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Yuba and Sutter Counties Synopsis

(Interviewing in Marysville, California, January 2 and 3, 1945)
Katherine Luomala, Com. Analysis Section

Although an impressive nucleus of several highly respected and well established citizens of Yuba and Sutter Counties have been aroused to indignation and counteractive measures against the verbal excess of a few spokesmen of the anti-Japanese group, locally called "firebrands" or "hotheads", more than half of the general public oppose the return of the Japanese. The president of the Marysville Chamber of Commerce, Warren Shingle, told the interviewer on January 3, 1945, that 60% of the people do not want the Japanese to return, 20% are indifferent, while another 20% are seriously studying the problem of effecting the peaceful return of Japanese (in 1940, 423, Sutter County, 429, Yuba County) into the two counties which constitute something of a unit because of the proximity and rivalry of the Twin Cities, Marysville in Yuba County and Yuba City in Sutter County.

Opposed as the people may be, a dozen Nisei soldiers who appeared during the Christmas shopping period aroused curiosity but no incidents. The soldiers shopped in the stores, visited in the poolrooms, and ate in the restaurants.

Anti-Japanese feeling has been publicly spear-headed by Arnold Bean, cattle rancher, and Elmer Arnoldy, past commander of the local American Legion Post. Through the first week of January, 1945, the following anti-evacuee actions had occurred:

1. Bean started a petition against rescinding the ban. His son started one in Marysville High School.
2. Names of Nisei on the Soldier Honor Roll were removed. Protests by friendly Legionnaires and others led to their replacement of Japanese names but now they are segregated.
3. January 3, 1945, the Yuba County Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution introduced by Supervisor James Brown of Wheatland township protesting the return of evacuees. This move was partly inspired by the December meeting in Sacto. of the Directors of the County Supervisors Association.

The nucleus of citizens resisting the anti-evacuee forces is led by the president of the Chamber of Commerce, Warren Shingle; the minister of the First Presbyterian Church, Rev. Herbert Werner; the editor of the daily Marysville Appeal-Democrat, Earl Brownlee; Rev. T. Horgan of the Catholic Church; "Doc" Stanford of the Marysville High School; J. J. Collins, assistant dean of Yuba College; and others. This nucleus is concerned about the danger the "firebrands" can cause by:

1. Inciting weak brains to attack individual Japanese and giving the counties bad publicity;
2. Encouraging an increase in Vigilantism in an area where the pioneer custom of taking the law into one's own hands has never disappeared and shows recent tendencies to increase;
3. Endangering the Constitutional rights of all American people through denying or endangering the rights of one group.

A climax in the conflict between the nucleus and the firebrands occurred at a meeting to discuss the question, "What is the Proper Attitude Toward Returning Loyal Japanese Americans," which was held December 29 at noon by the Men's Forum of the First Presbyterian Church.

Discussion became so heated, particularly after uninvited guests, the Yuba City Postmaster and the editor of the Yuba City Herald dominated the discussion with anti-Japanese sentiments, that some participants threatened each other physically. However, the leading speaker, State Senator W. P. Rich, who has tremendous prestige in the counties, calmed the audience by reminding them that law and order must prevail; that the rights of the Japanese are guaranteed under the Constitution of the United States. "The Supreme Court of the United States has spoken and no matter what individual personal opinion may exist, they no longer are the issue... All this reckless talk of people taking the law into their own hands has its peril," he said.

As 277 of the 429 Yuba County Japanese lived in Marysville, respondents knew many evacuees individually. Frank Nakamura, Yuba College graduate, husband of a Caucasian woman, owner of a drug-store, and a respected citizen, belonged to service and civic clubs. The Buddhist Church has much property. A swastika painted over the door during evacuation is still there. People object to both Japanese and Chinese language schools. Negro in-migrants working at Camp Beale have taken over the old Japanese section.

The housing situation is serious due to the increased population brought by Camp Beale and Marysville Airport. New military developments will further inflate the town this winter.

Relatively little discrimination against races occurs. Negroes watch closely to prevent it. Chinese have a gambling monopoly which pays off to the city in fines and charitable contributions. Some Southern whites have married into Marysville's pioneer families and become respected citizens. Others who have not done as well are expected to resent the Japanese return as a threat to their slight economic improvement.

Yuba and Sutter Counties are more vocal and pugnacious than Yolo County about the Japanese. This may help let off steam or further stir up feeling. However, whatever happens, the nucleus of leading citizens will do, and are doing, all they can to keep the lid on because of loyalty to American principles and their home county's good name and prosperity. For this reason, the situation seems healthier than in Yolo County which, at the time of interviewing, lacked such a nucleus of prominent men determined to keep order.

F R I E N D L Y

1. Warren Shingle, president, Chamber of Commerce, president of Gibson Bus Lines, member of American Legion and of the Yuba County Board of Education, was interviewed. He is an influential leader, devoted to city welfare, will do all he can to prevent trouble. A key man like Brownlee.
2. Rev. Herbert Werner, First Presbyterian Church and organizer of the Men's Forum which discussed Japanese question. Was interviewed. Social minded, he interviews labor and religious leaders in the East in his vacation.
3. Earl Brownlee, editor of the Appeal-Democrat, who assisted in the induction of Japanese into the Marysville Assembly Center, was interviewed. Very critical of WRA for sending Japanese back before end of war. Is devoted to welfare of city and constitutional rights, so will help.
4. J. J. Collins, assistant dean of the Yuba Junior College, Chairman of Presbyterian Men's Forum has some duties in connection with the canneries. Interviewed. A liberal who has begun to hedge in expressing his opinion through fear of economic and social consequences.
5. "Doc" Stenford, popular leader of student activities at Marysville, H. S., who wants to organize Fair Play Committee, is married to employee in bookkeeping department of International House, Berkeley.

F R I E N D L Y

6. State Senator W. P. Rich, elderly Republican, whose words carry much weight locally. He has recently sold his home ranch and other properties through the Wilcoxon real estate firm and seems to be clearing the decks. He gave a carefully prepared speech to the Men's Forum on the Japanese question.
7. Monsignor Thomas Horgan, Catholic Church. Marysville is predominantly Catholic. Horgan is a liberal; said he was going to take Arnoldy, a Catholic "in hand."
8. "The church group is not united on the Japanese question. Rev. Lowrey of the Methodist Church in Yuba City goes his own way quietly entertaining representatives of minority groups. Rev. Tembllyn of the Episcopal Church has not committed himself on the Japanese question. There is a Yuba-Sutter Counties Ministerial Association.
9. The American Legion members differ. "Brick" Wilcoxon and Warren Shingle are prominent friendly members.
10. Mrs. Leo W. Faro, a member of the Daughters of the Golden West in Yuba City, is on WRA records as friendly.
11. Kenyon Gregg, OPA Rent Office, formerly of WCCA, is said to be well-informed on Japanese social and economic structure in the community. His son, who interprets Japanese in the Marine Corps, studied at a local language school and in Japan.
12. Librarian, name not ascertained, Yuba College, told librarian friend at Modesto Jr. College it was best for the Japanese if friends keep quiet and don't make too much of a fuss. She corresponds with evacuee friends and sells their center handiwork to get them spending money.
13. Sheriff McCoy; friendly respondents were doubtful of his good faith for political reasons, but he announced FBI visit and his determination to do his duty.
14. WRA has names of other friends on its mailing list.
15. Homer Lingenfelter, an attorney and liberal, told some Legionnaire firebrands they were becoming a Fascist Veteran Group like those in Germany after World War I.
16. Local Army Officer on duty in area keeps watchful, interested eye on public attitudes toward Japanese, according to Rev. Werner.

Some friendly people, like Brownlee, distinguish between aliens whom they reject and citizens toward whom they are friendly. The contribution of Nisei soldiers is a decisive factor in favoring returning evacuee citizens.

UNFRIENDLY

1. Arnold Bean is a Yuba County cattle rancher or dairy farmer and member of the First Presbyterian Church. His violent opposition to the Japanese surprises some people who cannot discern the economic motivation for his attitude. Rev. Werner stated that Bean's daughter who is in his church said that the Earl Fruit Co. (Di Giorgio) is against the Japanese because they work longer hours and corner the produce markets. It feels it cannot speak against the Japanese so it has her father do so. How much truth there is in her statement is hard to judge. Her brother led anti-Japanese agitation at the high school which echoes in capitals the sentiments of parents.

Bean has received much publicity in the Sacramento Bee. The Bee's local correspondent, Mr. Agazala, has given the firebrands so much publicity and misquoted Mr. Shingle to make him appear anti-Japanese that Mr. Shingle has demanded the Bee fire the reporter.

Bean's petition which was circulated about December 1, 1944, in Yuba and Sutter Counties asked that Japanese not be permitted to return until the temper of the times has moderated (Sacto Bee 12/21/44). He claims he got hundreds of names on the petition.

2. Elmer Arnoldy is a Catholic, past commander of the Yuba-Sutter American Legion Post, editor of a local Legion magazine and a member of the board of Education of Yuba County. The interviewer was unable to find out exactly what his occupation is other than editor of the Legion magazine. It may be Arnoldy whom the editor of the Marysville Appeal-Democrat meant in describing a leading "firebrand" as a man who had been in several different lines of work and had made good at none. Although the Sacto. Bee has given Bean more publicity than Arnoldy, the activity of the latter in opposing the return seems to get under the skin of the president of the Chamber of Commerce and the editor of the Appeal-Democrat more than does Bean. This may be because of Arnoldy's closer contacts with the two. The president of the Chamber of Commerce is a Legionnaire and member of the Board of Education like Arnoldy. The editor of the Appeal-Democrat runs up against Arnoldy, the editor of the Little Legion paper. Arnoldy has attacked Brownlee in his paper but has retracted.

Arnoldy is referred to as the "30-day patriot" because he was in World War I from mid-October to the armistice in November, long enough to get a uniform. He is described as a provincial native son, who has never been far outside his home.

UNFRIENDLY

Not long ago Arnoldy tried to get a local teacher discharged because he differed with the teacher's views. Shingle, however, squelched Arnoldy on this at once.

3. Claude Biggs, editor of the Yuba City Herald, another fire-brand, crashed the Men's Forum discussion on the Japanese question. He is going to abide by the decision of the Supreme Court and the Army, but after the war will organize a league to drive every Japanese out of the country. He says that if Placerville can keep out the Japanese, so can Sutter County.

