

Dear Ken -

Thanks for your prompt reply. Your advice is always welcome. It's homely and smells of damp earth. I've been out of touch with the world so long that my views sometimes smell of another world, and has an ethereal unreality about them. You came pretty close to the facts regarding the house. Instead of the bank, it's Sattui the insurance man, who has the mortgage on the house, and who also has been renting the flats & pay for the mortgage. In another word, it's like this: we have a mortgage on the house and Sattui advanced the money with which to pay for the house. Up ~~at~~ ^{to} the time of evacuation we had been paying him so much per month. At the time of evacuation, he said he didn't want the house and agreed to rent out the flats and apply the rents to the mortgage. I am informed now that he has foreclosed. I don't know what legal basis he had for it. I should think that if he could not manage the house, we could have obtained the help of some real estate agency in renting out the flats and let them manage on commission basis. That's done, isn't it? So Sattui is taking possession of the house appears like a deliberate attempt. Unfortunately I don't know all the facts, since all this came up when my Dad passed away in Chicago while I was at P.A. General. He was hospitalized and operated on and died from coronary thrombosis post operatively. I guess

all this was hard on my brother, just relocated in Chicago. Dad wasn't informed of the seriousness of his illness, so we failed to learn anything as to the state of affairs.

In regard to the house, I thought it best to try to prevent foreclosure and hang on to the property if possible. I feel that the flats can be readily rented, especially as remodeling had been done by Sattui. So now there's about \$7000 balance. Even so, the house has so far ^{about} paid for itself, & even after the balance is paid, the property may still pay profit or at least break even, if sold. What do you think? you have seen the property. Do you think it worth while to hang on to it?

What I had in mind was that since non payment was due to evacuation, WRA would step in and prevent foreclosure for the duration, and I thought in that case it would be best to hang on to the property for the duration. Incidentally, I see that houses are being bought, and Sattui may have had this "boom" in mind in repossessing it. In L.A. area, there's about one house to every 3 tenant. Only defense workers with "U" card have the first call on the houses.

I have written to a friend in S.F. who handled our property (photo equipment, etc) and attorney Calder, who used to handle our legal matters. Maybe you remember him. I think he used to be legal adviser to Jap. Assoc. I don't know about the WRA branch. They seem to make lots of promises, but I don't know how well or how much they help on specific instances. They are planning on settling about 50,000 to 60,000 Japs. here on the West coast, mostly between March and Sept. That's about the

the total population in all the camps. In fact they are planning to close all the camps. By the way, how is the relocation going in the East? and the public reception of Japanese, and the business and job situation? Here in the West, there are certain well organized groups, mostly related to farming industry, who are most loud mouthed in their opposition. Generally the officials have fallen in line with the policy of the Army and the Federal Govt. So far, very few Japs. have trickled in. Most of them, especially the elder ones, are afraid to come back; they are keeping eyes on the situation and biding time; difficult to obtain jobs in defense plants (because of long wait for clearance). There have been isolated instances of anti Jap. demonstrations - mostly burning of farm sheds and threats. And then there are hakujins who are willing to welcome Japanese but afraid of their friends. Church's standing behind the Japanese. My brother's plan are uncertain, but he seems to feel Nisei jobs are rather uncertain after the war. He mentions about going into color work, I've decided to keep the photo equipments, just in case. My plans are uncertain too. I don't have much confidence in my business ability, or the lack of it, but maybe I can learn. Can't totally get away from some intellectual pursuit. If I go into photo business, my brother's coming in with me would be useful, just as you may need a partner in your nursery business.

I've received a year of "arts & architects" and I haven't even made a comment on it. My apologies. This fellow Richard Neutra seems to have something solid in regard to modern architecture. Not much original perhaps, but embodying more sound principles and designs than most other architects

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who have gone modern. I just happened to see a room of his design on the back cover of the Dec. issue. Grace Clements' comment on art are interesting, modern and sound. I like her consideration of art as something more than reportorial painting or skill in technique, versatility to you. I've noticed that there ~~is~~ seems to be an increasing tendency toward community projects in architecture, with its uniformity in design of houses and furniture for the masses, the housing projects with their regimentation of individual's taste and expressions. In other words, socialization in architecture for the individual, as in medicine, individuals becoming more & more dependent on mass plans, at the expense of his individuality, the State, or govt, stepping more & more into his life. Is this a social trend? Where is the individual to-day? The preacher takes care of our religious education, ^{the} philosophers profess our philosophies for us; instead of entertaining ourselves, we are entertained by professional entertainers; our education is done for us by the educators; even child training is taken away from the mothers; politics is decided for us by the politicians and the newspapers. The world is the stage for these "experts". Where is the individual? Oh, for the wilderness, and the open spaces of the West, where a man can put his strength and where a man can grow! Here is a theme for a book, necessarily condensed here.

