



Committee on Resettlement of
Japanese Americans. Minneapolis
Chapter records, 1942-1944.

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War Relocation Desk
407 S. 4th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota
September 1, 1943

Mrs Shiziro Yamada
7-2-A, War Relocation Center
Hunt, Idaho

Dear Mrs Yamada:

I enclose a letter from a woman who is interested in having you apply for work. The Joy Studio is busy, and, as she says, there would doubtless be work enough to keep you occupied.

I shall tell Mr White today to grant immediate clearance under the hospitality plan so that you may be able to come and look the situation over. I am sure you will be kept sufficiently busy to make at least a modest income.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Lawrence D. Steefel
Volunteer Placement Secretary

"I would be very interested in trying out the Japanese-American woman as my own accompanist, as I need one very badly.

I pay 65¢ an hour and the average weekly pay usually runs about \$12.00 altho of course I cannot guarantee this.

I am sure that if she is good she would be able to get more work of this kind as there was a desperate shortage last winter. As President of the Twin City Dancing Teacher Guild I am in a position to hear of lots of work so I am sure she could get more work besides mine.

I am leaving for Chicago tomorrow (August 19) and will be back about the first of September, or at least after Labor Day (September 6.) If this woman is interested, please let me know, so we can arrange an interview.

She would have to be able to play both Jazz and Classical music and read fairly well by sight."

Signed, Miss Miriam Phillips.

War Relocation Desk
407 S 4th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota
September 1, 1943

Mr. Paul Bremicker
YMCA
Minneapolis

Dear Mr. Bremicker:

I am sorry for the three weeks delay in my answering your letter, but I left town for a few days, and have had difficulty in catching up again.

I have cleared with St Cloud Teacher's College which will admit George Norikane. As to work there he will have to take his chances. They have many calls in, but no working committee for community education on the Nisei problem. The registrar, however, expects that the boy can be placed.

The College term opens Tuesday September 7th, and I have cleared with Mr White for him to come on. It seems best for him to go directly to St Cloud and get himself established before the opening of term.

Schoolboy and temporary jobs have not been too easy to find, but they are opening up somewhat with the fall. If there are other boys needing help don't hesitate to call on me. I shall continue to be in town from now on, and there will not be the delay we have had in this case.

Mrs. F.P.Wheeler of Wayzata tells me that the Wayzata Woman's Club would probably be willing to hear a speaker on the Nisei question. Their program is in process of being made up. She would be glad to talk to you about it. They think they may be able to form their own committee there in time.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Lawrence D. Staefel
Volunteer Placement Committee

SEP 7 1943

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September 2, 1943

Mrs. Stiefel
W.R.A. Desk
407 South 4th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Stiefel:

I am Ruth Yamada, a Japanese American Citizen in an evacuee center.

I was born in Seattle, Washington in 1920, and have lived for the past seven years in Los Angeles, California. There I had been employed by the Loggin's Food Products Company where Studio Location Lunches and Dinners were prepared and served. Occasionally we had the opportunity to serve some private parties as "Outdoor Barbeque", anniversary banquets, and picnics. Later I have owned and operated a business until evacuation.

In academic education I have had one year in Los Angeles Junior College.

Miss Chiyeko Takahashi, now a resident of your city has written me of various employment opportunities in your community. I shall be glad to send recommendations and photograph. Any assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully

Ruth Yamada

Ruth Yamada
32 - 2 - B
Rohwer Relocation Center
McGehee, Arkansas



BEAUTIFUL MINNEHAHA FALLS.
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.



PHOTO BY NORTON & PEEL

These Post Cards are FREE to Service Men and Women in uniform. Furnished by the Kiwanis Club of Minneapolis, Minnesota, the city of Lakes and Parks.

POST CARD Y FREE

WAR SAVINGS

BONDS AND STAMPS

DEAR MRS. STEEFER:

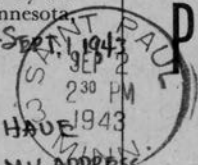
I AM SORRY THAT I HAVE
DELAYED IN NOTIFYING MY ADDRESS
TO YOU. THROUGH VARIOUS ACTIVITIES
HERE I COULD NOT CONVEY IT ANY
SOONER. WE ARE FINALLY SETTLED
NOW, AND THE ADDRESS IS:

1/2 M.B. ISHIKAWA
Co. B., School Bn.
CAMP SAUSAGE, MINN.

Sincerely,
M.B. Ishikawa

MRS. STEEFEL
2808 IV. RIVER RD.
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

1961



September 4, 1943

Mr Archie Nanchi
34-12-2
Manzanar, California

Dear Mr Nanchi

I am sorry that a brief absence from the city on vacation has delayed my response to your letter which I received August 23.

I was told by Mr White the Relocation Officer here that there are several laborer's jobs open in defense plants here for which the pay is pretty good. I suggest that if you are interested you plan to come on to the YMCA here, writing ahead for reservations for the date you arrive. The cost is \$1.00 a night. Our desk for Placement is at 407 South 7th Street and the hours M.W. Friday, 2 to 5 and we will be glad to do anything we can to find work for you when you come.

I shall clear with Mr White for your Clearance to Minneapolis.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Lawrence E. Steffel
Volunteer Placement Committee
Minneapolis War Relocation.

September 4, 1943

Miss Amy Kasai
Miss Sue Minkami
42-02-A
Denson Arkansas

Dear Miss Kasai:

I have your letter of August 30, and can advise you that most of the girls coming out stop for a day or two at the YWCA when they arrive. We can make a reservation there for you and Mr White, the Relocation Officer here can let you know when a room will be available.

If there happens to be no room there they have lists of rooms, and since there are two of you, we might well be able to find a double room for you at one of the Women's Christian Association clubs, resident clubs for business girls here in town.

I remember that Miss Minkami wrote me some time ago to ask about Secretarial work. There are more opportunities opening for that type of work than there were in the summer. I strongly advise that if that is the kind of work she really prefers that we look for that type of job for her, so there may be no need for her to leave a housework job to the dissatisfaction of her employer when something else opens.

Unfortunately it is true that you can make more money

in domestic than in office work.

We have plenty of domestic jobs open, and I shall be glad to see you both at the War Relocation Desk, 407 S 4th Street Monday Wednesday or Friday 2 to 5 when you come. If you want office work, let me know as soon as you can, and I shall try to find something of that type for you both.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs Lawrence D Steefel
Volunteer Placement Secretary
Minneapolis War Relocation Committee.

September 4, 1943

Miss Lucille Peddy
Cenal Ed. Counsellor
Rivers, Arizona

Dear Miss Peddy:

I am interested in what you have to say of Dr George Suda.
May I suggest that you request him to send us a transcript
of his WRA 26 record.

In the relocation of a dentist I think it likely that at least
at first it would be necessary for him to supplement his
income from private practice with some insitutional work.
Just now there is so great a shortage that perhaps we could open
open some such work to him.

If Dr. Suda is interested, I suggest he write us telling us
his financial resources, whether he has his tools etc.
I suspect a chair might not be hard to sub-rent. If he
shows himself qualified perhaps some of your dentists here
can help us find a place for him.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs Lawrence D Steefel

SEP 12 1943

OUTGOING TELETYPE

SEPTEMBER 7, 1943

Mr. Ray D. Johnston
Rohwer Project
McGehee, Arkansas

DL and TWX

RECOMMEND RELEASE FOR RUTH YAMADA, 32-2-B, IF SHE WISH TO COME
FOR INTERVIEWS ABOUT WHICH RELOCATION COMMITTEE IS WRITING HER+

C+ L+ WHITE
RELOCATION OFFICER
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA
WRA

cc to Stupel

214

War Relocation Desk
407 S 4th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota
September 8, 1943

Miss Ruth Yorada
32-2-3 Rohrer War Relocation Center
Mc Gehee, Arkansas

Dear Miss Yorada:

I am very much interested in your letter. I am sure that some kind of job in the catering business will be open for you here. Today, Labor Day, the firm I have in mind is closed. But I shall call them and ask what possibilities of salary they have and I will let you know.

