Vol. 1, nos. 1-6,
July/Nov., 1943

War Relocation Authority, U.S. Government

NEWS LETTER

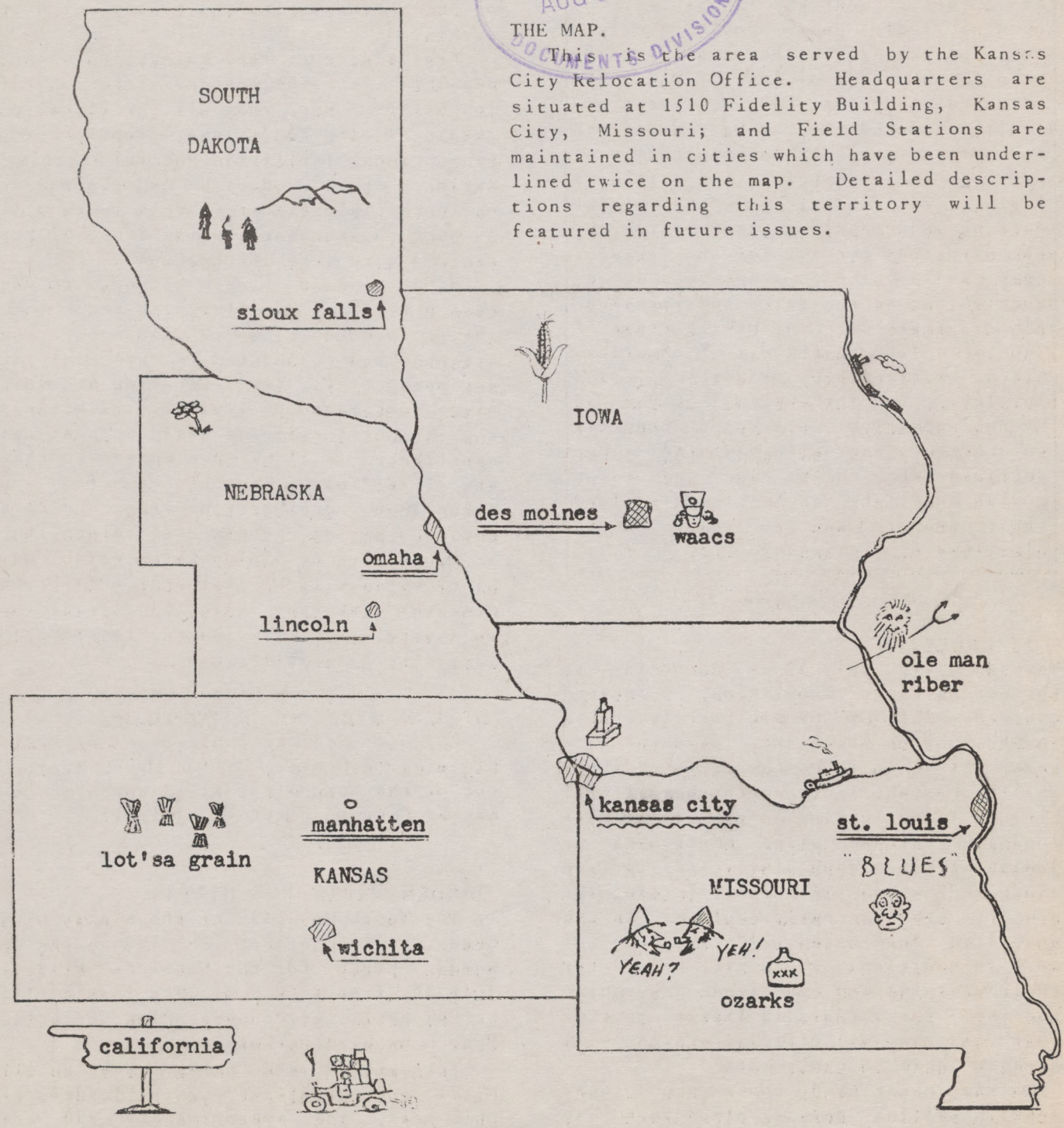
KANSAS CITY REGIONAL RELOCATION OFFICE

Missouri - Iowa
South Dakota
Kansas - Nebraska

VOL. I NO. 1 JULY 26, 1943

THE MAP.

This is the area served by the Kansas City Relocation Office. Headquarters are situated at 1510 Fidelity Building, Kansas City, Missouri; and Field Stations are maintained in cities which have been underlined twice on the map. Detailed descriptions regarding this territory will be featured in future issues.



AN EDITORIAL FROM THE CHICAGO SUN ---
June 5, 1943.

"Citizens of Des Moines have given an object lesson to the country by opening their homes to 50 American born Japanese while they await employment in the state of Iowa. These are educated young men and women, patriotically devoted to the United States and seeking the double opportunity of proving their devotion and earning a living. Their handicap is the prejudice created against them, first, by the barbarous conduct of the Japanese army and government, and second, by such things as the false and irresponsible remark of Gen. DeWitt that "A Jap is a Jap" regardless of American birth, citizenship, education, and loyalty .... The attitude of the Des Mo nes community is a happy contrast to that of the self-appointed super patriots who think race and color govern the right of Americans to love their country and to share in the blessings of citizenship .... "

JOB FREEZING

Kansas City, July 22 -- According to the War Manpower Commission, relocated evacuees will NOT be arbitrarily frozen to the jobs on which they leave the centers; unless it is to the limit of their ability to contribute to the war effort.

Since "contribution to the war effort" connotes defense plant employment or indispensible responsibilities in farm management - and since those leaving the centers are generally employed in the so-called "non-essential" trades, or work in positions which are below what their training and experience has equipped them for - there is little to fear that any over-all official action will "freeze" them to their work.

On the other hand, those who do get jobs in skilled defense plant work may have to remain for the duration.

WHY THIS?

This News-letter is being published by the Kansas City Regional Relocation Office for the purpose of depicting in an informal manner the many sidelights on the personalities and places which it serves.

Realizing that real relocation is not possible with the mere presentation of job offers - but that all the facts regarding living conditions, food prices, recreational facilities, social discrimination, etc., - must be made known to the potential relocatee, this means will be used to acquaint the residents of the centers with that information.

From time to time, we hope to use case histories to illustrate the assimilation processes which some of the evacuees had to undergo in their initial attempts to fit into war-time America. Also, comparison of living costs between the various localities based upon actual experiences will be presented so that the "real" wages may be computed and taken into consideration when the time comes to decide the place of relocation.

Other bits of information which may be of value will be included; and if the Centers have any questions regarding this area, they are invited to communicate with us at all times.

DILLON MYER COMES TO TOWN.

Enroute to a conference of WRA big-wigs in Denver, Dillon Myer, director of the Authority, will stop over in Kansas City on Saturday, July 17.

GARDEN PARTY FOR NISEI.

The Youth Council of the Kansas City Council of Churches is sponsoring a garden party for the Nisei on Friday, July 30, from 8:00 p.m. The locale will be the exclusive Country Club Christian Church on Ward Parkway.

Invitations are being sent to all Nisei and prominent youth leaders of this area, and approximately 200 are expected to attend.

THE KANSAS CITY OFFICE.

Area Supervisor -- VERNON KENNEDY.

Born in Tacoma, Washington about 46 years ago. After sojourns in Mexico and Arizona, settled in Sacramento - and now regards there as his home.

A Saint Mary's graduate, so is quite cognizant of "minority problems" and "inferiority complexes".

Former Deputy Labor Commissioner of California.

In September, 1942, he accepted the post of Chief of the Employment Division at Poston and remained there until May, 1943. Since then, has been Relocation Supervisor of the Kansas City Area.

According to his Poston intimates, Vern Kennedy is a "swell egg" and a good fishing companion.

Fully aware of the problems connected with Relocation, and sincerely desiring to solve them, he carries no "big-shot" airs nor attempts to give the run-around to perplexed evacuees who come to his office. In this respect, Mr. Kennedy is a refreshing interlude.

Relocation Officer -- KATHERINE LUPLAU.

A native Kansas Citian - somewhere between the ages of 30 and 35.

For several years, she was the State Director of the Missouri WPA, and as such was considered one of the outstanding women administrators in the nation.

Mrs. Luplau is charming and capable, but her greatest asset lies in her wide spread contacts in this region.

Other Employees

FRANCIS O'MALLEY, Associate Officer - for seven years in government work and an attorney by trade.

PEBBLE HORN, VIVIAN HIGHBERGER, YURI SUGIMOTO, MERIAN KANATANI, and MARIKO MATSUMOTO -- office girls of diversified talents and duties, courteous and kind solicitious and helpful. The last three are from Poston, Arizona.

ROBERT S. IKI, Relocation Counselor - from the Central Utah Project.

THE LAND.

