

Tuesday night

Dear Family,

Here the week is nearly half over! Time flies with frightening rapidity! Half way through the 8th week of school! Almost 14 weeks since school started! And in many ways I've been doing the same thing over and over rather than progressing — merely because changes in circumstances or policy required! Our enrollment is sky rocketing beyond our wildest estimate and yet we must be prepared to have many relocate or graduate in February. Since we are allowed 1 teacher for every 35 students and the ratio is checked quarterly we have to be careful about hiring teachers who might be laid off about the time they were processed! Working in a government agency and trying to operate under laws made to protect the tax payer is like nothing you ever experienced! Theoretically the ideas are fine, but in their application they result in monstrosities because there's so little room for applying reason instead of rule-of-thumb!

7 It's been a rather busy week. Monday, I think - Bob and Mr. Mann and I planned our community organization's agenda.

Wednesday we had a farewell party for Gen. Washburn at school.

In the evening I had a Sunday School teacher's meeting.

Wednesday noon I adopted an adorable black kitten so young its eyes were just turning green. It was quite perceptually intelligent and didn't know any better than to like me (most cats don't). I fought back sneezes in my pride of possession. But Thursday morning he disappeared while I was at breakfast. I think maybe someone decided to save my life because I was really a work from his affections. I guess it's dog for me from now on.

Tuesday was a high day in my life. I acquired a new placement boy. He is quite different from Tak but very efficient and pleasant. He is already one of us. His name is Hiroshi Nakai. He is really my "bird"! The only drawback is that he's such a live wire he won't be in camp long. My Army was interviewed for a civil service job in Washington today so I imagine she'll go about the first of the year too! Such is life in a Relocation center!

3) The house is very quiet these days. Marge
Queen left Wednesday for Vancouver and
Gen went Thursday morning — to the
marines! That makes me fourth ^{longest} ~~oldest~~
resident among the teachers! With
Gladys Gilbertson being married at
Christmas and Ruth Under going next
month, will be a shrunken group!

Sunday was a busy day. I had had
to spend the whole of Saturday afternoon
in a meeting, so I spent Sunday
afternoon posting program changes.
That made my day 8 AM Church,
10:30 Sunday School 2-6 work - 6-7 shampoo,
bath, dress, sandwich 7:00 Evensong
and reception for Bishop Phea who had
come in honor of Father Joe's first anniversary
here and the fourth anniversary of his (Fr. Joe's)
father's death! It was a pleasant evening.
I took Ellen, Rakel Erickson, Mrs. Beson
and Mrs. Thorson.

Last night we had a community meeting
which was long. As secretary I practically
got water's cramp!

Dor had some wonderful letters this week.
One from Tak describing life at College in
Wichita, another from Ken. And one
vivacious one from Aunt Eleanor which
was almost like talking to her over the phone!
Everyone "who doesn't know" women

4/ about us in the relocation centers because of the Lule Lake affair. First, remember that Lule is not a relocation center.

Second, the newspapers have grossly distorted the truth — and I have that from John Bigelow, our reports officer who was transferred there just after segregation.

Third, the trouble was organized by about 200 young men and the mob was manoeuvred by them. The total population is about 15000. We must recall that although many there have outright declared their loyalty to Japan, many are there because of strong family loyalty, disillusionment about "democracy," etc. The wonder to me is that we have such good morale when our people read that the government feeds our prisoners of war the same as the army (never less than 50¢ a day and averaging about 70¢ per day) while the public kicks that WRA is gamboling them (over 50% ^{an average of} innocent U.S. citizens) on 42¢ (never over 50¢) per day! They are under fire from both sides! We hear criticisms because they wish to go to college and learn to be doctors and engineers, etc. while our boys are being drafted out of high school. Yet our Nisei (in spite of

of the fine record of volunteering and the conduct of (Museum under fire) are not drafted and, not permitted to enter defense work (There is so much resistance and red tape that WRA has given up plans to train Japanese Americans for war industries).

Enough of a sermon! Our morale is excellent here and Mr. Schmeltzer of the Relocation Hostel in Chicago who was here last week says we are more optimistic about relocation and have an entirely different psychology about the matter than any other camp — and he's visiting them all.

It's so good to have the kids back! If you could have seen us teachers and students greeting each other after 6 weeks of harvest like long lost relatives you'd have no worry.

I'm doing quite a bit of my shopping by mail this year. It's been quite successful so far and lots of fun. To save the wear and tear on the goods as well as on the postal facilities I'm having Lakes 34th St send mother two packages for Aunt Emma. I hope she'll attend to the wrapping for me. They won't be along for a couple of weeks because

6/ they're "personalized" gifts.
Saturday Bob did some of my shopping for me. If you receive a box from Twin Falls, please put it in a cool place until Christmas.

Another thing, will you send me Tom Miller's rank and address by return mail?

Also, if you can find something appropriate for a wedding present for Margaret Gardner (she was married almost a year ago!) for about \$5 will you pick it up. Then I'll send check and address to you and write her. Twin Falls is just about picked clean!

I guess that's all the miscellaneous business for now.
Love,
Bill

P.S. I'm almost forgetting to
thank you for the needle
and thread which are already
in good service. Also, I'm
saving the candy till
Thursday — believe me
it's a lesson in self-discipline!
We work all day Thursday.
There is some question ^{too}
whether the Japanese will too.
Well, I can use the time
but it will be a different
Thanksgiving! We'd to have
our turkey dinner at 5:30.
I'm not sure whether I'll be
in the dining hall or with
one of the staff families.

The enclosed clipping
is another hint in case
you haven't finished
everyone's Christmas
shopping for me.