



The Historical
Society of
Pennsylvania
with THE BALCH
INSTITUTE FOR
ETHNIC STUDIES

Japanese American Internment: Relocation, Rights, Redress

Iwata Family correspondence

March 5, 1943

Dear Shigezo san,

There is a bowl of fresh wild flowers in our room to-day. Children and I went across the little stream to the empty field for a walk and found these yellow daisy-like flowers growing in a strip near the water. Their leaves are dainty – like cosmos leaves.

You know, I was thinking today that time marches on and if I'm to keep up, we should bury the past and always look toward what's coming.

Our photograph albums were all confiscated and since I had taken the trouble to mount all most all of the pictures, there's not a single family picture left – except for our wedding picture. Then, there's one of Ei and Masami san and Dohi san's family. That is all. I wrote to the F.B.I. asking for the albums and other things like my notebook with Defense Savings Stamp Book and Baby Account Book but they said they didn't take the things into their possession. I felt so bad about it and wanted to ask just who could tell me where the confiscated things are but upon second thought decided that perhaps such a sentiment is something of the past that I should bury. Then again, I think that perhaps if I perish I could locate those things valuable only to you and me.

By new military order, Poston has become part of free zone. Even if we were free to go out from this camp, the nearest town is Parker, about 19 miles away, and even that is like the town of Coachella.

Many are willing to relocate themselves outside but are without means. This will be given consideration, it is hoped.

Love

Sonoko