

March 31, 1942

Miss Hazel S. Willis, State Librarian,
California State Library,
Sacramento, California

Dear Miss Willis:-

The entire library project at Sacramento is still a "smoke" in the air" as it was when I wrote you before. They haven't got around to anything yet, except that there is a library marked on the map. I have heard from several sources that the Japanese are waiting for a library, and have made generous offers of assistance in giving books from their own libraries.

In talking last night with the public relations men from the camp, I told them that I thought it would be very necessary, no matter how the library was to function, that they get, if possible, trained librarians among the Japanese. He said, "How that's very important; something that should be attended to at once. You write and find out what persons can be recommended for the job." It seems they can get any Japanese they ask for here; this is the first place to be taken care of. They are making every effort to work out a competent group among those in the more responsible positions.

Do you have whether we could get some one to act as head librarian, or branch librarian if that was what it was, some one for children's literature, and some one trained in book-keeping and able to train others? I mention the last because Miss Ferguson is writing about the books they might be able to read, and if we had a W.F.I. project or anything like that by October September before the war starts, it would be a good idea to have a person in charge of the books, depending upon help in the camp for cataloging and processing, as well as reading in locally? Even at that, I think we should have to have a little extra help in our central office.