Bound by the Mississippi, the Platte, the Missouri, and the Kaw - fed by the waters of the Eastern Rockies and the Western Great Lakes - lighted by the globes of countless towns - this land has untold opportunities for the assimilation of many minority groups.

There are cities of one to a hundred thousand which could quite easily absorb from four to forty families. There are rural regions where one is accepted by the work he does and not by the color of his skin. There are the big cities - mecca of those who long for the bright lights and hope to erase one year of desert darkness with the artificial incandescents of city streets.

This land is rich and being rich is generous.

There is no race-baiting - no signs of discrimination. But rather, there only exists the desire to treat a man humanly because he is a human and has the same human needs as anyone else.

High wages in the Middle West are not too plentiful except, perhaps, in those few areas where housing is almost impossible to find. Furthermore, most of these jobs are marginal and those accepting them will be the first casualties of the change in our industrial program which is bound to come and can come even before the end of the war.

On the other hand, living costs in the Mid-west, with the exception of the highly industrialized sections, are not excessively high. In Iowa, for example, you can get meals for 35¢ to 50¢. Five evacuee girls working in an overall shop there, are paying only $25 a month for a four-room apartment.

By taking these facts into consideration, and laying plans for a future of post-war upheaval in which one will have to compete with millions of up-rooted soldiers and defense workers in the struggle for economic existence - the Nisei will be assuring his own and his family's security. Thus Relocation can find its happy ending in a plan for the future and not in a hectic hunt for the highest paying job.

FIELD STATIONS.

The following are the field stations operated by the Kansas City Relocation Office.

Information regarding placements in the respective areas may be obtained by direct contact with the officials listed.

They will be glad to serve the residents of the centers by presenting each person's qualifications to prospective employers with the aim of fitting the job to the individual and not the individual to the job.

To accomplish this, sufficient data must be furnished. Whether this is done by personal correspondence or by the filling of forms such as WRA #26 and Civil Service #57, is up to the individual's discretion - but all are urged to transmit as complete a docket as is possible.

THEIR ADDRESSES.

E. H. Leker
Extension Annex, Third Floor
Manhattan, Kansas

Frank Gibbs
520 Liberty Building
Des Moines, Iowa

Myrle White
1605 Van Dorn
Lincoln, Nebraska

E. G. Kennedy
727 Paul Brown Building
St. Louis, Missouri

W. M. Parmeter
1217 City National Bank Bldg.
Omaha, Nebraska

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
1510 Fidelity Bldg.
Kansas City 6, Mo.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, $300

NEWS LETTER DEBUT

This "News-letter" will be published approximately every other Friday in Kansas City, Missouri.

Those receiving copy are asked to make them available to as many people as possible.

(Notice to Block-managers: Please post on the bulletin boards in your block)

U.S. GOVERNMENT
WAR RELOCATION
AUTHORITY

NEWS LETTER

KANSAS CITY AREA RELOCATION OFFICE

MISSOURI - IOWA
SOUTH DAKOTA
KANSAS - NEBRASKA

VOL. I NO. 2 AUGUST 13, 1943

NISEIS WELCOMED AT GARDEN PARTY.

Forty-two Niseis were entertained at a garden party sponsored by the Kansas City Youth Council on July 30th at the Country Club Church.

The Council, composed of leaders from all the youth organizations in the city, made special attempts to show their welcome to the Japanese-Americans and lay aside any apprehensions as to prejudices or discriminations.

A carnival atmosphere permeated the affair - concessions, fortune-tellers, games, refreshment bars, and wandering minstrels. For the more active, there were opportunities for badminton and bowling; and for the others, community singing as well as just plain "chewing the fat".

More than 200 attended.

PLANS FOR PERMANENT HOSTEL UNDER CONSIDERATION.

Since the hostel arrangements for the Kansas City district are temporary and not quite adequate enough to meet the growing demand, plans for a centralized permanent hostel are being evolved.

In this connection, George Rundquist, Chairman of the Committee on Resettlement of Japanese-Americans, visited the city and discussed with interested parties plans for a permanent hostel. More details are to be released later and the Centers will be notified when the new hostel is ready.

At present, there are two in this city - one at the Methodist School for Christian Workers equipped to take girls and a couple; and the other at the Baptist Seminary for single men and another family group. Reservation for these may be made through the local WRA office.

CITIZENS FORM COMMITTEE TO AID ASSIMILATION OF EVACUEES.

A group of outstanding citizens of Kansas City, representing some of the most influential organizations, met in the board room of the War Manpower Commission on July 24 with Dillon S. Myer, National Director of the WRA, and discussed ways and means of aiding the program of relocation.

A direct result of this meeting was the immediate release of a statement addressed to the people of Kansas City, (excerpts reprinted on page 3), and the formation of a housing sub-committee. The group also signified its intent to contact as many other persons and organizations as possible and enlist their active endorsement.

The members of the Committee are:

Dr. Worth M. Tippy, chairman, Executive Secretary of Council of Churches;

Max Bretton, Director of the Jewish Welfare Federation;

Raymond E. Baarts, Director of the Council of Social Agencies;

C. G. Lord of the YMCA;

Olga Newland of the YWCA;

Father Edward J. Taney, Director of the Catholic Bureau;

Virginia Oldham of the Fellowship of Reconciliation;

and Dorothy Brauninger, Executive Secretary of the Youth Council.

TOM HOLLAND VISITS OFFICE.

Thomas Holland, Chief of Employment, stopped over in Kansas City on July 11 on a tour of inspection of the Centers and Relocation Offices.

He met with the staff, and discussed problems which were brought to his attention.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS.

by Archie Saito

As our train passed the sleepy town of Lawrence, Kansas and the man across the aisle stretched his arms, yawned, straightened his necktie, and said, "Ho-hum, we're almost there" -- I became fidgety and anxious, and all my conjectures as to the city I was "relocating" in swam before my mind - and I was all the more confused.

All I could see from the windows were grain and corn and greenness and trees. Surely a metropolis could not be only 30 miles away and if it was, where its towers - where the customary factories, the dirty slums usually associated with the surroundings of large cities?

Suddenly the train shot through a miniature valley and emerged in full view of a sight which took my breath away.

Before me lay a great plain - criss crossed with wide ribbons of concrete, joining minute clusters of homes and shopping centers with huge buildings humming with intense industrial activities. The Missouri and the Kaw bounded two sides of this plain and steep bluffs completed the encirclement. Where the two rivers met, an airport was situated, and the tremendous transports coming and going mingled with the bombers from nearby aviation defense plants, created an illusion of birds in the skies.

Beyond the rivers and on hills reminiscent of San Francisco or Seattle arose the sparkling towers of my destination! The myriad buildings moistened with the mists of that morning's rain, glistened in the mellow sun.

So this was Kansas City! Here I had visualized a small drab mid-western city, now before me was an ever-changing scene of cosmopolitan might..

"I'm going to like it here", I mused as I excitedly got my things together and waited impatiently for the train to arrive at the station. The man across the aisle handed me a travel folder and my eyes glanced across: "Kansas City, the 'Heart of America' - population: 702,136 .. principle trade .. "

A FEW OF THE LATEST ARRIVALS.

Topaz

From the Central Utah Project, three new arrivals were reported. KIM and MASA OBATA, investigating possibilities here; and Dr. MASUJI MATOI, who has accepted employment at the Gerry Optical Company as Lens Inspector.

Tule Lake

Business from Tule was brisk - 14 people, including three couples, coming here within one week. RUBY and HOWARD MATSUMARA who were married in Reno on their way out, are being interviewed for clerical work. Mr. and Mrs. FRED OUYE and daughter CAROL also arrived. Fred has been placed by the Retail Druggists Association as a pharmacist. MITSUTARO MIYAHARA, MITSUO OKAMORO, YOSH SUMOGE, and Mr. and Mrs. JOJI KITAHARA are now working as shoe repairmen with various concerns.

Poston

The Central Bag Co. has hired STONE ISHIMARU and SAM SUGIMOTO as skilled workers in their factory. HIROSHI AMANO, KAZUO KUSADA, JIMMY NAKAMURA, MILTON KANATANI, "BRUISER" NAGASAKI, and FRANK YOSHIDA are working in a milling plant, a few miles out of the city.

Heart Mountain

KAY KUMAI is working for the Larabee Flour Mills as office secretary. VICTOR and KATHERINE RITCHIE are employed by Bishop O'Hara.

Granada

MAKOTO AMANO, SHUJI IMAI, KAZUO KOJO, JOHN OKAMOTO, and KEN YOKOYAMA are also at the milling plant in Lawrence. Miss YASUKO MADOKORO has been hired by the Brand and Purity Co. as secretary.

Gila River

JOE SUZUKI, working for the Ace Radio Co.; and DOROTHY HORIGUCHI, clerk, are the latest to come from Gila.

Other Centers

The NODA FAMILY and DAISY NAKASHIMA from Jerome. MARJORIE YOSHIZAWA from Minidoka.