4. The Sacramento Bee, 12/30/44, quotes Joseph B. Sheridan of Yuba City, occupation not stated, as anticipating violence if the Japanese return to the state. Mr. Sheridan crashed the meeting with Mr. Biggs.

5. Agazala, Sacramento Bee local correspondent.

6. Yuba County Supervisors passed anti-evacuee resolution.

7. Yuba City Postmaster, name not ascertained, crashed Men's Forum meeting with Mr. Biggs.

Arguments against the return take no unusual form in the two counties. Bean and Sheridan protest the return because the temper of the people is such they might easily be incited to violence against individual Japanese which would then lead to reprisals by Japan against American prisoners of war. The pose of anxiety for the welfare of returning Japanese put on while building up feeling for violence is standard equipment among the opposition. That "A Jap is a Jap" and all Japanese should be exterminated is part of the opposition talk. The Yuba County supervisors used primarily the argument of saboteurs on the West Coast. Dual citizenship and language schools also play a prominent part. Mr. Shingle says animosity is predicated on selfish, economic feelings.

Cozzens

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

In reply, please refer to:

Hotel Marysville
Marysville, Calif.
Jan. 2, 1945

Mr. R. B. Cozzens
War Relocation Authority
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Mr. Cozzens:

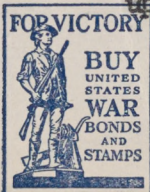
Rev. Herbert Werner used his influence and got me a room at Hotel Marysville, which is more convenient and comfortable for working, as well as the center of Twin Cities activities. Traveling and living get kind of primitive at times, like Hotel Sutter, however quaint.

Rev. Werner is very interested in hearing that Mr. Myer is going to talk about in Woodland. Snyder at Woodland has had no luck in publicizing it in the papers so that people outside the clubs in Woodland do not know of it. Rev. Werner wants Myer to come to Marysville. I suggested he write the San Francisco office and also get in touch with Snyder. Perhaps San Francisco could write Snyder and ask him to invite Rev. Werner and friends to the Presbyterian Forum. Werner has really got the question out in the clean fresh air. The State Bee reporter, Agazola, whom he called a psychopath (to me) and whom Shingle, president of the Chamber of Commerce, has demanded that the Bee fire, distorts local feeling to play up the fire-brands" who want to kill Japs.

Everybody with a brain in town, or even part of a brain at all, is speaking their piece. An ex-Marine of the World War I threatened to knock Arnold Beans' and E. Arnoldy's block off. They are the leading opportunists. The Catholic Monsignor Hogan is saying words to Arnoldy, a Catholic, and toning him down. Bean is a Presbyterian. Werner is an ex-prizefighter and modestly, and I don't know yet how reliably, claims to be at the bottom of all this airing of views. Agazala offered to fight him outside the church but Werner says he does not like to fight sick people.

Arnold B. Bean's daughter babbled that "The Earl Fruit Co. told daddy they couldn't fight the Japanese, but daddy could. They don't want the Japanese back because they work longer hours and control the fruit and vegetable business, so daddy is talking for Earl Fruit Co." Bean is a cattle rancher and not as prominent as the Bee says, according to Werner.

Senator's Rich's fine speech at the Forum quieted a lot of people who quote Rich on everything else. His prestige and influence are enormous and his words about the Constitution, law and order, etc. struck home. It was a very important speech, and Mr. Myer could really hammer it home up here and be listened to with results. The American Legion is divided.



Jan. 2, 1945

Werner says he and his group have been avoiding publicity, but Senator Rich told them all this has got to come out and be known so now Werner's going to work on that. After the Forum, he handed out "Nisei in Uniform" and the people took it. He has not seen McWilliams' little pamphlet of the Fortune reprint. Please send him some. He'll see they are read. He wants the War Relocation Authority to promote Forums. He is worried over the High School kids; he says they are blood thirstier than their parents.

This is a preview. I plan to see J. J. Collins, Dean of Yuba College and a literal who also was chairman of the Forum meeting; Sanford of the High School, who wants to organize a Fair Play Committee; Monsignor Horgan; Shingle of the Chamber of Commerce, and others whom Werner told me about.

After hearing Werner on the Marysville situation, I have come to realize how unhealthy the Woodland attitude is with Snyder, the lone strong voice there; unfortunately he does not have the thicker skin and experience and maturity that Werner has. This is not intended as criticism of Snyder or praise of Werner. Snyder had plenty of nerve to take on Yolo County singlehanded against some one like Lowrey.

Sincerely yours,

Katharine Luomala

1.

Although an impressive nucleus of several highly respected and well established citizens of Yuba and Sutter Counties have been aroused to indignation and counteractive measures against the verbal excess of a few spokesmen of the anti-Japanese group, locally called "firebrands" or "hotheads", more than half of the general public oppose the return of the Japanese. The president of the Marysville Chamber of Commerce, Warren Shingle, told the interviewer on January 5, 1945, that 60% of the people do not want the Japanese to return, 20% are indifferent, while another 20% are seriously studying the various problems involved in effecting the peaceful re-entry of the Japanese into the two counties, which constitute something of a unit because of the proximity and rivalry of the Twin Cities, Marysville in Yuba County and Yuba City in Sutter County.

Opposed as the people may be, the appearance of a dozen Nisei soldiers on the streets during the Christmas shopping period aroused curiosity but no incidents. The soldiers shopped in the stores, visited in the poolrooms, and are in the restaurants,

Anti-Japanese felling has been led by Arnold Bean, cattle rancher, and Elmer Arnoldy, past commander of the local American Legion. Bean started a petition protesting the rescinding of the exclusion order, and his son is said to have started one in the Marysville High School. Names of Nisei soldiers on the community Honor Roll in the civic center park were removed; now they are segregated at the right side of the Roll. The most recent action (Jan. 3, 1945) was that of the Yuba County Board of Supervisors who adopted a resolution protesting the return of the Japanese, favoring the continuance of the exclusion order and opposing the re-establishment of Japanese language schools in the postwar period. Supervisor James Brown of Wheatland, a township which had only 42 of the 429 Yuba County Japanese, introduced the resolution.

The nucleus of citizens resisting the efforts of Bean, Arnoldy and others who oppose the return of the Japanese is led by the president of the Chamber of Commerce, Warren Shingle; the minister of the First Presbyterian Church, Rev Herbert Werner; the editor of the daily Marysville Appeal Democrat, Earl Brownlee; Rev. T. Horgan of the Catholic Church; "Doc" Stanford of the Marysville High School; J.J. Collins who is assistant dean of Yuba College; and others. This nucleus is concerned about the danger the "firebrands" can cause by

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2. Encouraging an increase in Vigilantism in an area where the pioneer custom of taking the law into one's own hands has never disappeared and shows recent tendencies to increase;
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A climax in the conflict between the nucleus and the firebrands occurred at a meeting to discuss the question, "What is the Proper Attitude Toward Returning Loyal Japanese Americans", which was held December 29 at noon by the Men's Forum of the First Presbyterian Church.

The discussion became so heated, particularly after uninvited guests who included the Yuba City Postmaster and the editor of the Yuba City Herald began to dominate the discussion with anti-Japanese sentiments, that some participants threatened each other physically. However, the leading speaker, State Senator W.P. Rich who has tremendous prestige in the counties, calmed the audience

by reminding them that law and order must prevail; that the rights of the Japanese are guaranteed under the Constitution of the United States; "The Supreme Court of the United States has spoken and no matter what individual personal opinion may exist, they no longer are the issue... All this reckless talk of people taking the law into their own hands has its perils."

ANTI JAPANESE GROUPS

Arnold Bean is a Yuba County cattle rancher or dairy farmer and member of the First Presbyterian Church. His violent opposition to the Japanese surprises some people who cannot discern any economic motivation from his attitude. However, Rev. Werner of the Presbyterian Church states that Bean's daughter who is in the church youth group said that the Earl Fruit Co. (DiGiorgio is the local representative) is against the Japanese because they work longer hours and corner the produce markets but they feel they cannot speak against the Japanese so they have her father do it. How much truth there is in her statement is hard to judge. Her brother has led the anti-Japanese agitation at the High School which echoes in capitals the sentiments of parents; he started a petition there against the return but it is said not to have gone very far.

Bean had received most of the publicity in the Sacramento Bee for his attitude. The Bee has a local correspondent, Mr. Agazala, stationed in Marysville. The correspondent has given the firebrands so much publicity and misquoted Mr. Shingle to make him appear anti-Japanese that Mr. Shingle has demanded the Bee fire the reporter. The reporter offered to fight the Presbyterian minister who regards him as a psychopath. The reporter later actually did swing on some one who differed from him.

Bean got out a petition about December 1, 1944 to be circulated in Yuba and Sutter Counties asking that Japanese "not be permitted to return until the temper of the times shall be moderated" (Sacto Bee 12/21/44). The Bee article continues as follows:

"The petitions addressed to Major General Henry C. Pratt, acting commander of the Western Defense Command and Secretary of the Interior Harold I. Ickes, state:

"We, the undersigned, residents of Yuba and Sutter Counties, being of the earnest, considered opinion that should former Japanese residents of the State of California be allowed to return at this time, to be employed, to buy or sell, lease or rent farms, homes and business properties, and generally to come in contact with the civilian population, the equanimity of this civilian population would be so disturbed by ill considered persons as might create incidents of violence to the Japanese, would endanger their safety and might well lead to reprisals against our ~~boys~~ now prisoners of the Japanese."

Bean and his group conferred in Marysville and consulted attorneys as to possible further legal action to block the return of the evacuees.

The Yuba County ranch owner said he and his associates had decided upon the circulation of the petitions as the best means of informing the War Department and the Western Defense Command as to the state of public opinion in Yuba and Sutter Counties.

Bean said: "Wherever I have visited in both counties I have heard nothing but regret at the decision of the War Department to permit the evacuees to return. We had been in hopes the action taken by the American Legion of both counties and the scores of telegrams sent to Governor Earl Warren and the California delegation in congress would serve to delay and postpone the lifting of the embargo at least until after the war, when intense public feeling would have cooled.

"I am frank to say and hundreds of persons will bear me out that there is a bitter feeling here and while the people generally propose to obey the order there is under the surface an inflammable feeling which might break out into violence against individual Japanese."

