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FREE AND EQUAL?

THE JAPANESE-AMERICANS IN OREGON

by

Beatrice Stevens  
High School of Commerce  
Portland, Oregon

A UNIT OF WORK FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS  
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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

to

### UNIT ON JAPANESE-AMERICANS IN OREGON

I	Introduction . . . . .	Page 2
II	Objectives . . . . .	Page 3
III	Possible Methods of Approach . . . . .	Page 3
IV	Outline of Subject Matter. . . . .	Pages 3 to 19
	A. Japanese-Americans at War. . . . .	Pages 3 to 5
	B. Characteristics of Japanese-Americans . . . . .	Pages 5 to 7
	C. Problem of Integration into American Life . . . . .	Pages 7 to 8
	D. History of the Japanese in Oregon . . . . .	Pages 8 to 10
	E. Period of Evacuation and Relocation . . . . .	Pages 10 to 12
	F. Problems of Returning Japanese-Americans . . . . .	Pages 13 to 18
	1. Myths and Prejudices . . . . .	Page 13
	2. Alien Land Law . . . . .	Pages 13 to 14
	3. The Gresham Area . . . . .	Pages 14 to 15
	4. The Hood River Area . . . . .	Pages 15 to 16
	5. The Tigard-Sherwood Area . . . . .	Pages 16 to 17
	6. The Portland Area . . . . .	Page 17
	7. Readjustment into Home Community . . . . .	Pages 17 to 18
	a. The War Relocation Authority . . . . .	Pages 17 to 18
	b. Citizen's Committee . . . . .	Page 18
V	Suggested Activities . . . . .	Page 19
VI	Possible Outcomes . . . . .	Page 20
VII	Bibliography, including books, magazine articles, pamphlets, miscellaneous; also personal interviews . . . .	Pages 20 to 24
	APPENDIX I, Clarifying notes on the outline of subject-matter . . . . .	Pages 25 to 38
	APPENDIX II, Clarifying quotations . . . . .	Pages 29 to 42



-- INTRODUCTION --

Too often today, Japanese-Americans receive the brunt of our deepest prejudices. Not only do they belong to a different race, but they are related to (but not a part of) our sworn enemies. We need to curb our war hatred and take stock of ourselves in the light of reason. We need to remind ourselves that American stands for freedom and equal opportunity -- regardless of creed or race.

First of all, we must keep in mind the line of demarcation at the 180th meridian: to the westward lie the imperial Japanese army and navy (or parts thereof); to the eastward are scattered the Japanese-Americans who make up about 1/100 per cent of our United States population. These are two entirely different groups; with different customs, different loyalties. I make no brief for the Japanese military; nor would I speak for the mass of Japanese people, not having visited their island empire during the war regime. My plea is for justice to those Americans among us with Japanese faces, most of whom have lived here all their lives, who are United States citizens by birth -- or who would be citizens, if permitted.

I think we need not concern ourselves with the loyalty of our returning Japanese. They have been more thoroughly "screened" than any other group in United States history. The F. B. I., the W. R. A., and other government agencies have had months --yes, years -- in which to test their behavior and allegiance under most trying circumstances, in the internment and relocation camps. We may safely assume that by this time they have weeded out all those most likely to endanger the safety of the United States. Such being the case, should we not give those who have survived the test a "break" -- a chance for American freedom and equality?

More words -- generalizations -- may leave us cold. Human contacts -- personal friendships -- can be warm and convincing. For this reason, I have made it a point to see and know many of the returning Japanese, and I have used many of them as somewhat typical examples to support points in my outline of subject-matter. I would suggest that teachers and students follow a similar plan; that is, recall some of the Nisei you have known, and try to get acquainted with others. When you once get past their customary reserve, I think you will be amply repaid for your efforts.

This unit of work is, I am well aware, much too voluminous to use in its entirety. Teachers should, of course, select only the portions most useful for their purpose. My idea in being so lengthy has been to help the teacher acquire a background of information which is not yet readily available. As additional help, any teacher in the Portland area is welcome to the use of my scrapbook of clippings on the Japanese-Americans.



## CREATED FREE AND EQUAL?

### A Unit on Japanese-Americans

#### OBJECTIVES

- I To understand the contributions made by the Japanese-Americans to the citizenship and culture of Oregon.
- II To learn something about the history of the Japanese in Oregon: their difficulties in adjusting themselves to American ways of living and in trying to find economic security.
- III To discover the causes for prejudice against the Japanese-Americans.
- IV To appreciate the fact that Japanese-Americans, when given the opportunity, can become good American citizens.
- V To appreciate the part played by the Nisei in the present war.
- VI To understand the effects of the upheaval in the lives of the Japanese-Americans caused by the mass evacuation of 1942.
- VII To understand some of the present problems facing the Japanese-Americans in Oregon.

#### POSSIBLE METHODS OF APPROACH

- I Tell the story of the achievements of the 100th Fighting Battalion or of the 442nd Division -- "most decorated" unit in the United States Army.
- II Tell the story of Ben Kuroki, U. S. flight hero of Japanese ancestry... (see pamphlet of his own story in collection from WRA office)...or of some fighting Nisei of Portland, or of Oregon.
- III Introduce to the class a returned Nisei soldier in uniform (with medals) as guest speaker.

#### OUTLINE OF THE SUBJECT MATTER

(On the Japanese-Americans in Oregon)

- I. Japanese-Americans in the present war.
  - A. The 100th Infantry - THE PURPLE HEART BATTALION
    1. Largely Japanese-Americans from Hawaii
      - a. "Trained like demons" to avenge loss of friends and relatives at Pearl Harbor.



2. Major role in the Italian Campaign - 1943-44
  - a. Landing at Salerno
  - b. Three crossings of the Volturno
  - c. Launching the first infantry attack on Cassino
  - d. Leading the way into Livorno
3. Award of Distinguished Unit Citation (along with the 442nd) by General Mark Clark, July 17, 1944  
(See Quotation A in APPENDIX II - Panel of Quotations)
4. U. S. War Department designation as "most decorated unit in the entire army." By March, 1945
  - a. 1547 Purple Hearts  
(1) Casualties amounting to two-thirds of the battalion
  - b. 21 Distinguished Service Crosses
  - c. 7 Soldier's Medals
  - d. 6 Legions of Merit
  - e. 73 Silver Stars
  - f. 96 Bronze Stars
  - g. 16 Division Citations
  - h. 2 awards from the Italian government
  - i. War Department Distinguished Unit Citation

Note: These figures as of Spring, 1945
- B. The special 442nd Combat Team
  1. Motto: "Go for broke" (Slang in Hawaii for "go all out")
  2. Fighting organization only since April, 1943
  3. Recruits from Japanese-American volunteers
    - a. First chance of Nisei in relocation camps to enlist
    - b. Response immediate and large
      - (1) Over 19,000 altogether in service today (1945 )
      - (2) Four Sakura brothers from Minidoka
        - (a) Special message of congratulation to mother from Secretary of War Stimson
        - (3) Four Asai brothers from Hood River
  4. Training at Camp Shelby, Mississippi  
(Example: George Komachi of Lincoln High, also Roy Komachi)  
(See Appendix - Notes 1 and 2)
  5. Unit in action overseas (The 100th Battalion was officially incorporated with the 442nd in June, 1944)
    - a. Intense front-line fighting in Italy
      - (1) Many deaths  
(Example: Stanley Oba. See Appendix - Note 3)
      - (2) Field promotions to several Oregon Nisei  
(Examples: Jimmy Kanaya. See Appendix - Note 4  
Bill Oda. See Appendix - Note 5  
Masami Yoshinari. See Appendix - Note 6)
    - b. Valiant fighting with the Seventh Army on Western front
      - (1) Leading role in the rescue of the LOST BATTALION
      - (2) Important part in the invasion of Germany - by land and by air  
(Example: Flight surgeon K. Makadate of Oregon.  
See Appendix - Note 7)



6. Tribute of Lt. Colonel Virgil R. Miller, executive officer of the 442nd: "They're the best outfit in the U. S. Army."
- C. Nisei in the Pacific
1. Several thousands in fighting units: soldiers, interpreters, intelligence agents
    - a. Active participants in every major Pacific engagement from Attu to Okinawa  
(See quotation B in appendix from an important military officer in the South Pacific)
    - b. Active role in the Burma theater - especially in Merrill's Marauders.
- D. Japanese-Americans indispensable as instructors of
1. Judo tactics
  2. Japanese language  
(Examples from Oregon:
    - James Shiozski. See Appendix - Note 8
    - Fuji Maehara. See Appendix - Note 9
    - Masaski Fujihara. See Appendix - Note 10)
- E. Nisei girls as nurses and WAC's  
(Examples from Oregon:
  - Grace Kumazawa Gieso. See Appendix - Note 11
  - Frances Kumazawa. See Appendix - Note 12)
- F. Work of the Japanese-American civilians for victory
1. Ordnance and munitions depots
    - a. Tooele, Sioux, etc.
  2. War construction  
Example: 90% of carpenters in Hawaii, Japanese)
  3. Weaving camouflage nets at relocation centers
  4. Defense industries in Chicago, Detroit, Buffalo, Denver, etc.
  5. Harvesting crops
    - a. Farmers or farm workers
    - b. Cotton-pickers in the Southwest
    - c. Sugar-beet workers in the Northwest
    - d. Cannery workers and food processors
  6. Government jobs
    - a. After passing rigid tests by F.B.I., army and navy Intelligence, W.R.A. and Civil Service Commission
      - (1) No discharge of any Japanese-American for dereliction of duty
      - (2) No discharge for disloyalty
- G. Generous support of the war by Japanese-Americans
1. Heavy purchase of war bonds, blood donations, support of Red Cross, etc., at
    - a. Relocation centers
    - b. Japanese-American training camps  
(Example: Purchase of \$100,000 or war bonds at Camp Shelby on Pearl Harbor day)

## II. Characteristics of the Japanese-American

- A. Pride of Race or Nation -- Heritage of Japan
1. An insular people: their culture "integrated like a mosaic." -- Carey McWilliams