In addition to the above, there are others and many more too numerous to be mentioned.

STENOS FROM CENTERS
ASSIGNED TO AREA.

Within the past week, three former residents of relocation centers have been assigned to this area as junior stenographers.

LUCY KAWAFUNE from Minidoka has gone to Omaha, Nebraska where she will assist Mr. Walter Parmeter.

MAY IMAKIRE from Heart Mountain has been assigned to St. Louis, Missouri to work under Mr. Emery G. Kennedy.

RAE SHIMOJIMA from Tule Lake is still undergoing training in the Kansas City office, but may go to Des Moines, Iowa.

All of the girls first came to Kansas City where they acquainted themselves with office procedures and latest government policies.

PHOTOGRAPH

NEWS-LETTER
TO FEATURE PHOTOGRAPHS.

With the equipment now available, it is possible to reproduce photographs in future issues of the "News-Letter".

We hope that this new medium will aid the residents of the Centers to better conceive of outside conditions and by seeing their former neighbors at work, to gain a more vivid picture of Relocation.

So watch the next issue for "snaps", and if you have any subjects you want pictured, let us know.

CITIZENS' COMMITTEE
ISSUES STATEMENT.

As the opening gun in its campaign to solicit the active support of the people in this area, the Citizens' Committee issued a statement which appeared in the Kansas City Star and which was widely circulated among the organizations in the city.

In addition to the Committee, it was signed by the following:

Bishop Edwin V. O'Hara;

Rabbi Samuel S. Mayerberg;

William Lindsay Young, president of Park College;

Clarence R. Decker, president of the University of Kansas City;

Joseph F. Porter, Jr., president of Council of Churches;

and Bishop Robert Nelson Spencer.

Excerpts from the statement:

" -- It is proposed by the government to find work for these loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry in the many parts of the United States, including Kansas City. Employment is being found by the United States Employment Service and other government agencies. Their placement is under the guidance of the War Relocation Authority with the approval of the military authorities.

"Housing and friendship for these evacuees in Kansas City is under the care of a committee of citizens representative of churches - Catholic, Jewish and Protestant - social agencies, organizations of women, and Christian associations.

"The Committee is in a position to reassure the public.

"It appeals to all citizens, to business, to organized labor, and to civic agencies to support its work; to receive the few who come here with friendliness, to make more pleasant their adjustment in a part of the United States that is new to them; to encourage their faith in the fair play and human kindness of American democracy; and to give them the fullest opportunity to make their contribution to the national war effort."

FIELD STATIONS.

All Field Stations have been for some time, compiling a list of firms which for some reason or another, have not submitted a definite job offer - but are willing and desirous of interviewing prospective applicants.

This list has been primarily for the use of evacuees coming out without a previous commitment and has aided them in making valuable contacts. As a result, many placements otherwise not possible have been accomplished.

Recently, as the list has expanded, it has been possible for the Relocation Officer in the Field Station to review the qualifications of applicants from the centers and inform them as to the actual possibilities for work.

So you are again reminded to write to the offices - thereby selling yourself and not let the job sell itself to you.

THEIR ADDRESSES

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Des Moines, Iowa

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NEWS LETTER

KANSAS CITY AREA RELOCATION OFFICE

MISSOURI - IOWA
SOUTH DAKOTA
KANSAS - NEBRASKA

VOL. 1 NO. 3 SEPTEMBER 10, 1943

EVACUEES FORM GROUP TO AID ASSIMILATION.

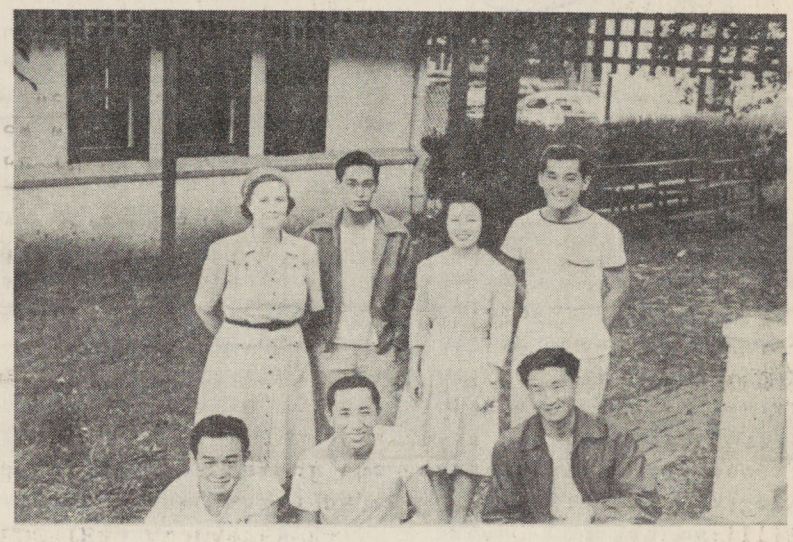
Expressing a desire to assimilate and integrate on an individual basis with the many organizations that have extended welcome, 48 former residents of the relocation centers met Friday night, Sept. 3rd, at the Kansas City YWCA.

At the meeting, it was emphasized that no attempts should be made to preserve the group as a social entiety, but that it was necessary to have some sort of a plan to promote integration and teach the most effective assimilation techniques for the mutual benefit of all.

To this end, a steering committee was elected and authorized to make contacts. The members: Dr. Mako Matoi, Topaz; Kay Noda, Jerome; Susie Oda, Gila River; Nonnichi Isono, Granada; Kay Kumai, Heart Mountain; Nao Asahara, Tule; and Bob Iki, WRA counselor.

The remainder of the evening was devoted to a session of folk-dancing, games, and discussions.

Anna Pyott, secretary of the YWCA, said a few words and invited all the girls to join the Business Women's Club.



RELOCATEES AT LAWRENCE.

Shown in the above photo with Mrs. Katherine Luplau and Merian Kanatani of the Kansas City WRA office, are five relocatees from the Granada and Poston relocation centers now working in a dehydration plant in Lawrence Kansas. Standing are Kazuo Kojo of Granada and Jimmy Nakamura of Poston. Kneeling in the front row are Milton Kanatani, Poston; Ken Yokoyama, Granada; and John Okamoto, Granada.

LIFE IN LAWRENCE - interview with Milt Kanatani.

"We've been working in this town for almost a month now, and I must say that we sure enjoy this life. There's eleven of us here - six from Poston and five from Granada.

"We share our expenses by sleeping and eating together, and although it sounds like a "yabo" dorm it really isn't because there's two swell apartments with plenty of room for all.

It only costs us about $7 a week to live and that includes pork chops, steaks, chicken and other stuff you only hear about in camp.

"After going to shows, etc., we still manage to save more than $25 a week apiece - and that ain't hay, brother!"

CITIZENS COMMITTEE OF DES MOINES.

One of the most widely represented citizens committees acting in behalf of the evacuees, is that of Des Moines, Iowa.

This group includes members from not only the church elements, but from such widely diverse agencies as the A. F. of L., C. I. O., Chamber of Commerce, and the American Legion.

The roster:

Mrs. Cornell Huston, Board Member of the YWCA;

Forest Seymour, Editor of the "Register";

President Harmon, of Drake University;

President Nielson, of Grandview College;

William Cotton, Board of Supervisors;

A. A. Couch, Secretary of the A. F. of L.;

Ben Henry, Secretary of the C. I. O.;

Donald Murphy, Editor of "Wallace's Farmer";

R. J. Laird, Adjutant of the American Legion;

Mrs. Burt Mills, President of Womens' Club;

and representatives of the following organizations:

Chamber of Commerce,

Jewish Federation,

Negro Congress,

Council of Social Agencies,

Agricultural Adjustment Administration,

Des Moines Library,

Ministers' Association

The Committee's prime function has been to act in a liaison capacity between the relocatees and the general public.

PUBLIC REACTION IN IOWA MIRRORED IN ATTITUDE OF DES MOINES "REGISTER".

Boasting a circulation in excess of 378,999 in a city of 190,000, the Des Moines "Register" enjoys the unusual distinction of being the chief means of information for the entire state of Iowa. It undoubtedly influences more people than any other medium in the state, and therefore its policy towards the Relocation Program is of primary importance.

This policy has been that of unreserved sympathy for the American-Japanese and Issei in their attempt to find a new home outside of the centers. It has actively manifested itself in militant editorials urging the residents of Iowa to take these people into their social, individual, and economical lives. It has been responsible for the recent "Superman" panel in which the hero of that comic strip upholds the Nisei. And it has been the reason for Des Moines having one of best "community acceptances" in the United States.

Mr. Forest Seymour, Editor of the "Register", is a member of the Citizens' Committee, and is also Editor of "Look" magazine which has a national circulation.

It is significant to note here that "Look" has consistently maintained a favorable attitude toward the Nisei, and has featured numerous articles aiming to preserve their Civil Rights.

