

before I  
forget

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- FOREWORD -

This "Scrap Book" was assembled in order to perpetuate some of the memories of life in an Internment Camp during World War II.

Naturally it is the happy memories here. The unpleasant memories are scattered through this book too, but they are hidden and only the trained eye will detect them.

I am happy to have you read it, if you find it entertaining and enjoyable, but if at any time you feel a hatred or deep resentment towards these people - please - do not go any further. Remember you will see only the pleasant side of Camp Life. Your eye is not trained to detect the other side.

It is well to remember that these people were born into their way of life, as we were born into ours. They are the product of their environment as we are of ours. As individuals they had a certain right to the "pursuit of happiness" as they saw it. If, as human beings they erred, a certain amount must be credited to their ignorance.

The average Japanese knew less about the average American, than the average American knew about the Japanese, and both knew and felt just what their leaders wanted them to know and feel.

I am not upholding the Japanese in this War. I only wish to point out the fact that the average everyday Japanese was no more to blame than was the average everyday American.

For many of them, among the Japanese Group especially, life in this Internment Camp was their first contact with the American way of life, and therefore, all Americans were judged by their reaction towards us.

They learned that we could be stern, but that we would much rather be kind, generous, fair, just, always humane.

The majority of these Enemy Aliens returned to their native country, and we hope that the children especially who are to be the future citizens of these foreign countries, will retain only pleasant memories of us, and therefore, of all Americans, and that in this way, we have contributed to Peace in the years to come.

IS THERE ANY BETTER PROPAGANDA ?

May F. Clark.



MY INTERNMENT CAMP SCRAP BOOK

DEDICATED TO

MY CO-WORKERS

WHOSE COMBINED EFFORTS MADE THIS INTERNMENT  
PROGRAM SOMETHING OF WHICH OUR COUNTRY SHOULD  
BE PROUD.