I would suggest that you come out on the hospitality when and be able to interview. I think you are certain to find something in your field. If, however, the salary is a major consideration, let me know the minimum salary you would consider, and I shall keep that in mind.

I have just called Mr. White, Minneapolis, War Relocation Officer, who is sending Clearance to Minneapolis at once. It will be ready when you want it. If you want more details send me word.

The firm I have had in mind for catering work is Harty Tasty. They do a great deal of work for clubs etc. You could, also, get work with the Women's Club, or with girl's residence clubs or in Hotel work. If you are here, you can look round and interview and make your choice.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs Lawrence D Stead
Volunteer Placement Secretary,
Minneapolis War Relocation Committee

SEP 12 1943

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September 9, 1943

Mrs. Lawrence D. Steefel
War Relocation Desk
407 South 4th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Steefel:

I sincerely thank you for your interest and
kindness in your letter of September 6.

I have made arrangements with the Leave Officer
and shall leave this center the evening of
September 16, Thursday.

I shall accept the hospitality plan, as you
have suggested.

I am looking forward to meeting you.

Respectfully

Ruth Yamada

Ruth Yamada
32 - 2 B
Rohwer Relocation Center
McGehee, Arkansas

Tule Lake 196
September 11, 1943

Dear Mrs. Steifer.

I meant to write to you sooner but somehow or another I didn't. I hope you will forgive me.

My parents express their deepest appreciation for your kind aid in making Frank's operation possible and also for taking him in when he needed a home to stay. We shall not forget your unselfish efforts and times you have spent on him.

And thank you for taking the trouble to help find us a job. We expect to meet you in person soon, for my sister and I are departing for Minneapolis on the thirteenth of September.

Sincerely yours
Katherine Delikawa



118 Madison St.
Northfield, Minn.
Sept. 13, 1942

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[1943?]

Mrs. L. D. Steepel
2808 N. River Road
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Mrs. Steepel,

Now that I'm somewhat settled, I'll have a breathing spell between now and Thursday when regular classes resume.

Mrs. Fossum appears to be a fine woman, and I'm inclined to think my work will not be too heavy. There are three boys; Jim, 13; John, 3; Steve $1\frac{1}{2}$. As you had thought, this is a second marriage for Mr. Fossum, which explains the wide difference in age between Jim and John. The two younger children are so lively that I'll undoubtedly have a hardful trying to keep them out of mischief.

My work, as I understand it now, includes preparing the noon dinner and whatever is necessary two afternoons a week. I presume this will be dusting and occasional ironing. With my program of sixteen hours plus this part-time work,

my days will be quite full.

Today was registration day for most of us, and it was a difficult task arranging for the desired courses with preference to certain professors. It seems that St. Olaf has lost a number of its most competent instructors, either through death or transference. My schedule is as follows with hopes of majoring in Secretarial Training and Economics:

Religion, which is required,
Spanish.

History (required),

Biology, and,

Economics.

I certainly hope my plans will materialize.

The special delivery mail, which I had been waiting so anxiously for, was mailed directly to St. Olaf College; in fact, it was here when I arrived.

Replying to mail, thank you for forwarding my letter.

I want to thank you also for your wonderful kindness and understanding. There were numerous occasions when you should have reprimanded me, and I'm really grateful for your overlooking my short comings. Thanking you was of such a great benefit to me; I profited greatly by my experience.

It may surprise you to know that Mayme Kishi is now in Boston, either teaching music or working in



a cruise ship. I have heard she is doing both, but I don't know which to rely on. I was very surprised to hear of this as I had thought her to be still in camp hoping to come to Minneapolis. She is said to like it very well on the East Coast.

My sister wrote several days ago, and she said the family is scheduled to leave for Heart Mountain, Wyoming, Sept. 18. It seems their hopes of relocating in Idaho were in vain. As soon as they are definitely settled, I will give you their address.

Has Frank been taken care of yet? It must be quite a task for you to manage a family of five yourself, in addition to your volunteer work. I hope you can get help very soon, and I do hope Frank won't have too long to wait for his operation.

Has Nina recuperated from her tonsillectomy? She certainly took her operation well.

Oh, yes, Mrs. Steyer — I realize you are very busy, but I'd like to ask a favor of you. I believe I left two shirts in either Peter or Nina's closet, a wine one and a plaid one. I would appreciate it even so much if, in your spare time, you could mail them to me. Thank you.

Please give my greetings to
all.

Most sincerely,
Mary Hayes

P. S. I would enjoy hearing from
you at any time.

Thank you again for the
grand notebook. It's certainly
a lifesaver.

GILA RIVER RELOCATION CENTER
CANAL CAMP
RIVERS, ARIZONA

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SEP 17 1943

September 13, 1943

Mrs. Lawrence D. Steffel
2808 River Road West
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Mrs. Steffel:

I have given the information from
your letter to Dr. George Suda. I
am sure that you will hear from
him soon as he has his own tools
and is so anxious to relocate.

Thanking you for your sincere
interest in this case and the
trouble that you have gone through
for his interest.

Sincerely,
Luille Peadar

but I should appreciate your keeping me in mind. Will you please let me know if there are any possibilities of getting work for this season in some social service organization. If there are no ^{such} possibilities, I am planning to apply for work in department stores, such as Montgomery Ward. As I have a civil service rating for typist-clerk, I have also thought of post office work. I understand that it is more important for you to work on those aiming for permanent positions. When you should get around to my case, please let me hear from you.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,
Hanko Kuratomi

P.S. I visited Prof. Lowry Nelson at The University and learned that Mr. Stuefel is professor of History at The U. also.

SEP 17 1943

Hamline University
St. Paul 4, Minn.
September 14, 1943

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Dear Mrs. Stufel -

Now that the summer is at an end, may I thank you for having secured the job of five weeks for me. Although I did not enjoy the work by any means, I realize that it was valuable experience chiefly in that it increased my understanding of one type of occupation that I did not know much of before.

You heard from Mrs. Marfield of our little argument. I am sorry it occurred; yet it did look of us some good. We made a settlement, & I remained until last Saturday morning, when the dormitory opened. Needless to say, I counted the days to that Saturday.

For the next school year I have part-time work in the dorm and shall probably help Mrs. Compton, wife of one of our professors, for whom I worked during summer session. During Christmas vacation (December 17 - January 3), however, I am thinking about trying to get some temporary ^{full-time} work. There is much time,



BERNHARD W. LE VANDER
DIRECTOR

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SECURITY
DIVISION OF SOCIAL WELFARE

GLOBE BUILDING—FOURTH AT CEDAR
SAINT PAUL

EDWIN J. SIMONS, M. D.
CHIEF, MEDICAL UNIT

September 14, 1943

MALVIN J. NYDAHL, M. D., HEAD
BUREAU FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN

Re: Fukumi Frank Ishikawa - Sec 4092
Minneapolis -- Hennepin

Mrs. Lawrence D. Steefel
c/o Abbott Hospital
110 East 18th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Steefel:

I have enclosed an authorization for Frank's orthopedic care under the Bureau for Crippled Children. As we discussed over the phone yesterday, Frank is to be admitted to Abbott Hospital late Wednesday afternoon, September 15th and his operation is scheduled for Thursday morning. When ready, he will be transferred to Vocational Hospital for convalescent care.

Please call me at the office, Nestor 2653, if I can help out with any questions you may have about this boy's care.

