

Letter from Harry Bentley Wells to Dillon S. Myer

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Manzanar, California
March 23, 1943

From: Harry Bentley Wells
Teacher
Manzanar War Relocation Area
Manzanar, California

To: Dillon S. Myer
Director,
War Relocation Authority
Washington, D.C.

Subject: Leave application reference for Masaye Nakahira

Attention: Employment Division

Dear Sir:

I have known Masaye Nakahira since about October 15, 1942, as a student in the high senior Social Problems course and as a member of the Senior A class of Manzanar High School, Winter, 1943.

As her teacher in high senior Social Problems, I can say that she was active in class discussion, prompt and thorough in her preparation of written work, good in her examinations, and in general a very superior student.

As a co-advisor of the Senior A class, I observed that she was one of the most active of the whole group. Much of the success of the organization as well as work carrying through the senior graduation under almost unsurmountable difficulties was due to her unflagging interest and effort.

At the same time she was carrying on her last term's work in high school and was busy with senior activities, she was also working part-time as secretary in the physical education department.

During the past few months I have had the opportunity to know Masaye Nakahira quite well, and it is my conclusion that she is thoroughly Americanized even to the point of feeling more at home among Caucasians than among people of her own race. My opinions are borne out by the good report of teachers and others in the community here at Manzanar.

Respectfully,
Harry Bentley Wells