

Sagle, Idaho,
Sept. 14, 1944.

Dear Mr. Nagumo,

I have received your letter dated Sept. 11, and rather was surprised to hear from you, though Mr. Hashimoto of your block was telling me that you were thinking of going out on rail road work. Just a day ago he told me that his wife wrote to him in the effect that you have signed up with Chicago and Burlington Line but I will be more than glad to have you come here.

I told our foreman about you right-a-way and he said there is room for twenty more men and if there are more men coming, he could get more bunk car anytime. So if you decide to come, you will be welcomed with open hands. Mr. Nagumo, if there are more men in the gang, it will be easier for everybody, so I asked foreman if you could bring any other ones with you. He told me to write to you to try to enlist as many men as you can. There is a man at the outside employment office who is suppose to do that but he is failing entirely. So will you try to bring any one who is interested in this work.

Wage for new men is 60¢ an hour and a time and a half is paid after eight hours work daily. We work ten hours daily. The daily earning is therefore \$6.60 gross. But food cost fifty cents daily and tax and insurance are to be deducted so by the month it come to between 165 to 170 depending how much over time we put in. This sum is the net by the month. It is not much of money but nothing to be laughed at considering the work we have to do. It is not entirely loafing as some of them say but surely is not any strenuous work as I used to do at gardening. We take it easy and keep on going excepting the time when we have to work fast which does not occur very often. There are number of people who claim other companies are better but the fact is that few men are from such companies and are working with us. So it entirely depends how man looks at the things. I for myself like this company and this gang since there is no real toughies in it.

I could ask for your pass to the company but there is a man at the outside employment office in the camp specially for N.P.R.Co. So, will you, please, tell him to arrange the things for you.

Be very sure that you tell this man that you want come to Gang #6 because he has been trying to send the people to new gang at Logan, Montana for which our foreman is very sore.

The weather is very good right now and I believe it is the best time for any one to start for this work. You will have just enough time put in to apply for a free pass to the center at the Christmas time. They claim one has to have worked two months or over to get the pass, excepting any emergency case. I have written to my father to consult with you and try to come out if he wants to but he might be a bit too old. It might be wiser to give the responsibility to the government to look after old ones like himself.

We all sleep in the bunk cars. It is just a hobo's life. Eat, work and sleep. There is nothing to look forward to but occasional visit to the center. But it is very nice place to save what you earn because there is no way to spend it. You will not be one of them but anyone who feels few hundred dollars in pocket is more convenient when we really relocate should come out and save that few hundred dollars in the place like this. Men in the gang range from seventeen years to 74 and they all get same pay., except ones who have been working previous Feb. 1944.

I have tried to put down what you wanted to know and hope that you will come out as soon as possible with any other men you can bring. Hoping to see you I remain.

Sincerely Yours,

Mark S. Penotcar