events which will affect them. In this way they probably are not much different from a large group of the American public, although I think that the situation may be a little more intensified because of the peculiar characteristics of this group. It is another example of the distorted values of Nisei which Yuri mentioned last night. I saw Eileen briefly last night and she said that she didn't enjoy the Midland Hotel dance at all, but the reason for this was because she didn't get tagged in so often, I suppose.

Wednesday, December 29, 1943

Emiko and Bette went to a show last night. They took it easy most of the day and read a book or wrote letters in bed. Emiko has finished one of the books I gave her for Xmas already. She still has some studies to do but has not gotten around to them yet. Some of her friends from school called and asked her something about it so Emiko was a little worried about it this morning. I have a book out of the library which she is supposed to read but I have to get it back by tomorrow. Emiko said that she was going to do a big pile of laundry today. B. and E. are enjoying their rest this week, as the past month has been a little strenuous upon them.

Last night I went over to interview Imiko (CH-23) and I had dinner over there. They had a Japanese dinner which was not too bad. Imiko said they ate Japanese food quite often. They buy some Japanese foods from one of the Japanese stores in town but it is pretty expensive. Imiko was<sup>out</sup>/about a week and a half due to her flu and she was not looking so well. I managed to complete the interview although I could have stretched it out over one more time, but I was rather anxious to finish this case up as I have been working on it over a month and a half.

Imiko said that her brother's school problem was finally solved because



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her parents were coming out here on the 4th as the Immigration Dept. has finally given her father a clearance. While I was there Imiko and her brother had a little argument about when their parents should come out. Kim is anxious for them to leave on the 4th, but Imiko has some worries about their transportation and she thinks that it will be better for them to leave on the 10th as the holiday rush will be largely over by that time. She doesn't want her parents to have to stand in the aisles on the way out here as they are rather old. She wrote a letter to camp to ask the leave officer if they were going to arrange a special coach for Japanese coming out on that day. Imiko heard that about 60 people came in on short term leaves to work at the Stevens Hotel recently and a special coach was arranged for them. After her parents get here, Imiko will arrange for them to have<sup>a</sup>/room in the same building downstairs. Lucy is going to move out Jan. 27, however, Imiko does not know what her parents will do. She thinks that it may be better for them if they get a domestic job. Ontop of that, she is worried about her coming marriage. Her fiancée has told her that he is going to be transferred from Fort Custer to Savage and this will mean that Imiko will have to desert her parents very soon. She thinks that it will be very lonely for her parents to be out here alone and she would like to get them settled first. Eventually she would like to have them move to Denver or Salt Lake City where there are more Japanese. She thinks that her father will be able to go into business in this way.

Another thing that bothers Imiko is whether she should have any children or not after they are married. She wants a child rather badly but she thinks that it may be rather risky if Shug gets sent overseas right away. On the other hand, she feels that he may be gone years and years and she will be too old to have a child in that case. Imiko worries about a lot of things. During my contacts with her, I have discovered that she is still rather sensitive. She said that she still had the pull between America and Japan on her and this surprised me greatly. She hoped that the war would end in a stalemate because she still has a certain feeling toward Japan. This is strange as she is marrying a Nisei soldier who probably will be fighting the Japanese soldiers. This conservative trait is common



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in many Nisei and they still have not resolved the issue clearly in their minds so that they are dangling on the fence. The lip service, of course, is all for America, but the uncertainty of the resettlement program is a cause for this indecision. There is a great feeling of insecurity and it is stronger in those Nisei who are more timid. I don't think that basically it is any matter of loyalty. The forces which pull Imiko towards two diametrically opposed cultures, chiefly in the political philosophy, has caused a great deal of confusion in her mind. She is not too politically conscious anyway.

