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5/11/44

Clinton St. Grumbles as Japanese-Americans Move In



No good neighbor he. Belligerent-looking Dr. H. Chandler Mahnken said to the PM photographer: "Why don't you throw rocks in there instead of taking their pictures?"

By NATALIE DAVIS

There was a smell of paint and varnish yesterday at 168 Clinton St., Brooklyn, and the air was full of the dust and confusion of moving day. The Alpha Chi Rho fraternity was moving out, and the much debated Japanese-American hostel was moving in.

The Rev. and Mrs. Ralph Smeltzer, who are to run the hostel for the Baptist Home Mission and the Church of the Brethren, welcomed their first guests, the Satomi family, and bustled about making everyone, including photographers and reporters, feel very much at home.

Prominent citizens dropped in throughout the day to welcome their new neighbors, and the young, attractive Smeltzers handled the whole thing with ease. It might have been a very happy occasion.

Policemen on Guard

But outside a policeman paraded back and forth, back and forth. Of course he had nothing to do, but in a way, his presence symbolized the grumbling that was going on in almost all the old, well-to-do looking brownstones along Clinton St., Brooklyn's "Doctors' Row."

In the spacious living room of 168, Midovi Satomi, young and serious, told me how nice it was to come to the hostel instead of having to impose on friends in a strange city. She had majored in religious education in college, and is now looking for some sort of Y work. Her father, Matsunosuki, a gray-haired friendly little man with tin glasses, hopes to work in a greenhouse. Her brother, Matie,

well—he's 18 and he's already been inducted into the Army.

If you listened to Dr. H. Chandler Mahnken and his wife, in their light-blue-walled living room across the street from the hostel at 151 Clinton, you would have wondered just what this business of going into the Army is all about.

Would Egg Them On

"There'll be trouble. And I'd egg it on if I had a chance. No decent red-blooded American would approve (of the hostel). This is something that has been jammed down our throat by the so-called Christian church. No decent respectable citizen who owns his own home would permit it—it's the stuffed shirts who want their name in the paper."

Mrs. Mahnken nodded approvingly while her husband stamped up and down the room.

At 179 Clinton, Dr. B. A. Harris, a tall, blue-eyed mustached man who specializes in women's diseases, smoked a cigaret and said:

"We don't like it. I have two boys in the service and I don't think there's any such thing as an American Jap. Why—it's in their blood. I'm not mad at the Germans, see, I just don't like the Japs. And why couldn't they put them in a less-crowded place? It doesn't do the neighborhood any good. Property values will certainly deteriorate. No horse sense in it."

In his office in his brownstone at 164, Dr. George Phelan, plump and aging gynecologist, mumbled:

"I don't like it. It's not that I'm afraid. In the first place it will put down the real-estate value. My property will go down. In the

second place, I can't understand why they put them on the seaboard."

Mrs. A. A. Michele, at 166, the wife of a doctor, now a lieutenant commander in the Navy, said:

"Why did they pick on Clinton St., of all places? They should know it can't be a success in a snobbish place, like Brooklyn Heights. And why do they bring in Japs, of all people? They're another race. If they were Germans or Italians, it would be different."

Mrs. H. S. Rasi, a plump, purple-clad woman who couldn't be interviewed because she was playing bridge, simply shrieked through her doorway at 139 Clinton.

"No true blue-blooded American would permit a thing like that."

She lifted a large arm in the general direction of the hostel.

'Ridiculous!'

Dr. S. P. Bartley's secretary, at 164, said she thought "it is ridiculous for those people to come into a neighborhood like this—they'll deteriorate property values."

And Dr. James Downey's secretary, at 162, who also prefers anonymity, said:

"The racial end deteriorates the neighborhood."

The only general practitioner, Dr. Anthony Nasy, at 159, seemed to have at least stumbled, somewhere, across a copy of *The Races of Mankind*.

"Why should we kick them around," he asked, "when we don't kick the German- and Italian-Americans around? The Japs happen to have yellow skin and slanting eyes. That's all. All these people? Oh, they'll subside. It's just



Mrs. Smeltzer registers Matsunosuki, Motio and Midovi Satomi in their new home. Motio is 18 and has already been inducted into the Army. Which makes him good enough for Uncle Sam but not for his new neighbors.



