

Hodgins -

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POST EVACUATION ACTION--CITIES

Few cities took official post evacuation action altho anti-Japanese comments were frequent. Official post evacuation action was taken by:

⁴⁰
~~37~~ of 283 California cities

11 of 194 Oregon cities

7 of 218 Washington cities

The geographical distribution of cities which took post evacuation action or made anti-Japanese comments is shown on the accompanying map. An anti-Japanese comment was one expressing opposition to the return of the Japanese to the Pacific Coast or to a particular community during or after the war, or one which expressed dislike of the Japanese as a race.

The first California city which took post evacuation action was Watsonville thru its Defense Council. We have already seen the resolution which was passed by Watsonville on February 23, 1943. There seems to be very little ~~similarity~~ identity in the post evacuation resolutions. The most frequent proposal in these resolutions is that the Japanese be barred from the Pacific Coast or from a particular locality for the duration of the war. (E.g., San Diego, 6/11/43; San Jose, 6/14/43; Shafter, 5/24/43) However, some resolutions do not specify whether or not the restrictions are to continue after the war. For example Suisun passed the following resolution:

"The City Council of the City of Suisun City has gone on record, as approving unanimously, the exclusion of all Japanese from the Pacific Coast Area." (no date given)

Other resolutions specifically state opposition to the return of the Japanese to the area at any future time, e.g., "Res. #358 passed 6/16/43, opposing relocation or resettlement or return of Japanese whether American born or not to California or the West Coast for the duration of the war

or afterwards" (City of San Clemente) In addition to barring Japanese from the Pacific Coast, a few resolutions included such things as deportation, barring Japanese from land use or ownership, opposition to Japanese in the U.S. Army visiting the Pacific Coast, and opposition to WRA policies. Some examples follow:

Vallejo, 6/5/43

"On June 5, 1943, the City Council adopted a Resolution, protesting the liberation of any persons of Japanese Ancestry within the military area of the Western Defense Command; endorsing the internment of Japanese in the camps; recommending that all persons of Japanese Ancestry be deported after the conclusion of the present war, from the territorial limits of the United States, and concur in every action of DeWitt to control persons of Japanese ancestry who are all unqualified and unsuited to be citizens and residents of the United States."

North Sacramento, 6/7/43

"...exclude all American born as well as alien Japanese from entering into any business or from in any manner operating any orchard, farm, garden, nursery, or having anything to do in anywise with lands; that they be excluded from owning any property in any State..."

Torrance, 4/21/43

"On April 21, 1943, the City Council passed a resolution asking Gen. DeWitt to reconsider, and, if possible, rescind the action taken by him in relaxing the restrictions of persons of Japanese ancestry that are on active duty in the United States Armed Forces to travel in the restricted areas."

Bishop, 12/19/42

"Requests that the civilian administration of the Manzanar Relocation Area be immediately replaced by military authority and under the immediate supervision and direction of the United States Army."

The same topics are covered in the Oregon city resolutions as in those from California. The cities of Cottage Grove and Medford passed identical resolutions on June 7 and June 15 respectively.

The resolution follows:

"...to prevent return of any Japanese to Coastal area for duration; transfer control of all Japanese in America from civilian authority to United States Army; abandon idea of creating Japanese Combat Units; place every able bodied Japanese male in agriculture in interior; release all Japanese farm implements, cars and tires on Coast for war time use under 'eminent domain' law; release impounded money (nearly 200,000,000 belonging to government of Japan) for use in above projects; conduct thorough investigation of all Japanese activities in America, before and since Pearl Harbor, and establish Congressional Committee for complete study of postwar disposition of Japanese based on the investigation."

Hood River passed a comprehensive resolution to the effect that: "...persons of Japanese ancestry should be permanently barred from citizenship; all persons of Japanese ancestry now residing in this country should be deported to Japan at the earliest opportunity; the amendment of the Constitution of the United States to limit citizenship because of birth in the United States to those who are born here to parents who are citizens of the United States; as to those Japanese who now claim full citizenship under the Fourteenth Amendment because they were born here, we deny such claim, and assert and declare that our Constitution may not be so construed as to confer citizenship upon a child born here to parents who were neither citizens nor eligible of becoming citizens." (no date)

The few resolutions by Washington cities followed the same general pattern as those originating in Oregon and California. The city of Snohomish, Washington, on June 15, 1943, passed a resolution identical to those passed by Cottage Grove and Medford, Oregon. The city of North Bonneville, Washington, passed a resolution to the effect that:

"...citizenship of all Japanese be revoked and that as soon as practical after the end of the present war with Japan that all persons of Japanese ancestry be transferred back to Japan and that thereafter the only persons of Japanese ancestry who shall be allowed in the United States... be diplomatic representatives and representatives of commerce. ... That no person of Japanese ancestry shall be allowed to engage in this country in any business or have any interest in any business in competition with American citizens..."

