

I dictated all day yesterday and finished up the interviews I had on hand so that I will now be able to put most of my energies into writing up my papers in the next two weeks so I will have everything completed by the time I go to Salt Lake. We have been having very sultry weather so that it is quite uncomfortable now. Last night there was a big thunder and lightning and rain storm about 3 in the morning. I had taken a nap from 8 to 10 in the evening and then I read until about one so that I couldn't go to sleep after that.

Emiko was very grouchy yesterday because she wasn't feeling so well. She still has her hangover from going out on Sunday. I asked her if she had arranged for her doctor's examination to fulfill the requirements for her application to Mt. Sinai hospital and she got very much on the defensive and said that she told me the school doctor would not do it again for her and she had to make another appointment. She should have done this already because time passes rather quickly, but it was no use pressing the point and starting an argument since Emiko was irritable to begin with. She took her dinner with her and ate by herself. I don't like to press her on the nursing school business but it has to be done as soon as possible or else Emiko is going to find out that she is left out entirely.

Bette has been filling out an application for the University of Chicago and we will send it in in a few days. I just don't seem to be making much progress on this matter. I still have to find some financial assistance in case Bette is accepted at the university. I would like her to go to the University of Illinois but I am a little doubtful if they will accept her at this time on

account of the Navy program there. Jack is having a lot of worries about getting into medical school too. He has written to practically everyone in the country without too much encouragement. Most of the medical schools limit the enrollment of civilian students to about 4 or 5 so that it is doubly difficult for him. He is supposed to get married in August but he hasn't said very much about it to us.

After a disturbed night's sleep, I got up around 10 this morning. The thunder made me dream that I was in the Army and in the thick of a bombing raid. I dreamt that I was in a fox hole and a bomb scored a direct hit so I couldn't move around. When I woke up I found that I was all tangled up in the blanket. What a gruesome dream! Getting drafted must be on my mind altho I haven't thought about it for a couple of weeks now as I don't think ~~xx~~ I will be called immediately. Jack is pretty confident that he won't be called for a while so that he is going ahead with his evening trade school classes. He went again last night since he missed a class last week.

Card from Bob (CH-13) who delivered a dealer's car to Denver and is now on the way to Heart Mt.

Ft. Collins, Colo.

Hiya keeds,

This is your wandering minstrel man reporting. Reached Denver yesterday aft. (Friday) after 2 days & 1 night of straight driving. Hot as hell out here. Slept in the car last night and started hitch-hiking this morn. It took us 6 rides and 14 hours to reach Ft. Collins, barely 62 mi. from Denver. We've been having tough riding. Well, here's our bus, the one we bought tickets for. Will write later. Love. Bob

4743 Drexel Blvd.,
Chicago, Illinois,
May 17, 1944

Mrs. George Wilson,
Kobe College Corporation,
19 La Salle St.,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mrs. Wilson:

This is just a short letter to let you know how I am getting along in my school plans. I haven't been able to make much progress in my college planning as yet because I am so busy getting ready to graduate from Hyde Park High School next month. As I have told you before, I am interested in getting a regular college education for the first two years and then specialize in a nurse's course after that.

I have made applications to enroll at the Northwestern University, but unfortunately, the committee on admissions in that school feels that Japanese-American students are not acceptable for the time being because of the large Navy program on the campus. Of course, I can't see the reason for this, since I am a resident here and a loyal American citizen. However, I am going ahead with other applications. The University of Illinois has not answered my letter yet and my brother feels that perhaps it may deny me entrance for the same reason that Northwestern University did. I am sending in an application to the University of Chicago and there seems to be more hope in this direction. All I can do is to keep on trying because I am determined to get my college education. The University of Chicago has a large tuition charge and that worries me quite a bit because I will not be able to attend without some sort of financial assistance. I am waiting until I am definitely accepted in a college before working on this matter. I hardly think that I shall be able to save enough this summer to cover much of the expenses. My brother still doesn't know when he will get drafted and that complicates my problem.

I shall keep you informed on my progress as I have appreciated greatly the assistance your organization has rendered in the past.

Very truly yours,

Bette Kikuchi

I poked around the library most of the afternoon looking for reference books. I didn't find all that I wanted, but it was enough to get started upon. Then I just sat at the desk and pondered on how I should begin. At least, I got about five pages done and that is an accomplishment. E and B. both ~~amex~~ came home late. E. went to get her dentist blank filled out again by Dr. Tashiro and she was a little downcast because he told her that Mt. Sinai was a mediocre hospital and that she should try to get into St. Mary's Hospital in Minneapolis where his sister just graduated. There must be 50 or 100 Nisei girls training in that school from all I hear. Emiko has concluded that it is a matter of getting into a mediocre school or not any at all, and she feels that it is up to the individual to make the most of the training and that the school is not the most important thing. I wish these well meaning people would not put crimps in her plans as she might get discouraged.

Bette went out with a friend from school so that she did not get home to dinner until about 7:30. The Student Relocation wrote her again asking her to reconsider her school plans so that I helped her write a couple of letters. There will be nothing lost by it, altho she will continue to make her applications to the schools we have in mind. The finances is the big obstacle, but it is pretty hard to get into a school to begin with.

Jack went to the defense school again this evening. He said that he asked the boss for a raise today and the possibilities look rather favorable. If he gets a raise, he will stay on at his job.

I am now going to start my term paper again. Gloom, gloom!
(attached Bette's school letters.)

Charles Kikuchi
Insert

Diary

May 17, 1944

5032

May 15, 1944

Miss Bette Kikuchi
4743 Drexel Blvd.,
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Bette:

Thanks a lot for your letter of May 8th concerning your educational plans. We do have your file and I have been able to look through the correspondence in order to determine what to do and write.

Frankly, I do not mind if you "remain stubborn" about what you want. Our work is to follow your wishes in the matter. My purpose in telling you about the Cadet Nurses Corps was to try to save you money. The reason was financial. - About the problem of taking college work after your hospital work, I have only this to say: I know some students who have done it.

However, it looks as if your best bet is to follow the plan you have set down for yourself. I want to say, however, that Northwestern University has stated that they will not take Japanese American students. If you can make application on your own and get in, all well and good. But, our experience with them indicates definitely an unfavorable attitude.

Tuition at University of Chicago is rather high and it would be rather difficult to make the expenses there.

Your plan to go to the University of Illinois is a good one and I believe it should be possible for you to enroll there in the pre-nursing course. However, before you do that, may I suggest again that you try to visit some hospitals through the assistance of Bill McKee at the AFSC office and talk over the possibilities of arranging to take your nursing and then your college work. That arrangement is usually worked out individually. Try to exhaust the possibilities which are there first, so that you can save money, and then if it seems definitely impossible, go ahead with your plans to enter Illinois. I am today writing to Bill McKee and will tell him what you have in mind and that you wish an R.N. and a B.S. May I say that the official position is (of hospitals, etc.) that such an arrangement is not done. However, I do know that there are individual arrangements such as I have suggested for superior students. These arrangements usually are made between the school and hospital through the student. In these cases, the courses are different and special arrangements are made. This kind of procedure is not the official or "accepted" kind of thing to do; however, in the cases of excellent students, it has been done - and, through first class institutions. May I also suggest that school of nursing requirements are much higher here in the east than in the area where you are - in Illinois; standards here are very high.

Here is information on the procedures in order to get a clearance

from the Provost Marshal General Office in Washington. A student must first be definitely accepted by the school. Then, certain forms are filled out by the student and sent to Washington (either through us or the school). The clearance may come in a week or it may come in a month or four months. The time depends upon many factors which you can guess. However, not all schools or universities are prescribed. Many schools do not require such a clearance. The requirement is not a school requirement but a government requirement. The University of Illinois, and the University of Chicago are both proscribed schools and you would need the clearance if you wish to attend there. The first thing needed is an acceptance before application is made to Washington.

Before all these things, however, I would suggest that you exhaust the other possibility so that you won't have so much expenses. If you are still not satisfied; then, proceed on your own plan to enroll at the U. of Illinois pre-nursing course.

Hope to hear from you again.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest Kurkjian
Placement Department

selftyped

re: our file #2661

P.S. A student will need a separate clearance for each school to which he or she is accepted. However, if a clearance is obtained for one school, it usually can be transferred to cover another one and takes less time than the first clearance.....if you know what I mean.

ek

P.P.S. If you really want to look at some courses which lead up to the degree of B.S. in Nursing after you received your R.N. and at a good accredited school, I strongly urge you to write to St. Louis University School of Nursing for their catalogue and look up especially the section on The Nursing Fields. Read the whole catalogue and you will see that I mean. Write to Sister Mary Geraldine, Executive Dean, St. Louis U. School of Nursing, St. Louis, Missouri.

ek

quoted from catalogue of St. Louis University School of Nursing, St. Louis, Missouri:

"In an effort to meet the needs of various students in the field of nursing, the University accepts in this Division of the School of Nursing the following classes of students:

- a) Graduates from recognized high schools who wish to pursue under the auspices of the School of Nursing, the student of one or two years of general college education in preparation for admission to the basic professional curriculum;
- b) Students who have already completed in a satisfactory manner one or two years of college study and who are admitted to the curriculum in Nursing leading to the Bachelor's degree;
- c) Students who have completed the basic professional curriculum and who desire to supplement their education by meeting the requirements for the Bachelor's degree."

.....

"The minimum requirements for admission to the Division of Nursing and Nursing Education are:

- a) To the four year combined academic and advanced professional curriculum, the completion of a four year course in a secondary school approved by a accrediting agency;
- b) To the professional courses in nursing (designated the basic professional curriculum), after one well-planned college year;
- c) To the combined advanced academic and professional courses, the completion of the basic professional curriculum in an acceptable school of nursing with or without additional academic collegiate credit."

Notice items "c" in both of these above. You see what I mean now?

ek

(copy)

5035

4743 Drexel Blvd.
Chicago, 15, Illinois
May 17, 1944

Sister Mary Geraldine
Executive Dean
School of Nursing
St Louis University
St. Louis, Missouri.

Dear Sister Mary Geraldine,

I would appreciate it very much if I could have a catalogue on the school of nursing. I have been making some inquiries about the possibility of combining an R.N. training along with a B.S. degree. I have been consulting the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council in Philadelphia about the matter and it suggests that I attempt to get into the Cadet Nursing program first of all, and then do the college work later. Is such an arrangement possible in the St. Louis University School of Nursing?