A policeman stands guard outside as a family enters the new Japanese-American hostel at 168 Clinton St., Brooklyn.

Photos by Dan Keleher, PM

PM, New York, May 14, 1944

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SOME Good Neighbors Live in 'Doctors' Row'

By EARL CONRAD



Most people don't get their names and pictures in the newspapers every day like the Fishes and Bilbos. They're apt to be inconspicuous folks like the Dustams, Hausers and Halpers who live right next to each other on Sidney Pl., Brooklyn, about 20 yards from the hostel at 168 Clinton St. where their new Japanese-American neighbors live.

They don't at all mind their new neighbors, they said. In fact they welcome them; and they mean to call individually and in a group at the hostel for evacuees just set up there and say to them, "Hello folks, how are you?"

They're only one group in the immediate neighborhood of the relocation center who are a little bit ashamed of some of their neighbors for the row they've raised recently about the certified, American citizens some church groups have arranged to resettle here till they "get on their feet."

Everybody in "Doctors' Row" isn't a Dr. and Mrs. Upsnoot, they point out.

Mrs. Dustam, who lives at 42 Sidney Pl., chances to be the wife of Dr. Cyril Dustam, and she says: "When I think of how these doctors have been behaving, and they're supposed to be and traditionally are humanitarians, I'm frankly upset. It's the silliest thing I know of. And I know that if you were to make a poll of this neighborhood, street by street, you'd find one family after another who have no objections whatever to these people coming in here."

She quieted her barking dog, Christmas Eve, so that he wouldn't awaken the Dustams' child, and then suggested that we go next door to visit the Albert Halpers.

Albert happens to be a novelist, and the author of seven books. The Halpers, too, can look out their bedroom window and see the lights of the center only a stone's throw away.

"We're going to take this matter out of the realm of the academic,"



The Americans pictured here live only a few steps from the new hostel at 168 Clinton St., Brooklyn, where other Americans, who happen to be of Japanese extraction, are going to live. They plan to drop in to say "Hello, folks, how are you?" Left to right, these Americans are: Mrs. Cyril Dustam, Miss Louise Hauser, Mrs. Albert Halper and her husband.

Photo by Wilbert Blanche, PM

he said, almost sounding like a novelist for a minute. "I think we ought to call on these people, who are doubtless aware of the controversy over them, and tell them that the tree of liberty grows in Brooklyn too, that not everybody here feels the same as a bunch of doctors who've forgotten their oath, and that there are plenty of good citizens hereabouts who welcome them."

Miss Louise Hauser, of 40 Sidney Pl.—that's just across the street—dropped in for a few minutes' chat and when she heard what the discussion was, chimed in that she too was just a little indignant about it all. She was convinced that if we went among many of the internes who are in the neighborhood, and called at the ministers of various churches in the neighborhood, or simply talked to any set of kids in the street, we'd find a different kind of attitude—and a truly American view.

From the Brooklyn Heights area where the evacuees live, it is only a

few minutes' walk to a point from which any Japanese-American citizen can see the Statue of Liberty. In the coming days, I'm pretty sure, many Japanese-Americans, who are good Americans, and have gone through much lately, will stand at that point, and look across at Miss Liberty—and realize that she stands for something.

Brookland Eagle 4/16/44

To Open Local Refuge For Jap-Americans

Churches Sponsor Move to Help Coast Evacuees Find Homes and Jobs Here

A Brooklyn hostel for the relocation of Japanese-American evacuees will be opened in Brooklyn May 2 or 3, probably at 168 Clinton St., the building occupied by Polytechnic Institute chapter of the Alphi Chi Rho national fraternity.

News of the plan was verified last evening by George Lundquist, executive secretary of the Committee on Resettlement of Japanese-Americans of the Protestant Churches. It will be a joint project, Mr. Lundquist said, of the American Baptist Home Mission Society and the Church of the Brethren, a Pennsylvania sect similar to the Quakers.

