

June 24, 1944

Dear Mr. Domoto,

It was certainly nice to hear from you. Of course, I remember you, and I had been hoping that you would find a moment to let us know how you were making out.

I am sorry that you have not succeeded as yet in getting a suitable place for your family to live, I know that it must be very difficult having them so far away.

It seems tragic that anyone who likes Baltimore can't live here, since the majority of people living here seem to be so unhappy about it. I suppose they were even more unhappy after last Sunday, which was extreme even for Baltimore. Yardley - do you remember the cartoonist in the Morning Sun - claimed that a British official got out of a plane at the airport and thought they had put him down in Equatorial Africa.

I don't know whether you know Sam Ishikawa, but he was in the office yesterday on his way to Chicago to work for the summer - he has been going to Harvard this past term - and he admitted that possibly the East did have a "center of things" feeling which the West didn't, but I think he admitted it rather grudgingly.

We have at the moment about 31 relocatees here in the city. This includes several families, who appear to have found themselves satisfactory living quarters. There are still a number of boys out at the Sun Cab Company, but we have had offers from other companies which we can't seem to fill. The new offers are still more or less on the manual labor side, but we have lots more offers than we have anyone interested in them.

Have you been to Brooklyn and looked over the hostel there? WRA has also recently opened an office in Newark. I wonder if they could give you some assistance in your housing problem.

As an off-and-on PM reader I caught some of the articles on relocated families as they came out. Since then, the Washington office has furnished us with the stories I missed. I thought they were good write-ups and, of course, very sympathetic. I wonder what could persuade the Sunpapers into giving us some good publicity here. I think a number of our families are interesting, and if they wouldn't object to the publicity - and I can see where they might - it would probably do the whole program good.

With regard to your PSQ, I shall tell Mr. Cronin about what you have said, and you might find it desirable to talk to Mr. Fistere, who is Relocation Supervisor for this area, about it. He is in Room 5516 Empire State Building. I understand that the new Relocation Officer for New York is a Marylander, a Mr. Steiding.

I agree with you that New York is certainly full of a lot of "pushy" people. I had always thought that I wanted to live there, but since I am getting older and have seen what wartime Baltimore is like, containing some of the worst features of crowded New York, perhaps I really would like farm life after all.

Perhaps some day I can afford a house reflecting the Frank Lloyd Wright influence down on the York River in Virginia. Maybe and probably I never can, but it makes a wonderful idea to speculate about.

I have just recently found out that the girl who works two offices from me lives in Carroll County, very near Mr. Segusa. She thinks he is a grand person and probably wishes Carroll County had more like him. You remember that my mother is from Carroll County, or did I mention it. At any rate, she is much upset this morning for the Sun carries a pictures of the very lovely rolling hills of Carroll infested with Nazi war prisoners. They all have the letters PW stamped on the seats of their trousers, and altogether it is a fairly depressing sight.

My friend from Adams County, Pennsylvania, writes that the same thing is probably going to happen up there and she isn't at all happy about it. I understand that Mr. Yamamoto is now in Bucks County, Pa., probably making his employer very happy because Mr. Cronin said that he was a wonderful farmer.

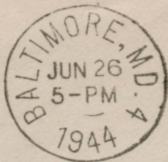
I do hope that some day you will find it possible to settle in Baltimore, but in the meantime I also hope that you can locate a satisfactory place for your family to live.

There is a possibility that I may be in New York in the not too far distant future, and I shall certainly try to get in touch with you.

Let me hear from you when you have the opportunity to write.

Sincerely,

Virginia R. Cutchin



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