2. Belief that the nation or group more important than the individual
- B. Sense of orderliness and cleanliness
1. Fondness for organization; mechanical patterns
  2. Personal cleanliness -- daily bath
- C. Tireless industry and thrift
1. Good financial risk  
(See examples from Hood River below)
  2. Self-made orchardists
    - a. The T. Sato family...Ray Sato. (See Appendix Notes 13-14)
    - b. K. Noji. (See Appendix - Note 15)
    - c. N. Hamada. (See Appendix - Note 16)
    - d. D. Watanabe. (See Appendix - Note 17)
- D. Skill in agriculture
1. Great love of growing things --
    - a. Expert gardeners
    - b. Experimental seed farm near Mt. Angel
  2. Scientific knowledge of intensive cultivation
  3. Scientific knowledge of soils and the treatment of them
  4. Pioneers in the production of many and new crops on Pacific coast
  5. Reclamation of vast areas, especially cut-over lands of Northwest  
(See Appendix - Quotation C)
- E. Observance of the law
1. Very few crimes
  2. Almost no gambling nor drunkenness  
(See Appendix - Quotation D)
- F. Unusual courtesy
1. As a rule, children quiet, obedient
  2. Calmness and self-control typical of Japanese
    - a. No oaths in the Japanese language
  3. Show of respect, especially to elders
- G. Love of family
1. No cases of relief
    - a. Expectation of looking after their own dependents, the sick and aged
  2. Indulgence of children almost excessive
  3. No sacrifice too great for them
- H. Eagerness for education
1. Testimony of many teachers that Japanese-American students conscientious, intelligent, cooperative  
(See Appendix - Quotation E)
  2. High percentage of college graduates
  3. Many Oregon Nisei successful in the professions.  
Examples:
    - a. Optometry: Newton Uyesugi. See Appendix - Note 18  
Eddie Uyesugi. See Appendix - Note 20  
Abe Oyamada. See Appendix - Note 21
    - c. Sociology: Reiko Ozumana. See Appendix - Note 22
    - d. Music: Masuko Tsubota. See Appendix - Note 23
    - e. Teaching: Rose Niguma. See Appendix - Note 24
    - f. Social Service: Frances Maeda. See Appendix - Note 25



- g. Nursing: Maye Konno. See Appendix - Note 26
- 4. Many Oregon Nisei successful in business offices. Examples:
  - a. Mary Ogawq. See Appendix - Note 27
  - b. Miyo Tsuboi. See Appendix - Note 28
  - c. Jeanne Konno. See Appendix - Note 29

I. Love of beauty

- 1. Creative conceptions (Not just copyists)
- 2. Skill in landscape gardening
- 3. Techniques of flower arrangement
- 4. Talent in arts and handcrafts
  - a. Handskills: carving, sketching, painting, sewing, cookery, etc.
    - (1) Hiroshige prints world famous
    - (2) Block print methods intricate

J. Religious devotion

- 1. Buddhists
  - a. Modification of oriental doctrine by U. S. Christian influences
  - b. Decline in numbers
    - (1) Devotees mostly elderly
    - (2) Indifference of Nisei due to traditional doctrines
- 2. Shintoists
  - a. No special emphasis on emperor worship in early Shintoists -- See Appendix - Quotation F
  - b. Militant Shintoism of recent date
    - (1) Emphasis on divinity of emperor during last twenty or thirty years
    - (2) A tool used by the military leaders
- 3. Christians
  - a. Numbers of Christian Nisei increasing
    - (1) In Oregon 30% of the Japanese Christians
    - (2) In Oregon only 22% of non-Japanese, Christians
  - b. Portland Japanese M. E. Church
    - (1) Great influence on Portland Japanese
      - (a) Founded 52 years ago
        - 1. First pastor: T. Kawabe in 1893
        - (b) Ordination of several members as M. E. ministers
      - (2) Ben Maeda active member for forty-six years
        - (a) RETURNEE TO Portland
        - (b) Father of two sons in the service
        - (c) Father of Frances Maeda
        - (Refer to Appendix - Note 25)
  - c. Inspired leadership of young pastor at Hood River, Mr. Isaac Inouye
    - (1) Recreational center for your people
      - "The big idea of this youth movement is to teach they are Americans and to eliminate ideas of dual nationality."
      - Hood River Glacier, Nov. 8, 1928

III. Problem of integration into American life. Can the Nisei fit into the American cultural pattern?

(See Appendix - Quotations G. H. and I)



- A. Physical improvement in Nisei over Issei
  - 1. Taller, larger, heavier physiques
    - a. Better diet
    - b. Freer life
  - 2. Lengthening of limbs
  - 3. Improved shape of mouth
    - a. Better dental care
    - b. More scientific personal hygiene
- B. Cultural adjustment of Nisei almost complete
  - 1. Undesirable culture ties broken
  - 2. Easy adoption of American customs
  - 3. Command of fluent English
  - 4. Nisei now leaders of the family rather than their parents, the Issei
  - 5. Nisei real participants in American life -- where permitted to do so  
(See appendix for many examples of Nisei participation in American life.)

#### IV. History of the Japanese in Oregon 1834-1942

- A. Arrival of three Japanese survivors from wreck of junk on Cape Flattery, 1834  
(See story in Appendix - Note 30)
  - 1. Significant outcome: Ranald McDonald's famous mission to Japan in 1842
    - a. Oregon-born Ranald McDonald FIRST TEACHER OF ENGLISH in Japan 1842 (See story in Appendix - Note 31)
- B. First Japanese settler in Oregon - 1861. See story by George H. Hines, Oregon historian  
(See Appendix - Note 32)
- C. First Japanese woman settler in Oregon - 1880  
(See Appendix - Note 33)
- D. Early period of settlement up to 1920: Japanese -- laborers and tenants
  - 1. Importation of Japanese railway workers - 1890-1906 (?)
  - 2. Movement toward the land and business enterprise - 1906-1920
    - a. Strawberry culture near Russellville by Japanese tenants  
(See Appendix - Quotation J)
    - b. Many Japanese owners of lodging houses and small hotels
      - (1) About 90% of Portland Japanese in this business
      - (2) Heavy tax-payers
    - c. Arrival of "picture brides" - 1910-1920
      - (1) Establishment of permanent homes
      - (2) Growth of families
- E. Increase of hostility during period of growth - 1920-1941
  - 1. Peak of Japanese population - 1930
    - a. Almost 5000 --1800 in Portland
    - b. Population increase small after 1920
    - c. People in staid agricultural settlements
      - (1) No great body of floating wage earners
      - (2) No gold rushers



- d. Beginning of integration into home communities  
(See Appendix - Quotation K)
- 2. Gresham Area in 1920
  - a. Many Japanese tenants on berry farms and in truck gardens
    - (1) Very little opposition
    - (2) Acceptance as part of community
- 3. Toledo Affair - 1925
  - a. Importation of Japanese by mill to work on "green chain"--  
Caucasians unwilling to do work
  - b. Mass meeting, resulting in forcible ousting of Japanese
  - c. International repercussions
    - (1) Japanese government alert to protect her subjects  
(See Appendix - Quotation L)
- 4. The Hood River Valley - 1920-1940
  - a. Population in 1920: 362 Japanese
    - (1) Not in colonies; families scattered through valley
    - (2) Ownership by 70 Japanese farmers of two per cent of  
tillable soil
      - (a) Years of incessant toil for successful cultivation
      - (b) Stopping, arduous labor not agreeable to Caucasians
  - b. World War I Period and Aftermath - 1918-1923 (Appendix - Quotation M)
    - (1) Strawberries \$4.00 crate - apples also very high
      - (a) Rise in Japanese standard of living
      - (b) Purchase of more land by Japanese
    - (2) Growth of Anti-Japanese sentiment
      - (a) Formation of Anti-Alien League at Hood River - 1918  
(See Appendix - Quotation N)
      - (b) Active leadership of American Legion post by Captain  
George Wilbur, Hood River attorney
        - 1. Adoption of his Anti-Japanese program by the national  
convention of the American Legion, Minneapolis, 1919
- 5. Attitude of newspapers
  - a. Hood River
    - (1) Fair attitude on the whole, unlike California's papers,
      - (a) Condemnation of Toledo affair by all Portland papers,  
including "The Oregon Voter"
- 6. Opposition legalized: Anti-Alien Land Laws of Oregon-1923
  - a. Causes of hostility in Oregon
    - (1) Influence of California's YELLOW PERIL scare (fostered by  
Hearst newspapers)
    - (2) Economic competition
      - (a) Fewer settlers in Oregon - less hostility here
    - (3) Criticism of aggressive conduct of Japanese officials  
in China, Korea, Siberia, at close of World War I
  - b. Agitation in Oregon for Japanese Exclusion--1921-1923
    - (1) Bill in legislature by Barge Leonard, Portland attorney -1921
      - (a) "Why not fight Japan now?" he demanded
      - (b) Ignoring of request by Senator McNary to drop the bill



- (c) Opposition to bill by Chamber of Commerce
        - 1<sup>1</sup>. Need to preserve trade with Orient
        - 2<sup>1</sup>. Need to preserve good international relations with Japan
      - (d) Passage of measure in House, defeat in state Senate
      - (2) Message to Legislature by governor Walter Pierce, asking Anti-Japanese legislation - 1923
      - (3) American Legion active
      - (4) Ku Klux Klan active
    - c. Provision of Oregon Alien Land Law of 1923 denying the right to own real property to all aliens ineligible for citizenship
      - (1) TITLE 61, Chapters 101 and 102, Oregon Civil Code, also
      - (2) TITLE 8, Chapter 359 of Federal Code. Limitation of citizenship to
        - (a) Aliens being free whites and
        - (b) Aliens being of African descent
  - 7. Spread of opposition through the nation - 1924-1941
    - a. Passage by the U. S. Congress of the Japanese Exclusion Law - 1924
      - (1) Insult to Japan's racial pride
      - (2) Encouragement to Japan's military and naval lords
- F. Aftermath of Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941, to March 27, 1942
- 1. FBI dragnet around 2000 Japanese aliens within two days after Pearl Harbor
    - a. Detention of those suspicious aliens to the present time  
QUESTION: Would this round-up of suspects have been sufficient for our safety?
  - 2. Tragic blow to citizens of Japanese ancestry
    - a. Resort to plastic surgery by one Nisei. "I was so ashamed of my racial identity," he said.
    - b. Boycott of Japanese business houses; "slow paralysis in once prosperous Japanese communities."
  - 3. Conditioning of the public to hate "Japs" during campaign on Bataan
    - a. Cartoon stereotype of "Jap": buck-toothed, bespectacled treacherous, dog-like or monkey-like figure
    - b. Failure to distinguish between enemy soldiers and loyal Japanese-Americans. "A Jap's a Jap."
  - 4. Period of voluntary departure from west coast military areas February 19 to March 27, 1942
    - a. A failure because of hostile attitude of inter-mountain states
    - b. Evacuees the victims of unpleasant incidents
    - c. U. S. "freezing" order, March 27, 1942
- V. Period of evacuation, segregation, and relocation -- March, 1942 - Jan., 1945
- A. Internment of Oregon Japanese, March, 1942 to June 8, 1942
    - 1. Portland assembly center, the pavilion of the PACIFIC LIVESTOCK EXPOSITION
      - a. Intense crowding
      - b. Heat almost unbearable during July
    - 2. Barbed-wire fence enclosure, guarded by armed U. S. soldiers
    - 3. Economic losses of Japanese incalculably high
      - a. Arrangement for leases too hasty
      - b. Arrangement for sales too hasty