A good example of this feeling of confusion was shown when Imiko told us about the Jap Diary. She said that her boss' friend had just returned from the South Pacific wars. He had killed a Jap soldier there and taken a diary off of the body. Imiko's boss wanted to have her translate it for him. Imiko does not know whether she should do this or not. She said that there may be some special military secret about Japan in the diary and she would not like to be the one to expose it. I was greatly surprised at this attitude and I said I saw no reason why she should hesitate. Then she answered that it was difficult for her because her parents were Japanese. I then reminded her that she was marrying a Nisei serving in the American Army. Imiko then said that in any event she didn't want to have anything to do with the diary. She is going to suggest that her employer ask the language instructor here in the University to do the translation work. Her younger brother is much more definite in his acceptance of this country. Imiko feels that she is definite in her acceptance of the American way but there are times when the more conservative pulls tug at her, like in the case of the Jap diary. The interview with Imiko was rather satisfactory and I suppose that it will be a fairly good document which indicates the feeling of insecurity of many Nisei. I hope to finish dictating it today. This means that I will have completed the writing up of three rather long cases this month, which is not too bad since the conference and the holiday seasons cut into the month greatly.



Thursday, December 30, 1943

I'm rather sleepy today. Last night I did not have an interview scheduled so I went to the show and after I came home I read until about 3 a.m. in the morning. Emiko was <sup>up</sup>even later than that writing letters and reading. B. and E. did not do the laundry yesterday as they stayed in bed until about 4 o'clock for the third day in a row. They said they had to catch up on their rest and enjoy their vacation. They plan to do the laundry today and then go downtown and to a little shopping. Emiko gave me an order for a hat for Xmas and one of these days I will have to do down and order it.

Yesterday I went over to the Bussar's office to register for the winter quarter. They had a check there for \$100. I told them that I was only taking one course which would cost \$35 and the scholarship invoice should have been for that amount. The office said that apparently the scholarship committee had given me a tuition for a full course. I told them that I could not take more than one course this quarter so that the invoice had to be returned and another one will be made out in the proper amount. They only give scholarships for one quarter at a time so I could not get the balance of the \$100. I don't know whether they will grant me another scholarship next quarter or not but I am hoping. Emiko recieved a letter from the Student Relocation Committee and they said that it was perfectly all right for her to use the \$226 for school expenses. They prased her for the excellent way she had made out her budget.

Louise is taking a trip to Milwaukee over the New Year's holiday and she will leave later this afternoon. Fortunately, I was able to complete CH-23. I will start out the new year with a clean slate. I am more than satisfied with myself since I have already gotten one interview on CH-25 and I have another interview schedules for CH-25 on the first Saturday after New Years. I will also start CH-26, Sakae, after the new year as she will be back from Green Bay, Wisconsin by that time. I think that my progress will be satisfactory and my course in the University will not break into my schedule very much.



It seems that quite a few Nisei are coming into Chicago on short term leaves at the present time. The new WRA policy of granting short term leaves for seasonal work at Hotel Stevens and Cuneo has received a pretty great response. I think that the reason for this is that the fear of being stranded has been eliminated. We received a report showing leaves from the centers as of Dec. 18. From the 10 centers a total of 20,556 evacuees have resettled. Poston had the largest number with over 3000 and it was followed by Minidoka with 2925 and Tule Lake with 2480. Heart Mountain had 2018 which was six more than Gila. All of the centers have resettled 1200 or over. There are still 92,552 evacuees left in the centers and 14,821 are in Tule Lake. Out of the total leaves, 3231 are seasonal and 484 are short term. According to the figure of the total which were given us, the total number of all types of leaves in one week actually decreased from 20,787 on Dec. 11, to 20,556 on Dec. 18. There are approximately 750 additional persons who left the assembly centers on seasonal leaves and they have not gone to relocation centers. The figures do not include the 314 repatriates who sailed on the Gripsholm on Sept. 2. I don't know how the WRA will ever get the other 92,000 people out of camp. It seems that this will be almost an impossibility. The WRA seems to feel optimistic and there has been some publicity that 40,000 will be resettled in 1944. I remember that the goal for 1943 was 45,000 but the WRA didn't even get 40% of it. I think that the next development will probably be more emphasis on family and group resettlement rather than resettlement of individuals. This will be the only way that they can get families out. If this policy is adopted, it will mean, of course, that there will be Japanese communities springing up once more. It looks like a losing battle all the way down. But there is still hope for those who have scattered out.