At the Forum on Dec. 29 he said (Sacto Bee 12/30) that "there is no such thing as an American-Japanese and that Japanese should be kept out of California. They have a dual citizenship and know only one real allegiance. That is to the Japanese government."

A Sacto. Bee article (12/28) quotes Bean as stating that "hundreds of names of men and women, many of them prominent in the civic, business, and official life of Yuba and Sutter Counties have attached their names to the petitions of protest."

Elmer Arnoldy is a Catholic, past commander of the Yuba-Sutter American Legion Post, editor of a local legion magazine and a member of the board of Education of Yuba County. The interviewer was unable to find out exactly what his occupation is other than editor of the legion magazine. It may be Arnoldy whom the editor of the Marysville Appeal-Democrat meant in describing a leading "firebrand" as a man who had been in several different lines of work and had made good at none. Although the Sacto Bee has given Bean more publicity than Arnoldy, the activity of the latter in opposing the return seems to get under the skin of the president of the Chamber of Commerce and the editor of the Appeal Democrat more than does Bean. This may be because of Arnoldy's closer contacts with the two. The president of the Chamber of Commerce is a Legionnaire and member of the Board of Education like Arnoldy. The editor of the Appeal-Democrat runs up against Arnoldy, the editor of the Little Legion paper. Arnoldy has attacked Brownlee in his paper but has retracted.

Arnoldy is referred to as the "30-day patriot" because he was in World War I from mid-October to the armistice in November, long enough to get a uniform. He is described as a provincial native son, who has never been far outside his own home area.

Not long ago Arnoldy tried to get a local teacher discharged because he differed with the teacher's views. Shingle, however, squelched Arnoldy on this at once.

Editor of the Yuba City Herald, Claude Biggs, is another firebrand. Crashed the Men's Forum discussion on the Japanese question. He is going to abide by the decision of the Supreme Court and the Army but after the war will organize a league to drive every Japanese out of the country. He says that if Placerville can keep out the Japanese, so can Sutter County.

City

The Sacto Bee 12/30/44, quotes Joseph B. Sheridan of Yuba ~~County~~ ^{City}, occupation not stated, as anticipating violence if the Japanese were to return to the state. Mr. Sheridan crashed the meeting with Mr. Biggs.

Yuba County Supervisors adopted on January 3, 1945 a resolution against the return of the Japanese and sent copies to Governor Earl Warren, Secretary Ickes, and the War Department. The resolution reads as follows (Sacto Bee 1/3/45):

" Whereas , it appears from newspapers and radio reports, that Japan may be landing or attempting to land saboteurs on the Pacific Coast, and

Whereas , the return of the Japanese to California at this time would undoubtedly add to the difficulty of locating and indentifying any of these foreign agents, and

Resolved, that: The return of the Japanese at this time would probably create many unnecessary and vexatious problems, and be it further resolved, by the Yuba County Board of Supervisors in regular session this 2nd day of January 1945, that this board is strongly opposed to the return of any and all Japanese to this area and do hereby request and urge all Japanese to refrain from coming to the County of Yuba. That this board favors the continuance of the present segregation of all persons of Japanese ancestry in concentration camps, at least until the present world war is entirely completed and won, and that when the war is over, the federal government use due caution in segregating as far as possible the loyal from the disloyal Japanese, who are, under the Constitution of these United States, legally citizens of this nation and that thereafter, all such Japanese, who may be legally citizens of this nation, who are found to be disloyal , together with those Japanese who are not now citizens of this nation, be returned to Japan, and are also strongly favor such action as may be proper and legal, after the war, to cause to be discontinued the so-called Japanese language school system and where emperor worship and dual citizenship is taught and inculcated to young Japanese of school age, as we believe, that if our great American system of public schools is amply sufficient and satisfactory in the great mass of our people, then it should be satisfactory to all persons of the Japanese race, if it is their honest intention to become loyal citizens of these United States."

The American Legion is divided. Some Legionnaires hotly protested the removal of the Nisei names from the War Roll of Honor. The removal was made without previous discussion. Homer Lingenfelter, local attorney who was consulted by the fire-brands, told the Legionnaires among them that they were becoming a Fascist-Veterans organization comparable to those started in Germany after the last war. An ex-marine at the Forum threatened to knock the block off Arnoldy because of differences of opinion over the Japanese. Another prominent Marysville Legionnaire, "Brick" Wilcox has also strongly criticized the anti-Japanese members of the Legion. Warren Shingle, president of the Chamber of Commerce, is a legionnaire. He looked up Arnoldy's 30-day war record.

Okies are divided. The in-migrants from the Middle West and South were described by Mr. Shingle as now constituting two distinct social and economic groups. One group has improved ~~the~~ situation since coming into the two counties and have been integrated into the community. The second group is only little better off than before migration and feels that the return of the Japanese is a threat to the little status and security they have succeeded in winning.

Filipinos. are said to be anti-Japanese, but references to Filipino-Japanese relations by Caucasians are difficult to evaluate.

Arguments against the return take no unusual form in the two counties. Bean and Sheridan, like other opponents in California, say they protest the return because the temper of the people is such that they might easily be incited to violence against individual Japanese which would then lead to reprisals by Japan against American prisoners of war. The pose of anxiety for the welfare of returning Japanese put on while building up feeling for violence is standard equipment among the opposition members. The familiar statement that "a Jap is a Jap" and all Japanese should be exterminated is the part of the opposition talk. The Yuba County supervisors used primarily the argument of sabotage and mentioned the balloons which they believe indicate an effort to land saboteurs on the West Coast. Dual citizenship and language schools also play a prominent part in the discussion. The resolution of the supervisors was probably inspired by the meeting of the Directors of the County Supervisors Association of California in Sacramento the end of December, 1944, at which a resolution was passed favoring a constitutional amendment to revoke the citizenship of all Japanese except those actually serving in the Allied Armies; recommending further steps to prevent citizen or alien Japanese from acquiring any more real property unless they are in the Allied Armed Forces; and favoring colonization of Japanese except those in the Allied Armed Forces in the Pacific Islands.

Locality Summary

Leaders of Group Favoring Japanese Return

President Chamber of Commerce, Warren Shingle. President of Gibson Bus Lines, member of American Legion and of the Yuba County Board of Education, was interviewed.

Rev. Herbert Werner, minister of First Presbyterian Church, and organizer of the Men's Forum which discussed the Japanese question was interviewed. Arnold Bean is in his congregation.

Earl Brownlee, editor of the Appeal-Democrat, who assisted in the induction of Japanese into the Marysville Assembly Center was interviewed.

J. J. Collins, assistant dean of the Yuba Junior College who also has some duties in connection with the canneries was interviewed.

"Doc" Stanford, popular leader of student activities at Marysville H. S., wants to organize Fair Play Committee and is married to an employee in the bookkeeping department of International House, Berkeley.

State Senator W. P. Rich, elderly Republican, whose words carry much weight locally. His speech had the effect that Governor Warren's did in Sacramento. He has recently sold his home ranch and other properties through the Wilcoxon real estate firm and seems to be clearing the decks. He gave what Rev. Werner thinks was a speech carefully prepared beforehand to the Men's Forum on the Japanese question. The Sacto Bee (12/30/44) states:

"State Senator W. P. Rich urged that "law and order prevail and every effort be made by the citizens generally and by the constituted authorities to protect and defend the rights" of the Japanese under the guarantee of the Constitution of the United States.

"He said:

"The supreme court of the United States has spoken and no matter what individual personal opinions may exist, they no longer are the issue. As good and patriotic citizens we are obligated to respect and obey the decision of the highest tribunal in the land. The United States Army, which had the right and power to evacuate and exclude alien Japanese and American-born Japanese as a war and security measure has now decreed there no longer is danger in allowing them to return.

"All this reckless talk of people taking the law into their own hands has its perils. I do not allude to men in this room, but we all have heard of statements made by thoughtless persons that ways should be taken to circumvent their (the Japanese) return. To ascertain public opinion by petition is one thing; to attempt to oppose the present policy of the government is another."

Monsignor Thomas Horgan, Catholic Church. Marysville is predominantly Catholic and has the oldest nunnery in the state of California. Horgan is described as a liberal and as saying that he was going to take Arnoldy, a Catholic, "in hand". Rev. Horgan was out of town when I called.

The entire church group has not united on the Japanese question. Rev. Lowrey of the Methodist Church in Yuba City seems to be going his own way quietly entertaining representatives of minority groups. Rev. Tamblin of the Episcopal Church has not committed himself on the Japanese question. There is a Yuba-Sutter Counties Ministerial Association.

The American Legion, as said above, is divided.

The head of the Chapter of the Daughters of the Golden West in Yuba City is on WRA records as favoring the return.

Sutter Co. had 425 Japanese in 1940; Yuba Co. had 429. Sutter, according to U. S. Census, 1940, had 21 farm operators of which 7 were full owners, 4 were part owners. Yuba had 11 operators of which 5 were full owners and 1 was part owner. WRA records show that of 27 Sutter farm properties listed, 8 have been transferred to Caucasians. Of 10 farm properties in Yuba, 3 have been transferred to Caucasians. These records of holdings do not always jibe with those in the Census. (Attached are copies of WRA records on Yuba and Sutter Counties).

The largest proportion of the Sutter Co. Japanese were in agriculture. Of 131 employed over 14 years of age, 114 were in agriculture, 5 were in wholesale and retail, 8 in personal service, 4 in other occupations. There were no professional or semi-professional workers in Sutter County.

Yuba County had 98 of 177 employed Japanese in agriculture, 1 in mfg., 32 in wholesale and retail, 25 in personal service, and 21 in other

occupations including professions. Marysville is a much larger town than Yuba City which partly explains why the two counties differ in the number of Japanese who have left farms for urban occupations. 277 of the 429 Yuba Co. Japanese lived in Marysville.

The most prominent Japanese in the Area seems to have been Frank Nakamura, a Nisei, graduate of Yuba College, owner of a drug store and other properties. He has been twice married, each time to a Caucasian. He was a member of the Merchants ~~Assoc~~ and Chamber of Commerce. People interviewed spontaneously mentioned him and spoke of him with high regard. He has written that he does not expect to come back right away.

The Buddhist Church has quite a bit of property -- a church, language school, gymnasium, etc. Early in 1942 vandals painted a swastika over the church door. It has never been removed. The Negro USO now occupies the adjoining building.