B. Mass evacuation to relocation centers: TIME LIMIT: June, 1942 to November, 1942

1. Citizens as well as aliens
  - a. The only exceptions, people in hospitals.  
(Example: Fumie Sakano. See Appendix-Note 34)
  - b. Curt denial of the request by WRA to have 12 to 15 Japanese children admitted to Oregon School for the Deaf
2. Most Oregon evacuees to Hunt, Idaho
  - a. Minidoka, "the cream of the lot" -- Carey McWilliams
    - (1) Evacuees from Oregon better adjusted
      - (a) No LITTLE TOKYOS
      - (b) Better integration into home communities than in California
  - b. Dusty, desert site; very cold in winter, very hot in summer
  - c. Barrack-like huts of uniform style  
(see Appendix - Quotation O, for description by Albert W. Palmer)
  - d. Educational facilities inadequate  
(See Appendix - Note 35, for comment by Charles Hoover Uyeda)
  - e. Food of poor quality  
(See Appendix -Note 26, for comment of Mary Saiki)
  - f. Maximum pay for evacuee labor in camp \$19.00 per month--  
either skilled or unskilled; manual or professional

C. Question of constitutionality of the evacuation  
(See Appendix - Quotations P, Q, R and S)

D. Some ill effects of the evacuees of the relocation

1. Psychic and emotional shock, especially to the naturally timid and sensitive
2. Loss of faith in themselves and in the country
3. Stigma of suspicion galling
  - a. Aggravation by the ever-present guard with the gun
  - b. Occasional strikes, overt riots
4. Lack of privacy
  - a. Quarters crowded
  - b. Communal mess halls
5. Family disintegration -- no home life
  - a. Loss of parental authority over children
    - (1) Attempts at discipline a neighborhood event
    - (2) Juvenile gangs: the picking up of bad behavior from all kinds of people
  - b. Frequent detention of husband and father by the authorities
  - c. Assumption of new responsibilities by the Nisei children
6. Isolation from the outside world --
  - a. Complete detachment
  - b. Loss in interest in current problems
7. Loss initiative and the will to succeed
  - a. Increase of timidity, caution, race-consciousness



- b. Increase in sense of dependence on the government to support the evacuees (especially true of some elderly Issei)
- E. The turn of the tide; the beginning of escape
  - 1. Formation of the Japanese-American Student Relocation Council (not official, but had the sanction of the War Dept.)
    - a. Office in San Francisco
    - b. Collection of personal and academic data
    - c. Acceptance of Japanese-American students by 281 colleges in 38 states by August, 1943  
(See Appendix - Quotation T)
  - 2. Result of national demand for workers in war production
    - a. Release of 10,000 Nisei to work in sugar beet fields and in other crops
      - (1) No report of any single disloyal act  
(See Appendix - Quotation U)
    - b. Policy of WRA and the Department of Justice (July '42) to permit Japanese-Americans who had never lived or studied in Japan to leave for permanent resettlement. Provisions:
      - (1) No settlement in military zones along coast
      - (2) Nothing in evacuee's record to indicate he would constitute a menace to society or the safety of the U. S.
      - (3) Assurance of place to go and means of support
      - (4) Assurance that his presence in the community would not cause disturbance
      - (5) Promise to keep WRA informed of whereabouts
  - 3. Release of thousands of Nisei from relocation camps to serve in the armed forces - April, 1943 to the present  
(For the story of their contribution to the war, see Point 1 of this outline.)
  - 4. Permission by U. S. Government for loyal Japanese to leave centers, December 17, 1944
    - a. No longer a "military necessity" to hold them in camps
    - b. Retention at Tule Lake of Japanese who had not sworn allegiance to the U. S.
      - (1) Failure of many of the Tule Lake group to take the oath of allegiance due to
        - (a) Family loyalty
        - (b) Bitterness at treatment given them
        - (c) Fear of leaving the shelter of the camp
    - c. Slow return to the western coast
      - (1) Timidity -- fear of hostility  
(See Appendix - Note 37 - for story of T. Yamada)
      - (2) Resettlement elsewhere already effected
        - (a) Dispersal through middle and eastern states
        - (b) Resettlement of 1800 Japanese-Americans in Cleveland, Ohio, alone
      - (3) Return to Multnomah County during first five months of only ten families out of 2,390 persons evacuated
      - (4) Return to Hood River of only about 15 or 20 families to date
      - (5) Minidoka, nevertheless, the leader in speed of resettlement
        - (a) The returnees in Oregon the highest of the three Pacific states



- 1<sup>1</sup>. Return of one-third of original evacuees
- 2<sup>1</sup>. More assurance here of a welcome

## VI. Problems of the returning Japanese-Americans in Oregon

- A. Elimination of widespread myths and prejudices against Japanese-Americans  
(See pamphlet on "MYTHS and FACTS on JAPANESE-AMERICANS" issued by the Dept. of Interior and WRA)
  1. Dual citizenship NOT universal among Americans of Japanese ancestry
    - a. Renunciation of Japanese citizenship by two-thirds of Nisei by 1954
    - b. Increase of renunciations with the defeat of Japan
    - c. Japanese-American Citizen's League (largest group of organized Nisei) on record against dual citizenship
      - (1) Very active branch in Portland
      - (See Appendix - Quotation V)
  2. Shintoism and emperor worship NOT prevalent among Japanese-Americans
  3. Japanese language schools NOT instrumental in undermining Nisei loyalty to the United States
    - a. Many former students of these schools now our interpreters and teachers of the Japanese language
    - b. Attendance never large
    - c. Students already weary from previous attendance at American school
    - d. Oriental culture too "old-fashioned" and remote to appeal to Nisei
  4. Japanese-Americans NOT guilty of sabotage at Pearl Harbor and in Hawaii  
(See Appendix - Quotation, W, S, and Y)
  5. The Japanese-Americans birthrate NOT higher than that of other Americans
    - a. Steady decrease of Japanese-American births since 1920
    - b. Their birthrate during past decade insufficient to balance mortality and emigrations. -- Tolan report
  6. The standard of living of Japanese workers NOT LOWER than that of other workers -- except in case of suppression and discrimination
    - a. Steadily better incomes, better homes and opportunities for children than formerly
    - b. "The living standard of any people, regardless of race or ancestry, is determined in a large measure by their opportunities to make a decent living" -- Report of Tolan Committee
- B. Meeting the provisions of the reinforced Alien Land Law passed by Oregon Legislature, 1945
  1. Reiteration of law of 1923 prohibiting ownership of land by persons ineligible to citizenship
  2. Providing for penalties against persons who sell, lease, or otherwise permit persons ineligible to citizenship to acquire a beneficial interest in agricultural lands, or a beneficial interest in the products thereof



3. Question of its constitutionality
  - a. No test case -- as yet
- C. Facing the forces of organized prejudice
  1. The Gresham Area
    - a. Forces working for Japanese exclusion
      - (1) Organization of the Oregon Property Owners' Protective League (now known as the Japanese Exclusion League)
        - (a) Airing of grievances against Japanese at mass meeting, Gresham Union High, Feb. 8, 1945 --Examples of charges:
          - 1<sup>1</sup>. Allegiance of all Japanese-Americans to Japan; not to U. S.
          - 2<sup>1</sup>. Impossibility of understanding Japanese-Americans. Surface courtesy always covering for dark malice
          - 3<sup>1</sup>. Birthrate excessive
          - 4<sup>1</sup>. Evasion of Alien Land Laws by buying land in name of children.
          - 5<sup>1</sup>. Impossibility of assimilation
        - (b) Program for the League
          - 1<sup>1</sup>. Lobbying for passage of laws excluding all Japanese from citizenship, permanent residence or ownership of property, and providing for deportation of all Japanese after the war
          - 2<sup>1</sup>. Demand for careful enforcement of Alien Land Law of 1923
        - (c) Incorporation as a non-profit organization
          - 1<sup>1</sup>. Claim of 1500 members
          - 2<sup>1</sup>. Initiation \$10.00 -- dues \$1.00 permonth
          - 3<sup>1</sup>. Officers and leaders: President - Dale Bergh (farmer) Treasurer - Ralph Hansen; Secretary - C. G. Schneider (attorney)  
(NOTE: For summary of author's interview with Mr. Schneider, see Appendix - Note 38)
        - (d) Second mass meeting of the Japanese Exclusion League, March 13, 1945, at Gresham  
(For some notes on this meeting, see Appendix - Note 39)  
Speakers:
          - 1<sup>1</sup>. Warren Erwin, member of Legislature
          - 2<sup>1</sup>. A U. S. Marine, Pattee, from the South Pacific, since reprimanded by the Marine Corps for misusing his uniform (according to report)
          - 3<sup>1</sup>. Mr. Crandell, Seattle attorney
          - 4<sup>1</sup>. Mr. A. E. McCroskey, friend of Arthur J. Ritchie, Seattle, "promoters" and managers of the League and its treasury  
(See summary of story in TIME, April 16, 1945, on Ritchie, McCroskey, Hanan, etc. in Appendix - Note 40)
      - b. Forces working AGAINST Japanese Exclusion
        - (1) Mass meeting of Gresham citizens to protest activities of the Japanese Exclusion League, March 15, 1945



- (a) Call for "sane thinking and the true American attitude in meeting the government directives permitting return to the west coast of persons of Japanese ancestry."
- (b) Presiding officer: The Reverend John Magoon of Gresham Baptist Church. (See Appendix - Note 41)
- (c) Speakers:
  - 1<sup>1</sup>. Ex-governor Charles A. Sprague  
Reminder that all returning Japanese carefully "screened" by U. S. Army, that Japanese population in American still shrinking, that no act of Japanese sabotage on record
  - 2<sup>1</sup>. E. B. McNaughton, president of First National Bank, Portland  
Discussion of scapegoat minorities...danger of whipping up fires of prejudice
  - 3<sup>1</sup>. Norman C. Coleman, ex-president of Reed College, now at Lewis and Clark College  
Assimilability of the Japanese  
(for news clippings on the Gresham story, see B. Stevens' scrapbook)
- c. Community feeling in the Gresham-Fairview Area in July, 1945  
(based on several interviews)
  - (1) Apparent cooling-off of first wave of prejudice
  - (2) Growing suspicion that the Japanese Exclusion League, with its high initiation fees and dues, may prove to be a "racket"
- 2. The Hood River Area
  - a. Forces working FOR Japanese Exclusion
    - (1) Erasure of fifteen names of Nisei fighting in armed forces from Hood River Honor Roll by American Legion Post - December, 1944
    - (2) Placards refusing Japanese trade still in some business houses, though hostility less active now
    - (3) Difficulty of securing professional services  
For example:
      - (a) Outright refusal of one Hood River dentist to treat Japanese patients
      - (b) Other dentists "too busy"
    - (4) Anti-Japanese sentiment in high places
      - (a) Mayor Joe Meyer of Hood River: "90% of us want them out!"  
(See Appendix - Note 42--for author's interview of Mayor Meyer)
      - (b) Jess Eddington, president of the Hood River American Legion
      - (c) Some leaders "luke-warm"--"on the fence"
        - 1<sup>1</sup>. Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Anderson, county school superintendent and his wife  
(See Appendix - Note 43)
    - (5) Evidence of hostility against Japanese orchardists in Hood River
      - (a) At first, threat of strike by some warehouse workers if required to handle Japanese produce