I am very worried about Emiko. Something is bothering her and I suppose that it is the pull of the Nisei society. I just don't know how to cope with the situation now. Emiko is going on 20 and she should know her own mind. It's



so damn hard with Mariko and Alice around though. They mean well and they think that they are cooperating with me, but actually they are the "pulling" factor because of the lives they live. In private talks with Emiko they somehow give her the idea that she is missing out on something. I just can't seem to get them to understand that they are only making the conflict in Emiko's mind greater because of the contrasting lives that they live. It is hard enough to attempt an integration program with E and B without having the older sisters forming resistance block.

It is more Mariko than Alice. She interprets things from her own experiences and never having gone to college, she can't seem to realize that an excessive social life cannot be indulged in at the same time. She is happy enough in her life, but I wish that she would quit interfering even though she does have good intentions. The resistance and I suppose resentment has been growing in Emiko for some time now. I thought that it would wear off in time, but apparently it is being reinforced by outside influences. I don't know how to cope with it at all. I think that maybe it is the time for Emiko to go out on her own. She will probably be much happier that way. There is too much of clash in personalities. Both Emiko and I fly off the handle easily and it is not very pleasant. I know that a lot of it is my fault because I have such a definite opinion about the integration process and I resent being drawn into the "Nisei society" by Mariko. I don't want Emiko and Bette to have a life where they will only be marking time. If times were more normal now, it would be a different matter. But it is easy for two young girls to be led in the wrong direction, especially when the older sisters are the center of the pulling force.

Things just can't go on like this. If they do, Emiko is going to resent me terribly. I want to see her happy and it would be better to let her go her own way. The only catch is that I can't decide whether I am living up to my responsibility or else taking an easy way out of the situation because of lack of experience.



But I can't see the social situation in the same way as Emiko and many other Nisei. It is too bad when it comes down to the personal family level. The struggle has been going on since we came out here. I think that I started too late with Emiko, but there is still a chance that Bette will be more sensible about it. Perhaps I am being too stubborn, and not "realistic" as DS said recently in one of our conversations. I worry a lot about it and there is no answer. People dislike me because I am so obstinate on my position. I don't mind that at all, but when it comes down to the family level, then it hurts.

It isn't that I haven't made concessions and compromised. I have been doing this right along. Each time a crisis develops with Emiko, I give in. But this sort of thing cannot go on indefinitely because sooner or later she will lose all respect for me. But I don't have the courage to suggest that she goes her own way. I think that it is in her mind and that is why mountains are made out of mole hills and this makes a nasty scene.

Sometimes I think that I am a hell of a person because I don't give in altogether on this matter of a social life for Emiko. But it would not be consistent with my ideals. Usually I am cynical about things, but I do have a firm belief that integration is a possibility even though it will be a hard struggle and most Nisei will term those who uphold this point of view as crackpots.. Maybe it is true. I don't want to feel sorry for myself; I want to think it through, but always I come to a dilemma. Emiko has the habit of clinging to past things. She has a boy friend out here and I suppose that she thinks that she is in love with him. Under the romantic influences of movie magazines and True Confession magazines, she has created a big issue out of the thing because I object to her running around in his group. I can't stop her from doing it, but I don't give in completely. This is another of her "pulling" forces. I refuse to let it grow to the dramatic stage because I think that it will pass over. It is the natural thing for girls of her age to have crushes. However, in times like this, the situation gets blown out of all proportions. The thing that I am actually opposed to is the Nisei society



which it pulls her into. Although Emiko has been making good adjustments at school, the progress has not been as good as it might have been if these complicating factors did not exist. One can reason with a person on almost everything, but not against "love." The unsettled situation caused by the war, evacuation, and my role as E and B's guardian, furthers the abnormal processes.

All of these complications give me plenty of worry and I think and think at night as to what I should do. I have been leaving the whole thing alone but my reason tells me that it is past that stage now and it has to be settled one way or the other. Since it is Emiko's life which is involved, it is up to her to make the final decision. Perhaps it will turn out the best for her in the long run now if she gets out on her own responsibility. I can't always be "interfering" in her life; it just won't work out that way. If only Mariko and Alice had gone beyond giving "lip service" to cooperating with me instead of working at cross purposes, largely by actions, and to a lesser extent, in their talks with E and B which can be summed up as: "I sympathize with you E and B and your brother is trying an impossible program, but we promised to let him have his way so we cannot support you outwardly." They do not realize that this has been the procedure roughly, but in the past months, this sort of thing has had its effect because E and B are younger and they can be influenced. Naturally a Nisei society appeals to them more because they can only see my point of view in the abstract and not as a concrete solution. Generally, they all agree with me, but it doesn't go beyond that. I think that Bette comes the closest.