California

"The sentiment of the Council is to keep the Japanese where they are until the war is over." (C.W. Hornback, Clerk, City of Antioch, 9/23/43)

"There are no local ordinances restricting Oriental people in any way, for the very good reason that Chinese and Japanese have not been allowed to live in Humboldt County--with two exceptions--for many years.

"About 65 years ago, a white man was killed in Eureka, during a tong war. The Chinese were driven out of the County and never permitted to return, the only exceptions being a Chinese cook at the Gold Bluff mine and a cook on the Thomas Bair ranch in the mountains.

"About 25 years ago, some Japanese came to Eureka and opened a store. A few nights later, their place was dynamited and they were forced to leave hurriedly.

"This was rather rough treatment, but it has been sufficient to keep these people out of Humboldt County, so we have no evacuation or re-settlement problems to worry about at this time." (Geo. F. Cropley, Clerk, City of Arcata, 4/14/43)

"The Councilmen feel it would be a very serious risk for the duration and after the war, that they should be distributed throughout the entire United States if permitted to remain in this country." (Mrs. Bernice Conine, Clerk, City of Beaumont, 9/23/43)

"I believe that I can safely say that each member of the Council feels that there will be no place in this Community either for Native-born or Alien Japanese after the War. I can certainly say that this is my personal opinion." (C.C. Casey, Clerk, City of Brawley, 4/19/43)

"It is safe to say that the sentiment is decidedly AGAINST any and all Japs ever becoming residents of this locality again." (Miss Grace L. May, Clerk, City of Brea, 4/19/43)

"Recent statements by federal officials and other prominent people indicating a degree of sympathy ~~xx~~ for the Japanese in this country have provoked very bitter comment by local people who have had various experiences with the Japanese people.... There seems to be no disposition here to distinguish between native born and foreign born Japanese." (Richard S. Emerson, Clerk, City of Calexico, 4/29/43)

"..., it will be entirely satisfactory to keep them all in Concentration Camps until they all die of old age." (H.H. Hume, Clerk, City of Chico, 4/22/43)

"Our Japanese problem was solved years ago when they tried to colonize in this district, by the American Legion informing the colonizers that we had no Japanese here and didn't think it advisable for them to locate here. None have since." (G. D. Zwinge, Clerk, City of Chowchilla, 4/20/43)

"There are a few, mostly among the officials of the churches who are quite lenient in the matter of resettlement of the Japanese along this coast or, in fact, anywhere in the United States.

"But the preponderance of sentiment in this matter is very distinctly AGAINST any such movement and I doubt there will be any appreciable change in this sentiment after the end of the war. The presence of Japanese in and around Colusa, for any purpose whatever, would cause a great deal of trouble, probably rioting and blood-shed. They are NOT wanted here by perhaps 90% of the people. If they were to come here they could not make a success in any line of business and but a small percentage of agricultural interests would tolerate them at all." (B. L. McCue, Clerk, City of Colusa, 5/5/43)

"...no Japanese have lived in Crescent City or for that matter in Del Norte County, we believe they are well aware of the fact that no welcome would be extended to them as residents of this section.

"The sentiment of the Council of the City of Crescent City is unanimous that Japanese are undesirable as residents of the United States of America, I am firmly convinced that a pole (sic) of the people of Del Norte County would reveal that 98% are of the same opinion." (E. R. Griffin, Clerk, City of Crescent City, 4/20/43)

"I venture the opinion, however, that if the matter were discussed, the sentiment would be 100% in favor of banning Japanese from the Pacific Coast and from this area in particular, not alone for the protection of the white citizens of the area but for the protection of the Japanese themselves." Victor D. McCarthy, Clerk of El Segundo, 4/28/43)

"About 30 years ago an Astoria Company undertook to operate a fish cannery a few miles out of Ferndale, with their own imported crew, chiefly Asiatics.

"Almost every able-bodied man for miles around ran them out the next day after their arrival and the Company operated their first and last season here with an American crew." (C.M. Turner, Clerk of Ferndale, 4/24/43)

"The feeling in this community is very strong against them. After the war is over they would like to see all foreign born and any native born that retain dual citizenship returned to Japan. Any people that cannot be assimilated should not be allowed to be American citizens." (Mrs. H. M. Carpenter, Clerk of Holtville, 4/30/43)

"From the viewpoint of our City Council there can be but one answer to your letter on the Japanese question. That answer is KEEP THE JAPS CORRALLED!

"The Japs lived among us. They did business with us. Their children went to school with ours. They seemed a peaceful people, and minded their own business. A few of us thought we had friends among them.

"Now it has been proven to us that they used their liberties and privileges to undermine us. The second generation used their free American schooling in the service of Japan. We could not tell friend from foe. Not all were bad, but---WE CAN NEVER TRUST ANY OF THEM AGAIN!

"Bringing the Japs back to this area would be asking us to gamble all our past labors, all our future hopes, all the futures of all our peoples, all the lives of our young men now in the nation's service all over the world---against the present discomfort, real or imagined, of a few hundred Japs!