- 1<sup>1</sup>. Necessity of Japanese to hire outside trucks to carry goods to warehouse
  - 2<sup>1</sup>. Present status: Consent of workers to handle produce, if Japanese unload trucks outside door (Author's note: I am told they do not make a practice of unloading any trucks, so perhaps this is a "face-saving" concession."  
(See Appendix - Note 44 - for comment by P. E. Newkom, treasurer of HOOD RIVER Apple Growers' Association)
- b. Forces working AGAINST Japanese Exclusion
- (1) Organization of the Hood River County League for Liberty and Justice (about May 18, 1945)  
(For information on this league and one of its organizers, Mrs. Max L. Moore, see Appendix - Note 45)
  - (2) Pressure of public opinion
    - (a) Hundreds of letters of protest against removal of Nisei names from Honor Roll by American Legion, Hood River Post; Newspaper columnists, radio commentators, clergymen, and John Citizen from all over the nation
    - (b) More than 300 letters from service men in the Pacific to THE HOOD RIVER NEWS.....only one letter approving removal of names, according to the editor, Hugh Ball
    - (c) Importunity by national commander of American Legion to Hood River Post
    - (d) Threat of investigation and possible expulsion from the national organization. RESULT: Restoration of the Japanese names to the Hood River Honor Roll -  
March 6, 1945
3. The Tigard-Sherwood Area
- a. Forces working FOR Japanese exclusion
- (1) Call for mass meeting at Sherwood for April 28, 1945 by leaders of Gresham Japanese Exclusion League
    - (a) Special letters of invitation to farmers leasing former Japanese farms in "Onion Flats"
    - (b) Interest whipped up by door prizes, horror pictures, a crippled and obviously shell-shocked Marine in uniform from the Pacific Area  
(For an account of this mass meeting at Sherwood, see Appendix - Note 46)
- b. Forces working AGAINST Japanese exclusion
- (1) Appearance of opposition at mass meeting, called at Tigard by Japanese Exclusion League, May 2, 1945
    - (a) Leadership by a group of Tigard High School students led by the Reverend L. E. Guderian of the M. E. Church
      - 1<sup>1</sup>. Distribution by students of literature in front of meeting place, warning citizenry against propaganda of the League  
(See samples of this literature in scrap book)
      - 2<sup>1</sup>. Demand by students during the meeting to hear both sides refused by League leaders



Exodus of over half the audience

(See Appendix - Note 47 - for account of Tigard meeting)

- (2) "FOLLOW UP" meeting one week later by Tigard citizens to clear up facts and thwart spread of propaganda by the Exclusion League

(a) Speakers: Dr. Blair Stewart - Reed College  
Norman Coleman  
Abe Oyamada, Nisei medical student,  
discharged veteran of World War II

4. The Portland Area

a. The Japanese Cemetery Incidents at N. E. 50th and Fremont

(1) First Incident - August, 1942

- (a) Some acts of vandalism  
(b) Decision of some F. O. R. Caucasians to clean up cemetery: trim grass and shrubbery, while Japanese themselves unable to do so  
(c) Remark by Commander of Portland Legion, Post No. 1: "The Legion is not going to stand for this! It's a bunch of monkey business." (Report by U.P.)  
(d) Arrival of Legion group, including Sheriff Martin T. Pratt....Some members with guns  
(e) Threat of bloodshed if F. O. R. group persisted in entering cemetery ... flagrant violation of civil liberties  
(f) Closure of cemetery for the duration by the sheriff  
(g) Protest against act of Portland legionnaires by some other Legion posts throughout the U. S.

(2) Second cemetery incident, July, 1944

- (a) Extensive vandalism at cemetery  
1<sup>1</sup>. Breaking and overturning of over 200 large headstones  
2<sup>1</sup>. Markers uprooted and burned  
3<sup>1</sup>. Grave locations lost in melee  
(b) Investigation by George J. Clauss, probation officer (See story and pictures in OREGONIAN, July 26, 1944)

b. The Tsubota Case -- Spring, 1945

- (1) Tsubota, recent returnee, a Japanese truck gardener of Maryhill  
(2) Threat of boycott at Portland wholesale market  
(a) Pressure by Italian truck gardeners on big buyers; such as Safeway, not to buy from a Japanese...not very effective  
(3) Present situation quiet

D. Readjustment into home community, housing, re-employment, etc.

1. War Relocation Authority field office, Bedell Building, Portland

- a. Responsibility for assisting individual Japanese in relocating in this exclusion area  
b. Dr. Linville and Mrs. Friedman, its capable leaders

*Fellowship & Reconciliation*



- c. Use of established permanent agencies -- federal, state, city -- to assist in problems: federal housing, department of public welfare, U. S. Employment Bureau, etc.
    - (1) "These agencies will, of course, carry on after the WRA office is closed on January 1, 1946," says Mrs. Friedman
  - d. Re-employment not too difficult as yet -- if Japanese not too particular
    - (1) Many at warehouse for Russian War Relief
    - (2) Helpers at restaurants: Behemian, L'Abbe, Henry Thiele, etc.
  - e. Purchase of hotels and rooming-houses restricted
2. Citizen's Committee to aid relocation
- a. Close cooperation with WRA -- weekly luncheon meetings to talk business
  - b. First chairman: Dr. Blair Stewart of Reed College (now vice-president of City Club)  
Present chairman: William L. Brewster
  - c. Sub-Committees
    - (1) Greeting or reception committee  
Responsibility of seeing that Japanese returnees (usually timid or frightened) greeted at train and have a place to go
    - (2) Housing committee
      - (a) Establishment of the Japanese Hostel at 315 N. W. 16th Ave. for temporary quarters  
(for information on the hostel and its manager, Miss Alice Finley, see Appendix - Note 48)
      - (b) Availability of INTERNATIONAL HOUSE for shelter  
(See Appendix - Note 49)
    - (3) Employment committee  
Responsibility for making work possible for returning Japanese
3. A hopeful sign
- a. Reopening of the Kimoshita Vegetable and Fruit Market on Columbia Boulevard
    - (1) Operators: Twin Nisei girls Mary and Margaret Kimoshita
    - (2) First market to reopen
    - (3) Happy reception and welcome by hundreds of people living throughout that area and Portland generally



### SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

- I. Examining illustrated folders on the Nisei, relocation centers, Japanese-Americans in industry. Also Japanese travel folders, tourist booklets, magazines, etc. (In order to understand the old world background of the Japanese-Americans)
- II. Arranging exhibits of  
Japanese art: Hiroshigo prints, etc.  
Japanese art objects: Satsuma ware, lacquer, cloisonne, wood-carving  
Japanese costumes: kimonos, obis, happi coats, taby, zorii, gota, etc.
- III. Observing demonstrations of (1) Judo (2) Japanese musical instruments  
(3) Japanese dancing
- IV. Listening to a talk by a Japanese-American leader of Portland or Oregon
- V. Seeing motion pictures on (1) Activities of Japanese-Americans  
(2) Life at the relocation centers  
(3) Scenic beauty of old Japan
- VI. Making maps of (1) Japan to show places in the news  
(2) North Pacific Area to show route of Japanese Current --  
and position of Japan in relation to the Aleutians,  
Alaska, the Pacific Northwest
- VII. Reading books, pamphlets, and magazine articles on the problems of the American-Japanese (See bibliography) -- also books showing traditions and culture of old Japan; such as DAUGHTER of the SAMURAI, by Mrs. Sugimoto, and assembling a new bibliography of good books and magazines to read on the topics at hand.  
(Secure the cooperation of the school librarian)
- VIII. Discussing old Japanese culture, customs, religion: good and bad elements, accounting for fanatical nationalism.
- IX. Making scrap books or picture folders of clippings and pictures, dealing with traditions of old Japan or the problems of our Japanese-Americans
- X. Going on field trips (1) To the Portland Art Museum to learn about Oriental Art  
(2) To a Japanese home  
(3) To the Japanese Hostel (before Jan. 1, 1946)  
(4) to a Japanese-owned flower farm
- XI. Presenting a panel discussion on problems now facing the Japanese-Americans and how they might be solved



### POSSIBLE OUTCOMES

- I. An appreciation of the role played by Japanese-Americans in the development of Oregon
- II. A better understanding of the causes underlying hostility to the Japanese in Oregon and how to lessen it
- III. An appreciation of the part played by Oregon Nisei in World War II
- IV. A better understanding of the dislocations resulting from relocation
- V. A clearer understanding of the problems facing the Oregon Japanese at present-- with possible solutions
- VI. A better understanding of what we can do to help returning Japanese-Americans to find security and happiness
- VII. An acceptance of our Oregon Japanese as real Americans, worthy of our trust and friendship

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4. H. A. Millis, THE JAPANESE PROBLEM in the UNITED STATES.. an investigation for the Commission on Relations with Japan, appointed by the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in American, New York. The Macmillan Company, 1915
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#### B. MAGAZINE ARTICLES

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5. Scholastic, Oct., '38: CONFLICT, prize essay by Japanese-American student, Yuri Tashima, at Garfield H. S., Seattle
6. Survey Midmonthly, Aug., '43: FROM BARBED WIRE TO COMMUNITIES, Clarence E. Pickett and Homer L. Morris
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8. Christian Century, Nov. 8, '44: UNTANGLING THE NISEI TANGLE
9. American Mercury, July, 1945: HAIL OUR JAPANESE-AMERICAN G.I.'s, Blake Clark and Oland D. Russell
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11. New Republic, April 10, '43: JAP-CROW EXPERIMENT, John Larison
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15. New Republic, June 6, '42: CITIZENS BEHIND BARBED WIRE, Charles Inglehart
16. New Republic, March 2, '42: CALIFORNIA and the JAPANESE, McWilliams
17. Christian Century, Jan. 20, '43: ARIZONA'S CITY OF EXILES,
18. New Republic, Feb. 1, '43: TROUBLE AMONG JAPANESE-AMERICANS, Isamu Noguchi

C. PAMPHLETS

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Dep't of Interior for WRA, 1943-44



2. Myths and Facts about Japanese-Americans (WRA pamphlet) April, 1945
3. Uprooted Americans in your Community (WRA) May, 1945
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5. Pertinent Facts about Relocation Centers (WRA) Nov., 1944
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D. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Thesis by Elizabeth Ann Havelly at Reed College, May 1945, on A STUDY of the RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ATTITUDES and INFORMATION about the JAPANESE in AMERICA
2. Thesis by Marjorie Stearns at U. of Oregon, 1937, on HISTORY of the JAPANESE PEOPLE in OREGON
3. Story by George H. Hines, Oregon Historical Society, on SUZUKI KINZO, one of Oregon's first Japanese settlers
4. Story of WRECK OF JAPANESE JUNK on Oregon Coast, 1834. References and editorial note by Grace P. Morris, Oregon Historical Quarterly - 39 1938
5. PM - April 22, 1945: COAST FEELS RACE TENSIONS on EVE of PERLEY, McWilliams
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..Also: Files of the PACIFIC CITIZEN, THE OUTLOOK (Gresham), MINIDOKA IRRIGATOR JAPANESE EXCLUSION LEAGUE JOURNAL, etc.