These two groups, in electing to come to the New York area, made a survey of available accommodations and decided on the Brooklyn fraternity house, for which negotiations are nearly completed.

Chicago Hostel Success

The Brooklyn movement will be in the hands of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Smeltzer, who have just completed a successful hostel operation in Chicago, where a sufficient number of evacuees were settled to make further efforts in their behalf unnecessary, the settled evacuees being numerous enough to take care of newcomers.

A Brooklyn interfaith committee, with Catholic and Jewish representation, as well as members of the Brooklyn Church and Mission Federation and the Salvation Army, will foster the work, which is to provide housing for evacuees who frequently are persons knowing no other country but the United States, but who were removed from their West coast homes by military au-

thorities after Dec. 7, 1941, for security reasons.

The work is being encouraged by the War Relocation Authority, a Federal body.

Plans for the opening have been laid quietly. Mr. Lundquist pointed out that such hostels under church

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Legion Fights Jap Influx

Mounting protests from the American Legion and Mayor LaGuardia today warned of danger to the city and the war effort from 2,750 Japanese now in New York, with reports of another 20,000 heading East after evacuation from the West Coast.

Strongest opposition came from Kings County Legionnaires following disclosure that a church group plans a hostel for Japs at 168 Clinton st., Brooklyn.

Telegrams the Legion sent to Rep. John J. Delaney, Dillon S. Meyer, head of the War Relocation Authority in Washington, and Harold R. Fistere, WRA chief for this area, with offices in the Empire State Building, declared:

"168 Clinton st. is located in an area adjacent to the waterfront war area. The duty of tolerance toward alleged loyal Japanese-Americans is subordinate to the precautions necessary in the safeguarding of our war effort."

LAGUARDIA CITES PLANTS.

LaGuardia's protest was made to the War Department, the WRA and the Navy. He called attention to New York's powerful concentration of war plants, shipping facilities and military installations.

The Mayor forecast the possibility of friction arising in any neighborhood where Japs might congregate.

Fistere, at the WRA office here, said the plan to open a Jap hostel in Brooklyn was developed by the Brethren Service Committee, the service agency of the Church of the Brethren, and the American Baptist Home Mission Society.

"There were about 2,000 Japanese, both citizens and aliens, in the metropolitan area before the war, and most of them still are in this city," Fistere reported.

"Japanese moved here from other areas number about 750. WRA records on the Japanese relocated here are open to the proper agencies for inspection. We have absolutely nothing to hide. My office will be very pleased to cooperate with Mayor LaGuardia."

Fistere did not comment on the Mayor's forecast that 20,000 more Japs are scheduled to come here from the West Coast.

Legion Enrollment Up

WASHINGTON, April 27 (AP). — A 231,258 increase in American Legion membership in the last year was reported today by national officers, who said a majority of the new members are World War II veterans.

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Eagle Staff photo

HOME FOR EVACUEES—Negotiations now under way may transform this Clinton St. building from a fraternity house to a hostel for Japanese-Americans moved out of West coast military areas.

Jap-Americans Find Boro Refuge

Continued from Page 1
Sponsorship have the best chance of doing a good job.

"The church sponsorship," he said, "encourages the evacuees, who might otherwise be fearful of discrimination or even of hurt. A better job of adjustment can be done."

The function of the hostel, in Brooklyn as it has been in other cities where it was tried, will be that of providing a bridge for the evacuees to pass from the Western camps to which they were taken upon evacuation by the military authorities to normal work and living in new communities.

Temporary Refuge

"It is in that respect temporary," Mr. Lundquist explained. "It's not a boarding house but a place where the evacuee can stay until he adjusts himself to a new job and finds a suitable place to live."

He pointed out that not many evacuees have come to New York—about 2,000 in all so far—with the result that newcomers do not find enough places where they can stay at a reasonable rate and under

friendly guidance while looking for permanent quarters."

At the hostel they will find some one to advise them about job and home questions and "it will give the community a chance to get acquainted with them." In most cases, Mr. Lundquist said, the communities are pleasantly surprised.

Similar hostels are now in operation in Des Moines, Iowa; Cincinnati and Cleveland, Ohio, as well as Chicago.