"So we repeat--KEEP THE JAPS CORRALLED!! DO NOT EXPECT US TO BE DECEIVED BY THEM AGAIN!" (~~Miss H. Foster~~, Clerk of Imperial, 5/3/43) Grace E. Gray,

"In regard to the sentiment of our community toward the Japanese, there is a general feeling of regret that more and more farms have been given over to them. Our community as you know was colonized by people of Scandinavian origin who always have taken a great deal of pride in the appearance of their homes and farms and as the Japanese, although excellent and dependable farmers, cannot seem to understand or adapt themselves to our way of living, their increasing number among us has not presented a very cheerful outlook for the future. We must realize however, that our sentiment toward them or perhaps toward another race which we may like even less, may lead to dangerous results if fanned into flame and it must be the policy of our government to avoid discrimination as far as possible." (F. O. Rosander, Clerk of Kingsburg, 5/6/43)

"The feeling was that the Japanese would never be assimilated in this country and that they should eventually be shipped back to their homeland. Also, that the farm element of the Japanese constituted a cheap labor threat in our agriculture and would probably continue to do so if permitted to remain here.

"The Council felt that returning any Japanese to the coastal area would precipitate trouble and result in clashes." ~~Mr. H. H. Beaver~~ (E.H. Beaver, Clerk of Laguna Beach, 5/21/43)

"The City Council here has many times discussed the Japanese problem and I can safely assure you that their feeling is that they should never be allowed to return to this valley, the Pacific Coast, or permitted to own or lease land directly or indirectly regardless of their present citizenship status; further that their citizenship should be taken from them. Because we have had to live among them, become acquainted with them, see them rapidly and tenaciously dig into this valley, we feel as we do. We have seen them by the hundreds on the vegetable farms that are in this district, seen them operate under strictly subnormal standards of living, maintain their Japanese schools where the

children are forced to attend on Saturdays and Sundays to be taught the Japanese religion, language, loyalty to the Fatherland and so on. We have seen them dominate the vegetable deal to the exclusion of Americans, seen how they control the vegetable markets, live like rats and breed like rabbits and heard them boast they would elect a California Governor in another few decades.

"We cannot assimilate them, do not want to for unalterable fundamental reasons we don't have to reiterate and they themselves do not want to be assimilated.

"The feeling in this community is certainly a majority that this is the time to put them in their places and keep them there--and that place is not in the United States of America. We must not forget the headaches the Negroes and their problems brought the country and the time is now opportune to be sure our lessons are learned from past mistakes and not repeated."

(D. H. Edwards, Clerk of Lindsay, 4/29/43)

"There is a strong feeling in this particular district to either prevent the Japanese from reclaiming their property, or to impose restrictions that will limit the concentration of Japanese in any one district during the postwar period."

(C.D. Spradling, Clerk of Loyaltan, 4/29/43)

"In keeping with most others, the City Council were most emphatic as to the disposal of the Jap question. They would ship them back to Japan, this is at the moment impossible." (G. H. Calanan, Clerk of Nevada City, 5/11/43)

"They feel that the manner in which they have conducted themselves in this war and the manner in which they have treated the American soldiers that were taken prisoners that they are a brutal and barbarous people. Their rights to citizenship should be denied."

(C. U. Wood, Clerk of Oakdale, 5/20/43)

"I am glad to be able to state that after Pearl Harbor and up to the time of Evacuation, there was almost no friction between the Japanese and the American population though everybody seemed to approve the Japanese removal. Soon after Evacuation, the Kiwanis Club sponsored a movement to have local school children keep up a correspondence with their evacuated comrades in the camps. However, there was a good deal of public opposition and after a few weeks the exchange of letters gradually died out." (J. H. Landes, Clerk of Oceanside, 5/20/43)

"However, for your information I might state that the Porterville community was some twenty years ahead of the times on the Japanese question. In the early part of 1920, signs were erected on the principal streets or roads entering Porterville with the following wording, 'Porterville is a white mans town. No Japs allowed. Porterville Post. No. Twenty, American Legion'.

"About 1929, in response to outside pressure brought to bear, these signs were removed by they have always correctly gauged the feelings of the people of this community..." (F. H. Pratt, Clerk of Porterville, 5/24/43)

"However, the unofficial attitude toward Japanese has been the same as all good native Californians have toward the Japanese problem, i.e., that all Japanese be barred from residence in this State." (R. E. Woodman, Clerk of San Bruno, 5/19/43)

"In my contacts with individuals, social groups, and service clubs, I find a very definite resentment against the Japanese being brought back to California, especially so, since the public has been informed of what happened to the Air Crews that bombed Tokio." (E. F. Hutchings, Clerk of San Leandro, 5/20/43)

"The sentiment of the public here is deadly against them, and they might be in danger if permitted to enter. After what they did, and are doing, no one would ever trust them again. We feel they are too close to us now, wherever they are isolated, and that they should be deported after they are crushed to earth." (Dan McSweeney, Clerk of South San Francisco, no date.)