(Note: Anyone teaching a unit on our Japanese-Americans in Oregon will find B. Stevens' Scrapbook of clippings of great assistance. Call BE 4459 or the High School of Commerce.)



E. PERSONAL INTERVIEWS

1. Dr. Blair Stewart, economist, Reed College
2. Miss Alice Finley, director of the Japanese Hostel, Portland
3. Mrs. Fanny Friedman, assistant director, W R A Field Office, Portland
4. Mr. J. M. Richardson, field representative, W R A, Portland office.
5. Mrs. C. E. Oliver, leader of Japanese youth, Portland
6. Mrs. Margaret Wyman, Congregational Conference, Gresham, Oregon
7. Mr. C. G. Schneider, attorney, secretary of Japanese Exclusion League, Gresham
8. The Reverend Dick Morgan of the Community Church, Fairview, Oregon
9. Mr. John A. Dulin, business man, Fairview
10. The Reverend John Magoon of the Baptist Church, Gresham
11. Mrs. Mary Saiki, bulb grower, poet, Caucasian happily married for 30 years to a Japanese, Gresham
12. The Reverend L. E. Guderian of the M. E. Church, Tigard, Oregon
13. Mr. Hugh G. Ball, editor of the Hood River News
14. Mr. Wilbur Anderson, county superintendent of schools, Hood River, Ore.
15. Mr. Joe Meyer, mayor of city of Hood River
16. Mrs. Max L. Moore, civic leader, Hood River
17. Mr. P. C. Newkom, treasurer of the Apple Growers' Association, Hood River
18. Mr. M. Fujimoto, farmer, near Gresham
19. Mrs. Renwyk, manager of INTERNATIONAL HOUSE, Portland
20. Mrs. Betty Sales, executive secretary of the Conference of Christians and Jews, Portland office
21. Dr. Melville Jacobs, anthropologist, U. of Washington, Seattle
22. Miss Mable Downs, dean of girls, retired, Lincoln High School, Portland



23. Mr. Norman Coleman, retired president of Reed College... now at Lewis and Clark College, Portland
24. Miss Lorene Riley, teacher, Shattuck School, Portland
25. Miss Isabel Gates, director of Christian Friendliness, Baptist state organization, Portland
26. Mr. Gus Solomon, attorney, Portland
27. Mrs. Mable Southworth, teacher, Lincoln High School, Portland.  
(Residence near Gresham)

Also....interviews with over twenty-five Oregon Japanese:

about ten in Hood River  
about five in Gresham  
about ten in Portland

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APPENDIX I  
NOTES CLARIFYING POINTS IN THE OUTLINE OF SUBJECT MATTER

-- NISEI IN U. S. SERVICE --

- NOTE 1 -- Second Lieutenant George Komachi, January 1942 graduate of Portland's Lincoln High School, was among the first to volunteer when enlistments were opened to Nisei in the Spring of 1943. From the Hunt Center, he went to Camp Shelby, Mississippi, as a trainee in the 442nd Infantry Bn., and in a remarkably short time he became in succession a corporal, sergeant, and staff sergeant. When the 442nd went overseas, he was held back and helped to train a new group, the 171st. Again, when they went overseas, he stayed, this time to go to Fort Benning, Georgia, to train as an infantry officer. He is now stationed at Ft. McClelland, Alabama, the only Nisei officer on the post. He sincerely hopes for overseas service.
- NOTE 2 -- Pfc. Roy Komachi, older brother of George, and a Lincoln High grad of 1937, has engaged in the campaigns in both Italy and France. He has been wounded twice, and beside the Purple Heart he has other decorations about which he is too modest to make any statements.
- NOTE 3 -- Pfc. Stanley Oba, 1940 graduate of Lincoln High School with a subsequent year at Portland University, will not come home. He was a member of the 442nd Infantry and was killed in Italy on April 19, 1945. Stanley was a youth of unusual capabilities and character; he was a pre-medical student, and had been assigned under ASTP until that program was discontinued. He also has a brother in the service who has been wounded.
- NOTE 4 -- First Lieutenant Jimmy Kanaya belonged to the Japanese Methodist Church in Portland. He was the first Nisei to enlist from Oregon. During the Italian campaign he was at first reported "missing in action", then as a prisoner of war in Germany. Upon the surrender of the Reich, he was released and came to the Hunt Center to see his parents. He won his commission the hard way, by a field promotion.
- NOTE 5 -- First Lieutenant Bill Oda, a tall, handsome, "snappy" Nisei, was another Oregon boy who won a field promotion. I believe he was attending the University of Portland at the time of the evacuation.
- NOTE 6 -- First Lieutenant Masami Yoshinari of Hood River was a third Oregon boy to win a field promotion.
- NOTE 7 -- Dr. K. Makadate, graduate of Washington High School and the University of Oregon Medical School, served as a flight surgeon with the 17th Glider Division and Parachute Unit. He was wounded over Germany and received treatment in hospitals in Belgium and England.



## JAPANESE LANGUAGE INSTRUCTORS

NOTE 8 -- James Shiozaki, a native of Reedsport, Oregon, was taken to Japan at an early age. When he returned to the United States, he was high school age, but he spoke no English. He was so self-conscious and shy, he seemed paralyzed in the presence of strangers. He attended Jefferson High for a year and a half until the evacuation, when he went to Salt Lake to the Westminster Presbyterian Academy, and later to a Chicago High School. He was not able to receive his diploma there because Jefferson High in Portland failed to transfer his credits to Chicago.

As the need seemed great, Jimmy applied as Japanese language instructor at several eastern universities. He was accepted at Yale! At first he taught G.I.'s about what they were likely to meet in Japan, as well as the Japanese language, but recently he has been promoted to teaching officers only -- majors and the like.

Jimmy is a fine example of growth in confidence and self-expression. He speaks excellent English now and has a most pleasing personality.

NOTE 9 -- Fujio Maehara attended not only high school and business college here in Portland but also a Japanese language school. She went to Japan to study in 1938 and returned in 1941, one of the last Kibei to leave Japan before Pearl Harbor. Evacuated to Ontario, she got a secretarial job in an attorney's office, where she did such fine work she attracted the attention of the publishing staff of THE PACIFIC CITIZEN at Salt Lake City. But even the office of this publishing firm did not hold her long. She is now teaching Japanese language at the University of Michigan.

NOTE 10 -- Masaski Fujihara was a junior at Lincoln High when he was evacuated to Hunt, where he was graduated. He attended Ottawa College until he was of service age; then he went to Fort Schnelling to take special training in the Japanese language, so as to be of most use to this country.

## NISEI IN THE WOMEN'S AUXILIARY CORPS

(AUTHOR'S NOTE: Since the next two cases reflect such a typical composite picture of the struggles of the Nisei, I am devoting more space to them. These stories were contributed by M. Southworth)

NOTE 11 -- Pfc. Grace Giese (nee Kumazawa) enlisted in the WAC last June upon her graduation from the University of Missouri where she had majored in bacteriology. Back of her graduation, a fact which she accomplished with high standing and entirely at her own expense, lies a miniature classic success story, the sort with which the history of the United States of America is replete.

Grace Kumazawa was born in Sherwood, Oregon, on December 2, 1920, the oldest child of an intelligent Japanese farmer and his picture bride. The father had been in the United States since



1890, had worked at all sorts of jobs up and down the Pacific coast, had acquired an education, and with it a high regard for the American way of doing things, a regard which he instilled into his children along with the philosophy that "In the United States you can get as much education as you want and make a fine and successful life for yourself if you are willing to work."

Grace is a girl with a high order of intelligence, boundless good health, and thoroughly independent mind. This latter fact she demonstrated at the age of sixteen.

The family had moved in the late '20's to a small farm at Scappoose, Oregon, where the mother and children raised a garden and poultry, kept a cow or two, rabbits, and a growing kennel of foxes. The father worked for the railroad company. The children attended the district school, where they were the only Japanese members; Grace entered Scappoose High School and the family was well on the way to successful establishment. But in 1936 the father was killed in a construction accident. The family, of course, was eligible for industrial compensation, and as soon as the news found its way back to Japan, the male relatives there immediately brought pressure to bear upon the widow to return there with her children. Since there were no relatives here, the mother was finally persuaded that she could do better by her family by going back to Japan, but from the first Grace opposed the idea, saying that her father would not want it that way, for he had desired his children to grow up to be "Americans -- without an accent!" The girl consented to go to Japan as a visitor only, and she was firm in her determination in the face of pressures from her Japanese relatives and the ultimate tears of her mother. After less than seven months in Japan, during which time she had not only puzzled but antagonized her relatives, she departed on her return to the United States, completely contemptuous of the sacred folderol of Japanese customs and conventionalities. The best she could say for Japan was that the place was "quaint".

Upon her return to Oregon she took a job as household helper and entered Lincoln High School where she was graduated in June, 1940. During her summers she went into the fields to work for the Japanese farmers around Gresham, and being a strong and skillful worker, she was able to amass a small bank account and was at all times well-clothed, properly supplied with books and school equipment, and did not behave any differently from the average girl who has money for a coke after school and a movie on Saturday afternoon.

In the fall of 1940 she entered the University of Oregon. She was supplied with a pretty and suitable wardrobe (which she had designed and made herself), and she had a job as household assistant in a professor's home in Eugene. During her first year in college she picked up odd jobs of typing and maintained such a high standard of excellence in her scholarship that in her second year she was made a lab assistant in the department of biology. She was making a name for herself in the science department.