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New York, N. Y.DATE *WR* APR 19 1944
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RELOCATION HOUSE SET FOR JAPANESE

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Brooklyn Hotel to Open on
May 10 for Evacuees Being
Transferred From West

The first hostel in the metropolitan area for the relocation of Japanese-American evacuees seeking permanent homes and jobs here will open in Brooklyn on May 10, it was announced yesterday by George Rundquist, executive secretary of the Committee on Resettlement of Japanese-Americans organized by the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America.

Establishment of the lodging house, which will give only temporary residence to the evacuees now being moved out of West Coast military areas, Mr. Rundquist said, is a joint project of the Brethren Service Committee, the service agency of the Church of the Brethren and the American Baptist Home Mission Society. He added that negotiations were under way for acquisition of the Alpha Chi Rho fraternity house, a three-story and basement structure at 168 Clinton Street, Brooklyn.

The hostel will be patterned after homes operated in Chicago, Cleveland, Des Moines, Minneapolis and Cincinnati. It will be run by the Rev. Ralph Smeltzer, a minister of the Church of the Brethren, and Mrs. Smeltzer, both of whom directed the Chicago hostel.

Travel-weary evacuees, many of whom have little funds, Mr. Rundquist said, will be housed at a minimum rate of a dollar a day for food and board. Here too, he added, they will have an opportunity to meet some of the 700 evacuees who have already found homes and jobs here.

Mr. Rundquist said that the War Relocation Authority had endorsed the hostel plan.

The formation of an interfaith committee in Brooklyn to foster its work is also under consideration. Catholic and Jewish representatives are expected to join with the Brooklyn Church and Mission Federation and the Salvation Army in aiding the project.

Doctors Row in Brooklyn Fights Center for Evacuees

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"Doctors' Row" is behind the protest against establishing a temporary relocation center of Japanese-American evacuees at the Alpha Chi Rho fraternity house, 168 Clinton St., Brooklyn.

For a generation, Clinton St. has been a nest for physicians, and a so-called "nice neighborhood." On that street you will find one doctor's shingle after another.

More than 100 residents of the neighborhood, including 50 property owners, filed a protest in Washington with their Representative, John J. Delaney, objecting to establishment of the center.

Delaney, who lives in the same neighborhood, said he agreed with the petitioners because the fraternity house is near the Brooklyn Navy Yard and a large defense factory, and soldiers in truckloads

are constantly passing through that street.

The petitioners also cited that reason, but when queried they didn't want their names used.

It's not definite yet that the fraternity house will be occupied by the evacuees. Renting negotiations still are going on.

The resettlement is being directed by George Rundquist, executive secretary of the Committee on Resettlement of Japanese-Americans. The movement is sponsored by the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America. It has set up such centers in Chicago, Detroit (heart of the American production effort), Cleveland, Des Moines, Minneapolis and Cincinnati. They function under approval of the War Relocation Authority. Rundquist said all were working out very well.



This is the fraternity house at 168 Clinton St., Brooklyn, which has been proposed as shelter for American-Japanese evacuees.

PM - 4/25/44

Philadelphia Inquirer

FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 21, 1944

Director Named for Japanese Hostel Here

Despite protests of neighbors, the board of managers of Friendship House, 3228 Chestnut st., which cares for Japanese-Americans released from internment camps, yesterday proceeded with organization plans which have been in progress since the house was opened April 1.

As part of the program for expanding the work of providing living quarters for released Japanese-Americans, pending their placement in jobs, Henry Lee Willet, chairman of the board, announced the ap-

pointment of Victor Goertzel, Berkeley, Calif., as director of the house.

For the last 16 months Mr. Goertzel has been director of the high school division at the Topaz, Utah, relocation center. He will assume his duties here on May 1.

Replying to an assertion of neighbors that they will circulate a petition asking that the house be closed, Mr. Willet said, "we are not harboring dangerous enemy aliens, but zens."

of good, clean, decent people who are as much interested in helping the war effort as we are."