"I am sure that the sentiment of this district, is that the residence of the local Jap. at the close of the war should be JAPAN." (R. C. Gray, Clerk of Vacaville, 9/25/43)

"We had only a few Japanese residents within our city and no difficulties were experienced in our relations with them. Some of the Japanese in our public schools were outstanding students and held high offices. No problem was presented at any time." (E. P. Tolson, Clerk of Bell, 4/21/43) C.H. Casjens, City Attorney, City of Bell, 4/21/43)

"There were only a few families here, and I believe all under 25 or 30 were born right here in Los Gatos. Most of the parents were employed as houseworkers on various estates and the children had been brought up in an Americanized atmosphere, and were accepted on even footing with their white school companions who truly were sorry when they were evacuated to Wyoming." (Mrs. Ruth A. Blake, City of Los Gatos, 5/4/43)

"I feel that I can truthfully express the sentiments of the city council and government officials here in saying they are not anxious to have the Japanese returned here after the war. However, it must be borne in mind that there were a number of Japanese families living here that were very well thought of and we appreciate the problem that this will present." (G. N. Dixon, Clerk of Whittier, 6/11/43)

OREGON

"This topic has been discussed at considerable length around the Council table, but no definite action has ever been taken.... no immediate Japanese problem in our community as none of them live here.

"However, we feel that this Japanese problem belongs to all of us here on the West Coast, whether we have any of them living in our community or not. Furthermore, we feel that all of them, whether American born or not, should be shipped back to Japan. Failing that, they certainly should not be allowed to congregate on the West Coast as they have in the past as they will always constitute a menace if they do. We feel that if a person's parents are not allowed to become American citizens, neither should their offspring, with them, as their lower standards of living will not permit it.

"Our sentiment today is just as it was after Pearl Harbor. In fact we have always felt that way about the Japanese. These people in the East, and Middle West who have not had to compete with them and live with them don't know anything about our problem. If they did, they'd say, 'Get rid of them'. Right now is the time to get this thing settled.... After this is over, people will get complacent again, and it will be the same old story. I believe resolutions could be obtained from every community in the entire Northwest at this time urging Congress to cancel all their citizenship and also their deportation to Japan, by suitable legislation." (W. Marshall, Recorder of Arlington, 6/10/43)

"Athena and its environs is definitely opposed to Jap labor and it would not be well for a Jap to come into this community for he would not be treated exactly as an invited guest." (B.B. Richards, Recorder of Athena, no date)

"The only Japs we know of live at Starkey about 30 miles away and they all are in the U.S. Army now." (M. F. Blockland, Recorder of Island City, 10/10/43)

"Since Pearl Harbor, it is my candid opinion that there are few, if any loyal Japanese in the United States, to the United States. We have had very few Japanese living in this part of Oregon, and so far as I am personally concerned, we do not want any. I believe the only place for the Japanese is Japan itself and believe they should all be sent to Japan, and exchanged for American prisoners of war in Japan." (J. G. Leslie, Recorder of Coquille, 6/13/43)

"Our City Council wishes that I write you that we do not have any Japanese in Lane County.

"Tradition tells us that a number came to Lane County some years before I came and that has been 15 years. One night a number of Lane County Citizens escorted them to the border and advised them to keep going. The Council wished me to tell you that they were behind Lane County." (W.O. Spencer, Recorder of Creswell, no date.)

"And after summing up the conversations I arrived at the following:

"Keep the Japs in concentration camps for the duration and then turn them over to the Chinese for safe keeping." (L. C. Applegate, Recorder of Drain, 7/8/43)

"However the sentiment against the Japs at the time of Pearl Harbor was quite strong and has not lessened any yet. The personal opinion of the Council is that alien Japs should be permanently excluded from the U.S. and that all Japs should be excluded from the West Coast. This is also the attitude of the Legion post here..." (H.F. Severy, Recorder of Florence, 6/22/43)

"Recently there have been rumors that Japanese from the restricted areas would be brought into sections where labor is needed for the harvesting of crops. This is viewed with general disfavor." (Omar Rietmann, Recorder of Ione, 6/19/43)

"The City of Jefferson has no Japs. among its citizens and never had.... We are willing to let the Jap. infested localities settle this." (J. H. Roland, Recorder of Jefferson, no date.)

"As we have never had a Japanese in our town, either in business or as a resident, we took no action on the matter. The Council of our City feels that the Towns and Counties in which Japs live and do business should make and pass all restrictions in regard to the West Coast Japanese.

"Our sentiments against the Japs is probably higher than those of Cities in which Japs reside. We know all about their badness--not having lived among them, we know none of their goodness, if they have any goodness." (C. R. Patten, Recorder of Joseph, 10/5/43)

"The local colony consisted at that time of nine persons, men, women and children, mostly children of school age... The Council without success, endeavored to have them removed from the Town and placed in one of the detention camps. That is still their attitude, and the general opinion of the townsfolks is that we can get along very well without them in our midst.