Then in the spring of 1942 came the order for evacuation. It was a bitter experience to leave the beloved university and enter and "Assembly Center". Life there was almost unbearable for this ambitious and high-spirited girl, and when, within three weeks of entering, there came from Eastern Oregon a call for volunteers to work in the sugar beet fields, she and her younger brother and sister (who had followed her from Japan) volunteered. They spent the summer and until late fall crawling between the beet rows under the blistering sun. Undaunted, they went on to onions, lettuce, potatoes, fruit. The work was hard, the heat terrific, the living conditions in the "labor camp" uncomfortable; but there were compensations; there was freedom from the barbed-wire enclosure, and there were good wages. In the fall of 1942 Grace entered College of Idaho at Caldwell as a junior. She won respect, admiration, and friendship there, and she would have remained to graduate except that the courses in science were limited. Investigation showed that the University of Missouri had the courses she desired and they would accept her. After another summer in the fields, she entered the Missouri U in the fall of 1943, a senior in bacteriology. She was happy at Missouri, made many friends there, and it was there also that she met Ralph Giese, an aviation cadet from Cleveland, Ohio. They were married on Christmas Eve, 1944. Here we have one of the despised "mixed marriages". Whether it succeeds or not only time can tell. In the meantime Pfc. Grace Giese serves as chief sorologist with the WAC Medical Detachment at Camp Crowder, Missouri.

NOTE 12 -- Pfc. Frances Kumazawa is the youngest of the trio of Kumazawas who left the "Assembly Center" to work in the beet fields. Aged seventeen, she had just finished her junior year at Gresham High School, and after her summer of hard work she entered Nyssa High School and was graduated in the spring of 1943. Having passed eighteenth birthday, she enlisted in the Army Nurses' Training Corps and took a year of basic pre-nursing at the Eastern Oregon College of Education. By the teachers and students there she was happily accepted, for she is an intelligent and charming girl; but in her duties on the floor of the local hospital at La Grande, she met bitter antagonism from some of the patients. Moreover, the hospital at The Dalles, where that contingent of trainees was to enroll in the fall of 1944, refused to accept a Nisei, giving as an excuse that the hospital was in the Western Defense Command -- even after she had special permission from the War Department to return there.

Finally she was accepted by a hospital in Salt Lake, only to meet with trouble at the University of Utah where she must enroll for certain courses in connection with the nurses' training. Utah refused to recognize the credits which she had made as a high school freshman in Japan. She had no proper transcript of these credits, although both Gresham and Nyssa High Schools had accepted them. Finally, in sheer exasperation, Frances transferred to the WAC, and she is now serving as a member of the Medical Detachment at Camp Crowder, Missouri.



-- HOOD RIVER ORCHARDISTS --

- NOTE 13 - T. Sato, Issei, came to Hood River in 1907 and cleared land for eight dollars an acre. He was hard-working and thrifty, but also ambitious for his children, whom he sent to college.
- NOTE 14 - Ray Sato, son of T. Sato, was graduated from Oregon State College in 1940. He is an expert on insect pests and all matters pertaining to Orchard care. He was one of the first three Japanese to return to Hood River after the release order of December 17. He found his big orchard in great need of attention, because the Caucasian tenants had done no spraying, pruning, nor fertilizing, and had let the gophers burrow everywhere, playing havoc with the irrigation trenches. He and his father pruned the 20 acres of trees alone. Fortunately for them another Japanese family has now moved in to help them through the harvest season.
- NOTE 15 - K. Noji operates two orchards for his sons, the owners, one of whom is in the service; the other, on call. He came to Hood River in 1907 and worked his way up. His wife was a picture bride.
- NOTE 16 - N. Hamada and his wife were a lonesome and depressed pair of Issei when they returned to their place from the center this spring. Their two boys are in service and they are growing old. Where could they find help? His two sturdy daughters, aged 20 and 14, respectively, stepped into the breach and are now doing a creditable job replacing their brothers. Another Japanese and his wife have also arrived at the farm to give aid; so they are feeling much more cheerful now.
- NOTE 17 - D. Watanabe lives with his family near Odell, out from Hood River, and has a large orchard of apples, pears, cherries. When I visited him, I found him out spraying trees with the aid of a son and a daughter, who had just arrived from Salt Lake where she had been attending a business college.

-- NISEI IN THE PROFESSIONS --

OPTOMETRY:

- NOTE 18 - Dr. Newton Uyesugi is a graduate of Lincoln High and North Pacific College of Optometry, of which he became the owner in later years. He practiced optometry in downtown Portland for three years and became the president of the Japanese-American Citizen's League. He was the first to leave the relocation center to attend an eastern college -- Earlham in Indiana, owned by the Friends, where he got his A. B. degree. From instructor in the Chicago College of Optometry he advanced to its dean in a very short period of time. He is working at present on a new course in orthoptics.

MEDICAL STUDENTS:

- NOTE 19 - John Uchiyama, born near Corvallis, attended high school at Cornelius where his people had bought a farm and built a home.



Upon evacuation he went to Salt Lake City Medical School. He is now in the third year of the Oregon Medical School.

NOTE 20 - Abe Oyamada, son of a former Portland dentist, is also in his third year at the University of Oregon Medical School. He is a veteran of World War II.

NOTE 21 - Eddie Uyesugi, Newton's brother, also attended Earlham University. He plans now to work for his Master's degree in biology and attend the medical school.

#### SOCIOLOGIST:

NOTE 22 - Reiko Ozumana, graduate of Jefferson High, was at Willamette University when the order came for evacuation. She got her A. B. degree at Earlham, where she did such outstanding work she won a scholarship for her Master's degree in sociology at Chicago University. She is attractive, charming, and her pretty head has more than its share of brains.

#### MUSICIAN:

NOTE 23 - Masuko Taubota, native of Maryhill, studied piano for two years at the University of Washington. When she was evacuated to Ontario, she worked as a maid, also accepting the position of organist at the United Presbyterian Church there. Her talent was so outstanding that she was given a scholarship to Sterling College, Kansas, which has a fine music department. She won high honors in the national music auditions and was awarded a course at the Chautauqua summer term in New York. At present she is finishing her second year in the Julliard School of Music in New York City.

#### TEACHER:

NOTE 24 - Frances Maeda attended Willamette University and the University of Denver. She was active in the Portland Japanese M. E. Church and became secretary of the Girls' Reserve office of the Portland Y.W.C.A. She attended the WORLD CONFERENCE OF CHRISTIAN YOUTH at Amsterdam Holland, in 1939. After evacuation, she accepted the position of private secretary to Miss Ruth Seabury, Director of Foreign Missions for Congregational Christian Churches, headquarters, Boston.

#### NURSE:

NOTE 26 - Maye Konno, graduate of Redmond High, came to Portland for her nurse's training at Good Samaritan Hospital, where she was graduated in 1941. She has been making her home in St. Louis where she got her B. S. degree



this spring in Public Health nursing and where she is not doing field work.

-- BUSINESS GIRLS --

NOTE 27 - Mary Ogawa, graduate of Hood River High (1942), evacuated to Tule Lake Center and went from there to Cleveland, Ohio, where she was secretary in a high school. She is now working in the local W R A office and living at International House.

NOTE 28 - Miyo Tsuboi, small, attractive, good-natured, was graduated from Lincoln High in three and a half years. At Minidoka she got a clerical job in the supply section of the Administration area. In January, 1943, she was made the secretary and finally ended as supervisor!

NOTE 29 - Jeanne Konno, graduate of Redmond Union High (1941) acted as secretary and receptionist at the Heart Mountain Dental Clinic and later worked in the Relocation Division office at Minidoka. At present she is with the Portland W R A staff.

-- EARLY JAPANESE IN OREGON --

NOTE 30 - Survivors of Wrecked Japanese Junk off Cape Flattery in 1834.....  
The junk, bound for Yeddo, carrying rice and porcelain was caught in a typhoon. With rudder smashed, the ship drifted eastward with the wind and current for months. The steady diet of rice brought on some fatal disease -- perhaps beri beri -- and all the crew died except three. When the junk piled up on the Oregon coast just south of Cape Flattery in January, the survivors were picked up by the Indians. The Japanese finally were able to send a message written in "chinese characters" to Dr. McLoughlin at the Vancouver post.

Dr. McLaughlin rescued them from the Indians, gathered from them the main facts of their experience, allowed them to attend the school taught by Cyrus Shepard (who reports they were remarkably studious and that "they made very rapid improvement"), and then tried to return them to Japan. In this latter undertaking he attempted to enlist English assistance in "cracking open" a Japanese port to British trade, but to no avail.

The three survivors sailed for London in November on board the "Eagle", (laden with the annual cargo of furs), but when the British government could not take over the job of returning them to Japan, another ship of the company sailed them to Tokyo -- only to meet with a firm denial of entrance. They sailed to Macao, China, where they settled and were useful in teaching the missionaries there the Japanese language.

NOTE 31 - Ranald MacDonald, the FIRST TEACHER OF ENGLISH in JAPAN, 1842 --  
Ranald MacDonald, a native of Oregon, the son of Archibald MacDonald, chief factor of the Hudson's Bay Company, and Princess Sunday was



imbued with a great desire to visit the forbidden land of Japan from which the three strange survivors had come. The enthralling and true story of how he accomplished this purpose and lived for many months as a prisoner in Japan is told in his own words in a book that readers may find in the Oregon Historical Library. (See Bibliography.) He traveled in the polite custody of the Japanese officials all the way from the island of Yesso in the north to the city of Nagasaki in the south, recording his impressions of this secluded island empire before it was opened to the outside world and had copied many of the bad habits of the west. How he finally escaped to tell the tale makes good reading, too.

The historical sequel is this: Not only did Ranald MacDonald learn to speak Japanese but he taught several Japanese to speak fluent English. One of these young men named Murayama, whom MacDonald describes as highly intelligent, a natural born linguist, and a lovable companion, served as the chief interpreter in the negotiations with Commodore Perry eleven years later!

NOTE 32 - The First Japanese Settler in Oregon, Suzuki Kinzo, came in 1861 a refugee from his native land. During the three years he attended the Portland High School his natural ability and studious habits won for him a place at the head of his classes in mathematics and history. Years later, while he was in San Francisco, he met the first Japanese delegation ever to visit the United States, but he declined their offer to become interpreter in order to continue his work in Portland. However, later he accepted a diplomatic job, secretary of the Japanese delegation to London. As a representative of the Tokyo foreign office, he was a visitor also at the courts of Spain and Portugal.

NOTE 33 - The First Japanese Woman Settler in Oregon, Miyo Iwakoshi, was brought here in 1880 from Japan as a young girl by a Captain Smith. Six years later S. Takagi came to Portland from San Francisco and married her. He started a restaurant here, the first Japanese enterprise in Oregon.