The Japanese section in Marysville has been largely taken over and overcrowded by Negro in-migrants and their families working at Camp Beale and other war industries. Nine residences are listed by WRA as Japanese owned and one has been transferred to a Caucasian; Sutter Co. has one residence owned by Japanese.

One of the Assembly centers was at Marysville. 2460 were inducted. Mostly from Placer and Sacto Counties. 2453 left, going principally to Tule Lake Relocation Center. Kenyon Gregg, local OPA rental authority and Earl Brownlee, editor of Appeal-Democrat were associated with WCCA. Gregg's son, who went to Japanese language school and studied in Japan is now with the Marines as a translator. Gregg was out of town when the interviewer looked him up.

Caucasian respondents claim that little discrimination toward any minority group occurs in the area. Negroes are alert to any untoward act of discrimination. Both the Chinese and Japanese language schools are objected to.

The Chinese have specialized in gambling and raising exotic vegetables used in preparing Chinese dishes. The Japanese, it is said, did not offer much economic competition to Caucasian growers, for the Japanese specialized in truck gardening with the local area as the market while the Caucasians monopolized the orchards. However, WRA property records list eight fruit farms in ^{Japanese owned} Sutter Co. and 3 others which have been transferred since evacuation to Caucasians. Yuba Co. has three Japanese-owned and one transfer to Caucasians. Sutter Co. Japanese have transferred all together 8 farm properties to Caucasians and retain 13 now. Sutter County, one of the three or four richest agricultural counties in the United States is called the Peach Bowl of the World.

CHANGES SINCE EVACUATION IN THE COUNTIES

The population of the trading area has greatly increased as the accounts attached to interview with Mr. Shingle and prepared by the Chamber of Commerce of Marysville show. Camp Beale and Marysville Air Depot have drawn to the area not only service personnel but their wives. These two military camps have also brought in many civilian in-migrants as civilian workers. In the next two months (January and February 1945)

the population and inflationary conditions of the area are expected to increase greatly because of new activities by the war department in the two-county region.

There is an extreme housing shortage but the Chamber of Commerce has some hope of getting aid from Federal Housing to build new units.

The Army has not stood aloof from the arguments raging in Marysville and Yuba City over the Japanese question though it has not participated officially. A commanding officer at one of the military establishments is reported to have said that he would have come to hear the Forum discuss the question had he not thought his presence might seem official.

HISTORY OF AREA

The two counties have had an important place in California history because of having constituted a major frontier and metropolitan area when San Francisco was scarcely in existence. Marysville has some of the oldest religious structures in California. The Chinese have been here ever since the Gold Rush days and have stayed on to reap money in gambling and to pay it back into the city as fines when the city fathers need cash. Negroes also have been there a long time, though, of course, nowhere near as long as the Chinese. Filipinos, Hindus, Japanese, and Mexicans have supplied labor to the region.

Local families, according to respondents, trace their lineage back to the Donner Party which came down from the Sierra on both sides of Marysville. Some stayed behind to settle in the county. There are as many as 60 fairly closely related families in the region who can trace their line back to one Party couple.

Vigilantism has remained from the frontier history. It is feared it may again be on the increase. The case of a murdered Grass Valley hermit thought to be a cattle thief is cited as an example. Though the murderer is known, the case ended with the coroner's inquest. The Sacto Bee reported that the FBI had been up talking to the Yuba County sheriff by way of preparing for the return of Japanese evacuees. Sheriff McCoy came out with a statement in the paper that law and order would be maintained and the Japanese protected. However, the respondents interviewed seemed rather cynical about what the Sheriff's office could do. One respondent said once a Japanese has been murdered, the sheriff can be called but didn't think it would do much good to call him just because of suspicion of intent to murder.

There is a very lively spirit in the town of Marysville, whether as a survival from pioneer days or from its war boom, I don't know. One feels this spirit in the town itself, in the stores, restaurants, and other public places, as well as in talking to community leaders and hearing them tell about what goes on. People seem to talk pretty rough to each other and even to get physically rough. The editor of the Appeal Democrat told one of the firebrands who wants "to kill all Japs" that if he were to attack a returned Japanese American soldier who had saved the life of his son and his son defended that soldier, then he, the editor, would pitch in to help his son. This is all theoretical but I believe in any approximate situation in real life, it would be quite a mix-up.

One finds the same kind of people and way of living in Placerville the same close inter-marriage varied with marriage into recently arrived in-migrant or immigrant groups, men who curiously combine a two-gun frontier spirit with much culture and respect for law and order, the latter probably due to the fact that they have to fight to keep it from falling to the Vigilantes. The innocent bystander who gets caught between this type and the Vigilantes would have to have a strong and fearless constitution. The old saying that "sticks and stones may break my bones, but names can never hurt me" doesn't hold true up here.

KATHARINE LUOMALA.

JAPANESE POPULATION BY NATIVITY, 1940, U.S. CENSUS

	TOTAL	ALIEN	CITIZEN
SUTTER CO.	423	149	274
Butte Twp	49	14	35
Nicolaus Twp	9	6	3
Sutter twp	6	3	3
Vernon Twp	181	60	121
Yuba twp	178	66	112
Yuba City	35	12	23
Yuba County	429	146	283
Marysville twp	387	122	265
Maryville City	277	80	197
Wheatland twp	42	24	18

TOTAL JAPANESE FARM OPERATORS

SUTTER CO.	21 (7 fully owned; 4 partly owned; 1 managed 9 tenant operated)
Butte twp	3
Sutter "	1
Vernon "	6
Yuba	11
YUBA C O.	11
Marysville twp	11

TYPES OF EVACUEE OWNED PROPERTY IN YUBA COUNTY
AS OF OCTOBER 13, 1944

TYPE	NUMBER	
COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY		
Commercial Property		
Church	1	
Garage	2	
Hall	1	
Rooming house	1	
School	1	
Service Station	1	
Stores	<u>3</u>	
Total number of Classified Commercial Properties		10
Residential Property		
Residences	9	
Total number of Classified Residential properties		9
Total number of Commercial and Residential properties		19
FARM PROPERTY		
Farms		
Fruit	3	
Unknown farm	2	
Vacant land	<u>1</u>	
Total number of classified farms		6
Total number of properties of all types (excluding transfer)		25

TYPES OF EVACUEE OWNED PROPERTY IN YUBA COUNTY
AS OF OCTOBER 13, 1944
page 2

TYPE				Number
TRANSFERS <u>1?</u>	J-G	G-J	All types	
Residential Property				
Residences	1		1	
Farm Property				
Field crop	1		1	
Fruit	1		1	
Rice farm	1		1	
Truck farm		1	<u>1</u>	
TOTAL number transfers of farm property				4
Total number transfers of all types				5
Total number of all properties (including transfers)				30

1/ The captions (or symbols) indicate the following:

J-G designates a transfer of property from an evacuee to a non-evacuee

G-J designates a transfer of property from a non-evacuee to an evacuee

TYPES OF EV ACUEE OWNED PROPERTY IN SUTTER COUNTY
AS OF OCTOBER 14, 1944

TYPE	NUMBER	
<u>Residential Property</u>		
Residences	1	
Total number of C lassified Residential properties	1	
Total number of Residential Properties		1
<u>FARM PROPERTY</u>		
Farms		
Berry Farms	1	
Fruit	8	
Fruit and nut	1	
Fruit and Truck gardens	2	
gra zing land	1	
Truck garden	2	
Vacant land	<u>1</u>	
Total number of Classified Farms	16	<u>16</u>
Total number of Properties of all types (excluding transfers)		17

TYPES OF EVACUEE OWNED PROPERTY IN SUTTER COUNTY
AS OF OCTOBER 14, 1944
page 2

TYPE	NUMBER			
	J -J	J -G	G-J	All Types
TRANSFERS <u>1/</u>				
		-	-	
<u>Farm Property</u>				
Fruit		3		3
Fruit and nut	1	3	1	5
Fruit and truck		1		1
Vacant land		1		<u>1</u>
Total number Transfers of Farms property				10
Total number Transfers of all types				10
Total number of all properties (including transfers)				10

1/ The captions (or symbols) indicate the following:

J-J designates a transfer of property from an evacuee to another evacuee

J-G designates a transfer of property from an evacuee to a non-evacuee

G-J designates a transfer of property from a non-evacuee to an evacuee

Interview with Earl Brownlee
Editor, Appeal Democrat
Marysville, Yuba Co., Calif.

Katharine Luomala
Com. Analysis Sec.
Jan. 3, 1945

THUMBNAIL

Earl Brownlee, editor of the Appeal-Democrat of Marysville, Calif., a resident of the town for more than 20 years and an assistant in inducting Japanese during evacuation into Marysville assembly centers, was described by both the president of the Chamber of Commerce and the minister of the Presbyterian Church as well informed on the Japanese question. He is held in high esteem by both. A tall, thin and scholarly looking man, he had the appearance of conforming to a movie type portrayal probably because of the high stiff collar he was wearing.

His very emphatic remarks, particularly in censuring WRA for bringing the Japanese back to California before the war ended, left me with the unpleasant feeling of being personally scolded. I gingerly tried to follow up on some of his statements, the accuracy of which seemed doubtful. For example he mentioned 2 Nisei who went to Japan after the war had started to join the Japanese Army and a Nisei family from Sacto. with several children who chose Japan in preference to the United States when they were given a choice in the assembly center and later left for Japan. I tried to learn what ship they had gone on and other details. The editor may have been referring to the segregation program in the relocation centers in the latter case.

The editor probably feels that he set forth his position very clearly to me personally and in an editorial he wrote right after the exclusion ban had been lifted. My interpretation of his position is that he is so positive that Constitutional rights should be protected that he is willing to extend them to the Japanese. He sharply distinguishes between alien and native-born Japanese. He is deeply concerned about preventing more Vigilantism in this old mining frontier region.

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Marysville was a city when San Francisco was scarcely in existence. There are still some very old buildings here and there was much fuss made when one of them was torn down not long ago. The Chinese have been here a long time too ever since gold mining days and are very securely rooted in the town and its history. They control the gambling, and whenever the town needs money they pick up a few of the gamblers and fine them. When money is raised for the Community Chest, the Chinese give as much as \$1000 or more. They are the patrons of charity and city finances. The labor unions, on the other hand, grudgingly come through with just a few dollars for the Chest fund. There is little or no discrimination in the city because of color. The Negroes are free to live where they like, but are watchful of any indication of discrimination. Mr. Brownell

continued by saying that whenever a criminal is described in his paper as Negro, the Negro people immediately come into the office to protest. The Chinese around Marysville who are farmers raise vegetables used in peculiarly Chinese dishes. These vegetables are shipped all over the United States to Chinese communities.