I am graduating from the Hyde Park High School here in Chicago this June, and I am extremely anxious to continue on with my college education. I would appreciate it greatly if you could send the catalogue and any other information that you may have.

Thank you kindly.

Very truly yours,

Bette Kikuchi

5036
4743 Drexel Blvd.
Chicago, 15, Ill.
May 17, 1944

Mr. Bill McKee
American Friends Service Office
189 W. Madison St.
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. McKee:

Mr. Ernest Kurkjian, Placement Department, of the Student Relocation Council has suggested that I contact you in regards to my college plans after I graduate from Hyde Park High School this fall.

I am very anxious to get a B.S. along with my R.N. so that I do not particularly care to enroll in the Cadet Nursing Program at this time, unless no other arrangements can be made.

I am taking steps to enroll at some of the colleges in the Midwest, but my brother tells me that some of these schools are on the closed list. I would like to get into the U. of Illinois and take the pre-nursing course since I am now a resident of this state. However, I also wish to follow Mr. Kurkjian's suggestions and find out if there are any hospitals in this area that will allow me to get the R.N. and then allow me to use these same credits for a B.S. degree. Mr. Kurkjian says that these plans are usually worked out individually between the Hospitals and the colleges. The main reason why I have to consider this possibility is because of my lack of finances. I would rather take a pre nursing course in a University first and then follow up with the regular nursing course, but circumstances may prevent it. I would like to have an interview with you to discuss the above plan, at the same time as filling out my applications for the University of Illinois, U. of Chicago, and Northwestern. I believe N.U. is closed.

I hope to hear from you soon. (phone number Kenwood 1896) Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Bette Kikuchi.

Charles Kikuchi
Insert
CH-23

Diary

May 17, 1944

5037

May 12, 1944

Dear Emi,

Just got home from work & can't sleep so I thought I'd drop you a line. I know Mark was going over cause I saw him just before he left for Chicago. By the way how long is your bud Jack going to stay in Chicago? If he's there & I get a chance to go I'd like to meet Joe Kawada's "double" (Oh pardon me! I meant the "original")

Well, as I think I mentioned before, I just got word that I passed my test & they sent it to Washington to speed up my call. Now if I get my physical papers & pass the test I'll probably be inducted right away. Anyhow, I'm supposed to hear from them before the end of this month. I only hope I get my notice a week or so before June so I'll have a chance to either go to Gila or Chicago. Mark says I should go to Gila but I wasn't planning on it til my 2nd furlough. I'll most likely try to go to Chicago.

Sorry to hear that you won't be able to continue your nursing. Anyhow I hope you make a good nurse cause I may need your aid someday. Just keep studying & don't give up hope!

I certainly hope both of you have a chance to come out this way soon. By that time I hope I'm in uniform & know the city better than I'll take you and really show you the sights. Only thing is be prepared for winter weather. Gosh, the sort of weather we've been having is really disappointing. Sometimes I wonder if we'll ever have any summer. We've been having rain & thunder storms for the last few days. I mean cloud bursts! Parts of the city is flooded. Back to the subject of coming out here I'm sure Alice will be most happy to have both of you girls come to visit her. Anyhow do try your best to make it.

Say, about the salad, if anyone became sick & asked who made it I'm gonna confess! After all why should I take the "rap". I'll sure "squeal"!

Well, that's enough hokey right now.

Always,

Jack

P.S. Say the next time you see Mariko give her my regards. Geo. too!

P.P.S. Ask her if she finished Geo's jacket or is she going to wait until "father's" day?

I worked all day on my term paper and made a little progress. It is very dull trying to find out about the history of social welfare in California. I just have to grind and sweat out each page and I have barely got started. I went to a lecture this afternoon instead of class to listen to Professor Owens, who has just come over from England. He is a member of the Political and Economic Program committee and he talked about social reconstruction in England for after the war. He discussed the Health and Medical plans today, and he will have another lecture on other aspects of the social program tomorrow. Owens felt that the effect of the war has been to act as a forcing agent on all sorts of social problems in the country, and that wartime necessities have ~~xxxxxx~~ made far reaching social adjustments necessary. It revealed many weaknesses in the social structure. He said the since England is trying to justify the democratic way of life, it was necessary to make plans to meet these ideas.

Hearing him talk about all the bombings and life in a wartime country certainly did bring things home. He said that just before he left there had been a small token bombing of London. Prof. Owens was scheduled to come to the University and give his lectures in 1939 but the war broke out and this is the first time that he has been able to make the trip.

Owens said that England is adopting a very liberal national health program for after the war. England has had a scheme in effect for 30 years but this is a wide extension of it and free medical services will be guaranteed to everyone. A lot of the private hospitals there are not willing to give up their vested interests, but the BMA seems to favor the adoption of the plan. It still will not eliminate the private doctors as they can have fee paying private patients if they want in their spare time.

England is far ahead of the U.S. in socialized medicine. The AMA would bitterly fight such a program to the end for fear that the doctors would lose their fat income. For the people as a whole, I think that the English plan is the most suitable since it takes care of all income levels and doctors will be sent to areas where there is a shortage. After the war there will be many young doctors who would not be able to set up their own practice and this is a great opportunity for them. The British Ministry of Health has already adopted the plan and it will go into effect at the conclusion of hostilities. There will also be a great need for nurses, dentists, optometrists, and social workers under the plan. The program will cost England about \$600,000,000 a year as compared to the old scheme of National Health insurance which costs \$250,000,000. A national health bill in this country which is equal to England's 1911 progress is being strenuously opposed in Congress now as a threat to private initiative, etc. Prof. Owens will discuss some aspects of the Beveridge Plan of England tomorrow.

When I got home, Jack had already left for his defense school class. He could not wait for dinner as Emiko did not have it ready in time. She is used to cooking leisurely and she will not rush. Emiko is back to her usual good mood now. She went to get a doctor's appointment so that this requirement could be completed for the nursing school. It will be one hell of a problem if she does not get into Mt Sinai Hospital. She is going to make applications to some other hospitals also but she had not taken any steps yet and I don't want to push her too much. Last night we went to the show for a change as we have all been studying hard lately. Coming home, EB and I walked thru the park and E and B thought they were gazelles the way they were leaping around!

Here it is 12:30 and the sleeping beauties are still in bed. They are listening to the radio. I have been working on my paper for the past couple of hours, but I stopped for a breathing spell. I worked on it until 3:20 last night and I got quite a bit done. I worked on it all day yesterday, but I did not make any real progress until late in the afternoon. I took time out to listen to Prof. Owens lecture again on social reconstruction in England yesterday afternoon. I am so absorbed in getting my term paper out of the way that I don't notice anything else these days. I know that the sun has been shining because Bette said so.

Last night Emiko and Bette went to the J.C. music festival and Bette met all of E's school friends. Emiko is bringing a boy from one of her classes to the "MI Am an American Day" at the Soldier's Field tomorrow, if it does not rain. I hope that this mother makes a big lunch. Jack tried to get Eileen to go but she is busy so that he is going to try Miki next. If that fails, he will ask Yoshie since she should be able to bring an immense lunch. The program goes on for most of the day.

Jack filled out his applications all evening, but he is not get too many encouraging answers. Most of the medical schools have informed him that the Army quotas does not leave many openings for civilians. Jack suspects that some of the schools are giving him the run around so he is sending for applications under English names just to check up and see. Stanford U. is willing to enroll him, but the only difficulty there is that it is in the restricted zone. You can't win anyway you turn, it seems!

When Emiko came home ~~last~~ last night, Jack asked her why she has not been studying lately. He thought that she is running around to too many school activities and not paying enough attention to her homework. Emiko said that she had been studying

all along, but Jack did not think she did it systematically enough. Then he asked her about her physical science course. Emiko got full of alibis and said that she was sure to fail it. She said she did not have time to study it, and that she hated it because it was too complicated. She said that she was dumb and she couldn't do it, etc, etc. She was full of excuses, but the main reason is that she dislikes the course so that she has made no attempt to study it at ~~all~~ all. Finally Bette remarked from the kitchen, "Oh, you just got an inferiority complex." The got Emiko so that she decided to try and pass the course. Jack is willing to spend two hours an evening with her for the rest of the month so that he can teach her the basis stuff and he guarantees that she will pass. However, he said that she would have to go on a strict discipline and no more of this puttering around with other things. Emiko then said that she could not study when we were talking because she needed absolute silence to concentrate. We made a concession and said that we would do this. I can't understand why Emiko should have such a lack of self confidence in her mental capacity. That damn cook county business did not help things out any. The trouble is that Emiko needs to be pushed even tho she resents it and thinks that I nag her. Well, maybe ~~id~~ I do, but.... Gad, she is so stubborn tho!!! Me too, I suppose, and that's the rub!

Later

Jack went to dinner and a music recital with Eileen this evening while Bette, Emiko and I went to the theatre. I worked on my paper all day long and I have it pretty well in shape now so I feel under less tension. Emiko made a lot of sandwiches so that we can have them for the "I Am an American" Day program tomorrow.

I ran into Mas Wakai (CH-6). He said that he had given up the idea of being commissioned as a chaplain to the Army as he has not received any response whatsoever from the Army during the past few months. He was working part time in the University as a Japanese language school teacher but he was let out because he requested full time and Halpern did not feel that he was qualified. At present Mas is working at the Hyde Park YMCA as an assistant boy's counsel. He is also fairly active in one of the neighborhood churches and he is organizing some sort of joint committee for church activities. The joint committee sponsored by the "I" house has dissolved due to lack of interest. Mas does not approve of Morikawa's set-up at the First Baptist Church on 50th and Ellis. He feels that Jitsuo is only bringing large mobs of nisei together into that church and he said that a lot of resentment has resulted. Mas said he spoke to some of the ministers connected with the Church Federation and they feel that Jitsuo double crossed them for not sticking to the original purpose of the church policy. Mas feels that the nisei can become integrated into the church activities in small groups and that is what he is working on now. He still works with the advisory committee for evacuees, connected with the Church Federation, but he said that this activity has fallen off also because the nisei do not seem to respond

much to the evacuee ministers. Mas feels that it is the church function to guide the social activities of nisei but he doesn't know how large a group should be brought together. He thinks that it can be done on a small neighborhood basis like what he is working on. Mas feels that the nisei are much better integrated now than they were a year ago. He knows of many informal nisei groups but they do not have contacts with other nisei. He doesn't feel that too many of them would particularly respond to a large nisei gathering anyway because they are still cliquish. He said that they would only come once or twice and then drop out. Mas believes that a church should offer a better social setting so that fellows could meet girls. He thinks that this is the main problem in the social adjustments of the nisei and that if this is solved, the whole integration program is bound to be a success. He doesn't believe that the issei haven't any more control over the nisei who have been out on their own over a year now. Mas is going around with Florence Date now. She is working as a secretary but she came in to ask if I knew of any research job. Florence has a half-semester yet to finish college. She was attending U.C. before the war. Florence is one of the rather quiet and conservative nisei girls, not particularly aggressive.