-- RELOCATION PERIOD --

NOTE 34 - Fumie Marumoto Sakano was in the tuberculosis hospital when the evacuation was ordered. She was allowed to stay here during the relocation period and reports that she was very kindly treated. Her father settled here about forty-five years ago. Fumie is a graduate of Lincoln High and at present makes her home with Miss Mabel Downs.

NOTE 35 - Charles Hoover Uyeda, 16, was a student at Hunt before he transferred to Portland. A quick, intelligent student, he deplored the lack of good teachers at Minidoka -- and especially the constant changes in the faculty. (He had nine different teachers in one of his courses.) Sometimes the seniors had to take over some classes, but Charles believes that in a few cases they were more effective as teachers than some of the Caucasian adults they had.



NOTE 36 - Mary Saiki, a resident of Oregon for 37 years, is the Danish wife of an invalid Japanese, still at Minidoka. She was a dietician at the Hood River Hospital when she met Mr. Saiki and married him. From 1920 - 1941 they operated a primrose and flower business in Gresham. After her husband suffered a stroke in 1931, Mary Saiki continued the business until 1941, when evacuation forced her to sell at a great loss. Being a Caucasian, she could have remained outside the relocation camp, but she chose to stay with her husband, except for a few periods when she would take work outside to increase the family income and buy food more edible than the camp fare for her husband and herself. Her dietetic training made her sensitive to the fact that the food was third grade, rejected by the army -- some of it moldy. The result was a recurring epidemic of diarrhea through the camp. Mary Saiki has taken creative writing classes under Mrs. Parsons at the University of Oregon and has written some poems on Japanese folk-tales that have been published. Her poem "Common Things" was considered one of the twenty-five best poems of 1931.

NOTE 37 - T. Yamada, owner of the Wabash Hotel in Portland, can chuckle now as he tells the story of his return to Portland, one of the first to arrive after the release order on December 17. While enroute, he went into the diner and was seated opposite a burly looking individual who demanded to know immediately if he were Japanese or Chinese! Mr. Yamada's dazed reply surprised him as much as the stranger: "I -- I'm both!" Fortunately the Caucasian had a sense of humor and they were soon chatting amicably. Later in Portland, when Mr. Yamada had registered at a small hotel, he discovered the proprietor to be a Chinese, who, taking him for a fellow Chinese, insisted on talking to him in his native tongue. Mr. Yamada, of course, didn't understand a word, had to admit he was Japanese and checked out as quietly as possible.

The best part of his homecoming was the welcome accorded him by his many old Caucasian tenants and friends at his hotel.

-- ANTI-JAPANESE ACTIVITIES --

NOTE 38 - C. G. Schneider, Gresham attorney, secretary of the Japanese Exclusion League, said in an interview that he feels he knows the Japanese very well, that they are entirely different from Americans, difficult to understand, and not to be trusted...that 75% of them have dual citizenship, that all dual citizens should be put out of the country. (We should amend our immigration laws to oust anybody who does not ask for naturalization papers within twelve months.) Mr. Schneider believes it was a grave mistake to let the Japanese come back before the end of the war, as it opens the door to saboteurs now operating here on a large scale, sending back messages to Tokyo concerning the location of balloon landings here on the coast. The Exclusion League would not exclude Jews and other minorities, he said, because there are really some fine Negroes and Jews. Even Chinese are sometimes taken into the



Mason lodge, showing that they can become decent human beings; but there are no Japanese Masons; they would have to a vow their belief in a Supreme Being, which Japanese will not do.

The solution to the problem will come fast enough, he continued, after our boys get home from the Pacific. Nobody out there would favor the return of Japanese here, although a few of our soldiers in Italy might.

Probably the 25 Japanese-American boys from Gresham now in service are loyal. As a matter of fact, some of the Nisei helped ferret out strange Japanese who came here just before Pearl Harbor. Two of our oldest settlers in the Gresham community, however, were taken in by the F.B.I. -- which again shows you cannot trust any of them.

NOTE 39 - Highlights of Gresham mass meeting March 13, 1945, called by anti-Japanese group: C. G. Schneider, the chairman, introduced Mr. Warren Erwin, state representative, who supported a memorial in the Legislature, advocating permanent exclusion of the Japanese and stating there would be guerrilla warfare if they were not removed!

Mr. Frey of Hood River said the Japanese population here had already been reduced 80% and he hoped they could keep it down to one or two people.

Following the introduction of a one-armed Marine veteran from the Pacific, an attorney from Seattle, Mr. Crandell, gave a good rabble-rousing speech filled with the usual prejudices:

1. No American can compete with the Japanese. They drag down our standard of living.
2. They spawn like fish.
3. They are clannish -- and cannot be assimilated.
4. Their children go to American schools but on Saturday you see those children "sneak stealthily" to some Japanese school.
5. After four generations here they continue the same treachery, the same deceit.
6. The only good Jap is a dead Jap.

Mr. A. E. McCroskey, also of Seattle, one of the two chief promoters of the Northwest movement against the Japanese, spoke on the program for organization: the \$10.00 initiation fee, the \$1.00 a month dues, to be used in sending lobbyists to Washington, D. C. to print their own newspapers, etc.



(For a complete report on this meeting, written by a Gresham citizen, see B. Stevens' scrapbook.)

NOTE 40 - From the story in TIME, April 16, 1945: "Seattle's paunchy, cigar-smoking promoter, Arthur J. Ritchie," is portrayed surveying a "Sugar maple for the right place to cut for sap," and it states the "sap bucket is filling up fast." His newest idea: "Why not band the nation's Japanese-haters together and put the whole business on a paying basis?"

"Last year he drew a nice, full bucket with a book, "The Pacific Northwest Goes to War". He charged business men \$200.00 a page for eulogy, \$50.00 apiece for a picture; then sold the copies at \$5.00 each."

It was reported further that Mr. Ritchie with a friend, A. E. McCroskey, had helped the Gresham group to organize and adopt the new name, "The Japanese Exclusion League", with initiation fees and dues. Ralph Hanan, the League treasurer and a Gresham grocer, naively said: "Why, the initiation fees go to Mr. Ritchie and Mr. McCroskey. They turn in an expense account every month and get the balance for education."

The article reports further on organization activities around Seattle and concludes:

"Appalled ministers issued a protest: 'It is unthinkable that we at home should be false to those ideals for which our sons have been asked to pay so high a price'."

NOTE 41 - The Reverend John Magoon, who presided at the Gresham meeting of those protesting the activities of the Japanese Exclusion League, has been courageous in his stand for fair play and Christian behavior. At the meeting of March 15, he, as a member of the American Legion, made a deep impression on the audience by reading the constitution of the Legion with its well-stated principles of democracy.

NOTE 42 - Mayor Joe Meyer of Hood River is one of the leaders of the anti-Japanese organization in his city. In reply to the question as to how he thought the people of Hood River feel about the Japanese, Mayor Meyer said flatly: "90% are against the Japs! -- Why? Well, because we trusted them so completely while they were here among us, while all the time they were plotting our defeat and downfall. They were just waiting to stab us in the back. One of our leading merchants was Yasui. He was a member of our Rotary Club. But I'm sure he was working for Tokyo -- probably he even knew that Japan was preparing to attack us! Anyway, he's now in the hands of the F. B. I."

"Furthermore, the Japanese came into this valley, picked up good land here, crowding out the whites. The Japanese government furnished the money; at least, we traced some of the sources of their money as far as Seattle.....The Japs had money here during the depression, when



nobody in the valley had any. Of course, they got help from outside.

"The farmers of this valley object to competing with Japanese farm labor -- where all the family gets out and works on the land.

"The Japs have all the good land.

"They are very clannish. They take no part in our civic enterprises, but their children do make good students.

"We must let the Japanese know they're not welcome here."

NOTE 43 - Wilbur Anderson, County School Superintendent of Hood River County, seemed rather passive in his attitude. He would rather see the Japanese stay away. He says the Board of his County Units has decided if any teacher refuses to teach any Japanese child, they will just get another teacher and thus avoid trouble. His wife believes the Hood River community is about divided 50-50 on the Japanese issue. Mrs. Anderson believes the reason that practically all of the Japanese have not come rushing back to Hood River is due to the evidence of their not being welcome to so many citizens in Hood River. Mr. Anderson believes, however, that there will be no "incidents" -- that the majority of citizens of the county and city would not countenance any violence.

NOTE 44 - P. C. Newkom, Treasurer of the Apple Growers' Association, says his organization has contracts with several Japanese growers; hence the Japanese can exercise their contractual rights in Hood River legally. Some of the members of the Apple Growers' Association support them -- others have joined the opposition. Mr. Newkom takes no sides -- "My primary aim is harmony in the A. G. A."

NOTE 45 - Mrs. Max L. Moore, who operates Moore's Electric Co., is the great-grand-daughter of a hardy pioneer who arrived by Ox teamway back in 1844. The Moores have resided in Hood River ever since. Mrs. Moore grew up with Japanese people who lived in her own home as household workers -- but also as well-loved members of the family group. She is personally known and highly regarded by all the stable settlers in Hood River, including the Japanese group. She knows and trusts the Japanese and discounts the charges made against them as just wild and unfounded prejudices. In order to combat the carefully nurtured hostility toward the Japanese in Hood River, she has helped to organize the Hood River County League for Liberty and Justice. They have met about twice monthly at the parish house of the Episcopal Church. Their purpose to counteract wild propaganda with sound facts -- also with a program of education in intercultural relations.

Dr. Lloyd Thomas, the new rector of the Hood River Episcopal Church, member of the ministerial association, newly arrived from California, where he saw at first hand how the hostile organizations work, is lending his active support to the organization. He will speak on inter-racial problems at the next meeting of the League on



July 27. The organization plans to urge that once each month inter-cultural problems be discussed from each pulpit in the county.

The League succeeded in getting Sergeant Goshō (one of the heroes of Merrill's Marauders) to speak at a well-attended meeting at the Hood River Methodist Church -- and also to present him at the Parkdale Community Church.

The Hood River League for Liberty and Justice sponsored the showing of the movie "Challenge to Democracy", which showed the life of the evacuees at the Heart Mountain Center.

Mrs. Moore believes that about 100 Japanese have returned to the Hood River community. "Only about 70 or 80 families ever did live here," she says.

In response to a question on the social relations between the Caucasian young people and the Nisei at Hood River, Mrs. Moore replied that in school, all extra-curricular activities were performed together without discrimination; in fact, at one time, at both Parkdale and Hood River, the presidents of the student bodies were Japanese. They seemed to "fit in" during their school life; but after graduation, segregation seems to occur once more. She believes this isn't because the Japanese are more clannish than anybody else, but because they are proud and sensitive to any feeling against them.