I know that I may be worried beyond the point of common sense, but I can't help feel that a storm is brewing. I don't know what I will do when it does come, but I don't think I will do much. There isn't anything I can do and direct opposition would only create a bad feeling on all sides. Emiko can make out all right by herself, and I shouldn't worry that she will be going in the direction of Mariko and the "social life", but I can't help it. If only the factor of the "social life" were



not so damned exaggerated in the Nisei mind. I could be more objective about the whole thing if it did not hit me directly through Emiko and Bette. I might have been able to control the situation and direct it into more normal channels if Mariko and all the assorted "relatives" had not been around. I thought of this before I decided to come out here, but I was more confident that I would be able to cope with things at that time. Now I am not so confident. In looking around for a possible solution, the only thing that sounds practical is that Emiko goes her own way. At the same time, I know that it will be damn lonely for Bette since I will have to be out a lot in the evenings interviewing people in connection with my work.

I am a damn fool. Should I risk a family break just because of some silly idealistic notions about integration which I have? Will it be worth it? How do I know that such a thing is ever possible. As many people have said to me, "All other racial groups in this country have their segregated patterns, so why should 'they' try to spread the Nisei all over the country?" I could sit back like the rest and say, "let the other fellow do it; why should I cause myself more conflicts than I have now." But I know that this defeatism will only make me more unhappy. I am trying to justify myself into believing that I have discharged my responsibility to Emiko and consequently look for the easiest way out. On the other hand, it is the most logical approach and possibly the best. If I could bolster myself in to believing this absolutely. The other possibility is that I am way off on a wrong tangent, I won't admit it because of personal "pride." There has been no other example of a complete integration program to judge the Nisei attempts by so I don't have any support there. I would hate to have to reach the conclusion that democracy stops at the color line, even though the tendency may be in this direction. Maybe this war is the turning point; it certainly looks like it to me. I shouldn't get mixed up so intensely on this problem because stone walls rear up in front of me at every turn. Does one necessarily have to butt one's head against stone walls?

I don't blame Emiko for the way she feels at all. The only difficulty is that her problems are personalized and I am trying to talk in terms of more generalized



solutions. We don't seem to be able to find the common ground of mutual understanding so that a silent sort of conflict goes on. Regardless of what she does, I know that she will make adequate adjustments, but what about the many other Nisei going in this direction who do not have the qualities or the latent possibilities that Emiko has? They will stop of the bottom of the ~~corse~~<sup>corse</sup> and then procede to stew in the juices of frustration, blaming racial prejudice for the fix that they find themselves in. But by developing a segregated pattern, they invite the very thing which they wish to avoid most. What a perplexing dilemma!

I want Emiko so much to be happy and yet I seem to be doing the oposite. I think the world of her, but the conflicing points of view make things extremely difficult and almost impossible. I just can't enforce my way of thinking on her. I am disappointed in myself mostly because my "plan" looks like it will not work out. Reinforced by the thought that the superficial attractions of a Nisei society is the definite trend now, my outlook for the group is gloomy and pessemistic. What a way to end the year! Tomorrow night, 1944 enters the picture. The only bright side of the picture is that I did get out of camp this year.

Friday, December 31, 1943 (New Years Eve.)

(Afternoon) Last night Emiko and Bette wanted to go visit Mariko and Alice so we went over. It is getting to the point that they do all the planning for us as Emiko and Bette don't suggest anything and I have no counter attractions. I wasn't in a very good mood at all because my resentment towards their kind of life is something I don't want Emiko and Bette to go through. It turned our fairly well for Alice, but there were about six years that she spent ~~marketing~~<sup>marketing</sup> time in a dead end domestic job before that. I want Emiko and Bette not to have to go through that. However, it is impossible to combat a "family line." I have nothing against Mariko and Alice personally as I am very fond of them too, but we don't think the same way. Mariko is the key to the whole thing and she tries to be helpful but it always turns out to have the opposite effect. Things went off very smoothly last night and I had a guilty conscience for ~~thinking~~ the way I do. I just hated my-



self because I have built things up in my mind and perhaps I am making Mariko the scapegoat to an inevitable process.

