

SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

801 FRUIT BUILDING, 4TH AND J STREETS

TELEPHONE 2-0404

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA (14)

October 22, 1943

Secretary
Rotary Club
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Sir:

The circumstance of the two items which appear on the enclosed clipping from the Sacramento Bee for October 19, 1943 impels this note to you, despite the fact that I am not a Rotarian.

It seems to me that the Los Angeles item is a fair cross section of the feeling of people in California and on the entire Coast. The statement of Attorney Crosby is proved in every community in California where there is a Japanese colony. The statement of Attorney Howser confirms every conversation I have had with returned service men.

I have talked to no one who is in sympathy with the statements made to your club by Director Myer. As for his sympathy with Japanese children who "should grow up in more American surroundings," the truth of the matter is that Japanese colonies keep very much to themselves and though their children under California law must go to school, each day after our schools close and the Japanese child has absorbed whatever Americanism he might, he is sent by his parents to Japanese schools, to undo whatever little good might have been done in the hours before.

In urging United States communities to "receive the Japanese Americans as citizens whose loyalty had been subjected to the most rigorous tests" I would suggest that you of Lawrence, before receiving these people, get in touch with Roane Waring, last year's Commander of the American Legion, whose correspondence with Mr. Myer and the F.B.I. does not indicate that any rigor at all was applied to the examination of Japanese who were released from the re-location centers.