Occasionally they attended social affairs of a community group such as the Grange, where only once, Mrs. Moore says, she saw the Caucasians dancing with the Japanese. Up to the present time, when the hostility has been manufactured, the feeling of opposition has not been deep-rooted, and is on the wane again even now, she thinks. Merchants and bankers in Hood River have always solicited business from the Japanese because they were such good payers. They even paid during the depression when the Caucasians did not.

Pearl Buck, who corresponds with Mrs. Moore, was instrumental in helping to get down an anti-Japanese sign in a Hood River Chinese restaurant.

NOTE 46 - Sherwood "Free Mass Meeting for all those who want Japs off the Pacific Coast" (in the words of the handbill). About 200 people attended, mostly farmers. One attender reports the use of horror pictures and a crippled Marine, whom he describes as obviously a mental case because he was incoherent in his remarks with blanks in his speech sometimes as much as a minute long, in spite of the apparent fact that the questions and answers had been rehearsed. The usual charges were made: "No good Japs", etc.....also charges that the relocation centers have luxuries that farmers cannot afford, yet the Japanese there keep demanding more conveniences! The climax of the meeting came when Mr. McCroskey asked, "How many here don't want the



Japs back?" About 90% held up their hands. Next: "How many of you are willing to put \$10.00 into this?" Only about 18 people wanted to go that far.

NOTE 47 - The Mass Meeting at Tigard, which did not pan out well for the Exclusion League forces, had been anticipated by some of the town's enlightened citizens who had heard the report of the meeting in Sherwood the week previous. They not only protested the use of the high school building (which had been secured through a misunderstanding) but they distributed several pieces of literature to counteract the propaganda as the crowd was entering the meeting hall. Inside, various citizens and students challenged statements made by the speakers and they walked out of the meeting in a body, leaving only about forty people. Out of these, only a very few signed up with the McCroskey forces.

-- TEMPORARY QUARTERS FOR RETURNING JAPANESE --

NOTE 48 - The Japanese Hostel at 315 N. W. 16th Ave., Portland, was once a big residence. By adding a big assembly room at the rear it was converted into the Japanese M. E. Church. Its living rooms and kitchen made it a useful social center, too. Since it has another big dormitory room and kitchen upstairs, it serves a great need at the present time in housing newly arrived Japanese (at about 50¢ a day) until they can get back into their own houses or find other quarters. The W R A lent some cots and other necessities for the undertaking. About 10 to 12 people are usually in residence there, according to the manager, Miss Alice Finley.

Miss Finley, who spent over thirty-five years as a missionary in Japan -- at Kogoshima and on Okinawa -- seems an ideal person for her work at the hostel. Since she speaks Japanese, she can discuss their problems with the troubled Issei.

NOTE 49 - Portland International House at 1725 N. E. Wasco is another kind of hostel, for it welcomes people of all the minorities that meet discrimination, especially in housing. At present there are about four Nisei living there -- one young man and three girls, along with a Russian, a Chinese, three Negroes and several Caucasians, all under the intelligent management of Mrs. Renwyk. It is operated on a cooperative basis, all of those in residence contributing a share of the work. It is proving a fine example of international cooperation.



## APPENDIX II

### QUOTATIONS TO SUPPORT POINTS IN THE OUTLINE

#### -- MILITARY SERVICE OF THE NISEI --

- A. Lt. General Mark Clark in a message to his Japanese-American soldiers, July 17, 1944: "You are always thinking of your country before yourselves. You have never complained through your long periods in the line. You have written a brilliant chapter in the history of the fighting men of America. You are always ready to close with the enemy, and you have always defeated him. The 34th Division is proud of you and the whole United States is proud of you."
- B. Tribute of an important U. S. military officer in the South Pacific: "On our Pacific fronts the thousand Nisei in the intelligence, radio, and other units, are uniquely valuable. I say deliberately that they can contribute more per man than any other racial group in our victory over Japan. They have proved their loyalty by risking or giving their lives. They are playing a part in winning the war far beyond that played by those non-combatants safe at home who have glibly assailed the loyalty and Americanism of all Nisei -- who would deny them the rights we are fighting to preserve."

#### -- CHARACTERISTICS OF JAPANESE-AMERICANS --

- C. From H. A. Millis, "The Japanese Problem in the United States": "Japanese tenants improve the land while white tenants, as a rule, permit the land to deteriorate. They apply scientific knowledge as well as hard industry."
- D. Also from H. A. Millis: "The Japanese are peaceable, law-abiding, tirelessly industrious, moral, temperate, grateful and generous. They require no policing."
- E. From a U. S. Intelligence Officer in Harper's, Oct., 1942: "It is a Japanese characteristic to have great reverence and thirst for knowledge and education. The teacher is a person of importance to the Japanese mind."
- F. Ronald Mac Donald's description of Shintoism as it was in 1842: "Shinto means 'Way of God, the Creator of all', represented by nature and especially the sun. It is high, pure, humane, loving all nature; more Christian in its beatitudes than some so-called Christianity."

#### -- THE QUESTION OF INTEGRATION INTO AMERICAN LIFE --

- G. Carey McWilliams in "Prejudice": "No immigrant group ever made a more determined effort to succeed in America than did the Japanese."



- H. Dr. Robert E. Park: "The Japanese are capable of transforming their lives and practices more rapidly than any other group. They are inclined to make more far-going concessions than any other group in order to overcome American prejudice and to secure status here, and no other group has at all equalled them in the work of accommodating themselves to alien conditions."
- I. J. Belknap, Honolulu columnist: "As to Nisei unassimilability, their school and college teachers say it is amazing that the children speak and act like American youngsters (only with better decorum) when their parents came so recently from Japan."

-- HISTORY OF THE JAPANESE IN OREGON --

- J. From the Oregonian, Nov. 26, 1911, on strawberry culture near Russellville: "It is said those who have rented their farms out to Japanese are realizing more money each year than they did when running their farms themselves. One farmer reports receiving \$2000.00 a year from 120 acres."
- K. The Beginning of Integration, from Second Biennial Report of 1907: "It is shown that of food and material consumed by the Chinaman, 60% is foreign, 40% domestic. On the other hand, the Japanese imports only 10% of his living requirements from his native land."
- L. The Toledo Affair from the report by the Portland Council of Churches, 1925: "The Japanese laborers themselves we believe to have been entirely innocent of any knowledge of the situation. Because of this, we cannot refrain from commending them for their conduct during the deportation. Although they were in the right and an outrage was being committed against them; nevertheless they were non-resistant. Their conduct was responsible for preventing serious physical consequences."
- M. Anti-Japanese sentiment in Hood River in 1918 -- From the Davey Report of 1920: "There is not much bitterness against individual Japanese in Hood River. Many citizens do not share the fear of the Japanese menace. These claim the Japanese are doing good work in clearing logged-off land and bringing it into a high state of cultivation with berries and fruit trees; that they are good customers of the stores, warehouses and banks; that they are quiet, well-behaved residents."

-- PERIOD OF RELOCATION --

- O. Description of a relocation center from Albert W. Palmer's "Arizona's City of Exiles", Christian Century, January 20, 1943: "All the buildings are the same size, approximately 20 by 100 feet, and except for those just mentioned and the mess halls in every block, each building is divided into four large rooms of equal size. Each room shelters a family, and the normal



family contains parents and children and grandparents, plus occasionally an unrelated man or woman. The rooms are scrupulously clean and are subdivided by colorful curtains into living room and bedroom spaces. Furniture, except for iron cots, has been improvised out of boxes and stray lumber with homelike ingenuity and artistry.

Outside, all buildings look alike and are set in straight geometrical blocks with the relentless regularity of typical army barracks. But everywhere the inhabitants are breaking down this grim architectural routine by adding more or less decorative porches, by planting trees, starting grass plots, and building rock gardens with a feeling for growing things and skill in gardening very characteristically Japanese."

-- LEGAL OPINION ON THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF THE EVACUATION --

- P. Justice Murphy in the Korematsu case, Dec. 2, 1943: "This racial restriction is one of the most sweeping and complete deprivations of constitutional rights in the history of this nation in the absence of martial law."
- mQ. Justice Murphy again: "Racial discrimination of this nature bears no reasonable relation to military necessity and is utterly foreign to the ideals and traditions of the American people."

(NOTE: In another case six justices ruled that Japanese-Americans were not excluded because of racial prejudice but as a security measure.)

- R. Supreme Court ruling of Dec. 18, 1944 freed a Japanese-American woman from a relocation center, saying: "The government has no power to detain loyal citizens, regardless of their racial origins, who have not been guilty of crime."
- S. Galen M. Fisher in "Christian Century", Sept. 8, 1943: "The chief liability to the American way involved in the evacuation is that it has impaired the value of citizenship in the United States. The suspension of full constitutional rights for law abiding citizens and aliens of one race jeopardizes those rights for peoples of all races."

-- NISEI SEEKING FURTHER EDUCATION --

- T. One college administrator (typical of others) says: "These young men and women, as far as I have been able to observe, have found themselves almost immediately acclimated to their new environment. Our own student body has received them cordially, and from all the evidence at hand there has not been a single example of an untoward nature. If they are happy in their new surroundings as we are in having them, we will have been more than justified in opening our doors to them."



-- SUGAR BEET WORKERS --

- U. In "Prejudice", Carey McWilliams says: "By May 15, 1942, W R A was able to conclude an agreement with Governor Sprague of Oregon (who had violently opposed the use of Japanese labor a month or two previously) for the release of evacuees to work in the sugar beet areas around Malheur."

"There is no doubt that they saved the sugar beet crop in Utah, Idaho, Wyoming, and Montana."

-- PORTLAND BRANCH OF J. A. C. L. --

- V. Marjorie Stearns: "The spirit that pervades the Portland chapter is unbeatable -- the cooperation and sacrifice of its members in order to safeguard the rights and enjoyment of citizenship, not only for themselves but for those who enjoy its benefits."

-- THE CHARGE OF SABOTAGE --

- W. Cablegram from the Honolulu chief of police to the Tolan Committee, March 14, 1942: "There were no acts of sabotage in the city and county of Honolulu Dec. 7, nor have there been any reported to the police department since that date."
- X. Col. Kendall J. Fielder, chief of Military Intelligence, Hawaiian Department, Aug. 18, 1943: "There have been no known acts of sabotage, espionage, or fifth column activity committed by the Japanese in Hawaii, either on or subsequent to Dec. 7, 1941."
- Y. Ex-Governor Sprague of Oregon: "Up to the time of the Japanese evacuation from the coast in 1942 and since then I know of not one single act of sabotage or traitorism committed or on record as having been committed by any person of Japanese extraction in the state of Oregon, and to the best of my knowledge, I know of none on the entire Pacific Coast."