Sincerely yours,

EDWIN J. SIMONS, M. D., CHIEF
MEDICAL SERVICES UNIT

By: *Dorothy Bostrom*

Dorothy Bostrom
Bureau for Crippled Children

EJS:db:mjh
CC/Hpn. County Welfare Board
Gertrude Johnson



George M. Suda D. D. S.

941 E STREET. Block 16-5-A
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA

September 14, 1943

Dear Mrs. Steefel:

I have received your letter to Miss Paddy, Canal Educational Counselor, with great interest and will send you a transcript of my record as soon as possible.

I ^{have} graduated from University of California and have been in practice for three years. I have always been interested in furthering my clinical experiences especially along oral surgery, and will accept any offer in any institution, clinic or hospital.

My first choice is to take up graduate work and work part time. or if I can obtain this experience in oral surgery at some clinic or hospital while working, that would suit me fine.

George M. Suda D. D. S.

941 E STREET,

FRESNO, CALIFORNIA

My second choice would be to supplement my private practice work with some institutional work like you have suggested. And my last choice would be to work under another dentist. I would be rather skeptical of starting a private practice in a strange place. I have my latest equipment stored in California. However, isn't a state license required or is there a reciprocity of licenses with California?

I appreciate very much your interest in me, and any further information you desire, please write to me and I will send them as soon as possible. Hoping to hear from you soon, I am

Most sincerely yours,

George M. Suda

September 20, 1943

Father Daisuke Kitagawa
5013-B Tulelake Project
Newell, California

Dear Father Kitagawa:

Thank you for the summary of your report. I think it round in fact in conclusion. Could it be possible for you to let me have six additional copies? I should like to put these into the hands of Mr. George Rundquist, National Resettlement Secretary, Rev. Raymond Bragg, of the Unitarian Service Committee, Mrs. Charles Leems, wife of Dean Leems of Minneapolis, and a member of our committee. I should like, also, to have a copy or two for the Minister's Conference here which meets monthly, and which should have much to contribute to such activity.

May I thank you for your great help with the Ishikawa family. Frank was operated upon last Thursday. The doctor says he was all satisfied with the results of the operation. The hip will be rigid after the cast is removed, but the condition will be far better than formerly. Instead of the legs being six or seven inches different in length, they will be the same or nearly the same length. There will be far less danger of a slip which might mean a spinal condition which would result in paralysis.

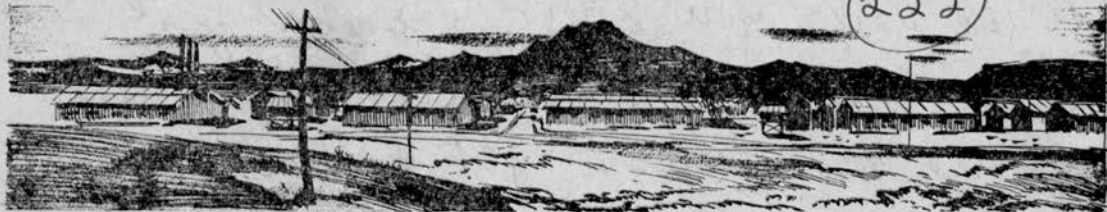
Frank's brother returns from Mississippi in time to be with him before and after the operation. Frank was in excellent spirits, and we shall try our best to organize visits so that there will be a visitor or more daily and so that gifts will provide the fresh fruit and vegetables he loves so much to eat and which will be good for him.

Reverend Raymond Bragg is visiting Frank today. He is understanding and kind. I fear most the sense of loss when the brother goes off to active duty which may come anytime. The two sisters are not here. They are both in the same home. It is the home of a middle aged woman. She has had a Nisei woman working for her for several months, who is soon to have a baby. She is planning to see the girl through her confinement. She asked me for help some weeks ago, so there would not be too much work for the young mother, so there would be someone there to take care of her!

With greetings, and thanks for the material you have sent.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Lawrence L. Stedtel
Volunteer Secretary, Minneapolis War Relocation Committee



Colorado River War Relocation Project

II Poston, Arizona Sept. 25-43

Dear Sheila:

By night, This should be sent to your office because in a way it is a business letter, but I cannot remember the exact phrasing of your official title, and anyway, I want to say hello, and how are you, and what are your two smart offspring doing? So it is just as well to send this to your home - hope it finds you well and peppy.

Speaking of pep - I saw Winifred in Phoenix a week ago, and you should see her in the citizen's service club. Not USO - but all volunteer except two secretaries - and every thing free

To the boys. You should see that girl! One
beaming smile - except ~~to~~ when
some one tries to get fresh - She's still
slender enough that an occasional
rough neck makes a mistake - but she
enjoys putting him in his place - and
she loves her job - The service men
^{Phoenix}
say the club is one of the best anywhere,
What's grand too, is that it is beginning
to serve the women in uniform. ~~too~~.

Ted's husband is just as nice as ever,
and her girls are darlings.

At our summer training session,
I met several women who had worked
in the Indian service with Alden
Newitt. Of course, They all spoke of her
with admiration and affection.

With this preliminary budget of news -
I'll proceed to the point of my letter;



Colorado River War Relocation Project

Poston, Arizona

Do you know of any jobs available for two young Japanese-American girls who are now doing secretarial work in the office of the director of this project? One is a graduate of a junior college, Calif. - both very quiet, pleasant, competent, and loyal. They already have their leave clearance, so if you know of any jobs, will you ask Mr. Harold Mann, in Imps. WPA office, to wire for them in this camp - Poston II. Also there is a young married couple experienced in business. The husband now a shoe clerk in the local canteen. The girls are over

Mariko Harada and Thelma Kawakami.

The couple are Mr. + Mrs. Mitsuo Ikeda.

Thank you for any attention you
may give this, deila - I hope it won't
be too long before we can have a
visit again.

affectionately

Sue Thompson Evans.

Referred

Mrs. L. H. Harding

OCT 01 1943

Mrs. David Friedman
2719 Humboldt So. Apt. A.
Ke 2610
Landress.
Linn woman -
8 woman apt.

Sept. 28, 1943
73-13-28
Rivers,
Arizona

Mrs. Stefel
2808 West River Rd.
Minneapolis, Minnesota

(215)

My dear Mrs. Stefel,

I was recently recommended to you for assistance in securing a domestic job by a couple of girls in Minneapolis that had been previously aided by you.

My first plan was to enter a school this semester but since it is rather late to enter I would like to work in a home where they would be willing to let me go in the earlier part of next year to enter school.

I have a little experience in general housework and assisting in cooking while working part time during high school. I have recently graduated high school.

Any assistance will be greatly appreciated. Thanking you I remain
Gratefully yours,
Florence Koda

510 Adm.

~~7:30~~

5-6:40

7:30-9:10

~~7:30~~

5-6:40

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6555

Minneapolis Sept 21 1943

Received of Implo War Relocation (Mrs Steefel)

Fifteen & ^{no}/₁₀₀ Dollars

for Julia Sakai

Tuition for _____ term.

Matriculation fee 1/2 year.
1943-44

Miss Wood's Kindergarten and Primary Training School

\$ 15.00

Annette L. Abbott

Secretary

Cash
Check

15.00

\$5.00 check given to Julia Sakai

September 27, 1943

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Dear Mrs Steeple,

This is just a little note of my sincere thanks and appreciation for all you have done for me.

at the present moment, I feel most grateful to you of all the persons in the world because I believe I'm the happiest niece girl in Minneapolis.

I am happily adjusted at school. The girls have been just wonderful to me. They have gone out of their

way to be kind to me. Everybody greets me with a friendly smile.