The Japanese, when they were farming around Marysville in both Yuba and Sutter Counties, went in for truck farming more than for orchards. The counties, particularly Sutter County, is known as the Peach Bowl of the world and it is number 1 among the grain raising counties of California. Sutter County is also one of the richest agricultural counties in the United States. This area was part of the Old Gold Rush region, and famous for its hydraulic mining. The Japanese, therefore, were rarely in direct competition with local Caucasians. Mr. Brownlee did not know just why they had not gone in much for orchards but supposed it was because their talents were more in the direction of truck gardening. The truck was used locally or shipped out. Mr. Brownlee mentioned the prominence of the Nakamura brothers in community life and said that Frank Nakamura had married two Caucasians (not at the same time).

The history of Marysville predisposes it toward frontier and vigilante responses to crisis. The editor is concerned about such incidents as the murder of the Grass Valley hermit thought to be a cattle thief. He disappeared and was then discovered shot. His murderer was known as was the fact that the murder was deliberate. Nonetheless, the case did not go beyond the coroner. The editor mentioned this tendency toward a renewal of vigilante action in connection with the return of the Japanese. He said that public minded citizens were doing all they could to combat this tendency, but that as long as sheriffs were under political pressure, one could not expect too much from them. Anyway, one could not expect them to act merely on rumor that threats have been made. They are called in after the act, not before.

The editor said that WRA should be "severely censured" for sending the Japanese back to California before the end of the war. He holds WRA responsible for the return at this time through the pressure he assumes they have exerted on the Army and other agencies concerned. When I mildly (but very mistakenly) said that WRA was the administering agency carrying out the Army's order, he seized on the word order and said the Army had given no order (in which he is doubtless correct) but that WRA was sending the Japanese back to California. I let the matter drop. Should any violence occur in connection with a returned Japanese to that area, one can be sure that his editorial will hold WRA to account.

The aliens at least should not have been returned before the end of the war, he thought. He does not think them trustworthy from the standpoint of loyalty, even the very old he concludes -- they have had a longer time to be indoctrinated with disloyal ideas. He is also doubtful of some of the American-born Japanese, as the result, he says, of his experience at the Marysville Assembly Center. He told of a couple of Nisei boys who went back to Japan after Pearl Harbor and joined the Japanese Army. He did not know on what ship, he answered, when I asked. He also told of a Sacramento Nisei family with grown children which he recognized as unusual who decided to go to Japan when given a choice at the assembly center between staying here or going to Japan. I believe that he said they too had since gone to Japan, for I twice asked about transportation of these people.

In speaking of the local people who violently oppose the return, he said he had argued with them about the treatment of soldiers of Japanese ancestry. A firebrand who wants no Japanese to return to the area at any time and threatens to kill them all was told by the editor that if he attacked a Japanese in the presence of his son who had served overseas and who might have been, say, carried to a first aid station by that Japanese boy, his son would surely fight to protect the boy and that he as the rescued boy's father would join in the fight to look after his son. The firebrand replied that it still would not stop him. The editor shook his head over people carrying ~~their~~ their hatred to such a degree.

He did not name the local firebrands, but their identity was clear from his descriptions which were essentially similar to those given by other respondents. One, who was obviously Arnoldy, is the editor of a local American Legion paper and professes to speak for the Legion though he was in World War I about 30 days just long enough to get in a full uniform. This man has viciously attacked Brownlee and others in his paper but now is beginning to back down. One of the hotheads, again probably Arnoldy, was said by the editor to have failed at many ventures, and is now trying to get in the public eye through leading the fight against the return of the Japanese. He and the cattle rancher (Bean) have nothing else to do but waste their time in such activity.

At the Men's Forum held at the Presbyterian Church, two or three gate crashers took over and dominated the discussion. One was the postmaster of Yuba City, the other ~~é~~ was the editor of the Yuba City newspaper. Both are violently against the Japanese.

Because rumors spread so quickly, the editor of the Appeal-Democrat thinks it would not take much ~~é~~ to start trouble. He said that a man employed to fix up some buildings for the DiGiorgio fruit company figured that they must be for returning Japanese. The story grew until several hundred Japanese were said to be coming back to work for the fruit company. The man had made up the story, which community leaders then did their best to squelch.

Interview with Earl Brownlee
Marysville, Yuba Co. Calif.

Katherine Luomala
Com. Analysis Sec.

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Mr. Brownlee repeated essentially the idea expressed in his editorial written after the rescinding of the exclusion ban. Though WRA was to be severely criticized for sending the Japanese back to California before the end of the war, good citizens would respect the decision of the Army and the Supreme Court regardless of how they might feel and would endeavor to see that Japanese rights were protected.

Mr. Brownlee also referred in passing to the meeting of the Yuba County Board of Supervisors held that afternoon at which a resolution protesting the return of the Japanese was made.

KATHARINE LUOMALA

Interview with Mr. J. J. Collins
Asst. Dean Yuba College
Marysville, Yuba Co., Calif

Katherine Luomala
Community Analysis Section

THUMENAIL

Mr. Collins, asst dean of Yuba college, was the chairman of the Presbyterian Men's Forum which discussed the return of the Japanese. Mr. Collins who had been described by the Presbyterian minister as a known liberal who is always expected to take a liberal point of view seemed very uneasy and evasive when I interviewed him. He looked out of the window most of the time while he talked, and when he did face me would rub his forehead. He would also yawn without apology. This was between 5 and 6:30 in the afternoon. Though it was the day after New Year's, I did not think any celebration the previous day had brought him to his weary state for he looked very fresh and well groomed in a handsome dark blue suit with a tie, handkerchief, and socks in a red and gray pattern. Though obviously uneasy I persisted largely through annoyance at his rudeness and the hope of getting a clue to his behavior. His last remarks which he made staring at his desk was something about trying to do what we could despite the chances we took with our positions. It seems to be one of the cliches.

He was a little more animated in talking about the Hindus and his meeting with their priest who is also a ranch foreman, but when he talked about problems immediately relating to the return of the Japanese he did his best to maintain a bored manner. The undercurrent of bitterness and depth of feeling beneath the efforts to minimize the problem is evident in his statement that remarks at the Forum confirmed him in thinking that America should be watched; otherwise it would throw the Constitution and the Bill of Rights in the same sewer and the Supreme Court along with it.

I later heard that he had been *accustomed* ~~expected~~ to make liberal speeches on various controversial subjects, but then his wife was ostracized by whatever social circle she had associated with because of his views. He is worried over that. There were said to be other pressures also but they were not described. Recently, it was said, he was scheduled to give a talk on anti-Semitism but at the last minute backed down.

KATHERINE LUOMALA

Interview with Mr. J. J. Collins
Asst Dean Yuba College
Marysville, Yuba Co. Calif.

Katherine Luomala
Community Analysis Section

INTERVIEW

We have had no requests yet from students wishing to return. At one time, at the height of enrollment, we have 30-35 Japanese. We have sent out a number of transcripts to Eastern schools. There is no problem at all from the students' standpoint here at the college. There may be a minority with animosity unnecessarily aroused by their elders. There are some hotheads in town. Supreme Court means nothing to them.

Housing I don't know about except that it is crowded here, but those who own property could come back if their leases permit. There is a camp here which has more than 1000 civilians employees. Then there are soldiers' wives, who come and go and have absorbed every extra house and room, old and new since the war.

(How many Japanese owned their homes?) I don't know but I'd guess 25-30% of them did. There were some old, established families. Many were on little farms nearby.

(What do you think would happen if some Japanese students returned to the school?) The boys are gone; there are only girls left here and usually they don't cause a fracas.

(What effect do you think the Forum had on the thinking of people?) Nobody changed their minds. People as a whole said they were opposed to the return because a "a Jap is a Jap"; they fear it is going to be dangerous for the Japanese and that it would be wiser for them to stay away. They have no personal dislike, but feel it is better for the large group of them to remain in the East. Some men said nothing. They would be lawabiding and would stand for law and order. The hotheads seek the limelight. They are not logical thinkers the sincere in what they feel, but they just are not sane in their approach to the problem.

(Are there any differences along occupational lines?) Some farmers opposed the return violently. One of the businessmen is also a farmer. There are the non-vocal vocal who want them back, who like their work, but the farmers as a group are a little opposed. The opposition is a rural, agricultural thing rather than a community-city thing, based on economics. However, I don't know any farmers who have made requests for Japanese help but I know farmers who want them.

(Has there been talk of an economic boycott?) There has been no talk of not dealing with the Japanese. The argument is that "A Jap is a Jap"; that every Jap swears loyalty to the emperor and has dual citizenship." Senator Rich was asked if the Supreme Court recognizes dual citizenship. He said no or it couldn't have let the Japanese come back. People say you can't trust them because of dual citizenship. They don't even trust the FBI's determination of loyalty. They say that the Japanese would lie about it, just as if the FBI would ask them directly if they were loyal. These people just brush answers to their statements aside as if they had never been made. Some are sincere because they don't know any better. Others cover up for economic reasons. Some people live by their emotions.

The History hasn't discussed it in their meetings, and that is one reason why Warner started it in the forum. The forum got what they are thinking. I don't think anyone changed anyone's opinion one iota. I didn't change. It confirmed me in thinking America should be watched, otherwise it would throw the Constitution and

Bill of Rights in the sewer and the Supreme Court along with it.

(What was the effect of Senator Rich's remarks?) Senator Rich's remarks had quite an effect. He made some strong statements. (Collins then quoted his remarks on the Supreme Court having spoken and the need for maintaining order. The Senator remarks had the effect of shutting up some people. Those who had made very strong statements had to backwater.

Some said that they wouldn't touch the Japanese now because of the dangers to our boys overseas, but after the war they will get rid of them. They say that Placerville has none and the same can be true here. Those few say they will make it too hot for them to stay.

(How many Chinese are there here?) Not very many, but this is one of the oldest Chinese settlements in the state. There used to be many before, but some have left. The youngsters have gone to war and others have moved.

The Filipinos used to be rather numerous. There were six in the school, but it had dropped off before the war. Employment picked up and they got better jobs. There are no Mexicans in the school; there are a few negroes. One went to Fresno. One student is a flyer, a lieutenant.