"However, since then three of the young men (boys just past high school age) were inducted into the armed service of the United States; one later being ~~disqualified~~ disqualified for service on the grounds of physical ~~inability~~ inability...." (J.A. Gibbs, Recorder of Lakeview, 7/31/43)

"The members would like to suggest that at the conclusion of the present emergency the people of Japanese ancestry who are considered to be disloyal by our Federal Government be sent back to Japan.

"It was also suggested that there be an educational program conducted trying to create more tolerance toward the people of Japanese ancestry who are loyal to the U.S. and who expect to re-

main in this Country. Or if this does not seem to accomplish the desired results that these people be established on an American owned island where they will not be subject to constant humiliation. The idea of this would be to segregate them from the Caucasian people and yet do nothing that might discredit them." (~~W. D. Dill~~, Recorder of Merrill, 10/14/43)

Eva G. Bowman,

"The residents of this town and surrounding communities have always been 100% against any Japs locating here with the result that none ever have.

"The Council does not approve of the payment of \$2000 per year teachers salary teaching Japs when the same teacher can get only \$1300 for teaching Americans." (A. M. Verrell, Recorder of Myrtle Creek, 10/21/43)

"Some twenty years ago one of the Lumber Companies was going to bring Japanese labor and Hindu laborers to work in there sawmill. This was stopped when the other workmen and citizens of the City threatened to tar and feather any Jap or Hindu that the company would bring in.

"The sentiment here is that all Japanese be deported back to Japan where they belong, regardless of their citizenship." (I. E. Sandine, Recorder of North Bend, 6/21/43)

"The members of the Council are unanimously in favor of sending all the Japs back to Japan and keeping them out of this country. Some disagree as to native born, loyal Japanese and think perhaps they might be allowed to stay here. Most members would like to see all of them deported at the end of the war." (C.S. Briscoe, Recorder of Oakridge) 6/26/43

"The council and local citizens believe that the only answer to the Japanese question is the removal of Japanese as contemplated in the Johnson Bill to deport them back to Japan and see to it that the immigration laws be tightened to prevent a repetition of it in the future. Personally, I would not want to be a Jap seeking a home in this vicinity, this is still "cow country" and the old cowboys still peep their ropes." (L.A. Johnson, Recorder of Paisley, 6/24/43)

"If the people in this community were doing it there would be an evacuation of the Japs, but NO RESETTLEMENT.

".... This locality has had a very large enlistment in the armed forces, and there are many at this time we know will never come back. I have talked with hundreds of people and have found not one but who is BITTER AGAINST THE JAPS.

"The want nothing to do with the japs, neither now or any other time. Knock the snoopers fangs out, then put them back on their own island and see that they remain there. The City Council and the people of this community will vote for every jap to be put out of the United States. (G. W. Done, Recorder of Pilot Rock, 6/22/43)

"However, I might add, that so far as I know, this is one of those counties where we have not had the Japanese problem. Some years back there was going to be some Japanese settlements in this county but the people were opposed to such an extend that they just left the county and then never returned and we have not have any Japanese problemsince. (I.A. Dean, Recorder of Riddle, 6/20/43)

"...the feeling in this city is such that a Jap would not be welcomed with open arms I could tell you." (J.E. Beeler, Recorder of St. Helens, no date.)

"Our people are not friendly to any of the yellow race as a near dominant element, and I think any influx of such would be very unwelcome and would result in friction in many ways..." (J. G. Watts, Recorder of Scappoose, 11/15/43)

"Probably because there was only one Japanese family living in Seaside before the war, I find that the matter of Japanese evacuation and resettlement has not been seriously considered here. It is strange to say that local officials did not consider this Japanese family disloyal to the American government. They were citizens of this country, attended a local ^Methodist church and had been in the curio business for a number of years. "However, there is definite sentiment against allowing the Japanese people to filter back into this coastal area as evidenced by a resolution which will be prepared and read at the meeting of the Common Council on July 7th. In part, it will promise support to all governmental measures relating to the citizenship of American born Japanese and urge confinement of all those of Japanese ancestry for the duration of the war." (Gault Patton, Auditor, Seaside, 6/24/43)

"In remembrance of Pearl Harer and in consideration of our mistreated prisoners of war, we feel that when Japan is out of the picture and the war is all over, every Jap in America should be taken to Japan to help rebuild their own country, and be kept there, under restriction, for all time. "There are a great many of them who are American born but after all they are only Japs, who would thrive nicely in the homes of their ancesters." (C.R. Coffman, Recorder of Talent, 6/28/43)

"Before Pearl Harbor there were quite a number of Japanese in this community, nearly all gardeners, and while considered an asset to the community then, it is my opinion, our citizens will protest any attempt of their resettlement here. There has already been several of our boys lost in the South Pacific and this will not be forgotten through the present generation." (J. H. Steers, Recorder of The Dalles, 6/25/43)