The teachers too are such nice interesting people. I enjoy my courses so much.

at the present time, I am trying to catch up in what I have missed for two weeks.

I am not a brilliant student but I am going to try my hardest to be worthy of the scholarship, and all the help I have received from you.

May I call on you again when I need help and advice?

Thank you so much.

Most Gratefully,
Julia Sakai

MINISTERS

BAPTIST
KENSABURO IGARASHI
EPISCOPAL
DAISUKE KITAGAWA
METHODIST
ISAAC INOUE
SUENOSHIN KAWASHIMA
SEIICHI NIWA
YONOSUKE SASAKI
SHIGEO TANABE
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ITSUJI MATSUSHIMA
INDEPENDENT
JOHN S. FUJIMURA
HISASHI SANO
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
DAISUKE KITAGAWA
OFFICE SECRETARY
MISS KIYO OGAWA

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TULELAKE UNION CHURCH

3001-D



TULELAKE WRA PROJECT



NEWELL, CALIFORNIA

September 29, 1943

Mrs. S. D. Steefel
407 S 4th Street
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Mrs. Steefel,

Thank you so much for your letter of September the 20th. I am greatly relieved to know that the results of Frank Ishikawa's operation have been very satisfactory. The parents, of course, were extremely happy to know that and they left this Project a few days ago for another Center, which I don't remember for the moment. It is very kind of you to have made all those arrangements for Frank and also for his two sisters. I am looking forward to seeing them under your care in the near future.

Under separate cover, I am sending you six copies of my report. I thank you for your compliment about it and I am glad if it could be of any help to you and others who are interested in the problem. May I call your attention to my article in the "Living Church Magazine" a few weeks ago? Rev. John Higgins of the Gethsemane Church will be glad to loan you a copy. I am planning to write another article on the segregation problem in the nearest possible future. At present, I am extra-ordinarily busy to help the people for segregation movement. All the Ministers of Tulelake Union Church are gone, and one Baptist Minister has come as a segregree and I am doing the best I can to make it easy for him to carry on the Christian Ministry in this Center, which, undoubtedly, is the most difficult task to perform.

Tentatively I am planning to leave Tulelake in the last part of October, heading for East. Where I shall be definitely stationed, is up to the Board of Domestic Mission and they are going to decide that at the General Convention which is meeting in Cleveland in the first week of October. I am anxious to come around to Minneapolis at least for a visit to see you and others. May God bless you and your co-workers. With warm greetings, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Daisuke Kitagawa
Daisuke Kitagawa

Oct. 1, 1943

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My Dear Mrs. Steffe-

I am terribly sorry for the delay in informing you of Frank's condition — perhaps you have already gone to visit him. I had called you once to find you out and since then have been quite busy, because two girls here have decided to take their vacations this week resulting in my working late in the evenings.

Frank was overjoyed in receiving your apricot jam! He said, since he could not get near a telephone, for me to "Thank you very much" for him. He showed us some pictures of you so proudly. We think he is well on the "road to recovery".

Thanks to you, Mrs. Steefle. He gets along well with the other patients in his ward and I thought he seemed pretty well satisfied with everything. He talked endlessly - showing us letters, pictures - and about the doctor and the nurses - all we did was to feed him and listen (as though he was "letting off steam" if you will pardon my slang, Mrs. Steefle.) As we were leaving some hour and a half later, his former teacher at camp came to visit him so that made his day quite a cheery one.

Thank you again, Mrs. Steefle, for every thing. Our kindest and fondest regards to Mr. Steefle and to Rita.

Very sincerely yours,
Alice

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October 4, 1943

Miss June Yamashita
2-24-E
Heart Mountain, Wyoming

Dear Miss Yamashita:

Since you are interested in securing a position in Minneapolis, I would suggest that you write to Mrs. Lawrence Steefel, 2808 West River Road, Minneapolis. Mrs. Steefel is working as a volunteer in the U.S. Employment Service office and has assumed responsibility for helping Japanese Americans secure employment in Minneapolis.

It is my opinion that there is a considerable shortage of stenographers and typists in Minneapolis at this time and I do not believe you will have much difficulty in securing a position here. If you do secure a position and wish to have us reserve a room for you at the Y.W.C.A. while you are getting permanently located, we shall be glad to do so if you will let us know well in advance of your coming. Rooms rent for \$1.25 a night and cubicles are 75¢ a night.

There is a possibility that there may be a vacancy in our office staff a little later on but we have none at the present time. We have three Japanese Americans on our office staff and would be glad to consider you if there happens to be another vacancy.

Very sincerely yours,

Edna H. Porter
General Secretary

EHP:MC
cc: Mrs. Lawrence Steefel

C O P Y

108

2-24-E
Heart Mountain,
Wyoming

September 29, 1943

Mrs. Edna H. Porter
Executive Secretary
c/o Minneapolis Committee
on Resettlement
Minneapolis Y.W.C.A.
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Porter:

I am very interested in relocating in Minneapolis and am writing you regarding possible employment. I have also written previously to the WRA Office in Minneapolis and also to Mr. Reese.

After contacting the Relocation Office here at Heart Mountain they suggested that I write to you for information. I am eligible for Civil Service Jr. Stenographer and typist and recently was offered a position in Washington at Grade 3. It is my desire to get a position in the secretarial line.

I would appreciate it greatly if you would drop me a line about such possibilities.

I shall be glad to send you my qualifications.

Very truly yours,

June Yamashita

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Worker and her husband felt this to be a reasonably difficult problem for an evacuee in a strange city, and they invited the girl to come to their home as their guest for a period of two weeks. She did this, "camping out" on a day bed on a sun porch on the ground floor, sharing a bathroom with the maid whose room was next door.

When she came home from work she spent most of her time lying down. She helped the maid with the evening dishes which required about fifteen to twenty minutes work. She ate with the family, however, taking little part in the family conversation, but making asides to the seventeen year old son of the family. She got on well enough with the maid, and worked through her in making requests of the family.

She was dissatisfied with her work, and wanted to get more pay. On her free day therefor, she applied for other work. She was reported by one firm where they test all applicants for intelligence rating and clerical aptitude as being low-normal, just under ninety I.Q. and having little clerical aptitude. Worker advised her therefor, to stay with the job she had. She professed herself to be very depressed at the report to her, at this office, that they could not use her. But she was not bitter.

She kept the hangings in her room drawn at all times. She was not too neat about her belongings. She handled her own laundering, and kept her self quite neat. She preferred to wear slacks or riding breeches to cover her ankle. She limped a little. She was distressed about this, and her handicap. She went out with friends from time to time. She had very frequent phone calls. She was secretive about them. Her friends were apt to call for her in large cars. They never came into the house or into the drive for that matter. They left her at the end of the drive.

She spoke of her family while she was at worker's home. Saying that because of gossip her father would have nothing to do with her. She had had an automobile accident, whether in her own or someone's else car she did not say. The ankle had been operated on, but it could not be made completely well. She said life in the Center was unbearable because of gossip there. She could not dream of returning there. She hated Nisei and would have nothing to do with them, they gossip so. She would talk to Nisei by phone, but would have nothing to do with them socially, and did not wish to be identified with them.

Her baggage and her clothing were better than those of any other Nisei guest worker has had in her home. She has quantities of clothes, but she keeps to rather limited choices of slacks, blouses and jackets.

When it was time for her to leave she called many places, ostentatiously, about rooms. They were always too dear or they were badly located, or she was not accepted. She made considerable show of her distress at rejections. Finally after a week of complaining about the difficulty of walking with her ankle, having visited numerous places which she could have had, but which she felt she could not afford (ten to twelve dollars a month) she moved to the Kenesaw Hotel. She continued to bring pressure through the maid for us to keep her. We were, however, expecting another Nisei from a Center, for whom arrangements had been made previously, and we regretted the lack of room for a seventh person in the household.

