

PACIFIC CITIZEN

NOV 26 1943

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____ Ex. Dir.
____ Finance
____ O. S.
____ F. L. Fran
____ C. Green

Nov. 23, 1943

Dear Margaret:

Having accumulated a welter of material on evacuation, its causes and effects, et., I've wanted to do something with the staff. My wife prevailed on me to apply for a Guggenheim. (George Leighton of Harper's happened to send me some blanks with the hope some nisei might be interested.)

I've sent in an application and I've listed you as a reference. I hope you don't mind. My other references are Carey McWilliams, Bob O'Brien, Galen Fisher and Roger Baldwin.

The goal is a book on the whole bloody business,

We went through one minor, but nevertheless soul-tearing crisis, when the FCC last week offered me a job on their Far Eastern news desk. But with the California boys breaking out in racist rashes, we decided this was no time to retreat into an ivory tower, even a govt-sponsored one. So we're still doing business at the same old stand. . . . Things on the west coast are coming to a head, with the Hearst press and Harry Chandler's Times, screaming their heads off. The daily din

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of this "hate all Japs" propagaanda is hell on our morale. Every effort is being made to make this a national issue. The Chambers of commerce (the altruistic souls) are in it, too, and recent evidences are resolutions passed by C. of C. groups in Colorado and Washington against selling, or leasing land to the Japs. The Spokane chamber specified that it was all right, though, for the Japs to work as migratory laborers.

Read Alexander Saxton's new book, "Grand Crossing." Has some nice touches in it.

Have you seen Taro Yashima's "New Sun"?

The L.A. Times this week started a public poll on "The Haps--What to Do?" meaning the local Japs, of course. A group of leading questions are asked. Something like, what should we do---broil them, fry them, or roastx 'em.

District Attorney Howser, the one who said the evacuees would be murdered if they returned to the coast, is now trying to incite the 5,000 Negroes in ~~xxxxx~~ "Bronzeville", formerly Little Tokyo, in Los Angeles, telling these Negroes, mostx of whom are from the south, that the Japs will take their homes away if they are allowed to come back. Howser is a stooge of Gov. Warren's. He was appointed to the post earlier this year when John Dockweiler, the former district attorney, died suddenly. . . . I don't know whether this is of interest to you or not. We're just steaming with it at the moment.

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I hope all goes well with you. Regards to Eddie, Rose, etc.

I was encouraged by an editorial in the Jewish Voice (L.A.) which warned against Jewish "isolationism" and declared that the problems of the Jewish minority were those of the Negroes, Mexicans, Catholics, etc.

One thing attractive about the FCC job was that living in Washington is pretty close to living in N.Y. . . . Salt Lake is sometimes too ~~far~~ much desert in every way.