"I am instructed to inform you that a bunch of Japs were run out of this city 16 years ago, and we still feel that same way about them." (A. M. Gildersleeve, Recorder of Toledo, 10/11/43)

"Discussed the question but with six on council and four of them with sons in Svc--you can appreciate that it was a unanimous vote that there ever (sic) will be any place on the West coast for a Japanese--Labor here taking same attitude. (T. A. Cathers, Recorder of Wheeler, undated)

"...that all Japanese regardless of American citizenship should be rigidly interned for the duration and then all alien Japs should be deported." (Ge. Beach, Recorder of Woodburn, 10/6/43)

"However, our council body, as well as our citizenry, have been, and still are, very strong in their sentiments against the Japanese, and against any of them, American born or not, ever being released on this coast.

"There are, undoubtedly some among them who are good loyal citizens, and who are being made to suffer by the present restrictions. But who can tell which they are, or when their Jap heritage will get the upper hand with them?

"Find them a home country some where and send them to it.

"The Negro situation should point the way for action with the Japs." (Miss Hope Perry, Recorder, Yamhill, 8/7/43)

"The sentiment against the Japanese in this district is very strong, and we feel that we are qualified to judge them as well as any district in the country, havin^g had approximately six hundred Japanese living in this community.

"I believe I express the opinion of 99% of the people here, when I say that--WE DON'T EVER WANT TO SEE ANY JAPANESE BACK IN OUR COMMUNITY." (W. M. Sylvester, Recorder of Hood River, 6/22/43)

"The community is very strong in that the Japs never return to this community not one of them even the ones that are supposed to be citizens of the United States and claim that they do not know Japan. You will find that when they are born that their birth is registered in Japan and then the want to carry a dual citizenship which it is our understanding of the Constitution of the United States that in order to be a citizen that you must give up all other ties..." (G. W. Page, Recorder of Gresham, 10/16/43)

"Previous to Pearl Harbor, the Idaho-Oregon Japanese Society had built a Japanese Community Hall on 40 acres of land which joins our Municipal Airport. Within one week after Pearl Harbor, this Society deeded this property to the City of Ontario Gratis, with no restrictions and this hall is now used to house cadets who are attending flying school.

"The City Council has never discussed passing any restrictions on these people, and one patrolman of the State Police told me, that in his opinion, the people of this Community are more

tolerant along this line than they were a year ago. My opinion agrees with this. Our permanent Japanese as well as the Japanese Evacuees who have settled here have given no trouble in the past, and no indication that they will give trouble in the future. However, they are marked people and they realize that, and also they realize that the people of the Community are watching them.

"It is my opinion as well as the opinion of several citizens I have spoken to, that 90% of the American born Japanese boys and girls who have gone through our local schools, are as loyal to the U.S.A. as anyone else. I have been the Municipal Judge of this city for nearly ten years and never had one of the people in my court. I can't believe I can say this of any other nationality that is represented in this community." (F. P. Ryan, Recorder of Ontario, 6/21/43)

"...during the past twenty-five years we have had but one Japanese family in our community and they were considered an asset rather than a problem. Their eldest son was the first Japanese to enlist after the war was declared from this County." (~~Miss Alice Hallgren~~, Recorder of Phoenix, Henry W. Frame, 6/25/43)

WASHINGTON

"The City Council considered this matter at some length, and the opinions expressed by the Mayor and Councilmen were to the effect that while there are doubtless many Japanese persons, both American born and Foreign born who are loyal to the United States Government, it would be quite impossible to determine which were loyal to our Government and which were not. For this reason the Mayor and the members of the City Council were unanimous in their approval of the plan of the U.S. Government to keep all Japanese persons in the Relocation Centers back from the Coast, and were very definitely opposed to allowing any of the Japanese residents to return to the Pacific Coast during the present war." (J.C. Dorcy, Clerk of Anacortes, 6/23/43)

"Personally I think all japs should be shipped back to Japan--we don't want 'em." (A. Mohn, Clerk of Bothell, no date)

"From the consensus of opinion of the City Administration and other City leaders it is generally understood that the farther away the Japanese are from this Valley the better it will be for all concerned." (J.A. French, Clerk of Cashmere, 6/30/43)

"The Council as a whole would be very happy if they are never allowed to return to this country. That is putting it too mildly. They are very much against any return of the Japs, in the near future or after the war.

