

9:30 AM

Dearest Darling - Well I guess I'd better tell you all the latest developments since I last wrote you.

① The weather - cold, snowing, need about 1 1/2 buckets small coal per day + evening with larger sizes from our reserve box for the night. Got up around 2:30 or 3:30 now instead of you - and put in another lump. Appreciate all the nights you've gotten up in the cold to do so, dear.

② Trying to train P to go to sleep earlier & did the pt 2 nights & the night Helen & Papa went to the Kabuki - Sat. night (8:30 foot asleep) but last night Johnny was invited by Helen to our mess hall & he stayed later to talk about Martha, other friends etc. & stayed until 10:30 or 11:00.

③ Papa went to Saginawas last night. He was dressed to go out in the afternoon but the 2 Maruyama girls came to spend the time so he stayed to talk with them. They left about 10 min. before supper. Helen was at Tomiyas till after they left but was in time for supper. Johnny showed up then too so we ran in. Haven't seen Papa this AM yet, but tonight he's to go see Mrs. Karada alone.

④ Now to get down to the main subject - Helen: Mrs. Yamaki called to see Papa Sat. morning just before lunch saying she just got a wire from Masao in Phila. which read "Impossible to say up. Best regards to all. Love, Masao." addressed to his mother.

she stayed about an hour acc to Papa to say that at
this time there is ^{no} hope — "Hopeless desu" and rushed
to tell him & us because she didn't want Helen to
waste any more time than necessary for waiting for an
answer. That she's talked it over since with Doc &
Mrs. & also Grandmother, Dr. Shimada etc the clan —
and they aren't well impressed with Helen, acc to
her. "Impression bad" so she can't "susumeru masao".
Otherwise she might — but they think Helen has very
little respect for money & does indiscriminate spending for
things others don't have or is hard to get and judges
herself in it. Another thing is she works well but won't
do it, which is worse than not being able to & can't.
Also she abuses her privilege as a friend & knows how
to take advantage of others only when she needs them.
That the Uchidas also said she never came
around unless she needed something.

That Helen's writing says that she
was marrying a soldier hurt Mrs. Yabuki's
feelings no end — and then to bounce
off the soldier & come crawling back at
Masao is another way she ^(H) takes advantage of
situations & people. Only when she needs them.
Whether Helen's intention (which didn't work out)
hurt Mas' feelings or not she never said — but Mrs. Yabuki's

3

feelings were very hurt that Helen should flaunt her victory in her son's face.

(Evidently she told everyone before she told you - else she wouldn't have announced her intention of marriage to all, would she?)

Papa told me while Helen was out with Jimmy to Sunday School & said I should tell you the above. That it is disappointing news but that Mrs. Yabuki said she thought any further discussion was useless. So Papa said, well, these things are "En dakara" if there should develop any opportunity or hope, he wants Helen to be favored. But said he couldn't urge re-consideration, etc if the principals aren't interested. But Mrs. Yabuki says Helen will always feel superior bec. of her father's position & feel he's done so much for his congregation. Bec. to church members, they've done much to help the clergy's family too, contributions to give him a salary & to add to the small salary, the starting of a language school so the preacher's income can be supplemented - but that he wanted to study more at Berkeley, so the wife took over the teaching, but bec. of the little child Julia, couldn't do it efficiently, & the children didn't learn much at the school for the short 1 hr. session & the switching around in teachers, etc, & Masao was transferred

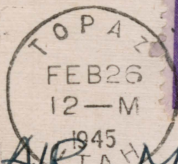
to Mr. Yabuki + so on + therefore the continuous
charges proved very discouraging so he never did
learn Japanese! Mrs. Yabuki quit church after
your mother made some remarks, so that her
family, she feels, have done their share toward
contribution but none towards indebtedness +
"Chotto mo osewa ni natte imasen."

So Papa told Helen briefly, of course, not stressing
faults at all this time, but just the answer + he said
she took it calmly + said that's what she thought but Helen
was anxious about it so she gave it a try. And what should
she do now, where to go? So Papa said for her to give it
a good thinking + take a teaching job where she can meet
a prospective husband of equal caliber, or go to a well
populated place for other work. That Helen is in SF now
so that's one place she might choose, too, in his opinion
one of the best. That Boulder + Stanford need teachers, so
that's another source.

Last night Johnny said Helen should teach, + she
said she was "thinking about it" + whether Boulder was better
than Stanford, etc." When I asked if she had written you yet, she
said no - but would - I said you'd probably be lonely so for her
write to cheer you. I didn't mention the Yabukis. But she asked
me to tell her about Stanford's offer. I said Stanford's better
too. I would eventually go back there + climate etc. is better. So I gave
her \$7.50 (30 Yen) to feel out + send if she likes. So far she's not done
anything with info. in the part re: Stanford or any other. Guess she will
not.

Please get \$40 check Mrs. Taber promised me - also Lucas
Release. Don't hurry them out if illness exists. Love Yvonne. *hugs!*
If they pay 140. they have right to stay until 25 or 26th. Did they get my check? Please write!

J Takahashi
11-58
Wm. J. Takahashi



Mr. Lewis J. Takahashi

1259 Arguello Blvd.
San Francisco
California

Wish you'd go see place before
they leave. Casual
visit to meet them.
Mrs. Baker + Capt. both
very nice.

AIR MAIL

Jan 1/1944