W However, I don't think her friends are the best influence on the younger sisters. They just lead such different lives. <There was a Geo. Watanabe over there and he seems to be getting thick with Mary (CH-24)> I think he is well past 35 years of age. Geo. owns a farm out in Idaho or some place out that way and he comes into Chicago occasionally to buy trucks and cars. He said that he had 800 gallons of gas to use up on his car and he wants Mariko to show him around or else fix him up with a date. It seems that Mary who arrived before us already had gotten first claims in, but that may be my imagination. George mentioned that he was interned in Panama when the war broke out, but he did not elaborate on that. He seems to be a pretty smooth and experienced fellow who has been around a lot in the rougher circles.>

They were just finishing dinner when we arrived last night -- Mariko, Alice Geo. Taki, G. Watanabe, Mary -- and Mariko said that she wanted to go after some furniture which Mrs. B. had given Yoshi so that Geo. W. consented to take them in his car. Alice decided to stay behind with us since we were visiting. <Mary asked E to look after her baby and off she went with them. Before they returned E and Alice were quite irritated as Mary did not bring over an extra and the baby made a mess. They finally used one of Mariko's clean diapers.>

W I talked to Alice<sup>a</sup>/while and she said that she was apartment hunting. She plans to move up on the north side someplace near Toshi. <She said that she would move to Evanston if she were certain that Mark would be at Fort Sheridan all the time. However, he thinks that he will be shipped out soon and Alice wants to be near friends in the event that she stays in Chicago.> She feels that she will get lonely if she went off to Evanston.

The group came back about midnight with the furniture and Mariko chased them right out after they had coffee. I wanted to go home, but Mariko and Alice



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sided with E and B ~~to~~ stay overnight so that I agreed. Mariko said that she was very tired as she had been up late almost everynight this week. She thinks that she has a heart disease because when she rushed to work at the last minute her heart gives her a twinge. Alice said that Mariko was a hypochondriac and she always/suseptible to a suggestion that she had some kind of an ailment. She said that the reason why Mariko had a pain in her chest was because she stayed up late and then rushed to work. "Any person running down four flights of stairs would get a pain in the chest," she said.

Mariko chased all of us to bed and then got an idea to put on a ballet dance in her long woolen underwear. She painted a mustache on and put on Yosh's hat. Then she posed around as a gay 90 boxer. It was very comical to watch and all of us were in stitches. By the time Mariko got to bed it was 3:30 in the morning. She got up at 8:30 to rush to work. I had a book out of the U. of Chicago Library "Gold Coast and the Slums" that Emiko has to read for school. I wanted to return it today, but Emiko said that she would be sure to read it Sunday so that I decided to take it back next Monday, January 3. I made the breakfast for the girls and then went on downtown to have a look around at the Friends Office and the JACL. We are invited to go to a dinner this evening and we will go to the ballet after that. Mariko, Geo T., Bob K. and Eileen will also be there, but we are not going to wait for them as we know how slow Mariko is when she has to get anyplace at a set hour.

It is about 4:00 p.m. right now and I am waiting for Togo while he finishes an interview in his office. To pass the time, I am typing up these notes as I probably will not get a chance to do any more typing this year.

I have just finished talking to Dr. Yatabe for about two hours and he summed up his JACL work for the year as follows:

"I've just come back from a swing around Michigan to look the situation over and to contact some of our old members. I haven't made very many field trips this year. Most of my activity has been in talking before groups and clubs to do public



relations work. I am very satisfied with the Anselm forum which I spoke before the other Sunday. This group is in Gary, Ind. and it has a lot of businessmen and also people from all walks of life and racial groups as members. I spoke with a Filipino, a Hindu and a Chinese on the question of racial minorities in the world. I spoke on our people, of course. Usually I am not prejudiced against Filipinos, but I couldn't stand the Filipino who spoke with me on the same platform. He has a lawyer's degree and he working in a post office right now. He sounded so patronizing that it made me angry. He spoke of us if we were part of Japan and I had to stand up and set him straight. There are so many people who think this way and that is what makes it harder for the Japanese in this country. I told the Filipino that he was on the winning side right now but after the war he would be pushed around just like us. He didn't know much about the life of the Filipinos out on the coast. He would realize that there are a lot of prejudice against Filipinos, if he had.