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Since Heather left the house we have had phone calls from her from time to time. Often she has talked with the Nisei student who worked in the family this summer. Finally, about three weeks ago, she called saying that she had lost her job, that she could not bear to live where she is, and that she guessed she would have to take domestic work again. Worker turned her over to Mrs. Duncan with the suggestion that that was Mrs Duncan's field of employment. Mrs Duncan and worker then did their utmost to have the girl go to F.W.A. for advise on her whole problem. She reiterated what she has often stated before, that they had told her when she left the Center that she would end up on relief and that if she did she would be returned to the Center. Both workers tried to have her understand that services from F.W.A. did not mean that she would have to accept a relief status, but that it might serve to prevent her having to accept that. She finally took a job however, continuing to live where she had had a room for some time. The woman with whom she lives sounds coars and offensive, but she continues to remain there.

PRESENT SITUATION:

10.4.43 Heather phoned worker to state that she has an infection in her ankle. She says that Dr. Myron O. Henry is caring for her. (401 Medical Arts Building, At. 4044.) She says she has been to see him three times. Once she said she went weekly, once every two weeks. She reports that he wants her to go to the hospital for a month. He takes his patients to N.W.Hospital. He says patients go there for him to care for them or they get another doctor. He told her to stay in bed, or he wouldn't be repsonsible.

She says that she had a blister, and it developped into an infection. It healed over nicely on the outside, then one day at work, she had pain in her legs, chills and didn't know what was wrong. She asked worker for a hot plate to heat water in her room for hot packs. She says she lied to the doctor telling him she would stay at home, but that she can't afford to, because she must earn her salary.

She is living at 3008-31st Ave S. (Du. 4378, ask them to have her call you as they are annoyed if they have to come upstairs and call her.) She says that she is supposed to work for her room and board there, but that she can stay there for three dollars a week for room and board. She wants to stay there. She has been in hospitals so much before. She plans to continue to work and care for leg with hot packs.

She is working as Cashier at Funheims, 14th and Nicollet. Is paid 45¢ and hour and her hours are eleven A.M. to eight P.M. save on Saturdays when she works until midnight. She says they have slot machines there.

Worker advised her that she should be cared for with the help of emrgency medical funds available for evacuees, and aksed, provided they could be arranged for, if she would be willing to apply to F.W.A. for them. She said she would not wish relieve Worker explained that this is a service agency for just such cases as these, and said she would inquire what could be done. Heather spoke with relief of "That would be wonderful." It was left that worker would talk to the doctor, would

find out what could b

find out what could be done, and would call her this evening.

Worker then cleared with War Relocation Officer Mann, (Ma. 3244, Ext 279.) Mr. Mann said that this seemed a case for a private Welfare Agency. He said if the girl could accept that, she should be referred. If not, Welfare cases are not his function, and while he would be glad to advise, he would not wish to handle it himself. He would be glad to have Volunteer worker handle the problem under the War Relocation Committee, or under whatever other agency she could get guidance and supervision from. Officer and Worker agreed that the case should be referred to F.W.A. and an attempt made to have girl report to that agency to discuss her problems.

Called F.W.A., Mrs Mayberg, who referred to Mrs. Simms. Agreed: Worker will call Dr. Henry and get medical picture, prognosis, time and costs likeley to be involved, report them to F.W.A., and try, in next interview, to have Heather report to Mrs. Simms.

I hope this gives you what I have which may be of use.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Lawrence D. Steefel
Volunteer Placement Secretary
War Relocation Committee, Minneapolis.

War Relocation Desk
407 S. 4th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota

October 5, 1943

Mrs. Gr C. Mayberg
Family Welfare Association
Citizen's Aid Building
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Mayberg:

I have been in touch with you, earlier, about Heather Myaky. She is a Nisei girl who reported, earlier this spring, at the War Relocation Desk for employment. She stated her age was eighteen, that she had had experience as a cashier, and that she wished to do clerical work. At that time she reported a number of times to the desk, always in the company of a Caucasian friend. She complained of a badly swollen ankle which made walking difficult. She said housework would be out of the question because she must have work which would permit her to sit the greater part of the time. She did a good deal of walking, however which she could have saved herself, window shopping etc., saying that it was so long since she had been able to do so, while confined in a War Relocation Center, that she couldn't resist it.

Her appearance was sometimes neat and extremely well-groomed. At other times she was literally "down at the mouth", her clothing soiled and her hair uncombed for. She always wore makeup, colorful, but intelligently used for her features. She is pretty, gentle, and not aggressive. She is persistent, however, and not beneath putting on a dramatic expression of her inner feelings.

She finally accepted a part-time job as a domestic worker at seven dollars a week. She complained during frequent visits to the desk that the work was bad for her ankle, that she was not earning enough to pay her doctor's bill, and that she wished for a chance to take clerical work. She claimed she had to see the doctor twice a week. Then worker checked with the doctor, he said he had seen her just once. She continued, however, to play on the employer to release her twice a week for a half day for medical treatments.

At the Desk she was appealing, and used good judgement in her approach and in her arguments. Finally she said she had learned of a clerical job and had applied for it. They said they would take her, but she didn't have money enough to wait for the first pay check, as all she had was her latest seven dollar pay check which would not cover food costs and down payments on a room until she fortnight had passed.

War Relocation Desk
407 S. 4th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota

October 5, 1943

Miss June Yamashita
2-24-E Heart Mountain,
Wyoming

Dear Miss Yamashita,

I am sorry that your eyes were in bad condition when Miss Watanabe left the Center. We had a good job for you at that time. The general field here, in clerical work, is opening up now, and I feel confident that we will be able to place you when you come out.

As we have written you before, so much depends upon the personal interview that it is wiser to come to the city, stay, temporarily with friends or at the YFCA, and select for yourself one of the jobs which is open. There were two jobs open when Miss Watanabe came, and she chose the first one on which she was interviewed.

The current salaries are apt to begin at \$85.00 a month. There are a few at \$90.00. but wages are increasing for clerical work because of the shortages here.

If you are planning to come, let me know when you will leave the Center and I shall arrange for a room for you at the YFCA unless you have other arrangements. Then take a cab to the YFCA which is not far from the station.

We are at the War Relocation Desk Monday Wednesdays and Fridays one to four P.M. and I shall be glad to have an interview with you when you are rested up from your trip.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Lawrence D. Steefel
Volunteer Placement Secretary, Minneapolis
War Relocation Committee

(160)

2349 North Catalina
Los Angeles 27, California
October 5, 1943

Dear Mrs. Steefel:

I am prompted to write you by a letter which I have just received from Aiko Saguro. She tells me of her desire to undertake work of a secretarial nature, and speaks so gratefully of the kindnesses you have shown her. Since she is naturally quite timid, such help and encouragement as you can give her will be most beneficial.

I suspect I should tell you of my interest in Aiko. She was with me in my home for some three years, during which time I came to admire her for her industry and ability; and to respect her for her trustworthiness and her all-around fine character. I should add that I have a very warm feeling of affection for her.

Naturally, in the light of my regard for Aiko, I am very hopeful that she will be successful in finding a "niche" of her liking. Anything you can do to help and guide her will be greatly appreciated by me. In turn, I desire to do anything I can to be helpful to Aiko; and if any situation arises in which you think I might be of assistance, I shall appreciate it very much if you will call on me.

Sincerely yours,

(Thur w. j) *G. M. van Valkenburgh*
VAN VALKENBURGH

Mrs. Laurence Steefel
War Relocation Desk
407 South Fourth Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota

215

October 5, 1943

Miss Florence Koda
73-13-D Rivers Relocation Center
Arizona

Dear Miss Koda:

In answer to your letter of September 28. I have already asked that the Minneapolis write for your clearance to Minneapolis.

