

Board 4/28/42

Japanese Student Admission
5/10/42

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BOARD

The question of the admission of American-born Japanese ~~xxxx~~ who have been evacuated from the West Coast.

(Tell them Admin. Counc. is not in agreement on that subject)

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PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

May 9, 1942.

53. President Wells presented to the Board the problems involved in the admission of Japanese students. On motion of Mr. Hastings, seconded by Mr. Kunkel, the Board disapproved the admission of Japanese students.

President Wells said, "We have had raised from many sources the question of admission of Japanese of American citizenship. This thing arose when some of the west coast institutions had to move them out because of the military order and they have been trying to place some of their students and so this ~~question~~ has come up many places. Here is one from the Dean of the Medical Center of the University of California." (President Wells read the letter.) "Now we heard some talk about this in Chi. when the Presidents of the Big Ten Universities met--the 10 presidents, and those of Iowa State and Michigan State, and their practices are different. Some have no policy at all and others do have. Chicago admits them but not to areas where there is government research work going on. Wisconsin and Mich. were of the opinion they would admit them if proper military authority on the west coast gave them clearance. Dykstra was going to Washington to see what the State Department would want to do about it. I think perhaps some other institutions haven't taken any stand at all on it. We had it up with the Adm. Council and they split about 50-50.

Almost immediately, Mr. Feltus, Mr. McMurtrie, and Mr. Kunkel said they would rather not take them for the duration.

Mr. Hastings said, "Aside from that, isn't there the point that our resources are pretty well strained now?" *Pres. W. said not particularly.*

Judge Wildermuth said, "As I see it, there is a difference in Japanese and Germans or Italians--they are Aryans and can be assimilated but the Japanese can't--they are different racially. I can't believe that any Japanese, no matter where he was born, is anything but a Japanese.

Mr. Kunkel moved, and Mr. McMurtrie seconded, that no Jap. be admitted to Indiana University.

The question was asked, "Would you restrict the American born Japs, natives of Ind.?"

Judge Wildermuth said, "I think we might say that it is the recommendation of the Board that the Director of Admissions discourage the application of non-resident Jap applicants."

Mr. Peterson suggested taking action in regard to these four cases presented and then just know by inference that we do not wish to do it.

Judge Wildermuth said he would be afraid any Jap would get into subversive activity whenever he would have a chance.

President Wells said, "There is this to be said ~~This might be a very serious situation~~ about the situation--when the casualty lists begin to come in--even though they might be loyal Americans as anybody, feeling is going to mount very high and you might have disturbances on the campus, particularly when you get this Navy here.

~~Mr. Kunkel said, "If you don't do it"~~

Then the Board adopted Mr. Kunkel's motion.

Also, on motion of Mr. Hastings, seconded by Mr. Kunkel, the Board denied these 4 requests that came in.