AMERICAN FRIENDS ESTABLISH HOSTEL.

Under the guidance of dynamic John Copithorne, field representative and former assistant director of famed "Scattergood", home for European refugees, the American Friend Service Committee has established a hostel in Des Moines for evacuees.

The new hostel is located at 2150 Grand Ave., and was officially opened on September 1st.

There will be room for about 25 persons, male and female, on a temporary basis - and since housing is plentiful in the city, it was felt that this is sufficient to warrant an adequate turnover.

Center residents desirous of obtaining more information are asked to contact either the WRA office, 520 Liberty Bldg., John Copithorne at the hostel address, or the relocation office in each center.

IOWA RELOCATEES TOTAL 184.

According to Frank E. Gibbs, Relocation Officer in charge of the Iowa district, there are now approximately 184 evacuee resettlers in Iowa.

These include students at Drake University and the War Training School, as well as those employed in all categories of work involving various degrees of skill.

RECENT ARRIVALS
TO KANSAS CITY.

Granada

Employed by Standard Oil in its secretarial department is MARIAN FUJII. DAVID SUGIMOTO is working at Agar Co., and GEORGE SHINO at Columbia Transfer.

Gila River

THOMAS NAKANISHI is at the Methodist Publishing House, and Mr. and Mrs. FRED DOI are working at the Martin Greenhouse.

Poston

Santa Fe Railways has hired FRED SUGIURA. LILY SAKEMI is typist for the Methodist Publishing Co. At the Elms Hotel, are HENRY OYAMA and mother.

Tule Lake

Mr. and Mrs. ASAHARA, Mr. and Mrs. KUMAGAI, and GEORGE AKIYAMA are the latest arrivals from Tule.

Heart Mountain

SANKIN SANO is working for the Baptist Seminary. GEORGE UYEMURA at the Elm Hotel, and Mr. and Mrs. T. YOSHIYAMA are now Missourians.

Others

In addition to those from the centers, many evacuees have come into this city from other destinations.

Space does not permit the naming of all the new arrivals, but from time to time, representative relocatees will be mentioned here.

RELOCATION SUPERVISOR
RETURNS AFTER TRIP.

After a lenghty trip which involved a month's stay at Tule Lake and an official visit to Poston, Vernon R. Kennedy, supervisor of the Kansas City Area Office, returned to his headquarters on Monday, September 13.

ENJOYS FIRST JOB.

"Katch" Kusada, former Postonian, working in a Kansas warehouse at his first real job, smiles as he thinks of all the War Bonds he's "salting" away for that rainy day.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
AIDE VISITS K. C.

Reverand George Aki, evacuee representative of the Congregational Church was a visitor in Kansas City from Sept. 3 to 7.

He spoke at a local church where he pleaded for understanding and aid in finding housing.

Rev. Aki was ordained in an assembly center and spent a year in camp.

NEBRASKA STUDENTS MEET
DISCUSS RELOCATION

Holding a series of conferences with Myrle White, Relocation Officer of Lincoln; Robert Drew, student pastor; and Bob Iki, Relocation Counselor from the Area Office - about 34 students of the University of Nebraska decided that their best contribution to the resettlement problem would be to find jobs for their immediate family in the surrounding territory.

To this end, they offered to cooperate with Mr. White in every way.

Among the students who participated were: "Skee" Oji, former Sacramentan; Joe Ishikawa from Los Angeles; Jim Ida, one-time Topazian; and Miss Marie Yamashita, relocatee from Heart Mountain.

Ralph Ibata, native Nebraskan and instructor in Physics at the University, also gave valuable assistance in leading the discussions.

NINE RELOCATEES
AT "BOYSTOWN".

Father Flanagan's famous "Boystown", immortalized by Mickey Rooney and Spencer Tracy in two memorable films, is now home for nine relocatees who are engaged in various tasks there.

Their work involves all phases of operation - from administrative to farm; and, according to the Father, is vitally necessary in the development of the project.

FIRST NISEI HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT IN K. C.

John Katsu, 16, former student of Berkeley High in California and Topaz High in the Central Utah Project, has the honor of being the only student of Japanese ancestry in a Kansas City high school.

He is living with his sister and brother-in-law in a residential apartment, and intends to get a part-time job to make his own spending money.

John hopes that other high school students will come out and enjoy going to a "real" school again.

FIELD STATIONS REPORT INCREASES.

Reports from the five Field Stations indicate increasing numbers of evacuees are resettling in the Mid-west.

Although this increase is gratifying, Officers feel that many more can come out because of the better opportunities for obtaining good jobs.

People are urged to express their choice of employment in letters to the Relocation Officer of the district they prefer.

The addresses of the Field Stations are listed in the next column.

E. H. Leker
Extension Annex,
Third Floor
Manhattan, Kansas.

Frank E. Gibbs
520 Liberty Building
Des Moines, Iowa.

Myrle White
1605 Van Dorn
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NEWS LETTER

KANSAS CITY AREA RELOCATION OFFICE

MISSOURI — IOWA
SOUTH DAKOTA
KANSAS — NEBRASKA

VOL. 1 NO. 4 SEPTEMBER 30, 1943

RECEPTION PLANNED BY LOCAL GROUP.

To reciprocate for the garden party which the Kansas City youth leaders recently held for them, the newly organized Nisei Assimilation Group is planning a joint reception and social at the First Baptist Church on 2300 Linwood Blvd., next Thursday, October 7.

Dr. Masuji Matoi as temporary chairman will introduce Perry Saito who will recount his impressions of other cities in which evacuees have relocated. Mr. Saito is in Kansas City by invitation of the Fellowship of Reconciliation.

More than 200 invitations are being mailed to Caucasian youth leaders, and about 75 evacuees are expected to attend.

K. C. LIVING COST AMONG LOWEST IN U.S.

Next to Mobile, Alabama, Kansas City has the lowest living costs of any major U.S. city - according to the budget prepared by the Division of Social Research of the WPA. It costs a family of four, $1541 per year to live at fair standard; as compared to $1816 to maintain the same level in New York which has the highest rate.

RELOCATEES PARTICIPATE IN "OFFICERS' WORKSHOP" OF CITY-WIDE INTERDENOMINATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL.

Using as their theme - "Christian Youth in Wartime Service" - the Interdenominational Youth Council of Kansas City convened all day Saturday, September 18, for an Officers' Workshop and Conference at the University of Kansas City; and among the more than 300 leaders and officers who attended were four members of the local evacuee steering committee: Dr. Masuji Matoi, Kay Kumai, Susie Oda, and Mrs. Fumi Iki.

They actively participated in the program, and were instrumental in the formation of some of the resultant decisions and recommendations - one being a resolution passed by the Conference commending all firms employing relocatees for their very "Christian and patriotic action".

There were four subdivisions of the theme: "Post-war World Order"; "Service to Disrupted Populations"; "Program Adjustments"; and "Recreation".

The Conference broke up into groups to discuss the four topics outlined above, and the Relocation problem being one of the main subjects, received more than its share of attention.

The faculty of the Workshop included some of the outstanding educators and civic leaders in this area. Representing the War Relocation Authority was Robert S. Iki of the Area Office.

BUYS BONDS IN THIRD LOAN DRIVE.

Shown above is Norman Morikawa, formerly from Tule Lake and now settled in Des Moines, with his contribution to the Third War Loan Drive - a $25 defense bond.

Other relocatees are supporting this campaign by investing their surplus income. Miss Yuri Sugimoto was the biggest purchaser with five $100 bonds.

NEWS FROM OMAHA

-by Lucie Kawafune.

(Note: Lucie from Mini is Mr. Parmeter's secretary in Omaha, Nebraska).

In the way of new arrivals to Omaha in the past week, we had first a Matsuhiro Endo, medical student. Mr. Endo from Poston had gone East to work in a hospital. Some how, after a short trial, the East didn't quite appeal to him. After being encouraged by one of his friends here, he arrived last week and has been working in the psychopathic ward of the Lutherian Hospital where he is attending to some seventy "odd" patients.

A gentleman by name of Takao Misaki, from Tule, is starting work today as a watchmaker for the Brodkey Jewelry Store.

Another new arrival is George Kimura who arrived from Rohwer to join his brother. He is to start work this morning with the Harding Bottling Co.

Satoshi Tomita, former student at Denver U, has been looking around for relocation possibilities for his whole family. He visited Minneapolis for 2 weeks, and then dropped into the Omaha Office the other morning. Before he had been in town 2 hours, he had a job for his dad as chef at the Blackstone Hotel. By late afternoon he had jobs for his two brothers at the Yellow Cab Company. I believe there are eight in the Tomita family, and it looks as though we will have jobs for all of them when they arrive!

A RELOCATEE AT WORK

Shown above in the "Indian Mural Bar" of the world famed Elms Hotel at Excelsior Springs, Missouri - is George Uyemura, former resident of Heart Mountain.