My suggestion is that you come on, letting me know when you will reach here as soon as you can. We will reserve a room for you at the YMCA. When you come in take a cab to the YMCA which is not far from the station, and phone me at Drexel 8863. We are at the War Relocation Desk Monday Wednesday and Fridays one to four in the afternoon. That office is at 407 South Fourth Street. We will be glad to have you come in for an interview as soon as you are rested up after the trip.

We have a number of domestic jobs open. Whether the same job would apply when you start to school is not certain, but we have both full time jobs and schoolgirl jobs. The amount of pay depends on your experience and the amount of responsibility you can take for cooking etc. That we can discuss with you when you come. The minimum is about \$50.00 a month. We may be able to find you something that pays more. Something, also, depends on your age.

Please drop me a card and let me know when you are planning to leave the Center.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs Lawrence Steffel
Volunteer Secretary, Minneapolis War Relocation Committee

156

118 Madison St.
Northfield, Maine.
Oct. 7, 1943



Ans. Oct 10 -
Box sent Oct 13/43

Dear Mrs. Stegel,

I hope everyone is well and isn't too pressed with work. As for myself, I'm still plugging at my studies. It seems one is never really finished with that.

It's been a question whether you received my first letter or not. You are, undoubtedly, very busy, too busy, in fact, to answer, if you did, nor to send on my shirts. Did you find them in Nina or Pelli's closet - after I had thought a bit, I think I left two shirts, a vest and a pig-skin leather belt. I'm so sorry to interrupt your busy life with such trivial matters, but I'd be grateful if you can forward them to me.

My sister wrote to me last week. They are now in Heart Mountain N. R. A. Wyoming. She is quite pleased with the cleanliness of the camp in comparison to Gule Lake, although the structure is still similar. It was such a relief to know that they are well - I hadn't heard from the family for a

156



month. For your information,
their address is:

156

Tom Hayano

28-14-E

Hl. Mountain
Hyaning.

I imagine Peter is enjoying
his second semester at Haverford.
The enrollment must be rather small
with the men going into service.

In Hl. Olaf we have 570 some girls
to 96 boys; we feel fortunate in
having as many as 96 at this time.

You know I dreamt about you
last night. I had visited you during
one weekend, and you had lost
so much weight over your worry
in the H.R.A. Volunteer Work that I
couldn't recognize you. I don't
know what could have been responsible
for such a dream, but I certainly
hope you haven't lost weight to
that extent.

It is quite late now, 12:15 P.M.
to be exact, so will close.

Hoping to hear from you soon,

Sincerely,

Mary

P.S. Please say "hello" to Nina and
Mr. Steyer.

224

1110 So. 7th St.
Mpls., Minn.
Oct. 8, 1943

U. S. Employment Service
WRA Office

Dear Mrs. Stiffle:
Dear Mrs. Duncan:

I am writing just a few lines to inform you that I am now employed by the Customs Laundry & Dry Cleaners at 4th Ave. & 15th St. I accepted this ^{position} ~~job~~ through the Cleaners & Laundry Institute recommended to me by your office.

I did not accept the job at Cook's Varnish and Paint Co. which was my first destination by your office; where upon my arrival the employer informed me to come back the next morning for another interview.

I have been looking forward for an opportunity to phone your office of my outcome but during the short time the WRA office is open I am busily engaged at duty, so I took this liberty to write to you. I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for all the aid and information I received from you.

Thank you again.

Sincerely yours,
Kazuo Miura.

October 11, 1943
November

107
28

Dear Mrs Steeple,

Thank you ever so much for helping me out on the streetcar fare. I am so grateful to you.

Robert Gordons Sabers was born on the 19th of October. He and the mother are getting along just fine.

I certainly enjoy the scenery of the beautiful snow. It's just like the Christmas cards isn't it? I love it!

I'm coming along fine in Mrs Wood's school. Everyone has been just perfect to me. I've never spent such happy days as I am now.

My other brother Tom is coming to visit us this Friday. He has been touring the country to see how the Nisei are getting along in relocation. He finds that majority of them are adjusted happily.

I am now a Y.W.C.A. Hostess to the Camp Savage boys on Saturday nights. I enjoy it very much.

Attend Hennepin Methodist Church and think it's a grand church. I attend their "University of Life" groups in evening and gain much inspiration and knowledge.

Thank you again Mrs. Steepul for every thing!

Gratefully,
Julia

213

Oct. 13, 1943
73-13-D
Rivers, Arizona

Mrs Lawrence Steffel
2808 West River Road
Minneapolis, Minn.

My dear Mrs. Steffel,

I am very grateful ^{to} you for your kind and immediate reply.

As you know I was very anxious to leave the center to work at the state school this coming semester. The Student Reloc. officer here has advised me against leaving. I definitely have an acceptance from a school so I'm afraid I shall have to refuse your very bright offer.

Thanked you very much for your kind offer and help, I remain,

Gratefully yours,
Florence Koda

George M. Suda D. D. S.

941 E STREET 16-3-A.
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA RIVERS, ARIZONA

(211)

October 14, 1943

Dear Mrs. Steffel -

Enclosed find copy of
transcript record of W.R.A. that
you requested -

Here's hoping you have
some good news.

Most sincerely,
G.M. Suda.

Mrs Lawrence D. Steefel
Volunteer Placement Secretary

106 OCT 15 1943

Dear Mrs. Steefel:-

I am out on seasonal work in Payette,
Idaho - but am still very much interested
in obtaining employment in your Territory and
would appreciate it very much if you will
let me know if anything comes up -

SEP 17 1943

2673

Sakae Neguma

SARAK NIGUMA
#5A CAMP
ONTARIO, OREGON



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

War Relocation Desk
407 S. 4th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota

OCT 29 1943

223

22-9-A
c/o Counselor's Office
Hunt, Idaho
October 19, 1943

223
Dear Rev. Hayashi,

I hope that you and your family are well and happy, as usual. We certainly enjoyed reading your very interesting letter. Thank you so much.

Am still Mr. Sandoz's secretary. He has moved into the Project now.

Around the middle of November, I plan to relocate to Minneapolis with my best friend, who was transferred to this Project from Tule Lake. I was wondering how the job situation is there. I would like very much to get into secretarial work (preferably in social work). Have a Civil Service rating.

I understand that apartments are hard to obtain now. We would like to get an apartment, conveniently located, and reasonable in price. That's expecting quite a bit, I'm afraid.

Would you be kind enough to let me know about the housing situation and also about jobs? Have written to Mr. Mann, Relocation Officer in that area. Would like very much to have something lined up before leaving Minidoka.

Am 29 years of age, an American citizen, graduate of Lincoln High School in Seattle, Washington, and the Wilson's Modern Business College of that city. Worked for three months at the Pacific School as clerk, worked for three months as stenographer for Asahi Industrial & Trading Company, Seattle, was employed for almost eight years as secretary for Yamacho & Company, importers and exporters, in Seattle. After the outbreak, was employed part-time as stenographer for Mr. Wilmer Culver, Seattle, until evacuation.

Can take shorthand, type, file, cut stencils, and other general office work.

Am very, very anxious to get out and get started on the outside. It will be so nice seeing you and your family again. Please give my love to Eugene, Leland and Mrs. Hayashi.

We're having our first snow this year. It's getting so cold.

Hope to be seeing you folks soon. May I hear from you about Minneapolis?

Sincerely,

P. S. Ise and George are getting married this month and are planning to live in Twin Falls for about six months.



485571
Sent
OCT 29 1943
(218)

Heart Mountain, Wyoming
October 20, 1943.

