

7-2-C, Topaz, Utah  
Nov. 19th, 1942

Dear Rev. and Mrs. Inglis;

On behalf of the members of the Oakland Independent Church and other friends in Topaz, I wish to express our hearty appreciation and gratitude to you for sending your Miss Coxhead to visit us here. It made all of us very happy and you are kindly requested to convey our utmost thanks to the members of your church.

It was indeed very kind and thoughtful of you to send her to visit us when she is quite busy out there. You can hardly realize how much her visit with us meant to our people here, because most of them, particularly the younger folks, are very much depressed and sometimes homesick because of the various situations besides the climatic conditions.

We were all so happy to have Miss Coxhead with us even for a few days, and staying with the Tanakas in our block, seeing the actual conditions of the Center, even tho we felt somewhat sorry that she had to live with us "Evacuees" during her stay here.

She was so active here, seeing so many people and speaking at various meetings, and she even saw the famous dust storm of Topaz. We hope she felt no ill effects when she reached home in California after such a strenuous visit here.

The candy she brought with her for the people will be much appreciated by many. We thank you and the church for the gifts, for candy is quite precious out here.

We have had rather warm days for the last few days, but it began to snow before noon today and now it is a few inches deep on the ground. This makes the children very happy, for most of the Calif. children are seeing snow for the first time. It is too bad however, that they do not yet have proper school houses, and that their temporary school rooms are not winterized and are without stoves. There is a shortage of houses, shortage of supplies, shortage of coal, and while the officials here are doing their best to improve the situation, the people are to suffer eventually.

The school buildings were reported to be completed in Dec., but we do not see any sign of materials being delivered as yet, and they are temporarily using unwinterized barracks.

The church has been organized since a few weeks ago, and is functioning in its activities with about fourteen ministers from the Bay Region. Sunday services are being held in two Recreation Halls or unused dining hall with no little inconveniences, the benches being carried in and out from the school rooms before and after each meeting. The people are quite religious however, and every meeting has over a few hundred in congregation.

A few hundred people have gone out temporarily for outside work on sugar beet farms, turkey farms, orchards etc...which has caused some shortage of labor in the Center where people are paid only \$16.00 or \$19.00 per month according to their classification, for a 44 hour work week. The boys working outside usually make \$5.00 to \$10.00 a day, and the difference of remuneration being too great in and out of the Center, it demoralizes and breaks down the morale of the men in the Center, so a labor committee to adjust the situation has been organized. A proposal has been made to put up a trust fund for the community, the funds to be donated by the men working outside whose families are remaining in the camp, and such trust funds are to be distributed among all workers in the Center eventually.

I am serving voluntarily as Judicial Commissioner for the Community, director of the Community Co-op and for the last few days have been working as an interviewer in the occupational survey now being conducted by the Administration, so I am quite busy, both mind and body being occupied, which is good for me.

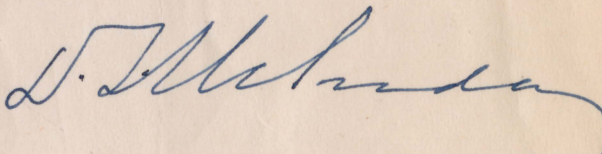
Mrs. Uhida is also busy all day, keeping the house which becomes so dusty all the time in order. She attends meetings too, so has enough work, even though she does not have to cook or wash dishes, ~~etc~~ of which are done in the community kitchen.

Kay and Yoshi are busy with their work teaching nursery and elementary school respectively, but they hope if possible to take advantage of going out side to study or work. We the first generation however, are inclined to think of staying in the Center for the duration.

Thanking you and church for sending Miss Coxhead here, and for your generous gifts. Please remember us all to Miss Coxhead.

Yours very cordially,

The Uhidias.



*kindest regards to Miss Coxhead -*

*Read your article "Historical Ordination" in Sept. Advance - with interest*

*DT*