"Sometimes I really do get disappointed and I wonder if I should not get out of the JACL, however, I am encouraged because I have a whole list of important people's names and they have come right out on public as our sponsors. It includes many presidents of universities and other big shots. I think I view 1944 rather optimistically and I think that the JACL will really establish its position as the voice of the Nisei even though all Nisei are not members. We have the leaders who have proven that they are not interested in personal gains and they are loyally sticking with the JACL to fight for the cause of the Japanese in the U.S. I plan to diminish my public relations work a little, although I am completely booked up for January and February. I have three general aims in mind for the coming year. First, I would like to visit some of the outlying resettled areas and get the Nisei living there to speak before various groups in the community. Since I have had a great deal of experience in public speaking during the past year, I will tell them what to emphasize. One of the most important things, of course, is to talk



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about the Nisei soldiers in Italy.

"Secondly, I plan to push the Pacific Citizen subscription and associated membership. The JACL **cannot** function without this financial revenue coming in. Thirdly, I plan to work among the resettlers out here and to help them as much as I can. I **don't** think I will push the formation of a JACL chapter out here unless a large group asks for it. There is no need for a controlling factor here because the Nisei are pretty well scattered and there is no pressure for a chapter right now. Maybe it is better not to have it as it will cause them to have only social events. We do have a great need to develop Nisei leadership out here and I don't know how this can be accomplished without a group.

"Out work in 1943 was largely public speaking and getting associated memberships, however, we also did some work on the employment and housing problems. During the past few months, I went around to contact employers on their attitudes. I am really encouraged by the public contacts I have been making and I honestly believe that offers of jobs have come out of these personal talks. I can't afford to travel around too much, however, since the JACL has to look after its financial budget first and then squeeze our travels within that.

"At the same time, I will push along the aims of the National JACL since that affects the welfare of all of us. Since we do not have much of an office here, I will have to emphasize that. In our national public relations work, we hope to do some research on the Japanese problem and establish an information bureau to hand out this data as well as to have an educational campaign to see that accurate information goes out about the Nisei instead of a lot of distorted lies. We also want to contact more friendly organizations to sponsor us. Another large national aim is to restore all citizenship rights and privileges which include freedom of movement to all states in the country, opening up the military service for the Nisei and also for the Issei fight discrimination in the Army, work for an opening of the college training program to Nisei soldiers, establishment of a friendly



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"One of the most puzzling problems out here is this matter of social adjustment. I don't know whether Nisei dances are good or bad, but something has to be done. During the past week I heard of three Nisei girl prostitutes out here. Every group has its good and its bad, but I am afraid that the bad will be emphasized too much if given publicity. The Nisei feel that they have to have dances and I think that this whole integration business is doomed to failure unless Caucasians and Nisei can be brought together in small groups. Because the WRA and other groups have no concrete suggestions, various Nisei interested in profits are coming in and sponsoring dances. Next month the Californians of Denver will come in and sponsor a Nisei dance here. I don't know how you can possibly avoid the Little Tokyo from forming even though I personally would not like to see segregation.

"There has been a lot of talk that the Nisei are getting great employment possibilities and opportunities out here. I don't know if that is true or not. I have an idea that the level of jobs for the Nisei have <sup>not</sup> come up since most of



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them are holding unskilled jobs. They are making money at the present time but I don't know whether they are improving themselves and getting new skills. I rather doubt it. Many of the Nisei are not capable of holding better jobs and they jump around giving the excuse that they want to advance themselves. But this is just an unrest, because they really don't have it on the ball in the first place. It is a very discouraging picture. Once in a while I see a good adjustment and I am encouraged. For example, when I was in Rochester, Minn., I visited the St. Mary's hospital where 30 Nisei nurses are in training or employed. Kimi Taguchi is a night superintendent of the maternity floor. At first the local mothers resented it but their babies were taken care of so well that these Nisei nurses now are well accepted in town. There was one woman who expected a boy and when a girl came, they did not have any name to give it so they named it Kimi after Miss Taguchi. I think that's pretty good. At first the patients from the Pacific Coast resented Nisei nurses but these views broke down rapidly after a couple of days. If all of the Nisei could make advancement like this, then most of the prejudice and discrimination would disappear. The only reason that it is widespread is because the public at large still has no knowledge of what the Nisei are really like. It takes time to do this sort of pioneering work. It's harder on us older Nisei to get established, especially the professional ones. However, we are not kicking, and I think that the younger Nisei could learn a lot from our struggle. I remember that I had a hard time myself at first when I became a dentist. There wasn't any chance for me to practice in a Caucasian community. At that time I was living in San Francisco and I knew that I had too many relatives in the Japanese community and they would all sponge off me. I had an uncle who owned a shoe factory in Japan. He had some idea that I should go over to Japan to get set up in business by him and marry his ward at the same time. He said that he would set me up in business near a hakujin community in one of the larger cities in Japan. It looked like a pretty attractive offer to me and I was almost



