

# T O I C H I DOMOTO



26591 WESTERN ROAD  
HAYWARD, CALIFORNIA

*Distinctive  
Plants*

Sept. 27, 1947.

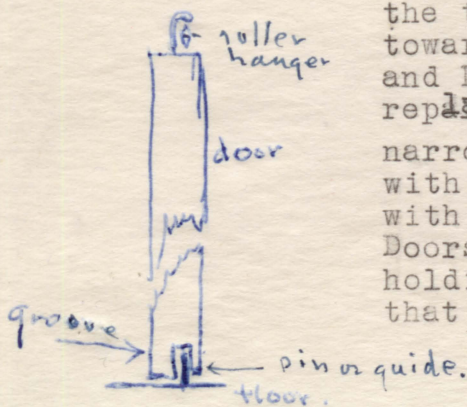
Dear Kan,

Sorry that I did not write to you before, but the usual delays until I see that time was very close. Before going into the news from the area, The check is enclosed for \$1,500 which will be O. K. any time after the first and it is dated of today. The reason I say the first is because I am having a loan made for the season, and I did not want to borrow any sooner than I had to. which is the reason for not having answered you sooner on this. I am going to see if the auditor can set it up in my books as wages due you for the period you worked out here. It may not be possible to do so because there has never been such an item set up but I'll know later. You can enter as an income and not a loan in your report unless it is of benefit to have it appear as a loan. It will not be necessary to pay it back.

Now that the above is out of the way, I'll start with the latest news and then go back.

1. There was a Stag party held for Shimi Shibata last night at "Our House" The restaurant across from the old Alabam. Approximately 50 were present, mostly the Hana ya bunch. Sat next to Fred Oshima who asked about you and also asked to be remembered. Johnny Aso also came out from Richmond. He is in gardening now and understand has 5 or more men working for him. Min Shinoda was M.C. but by the time the party got going it was not needed. Shimi is going to married this Sunday to one of the Eto Girls (Grace) The ceremony is to be held in their garden with a reception for 500 to be held in a large circus tent on there grounds. The roadway and parking areas have been paved for the occasion.

I guess you have heard that the Tea House had been re-designed by Hachiro Yuasa into a Modern with the roof lines of the tea house being carried out into the addition. This was toward the tomato field side. The Old house has the living room and Dining room with the old Tokonoma, The shoji screens are replaced with plate glass and drapes. The kitchen is the long narrow type. Bedrooms are done in plaster and redwood rustic with natural finish. nailed vertically instead of horizontally, with sliding doors for the closet done in redwood panels. Doors are hung from the top with a groove in the door with holding pins or guides to keep them in line on the bottom so that there is no track or groove on the floor to catch the dust.





We understand that Shimi and his bride and his mother and sister will live in the new house and that the boys will occupy the old house. The rose houses have all been transplanted and much repair work has been done so that it looks like efficiency plus of Shimi.

2. Mr. Ishimaru was back and called on me one day, but it happened that I was in San Francisco and did not get to see him. He left word that he was staying with his daughter in San Jose but that he was looking for some kind of a gardening position. I was sorry that I did not get to see him.

3. I had intended to take Mr. Epstein around the Bay area from Cal down to the Farm and other way points but as his time was very limited we did not get much further than Golden Gate park and Victor Reiters. Unfortunately both Victor and Eric Walthers were out. Incidentally Victor was married a few weeks ago. Mr. Epstein said that it seems to be his luck. In Seattle last year he called on a nurseryman who hardly ever leaves his place more than once a year and that he had to pick that day in the year to visit him.

4. Did you see the article on Chinatown in this weeks Saturday Evening Post. The article is by ### Mr. Small of San Rafael. He has asked how Kahn is every time he comes over and said to be sure and say Hello to him. This article was to appear early last Spring, but I guess it had been delayed for some reason.

5. The Sakais bought a 40 acre piece of property next to Sorenson and are now building a greenhouse on it. They had difficulty with wells until they sunk a 500 footer gravel envelope type and now they are even selling water to Bob King to irrigate his orchard. About 360 gallons per minute. with a possibility of 450 I am told. The Tsuchiyas have also bought a parcel below the Tennyson Nursery almost on the Railroad I am told.

6. Tom Saito is in the trucking business with his brother now that he is unable to get the Schaefer ranch for farming. His brother Frank is working in the Ford Garage for Dohner. Ken Kilgore said hello to you.