(How did the Chinese and Japanese get along before the war?) The Chinese and Japanese were doing their best to get along. The leaders of both groups were trying. Some were former Junior College graduates who were doing their best to keep the groups out of trouble. There was some intellectual animosity but no physical. There was feeling as the result of the Sino-Japanese war.

(Has there been a labor shortage here?) They haven't been too hard pressed. I do some work for a cannery, and one of the largest growers said that they had never had so easy apply for work to do thinning. I don't know of anyone who lost peaches last summer because of labor shortage and I see the orchards. Two years ago some refused to pay the wages and lost that way. Then the price was raised from 10 to 12¢ a box and they got pickers. There was no shortage here in Sutter and Yuba counties. The Mexican Nationals eased it up.

(Who has taken over the ranches the Japanese operated?) Caucasian farmers. One of our teachers has one. The Hindus have taken some. There are quite a number who have sort of grown up with the area. We have had a few Hindu murders. There is quite a large Hindu population here. Stockton is their religious center. They work and live in gangs, coming up from Stockton. We have a few Hindu students. I met a priest from one of their temples. He was a ranch foreman, very interesting on the matter of British empire politics. A distinguished man.

Frank Nakamoto is a graduate of the college. He had a drug store. He wrote that he does not think it wise to return immediately.

(Did any Japanese belong to the service and commercial clubs?) I don't recall if any belonged here. Colusa had one. The Japanese men were set apart. They didn't participate in general community affairs. There was a division among the Japanese on religion. They had a Buddhist temple and an elaborate set up of school, church, gym and club rooms. They had a Buddhist minister here, and also a Christian minister.

Interview J.J. Collins
Marysville, Calif

Katherine Loomala
Community Analysis Sec.

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(What about feeling toward language schools? I have assumed there will be none if they return, that they wouldn't be allowed to continue. It seems to me anybody would be suspected who went to them or started them. There was a little feeling before the war about the schools because of the fear of dual loyalty.

(Did the Japanese students participate in general school activities?) They belonged to the scholarship club, were on the tennis. There were some in the music club. There was no segregation and no Japanese group (exclusively Japanese organization). This is a day school so there would not be any clubs anyway.

The teachers correspond with some of these former students. I know I get many letters about transcripts.

KATHERINE LOOMALA

Interview with W. Shingle
Pres. Chamber of Commerce
Marysville, Yuba Co., Calif.

Katherine Luomala
Com. Analysis Section
Jan. 3, 1945

THUMBNAIL

Mr. Warren Shingle, president of the Chamber of Commerce of Marysville, Calif. head of Gibson bus lines, and a member of the American Legion and the Board of Education, spends much time in the Chamber of Commerce office in the Marysville Hotel lobby. Rev. Werner had told him I might be in to see him. Mr. Shingle talked very cordially, freely, earnestly, and concretely with no indication of the conflict between words and thoughts. His official and personal stand on the return of the Japanese seem identical. He believes that the rights of all groups under the Constitution of the United States must be respected and that it is the duty of civic-minded people to aid in the protection of those rights.

Mr. Shingle, who speaks coherently and effectively, was on his way to give a talk to a civic group. An old copy of the local Appeal-Democrat mentions a talk he gave a civic group on the history of the Marysville area. He is probably about 40 years of age. His wife works in the bus office. This doubtless leaves him more time for civic affairs. He remarked during the interview that unfortunately people willing to take the time for civic offices were often well-to-do retired people who wanted a plaything or incompetent persons and that few people felt they could afford the time or money for civic duties. Consequently, it was difficult to get good men into public work.

I did not take notes on his opinions as it seemed to make him hesitate a little.

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

The housing situation is very serious here. Camp Beale has brought in a large number of civilian war workers and their families as well as families of soldiers. Many of the women in these new families are employed in the area. Negotiations are now under way to build more federal housing units to alleviate the situation. Inflationary conditions and crowding will be greatly increased during the next sixty days because of army plans, still secret, for the Twin Cities (Marysville and Yuba City). The attached reports, prepared by the Chamber of Commerce, describe the changes that have occurred in the Twin Cities during the last two or three years.

Every new family that comes in naturally complicates the problem. The Sacto. Bee, much to Mr. Shingle's indignation, misquoted him by saying that 100 Japanese families would worsen the situation. Mr. Shingle had not specified Japanese families; 100 more families of any nationality or race would have trouble finding a place to live. The misquotation was copied from the Sacto Bee by Los Angeles

and New York papers. Mr. Shingle objected to the Bee's implication that he opposed the return of the Japanese and was using the housing shortage as a reason for discouraging their return. He let the Bee know how he felt about the misquotation. As I was listening to him, Rev. Werner came past and told Mr. Shingle that the Bee reporter had been involved in a fight with some one they knew.

Japanese owned property in town. One of their leaders was Frank Nakamura who belonged to the Chamber of Commerce and to the Merchants Association. He owned a pharmacy and other property. The Japanese lived east of D Street and south of Third Street. This area is now occupied by Filipinos and Negroes. It is very crowded. Most of the negroes are families of servicemen stationed at Camp Beale.

There was a Japanese Association here. Mr. Shingle expressed admiration for the way they stuck together and aid each other. They would market together and bring in work gangs of other Japanese. Their custom of hypothecating in business particularly won his praise. He said you would not find Caucasian businessmen willing to finance each other or some new person to get him started in a business which would build up the town. He told of how one Japanese would help another get started; then the two would get together and help a third, etc.

Animosity toward the Japanese, he said, is predicated on selfish feelings. More than half the population here is against their return. 60% is opposed to their return, while 40% are divided into two groups. One group of 20% is indifferent; the second group of 20% is inclined to study intelligently the economic and labor problems involved and to seek a solution.

Mr. Shingle believes that regardless of personal feeling we must overcome discrimination or all of us will lose our liberties. He said that if the way is cleared to discriminate against one group like the Japanese, then people will go on to take away the rights of other groups like the Jews. Then the Catholics and Protestants will start in on each other. Capital and labor also will be at each other's throats. He thought that depriving the Japanese of their rights under the Constitution would be a break in the dike which soon would lead to other antagonistic groups fighting to deprive each other of rights. This is his principal argument against those opposing the return of Japanese to California. He talked at some length about it and uses it in talking to other people.

He also mentioned the Lost Battallion of soldiers of Japanese descent and their accomplishments, stating that Caucasian soldiers overseas were aware of what the Nisei had done and would defend their rights.

He could not see why we could not assimilate the Japanese. We brought them to this country, as we did many other people, to get cheap labor. Since we had created the problems we have responsibilities to these people. He mentioned the Negroes as one of the Peoples brought to this country for cheap labor. He said people who talked of sending back to Japan all the Japanese but those in the armed services was foolish. He asked how anyone could talk of letting the soldier stay at the same time as they talked of sending his wife back to Japan because they don't want her here. He felt, however, that the Tule Lake people should go back.

Mr. Shingle is very concerned over the importance of their peaceful resettlement because of tendencies in the area in recent years for people to take the law into their own hands in frontier style. He mentioned the murder of a Grass Valley hermit who was ambushed and shot by a rancher because the hermit had been regarded as a cattle thief. Only a coroner's inquest was held.

Vigilante spirit still lingers on strongly. The town was originally settled by the Donner Party which came down both sides of Marysville. Much of the population traces its family line back to the Donner party. There are as many as 50 to 60 families on one tree alone. Since the war, however, the more energetic and ambitious newcomers among the so-called "Okies" have married into these families. Mr. Shingles thinks the introduction of new blood into these old family trees makes for a very homogeneous population which maintains pioneer traditions.

One of the firebrands, G. B. Sheridan of Yuba City, according to the Bee, opposing the return of the Japanese, who is talking about killing all Japanese has said that you could not get a jury to convict anyone killing a Japanese. Shingle bluntly told this firebrand that it works both ways, that those on the jury who were for maintaining peace and order would be that much harder on the killer.

A leader among the firebrands who has been talking about killing all Japanese and saying the only good one is a dead one is Elmer Arnoldy who is on the Board of Education with Mr. Shingle. Mr. Arnoldy wants all Japanese, regardless of birth or service to the United States, kept out. Like Mr. Shingle, Mr. Arnoldy is a member of the American Legion. Mr. Shingle said he looked up Arnoldy's war record and found him to be a 3-day patriot. He entered the Army during World War I in mid-October and was released in November after the Armistice was signed. He was in scarcely long enough to get a complete uniform, was never out of the United States, probably has never been very far even from Marysville and Yuba City. Arnoldy is past commander of the local American Legion post and now edits a small local American Legion magazine in which he has been attacking the civic leaders who differ from him on the return of the Japanese.

Interview with W. Shingle
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Not long ago, Arnoldy tried to get a school teacher fired because of the teacher's ideas. Mr. Shingle said that he lit right into Arnoldy on the matter and the teacher stayed. He does not think there will be more attempts to remove teachers because of their having different ideas from Arnoldy. Mr. Shingle apparently acted very spontaneously, on the matter for he made some reference to his having been a little too quick or blunt. My impression was that he tries to be fair even to the other side and that he felt he could have achieved the same result in the case without getting sore... this is just my guess.

The entire American Legion does not follow Arnoldy in his ideas. Thus far Mr. Shingle and others haven't said much back. Mr. Shingle has little to say about Arnold Bean, the other leading firebrand who is a cattle rancher. His contacts with Arnoldy seem more numerous than with Bean.

The Forum, he thought, was a good idea. It gave the town a chance to hear both sides. He said that they heard what the radicals' (the opposition) problems and concerns were, and that was a good thing. The Forum got the town thinking about the subject. Two or three members of the opposition who were not invited came and created a stir. They were from Yuba City; and one was the Yuba City Postmaster.

Mr. Shingle was concerned about the possibility of danger to returning Japanese from people incited by the firebrands and perhaps from Filipinos and Okies gangs in the orchards.

He said there were two different groups of Okies around Marysville. One group is very desirable, has saved its money, improved its standard of living and employment, bought property, and the children have married into old Yuba and Sutter County families. This group is well-behaved and highly thought of. The other group is made up of the more shiftless in-migrants who have not made the economic and social grade and still have a low living standard though it is superior to what they had before. This group feels and is very insecure economically and socially. Its members are among the most anti-Japanese in the area for they fear that the returning Japanese may threaten their improved condition. These Oakies are at about the bottom of the heap of all the in-migrants.

