

PACIFIC CITIZEN



SEASON BUILDING
SALT LAKE CITY 1, UTAH



MAY 1 1944

Rec'd _____

_____ Ex. Dir.

_____ Finance

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F. L. Press

_____ C. Grand

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April 27, 1944

Top line, 7

Dear Margaret:

Your letter came a few minutes ago. Thanks for the information. We won't carry anything on your campaign, unless you decide to put out a press release sometime.

You may interested to know that John Lechner, the front-man for much of the race-baiting on the west coast, is a clergyman by profession. He was born in Innsbruck, Austria, in 1900 and acquired his citizenship through his father's naturalization. In Salt Lake City, and in other public talks at San Jose and Santa Maria, Calif., and no doubt elsewhere, he has listed the Common Council for American Unity as one of the "misguided" American organizations which are trying to appease the U.S. public on the nisei, etc.

I'm enclosing the Ben Kuroki pamphlet which we put out this week---for JACL members and for people in relocation centers, the purpose being to help some of the fellows straighten out their

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-2-

thinking on the draft and the army. If there is any demand, we are thinking of publishing some extra copies without the JACL picture, or without any organizational signature at all for general distribution.

Langston Hughes was in town this week. I was the chairman of one of the public meetings held for him here---a nice interracial attendance, about 35 ~~percent~~ percent Negroes and 10 percent nisei.

I hear Carey McWilliams has done a swell job in his new book on the evacuation.

"Common Ground" is being used in interracial education here at the YWCA. Dorothy Thompson of the "Y" recently read "Memo to Junior Hostesses" and other selections from "Common Ground" to several girls' groups here.

I'd like to ~~g~~ take a trip east again this east, but probably won't be able to. One of the things on the fire has been an overseas trip to do a series of stories on the Japanese Americans in Italy, but chances are that it may fall through for a variety of reasons. One is that we're down to two as far as our staff is concerned, and I can't just abandon the paper. I did want to do a book on the 100th. Maybe because I had a title for it, "The Laughing Battalion." Titles, though are about as far as I ever get with books.

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-3-

Come out and see ~~xxx~~ us and see this Mormon country. Is Common Ground interested in Indian sagas and the Mormon frontier? Is ~~so~~, there are some newspaper guys out here with some tales to spin.

Rep. J. Parnell Thomas is probably the link between the coast race-baiters and the New Jersey mucklands. Rep. Thomas is pretty close to Ray Richards of the Hearst Washington office and Richards is a pal of Lechner and Kilsoo Haan and the California Legion.

Thanks for the letter and the material on New Jersey.

Regards to Rose. Is Eddie still with ~~x~~ "CG"?