Paul has lost his job teaching at Ann Arbor because of some Army investigation. It has been quite a blow to him and he doesn't understand the reason for it. I suppose that was the reason why the Army intelligence man came to question me about Paul several months ago. There is a possibility that he may be re-instated. Attached is his letter and also a letter from Alice.

755 E. University St.,
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Dear Mariko:

It's been a long time since I received your Easter card and I am sorry that it took me so long to answer it.

Today, I have all the time in the world for I am no longer connected with the University; I was suspended from further teaching at the Army Language School last May 2, by the order of the Provost Marshal General's Office in Washington D.C. This Office conducted a thorough investigation of all instructors here around the middle part of April, and unfortunately the Japanese Embassy case came up again and naturally that was a terrible shock to the examiner. He acted as if it was a deadly crime and a definite sign of disloyalty; he probably never knew that there is a full volume of secret reports on me at the F.B.I. office in Washington, D.C. My earnest explanation to the examiner was useless, and here I am back to where I started from, the dumps.

However, in order to change the picture a bit, and to let them know that they can't push me around too much, I filed, with the backing of the University and the Army headquarters, both here and Savage, a petition requesting them to reopen the case with justice. After all there are many reasons why we Nisei had to work for the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and the Japanese Embassy - not with bad intentions, but simply in order to live like any other guy on the street. This fact does not seem to click in their head, especially at this time when the two countries are at war. If they would give me a hearing, and give me a chance to explain this very detail to them I'll be willing to forsake my job here immediately.

Another enlightening fact is that Colonel Rasmussen, our Big Boss in Camp Savage, is quite angered over this sudden action taken by that office, and is negotiating directly with the chief of that office, in Washington, D.C. If the outcome is good, the chances are that I might be reinstated soon, but at present and officially, I have been fired.

My appeal to the Office in Washington is probably in the hands of the authorities by now, and my only hope is to have a fair chance to say what I have been wanting for a long time. What do they expect us Nisei to do to show our loyalty? I am sure that when I took this job, I forgave my chance of even seeing my parents again, and many other things they will never know unless someone tells them right in their faces. On the other hand, I am hoping that this will be a chance to clear myself once and for all; not merely for the present but all for the future. Well, I guess I am boiling mad about this incident, but will try to calm myself and cross my fingers for a good result.

Ann Arbor is in the midst of Spring, and inspite of the occasional rainfall it is wonderful - a real Spring weather.

Last Spring was rather disappointing with nothing but rain, but this year is quite opposite to that.

Akiya, Kawase and myself are doing fine; especially with Akiya there is going to be another wedding soon. He finally divorced his former wife, and no sooner than he became a free man, he announced (unofficially) his engagement to that girl you met in Chicago, remember? Well, all this is secret yet, and I should not go around saying this, but I am sure that you will keep it to yourself until later. He will be the sixth couple to get married among the instructors since the school started.

Mas Yukawa is now stationed at Camp Forrest, Tenn., and tells me that he practically lives in a tent like barrack. Since he is more or less in a labor battalion, he is constantly moving from one place to another engaging himself in various lines of work. I often wonder how in the world a slim fellow like he could take all that. The one consolation is the fact that his wife visits him from time to time and spends a week-end at the nearest town from where he may be located at the time. He seems to be very much in love with his wife.

How is everything with you? Are you back at the job with the Salvation Army? And how is your mother getting along? I am sure she has recovered completely by now. Does Saya still stay with you? While waiting for my appeal to go through, I might take a short trip to Chicago soon - I don't know how soon but I intend to as I finish some translation work I promised a friend of mine.

My so-called cousin in Milwaukee finally got married to that fellow I told you about. In a way I thought she humbled herself too much for a guy I don't think much of. But that's the thing goes and you just can't do anything about it.

Well, Mariko, I am sorry that I was late in answering your letter, but I will tell you more about myself when I see you soon. Take good care of yourself and give my love to your brother and sisters.

Paul

Minneapolis, Minn.,
May 11, 1944

Dearest Jack:

Without Mark on a Wednesday night, the place is very quiet, so I set my dinner on the coffee table besides the davenport, and read a book that I got from the library. It's called "Ellen Spring" by Elizabeth Marion - and simply written, so I'm all finished now. Good thing I got two books - Bette has the other "Fountain Head" by Ayn Rand.

Before you get all excited about becoming an uncle -- wait up for me. The stork is not hovering over our roof, so you can spend your birthday money for your hankies after all. I really appreciate Mark - just think, I would have had to pay 7c for that card I sent you.

Tell Charlie that about a month ago Bill Himmel told me that he heard from Shibutani that Chas took his physical - and was reported to have flat feet so bad - that the doctor is supposed to have shaken his greying head - and murmured "It's a wonder he's alive." Think Bill is now at Shelby or Blanding - if Chas wants to sue him for spreading such gossip. But I heard it from Jimmy Yamada too - so I guess your writing that "Chas ~~just~~ took his physical and is now resting" wasn't too far off the woven truth.

Did you meet Mark finally? I suppose if I only waited till tomorrow night, I'd know everything -- about Mariko's fight with the landlord (no? - not yet?) Emi's grey hairs over COH - how vain sister Bette has become (I asked him to look into that as it didn't seem quite likely that Bette would stand in front of a mirror for 20 minutes - not with that face! (Bette do not read!))

Still have my cold - lost 5 pounds being sick - or was it 2 - or did I gain 1 - staying in bed - anyway to date I have: used 4 bottles of nose drop medicine -- eaten 3 boxes Vicks cough drops - used 1 1/2 boxes Kleenex - stayed out of work 4 days - and then 3 more and lack pep and vitality - all because of a dratted cold.

Did I tell Chas I got a V-mail from Alex - from New Delhi, India? He says "India is quite a country - It has so many people, so many races, so many religions, & so many stinks. Yes, this place is a little bit of an exception but most of the American soldiers come across many stinks & such out here. New Delhi is comparatively clean & nice, but other cities have much stink - most of the people walk around barefooted -- there's some stink down there. Many people do stink down there; and so forth....

Well - have to write sister Bette - au revoir and your letter was most funny - especially about M & the 1-arm mover.

Love,

Alice

We had a very strenuous day yesterday. We got up early so that we could get a good seat at Soldier's Field for the "I am an American" Day program. Jack tried frantically to get a date with Miki but apparently Yoshi crossed the whole thing up because she phoned Emiko and said that she already made plans to spend the day with Miki. Eileen was out of town so she could not go either. Johnny Potasich (don't know how to spell it), Emiko's friend from the junior college, came over about 11:30 so that we started out immediately. The skies looked threatening but Johnny insisted that it would be a hot and humid day. He had no overcoat on at all to show what confidence he had in the weather. For this reason Emiko and Bette did not bring an umbrella.

When we got down there there was quite a throng of people pouring into the stadium. However, there were not nearly as many as last year and we managed to get very good seats on the side. We immediately began to eat some of Johnny's lunch because he had such delicious sandwiches and cookies. We had no sooner started than it began to pour like anything. A lot of the women in the crowd had just come in light spring dresses and they were drenched to the skin. We sat for a little while but finally it was raining so hard that we worked ourselves to the north end of the stadium where we had a good position against the wall protected from the rain. Emiko and Bette, however, were swooning over Danny Kaye and they went right out into the pouring rain and they were soaked. Their hair just was washed straight and they looked like water-soaked Newfoundland puppies. I thought they looked very natural with their short hair hanging in front.

It was unfortunate that the rain spoiled the day's activities

because it was a very good program with many movie stars and war heroes to entertain the group. Most of the crowd of 60,000 stuck it out until near the end when it started to rain so hard that they went home. Bette almost got an autograph from General Hap Arnold on a copy of the Bill of Rights which Mr. Lattimer handed us at the gate, but Bette couldn't get across the fence in time so that she lost her great opportunity. Emiko was more interested in getting an autograph from Danny Kaye. They enjoyed themselves greatly so that the day was not completely ruined. We had a lot of fun in the rain even though we did get soaked. One of the best parts of the program was the demonstration of the canine corps which the Army has trained for combat use. These dogs obeyed commands marvelously and they performed all sorts of difficult feats. In one of the demonstrations, the dogs were to jump up a 10 ft. 6 wall from a running start of only 10 yards. All of the dogs made the leap except one black one. Bette felt so sorry for this dog and she kept saying, "They should give the poor dog another chance. He's got feelings just like us. All the other dogs made it and he didn't. I bet his feelings are hurt, poor dog."

Jack took some pictures with the Leica camera borrowed from Mark but he ran out of films after snapping only about 6 or 8 pictures. It got too cold around 5:30 so we decided to go over to Mariko's. When we got over there Mariko was still doing her laundry. She didn't have anything to eat in the house so we went out and bought some soup and toasted our remaining sandwiches and this made a creditable meal. Johnny said that he was going to work for the Forrest Service at Mt. Shasta this summer so we spent

the evening telling him ~~xxx~~ about the state of California and our experiences there. We didn't talk about nisei society once during the evening. Johnny said that he will get paid about \$145 a month for this work and he is going largely because of health reasons. He has a weak heart so that he will not be subject to the draft for a while anyway. He is only 18 or 19 years old, and one of Emiko's group at school. >

Mariko was a little upset with George because he had not straightened the marriage arrangements out with his mother. Mariko said that George's mother objected to her because she heard some rumors that Mariko was not a nice girl, etc., etc. Mariko said that George is the pride and joy of his mother and she doesn't want him to get married this year because she feels that next year will be a more auspicious year to start out the married life. No definite date for the wedding has been set yet. Mariko was a little upset with George because he is taking the whole thing very casually while Mariko feels that the marriage ceremony is quite important. They plan to get married next month for sure and Jack suggested that she quit issuing ~~a~~ ultimatum to George because he may take her up one of these days. Mariko made George stay after we left because she wanted him to scrub the floor. She says that George always wears his suit over so that he has an excuse not to do all the work around the house for her. I thought this was natural since he worked hard all week.

