

With liberty and justice for all

By Margery Anderson
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The tall, stately flag pole swayed majestically and gleamed in the morning sun as though anticipating its dedication ceremony. The crowd stood expectantly awaiting the beginning of the ceremony. Then up, up, up, went the banner as the stars and stripes unfurled in the morning breeze. A proud and erect Japanese Boy Scout arose to lead the throng in the pledge of allegiance. The words of this oath were so familiar that I said them almost without thinking. Suddenly with painful realization, I uttered the last few words - "With liberty and justice for all."

How inappropriate these words were! As I looked about me, I could see the barbed-wire fence stretching as far as the eye could see. This surely was not a symbol of liberty. Looking at the mass of upturned faces, I began to realize the injustice of putting loyal

citizens with disloyal. Watching the little children, I thought of the injustice of deliberately exposing them to the unscrupulous pro-Axis Japanese. What future is there for them? What kind of citizens will they be? There is no escape for them, because, enclosing them is a forboding barbed-wire. To attempt escape would mean death or imprisonment.

The placing of loyal American-born Japanese citizens with disloyal Japanese has made the loyal people lose faith in themselves. Many have never lived around Japanese before and within them now burns a hatred for their fellow Japanese as well as ^{to} their own yellow coloring. They have been mistreated by their fellow Caucasian Americans. Many never received the absentee voter's ballot ~~form~~ which they had applied. Many never received more than a down payment on the property they sold. Even those who received the

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total sum had to sell their property at drastic reductions. These mistreatments have had a narrowing effect upon their minds. They think only of their own small grievances instead of the peril of their nation as well as the sacrifices our soldiers are making for them. Even those who came to this camp feeling that this was a way of showing their loyalty are beginning to be dubious. To lament now is like crying over spilt milk.

With the recent registration of citizens and aliens, matters came to a crucial point. Two Christian ministers were beaten because they preached allegiance to the United States. They were beaten because they had used their right to preach what they believed. This act of violence was certainly not American, yet it happened here. Steps have been taken to remove the agitators.

are; but, nevertheless, we cannot overlook the fact that such an undemocratic thing has happened. This was not liberty nor justice toward all.

Once long ago, Thomas Jefferson, in another time of strife, wrote: "We hold these truths to be self-evident: That all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." Unless we teach racial appreciation, that is; unless we teach and feel that we, Caucasians, are on an equal basis with the Japanese, Chinese, Negro, and Hindu, the ideals for which our forefathers fought and died have been maintained in vain.

There has always been danger of hatred of the minority, because they are unlike the majority. Everett Dean Martin in his book, "Liberty," said: "Throughout history

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there has been a classless psychological class struggle between the ~~mentally~~ mature and those who have never grown up. "Those who have never grown up hate the Japanese, Germans, and Italians. To hate is dangerous. It is like a disease that begins and gradually spreads until it has become so grave it can never be cured.

Anyone who hates never hates ^{a single} one person or race, but always ^{hates} several persons or races. Soon he hates everyone, including himself. There can be no justice for all when the world is filled with hatred. There can be no hope of a lasting world peace unless there is a brotherly love instilled in the heart of every individual. The truth of this democratic ideal - "with liberty and justice for all" stands upon the solution of the problem of racial discrimination.

"America! America!"

Essay

God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!

Margery
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