GIRLS' FOOTBALL TEAM COACHED BY EVACUEE.

Sammy Hasegawa, one time Redlands University student and now attending Ottawa College in Ottawa, Kansas, is the coach of the Sophomore Girls' football team, according to an account in the Kansas City Star.

REX LEE VISITS AREA OFFICE.

Rex Lee, newly appointed Assistant Chief of Employment, visited this office September 28.

Mr. Lee was formerly Relocation Supervisor of the Salt Lake Area.

RETRACTION.

The "NewsLetter" apologizes for stating in the last issue that Mr. Forest Seymour is the Editor of the "Des Moines Register". - He is one of the chief editorial staff members. Also "Look" magazine is under the same ownership, but not the same editor.

MANY WORK AT FAMOUS RESORT.

One of the most famous resort hotels in America, The Elms at Excelsior Springs, Mo., is currently employing 12 evacuees from Gila, Granada, Tule, Heart Mnt., and Poston.

They are working as bartenders, bell-hops, waiters, porters, linen checkers, etc.

H. E. Yager, manager of the hotel made the statement: "Everybody is doing fine. The guests all appreciate the better service these people are providing, and they certainly have saved us a lot of headaches!"

The workers' point of view was expressed by Mrs. Oyama, an Issei mother working as a salad cook with her son Henry doing bell-hop duties: "First, I think they make mistake and think we are guests because they treat us so good. We have nice room with private bath, and plenty food to eat".

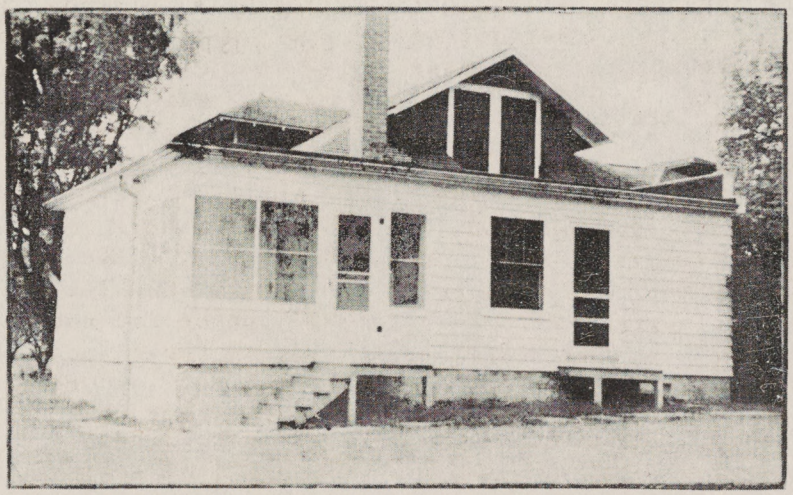
- AMERICAN JUSTICE -

Several nights ago, George Akiyama, a middle-aged Issei relocatee from Tule Lake, was walking along a downtown Kansas City street - window shopping and thoroughly enjoying the sights and sounds which one year of center life had reduced to memories - when he was suddenly accosted by a drunk who snatched his wallet and fled. Mr. Akiyama immediately gave chase, aided by several bystanders who were witness to the act. They apprehended the thief and called the police. Upon arrival of the officers, the thief broke loose and attacked Akiyama, calling him, "Jap!" and generally trying to blame his action on Akiyama's ancestry.

The reaction of the crowd was to favor Mr. Akiyama and hoot down the assailant. It urged the police to "arrest that drunk" - "give him what he deserves" - "slug him for hitting this gentleman" - etc.

The thief was arrested and called for trial before Judge Paul A. Buzard in the Circuit Court. Prior to pronouncing sentence, Judge Buzard severely reprimanded the defendant. He said: "Mr. Akiyama is a law-abiding resident of the United States. Whether or not, he is a citizen is something not of his own choice and has no bearing in this matter. The fact is that he himself is not guilty of any crime against this country, and therefore will be accorded the equal protection of the law."

The attacker was sentenced to 90 days in jail.



HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO LIVE IN A HOUSE LIKE THIS?

An example of the better type of housing accomodations available to families accepting suburban estate employment is this detached bungalow offered by John W. Foyle. It consists of a bedroom-livingroom; modern kitchen with table-top stove, sink, and refrigerator; bath; and the screened porch seen in the photo. In addition to the house, Mr. Foyle provides a Chevrolet coupe for the use of the tenants.

This offer has just been sent to the centers and at the time of writing, has not been filled.

DES MOINES NEWSCRAPS

-by Mariko Matsumoto

(Note: Mariko is the popular secretary in the Des Moines WRA office)

As you people who have been reading the "News Letter" know by now, the Hostel was officially opened on September 1st. At present there's about nine people living there. Billy Kai, a new arrival from Delta, Utah, entered this area with plans to look around. He's still looking around for that matter, after thirteen days, and his new plans are to go on to Cleveland to look around some more. We can expect him back any day if Cleveland is not satisfactory. They all come back here sooner or later, it seems, preferring this small city assurance rather than bumming around in a huge city, not knowing where to begin.

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Hata, formerly of Poston, came to resettle here and Mrs. Hata is already employed at Broadlawns Hospital as R. N. and they're all crazy about her.

Three more girls, Fumi Yamashita (Tule), Kathryn Uyetani, Lois Toke (Poston), are employed at the Iowa Methodist Hospital as Nurses Aides.

Mr. and Mrs. Ikuta and family of three children, ages 11, 9, and 7, came here from Granada and are now working for the Pella Overall Company. They found a swell apartment and seem pretty happy.

There's lots more but I'll hold it until the next issue.

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE
IN SAINT LOUIS.

An International night is held every Saturday at the Christ Church Cathedral and draws a large number of Nisei evacuees from St. Louis.

The group calls itself "Inter-American House", and is primarily concerned with problems of the racial minorities in St. Louis.

Aside from its interracial aspects, the meeting is also a means by which new relocatees can get together and exchange experiences.

ABOUT 1000
RELOCATED HERE.

Latest estimates show about 1000 evacuees relocated in the Kansas City Area.

St. Louis has the most with 345; Omaha is next with about 200; Manhattan Kansas reports 176 in the whole state; Des Moines has 160; and metropolitan Kansas City claims 124.

These estimates do not include many students; and those who originally relocated to some other destination but later returned to resettle in this territory.

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NEWS LETTER

KANSAS CITY AREA RELOCATION OFFICE

MISSOURI - IOWA
SOUTH DAKOTA
KANSAS - NEBRASKA

VOL. 1 NO. 5 OCTOBER 22, 1943

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

Case 1.

Ken Yamaguchi and Ken Shinagawa from Poston via Denver.

$9 per week for large double room and three big meals a day in very nice neighborhood.

No housekeeping, linen or dishwashing worries.

About $4 per week for incidental expenses and entertainment.

They each make more than $36 per week working in a paper box plant.

Case 2.

Yuri Sugio and Merian Tani, two steno-clerks.

$40 per month for 3rd floor studio apartment.

Average cost for food, less than $5 a week for each.

Other expenses about $3 a week, making living possible on expenditure of around $52 per month.

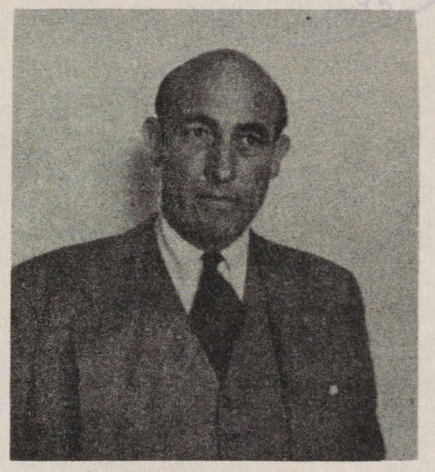
Case 3.

Mr. and Mrs. Archibald Saito and young brother in high school.

$60 per month for de-luxe four room apartment; kitchen, private bath, bedroom, living room, and glassed-in sleeping porch in a very fine district.

$10 per week for food.

Total living expenses around $120 per month.



OUR SUPERVISOR.

In response to many requests for a photo of Vernon R. Kennedy, we submit the above.

DIRECTOR GIVES TALK IN KANSAS.

Lawrence, Kans., Oct. 18- Dillon S. Myer, director of the WRA, told a Rotary Club audience here today that 21,000 loyal Japanese Americans have been released from relocation centers this year, and that 70,000 more are eligible for return to civilian life.

Mr. Myer said release of the loyal Japanese was desirable not only for economy and manpower reasons, but also because thousands of children now in the centers should grow up in American surroundings and realize their rightful heritage.

A FEW NOTES:

"I have just returned from a trip to five of our centers and have come back more convinced than ever that relocation is and always has been the responsibility of the evacuees.