Just about Christmas a number of American soldiers of Japanese descent visited Marysville, shopped in its stores, and visited its pool halls and other entertainment places. They aroused some curiosity but there were no incidents.

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Marysville, Yuba Co. Calif.

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Mr. Shingle mentioned Mr. Kenyon Gregg, OPA Rent Office, Penney Bldg., as someone who could tell me about the pre-evacuation situation of the Japanese. Unfortunately Mr. Gregg was out of town while I was in Marysville. Mr. Gregg's son went to Japanese language school, travelled in Japan, and is now an interpreter in the Marines.

KATHARINE LUOMALA

Interview with Rev. H. Werner
First Presbyterian Church
Marysville, Yuba Co. Calif.

Katherine Luomala
Com. Analysis Section

THUMBNAIL

Rev. H. Werner, a 6-footer, in his thirties, and an ex-prize fighter, is the minister of the First Presbyterian Church at Marysville, which fosters the Men's Forum that argued the question of Japanese return on Dec. 29. Newly established, the Forum seeks controversial issues, "too hot to handle otherwise" as the minister says, and gets representatives of both sides of a question. It is doubtful if the Forum will soon find another question as exciting and immediate to local people as that of the Japanese return. The Sazo Bee's reporter's invitation to Rev. Werner to meet him in the park to settle the matter in a fight is but one of the invitations of that nature extended during the Forum.

The minister whose name I had received from the WRA office, is a restless, energetic person, whose remarks were often hard to follow because of his habit of not finishing sentences, jumping from one subject to another and skimming over details. In writing up the interview on which I took notes I have tried to bring related subjects together. Often when I tried to get a name or some biographical detail associated with the name, he would answer my question as to who the person is by placing him in one of two categories -- a liberal or advanced thinker, or a firebrand. Sentences were frequently punctuated with slangy exclamations. It is hard to pin him down on the arguments of the opposition. He would describe the arguments as "dopey" etc and then regard them as adequately treated. Arguments of the favorable group were just as cavalierly handled -- "truth is truth and we must have tolerance".

The minister went to Fresno College. During summers he travels around interviewing people, like Wm. Green and Philip Randolph. He is interested in church movements relating to world affairs, and feels the church must take a more active part in them. He is very proud of his position as a community leader in Marysville. At the same time he is concerned about his job and says that being a preacher in a small town is not easy. This statement was made to me after he had invited a negro social worker recently come to town to the next meeting of the Forum. He wondered what people would say, asked me what I thought, and sort of argued with himself.

He made my stay in Marysville pleasant by getting the hotel to give me a room. He took me to dinner at the most popular restaurant in town, King Inn, a Chinese Place where some of his reason for preferring Japanese to Chinese came out. Marysville Chinese are very solidly and profitably established in gambling and other illegal activities. He then asked me if I would like to go to a "Negro Club." I said yes. The club turned out to be the Negro USO where we met the social worker, a man who had already been entertained by

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the Methodist minister of Yuba City. I think the Presbyterian minister was a little piqued by the Methodist minister being ahead of him in practical demonstrations of tolerance.

The Negro USO is in a building of the Japanese language school. Next door is the Buddhist Church; above the door of the church someone has painted a large swastika. This appeared during evacuation and no one has removed it.

INTERVIEW

The Forum brought out every one. The petitioners, editors, educators, and agricultural firebrands were all present. Senator Rich made a fine speech in favor of law and order. He said that every man in this body today owes it to his land to keep law and order, and if the FBI's sends these Japanese back we must accept them whatever our personal feelings may be, and it is the duty of every loyal citizen to report to the police any action against them. He said that order must be maintained; if a Japanese-American should kill a Caucasian-American, he should receive the full strength of the law, and if a Caucasian-American should kill a Japanese-American he should receive the full strength of the law. The highest body of the land has spoken, and good, loyal citizens will respect its decision.

Senator Rich is an Old Guard Republican. He has a lot of prestige and is very influential. When he got up there and folded his arms over his chest and kind of looked down on the audience (here Rev. Werner demonstrated with chin thrust forward and gruff look on his face, KL) those boys listened! Men who quote him all the time had to listen. They're going to have to quote him on the Japanese now. He's swinging them into line. He is very influential.

(I asked about the county's political leanings, KL) The county is 50-50 in politics but voted for Roosevelt. (I noticed later in the phone book that Yuba County and Sutter County each has a Democratic Committee listed but no Republican, KL)

We cleared the air with the meeting. We had the American Legion men who are against the Japanese. The Legion is divided. Some of the men are sore at the way some of the Legion firebrands talk. That's what we call those people here-- firebrands. Have you seen the Soldiers' Honor Roll out here in the Park across from the church? The Japanese Americans are all shoved off to one side.

Rev. Herbert Werner
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We have the Catholic Church in on it. Monsignor Horgan (Rev. Thomas E. Horgan, 318 7th St.) is a strong liberal. Marysville is a strong Catholic community. It has a lot of leadership. When Monsignor heard what Elmer Arnoldy (one of the Legion firebrands, KL) was saying, he says "is that fool talking? I'll take him in hand." Arnold Bean (the other leading firebrand) is in my congregation.

The newspapers have done a bad job. They're behind most of this bad feeling. Only a couple of men are getting the publicity and they are not typical of Yuba County. (Rev. Werner said this very slowly and emphatically as if he were dictating, KL)

Arnold Bean and Elmer Arnoldy are behind all this. They are getting the publicity. The men getting the publicity are called firebrands around here and are not representative of the thought.

The Sacramento Bee reporter, Agazala, is a psychopath. The Chamber of Commerce president and the city officials have refused to talk to him anymore. Mr. Shingle, president of the C of C., telephone Sacto and demanded the reporter be fired. He told them, "If this is representative of the Bee, we are not interested in it any more. The reporter just wants firebrand stuff, something to make headlines. His name is Agazala or something like that. He is doing more to cause trouble in the community than anyone else. He threatened to meet me outside the church in the park and fight it out. (Rev. Werner then stated that he himself is an ex-prize fighter, and when one of his friends offered to hold his coat, he said he did not care to fight a sick man because that is what the reporter is, KL).

The Appeal-Democrat (the daily Yuba City Marysville newspaper) is the only paper that counts. The editor of the Yuba City Herald (Calude Biggs) stinks to high heaven. He says he's going to drive the Japs out after the war. This was in the Sacto Bee. But Earl Brownlee the best man on the Appeal-Democrat, is someone you ought to see. It's the only paper that thinks straight. We're fortunate here in having a newspaper that thinks. Bean went in to see Brownlee, asked him "Are you trying to make a fool of me". Brownlee said, "I will if you act like one and you are."

(I then remarked that I have looked in the Dec. 30 Appeal-Democrat for something about the forum and asked Werner if the A-D had written it up, KL)

It had something the day before. It said it was a two-sided debate and that people felt law and order must prevail. It has been the local policy to avoid publicity on this question but Senator Rich says it has to hit the papers, that we must be heard. So it will be.

Rev. Herbert Werner
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(Was there a stenographic transcript, KL) No, but as you see it in the Sacto Bee (12/30, p.16) it's ~~a~~ very true, but almost to a man those outside the ones the Bee quoted were for law and order. The Bee quoted all the firebrands there and gave a distorted picture.

I handed out copies of "Nisei in Uniform" and they took it. I've told them that men like Deutsch, vice president of the University, and Sproul, president of the University and others like that are for the return, that all the thinkers are.

Every Friday we (Presbyterian Church) have a meeting to discuss subjects that are too hot to handle otherwise and we've been packing in the villagers too. I hope to get a Catholic chaplain to speak. He was with the Japanese Americans overseas. The average IQ of that battalian was 135. We try to present truth for truth's sake. I'd ~~a~~ suggest that WRA have more forums. But they should have 50% of each side represented. You have to have that to be effective.

My father is down at Fresno. Are you going there? There's a place you ought to go! I went to school with Japanese so I know them. As a matter of fact, I prefer them to Chinese.

You can tell them the good citizenry of Marysville is knocking down the firebrands. Homer Lingenfelter, a lawyer and a liberal, told off the Legion! He said that there was starting in this county a "Fascist Veteran Group" just like in Germany, that he had no use for anything like that and wouldn't stand for it. That's what he called them to their face when they came to his place, a Fascist Veteran group. (I vaguely recall that Rev. Werner said Mr. Lingenfelter himself is a Legionnaire. The reverend frequently jumped from one name and idea to another and never liked to backtrack on facts. He preferred to say something new, KL)

In this town there are two main elements, the Old Guard and the Liberal Thinkers, but you wouldn't know from the Bee that there were any thinkers in this town. There is a lot of crooked thinking that came out in the forum. Some of the ministers should be spanked too. The Christian Church down here, the minister is no help. He is a leftist, even said over the radio "Don't buy bonds, give your money to the church." But, by and large, it's the ministers and educators in this community who are leading the thought in the right way. I wish you'd talk to Carl Tamblyn of the Episcopal Church and find out what he really thinks. I'd like to know. He kind of plays politics, won't say much. He's a friend of mine. The Episcopal Church has a lot of leadership but I don't know how he stands. What he preaches from his pulpit makes a difference.

I am preaching hard. I told them on Sunday--(he told me about his sermon which was designed to drive home tolerance in the community, KL)

On Sunday nights we have a Youth Group. It's the largest around there. I get about all the kids around here in. Here's something. Bean's girl is in this group. The other day she says "Aren't you getting in pretty deep?" The kids are bloodthirsty, same thing as in Germany when all this started. Petitions have been started in the High Schools against the Japanese American. I asked my shoe shine boy at the hotel, a negro, about these things, and he says the Japanese were always good to the negroes. A negro boy at the High School said it was Bean's boy who started the petition but that it didn't go very far. "Doc" Stanford, head of the student activities up there, is worried about it. He wants to start a Fair Play Committee here. The other Sunday we had a local Jewish rabbi speak at the group meeting. This was about two weeks ago.

Bean's daughter, Genevieve, said "The Earl Fruit Co. don't want the Japanese back. They work longer hours and get the vegetable and fruit market cornered. They can't talk, they said, but they said Daddy can". So that's what's going on. Di Giorgi is at the head. They have a network all over California. The Japanese were in all the good sections; it's straight competition. Well, that's family table talk what the Bean girl said.

