

CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY

SACRAMENTO

April 3, 1943

Miss Anne Hargrave, Librarian
Inyo County Free Library
Independence, California

Dear Miss Hargrave:

I am interested in your letter in regard to library service at Manzanar. I had intended to write you today anyhow because I had just received a letter from Lucy W. Adams, Acting Chief, Community Services Branch of the Office of Indian Affairs, in regard to library service to Japanese. Mrs. Adams, by the way, was formerly on the staff of the California Association for Adult Education, working closely with Lynn Bryson. I met her several times while she was in that work.

Mrs. Adams says that the War Relocation Authority has asked the Indian Service to assume responsibility for the 30,000 Japanese from California when it is proposed to settle immediately on the Colorado River reservation, and to conduct education, health, and other community services. She continues that one of the immediate problems they are faced with is the provision of library facilities for this large group of people, and she suggests further on in her letter that perhaps it would be possible for the state to establish a library station there. She also suggests that they might use Japanese trained in the work to serve as librarians and they would be paid for under arrangements with the War Relocation Authority.

While Mrs. Adams is referring specifically to the Colorado River reservation, I think when she comes here she may have some ideas about the other camps that are being established. She tells me that she will be in California for the next two weeks and is planning to come to Sacramento to see me. As soon as I have more information I shall write you.

I hesitate to say that of course the State Library has no books to fill this demand in Colorado. Neither do we know any Japanese librarians. There have been Chinese girls trained but I have never known of a Japanese in our library schools. The City Librarian here has a bookbinder who is Japanese. She is expecting to be evacuated with her family but as yet does not know where they will be placed. I shall try to find out

There are no bookbinder in L. P. Dept. I am sure.

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If there are any Japanese librarians that might be used at Manzanar or in Colorado.

I think before you put before the supervisors a plan for conducting a library at Manzanar it would be well to have a very definite understanding about what Federal aid you would have in the purchase of materials, books and periodicals. I feel that you should not undertake this without one extra person in your central office. That probably should be supplied by your supervisors, although if there is a good W.P.A. worker available such a person might be added to your office.

Let me know as things develop, and I shall write you just as soon as I have any more information.

Sincerely yours,



Hazel N. Gillis
State Librarian