Dear Mrs. Lawrence Steffel:-

My brother (Jack Kawamoto)
was in to inquire about my work.

He had asked me to write
you and let you know about
myself.

I am 36 years old
and have been in the Dress-
making and Tailoring business
for about 15 years.

Making ladies coats, suits
dresses and evening wear in my
own home.

I would like to find a place
in a nice shop as a fitter
or experienced seamstress.

If you would like, I will
be able to get some letters

of recommendations from my
clients back home.

Thanking you,
I remain.

Mrs. Maryann Kobayashi

Maryann Kobayashi
24-13-F

Heart Mountain
Wyoming.



BERNHARD W. LE VANDER
DIRECTOR

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SECURITY
DIVISION OF SOCIAL WELFARE

GLOBE BUILDING—FOURTH AT CEDAR
SAINT PAUL (1)



October 21, 1943

Mrs. Lawrence D. Steefel
2808 West River Road
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Steefel:

Miss Evelyn Hersey, the Assistant Commissioner of Immigration & Naturalization, of Washington, D. C. expects to be in St. Paul on October 26. She will be available to discuss the problem of interned persons and their families.

There will be a meeting on Tuesday, October 26, at two o'clock - Room 500, Globe Building.

Since you have been active in working with this problem in Minneapolis, we would like very much to have you attend this meeting. We have also asked Mr. Hertel, Mr. Reese and Mrs. Devney to be present.

Yours very truly,

SOCIAL SERVICES UNIT
Jarle Leirfallom, Chief

By:

Norman L. Anderson
Norman L. Anderson, Head
Bureau of Public Assistance

NLA:VA

bed are

K amura

2808 West River Road
Minneapolis, Minnesota
October 24, 1943

Mr. George Rundquist
Resettlement Committee
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Rundquist:

Some rather important changes are being considered by the Minneapolis War Relocation Committee. Among others, the dropping of our employment work. The general argument from that part of the committee in favor of giving up the Desk is that too many Nisei are coming to the city for their own and the cities welfare at the end of the war. There is much duplication of effort, as there is bound to be, and the new Relocation Officer, Mr. Harold Mann, states that his office can handle the work adequately. Others of the committee feel that dropping the committees work will not lessen the influx of Nisei, that with one office Secretary and a whole state to cover, Mr Mann's office cannot handle the work adequately, and the volunteers are doubtful that their work is indispensable since there seems no way to avoid duplication and gain cooperation.

Mr. Dillon Myer is to be here Monday, November 8th. Apparently the plans of the WRA office are to be made on the basis of the committee's decision on the matter. As usual, we know nothing of what they propose. Shirell is here this week end, but, so far as I know, is not seeing any part of the committee.

I am wondering if there is any chance of your coming on either when Mr. Myer is here, to meet with the committees for discussion when he does or close to that time.

There has been a growing tendency on the part of the Committee to think of itself as a creation to serve the WRA. Not remembering that it has a quite separate existence and origin and reason for being. As with all Governmental agencies, the WRA talks not as though it were an agent of the people, but as though it is their master. (It will not be the Committee which will decide how many people are to come to Minneapolis, but the temper of the city and the WRA, said Mr Mann.) Such statements make the committee more determined to stop the increase in numbers, and the heat generated makes it forget that it was organized to solve the problem of a racial minority to the very limit that the city can accept the solution. In other words, we need to be reminded of the other side of the picture.

I hope it may be possible for you to make the trip you mentioned as a possibility when you were here this summer. This would be a fruitful time for conference, and might prevent unfortunate decisions.

I am working up the material for which you asked, and shall have it ready before long.

Greetings to Mrs Rundquist & yourself.

G.L.S.

COMMITTEE ON RESETTLEMENT OF JAPANESE AMERICANS

Sponsored Jointly

by

The Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America

The Home Missions Council of North America

in cooperation with

The Foreign Missions Conference of North America

GEORGE E. RUNDQUIST
Executive Secretary

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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J. QUINTER MILLER
Secretary-Treasurer
ROSWELL P. BARNES
MARK A. DAWBER
JOHN W. THOMAS

297 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

October 27, 1943.

Mrs. Lawrence Steefel,
2808 West River Road,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Mrs. Steefel:

I think that there is an obligation on my part to meet with your Committee, if you think that I can be at all helpful.

Although I had planned to remain east until after the 17th of November, I could arrange to join with members of the Minneapolis Committee on November 8th if that seemed desirable; or prior to that date, November 5th or 6th, if it seems wiser to meet together as private citizens interested in the welfare of the evacuees and whose primary concern is in the evacuees and not in the policies of a governmental agency. I shall be guided by the decision of the Committee as to the date they think it best that I join with them.

Alice Rundquist was glad to know that I had had a note from you. It seems that when we think of Minneapolis now, we think of Mrs. Steefel and the very pleasant visit we had with you and your good husband. She joins me in best wishes to both you and Doctor Steefel.

Sincerely yours,

George E. Rundquist
GEORGE E. RUNDQUIST
Executive Secretary.

3-310
GER/R.

op 74
Home
Applegate
7-2016

192
OT 1331

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

WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

1201

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C87NWX

10

DUPLICATE OF TELEPHONED TELEGRAM

HO NEWYORK NY 534P 0 CT30

MRS LAWRENCE D STEEFEL

2808 RIVER ROAD WEST MPLS

WILL COME TO MEETING THURSDAY ARRIVE WEDNESDAY NIGHT HOTEL

CURTIS

GEORGE E RUNDQUIST

355P

DR 8963 Mrs. S.
m. 507P mailed x

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

Copy to Mr. Rusk

October 29, 1943

Dear Mr. Robinson:

I enclose minutes of the meeting of the Sub-Committee on Employment of the War Relocation Committee which you may wish to present at the over-all committee meeting.

I have been thinking a good deal about the conclusions which may be drawn from the discussion at that meeting. Certainly, at this time we cannot say that we have the full cooperation of the War Relocation Officer. His attitude while not hostile, is resistant to any kind of coordinated planning. How long this will continue is a question; and another question, is, how long it is worth while to continue while waiting for it to come.

We are accustomed to this type of resistance. We had it at first with Mr. White. He, and Mr. Shirell seemed to fear, as Mr. Mann does now, that we in some way wish to encroach upon the Authority which they are vested with. Mr. White came to know that that was not so, and there grew up, during the later months of his stay a will to facilitate our working together which resulted in a minimum of duplication and a maximum of supplementation. He came to know, and in the nature of things as they are set up in the WRA it is true, that the final decision as to all Relocation here was in his hands. Moreover he knew that even if the mechanics had not put it there it was the wish of the committee that it should be there. He was the centralizing factor in the project.

This fear, may, in both cases come from Mr. Shirell. It may come from mistrust of volunteer help. I am sure, also that to some degree it comes from the changing factors in the whole undertaking. When Mr. White was here the committee sponsored newcomers from the centers. Jobs were scarcer, and the length of time, and the amount of money spent during the days of waiting for the first pay check were vitally important elements of placement planning.

At present, brothers and sisters are offering hospitality. That means that they, not we, do the clearing with the WRA office. That means that the Officer knows who is coming. May or may not take the trouble to get a full employment record preparatory to placement, while we are completely in the dark as to either the fact that they are coming, or as to the type of skills we should be opening up a job for. The cooperation we are asking for would enable us to get a work history before the boy or girl leaves camp, and have time to make ready for the first placement. Our files are full of referral of such information from Mr. White. It is, perhaps, natural that we got the impression that clearance of newcomers was pretty much the rule with him, as I stated at the meeting, (and which Mr. Mann was sure, from his observations not to have been the case).