"The sentiment was substantially the same in the early part of 1942 as it is now." (J.I. Miller, Clerk of Duvall, 11/7/43)

"...at present the sentiment in this locality in regard to post-war program in regard to the West Coast Japanese seems to be in favor of allowing only the Japanese born in the United States and of these only those who have never been to Japan--for a short period of time, or a long period of time--to remain and make their homes in the United States, all others to be restricted and returned to their homeland." (Miss Adoll Englund, Clerk of Enumclaw, 10/21/43)

"We are not troubled with Japiritis here, not a Jap in town nor has there been one here in this vicinity for 20 years or more." (T.H. Twining, Clerk of Coulee City, 7/13/43)

"There has not been any official action taken by this city ... The council has, however, refused to undertake to protect Japanese workers which the Great Northern Railway wishes to bring in to work as section crews. The company decided not to bring them in." (G. H. Rice, Clerk of Deer Park, 6/21/43)

"So far as I know the sentiment of the people here is that the Japanese be kept out of the Pacific Coast territory and be treated as enemy aliens." (L. F. Fingersh, Clerk of Gold Bar, no date)
J.R. McKay,

"As far as the Town Council and everybody else in this neighborhood is concerned they do not want any Japs here anymore and will do anything to keep them out.

"I am sure this entire community will do anything they can to keep the Japs out of this country for all time to come. (J.J. Zimmermann, Clerk of Granger, 6/28/43)

"However, we are very sure that we do not want to have to meet up with such a problem so that it is our hope and wish that the Japanese who may have to be returned to the Coast after the war may be so curtailed in their activities that they cannot in any way interfere with the orderly and necessary business in which our real American citizens may be engaged.

"As one councilman forcibly put it, (send the whole damn bunch back where they came from'. Probably that would suit most people." (F. M. Eder, Clerk of Granite Falls, 7/10/43)

"We did permit a crew of Japanese railroad workers to stay in their cars on the track for about three months. They behaved O.K. Lately they have been drinking quite a lot of beer." (W. R. Johnson, Clerk of Hatton, 7/5/43)

"As to the sentiment of the Mayor & Council, since attack on Pearl Harbor, will say that we believe that the only good jap is a dead one and that the United States would be better off if they were ALL deported.

"It is the writers opinion that a bill be introduced in Congress-- that any person with dual citizenships--the Japs have--forfeit all rights to American Citizenship. This procedure might do away with making a Constitutional Amendment. Let's clean up America." (W.C. Brumbach, Clerk of Ilwaco, 6/30/43)

"However I don't think it would be very wise for a Jap to show himself around here, as the sentiment against them is quite strong, and when our boys return from the front the sentiment is very apt to be much stronger." (F. L. Hung, Clerk of Mount Vernon, 7/20/43)

"The sentiment in the town however, is very strong against these people, possibly on account of the fact that we have two or three lads from the community who are held prisoners by the Japanese since the fall of the Phillipines." (R. W. Clarke, Clerk of Oakesdale, 7/23/43)

"We are more or less off the beaten path and our population mostly old American stock and our views inclined to be back woodsy. If there had been Japs here we would had to have laws to keep the boys from taking down the old squirrel guns and getting out the bear traps to exterminate them.

"A County Commissioner brought two from the coast, who were friends of his family and well vouches for, but there was talk of lynching anyhow! The Japs left and the Commissioners political career was spoiled." (W. Van Liew, Clerk of Okanogan, 7/24/43)

"It is safe to say that the public opinion here is very much opposed to have any Japanese people here (probably 90 or 95%) and the Mayor and Council concurs in this sentiment.

"Several years ago a bunch of Japanese laborers were driven out of this Town by the public. Since this time we have had no Japanese living here.

"About a year ago, the G.N.R.R. had a repair crew of Japanese men in this section; but the local people did not like it, and showed their dislike of the Japanese." (J. Jacobi, Clerk of Oroville, 7/24/43)

"Some twenty-five years ago many Japanese were employed in the mills.... In general they were looked upon with disfavor by the Americans who resented their presence for various reasons among which the feeling at that time being that they were spies. It has now been ten years or longer since our mills closed operations and no Japanese have been in this vicinity since that time as residents.

"At the attack on Pearl Harbor the feeling ran high and remains so. A great many feel that there is not room for any Japanese, not even the American born. I do not go that far, but I do agree with those who favor dumping them out of the country, all those who were not born here and likely some that were. The sentiment of the town Council is the same as the vast majority of the citizens though no resolutions or ordinances have been adopted. It is not a matter to be settled hastily and fairness should prevail at all times. I believe that the American people realize that a good foundation must be laid for future years of peace." (J. H. Mars, Clerk of Pe Ell, 7/27/43)

"We were blessed by only having a few families in this community. While they were behaving admirably, they were very much under surveillance both before, and especially after Pearl Harbor incident. They were shortly evacuated with no trouble at all.

