

PLAZA HOTEL

NAPA, CALIFORNIA

M. Allen



675 ctd

Miss Yuri Demoto

~~6G-5-A~~

Granada Relocation Project
Granada, Colorado

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W. A. MacDOUGALL
ARNO J. POGGI
Managing Owners

SECOND AND BROWN STREETS
NAPA, CALIFORNIA

October 21, 1942

My dear Miss Demoto:-

Thank you so much for writing me, had almost thought that what with moving you had forgotten me. Your letter was enlightening both in understatement and in statement. You agreed to write again when you had time. Meantime, remember I asked you if there was anything I could send you. If not for yourself, if for some of the people you are working with you find you need something, do let me know. Do you have reading material? What magazines are available to you and what do you like? If you have the opportunity of seeing the September and October issue of Harpers, you might be interested in reading Carey McWilliams article on Moving the West-Coast Japanese and another article written by an Intelligence Officer on The Japanese in America. If you do not have access to them, I'll send them to you. If you do have the opportunity of reading them, will you write me your comments?

You have never mentioned your family to me. Are they there with you. Recently we drove out to Niles and all over again, I thought of the trip Martha Youngs and I took to meet you and then your graciousness in showing us through your brother's nursery and his generosity in showering us with flowers.

For the past several weeks, have been making a survey in Napa County which involves reading the ANC records. While they have a small case load, the 75 year old assistant probation officer handles the cases with such results as you can imagine.

Yes, speaking of handling children we are being engulfed with the daycare problem. So many mothers are going to work that there are not facilities for caring for the children. One mother, with a CIF husband just moved to Vallejo to work is on the night shift although she has six children. You can imagine how well she cares for her family. The Phillips Committee of the State Senate made

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a study of day care of children and also the parent-child homes and turned up some pretty bad situations. You may have read the Saturday Evening Post of two weeks ago which discribed Eight Hour Orphans. This was probably written as a result of the Committee report. Formerly our Department held that we had not responsibility for the parent-child homes for after all the parents assume the responsibility for their children. Now, however, when they are being so neglected it has been decided that the foster parent must be licensed for she is caring for the child in the parents absence. The following week the Post ran an article on the care the English child is being given, how much we have to learn from the English.

I'm glad you are having the opportunity of working with a trained social worker and glad to know that she came from Minnesota. It is my understanding that the course in social work at the University of Minnesota is excellent. Did you know that I graduated from there?

Monday night we went to hear Carmen, this is the Opera session in San Francisco now. From what I read and hear this seems to be an excellent season.

So, you are having illusions about San Francisco being just over the ridge. For one reason you may be glad it is not. The traffic is something terrific. As fewer motor cars are being used, bus travel is increasing as is train and interrurban. We go by common carrier when possible and last week when I went in from here, the bus just before broke down, the passangers had waited one hour so the forty of them got on our bus and had to stand all the way in from Pinole to Berkeley. The busses are having such a difficult time obtaining drivers that they use inexperienced men and women. The San Francisco trains have conductors-women-dressed in good looking uniforms but the street cars in San Francisco have very poorly dressed women conductors in slacks. Yes, the service stations and garages have women operators too.

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This next week an Englishwoman friend who came over here two years ago to bring her small son for the duration is coming to visit me. She and her son have been on a ranch in the country all this time, except an occasional trip she has had so she is anticipating a change. She formerly lived in London as was on the concert stage and country life has been a bit dull for her. The lad is four and so very very bright, it will be fun to show him the Zoo and the beach. He has had no children to play with in the past two years, poor child.

After you read the Harper Articles, why not write an article yourself for just me, unless you give me permission to have it published or allow my friends to read it. You undoubtedly would have a great deal to tell about the adjustment people are able to make in the relocation centers as well as the assembly centers. Do tell me about people's morale, what about plans for obtaining work outside of the centers and how is employment being obtained if any, are you having classes, what recreation plans are made, how are people standing up physically?

By the way, did you know that there has been an appeal for everyone to work in the fruit. Some friends of mine have gone to work in the canneries evenings from 6:15 to 9:15. Many school teachers worked in the canneries during the summer. However, it has been hard to obtain enough employees and certain skilled ones. I picked tomatoes just one day and only manages 900 pounds. The Alameda County and other county relief rolls are dropping of course since practically anyone, aged or otherwise can obtain employment. We are told that some blind men are doing very well in plane factories.

Undoubtedly there are many things you would like to hear about but just offhand, now at 11:45 pm it is hard to think what they might be.

Please remember me kindly to your brother.

sincerely,

Mildred Allen