

February 15, 1945

Col. Karl F. Baldwin
APO 924 c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, California

My dear Colonel:

In writing you I have kept in mind the war influences and conditions with which you are surrounded and have tried to bring a somewhat cheerful note even at the expense of being considered too trifling in the face of the serious conditions with which we are confronted, but there is so much of sorrow and grief in the old world, and so many things with which you have to put up, that I have tried to say something a little different.

I am sorry to know that you are troubled with Bursitis, and Mrs. Simons commented on my ignorance by telling me that she had had a Bursa on her right shoulder ever since her attempt to continue walking after she broke her leg about five years ago. There is a little bump that can be plainly seen, although it is not hard.

My attitude and the attitude of the paper has been to support every war effort to the fullest extent, to try to be as comforting and helpful to our readers as possible, and yet we feel free to criticize elements of evil in our own national life as the needs seem to require. On the whole I can't help but believe that Lawrence and Douglas County form a better community, at least in part due to the unfaltering courage and leadership of the Journal-World. So often though, I think of the quotation from Shakespeare in which he refers to "creak pregnant hinges of the knee that thrift may fall fawning". I have preferred to try to follow the somewhat rough admonition of the native Texan who said, "So live that you can look every damn man in the eye and tell him to go to hell".

I feel certain that you have been troubled feeling you could have done so much more than you have been permitted to do. While that may be true, yet I do not under-estimate the fine service that you have given in maintaining morale in Australia, a country whose soldiers have brought glory to it in both of the wars against the Huns.

Sgt. Kollender, as you doubtless know, is now Citizen Kollender working at the Sunflower Ordnance Works, and I am sure is proving a good man on the job and feels that he is having a much more active part in supporting the war than he did during recent years and months in his more or less limited service at the University.

I think that Mrs. Aszman has apparently entirely recovered from her illness of a few months ago and is able to resume her normal activities.

You probably have noticed the report of the last few days that over 500 Nisei have been taken to the concentration camp because they have denied their American citizenship and accepted that of their Japanese ancestors. I think their position had been particularly hard because so few of us have had confidence in them, and if being citizens of the United States, they have been suspected by most of us, it naturally has had a tendency to make them dissatisfied with their American alignment.

I shall be glad to have one of your good letters. Sincerely