< We had a pleasant evening over there except for a few moments when Mariko accused Jack of chipping an ash tray while he was washing all the dishes for her. Jack wants her to write down all ~~x~~ of the things she need done ~~x~~ around the house so that he can do it

later. >

Mariko is out of a job again. She said that the Salvation Army had only given her the job in the medical social service department on a temporary basis < in the beginning because they were looking around for a medical secretary. Mariko said she could not do this work since she didn't know how to take short hand and she didn't know all the medical terms. She said that the agency has found another secretary now so that she was given a 2 weeks' notice. She will work there until June 1 > Mariko plans to get another job immediately because she can't afford to loaf around even though she is going to get married. Mariko is a little worried because she has heard some stories that George's mother is quite a determined woman. Mariko is a determined woman too. Result: there is no love lost between them. It sounds very funny to us but the whole matter is quite serious to her. We told her that we were not going to take any sides in the matter because it only concerned her and George. Mariko isn't sure whether she is going to New York in the fall or not. She gets so exasperated because George is so casual. He was supposed to go talk to his mother yesterday afternoon in regard to the wedding plans but he failed to do it and Mariko got after him. She plans to get married in the First Congregational Church since she doesn't want to have a civil ceremony. I hope that nothing happens to break up her present plans because it would be rather tragic if the wedding was called off. They make a pretty good couple even though George is dominated too much. I bet he exerts himself after he gets married though. It should be an interesting struggle to see who wears the pants in that household. < to 5060 I think Mariko will be much calmer after

she is married. She has so many things to do before then that she is a little up in the air these days. However, that is natural. I have noticed quite a bit of change during the past month or so and she isn't nearly as irritable as she used to be before. It may be a result of less contacts with her or is probably the result of a more peaceful frame of mind, altho the date of her wedding is a temporary and important crisis with her.

We got home around 12:30 and we were exhausted. Emiko and Bette both enjoyed the day very much altho they both had stomach aches from eating so much junk ~~xxxxx~~ during the day.

(Attached letter from Dorothy regarding the conference.)

May 19, 1944

MEMORANDUM TO PARTICIPANTS IN CONFERENCE

FROM: D.S. THOMAS

This is to inform you that the conference will be held at the New Grand Hotel in Salt Lake City instead of the Hotel Utah.

The reason for the change is the following: Arrangements were made with the Hotel Utah weeks ago, but a letter giving the specific details concerning the participants, including their names, were sent out only ten days ago. Today I received a letter asking that the conference be cancelled. The excuse given was that "prior reservations" made it impossible to accommodate us.

We thereupon telephoned the Hotel Newhouse in Salt Lake City and told them our needs in regard to rooms. They agreed to take care of us. We then said "Five of the nine persons attending are Japanese Americans from the staff of the University of California." They said, "We cannot give them accommodations."

We reported the situation to the WRA office in San Francisco. They put one of their Salt Lake men on the case, and discovered that three hotels in Salt Lake City have recently adopted this discriminatory policy: the Utah, the Newhouse, and the Temple.

They obtained accommodations for us at the New Grand, which has not such discriminatory policy.

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

Evacuation and Resettlement Study
Staff Conference June 8 - June 12, 1944

A G E N D A

June 8

3:00 p.m. Frank Miyamoto, Discussion Leader

Topic: "Analysis of factors contributing to conflict and social disorganization in Relocation Projects, with particular reference to Tule Lake through the registration period."

June 9

10 a.m. James Sakoda, Discussion Leader

Topic: "Analysis of conflict situations and social reorganization following registration, with particular reference to Minidoka after the arrival of Tuleans."

2:00 p.m. Rosalie Hankey, Discussion Leader

Topic: "Analysis of conflicts and cleavages in Tule Lake after segregation."

June 10

10:00 a.m. Richard Nishimoto, Discussion Leader

Topic: "Analyzing the 'core' of the Japanese community in Relocation Projects."

2:00 p.m. Morton Gredzins, Discussion Leader

Topic: "Analyzing the development of WRA policies at the national level."

June 11

10:00 a.m. Charles Kikuchi, Discussion leader

Topic: "Analyzing the problems of the individual and family resettler."

June 11

2:00 p.m. Merton Grodzins, Discussion Leader

Topic: "Political factors in the formulation of evacuation policy."

8:00 p.m. Togo Tanaka, Discussion Leader

Topic: "Building up the political and social history of the Japanese prior to evacuation, with particular reference to the Los Angeles area."

June 12

10:00 a.m. Dorothy Thomas, Discussion Leader

Topic: "Plans for analyzing data on economic and population aspects of evacuation."

2:00 p.m. W.I. Thomas, Discussion Leader

Topic: "Critique of objectives, approaches, and gaps in the data."

I went over to the registrar's office yesterday afternoon to ask them about the procedure for Bette to get her Army clearance to attend the University. I was given some personal security forms. I filled most of the items in these forms out except for a couple that I didn't know. I asked Bette to do it last night, and now I discover that she did not follow the directions. Darn her anyway! I finally got the courage up to ask the Registrar about my grade for last quarter and she said that I got an B. That was certainly a surprise as I was afraid that I would barely pass the course.

Emiko stayed at school all afternoon yesterday to take part in an archery tournament. She is one of the best eight in the school and she is trying to get the number one position, which she thinks that she can get if her arrows go straight enough in the week long tournament. She said that she led the field for the first day and she has been consistently doing the best in her class during the term. Since she was feeling so good about that, she cooked us a very good dinner even tho she was tired. Usually she flops in bed and says that she is not feeling well if she does not want to cook and then Bette has to do it. Emiko has been doing all of the shopping because she thinks that Bette does not know how to shop economically enough and that is why the budget gets stretched.

Last night Emiko started her studying for the finals. She will be out around the first week of June. Bette was studying also. It is hard to get her applications into colleges started because she has not graduated yet. It may be that she will not be able to put in a lot of her applications until after June. I hate to postpone things that long as I don't know when I will get my notice for induction. There is a rumor going around that

the induction notice is sent 21 days after the physical, and those who are eligible are sent to Savage right away while the rest are put on the Reserve. I have arranged to have Jack send me a wire in case my notice comes while I am in Salt Lake so that U.C. can put in an appeal for occupational deferement. It's no use worrying about the draft anymore because if I am called, that is all there is to it and nothing will stop the process. I just have to get as many things settled before that time as possible. A six months deferment should be plenty of time, ~~but~~ except for my work which will continue indefinitely as far as I know.

Bette went to the U.C. Hospital yesterday to apply for work as a nurse's aid during the summer. They told her that they did not like to take on any person unless she stayed permanently as it took quite a while to break her into the work, so that Bette applied for the job on a permanent basis. The University of Illinois has sent her a certificate of graduation which she has to have the high school fill out. So far, so good.

Jack is not having any success at all in his medical applications. Everyday he gets a few letters from the medical schools, but few of them are encouraging. He stayed home last night instead of going to the trade school as he had so many more applications to fill out. It takes him a half hour each time to think out some way to fill out the applications so that the word "Japanese" does not appear in it. He even put "Neanderthal Erectus" for ancestry in one form. It really does make a difference is one is of Japanese ancestry as the school sends back a most discouraging letter. Jack is determined to get in by next year and then if he is accepted, he does not care if he is drafted. He thinks that he has a good chance of getting a

Leopold Ship Foundation in New York. Jack believes that he will be able to finance the rest of the way thru by himself if he can save up \$1000 by working a year. Emiko is also applying for a South Chicago Nursing School as Mt Sinai may not come thru with an acceptance. It is pretty hard to have all of these things hanging over our heads and it is a wonder that we are not all nervous wrecks instead of being fairly well balanced. Everybody was busy last night so that there was no noise in our apartment, except for Emiko and Jack popping their chewing gum, very annoying too. I stayed up until about 1 am reading some of the books I should have read before. I'm just reading the main ones for my course and skimming thru a few of the others. Even Superman would not be able to read all of the books assigned to us.

Jack has been in an uproar for the past couple of days because some nasty person stole his new shorts from the laundry line. Jack has few clothes left since most of it burned in the baggage fire on the train coming back from Arizona. He insisted that Bette go around to every apartment in the building to ask for his drawers, but Bette refused this delicate task. Jack then put up the following sign in the laundry room:

"Will the person who took my three shorts please return them as they are specially medically treated and I am unable to replace them."

The thief must have thought that these shorts were contaminated with some venereal disease because, sure enough, they were hanging on the line when he went to look after one day of waiting. There has been quite a bit of stuff missing from the laundry room. I have lost five of my best shirts in all. Now I hang them in our kitchen as I don't want to take a chance.

Tom is all in a dither because he has been told to report

for a physical on May 26th. He has to take his comprehensive finals for his MA on the same day so that he will be a nervous wreck by the time he gets thru. He doesn't come to the office much anymore as he is so busy studying at home. He has been given a deferment from induction until June 17, but I think that even then he will be put on a Reserve list for the Army for a while longer. It sure keeps a fellow in suspense.

There seems to be some progress made in the publicity for the Nisei. Recently, more and more favorable comments have appeared in the papers. The LaGuardia episode resulted in some organizations taking a strong stand for the Nisei, when ordinarily they would not have been noticed at all. On the national political front, some of the worst reactionaries were defeated in the recent primaries because of their general anti-liberal stand on many subjects. Martin Dies is not going to run again, Congressman Starnes of Alabama and vice Chairman of the Dies committee was defeated, as well as Congressman Costello of California. State Senator Jack Tenny the Chairman of Dechner's Americanism Educational League was badly defeated. I doubt if any candidate was elected or defeated solely on the race question though.