7. Frank Araki and Socks Yamashita are some of the others who are working here. Min is still here. Returned a few weeks ago from a 4,500 mile trip with Babe Shibata. They visited Yosemite, Hoover Dam, Palm Springs, Grand Canyon, Bryce, Yellowstone, Salt Lake, Seattle and Home. Min says that if Babe had his way they would even have made a trip to Canandia Rockies. This trip was made in two weeks so that you can see they covered a lot of territory. The riding was nice according to Min, but boy it did eat up gas.

Of the old bunch, Al is the only one working for me now. Joe Lemos is back from the service and is working at the Alameda Naval Base on Aeroplane repair work. Tino is still working with Spence at Rototiller. He is the head mechanic there. Pete is still going strong, and it makes it a lot easier for me to get away from the place now.

I am planning to extend one of the greenhouses a 100 ft. and put up a propagating house running at right angles to the present house. Lumber and pipe as well as glass is sure hard to get. I have the main pieces now and we have been painting them.



I had been planning on Mr. Tsuno the carpenter who built the other houses to put them up for me, but he is settled and busy building in Los Angeles and it seems impossible to get him to come up. I have the promise of Shimi's carpenter to put them up this coming week but if he fails to show up I guess I'll have to be Boss carpenter.

8. Tom Hatakeda was elected President of the reactivated Eden Township J. A. CL. He has also opened a tire shop on his property on Hesperian. Mits Nakashima is on the Constitution committee as chairman. He started out with much interest and then for some reason, ( We think he wanted to be president of the chapter) he dropped all interest. Kay Hirao who is leasing the greenhouses on the Foothill Blvd. near Castro Valley is now an active member. Washington Township is having a hard time getting started again, Shikano and his brother in law joined with our group last week.

9. Had some of the apricot trees pulled out so that the piece of land from the tank to the road is squared off. Will dig the tree peonies from the patch and then plant a cover crop. Put up a little wind break and lath outside of the lower lath near the field camellias. We used the snow fencing on it. Works pretty good.

10. Mr. Sasaki of Camellia City Nursery has bought a little peice on 162nd Avenue and Foothill Blvd. That is the firs t road toward Hayward from Umeki's old place. In the hollow. George Muramatsu has a greenhouse and lath on the same street.

11. We have a Open air Drive in Movie on the corner of Tennyson Road and Niles Road, and there are two more being built on East 14th Street and 150th Avenue on the race track property. The race track is smaller and they have midget and Hot rod races every week now.

12. Mr. Kawabata is gardening now and doing quite well. He bought a number of dwarf trees from the Tea Garden Collection that Sam Newsom took care of during the war. By the way do you have a copy of Newsom's book which you tried to get from Unc. It is worth fifty dollars now I understand due to the fact that the plates were all destroyed. Haven't heard from Taki for quite some time. altho I undestand that he comes to San Francisco once in a while.

13. A few real dwarf trees are being brought in from Japan by the G.I.s and others, Some of them are quite nice, but in most cases they are too far gone to do anything with them by the time they arrive here after fumigation etc.

14. Had a letter from Mr. Kiyono. He and his family are back in Alabama, but are not able to get the place back, altho he stated that the government might refund some money to him. But that this takes time.

15. Remember Kosuke Ijichi, he and his mother were out about a month ago. He went in the sevice and emen got to Japan, after the war. Was on Dairy farm in Woodstock Illinois about 40 miles from where we were and didn't know.it. He is working in pathology for the government now.



16. I gave the old Underwood the annual dusting and oiling which no doubt accounts for the lengthy letter.

17. Enclosed is also check for Dick Tsukuda for \$50.00. Please have him get either woolen or cotton material along with necessary needles and threads and send it to Kaech. Have talked to a number of people who have come back and it seems that this item would be good for her. If however she has indicated something else that she needs more it is O. K. to get it rather than the above mentioned articles.

Well, Min just pulled in. He said Just Say Hello to Him. so with that I guess I'll call it a night. Hope the youngsters are all O.K. in the heat and sultry weather. Ours have just caught cold. Marilyn started to Kindergarten at Muir. We were going to ask Fujii for permission to use there address as it is very hard to get children into schools outside your district due to crowded conditions, but decided that it would be better to use Tom Saito's as it is a little further away in case they should want to check it.

As. ever

As ever,

Toichi

Saw the Reynolds Pen, had to use the  
old timer which must be dry too.

Typed but not reread.

Tell Yuri I'll try to get a letter off  
to her next.