Real cooperation came from Mr. White after the Shakoppee incident. At that time I served in an office which was hired next to his where I did exactly the work I had been doing with

Copy to
Mr. Reedquist

the work I had been doing at the USES, but using information from his files on jobs which were coming in. The alternative between coordination and separate effort is not complete access to WRA files, as Mr. Mann says he could not consider, (and which we do not ask) and no advance information which will help with placement and improve the chances for good jobs. It is something half way between which consists in the desire for help in advance planning and cooperation for the best possible job for each person coming. Without that spirit of good will based on the belief that there is value to what the WRA is doing in what we are doing, it would be better to call a halt to our efforts.

Fundamentally today the problem is to persuade Nisei to leave the Centers. Every lift to morale, every evidence of good planning and sincere effort to get the right job for each person coming out sends back word to someone in the Centers who is hesitant. The jobs are here. However poorly Mr Mann may think of clerical job wages here, it still remains true that to the girl who "has always wanted to be a secretary" and who got the chance in the past only on NYA, WRA or WPA, getting such a job is the realization of a dream. Certainly if local Caucasian girls can live on the pay, the Nisei, who is far more thrifty and generally more sound in appreciation of values can do it to. Our aim should be to help these people carry out their own plans wherever they are practical and reasonable. The system of having young women go out on several jobs, often far too many, because the USES is going through the motions of not denying them access to employment is not calculated to bring more Nisei out of the Centers! It is calculated to do exactly the opposite.

Turning to the statement of the USES that if the volunteers now there were to be taken away they would ask for others. It is commentary on the degree of confidence we have from the WRA when, in their work, they see less value in our effort than the USES does. It is the duty of the USES to make all jobs accessible to all citizens who ask for them, not their obligation to place all citizens in employment. But it is the Authority of the WRA to get people out of the Centers and this can be done only through placing them in jobs. It seems to me that we are about the work of the WRA to a far greater extent than we are about the work of the USES. Of course, we could redirect our cooperation and try to repair the shortcomings of the WRA rather than supplement their planning. That is, in fact, what we are now doing. I prefer prevention to cure. But provided we see clearly the limitations placed upon us in the latter role I feel so urgently the need of these people that I would be willing to accept that one if we cannot be permitted to have the other.

There is much truth in Mr Cooper's observation that some agencies do not know how to use volunteers, and that some volunteers try to run the agency. I do not see us as trying to run the WRA. That is not necessary for them to benefit by our assistance. It is also unnecessary that the WRA run us to get the best fruits of cooperation. We each have a function, and the Nisei would profit from the will between us to get the job done the best possible way.

Mr. Bragg suggests that we give it another month's try. (It took four months to win Mr. White over; and three months on Mr. Swenson.) Maybe it will come sooner with Mr. Mann. But the only way I know of winning people over is to let our work speak for itself. Meanwhile it is hard plugging, and our work is stalled. But I am willing to give it another month's try. I am grateful for the chance to do something to help. Meanwhile, do you think that your persuasions would be exerted in the direction of obtaining within the committee centralization of work and machinery which would get rid of duplication there?

Thanks very much for your cooperation and time and effort,

OCT 29 1943

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c/o Mrs. T. G. Somermeier
Route 2
Nampa, Idaho

Dear Reverend Hayashi:

I have been in receipt of your letter for quite some time now, but failed to answer you promptly because I have been indefinite in my mind as to what I will do. At present, I am in the town of Nampa doing housework for a couple of months, but after I am finished here, I don't know what I'll be doing. I am still planning to attend school, although I don't know when that will be, so I believe it would be best for me to go to Minneapolis as I had planned before.

Lately, I have heard reports that Minneapolis is a very good city to go to and there is a need for more workers, but according to letters from Mr. Harold Mann, the WRA Officer in that city, stenographic positions are not too numerous. He also said that there were many other jobs that were open to Nisei and paying just as well or more, but I'm afraid I'd like to stick to a stenographic job. You advise me to come first and then find a job, but I'm a bit afraid of going without a job because it's so far away and I'll be alone. Of course, if jobs are that numerous that I would have no trouble in locating one right away, I wouldn't be afraid to go without a job. Otherwise I would like to have something before going there.

Would you advise me to go at once or do you think it would matter if I waited till about the first of the year? Will you still be able to find a room for me? My job here will be finished some time in November--probably the middle, so if you think I should go as soon as possible, then I would leave immediately after my contract here is finished.

Please write me as soon as possible and let me know what I should do.

Sincerely,

Helen Kinoshita
Helen Kinoshita

P. S. Please give my regards to Mrs. Hayashi.

Sept. 2, 1943

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Dear Mrs. Steepl,

Just a line to let you know I'll be leaving Camp for Minneapolis Sept. 6 - plan to spend a few days in Denver with my brother and his wife - Mr. & Mrs. Paul Watanabe 2181 S. Columbine, Denver, 10, Colorado. Then arrive in Minneapolis Saturday - I think a train leaves Denver Friday afternoon, and arrives in Minneapolis Saturday nite. Shall come into see you, and am looking forward to that time. Mrs. S. Yamada

7-2-A

Hunt, Idaho



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Mrs. Lawrence L. Steepel
War Relocation Desk
407- S. 4th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota

202

115 Madison St.
Northfield, Minn.
Oct. 31, 1943

(156)

Dear Mrs. Steifel,

Thank you ever so much for taking time off to send me those clothes and also for writing. I do await your letters so.

I'm glad to hear Frank is coming along so well. He wrote to me last week and he says letters have been piling in, keeping him busy just answering them. I imagine this process of healing will be a long and tedious one.

Two weeks ago my brother, Texas, who was working for The Curtiss Candy Farm in Marengo, was critically injured in a tractor accident. Somehow he was caught in a revolving wheel pulling him under and mangling his leg. It was necessary to amputate his right leg just below the

As Sue probably mentioned before, economics is very uninteresting and I find the professor about as dull. Most of the students in the class occupy this hour by writing letters.

I haven't seen the Bryn-Jones as yet, but when I do, I'll be sure to give them your greetings. It isn't very often that I do go to that section of the town so it'll probably be quite some time before I see them.

I asked dad if mother received your letter and he said she did; also, she had my sister write to you. Have you heard from her? If not she probably will ^{write} soon, but the people who moved into Mt. Mans-
tain from Sule were a month late for school, so, undoubtedly, she is very busy with her studies.

Give my regards to Nina, and Mr. Steifel. I hope this letter finds all of you very healthy.

Most sincerely,
Mary

depressed about it so we are hoping till recovery very soon without too much complications.

I never realized the amount of make-up work that could accumulate within just a week. It keeps me well out of mischief attempting to finish various lessons. I hope Peter didn't have as difficult a time as I am.

I am glad you like your new help and also little Benny. There are two little boys here, too, who are very lively - Steve, one and half year and John, three years old. I look after them occasionally and at times, they are a handful. My work is very simple and hasn't occupy too much time - noon periods Monday through Friday and two afternoons a week are devoted to it. All my courses require a great deal of time, especially Spanish, which I find very interesting. I

certainly regret not having taken any foreign language in high school because in college the professor just seems to fly through the lessons.

knee. As tragic as this is we are thankful that he had no internal injury, but only bruises - severe bruises from head to foot. I went to see him and remained with him a week, and as I saw the small space in which he was caught, it seems a miracle that he didn't smash his head or receive other injuries.

My father also came out from Heart Mountain, Wyoming, which relieved both of us a great deal. It was just grand to be able to see him again although it wasn't under favorable condition. Mother was to have come, too, but unfortunately, she was out on a temporary work leave. Dad came on a Tuesday and flew for home the following Sunday. It was very hard to withstand the shock of Tasso's injury; my mother especially took it very hard. However Tasso isn't too