I received my registration notice today. In this state, a little card is given out to show that you are a registered voter. Some of the Nisei I have interviewed have said that they registered, but they do not know anything about the card so that they actually did not register, but merely say so. They are too lazy to do it, or else they do not think that it is important. Jack is going to try and register next week even tho he is ~~not~~ not a resident of the state.

May 23, 1944

Valerie C. Wickhem,
Director of Admissions,
Cobb Lecture Hall, Room 105,
University of Chicago,
Chicago 37, Illinois.

Dear Miss Wickem,

I am sending in eight copies of the Personal Security forms, as requested by your office, to be forwarded to the proper authorities for school clearance. I have recently filled out the university application form and it has been sent on to my high school principal. I expect to graduate from Hyde Park High School in June, and I am most anxious to continue on with my college education.

My brother, Charles Kikuchi, who is also my guardian, has already received his clearance to attend the Social Service Administration and he is taking a part time course there now. My father passed away last July, 1943. He had served in the U.S. Navy between 1904 and 1908, but he never received citizenship papers due to the laws. My mother has declared allegiance to this country in spite of the fact that she is ineligible for citizenship so that she really has no citizenship. I have a brother in law in the Army at present, and two other brothers are expecting to be called in shortly. For this reason, it is very urgent for me to make my plans for college, and I would appreciate it very greatly if my clearance could be facilitated.

I understand that it takes quite a while to get this clearance so that I would appreciate it if you could send it in as soon as possible. I understand that a new procedure is that a war plant or school may hire (or enroll) a Nisei while his clearance is in progress. This seems to be the case for many of the Japanese American war workers, but I do not know for sure if the same situation holds true for students.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,

Bette Kikuchi

I didn't have a class yesterday afternoon as Miss Abbott went to Cleveland for a conference. Most of the afternoon was spent in typing my report and running to the Library for reference books. The University has libraries scattered all over the campus and it takes a first class detective to locate them. I won't be able to get my last assignment for the class until tomorrow.

It feels a little strange not to be working on the study all along, but I think the rest from it will do me good. I've been trying to make a few more contacts so that I will be able to start right in again when I get back from the conference. I'm supposed to lead a discussion on analyzing the problems of the individual and family resettler. The longer I work on the Study, the less sure I am about any conclusions. Sometimes I get full of doubts as to whether I really am producing what I should. I feel incapable of doing some of the things that I would like to do. Things are left so dangling because of the general situation. Sometimes I wish that I were drafted right away so that I could forget about all these things, but that is only an escape. I suppose that in the long run, I really could do more on the Study than serving in the infantry, but then that may be a rationalization too. >

I got a notice from the draft board saying that I was physically fit and acceptable by the Army for general military service, but I did not get a classification at all. That certainly is strange. I suppose I will be kept in suspense for a while longer, and then I will be ripe enough to accept any classification just to keep my mind at ease. The notice was sent from the Chicago Local

Board 86. It told me to take a educational experience summary and vocational training record #114 to the reception center with me, whatever that means. Emiko is worried about me. She wants me to serve in the Army eventually, but she would like to have me around for a little while yet. It has been a good experience living together like we have and it is a wonder that there were not more explosions.

Emiko is sending in a couple of more applications for hospitals, and that is keeping her in quite a bit of suspense. She really is going to be disappointed if she cannot start her nursing training this September. There must be one school that is willing to accept her. I think that she will make a damn good nurse and these schools don't know what they are missing by taking a dumb girl instead of Emiko. Bette's school problem is getting a little complicated too. I looked at the U. of Illinois catalogue yesterday and it did not mention that it had a school of nursing. I think that the Presbyterian Hospital here is affiliated with it though, but I don't know if a BS degree is given along with the RN. We have written some letters to find out. I would hate to be a full time secretary; it certainly is hard work.

Emiko was very pleased yesterday because her picture appeared in the sports page of the Chicago Tribune yesterday with some of the other Wilson archery co-eds. Her picture was not very clear as she was more in the background, but Emiko thinks that it will appear again in the Daily News or Chicago Times today. It is a national telegraphic archery contest on 200 campus and the best results of each school will be sent into the national headquarters in Boston.

Emiko thinks that at least she will win a medal as she is doing the best in her school for the tournament so far. It

omit p
runs all week. Emiko has a bruise on her arm where the string keeps hitting when she shoots the arrows. She studied all evening so that she would be prepared for a test today. She plans to start studying for her finals next. I think that she will get good grades except for that Physical Science course. Emiko is going to try and have it postponed until August as she might go to summer school to take chemistry.

Bette said that she was turned down for the nurses aid job. Jack advised her not to take it anyway as she could be doing that work anytime. He said that there was a chance for Emiko and Bette to get summer jobs with a mail order company at .60¢ an hour as one of his friends at the shop has a wife working and she is willing to take E and B down and try to get them a job at that wage instead of the customary beginner's salary of .50¢ an hour.

Bette said that she got pulled out of her ~~gym~~ gym class yesterday because she was talking to another girl and she had to stand in ~~line~~ the center of the floor all by herself. We forgave her for disgracing the Kikuchi name because she had her ~~ix~~ drawing up in the city art gallery, and she also got 2A's and 3 B's in her report which I signed yesterday. I guess I didn't praise her enough about her grades because Bette felt she did darn good considering all things.

Jack said that we should send an ultimatum to Mariko that we will not go over there anymore or attend her wedding if she did not stop accusing him of breaking things and nagging when he was only trying to be helpful. He was even thinking of taking his tools over there to fix up the place, but he said that he would not do it until she changed her attitude. Bette and Emiko said that they wanted to be treated like guests when

they go over there and not have to wash dishes and cook for her because they treat Mariko like a guest when she comes to our place. Bette added that she was tired of eating spaghetti over there every time too. I didn't say anything because Mariko always takes out her wrath on me and I am trying to cultivate good relationships. That can be done if I let her have the last word. Jack confessed that he was almost ready to smash the cigarette tray when she accused him of chipping it last Sunday. After we aired our gripes, we felt guilty because Mariko was not there to defend herself. Jack just wanted to start a conversation anyway just because we were all studying so diligently. I read until about 2 last night. I have a nice place fixed up in the dining room for myself with a study lamp and everything so that I don't mind giving up the privilege of reading in bed.

Flash! I just received a little card from the draft board saying that I had been classified as 2A and I would be deferred until November 4, 1944! I didn't even have an appeal put in for me either. It is quite a relief to know my exact status and now I can feel a little easier about having time to finish up the business of getting E and B into school next fall. I am even thinking of taking another course for the Fall Quarter as I might as well continue on as long as I can. I suppose I am happy about being 2A, but not jubilant. At least I can hold my head up now and say that I am an essential worker instead of the hated enemy alien classification of 4-c. I will even be around to cast my ballot for the presidential elections. The biggest relief is having that tension and feeling of pressure of time lifted from my shoulders.

I finished up the last touches on my term paper, and this morning I went up to see Miss Abbott to get my final assignment. She gave me a list of five questions to answer. If I did each of them thoroughly, it would be five more term papers so that I am only going to do them superficially. I suppose that I could get an A in the course if I did this last paper well, but I just haven't time and I don't care about the grade anyway. All I am interested in is getting the credit for the course. I have a feeling that I may get by fairly well with my term paper. I won't have to worry about the content of all these courses until I take my comprehensive examinations and that is a long time away. I will have to brush up again anyway as I don't think that I will be able to get my MA until after the war.

omit to p. 5088
I spent part of the afternoon up in the library trying to look up the list of nursing schools. It does not look so encouraging as a lot of the Universities out this way do not have a combined RN with a B.S. Those that do are on the closed lists. Bette is set on getting a regular college education so that she might have to go to some small school first and then transfer if that is possible. There are a couple of possibilities so that we will write to them as soon as possible. I don't know what the chances for the University of Chicago are. I have been thinking that maybe it will be better for Bette's development if she went East to school where she could be on her own. I asked Emiko if she would want to leave Chicago to go to school and she said that she would not mind at all. We will wait to see if she gets accepted in one of the city hospitals first. The University of Iowa has a good nursing education program, but I think that is closed too on account of the naval unit down there. A few of the

which have possibilities are so expensive and that is another big problem. What I would like is to get Emiko and Bette into school where they can go right on through so that in the event I am drafted, it won't make any difference. I think that it is going to be a hell of a long time before we get the family resettled now. I have given up all plans of doing it now since my draft status has changed everything and I could not assume any more responsibility than I have now. It will be up to Emiko and Bette and I think that they could do a good job of it. Of course, in a couple of years they are going to start seriously thinking of getting married and that will make a lot of difference. But I don't think that they will be sacrificing too much if they give a year or so to the family resettlement after they finish school since there will be nobody else to do it.

Emiko is feeling very proud of herself because she got her picture in the Daily Times yesterday. She went out and bought a lot of copies to give out to friends. She said that she did not do so well in the tournament yesterday because of the heavy rain. Jack told her that he has informed all the boys in the shop that she won a medal and if she does not bring one home with her, not to come back. Emiko feels that she did very well in her test yesterday so that it was a good day for her. I think that Emiko has done very well at school this semester and she certainly has made a lot of friends. This Sunday a group of her school friends are going to the sand dunes and Emiko will go along if it does not rain.

Jack Satow (Ch-33) dropped in for a few minutes yesterday. He is down here on a visit of a few days. Jack volunteered for Savage and he was supposed to get his pre-induction physical at

the end of the month. But Alice sent a telegram telling him to come back to Minneapolis right away as he had received a notice that he was to report to Savage on the 26th, so he cut short his visit and left tonight. Jack has been working for .825nts an hour up there in a night shift. The boss will give him two weeks bonus when he goes into the service. Jack (K) was up to his old tricks again and he sort of belittled Jack S. for volunteering. Jack K. felt that the boys in the service envied the civilian and the smart guy knew how to keep out of the draft. I think that this is a reflection of Jack's feeling because he doesn't want to be drafted until he can make his plans for the medical training. I can sympathize with his feelings since he sees the injustice of it all and he doesn't want to go into the infantry when other less qualified fellows get into special training courses when they are drafted. I can't say too much about this because I don't know all the answers, and Jack only sees the whole thing from the practical point of view while I tend to look at it more idealistically. I suppose Jack will have more to give up than I will since he hasn't even started his medical school training yet and he will also have to forego his start of married-life in the event that he is drafted. He has not received any sort of a notice yet and I suspect that he will be put in the Reserves anyway. Last night he wrote some more letters to the medical schools, while E, B, and I went to the show since we had a little break in between our school work.