"Relocation is a problem of the residents and not of the Administration.

"It is for the people to tell us their relocation desires and not we who should beg them to leave.

"We shall provide all possible opportunity for work and social adjustment. It is our duty to provide the tools and the evacuee's to use them.

"I am afraid that too many of the evacuees are reluctant to commit themselves on relocation. I realize that there are those who cannot come out now for various reasons; but what I would like to see is the evacuees in the centers taking a more definite stand on this very vital issue.

"Any able bodied person who is willing to accept respectable employment can earn his or her living in the city of his choice - and I hope this challenge will have 'takers' from all the centers".

Vernon R. Kennedy

STUDENTS SPEAK
ON PUBLIC REACTION.

In a letter signed by seven students of Dakota Wesleyan University headed by Bill Marutani, vice president of the student body, the following views on public reaction in and around South Dakota were included:

"Candidly speaking, the people of the MidWest are not the stereotyped personalities which they are conjured to be.

"They are not the suspicious, narrow-minded, bigoted 'country-hicks' who cannot perceive the existing problems.

"Rather, we have found the people of Mitchel and areas surrounding to be understanding, tolerant, and cordial.

"These people, unlike many out in the Pacific Coast, have not been prejudiced by any preconceived misconceptions of the Nisei, and they are ready to accept any relocatee with open minds and for what they are.

"Thus, whether the relocatee will experience an ideal relationship is entirely up to himself.

"We feel certain that whoever relocates here or elsewhere in this area will not be disappointed insofar as discrimination or prejudice is concerned and will not find conditions trying. And so to those contemplating relocation, by all means do!

(signed)

Bill Marutani, Fumi Yamashita, Irene Matsumoto, Oliver Takaichi, Blanche Kimoto, Min Yoshida, and Akira Yokomichi.

A GOOD TIME
WAS HAD BY ALL.

Approximately 37 nisei relocatees and 40 Caucasian friends attended a social at the 1st Baptist Church last Oct. 7, to reciprocate for the welcome which the youth of Kansas City have shown.

After folk-dancing and games, refreshments were served; and Perry Saito, well-known leader from Tule, gave a short talk on his experiences in the other cities.

RELOCATEES WELCOMED
IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

At present, there are two hi school students of Japanese descent in this city - Marjorie Yoshizawa sister of Mrs. Yo Hosokawa; and John Katsu, brother of Mrs. Fumi Iki.

Marjorie is attending East High, and has been rushed by all the "sororities" there.

John is at Central Hi. He was elected president of his class and is also on the football team.

COMMUNITY STANDS BY NISEI COUPLE
WHEN FEW RABBLE-ROUSERS TRY TO OUST THEM.

Mr. and Mrs. Nish Kumagai came to Kansas City to look around for a job, but first they wanted to find housing, so Katherine Luplau of the WRA office turned to the classified ad section of the "Times" and listed a few of the vacancies available.

One of these was a third floor apartment - bedroom, living room, kitchenette, and toilet - renting for $25 per month. The young couple were so pleased with the set-up, they rented it immediately.

The following day, they both found employment and seemed well on the road to true resettlement.

But their smooth and happy relocation was destined to make a temporary detour.

A neighbor, ignorant of the government's program and perhaps a little steeped in race prejudice, became alarmed at this "invasion". He started a petition in which the facts were grossly misrepresented - such as accusations that the Kumagai's were "slipped into the community by groups alien to the security of America".

26 members of the community signed, but a great many laughed it off or adamantly refused.

The Kansas City newspapers heard of this petition, which incidently was tossed into the wastebasket by the City Council to whom it was presented, and the result was a series of front page articles complete with pictures of the Kumagai's, etc. All the articles were extremely favorable to the young couple and tended to portray the petition in a ridiculous light.

The result of all this publicity was a flood of telephone calls, letters, and visits - all taking up the defense. There were only two telephoned opinions in support of eviction and they were anonymous. Many quoted the Constitution in their support of democracy, and the final development has been the acceptance of the Kumagai's by the community.

HOW WE SPEND OUR TIME.

-by Merian Kanatani.

The past week has been rather eventful for us in Kansas City. Things have been happening fast and though we aren't caught in the proverbial whirl that everyone talks about we have gotten a big kick out of the many events that have taken place.

The social given in honor of the Youth Council was really a kick. I shall never forget the sight of Dorothy becoming so dizzy in the course of a folk dance that she had to sit the rest out! The party was really tops. None of the stiff, rather artificial affairs that so many of these Caucasian-Nisei things are.

Come Thursday night, Yuri and I trotted down to the bowling alley for the weekly league of the National War Agencies. A sad score I made!

Saturday night, a bunch of us pitched in $1.50 apiece and saw the Iowa Seahawks route the Missouri Tigers at Ruppert Stadium. A group of the Waves marched in review during the half and did they look snappy in their dark blue uniforms with jaunty white gloves!

Sundays are usually very full for us and this last Sunday was no exception. A lot of us former center residents went out for dinner (which by the way cost only 65¢), and then went dancing to the music of Russ Morgan at the Pla-Mor. Kansas City has some smooth dancers, but we kept right up with them - and then some!

DEMOCRACY IN ACTION.

There are three workers in the stock-room of the Methodist Publishing House. They are representative of the so-called "yellow", "white", and "black" races. But in their hearts and minds, there is no difference - they are just "Tommy", "Bill", and "Joe". Thomas Nakanishi, William Schuenight, and Joseph Page.

MANY PROFESSIONALS IN SAINT LOUIS.

St. Louis enjoys the distinction of having an unusually large percentage of professionals who have found employment.

There are many doctors dentists, technicians, engineers, and artists working in their chosen field.

Among these are Dr. and Mrs. Mas Hara. Dr. Hara is connected with the Alexian Bros. Hospital, and Mrs. Hara is a bacteriologist at City Hospital.

Setsuko Matsunaga, who was Phi Beta Kappa at UC, is a librarian at Washington University.

Another successful example of relocation is Mr. and Mrs. Kim Obata. Kim is working for a big advertising agency as an artist while his wife is secretary to the president of Jefferson College.

DE DIRT ON DES MOINES.

-by Mariko Matsumoto

We had fourteen people relocate permanently during the week of Oct. 15, and most of them seem bent on staying here for more than the duration!

Bill Hosokawa, famous nisei newspaper man came into town on the 20th to work for the "Register" which is simply the one and only paper we have, and the best in the whole State. Bill is the first nisei to "crack" a big city newspaper - and boy, are we proud of him!

Three boys came from Gila River and Granada to attend the War Training School and are working at Hotel Fort Des Moines to pay for their expenses.

The Hostel is working out very satisfactory. More and more evacuees are accepting invitations and are finding their job after they come here.

HOW MUCH IS TAKEN FROM MY PAYCHECK FOR INCOME TAXES?

Considerable inquiry has been made as to the collection income tax at the source on wages.

By way of explanation, we present briefly a few examples. A single person paid on a weekly basis and whose earnings are between $30-$40 will be subject to a with-holding tax of $4.60. For a married person having two dependents (wife and child), the tax will amount to .70¢.

There is also a certain class of wage and salary payments that are exempt from the with-holding tax: namely - (1) agricultural labor, (2) domestic service, and (3) casual labor.

The best rule to quickly determine approximately what the tax will be, is to subtract $12 each for the first two persons and $6 thereafter from the weekly wages or $52 each for the first two persons and $26 thereafter from the monthly salary and compute 20% of the remainder. The amount obtained will be the tax to be deducted from the paycheck.

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NEWS LETTER

KANSAS CITY AREA RELOCATION OFFICE

MISSOURI - IOWA
SOUTH DAKOTA
KANSAS - NEBRASKA

VOL. 1 NO. 6 NOVEMBER 22, 1943

"RECREATION NIGHTS" FOR RELOCATEES.

The Young Kansas Citians, a prominent youth organization of the city, are offering their luxurious clubhouse at 501 E. Armour to the evacuees as a meeting place for every Thursday night.

All facilities have been made available. The initial program includes: ballroom dancing, games, refreshments, arts, card playing, crafts, songs, and just plain "gabbing".

Invitations are being sent to every evacuee in the area to come and join in the fun.

SOMETHING NEW HAS BEEN ADDED IN THE PRESENTATION OF RELOCATION POSSIBILITIES.

In order to better acquaint the residents of the centers with all the facts necessary for successful relocation, the Kansas City Area Office has initiated a new experiment in the presentation of job offers by sending a select team of experts and specialists to designated centers where they can offer their combined knowledge to prospective relocatees.

The team will have in its possession not only the current outstanding job offers, but also all available information on housing, food costs, recreational facilities, and community attitudes.

These will be on an area basis and will not be limited to any one city, consequently any person undecided as to where to relocate can use the information to make comparisons.