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going to take it. However, I was engaged to my wife at that time and she definitely didn't like Japan. I sent my younger brother instead. Before he got there the earthquake of 1923 came along. My younger brother didn't like Japan at all so that he soon came back. There are six of us in the family and I am the oldest. One died and two are married to an Hawaiian Nisei and they are living there at the same time. I have one younger brother in the Army and my other brother is in Topaz looking after my folks. He was in the florist business before the war and making good money.

"In those days, the Nisei were not very strong and I was one of the oldest. My wife is about 5 years younger than I am. I had quite a difficult time marrying her because she was a 'yooshi.' That means that there were only two girls in the family and no sons so that it was up to my wife to marry a Japanese who would be willing to take her family name in order to carry the family name on. My wife didn't like this idea at all as she was pretty independent. She was making \$140 a month in those days as she was one of the first Nisei girls to work on Grant Avenue. Her mother was very sore at me when I refused to take her family name because I was the oldest son in my family and it was up to me to take the Yatabe name on. She sent a go-between to see my father and after 2 days no decision was arrived at. I stuck to my position and eventually my wife's mother gave in. For a long time she did not like me but now she has gotten around to decide that her daughter made a good choice. Her other daughter went off and married an alien so that my mother-in-law's family name is not carried on at all and this was a great disappointment to her. It turned out well in the long run and we were leading a very comfortable life until the evacuation disrupted everything. I think that the next best step to be taken now is to open up the draft to the Nisei. I understand that all of the Nisei are going to be put in 1A by the end of January. I got this information from a confidential source in Camp Savage and I think that it is pretty true. It will be a good thing for the Nisei to serve in the Army and it



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will make their place in this country secure afterwards. I don't think that very many of the Nisei are expecting the draft now so that it will be quite a shock to them. In the long run, it will be to their advantage and they should take a definite part in the war effort."

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Saturday, January 1, 1944 (Afternoon)

New Year's Eve was not a howling success. Around 5 o'clock I went home to get dressed and Bette was still upstairs doing the work. Emiko said that the dinner appointment was for 6:30 although I had the impression it was for 6 o'clock. Both Bette and Emiko took a lot of time getting dressed as they wore high heels to go to the ballet afterwards. Emiko was acting a little funny but I did not pay much attention to it as I felt she was feeling sorry for herself because she was not going to the Nisei dance or out on a date.

We arrived at Yuri's at 6:45 and we were 45 minutes late as she had been waiting quite a while for us. It took us longer than usual to get downtown on account of the slow traffic as many people were already out. Yuri accepted the apologies and she was her cheerful self after a few minutes. We stuffed ourselves on her delicious meat loaf and then she brought a cinnamon flavored pie for dessert. We started out for the ballet at the Civic Opera House about 7:30. Yuri was not quite sure of the way so that we lost our directions and had to wander around in a circle for six or eight blocks. We managed to get there in time for the opening. Mariko, George, Bob and Eileen missed the entire first act as they had been delayed up at Eileen's for dinner. The Russian Ballet was presented and received very well by the packed house. It was not over until about 11:30.

Mariko and her group said that they were going to Hull House for the dance put on by the northwest group. I wanted to go downtown to State St. as it was almost midnight. Yuri didn't care to go as she said she wanted to go home and sleep since she had some finals to study up for the next day. Emiko then said that she wanted to go up and get Alice as Alice was not sure whether Mark would be