Frank bought the tickets for the trip and he advised me to relax until the conference since we are running out of paper in the office anyway. I will be able to do that after I get this last class assignment finished, but that will take about a week at least.

Charles Kikuchi
Chicago, Illinois

Diary

May 25, 1944

5067

Later:

Chicago certainly has some funny weather. I went down into the Stacks about 10 minutes ago and it was nice and sunny outside. While I was down there, I heard a lot of noise like bombs. I got curious so I came up and I discovered that it was pouring rain by the bucketfuls and there was lightning and thunder all over the place. Hardly anyone came prepared for rain and all of the girls are in their summer dresses. They are wondering how they are going to get home through this rain. Fortunately, I have a big black umbrella here; I think some professor left it behind when he went to join his ancestors, god rest his soul. I wouldn't dare venture out into this rain otherwise. I never saw it pour so much rain all at one time before. It has sort of disrupted all of the classes because everybody is standing at the windows to watch the rain. I hope that Emiko and Bette get home without getting watersoaked. Bette planned to go downtown and I know that she did not have any coat. Emiko is probably out in the middle of the field right now shooting her bow and arrow and trying to score 300! I still have a class to attend and it should be finished raining so hard by then. I planned to start on my last assignment, but it took me three hours to locate all of the different books in the stacks, card files, and reference rooms. I don't think I would like to be a librarian either!

The month certainly is going by fast. I won't breathe easily until I get my last report out of the way for my class. I made a start on it last night and discovered that it covered a tremendous amount of material. I would like to get it finished by this week, but that is impossible. I came to the office early this morning to get a fresh start. Last night I worked on the paper for about four hours without getting anyplace. It was too warm. The storm suddenly cleared up and it got very sultry. I took a cool shower and read time magazine for about two hours so that I did not get to sleep until after two. Emiko and Bette just puttered around. Emiko should be starting on her final studies, but she has put it off until next week. She is a great putter-offer at times.

Emiko, Bette and Jack had a silly argument last night. Bette mentioned that some kind of a wrapping around rice balls which mom used to make were ^{brown} ~~white~~ in color. Emiko insisted that they were ~~white~~ white:

Bette: "I ought to know they are brown. I used to see Mom make them."

Emiko (getting mad) "They are white. I know better than you because I used to help mom cook them. The shoyu made them brown."

Jack: "Then how come they are white inside? The shoyu would soak right thru."

Emiko: "I don't care; I know they were white." Argument for five or ten minutes."

Me trying to make peace: "Maybe they were yellow."

Emiko: "That's it they were whitish yellow."

Jack; "They were brown, just like shoyu. I ought to know

Diary

because I used to make Tom steal them from the wagon for me."

Emiko: "They were not brown."

Bette: "They were dark, like mustard."

Emiko: ~~§~~In great glee produces a mustard bottle.) "Look at this, do you call this ~~xalixxx~~ brown. It's yellow. That's the color they were."

Emiko will not let us get up from the table so that Jack finally conceded and said, "You're right they were yellow--like shoyu!"

(Shoyu is dark brown.) Emiko was so sure of herself and Jack was just ribbing her on, while Bette was sure that she was right. Afterwards, Emiko started to pick on Bette for washing her hair and admiring herself in the mirror when the cooking had to be done. Bette's answer: "What's that got to do with the argument?" It was all forgotten after about an hour.

I didn't even have anything to do with it as I don't know what the stuff looked like, but Emiko tried to get a rise out of me by humming a Japanese song but I did not bite. I got revenge by hiding the funny papers so that she could not see what the Invisible Scarlet O'Neil was up too. What does we are!

Jack told me that he got a 5 cents an hour raise yesterday! The boss had promised him 10 cents an hour raise, but he forgot. Jack is satisfied for the time being as he now makes about \$40.00 a week clear. He also makes three or four dollars extra each week by cutting pieces of wood for a Nisei who does piece work there. This nisei makes about \$70.00 a week. Jack feels he should get a little more experience and then he will also try to get into piece work. He wrote applications again last night as he thinks that the war is going to go on for years and he has to get into med school before he is 30, which is three or four years away yet.

I arrived in the office by 9:30 this morning as I had to return a reference book to the library. I have my last paper in fair shape now except for one question that puzzles me. I worked on the paper all day yesterday and for about five hours after I got home. Tom took his physical exam and passed, but he did not think that he passed his comprehensives. I doubt that. He will get his MA degree if he passed. Tomi was all excited about Tom passing the physical. She said that she would hate to have to go to Florida after Tom is drafted. She felt that the wages downthere were too low and the living costs were high. Tom doesn't want to go to Savage and he wants to get into an Army unit where there are no other Nisei so that he can get away from it all. I don't blame him for that.

Jack got involved in a near race riot at his shop yesterday. His story: "There is one old guy in the shop who has been building up resentment against the few Nisei there for a long time. He's about 6'2" tall and about 50 years old at least. One of the Nisei fellows was cutting boxes and the old man came along and tipped them over. Joe got mad at this so he started to protest. The old man then went into a rage and he started yelling about all the god damn treacherous Japs around in the shop. His real feelings suddenly came out; he had been holding it back all along. I was standing right there so I told him to be careful of what he said because he was including me.

"Then the old guy wanted to fight. I could have hit him so easily, but I thought that it would be better to reason with him. It was no use as he kept saying that I was a dirty old Jap and things like that. I was going to let him have it, but I hesitated because I didn't want to start a race riot. The old man kept challenging me to fight, but I told him to wait until after work and I would see him in back of the shop. Then he

got very brave and he called me a yellow Jap. I decided to keep quiet as it was no use arguing with him and I didn't want to hit an old man. For an old fellow, he certainly did have a lot of confidence in himself. He kept trying to pick a fight all morning.

"At noon time, I was sitting across from the shop in the empty lot when the old man started in again. I was getting fed up by this time and I had a lot of mental conflict in my mind on whether I should go over and hit him or not. Among workers prestige means a lot and I didn't want the other workers to think that I was yellow. I tried to reason with him once more, and I was just going over to take a poke at him when the boss came out and advised me not to. He said that the old man was a trouble maker and it was no use. The boss told the old man to shut up. Then the old man began to say that he had a right to talk against the Japs because he had lost a son at Bourganville. I could understand then the way he felt and I knew that this was the reason why it was no use to explain things to him because he didn't want me to have a chance to prove that I was an American. I think that a lot of people are that way and they will not overlook the fact that one has an Oriental face.

"All this time, I had a mental conflict because I did not want him or any of the other workers to get a bad impression of the other Nisei. For the sake of the Nisei, I refrained from taking a swing. On the other hand, I had to think of the impression of the other workers. I think that they understand now so they will not blame me if I haul off. It's a good thing that I took Boxing in college. What should I do if he keeps it up tomorrow."

Bette, Emiko and I took a vote on it and we gave him per-

mission to bop the old man in the puss if he kept it up. We said that the reputation of the Nisei was not at stake since he was an American and an individual and he had a right to take action if he were pushed into it. Jack decided that this was right too so he is going to act accordingly. He thinks that the old man is carrying a knife around in his pockets. He said that all of the other nisei in the shop kept quiet during the argument as they did not want to get mixed up in it. Jack felt that it was hard to be taken as an individual in cases like this. All of the other fellows in the shop are swell guys, he says, and he gets along nicely with them. Jack feels that the old man might be jealous because the Nisei piece workers are so fast and they make more money. There are only a few Nisei in the shop.xx

Mary Obata phoned over. She is on her way to Cleveland with her mother from Gila and she is just passing through. She said that mom was fine. We were very surprised to learn the bad news that Tom had broken his arm on the bar ~~ka~~ pit while playing around. I hope that it is not too bad. Emiko fixed up a card showing Tom trying to make an impression on a Nisei girl and saying "Look, no hands" This caused him to fall and the next scene shows Tom with a cast on his arm while the other fellows are envy him for the sudden prestige. Bette thinks that all boys break their arms, but that is a little exaggerated.

Last night Emiko and Bette didxxthe laundry which has accumulated. Bette feels that Emiko should help her iron if she helps with the washing. Jack asked her why he did not tell her, but Bette said that Emiko should know without being told. Bette does a lot of the housework too, but that is compensated by the fact that Emiko doesmost of the cooking and the shopping.

There is a slight tendency for Emiko to leave things for Bette, but on the whole Emiko is very conscientious. She does a darn good job in managing the food budget, and that takes a lot of planning and thinking.

Emiko and Bette started to harmonize in the laundry room so that all was well. They came in after they were finished and they continued with their singing. Then Emiko started to play her records and fix a dress. She found that one of her good dresses was tight for her so that she gave it to Bette. Bette was fixing it until about 1. A couple of times before Emiko has given her a dress and after Bette ironed it, Emiko discovered that it fix so she took it back. This time, Bette played safe by fixing it up before she ironed it to make sure that it did not fit Emiko anymore.

Bette is going over to Mariko's for the weekend to get her formal made. Mariko promised to drop all plans and work on it, but she is going out to dinner this evening first. Emiko does not want to go over there because she feels that she will be stuck with all the sewing so that she is going out on a date with her boyfriend this evening. She doesn't know whether she will start studying for her finals tomorrow or postpone it for one more day so that she can go out with her school friends. Jack is deliberating on whether to invite Eileen and Betty Jean over for dinner, but he decided against it. He may go over there to visit them this evening instead.

I figured out my expenditures for the past month and I found that I was \$7.00 over my total income for the month. I don't know how I will manage to buy to watches for the girls, but I feel like doing it even tho it may not be the wisest plan. I wish I had more of an income, but I don't feel like doing

defense work as my work is too important. I can't complain a bit because I think that we have managed very well even though I have not saved a cent this year. All of us are going to school and we live fairly comfortably. There is no use in attempting to lower our standard of living. My expenses for May. I kept them this month because Jack thought that I would be able to save about \$25.00 and I wanted to show him that I barely manage to break even. He gave me \$20.00 for April as he was not here the whole month. I can't ask him for more than \$35.00 a month because he is trying so hard to save up money to get into a medical school. He should be able to save around \$100.00 a month soon.