The experiment was at first tried in Jerome and Rohwer where it produced good results. A lot of people were able to crystallize their thoughts on the basis of what they learned from the team and are now happily settled.

The team, composed of Walter Parmeter, relocation Officer of Omaha; Francis O'Malley of KC; and Ed Sargant, Reports Specialist for the area, has just returned from Granada. They reported a lot of interest as evidenced by the many request for interviews.

BIG NEWS!

On December 1st, the News-Letter will become the CENTRAL STATES NEWS and will have eight big pages instead of the usual four. Watch for the first issue!

OUR FRIEND RETIRES.

Dr. Worth Tippy, Executive Secretary of the Council of Churches and Chairman of the local Citizens' Committee on Relocation, resigned both positions and retired to a farm in Virginia for reasons of health. He is shown above with Mr. Vernon Kennedy with whom he has been working closely on evacuee welfare.

ONE SUNDAY.

by- Merian Kanatani

I remember, way back in my Poston days, Sunday of lazy existence, days when we just lounged around trying to find some excuse for living. Not so the Sundays out here. They're our busiest days!

Last Sunday, we awoke about 9, and started in on our washing which had been piled up for a week. This took about an hour and by that time, it was almost 11.

While Yuri and Lilly fixed up a super-deluxe "brunch" for us, we tydyd up our cute apartment. Our household has found that two full meals at home on Sundays does very well and so the kitchen gets messed up only twice on those days.

We had dinner about 2, complete with soup, salad steak, nut dressing and dessert.

While we girls were in the process of clearing the dishes, Ken and Bill came over and we started a session of gin rummy and gossip.

Then comes a lull in the afternoon when you feel like going out. It was about five and we split up in pairs and threesomes. Our bunch went to Loew's and saw the latest Bob Hope pic.

After that, we stopped at our favorite haunt - the Peerless - and had a little snack.

Back to the apartment we went and wound up this typical Sunday with some dancing to record music, letter-writing, and a rubber of bridge.

AFTER THE HUE AND CRY.

In an apartment on the campus of the Central Baptist Seminary where he is studying for his master's degree, live the Reverand Mr. Sankin Sano, his Nisei wife, and his seven year old son Toshio. Mr. Sano was born in Japan but had received his education in this country so was anxious that his son should also become indoctrinated with democratic ideals.

On the first day of school, he brought Toshio to be enrolled.

Unaccustomed to having slant-eyed children apply for admittance, the principal referred the matter to the superintendent of schools. He, in turn, perhaps due to an unwarranted concern for the "safety" of the child and a reluctance to "create an issue", refused to accept Toshio's application.

What happened next was exactly what the superintendent had feared - an "issue" was created - but not as he had thought.

Civic, religious, and other groups immediately spoke up in behalf of the young American. They demanded that Toshio be admitted to the school.

The papers featured the case on their front pages and virtually every relocation center paper reprinted the stories.

In face of all this pressure, the superintendent rescinded his original decision and allowed Toshio to enroll as a regular student.

The new pupil is now happily engrossed in his studies and is known to his fellow students by his name and not by his label.

(Ed's note: This occured in Kansas City, KANSAS - not in KC, MISSOURI).

A GREAT MAN'S GREATNESS.

Father Flanagan of the world famous "Boystown" with Peter Okada, one of nine evacuees whom he is employing there.

REPORTS OFFICER ADDED TO STAFF.

In line with the new policy of adding an information specialist to the staff of each major relocation area, Edward V. Sargant has been assigned to this office.

He was formerly with the War Department, U.S. Engineers, as Personnel and Public Relations Officer. His newspaper background includes five years with the "Kansas City Journal".

With his wide experience in this area, Mr. Sargant will undoubtedly be a valuable addition.

SOUTH DAKOTA.

The boundless plains of South Dakota reach endlessly into the distance to merge with the far-off horizon and give an impression of unlimited vastness.

There are small clumps of trees - joined by thin lines which denote clear, cool streams - but over all is the feeling of magnitude, of space. How different from the stifling, sweating cities!

Even the small towns, dotting the plains, are open. Open in their very closeness to the skies. And open in their frank acceptance of all people as fellow human beings.

This land is inhabited by many Bohemians. They know what blind prejudice is, because they too are Nisei, and the country from whence their fathers came from was at war with this nation 26 years ago.

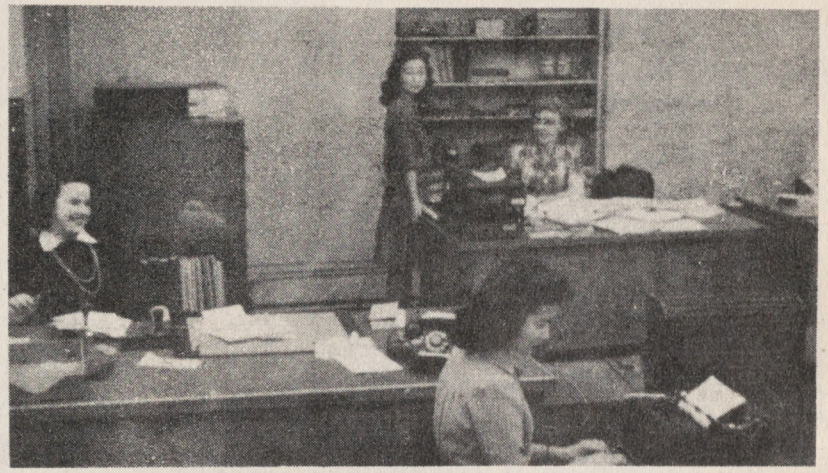
With such a background they have applied the Golden Rule in their relations with the new "American Refugees".

There are approximately 45 evacuees in the area. The bulk of them live in Wagner, a small town of about 2000.

They are baling straw for the famous Ball Bros. Glass Co., and earn on an average of $6 per day.

Their lodging is furnished by the company in one of the town's two hotels. Meals are 25-45¢.

But in spite of these advantages, the one impression remaining is: that because of tolerance here is self-respect, and here is dignity!



EVACUEES AT WORK.

Lilly Sakemi, former Beauty Queen at Poston, in the foreground; and Mae Kitahara, pre-segregation Tulean, in the background - are two of the four evacuee girls employed in the office of the Methodist Publishing House of Kansas City.

LETTER FROM OMAHA.

"Things are sure humming around here - more and more families are coming in, and after they see how nicely everybody treats them, they send for their friends - and they in turn send for their friends - etc.

"The YWCA held a welcoming social for all the Nisei to show that they are really interested in our program. Several evacuees took part in the program. Mas and Yoshi Tomita played a number of popular tunes on their clarinet and trumpet, and Flora Kakehashi sang a few classical numbers.

"We lost two boys to the Service this week. Bill Imoto was called back into the Army, and Kats Okida received his induction papers for the Navy and is now in San Francisco to report.

More Later,
Lucie Kawafune

LETTER FROM ST. LOUIS.

"Last Sunday, the boys out at Hellwig's Farm threw a party, and they invited about thirty of us girls from the city. We rode out to the farm along the Mississippi under that "harvest moon" and everything was so beautiful!

"We give those boys a lot of credit. They sure surprised us - they did a swell job of decorating the mess hall out at the farm. And the food was really something, especially the chicken!

"We had our first snow last week - and what a difference from snow in a camp! There, we think of snow in terms of slush and the resultant mud; here, it decorates the city, purifies the air, and casts a romantic glow under the street lights! Something to look forward to: a "White Christmas".

May Imakire.

FOREIGN BROADCAST CHIEF VISITS THE TOWN.

Edwin Hullinger, Chief of Operations and Deputy Director of the Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service was a visitor to the Kansas City Office on November 5.

He is on tour of the principle relocation cities and centers to recruit qualified Japanese language translators for service with his agency in Washington, D. C., or Portland, Oregon.

Hal Horiuchi, a Kansas Citian, successfully passed the tests, and was immediately employed.

NISEIS PLAY BALL FOR DRAKE UNIVERSITY

Three relocated students at Drake University of Des Moines, Iowa, are members of the football team there.

George Kita, a senior from San Diego, is used for defensive work. A three year letterman at Fresno State, he is one of the best tacklers on the squad.

Jun Oishi of El Monte is a substitute tackle, needing only weight to qualify him for a first string berth.

Kay Ito of Portland, is the other team member.

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Kansas City, 6, Mo.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, $300

CENTRAL STATES REGION
Relocation Office

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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
1510 Fidelity Building
Kansas City, 6, Missouri

July 25, 1945

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. Harry L. Stafford
Project Director
Hunt, Idaho

ATTENTION: Reports Officer

SUBJECT: News Letter from Greater Kansas City.

Attached are two copies of the NEWS LETTER FROM GREATER KANSAS CITY. This is the first issue from this district. Subsequent releases will be sent every Wednesday hereafter.

