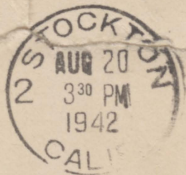


Dora Ames Lee, M. D.  
110 NORTH SAN JOAQUIN STREET  
STOCKTON — CALIFORNIA



Mrs Yukio Dornoto,

B-4-10

Merced Assembly Center,

Merced,  
Calif.



B -4-10  
Merced Assembly Center  
August 1, 1942

Dear Dora:

Thank you very much for your quick response in regards to [redacted]. It helped them a lot to know that there was some one to give [redacted] special attention. They are naturally very concerned over the whole affair and we are trying our best to make it as easy as possible for them.

Right now they are concerned because he has not mentioned the fact that he has received letters from [redacted]. [redacted] states that she has written three times and also had sent him \$5.00 to buy necessities. I did not know about this until after they had done the same. If it was a money order, I don't see how they [redacted] could have signed the money order. Since they have not heard anything from [redacted] or the institution they are naturally worried. Could you tell me what the policy is in regards to letters sent to patients? money sent to patients? I understand that cash is desirable but is there any other method? I know that a receipt of articles received is sent to the sender. Any information that you can give me in regards to this will be really appreciated.

I understand that the letters were written in Japanese. Would it be advisable for a translation of the letter accompany each letter. It seems to me a logical thing for a patient to receive a letter if he is not too ill-- it may encourage him to get well. He may think that his family is not forgetting him. You know so much more about this that I would like to hear anything you have to say in regards to this whether it is pertinent to this case or not. It helps in the understanding of any of these cases. Dora, your work must be both interesting and sometimes disheartening to see certain individuals mentally ill. For some there is so much hope and for others so very little.

Don't you think that [redacted] could be released if [redacted] were in living at home? [redacted] seems to just need a little attention. It seems to have been a case of temporary depression-- [redacted] was obsessed with the idea that [redacted] was ill for a short while prior to evacuation. Perhaps all of this would not have happened if this wartime condition did not exist. But, that is another story. Do you think that there is a chance of [redacted] being released by the end of the month? The Merced Assembly Center is scheduled to start leaving about the end of this month. If there is a possibility that [redacted] will be allowed to go to Colorado with the family, the family will not make some necessary family arrangements-- If there is no chance, there must be a court action for appointment of a legal guardian which must be done immediately. I guess I would have to write directly to the superintendent if you were not there. I have written one very formal-- from one agency to another but I would appreciate your help very much.

My how I do ramble about-- such terrific typing too! But I know that you must understand

We were glad to hear about Emako. May I ask this favor of you? When next you refer to her would you omit the relationship. At present the letters are not censored but when and if they are, we naturally would not want to "advertise the fact". If you have any suggestion as to what we may do for her please let us know.

You mentioned Drs. Uyeyama and Kimura. I know them both, the latter better than the former. Dr. Kimura's sister is one of my best friends. His wife was in the same class as she and so I knew her too. She is a nurse. I wonder what she is doing. You know Dora



One of the most amazing things about this whole affair is how one comes across people one knows or those who know a very close friend of yours. We came here via Livingston. We went to live with my married sister there and were evacuated to this Assembly center from that city. I did not expect to know anyone ~~ikax~~ here for the communities are not those that I know. Much to my surprise I have met friends who formerly lived around the bay region or with whom I was at the university. They were not close friends but they seem to be closer when one's closest friends are elsewhere.

I have been working almost from the second week -- no it was the end of the first week of our stay here and so it has not been at all dull. Until about a month ago, I was in the recreation department organizing sports and etc. The group of girls I met there were really swell. They come up all the time to see me now that I am in the welfare division. It has always been my feeling that girls who are interested in sports are as a whole pretty swell. Have you ~~xxxx~~ since the days of "triple" winner continued with any sports? I suppose that you have not had much time for such since you went into medicine and then into a much more interesting field after that. If you ever come across any interesting news that a layman like me would understand I would like to hear about it. My minor in college was psychology -- very closely related to social work and also for reasons you well understand. It takes such a strong personality to go into psychiatric work! I admire you very much for having accomplished so much.

I guess that I should have expected to hear of you in some definite field.

Gosh, Dora, it is getting to be dinner time. I better rush or I'll miss it. It seems almost funny to be writing you after all these years but I'm enjoying it and hope that you will write when you have the time.

Always and sincerely,

PS Please excuse the messy typing. It is faster than writing anyhow.



Aug. 19, 1942

Dear Yunitaro:

I should have answered your letter sooner but it came just before I was leaving for my vacation and the week following my return, I was kept very busy. In regards to sending money to patients <sup>in the hospital</sup> <sub>to the superintendent</sub> a check or money order would be sent, specifying that the amount should be applied to their personal account. Letters sent to the patients are passed on to them unopened but do not enclose money to them. If the letters are written in Japanese, it is best to send an English translation along.

The relatives of [redacted] probably have received a telegram from Mr. Smyth telling them that he is to be released to join.

I am glad you have been able to meet so many of your former friends and also able to serve in such interesting capacities. From various reports, the young people have no difficulty in adjusting themselves to their new situation. However,



when the permanent relocation takes place,  
everyone will have something to occupy  
themselves.

Since high school I have never gone  
out skiing for any sports. Lately I've  
been swimming and in the winter, I  
like to go skiing up the Donner pass.  
I spent my week of vacation at Zephyr  
Point, Lake Tahoe, attending the Clunia  
Christian Youth Conference. We had  
a registration of 162, breaking all records  
for the past ten years. It was lovely up  
there by the lake and it was wonderful  
to meet people from various parts -  
Seattle, Denver, Portland, San Antonio,  
and throughout California. We had an  
especially fine faculty.

Will you be going to Colorado too?  
I would be glad to hear from you from  
time to time about your folks and  
your activities.

Best regards,

Dora