My May expenses:

April 29	\$13.00 food for week
	5.00 allowance for E and B.
	1.00 play ticket
	1.65 cigarette carton
	1.10 underwear
	1.00 Bette for school
May 2	30.00 rent
	5.00 enter, carfare, mis. for wk.
May 6	13.00 food
	5.00 allowance for E and B.
	6.00 dentist bill
May 9	5.00 to Bette for school
	3.00 enter, carfare, mis for wk.
May 13	1.65 cigarette carton.
	3.00 book
	13.00 food for week
	5.00 allowance to E and B
	3.00 mis. for week
May 14	1.50 to Mr. B., extra rent
	4.00 enter. and carfare for wk.
	2.00 mis.
May 20	13.00 for food for week.
	5.00 allowance to E and B.
	4.00 mis. for week.
May 27	13.00 for food for week
	1.65 cigarette carton
	3.00 mis. for week (estimate.)

total \$162.45

Salary equals (after taxes) 140.00

Jack gave me..... 20.00

Therefore, spent \$7.45 more than my income in May.

attached letter that E. S. N. to Hospital.

4743 Drexel Blvd.
Chicago, Illinois
May 27, 1944

Miss Gladys A. Sandvig,
Director Mt. Sinai Hospital School of Nursing
2750 W. 15th Place
Chicago, Illinois

Re: Enrollment of Emiko Kikuchi

Dear Miss Sandvig,

Recently I put in my application to enroll in the cadetnursing program in your hospital. I hope that you do not mind if I am so anxious about finding out how the admissions committee acted upon it. I am extremely desirous of getting a start in my nursing training as soon as it is possible. I hope that it will be possible for me to enroll in September in your school. I enjoyed my recent interview and visit to your hospital immensely, and I feel that it will prove to my greatest advantage if I am able to obtain my training there.

I believe that I have fulfilled all of the application requirements requested, but if there is anything else that I should do, I would appreciate it if I could be informed. I am just finishing my first year at Wilson City College, and I plan to enroll there for a summer session course in chemistry so that I will be prepared to start my nursing training in September. I feel that I will gain by taking the summer session course even though it is not one of the required subjects for admission into your school.

The reason why I would like to complete my plans for enrolling in the fall is that my brother, and guardian, expects to be called into the Army very shortly. He is doing some vital research work now for the University of California in the University of Chicago office. I have a brother-in-law already in the service so that I want to do my share in the war effort too. I feel that a nursing career will fulfill this ambition. I have had this goal in mind for quite some time now and I am sure that I will make a success of it if given the opportunity to get started. It is the one way in which I will be able to help out my country, and also to advance myself at the same time. I believe that there is going to be a great need for trained nurses even after the war and I want to be fully prepared to do my part. I sincerely hope that your admissions committee will act favorably upon my application, and I know that I will not fail in the responsibility of making good once I get the chance. Thank you very much for all the past considerations.

Very truly yours,

Emiko Catherine Kikuchi

I had a very quiet evening last night. Emiko went out on her date and she got in around midnight. She said that she had been suffering from diarrhea again. She went to bowl about 8 games and then to a show. Bette went on over to Mariko's to stay overnight and make her formal. I didn't feel like visiting anyone so I stayed home. Jack was writing some more of his letters to the medical school because he doesn't have the time to do much of it during the week. He was going to take Eileen out but he decided to leave her alone before she gets hurt. He said that he had to remain faithful to Dolores. Dolores is coming out in August and they will get married, but she can't transfer to any hospitals out here so that she will go back to Stanford Medical School to finish up her nurses' training.

I finally got all of my book plates in the books and arranged them in the book case which I brought home from the University recently. After that I read the papers and a book for a while. Jack mentioned that the feud with the old man at the shop was over. He said that the old man apologized to him yesterday and he told Jack that he was sorry for being hot-headed but he couldn't help himself because of the loss of his son at Bougainville. He said that his son was on one of the invasion boats and just as they were landing he was shot by a Jap soldier and he sunk immediately without coming up again. Jack explained to him that he didn't like the Jap soldiers any more than the old man did, but that the nisei were not Japs. Jack said that the old man had a hard time getting this through his head and he was not convinced yet. He felt that this was the best method to follow because if he had struck the old man, that fellow would have held

a grudge against all nisei. We began to talk about the reason for the war. Jack is not ^{so} convinced that democracy is at stake. I thought that it was all in the way of looking at the war because one could easily build up an argument showing that economic greed is the cause of everything. I felt that Russia was much more idealistic in this war than any of the other allied countries. I suggested that he read "The Soviet Power" to get some idea of what Russia was really like and Jack did ~~at~~ this for the rest of the evening.

We also talked about the matter of Emiko and Bette working during this summer. Jack said that Tom Seno's wife was working at McClurg's and she could get Emiko and Bette a job there for 60c an hour. I told him that I would rather not have them work at this place since there were so many other nisei there. Jack did not feel that this was important if they could make the 60c an hour. I felt that the issue was more than a mere salary since it would only be another small step in the direction of a segregated pattern. Jack said that he didn't know anything about McClurg's and he wasn't too interested in what became of the nisei society. I told him that he would have to consider this quite strongly after he married Dolores because I didn't think she would ever be satisfied by living exclusively among the nisei. Therefore, I felt that the issue did concern him. Jack said he hadn't thought of it this way before.

We had quite a strenuous day today. Jack was up at 9 o'clock to write some of his letters and he woke us up for breakfast around 11. We were finished by noon and Jack went off to play tennis with

his friend. He wanted us to come along but I didn't feel like getting into any nisei group. Jack feels that I am too prejudiced against the nisei but I told him that I was actually doing things the hard way because I believed in a certain program which I felt was better for the future of the nisei. To Jack, it was only another afternoon and it didn't make any difference. Instead of playing tennis, he went out to the lake with Tom and his wife and he played badminton and baseball with some of the little kids out there and chased them all over the rocks.

Emiko and I decided to go bicycle riding. We went out by 63rd St. and we managed to rent some bicycles by 4 o'clock. For the next 2 hours we went all around by the lakes and the park. There was a huge crowd at the lakeshore today because it was such nice weather. Quite a few groups were out there on picnics. We saw Mimi and her baby. Mimi yelled all the way across the street at us and she announced that her honey was downtown. She wanted us to go over to her place because the employers were not home but we didn't feel like it. I don't want to start encouraging them to come over to our place either because we will have them on our hands. There were quite a few nisei around the Midway and down by the lake today. Emiko saw 6 or 7 that she knew. She also ran into a couple of her school friends. We went way down along the lakeshore and it was quite enjoyable to get all that exercise. I tried to tire Emiko out but she kept right up with me all the way. She is getting to be quite an outdoor type. This week she went bowling, played archery and went cycling, so that she is losing a little weight. She isn't as soft as she used to be. Emiko's picture was in the newspapers again with some of the other archery

class.

It was very pleasant cycling around through the fresh green parks. The air was very fresh today and a cool breeze was coming in from the lake. We must have gone about 20 miles altogether so that it was good exercise for me. It is very reasonable to rent a bicycle as it is only 35 cents an hour. We came home exhausted and I took a hot shower immediately so that my muscles wouldn't get stiff.

Emiko then cooked a delicious steak dinner for us because Jack and Bette came home around 7:30. Emiko isn't eating very much these days and that is quite unusual. I think she is trying to lose a lot of weight. Jack wondered how such a strong girl as her should get headaches and other illnesses during the week sometimes just when it came time to cook dinner! Bette said she came home because she felt homesick. She said that she didn't have such a good week-end over at Mariko's because of the confusion. Mariko was supposed to wait for her at the bus station at 1 o'clock yesterday. She only waited for 5 minutes and then left. Bette said that she stayed around the bus station until 3 o'clock waiting for Mariko and when she did not show up, she went on up to Mariko's apartment. Bette had been late because she had to go see Bill McKee about the possibilities of a nursing program combined with a B.S. degree. Bill is going to write a letter to Mercy Hospital to see if such an arrangement can be made. Bette said that he didn't sound too helpful.

Bette then added, "I waited around for Mariko until 4:30. After she got home I thought we were going to get started on my formal but Mariko wanted to go out to some kind of a party for 2

RAF flyers, and she didn't get home until 4:30 in the morning. George got drunk at the party and he was talking Japanese with some issei who answered him in English and this embarrassed Mariko because of the Caucasian people present. They put me on a street car to go to a show by myself and I was all alone at Mariko's place from 12 o'clock on. I felt pretty lonesome and I was almost going to come home. Mariko promised to give us all of her plans for the week-end in order to make my formal but she forgot about it. George was urging her to lock the door and not let anyone come in so she could start the formal but Mariko wanted to do these other things. She let George sleep over in the front room because I was there. George wasn't able to sleep very well so he got up about 6 o'clock and started banging on something. I got up pretty early and I cooked breakfast while Mariko slept. We were just going to get started on the formal when Bob of Portland came over. Later Otto dropped in. Gee, I can't stand that Bob. He thinks he is so good. I was telling him about my plans for nursing and he tried to discourage me because he said it was no use. He thinks he knows everything and that girls automatically fall for him. I really was sarcastic to him. Bob is staying with George right now.

"Mariko feels like calling the whole wedding off now because of George's mother. She sure is having her troubles. I don't know if they're going to get married or not now the way Mariko talks. Mariko said she might go to New York for a couple of weeks next month because George Yamanaka is passing through with his car and he is going to New York to marry Saye. I don't think Mariko knows what her plans are because she is always changing them. I wish that she would hurry up and get her marriage arrangement

before she and George have a big argument.

"Anyway, we just got started on the formal about the middle of this afternoon when Mariko decided that she wanted to go down to see the Memorial Day parade downtown. George put his foot down and he forced her to start my formal. We just got the top of it out out. Then Mariko wanted to go see Mayerling this evening but I didn't feel like going with them so I came hom. She wants me to come over again next Thursday to fix it, and she wants you to come too Emiko, so you can help. I think the next time I go over there I'll have to lock the door and keep everybody out so Mariko can concentrate on making the formal. I don't see how she can stand the pace the way she is doing because she always wants to go out. The main reason I didn't stay there for dinner because Mariko was having spaghetti again and I knew we were going to have steak at home so I decided to come home and enjoy a good meal instead of eating spaghetti again."