Francis P. O'Malley
Francis P. O'Malley
Relocation Officer

Attachments - 2

No. 1 -- July 2[illegible] 1945

NEWSLETTER FROM GREATER KANSAS CITY

Now harvesting and loading their cabbage crop from 160 acres of leased land inClay Clounty, Missouri, are Clarence Kimura, Kay Miya, and Ken Masuda. These three Nisei partners are finding a ready market for their crop in Kansas City, Missouri, just 10 miles from their farm. Clarence,Kimura is formerly from GRANADA And Woodland, California; Kay Miya is from JEROME and Hanford, California; Ken Masuda is from ROHWER and Fresno, California. As of July 23, they had shipped 7 carloads of cabbage to points in Missouri, Texas, and Canada.

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Tech. 3rd Grade George Fujita, formerly of stockton, California, whose parents Sakiichi and Isami Fujita are at ROHWER, dropped into the WRA office in Kansas City on his recent furlough. George, who was inducted four years ago, spent six months with the 168th Finance and Disbursing Section of the Army in France and England. He is the only Nisei in his unit and thinks he may get set to the South Pacific. George said that he plans to visit his sister, Mrs. Lincoln Shimidzu, 6424 S. Ingleside, Chicago, before returning to Camp Grant near Rockford, Illinois. He also visited his parents at Rohwer, who, he said, plan to return to Stockton as soon as their tenants vacate the house.

* * * * *

Among prominent citizens of Kansas City, Kansas is Dr. K. K. Furuichi, who has been practicing dentistry in the city for nearly 20 years. Always willing to lend a hand to evacuees resettling in Greater Kansas City, Dr. Furuichi welcomes opportunities to hlep solve their problems. He will be glad to answer letters addressed to his office, 908 N. 5th Street, Kansas City, Kansas.

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Living in a comfortable five-room house at 3736 Woodland Avenue, which he recently bought, is Paul Kawakami, a young Nisei who has resettled in Kansas City, Missouri. Mr. Kawakami operates the Gilmore Cafe, 431 Westport Road, and enjoys a brisk trade primarily with Caucasians. Working with him is his wife, Kitty, both of whom have lived at TULE LAKE, TOPAZ, and Sacramento, California. Mr. Kawakami's brother, Henry, from POSTON and Sacramento is employed at the cafe.

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Naoki Oka, Issei, formerly from GRANADA and Los Angeles is employed as a gardener on an estate at 5530 State Line, Kansas City, Missouri.

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Planning to open a dental laboratory in Kansas City, Missouri, is Dr. John N. Shimokawa, Hawaiian-born Nisei. Dr. Shimokawa, formerly from GRANADA, is also employed as an instructor at the University of Kansas City School of Dentistry.

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A check made on the fingers of Alwin Sato, a young Nisei now in Kansas City, shows some 13 Nisei dental students attending the University of Kansas City School of Dentistry, Kansas City, Missouri. Mr. Sato, one of the students, comes from TULE LAKE, TOPAZ, and Sacramento, California. Another evacuee student is William Yoshito Masuoka who comes from MINIDOKA and Portland, Oregon. This school is said to be one of the first in the country to accept Nisei in large numbers.

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Moving into a three-room unit located in a war housing project are Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ito of HEART MOUNTAIN and Los Angeles, and their 4 year old son, Gary. Mr. & Mrs. Ito's new address will be 1326 East 9th Street, Kansas City, Missouri. Frank, who learned the shoe-repair trade while at HEART MOUNTAIN, is employed at a leading shoe clinic in a big department store in Kansas City.

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Seventeen-year-old Ben Dohi, formerly of POSTON and Arroyo Grande, California, obtained a job in an ice plant in Kansas City within a week through referral by U. S. Employment Service. Ben was graduated from the Poston High School this summer and is staying temporarily at the Kansas City hostel. His mother, Mrs. Hide Dohi, lives with two other children at 222-2B, Poston. Ben will start work at 73¢ an hour.

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Miss Hizeko Hinoki, formerly of Granada and Colusa, California, arrived in Kansas City from Columbus, Ohio, where she and her father, Frank Sanjiro, had been employed for sometime. Miss Hinoki is staying at the Kansas City hostel while attempting to locate a house for her family. Her mother, Mrs. Miyako Hinoki, and two other children are still at Granada. Miss Hinoki's older sister, Emiko, is employed as a dietician at St. Mary's Hospital, Rochester, Minnesota, where several other Nisei girls live as student nurses and student dieticians.

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NEWSLETTER FROM GREATER KANSAS CITY

Now harvesting and loading their cabbage crop from 160 acres of leased land in Clay County, Missouri, are Clarence Kimura, Kay Miya, and Ken Masuda. These three Nisei partners are finding a ready market for their crop in Kansas City, Missouri, just 10 miles from their farm. Clarence Kimura is formerly from GRANADA and Woodland, California; Kay Miya is from JEROME and Hanford, California; Ken Masuda is from ROHWER and Fresno, California. As of July 23, they had shipped 7 carloads of cabbage to points in Missouri, Texas, and Canada.

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Report

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
1510 Fidelity Building
Kansas City, 6, Missouri

August 15, 1945

Reports

MEMORANDUM TO: ALL PROJECT DIRECTORS

ATTENTION: Reports Officers

Attached are two copies of the News Letter from Greater Kansas City for Wednesday, August 15, 1945.

Francis P. O'Malley

Francis P. O'Malley
Relocation Officer

Attachment

No. 4 -- August 15, 1945

NEWS LETTER FROM GREATER KANSAS CITY

A warm summer Sunday afternoon August 12, 1945, was one of enjoyment for the 150 Issei and Nisei resettlers of Kansas City, Missouri, and their Caucasian friends who attended the Cosmo club picnic held at Spring Valley Park. Soft-ball, volley-ball, and bicycling kept all the active participants busy until the pot-luck supper was served in the evening.

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Mrs. Mitsue Flora Tanihara and three children, Joyce, age 4; John, age 3; and Melvin, age 1½; arrived in Kansas City, Missouri on August 8, 1945, to join their husband and father, Frank Hiroshi Tanihara, formerly of ROHWER and Stockton, California. This former ROHWER Nisei family will live in an apartment at 1326 E. 9th Street.

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Having secured an apartment next door to that of their daughter, Mrs. Al Taka Ono; Dr. & Mrs. Sakataro Morimoto, Issei, formerly of MINIDOKA and Seattle, Washington, and their other daughter, Mariye, arrived in Kansas City, Missouri, on August 11, 1945. To make the family reunion complete, PVT. Isamu Morimoto, who is stationed at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, arrived for a week's furlough and is now helping his parents get settled at 534 Highland, Kansas City, Missouri.

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Miss Setsuko Laura Iguchi, a young Nisei, was an instructor in Minority Group Problems at the Lutheran Summer Camp held at Junction City, Kansas, this past week. During this present week she is conducting a similar class at the Cameron Methodist Youth Conference in Cameron, Missouri. Miss Iguchi a relocatee from POSTON, is a former resident of San Diego, California and is now living at 800 Massachusetts Avenue, Lawrence, Kansas.

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Mrs. Hilfane Tiota Imamura and three children, George age 12 John, age 3 and Mariko, age 1; left Heart Mountain on August 2, 1945 to join their uncle Masaru Bisshi, Minidoka, formerly of Kowa and Stockton, California. Late former Kowa Hotel tenant Kiyo Ito was in charge of the apartment at 1052 E. 4th street.

* * * * *

Harvey Masaoka secured an apartment next door to that of their grandfather, Rev. Masaoka who is employed at Minidoka. Rev. T. Ito, a Nisei, formerly of Minidoka, left Heart Mountain on August 11, 1945. To make the family reunion complete, TVT. Masaoka's brother, Masaru, Minnesota, arrived in Twin Falls, Idaho to be employed at the Masaoka's home. Masaoka's father, Rev. Masaoka, formerly of Minidoka, is now at Portland with his parents. Masaoka's brother, Masaru, Minnesota.

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Miss Setsuko Yamamoto Ikeda, a young Nisei, was an instructor in Minidoka, left Heart Mountain August 11, 1945, was one of an enlargement for the USO Issei Band that plays at various civic and social functions. Miss Ikeda is the wife of Sgt. Masaru Ikeda, who is now in the Pacific area. Sgt. Ikeda's brother, Sgt. Yoshio Ikeda, Minidoka, formerly of Kowa and Stockton, California, is a former Heart Mountain Nisei, who was in the Pacific area. Miss Ikeda's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Kiyo Ito, are now at Minidoka.

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Graham,

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
1510 Fidelity Building
Kansas City, 6, Missouri

August 8, 1945

MEMORANDUM TO: Project Director
Hunt, Idaho

ATTENTION: Reports Officer

SUBJECT: News Letter from Greater Kansas City.

The Kansas City News Letter for Wednesday, August 8, is attached.

Francis P. O'Malley

Francis P. O'Malley
Relocation Officer