"However, I believe it would be unwise for any of them to settle here again, because they would have a hard time to live down the past regardless of how well they behaved." (Karl Jensen, Clerk of Poulsbo, 7/27/43) S.P. Jensen, Mayor

"As you know, the country immediately surrounding Puyallup was thickly populated with Japanese; and the feeling here, while the Japs were being evacuated, was not rabid by any means. However, there has been a great change in sentiment of the citizens and the feeling here is fairly general that the Japs should not be allowed to return." (C. Hollis, Clerk of Puyallup, 7/27/43)

"There never have been any Japanese residing in this area and the sentiment of the City Council and the citizens in general is that they are definitely not wanted in the future." (J. McSherry, Clerk of Roslyn, 8/3/43)

"A colony of Japanese, numbering about three hundred... lived for twenty years, or more, just about a mile from the city limits.... When military authorities imposed restrictions on the Japanese they abided by them, at least in so far as respecting the distances from their homes they might journey. There never was any difficulty between the two peoples here, although there was a very strong feeling that many of them were not to be trusted too far! But nothing ever came up that called for any kind of action on the part of the townspeople." (Miss Amy English, Clerk of Snoqualmie, 8/10/43)

"The Mayor and the Councilmen present all expressed positive objections to the idea of allowing Japanese on the west coast at all. We have no ordinances or written rulings of any kind; there has long been a tacit agreement among the towns and officers of the upper part of this county that the sun is never allowed to rise on an oriental in this part of the county. I do not know the origin of this custom of sending them promptly on the way when they appear here. Altho this attitude is one of long standing it is naturally stronger since Pearl Harbor." (Miss Margaret Ackerman, Clerk of South Cle Elum, 8/6/43)

"This City is situated in the valley between Tacoma and Seattle, and our adjacent farm lands were occupied and worked by a very large number of Japanese. Japanese school children accounted for 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ % of the school registration in the Summer schools.

"The City Government passed no resolutions nor ordinances regarding the Japanese, as it was considered ably handled by the Army and the F.B.I.

"Several weeks ago, when rumor spread that Japanese selected for release from concentration camps might be permitted to return to this district to aid in agriculture, a sort of town meeting was held, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club, and resolutions were unanimously passed, expressing the unanimous thought that it was extremely dangerous to permit such an occurrence in the Postal Defense Zone. The danger of sabotage to vital defense plants, electric transmission lines, power plants, inflammable forest would be such that additional guards to offset the exposure, would by far, exceed the man power brought in to aid agriculture.

"It seemed to the undersigned that it was the unanimous view, that this community is glad to be rid of the Japanese and that we wish that they would never return. But the section in the Amendments to the Constitution of the United States relating to protection to Citizens, and the forbidding to States to prevent the granting of citizenship because of "Race, Color or Previous condition of servitude" made many persons feel that the citizens of the United States of Japanese ancestry, and owners of real and personal property in this community, and former voters here, would without doubt be back with us again after the present war is over." (R. Weaver, Clerk of Sumner, 7/1/43)

"The Council and people of the community are very much opposed to having any Japanese settle in this part of the country after the war. We did not have any before the war and we surely have not gained any respect for them since 'Pearl Harbor' so we do not want them after the war. There has not been any Ordinances passed regarding this matter so far, as we did not think there is any good American that would ask us to tolerate the little yellow beasts, but it will not take long to pass an ordinance if we find it is necessary." (Mrs. L.B. Hilligoss, Clerk of Toledo, no date.)

"The City of Chewelah has not found it necessary to pass any measures in regard to the Japanese Question, as we have only one family of Japanese here, and we feel fairly sure of their loyalty.

"This family has sons in the armed forces, and is contributing to the war bond drive in fine shape." (Miss Dona Yarnell, Clerk of Chewelah, 6/21/43)

"In regard to Japanese sentiment here we of course are all for defeating them but nothing has been done of a local nature--we have one Japanese family here who are and always have been very quiet and law abiding citizens. They have two sons in the U.S. Army." (Miss Mable B. Paige, Clerk of Davenport, 10/27/43)

"The Japanese subject has never been discussed, officially, in any of our council meetings. We had very few Japanese in our area and they had the respect of the community." (H.W. Mort, Clerk of Goldendale, no date.)

"This is a small town and only one or two Japanese families around here and they have lived here for many years and are loyal to the U.S." (C. B. Jaynes, Clerk of Newport, 7/24/43)

"Prior to the outbreak of hostilities, we had but two Jap families, in the area, Their children were quite popular at school and one of the boys looked like a coming big league shortstop. The old folks had always appeared to be mighty fine neighbors, the girls welcome at all local gatherings.... Thus you will note that in our community the Jap question was more or less academic and while we have conformed to all the bulletins issued by the Fourth Defense Command, the local Town Council have never passed any ordinance relating to this question. As information--I know that our sentiment is very pronounced against the Japs--but I believe that the two families I refer to would be welcome--when, as and if the future, and their inclinations permitted." (W.C. Gaudin, Clerk of Holt, 10/12/43)

T. Bird,

"Prior to the Pearl Harbor event there were several Japanese in our county. A few of the farmers were well and favorably

known. One family in particular belonged to the local grange, and his son, who is about 28 years of age owned some 400 acres of land with a large herd of cattle. Some of our citizens would swear by them, however, it is my personal opinion and not from the council that the majority of our citizens prefer that the Japanese element do not return to our district. "Jude" (C. H. Estes, Clerk of White Salmon, 6/24/43)