After dinner Jack decided that he wanted his sideburns trimmed a little so I began to experiment. I went higher and higher so I decided to give him a trim. It wasn't quite satisfactory so I went ahead and gave him a complete haircut. I even cut a lot of hair off on top. It came out pretty well despite the fact that I haven't tried to cut anyone's hair for about 10 years. It took me about 2 hours to finish the job because Jack was pretty fussy about how he wanted the hair cut. He then began to start on my hair and he gave me a complete haircut too. We decided that the outcome was pretty good for the first time so we are going to invest in a pair of clippers and practice on each other's hair.

Emiko and Bette wanted to go walking down into the Negro district but we didn't get through with the barbering until about 11 so it was too late.

Monday May 29, 1944

Diary

Charles Kikuchi

5082

It was a very warm day today, and it looks as if summer has arrived for sure. I spent most of the day writing letters to various schools to see what I could do for Bette. It is so damn much red tape to all of it. Bette took some aptitude tests at school the other week and the teacher told her that she did very well and that she scored in the upper 20% in one of them and in the upper 10% in the other. Bette would like to go to the University of Chicago very much since some of her high school friends will be coming here. If we can hurry up and get her clearance and acceptance, we will be able to apply to the Kobe College Corporation for some scholarship assistance. Naiko is also fairly sure that she will take a summer session course at the J.C. Her conflict is that she would like to work and make some money first. However, she feels that if she can get that chem course out of the way, it will make it a lot easier for her when she enters the hospital for her nursing course.

This evening Jack went out on a date, that is, he went to a concert to listen to Eileen. He said that Eileen is under quite a strain now because she feels that she has worked hard for three years to get her musical education and it may end up in nothing if she is not able to get a job in that field. Jack said that Eileen holds several part time jobs and she is on these for about 12 to 14 hours a day. She lost so much weight that she had to see a doctor and she was given some kind of ~~her~~ pills.

E., B. and I are going over to Mariko's to pick up a camera for the picnic tomorrow.

(Copy)

5083
4743 Drexel Blvd.
Chicago, 15, Illinois
May 29, 1944

Marion G. Howell, Dean
Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing
Western Reserve University,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Miss Howell:

I am graduating from the Hyde Park High School here in Chicago in June and I would like to make some definite plans for my nursing training.

It is my present plan to take a pre-nursing course so that I will be able to obtain a BS degree along with a nursing certificate. I see by your 1942 catalogue that your school has such a program.

I would appreciate it very much if I could be informed about the procedure for enrolling in your school, although I have not definitely made up my mind yet that I will be able to attend. One of the factors would be: Would I be eligible to enter in the Cadet Nursing Program if I took pre-nursing work in the school first? Or does the school have a plan whereby the requirements for a BS degree is completed simultaneously with the nursing training?

I would like to enroll in September, if possible. I would appreciate it immensely if I could have some further information on your school. I believe that I have fulfilled the required secondary subjects as outlined in the 1942 Bulletin.

Thank you kindly for any information which you may be able to forward.

Very truly yours,

Bette Kikuchi

We had a very strenuous but enjoyable day yesterday. It seems that everyone in Chicago was down at the beach to pass Memorial day. We didn't get much sleep the night before as we were up rather late. We didn't go directly over to Mariko's on Monday night as we thought that she would not be in. We went to a show and then dropped over there afterwards. It was about 12:30 already and Mariko was just taking a bath. Geo. and Bob of Portland were sitting out on the back porch as it was so sultry. Geo. can't make up ~~xx~~ his mind, it seems, as Mariko told us that he does not seem to be getting excited about the wedding at all. She said that his mother likes her allright but she doesnot think that this is a good year for marriage and that they should wait until next year. Mariko thinks that it may be at the end of ~~thisxmonthx~~ next month. She will be out of a job after today and she has not decided what to do. She said something about taking a trip to New York with Geo. Y (Ch-1) as he is going thru to see Saye. I don't think that is such a hot plan, but I didn't say anything. I didn't say anything about her wedding plans either as I know how anxious she is and I am all for her. However, I don't think that it is a wise plan for her to start passing any of those ultimatums around. Mariko said that Helen Suzuki (Ch-41) got married the other night, and that Sho Kaneko (CH-11) is also engaged to be married pretty soon. She also said that Albert's ~~uncle~~ (CH-24) uncle has also come out of camp and he is staying with Albert right now. Albert's brother in the Army was up recently on a furlough but has gone back to Texas camp. I should drop over once and meet Albert's uncle since I may be able to interview

him in connection with the larger family group if he speaks English well enough.

Mariko did not have the camera so that it was a wasted trip. She said that she loaned it to Mary Harding (Ch-24) and perhaps we could drop over and pick it up. It was already after one o'clock but we stopped off anyway. There is no way of knocking at Mary's door from the front since she lives in one of the back rooms. I banged on the window but nobody answered. I then banged on Yuri's (CH-25) window, but she was out some place evidently. The landlady finally opened the door and she was scared stiff. She was very suspicious of me and she wanted to know what I was doing as she thought I was prowling around. I told her that I had an urgent message to deliver to Mary and that it was an emergency. The landlady was too suspicious and she wouldn't let me in at all. I told her it was a matter of life and death but she just closed the door and wouldn't talk any more. A few minutes later she popped her head out of the window and said that if I did not go away she would call the police. I thought that the wisest thing for me to do was to make a strategic retreat so I went to the subway station where Emiko and Bette were waiting. Emiko was very disappointed since she wanted to take some pictures.

After we got home Monday night Emiko and Bette made all the preparations for the picnic lunch and they were puttering around until 3 or 4. We got up at 9:30 yesterday morning and we rushed around getting ready to go. We went up to the bicycle place and rented some bikes to ride around for a while until Emiko's school friends came. They showed up around 12--Johnny, P., Jean and her

Charles Kikuchi

Diary

May 31, 1944

boy friend, Roy from the Army.

Jack started to teach Bette how to ride the bicycle and she did very well for the first lesson. She was a little disappointed because she could not make all of the turns like we did. Jack had her ride up and down in front of the park for about an hour. When Emiko's friends came, we were going to leave Bette behind to practice some more but she insisted that she knew well enough to go through all of the immense traffic at the beach. She did quite well until some fat old lady blocked the sidewalk and Bette rammed right into her. Later on she grazed a fat man, and she almost bumped into an automobile once. Jack was pretty worried about her riding through all that heavy traffic so I dropped behind to coach her for a while. After about an hour of this, Bette was exhausted so that Jack took her bicycle back and we all decided to go to the beach.

There were thousands of people at the beach yesterday and it took us a while to find a place on the beach to spread our things. Jean and Jack were the only ones with swimming suits. They went in swimming together and they had a great time. Jean is a tall blonde, a little screwball, but a lot of fun. Her boy friend sure kept his eyes on her while Jack was swimming with her out in the lake. They caught a little fish out there and brought it in for observation. Emiko, Johnny and I rode around on the bicycles some more while they were swimming. Afterwards we all ate our combined lunches and they really tasted good. Bette was so tired afterwards that she fell asleep in the sands and she got her face and arms a little sunburned.

Jean's boy friend is on a furlough and he has to return next

week. He is stationed in northern Canada near the Alaskan border. He said that it only took him 11 hours to fly down here.

Afterwards Bette and Johnny went wading in the beach while the rest of us just laid around. We were going to suggest that Johnny take Bette to her senior formal but she said that she already asked a nisei boy to take her--one of Mariko's young proteges. Emiko seems to have a lot of friends at school because she ran into several of them at the beach. I think it would be a good thing if she kept developing these contacts because they all have similar interests. Bette also met some of her friends on the beach. There were a few nisei down there but we didn't see as many as we did last Sunday. We ran into Hiro K. and some of his friends and we talked to them for a few minutes.

Johnny has the habit of referring to the colored people as niggers so that Emiko corrected him and said that they were Negroid. Johnny answered, "That's right, they're Negroid and we are Caucazoids." It didn't occur to him that we were not Caucasians because he just took it for granted that we were just like him. Jean made a similar remark and she said that we didn't seem to be any different from the rest of the kids at school and she wondered if all nisei were as Americanized. I told her that most of the nisei were Americanized and they didn't have any foreign characteristics at all.

It started to get windy while we were playing cards so we decided to call it a day as we were pretty tired. Jean and Roy had to bicycle way out to the westside while Johnny had to go down about 30 or 40 blocks further on the southside and he didn't want to be caught in the rain. The last time he was out with us

it rained quite heavily and he predicted it would be sultry. Jack went right on home as he had to write some more letters to the medical schools. E., B. and I walked around the park for a while and we ran into Yoshi taking the Bazelon baby out for an airing so we stopped and talked with her for about an hour. Yoshi (CH-9) said that she and Miki were planning to go to New York on Aug. 27 as they both get a vacation with pay at that time. They are going to scout around New York and if they like it, they will go out there permanently. Yoshi is still thinking about her musical career but she hasn't done anything at all about it and it is fast fading into a dream. Jack knows a Czechoslovakian fellow, Paul, at his shop, (the one we met at the Polish dance) and this fellow likes big fat girls so that Jack is going to introduce him to Yoshi as soon as he gets his driver's license because he thinks that maybe they might get attracted to each other.

On the way home, Emiko and Bette decided that they would like to finish the day with a Chinese dinner. I wasn't too enthusiastic about that because I was thinking that I had already gone way over my budget this month but I didn't want to disappoint them so I gave in. I made them walk home though in order to save the carfare and create an appetite. Emiko saw a little black dog that reminded her of Blackie, Jr. and she made it follow her all the way home. After taking a shower, we started out for Chinatown. Jack refused to come along with us because he said that he was too busy and it was foolish for us to go out and eat anyway. We went on down and enjoyed a very delicious meal. We couldn't eat all of it so we got paper cartons and brought it home for Jack. We were so tired that we were in bed by midnight. That was the earliest we had gone to bed in a long time. The day turned out very successfully and we all enjoyed it.