As a footnote apropos this *Visei* situation. I think I mentioned in one of my letters - I think it was when you first relocated & was staying with Snaker friends - that there was no such thing as a *Visei* problem, the problem was with the Americans who refused to face the democratic issue, etc. It sort of came back to my mind because of the present situation.

Don't apologize for what you write. They are of the world, and I like it salty taste. Keep me down to earth. What are you doing

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these days. I suppose the long nights keep you indoors.
Get hold of a good murder yarn, sit by the fireside and
"go back to the dear old human and sociable
murders and adulteries and forgeries in which
we are so agreeably at home" — so implored Henry
James of Wm. Roughhead. Studying murders and
getting to be something of a connoisseur has more to it
than I thought — not so much a matter of knowledge
as that of attitude and taste and human understanding.
It will take time and application, and a dry sense of
humor to look at the grim foibles of man. One must
have a deep human interest and withal a sense of
detachment, for one must not become ~~over~~ enmeshed
in the emotional tentacles and let the murderer's conscience
become your conscience, his taste your taste. In short,
one must be a gentleman to study murder. I suppose
for me there will always be something fascinating in
man's waywardness from his conscience, which culminates
in the final act of taking another man's life. And I
suppose there will always be murders.

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You have to hand it to these Russians,
though the Germans might have done
the same thing. They are ingenious, and
have that vitality to try things. Too bad
~~that~~ it has to be wasted in cutting each
other's throats. They know what an
organ like that means to men. Without
it, a thought of suicide. It means humanity,
race. And behind his thought of suicide is a
loss of that blind urge that drives the
salmon in its final supreme attempt, up
the river, to the spawning ground. A friend
^{medic} and I once had occasion to estimate the
number of sperms expelled in each act, the total
~~number~~ yielded in a man's lifetime, out of
which, if he has say 3 offsprings, he uses
up only three sperms. We looked at each
other & said what an enormous loss. Nature
is so generous, man is so wasteful. I asked
my room mate here what he would do if
he lost his penis. Will he go crazy? He
says no! he will get along without it. How
little he knows the great and vital force
wrapped up in those two nut sized organs,
and which move men to deeds of murder
or sublime acts. Or am I exaggerating?
I sometimes used to dream if that
sexual force were properly understood and
utilized, what great deeds man may
not accomplish, especially along creative
lines, instead of dissipating that energy in
economic and social or personal frustrations.
But the time is out of joint for that new
moral order, and we shall somehow
muddle through. I mentioned

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something of this untapped & wasted
force to my room mate, and he assents
and talks about how one general said
what a lot of energy was wasted in all
this war & destruction; one torpedo costs
couple of thousand dollars. Of course,
I wasn't thinking of that.

I liked what you said about
letting Germany rule Europe and avoid
this bloodshed. It's original. And
why not? They are intelligent and very
capable, and they might make better
Europe than with Russia or England,
or some of these big powers fighting
over it. If it isn't Germany, it's
Russia, anyway. Watch Russia.
She has become a European power.
Just now we have a sight of these
big powers scrambling, trying to see
who gets to Berlin first. France wants
to get in it (the coming three power
conference) because she has an alliance
with Russia. Must scramble for
power. We wanted peace; we got
war. Why this vast gulf between
what man wishes, his attitude, and
his final action? Before this war,
they were about so peace organizations
actively engaged in promoting peace.
Instead of solving problems, this
war has created more problems.

J

It appears as if Britain has no intention of giving up the old order. She grew up and prospered in that order which is no more, but she doesn't know it. Her continental policy has never been to tolerate the rise of any strong power in Europe. When France grew strong after the last war, she pitted Germany against her. When Germany grew strong, she allied with Russia but with great misgiving. There is much similarity bet. Britain's dependence on Europe and Japan's on Asiatic continent.

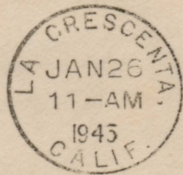
It was interesting to note Churchill's speech in the H. of Peers last year mentioning how terrible future wars would be, he said we should all be friendly. It was aimed at Russia I think, and was a thinly disguised appeal for friendships. For the first time, Great Britain openly, but not obviously, expressed her fear of Russia. And well she might.

Christ - I better stop some place. Besides, all this is nothing new anyway.

Hells to Sally & the kids.

Sincerely,

Winston



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