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Rec. Nov. 5.

Oakley, Idaho

Oct 29, 1943

Dear Oji-San,

Thank you so much for the bath towels and for
cheer tidbits that you sent us just recently.

It was certainly very thoughtful of you especially
when things must be difficult to purchase down
there. As for the cheese tidbits, I think I will
save those and send them back to Midori, Ayako,
and Kazumi for they will certainly enjoy them.

How have you been these last few months?

I wondered if you were going to come up to Idaho
to work as you said in your last letter. I
can't imagine you Oji-San working on a railroad.
However, it would be swell if you could drop over
to Hunt and visit us.

Yes, Yoshi-chan and I are really out here
in Oakley, Idaho which is about 45 miles
from Hunt. The mountains that we see West
of the camp are now east of us and another
range lines the west horizon. It is beautiful
especially after the mountain-tops have been touched
with a fall of snow. Last week we had our first
snowfall this fall and it was quite heavy. The 30
girls and 30 boys out here are working in the potato
and sugar beet fields helping to harvest the crops
here in Idaho. Yoshi-chan started right out working
in the potato fields, but I was not so fortunate
and had to work for a week and a half on sugar
beets. It was the first time I had ever seen a sugar
beet beet, too. We dig them up with the hook on our
knife and then hack off the enormous leaves that
top the white heavy beet. Sometimes the beets
are so heavy that we can't lift them from the
ground so we first top it while its lying on the
ground. It usually weighs about 5-6 pounds!
After all the beets in the row have been topped,
we had to throw them on the truck. I hated that
because if there was the slightest breeze, a

Shower of dirt would fall in our faces & our eyes were often bloodshot. I'm glad that's done with and we are now on potatoes or spuds as it is called here. All we do is to pick them from the ground into baskets and then empty the baskets into sack.

We get 10¢ a sack. This is simple but terribly backbreaking. My sack is getting used to the bent-over position & it isn't quite as hard as topping sugar beets. But you'd never recognize us after a day's work so dirty and dusty are we. Perhaps you are wondering whatever made Yoshi-chan and I come out to work on a farm when we had never before done anything of this sort. Well, it happens that the schools in Hunt were closed for a month from Oct. 4-31 to enable the students to come out and help harvest. The vacation has been extended until Nov. 15, but I don't think that I will stay that long. We will probably head for home about Nov. 8.

Sat. Oct 30

It snowed again today and so we didn't work until late afternoon. It's awfully cold here and I'm so thankful that Mama sent us long woolen stockings and winter coats for we sure can make use of them.

I write home about every 5 days or sooner and try to keep in touch with them often as they are quite lonely without the two of us. Mother says that she always liked home to be quite, but she doesn't was it to be as quite as it is now, especially when we don't come home even after 5 and 6 p.m. I miss

Papa-san and Mame-san more than I thought it possible since we were going to be away only for a month. But it is not as I thought it would be.

Oji-san, have you had a rehearing yet? How I wish you could join us! It has been a year and 10 months since we have seen you. Ragumi has probably forgotten what her "Sukina oji-san" looked like.

Please take good care of yourself and write us again. If you write before the 7th or 8th of November, would you address your letter to this place?

Lovingly

Miyoko

Thank you again for the "om'age".