Arnold Bean is a dairy farmer, has a cattle ranch. He is not so prominent as the papers play him up. He is one of the firebrands the Bee always quotes.

Some people believe the best way to get rid of Japanese is not to buy or sell to them. It was brought up at the forum. People asked "Who will buy?" Where are they going to live?" Business men said this. It's foolish. There are plenty of jobs. Once they come, they find them. The return can't be stopped.

The farmers don't want them back till their sons come back. Merele Collins, county farm adviser, would have something to say about this if you could talk to him.

Other people to see are Collins who is a known liberal in the community (J. J. Collins, Assistant Dean of Yuba College and chairman of the Presbyterian Men's Forum, KL) Also Doc Sanford. He'd be good. Collins is expected to say liberal things. Mr. McGart, principal of the Yuba City High School, Sutter Co., has the pulse of the kids like Doc Sanford in Marysville.

Warren Shingle, president of the C. of C., has his fingers on everything in town. He called the Sacto Bee to get the reporter fired. He's head of Gibson Lines and Head of C. of C. He has been fighting Bean and Arnoldy. Arnoldy is on the Board of Education like Shingle. Arnoldy wanted to purge the faculty at the school, just like Germany, but Shingle fought him down. It was a member of the faculty. I don't remember who it was, but Arnoldy wanted him out. He wanted to get rid of advanced thinkers in Marysville High School. Shingle killed it in the embryo stage.

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Sutter County is wealthy; it has many retired ranchers. Sutter Co. is looking for a scapegoat. Half my men from Sutter Co. A thinker in Yuba City is Gene Morrison, a big operator (Morrison's Orchard Supply Co., 573 Bridge, Yuba)

At the forum, an ex-marine told Arnoldy or Bean "I'll knock the block off your shoulders if you don't shut up." The Legion doesn't follow Arnoldy; he's editor of a little Legion paper. Brick Wilconxon is in the American Legion. There are members like him who don't follow Arnoldy and Bean and are sore at them. One man at the forum said the Irishmen haven't done much in this war; maybe they'll start on me next (like the Japanese). I wonder how the boys overseas feel about the lifting of exclusion. (I said I had seen letters from men in the armed services in the newspapers. Some letters were for, some against the return of the Japanese)

Something else I wonder about is why they are letting the Japanese come back now instead of after the war. (I said the Army had removed the Japanese because of military necessity, and now when it felt there was no longer any such reason for keeping them away was sending them back, KL)

Marysville is at the head of things here; it's the hub.

There's a woman in my church-- one woman can ask a couple of questions and put them back on their heels (apparently he was referring to some woman in his congregation who favors the return but he didn't finish KL)

We touch a lot through this church-- the youth, the men, everyone. I really got all this going here. I'm behind it (the active arguments over the return, the forum, etc.) Right will prevail. It always does. The church HAS to take a stand. People know me here. They stop me on the street. (The reverend was telling about his position as a vital citizen in the community, rather than as some one who is merely a religious figurehead, KL)

KATHERINE LUOMALA

Interview with Mr. J. J. Collins
Asst. Dean Yuba College
Marysville, Yuba Co. Calif.

Katherine Luomala
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THUMBNAIL

Mr. Collins, asst. dean of Yuba college, was the chairman of the Presbyterian Men's Forum which discussed the return of the Japanese. Mr. Collins who had been described by the Presbyterian minister as a known liberal who is always expected to take a liberal point of view seemed very uneasy and evasive when I interviewed him. He looked out of the window most of the time while he talked, and when he did face me would rub his forehead. He would also yawn without apology. This was between 5 and 4:30 in the afternoon. Though it was the day after New Year's, I did not think any celebration the previous day had brought him to his weary state for he looked very fresh and well groomed in a handsome dark blue suit with a tie, handkerchief, and socks in a red and gray pattern. Though obviously unwelcome I persisted largely through annoyance at his rudeness and the hope of getting a clue to his behavior. His last remarks which he made staring at his desk was something about trying to do what we could despite the chances we took with our positions. It seems to be one of the clues.

He was a little more animated in talking about the Hindus and his meeting with their priest who is also a ranch foreman, but when he talked about problems immediately relating to the return of the Japanese he did his best to maintain a bored manner. The undercurrent of bitterness and depth of feeling beneath the efforts to minimize the problem is evident in his statement that remarks at the Forum confirmed him in thinking that America should be watched; otherwise it would throw the Constitution and the Bill of Rights in the sewer and the Supreme Court along with it.

I later heard that he had been accustomed to make liberal speeches on various controversial subjects, but then his wife was ostracized by whatever social circle she had associated with because of his views. He is worried over that. There were said to be other pressures also but they were not described. Recently, it was said, he was scheduled to give a talk on anti-Semitism but at the last minute backed down.

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Interview with Mr. J. J. Collins
Asst. Dean Yuba College
Marysville, Yuba Co. Calif.

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INTERVIEW

We have had no requests yet from students wishing to return. At one time, at the height of enrollment, we have 30 - 35 Japanese. We have sent out a number of transcripts to Eastern schools. There is no problem at all from the students' standpoint here at the college. There may be a minority with animosity unnecessarily aroused by their elders. There are some hotheads in town. Supreme Court means nothing to them.

Housing I don't know about except that it is crowded here, but those who own property could come back if their leases permit. There is a camp here which has more than 1000 civilians employees. Then there are soldiers' wives who come and go and have absorbed every extra house and room, old and new since the war.

(How many Japanese owned their homes?) I don't know but I'd guess 25-30% of them did. There were some old, established families. Many were on little farms nearby.

(What do you think would happen if some Japanese students returned to the school?) The boys are gone; there are only girls left here and usually they don't cause a fracas.

(What effect do you think the Forum had on the thinking of people?) Nobody changed their minds. People as a whole said they were opposed to the return because a "Jap is a Jap"; they fear it is going to be dangerous for the Japanese and that it would be wiser for them to stay away. They have no personal dislike, but feel it is better for the large group of them to remain in the East. Some men said nothing. They would be lawabiding and would stand for law and order. The hotheads seek the limelight. They are not logical thinkers tho sincere in what they feel, but they just are not sane in their approach to the problem.

(Were there any differences along occupational lines?) Some farmers opposed the return violently. One of the businessmen is also a farmer. There are the non-vocal who want them back, who like their work, but the farmers as a group are a little opposed. The opposition is a rural, agricultural thing rather than a community-city thing, based on economics. However, I don't know any farmers who have made requests for Japanese help but I know farmers who want them.

(Has there been talk of an economic boycott?) There has been no talk of not dealing with the Japanese. The argument is that "A Jap is a Jap"; that every Jap swears loyalty to the emperor and has dual citizenship." Senator Rich was asked if the Supreme Court recognizes dual citizenship. He said no or it wouldn't have let the Japanese come back. People say you can't trust them because of dual citizenship. They don't even trust the FBI's determination of loyalty. They say that the Japanese would lie about it, just as if the

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FBI would ask them directly if they were loyal. These people just brush answers to their statements aside as if they had never been made. Some are sincere because they don't know any better. Others cover up for economic reasons. Some people live by their emotions.

The Rotary hasn't discussed it in their meetings, and that is one reason why Werner started it in the forum. The forum got what they are thinking. I don't think anyone changed anyone's opinion one iota. I didn't change. It confirmed me in thinking America should be watched, otherwise it would throw the Constitution and Bill of Rights in the sewer and the Supreme Court along with it.

(What was the effect of Senator Rich's remarks?) Senator Rich's remarks had quite an effect. He made some strong statements. (Collins then quoted his remarks on the Supreme Court having spoken and the need for maintaining order. The Senator remarks had the effect of shutting up some people. Those who had made very strong statements had to backwater.

Some said that they wouldn't touch the Japanese now because of the dangers to our boys overseas, but after the war they will get rid of them. They say that Placerville has none and the same can be true here. These few say they will make it too hot for them to stay.

(How many Chinese are there here?) Not very many, but this is one of the oldest Chinese settlements in the state. There used to be many before, but some have left. The youngsters have gone to war and others have moved.

The Filipinos used to be rather numerous. There were six in the school, but it had dropped off before the war. Employment picked up and they got better jobs. There are no Mexicans in the school; there are a few negroes. One went to Fresno. One student is a flyer, a lieutenant.

(How did the Chinese and Japanese get along before the war?) The Chinese and Japanese were doing their best to get along. The leaders of both groups were trying. Some were former Junior College graduates who were doing their best to keep the groups out of trouble. There was some intellectual animosity but no physical. There was feeling as the result of the Sino-Japanese war.

(Has there been a labor shortage here?) They haven't been too hard pressed. I do some work for a cannery, and one of the largest growers said that they had never had so many apply for work to do thinning. I don't know of anyone who lost peaches last summer because of labor shortage and I see the orchards. Two years ago some refused to pay the wages and lost that way. Then the price was raised from 10 to 12¢ a box and they got pickers. There was no shortage here in Sutter and Yuba counties. The Mexican Nationals eased it up.

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(Who has taken over the ranches the Japanese operated?) Caucasian farmers. One of our teachers has one. The Hindus have taken some. There are quite a number who have sort of grown up with the area. We have had a few Hindu murders. There is quite a large Hindu population here. Stockton is their religious center. They work and live in gangs, coming up from Stockton. We have a few Hindu students. I met a priest from one of their temples. He was a ranch foreman, very interesting on the matter of British empire politics. A distinguished man.

Frank Nakamoto is a graduate of the college. He had a drug store. He wrote that he does not think it wise to return immediately.

(Did any Japanese belong to the service and commercial clubs?) I don't recall if any belonged here. Colusa had one. The Japanese were set apart. They didn't participate in general community affairs. There was a division among the Japanese on religion. They had a Buddhist temple and an elaborate set up of school, church, gym and club rooms. They had a Buddhist minister here, and also a Christian minister.

(What about feeling toward language schools?) I have assumed there will be none if they return, that they wouldn't be allowed to continue. It seems to me anybody would be suspected who went to them or started them. There was a little feeling before the war about the schools because of the fear of dual loyalty.

(Did the Japanese students participate in general school activities?) They belonged to the scholarship club, were on the teams. There were some in the music club. There was no segregation and no Japanese group (exclusively Japanese organization). This is a day school so there would not be many clubs anyway.

The teachers correspond with some of these former students. I know I get many letters about transcripts.

KATHERINE LUOMALA