

STRENGTH THROUGH ADVERSITY

To the accompaniment of Handel's Messiah and with the choristers' "Unto Us A Child is Born" resounding through the newly constructed tent factory, the little Nisei children, all wrapped in angel white robes, sidled up the aisles to the manger on the stage. Following closely behind came the "Parents of Bethlehem" as the Christmas pageant at the Tule Lake Relocation Center commenced.

The audience's mood of expectancy and hope seemed unbelievable to the Outsider who was sitting there with friends on a backless bench. For two days, she had wandered through the Center—embittered and depressed by the impersonal forces which tugged and pushed at the 16,000 inhabitants of the "community." How often, in those hours, had she reflected as she pulled out her pass for soldier inspection in order to pass from one barbed-wire enclosure to another, that the Caucasian conscience seemed unable to emulate the clearness of his skin.

Yet here sat those who had suffered directly from all of this "necessary" social cruelty...here they sat... singing "Joy To the World, the Saviour Reigns." And the age old query of how to find faith and light in moments of darkness came to the Outsider again. As one of them remarked, "We must believe that somewhere—even here—are those babies who, as Fosdick says, may be more decisive than Battles." Those internees knew...what so many of their loyal friends, free to move about as they please, have denied to themselves...that we must find a concentration point for the multitudes of hopes, thoughts, faiths and aspirations which imprisonment cannot stifle.

(con. page 4)

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EQUALITY*

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FAN-FARE

Go-workers in the struggle for racial equality:
The Pacific Cable has been received for the past four or five months and I would like to express my appreciation for your efforts and also the sentiment expressed in its pages.

I consider your work of great significance in the program of getting a just and durable peace.

The enclosed contribution is not as large as I would like to have it be, but in these days of stress and the abundance of human misery, one has to weigh values very carefully in its attempt to be a good steward..

Keep up the good work and convey our interests, best wishes at this holiday season to Gordon Hirabayashi and to those whose welfare he so nobly represents.

Sincerely,
Myron Ernst

We are sure that Minoru Yasui would appreciate some word from his friends. He is located at the Multnomah County Jail, Portland Oregon.

A letter from Frank Yoshimura tells us that he is now manager of the Community Shoe Store at the Gila River Relocation Center.



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(Con. from page 1)

It is easy to deplore, so difficult to push on upward.

The Outsider now found hope for her hopelessness, determination for her despair, and realized anew that though we and our friends suffer the humiliation of the double standard, we are not vitally injured so long as we are not maintaining this double standard in our own souls.

These war sufferers have begun to lay hold of life again, seeking to glorify it in spite of sordid surroundings. Let us who are free not fail to make opportunities for the physical re-settlement of that spirit.

Eleanor Smith

Are you LIVING or merely existing?

Adversity is the first path

to truth. ...Byron.....
