

145 Rood Ave
Grand Junction, Colo.
Feb. 10, 1943.

Dear Friend,

How glad I am to hear from you. Your letter found me here, coming from California. We went to Calif. a year ago expecting to work with Japanese and "Nisei" (Japanese-Americans) but after they were evacuated we had no reason for staying longer, though we enjoyed California very much.

Since I am now retired I can go where I please, but Katherine was appointed to work among Japanese and Nisei around here so I tagged along to keep house for her.

We have not been able to do much, for the people live in the country and we have no conveyance. About all we can do is to be a friend to such as come to us. At first the sheriff would not let us have services for them - said there never was nor ever would be a Christian Japanese, but after election he, being defeated let us have a meeting when Dr. Smith, in charge of our

Oriental work came from San Francisco and wanted to have a meeting. We are hoping we can have another meeting before the people get to work.

I suppose there are a hundred Japanese and Nisei around here.

My chief work is to write letters to the girls formerly in our Hiroshima school. I am in touch with thirty three all but four in camps besides four who are interned. All Japanese who had language schools or taught in them were interned. One woman was principal of a school in Hawaii and I suppose the others were probably teachers.

I feel so sorry for the girls in ^{the} camps. The WRA is anxious to get as many as possible relocated outside, and we are trying to help with that.

We have recently had a girl with us whose husband is a private at Camp Hale near by and her brother a Corporal stationed here. The family are in a relocation camp but she has been released and came to Grand Junction

to be near her husband. She has a wife's allowance and could live on that, but she says she means to save that to set up business when the war is over, and she will work to make expenses. But here I go talking about myself mostly.

I had a very interesting letter ^{from Mabel} in reply to a Christmas greeting and I think she won't mind if I send it on to you and maybe we can get the Robin started again. I would so love to hear from you both. How we miss the other members of the group!

This war is terrible, but it looks like it will go on indefinitely. When I hear of our boys going down, I sorrow; and when I hear of Japanese dying in the jungles I sorrow again and wonder if the mothers of some of them are not my friends. They, too, watch and wait for news and many will never know how the end came. I often wonder if soldiers save the identification

tags of the enemy they bury.

How did you do it - weigh 125 lbs. I find it hard to believe I wouldn't know you, would I? I am grateful if I can keep my weight up to 115. Katherine is skinny, too. She hasn't been very well. She has developed a curvature and has gone to Denver to get a corset or brace hoping to find relief. She has had osteopathic treatments which helped some.

You will miss your care, perhaps I should say are missing it. It looks like we are all due to stay where we are because trains are so terribly crowded.

I have no near relatives in service, only cousins so far. One nephew too old, the other in war work, but no telling what may happen. Both have children but that makes no difference now. Is your brother John still in newspaper work? From all accounts, life in Washington must be hectic.

Hoping to hear from you again soon
Yours with best love,

Ida L. Shannon.

"Katie" would send love I'm sure if she were here