

Take this quotation to your hearts not merely as words of a man fighting for a most highly and dearly cherished possession, his American citizenship, but as a challenge to your perseverance and ability in carrying out this relocation program to the highest degree of success.

There is a quotation in the newspapers of a prominent man advocating evacuation which said, "Once a Jap, always a Jap"

But have we been anything but Americans ? Were we not brought up indoctrinated in the principles of democracy and fair play ? Haven't we suffered with General Washington at Valley Forge , and thrilled to the words of Lincoln on the battlefield at Gettysburg ? Doesn't our whole future lie in the United States ? Yes, it does.

~~not~~ We have suffered a lot, and we may be down, but out ! Let's show the public that we can come out of this awful mess greater Americans than before !

There are stories of mob violence, but in most cases they are exaggerated. But, of what are we afraid ? This isn't the first time we have been faced with racial restrictions, economic discriminations and insulting remarks. We're used to that.

Let us ,therefore, dedicate ourselves to the task of going out into the United States, and proving to the public that we are just as good Americans as they are.

Eugene Dyeki



Minidola Project High School  
Hunt, Idaho.

December 28, 1942.

Please return to  
Mrs. J. D. Amerman 39 Park Ave  
Bloomfield  
N. Jersey

Helen Amerman, teacher.

Note. ....The following speech was given in an eleventh grade core class at the close of a round table discussion of relocation problems. The program was the last in a series of meetings planned and executed by a student committee over a period of about six weeks. The moderator concluded the program with these words to the class.

Many people will say that the solutions that we have discussed are ideological, that they are impractical, and that they are hopeless. They further state that since the government evacuated us here, they should take care of us. I'll grant you that the government has a moral obligation to help us financially but that obligation ends when they have helped us and provided the means whereby we can assume our duties as citizens. We don't want to be parasites all our lives, do we?

If we don't start now, the situation may remain the same, but probably it will turn for the worse. There is bound to be much more bitterness after the war.

The destiny of future generations to come depends upon us. We are the framework. If we fail in our task, then the future generations are lost. What we do here now to alleviate our conditions will have much to do with the final dispersion of the Nisei and Isei into American life.

I should like to quote from Mr. Yasui's letter of Dec. 5th, 1942.

"The future of the Nisei lies in the United States of America. Our destiny is bound with America. We have been indoctrinated in the principles and doctrines of America, for it is incontrovertible that all Americans are of foreign extraction. We undoubtedly must become a part of America. In order to become assimilated into American life, Nisei Americans must spread throughout the United States and avoid congregating in compact communities which would be subject to distrust, hatred and ignorance on the part of the American public. There lies a duty of the Nisei American to go out in order to acquaint the American people of the worth and quality of the individual.....not as a Nisei, but as an American."