He said the house is one of six such hostels operated throughout the country, and is supported by the Philadelphia Federation of Churches, a Citizens' Co-operation Committee and the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, adding that its operators are a "patriotic group of Christian citi-

Social Council Enters Battle for Jap Hostel

Joins A. L. P. Group and Others Favoring

Plan Under Attack of Heights Residents

The Brooklyn Council for Social Planning today backed the plan to establish a hostel for "loyal" Japanese-American evacuees at 168 Clinton St.

Meantime, in Washington, Representative John J. Delaney visited Dillon S. Myer, director of the War Relocation Authority, and protested vigorously the hostel's establishment; stating that he had received a petition signed by 136 residents of the area, among whom were Dr. Vincent P. Mazzola and Mrs. H. S. Rasi of 139 Clinton St., retiring president of the Brooklyn Woman's Club.

Mr. Delaney told the Brooklyn Eagle today that he was wiring Mrs. Rasi to inform her of the progress he had made in the matter.

Asks for Committee

The Council for Social Planning, through its president, Mortimer Brenner, sent out a call for community leaders to serve on a committee to foster plans for the establishment of the hostel in the building belonging to Alpha Chi Rho, a national college fraternity. The Brooklyn chapter is composed of Polytechnic students and graduates.

The council's action followed unanimous approval of the action of its directors, including Surrogate Francis D. McGarey, Mrs. Douglas P. Falconer, Mrs. Raymond V. Ingersoll, the Rev. J. Emmett McDonold of the family division, Catholic Charities; the Rev. Andry P. Landi of the children's division of the Catholic Charities, Dr. J. Henry Carpenter, Mrs. Vincent Amello, Walter Kreusi, the Rev. John Howland Lathrop. The directors voted on a proposal to form a borough-wide committee to foster the work of the hostel.

Also present when the Council took its action on the formation of a committee to back the hostel was Mrs. Tracy S. Voorhees, director of the Brooklyn Civilian Defense Volunteer Office.

The American Labor party of the 1st Assembly District adopted a resolution strongly opposing the petitioners against the hostel at a meeting last night at the Church of the Redeemer, Clark St. and Monroe Place. At a joint meeting held yesterday at the Hotel Margaret the Alpha Kappa and the Alpha Dutch clubs both indorsed the hostel and pledged themselves, through the 36 members present, to its promotion.

The Department of Christian Social Relationships of the Episcopal Church of Long Island has also taken action favoring the hostel, it was announced today by William Howard Melish of the Church of the Holy Trinity, Montague and Clinton Streets.

The ALP resolution follows:

"Resolved, by the American Labor party of the 1st Assembly District, that we deplore any move by neighbors of Brooklyn Heights to put obstacles in the way of relocation of Japanese-American evacuees in a proposed hostel on Clinton St., and

"Resolved that we commend those religious and other groups and Government agencies which are co-operating to make this and other such hostels possible, so that these Japanese-Americans, most of whom are American-born and all of whom have been carefully investigated by Government investigators and found to be actually pro-American and anti-Fascist, might be enabled to find a place in the community and in the war effort, and

"Resolved that we believe establishment of the hostel is in line with the traditional hospitality of Brooklyn, which has been able to live in friendship with all races and creeds."

"A copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Brooklyn Eagle and to the executive committee of the 1st A. D. A. L. P. Club for any further action."

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DIVISION OF
PRESS INTELLIGENCE
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BISHOP DE WOLFE BACKS HOSTEL FOR JAPS HERE

Japanese Americans Being Made Victims of War Hysteria, He Says

Establishment of a hostel for loyal Japanese Americans at 168 Clinton St., to which Representative John J. Delaney and a group of Brooklyn Heights residents have objected, today received the full backing of the Rt. Rev. James Perrette DeWolfe, Protestant Episcopal Bishop of Long Island.

At the same time Mrs. H. S. Rasi of 139 Clinton St., retiring president of the Brooklyn Woman's Club and a leader of the group which had petitioned against the hostel, said that she, "far from condemning the project, advocates it as evidence of a tolerant and understanding feeling of Americans toward innocent Japanese."

However, she, and the group of petitioners, "feel that the location is ill chosen and that the hostel might more profitably be used to house American service men who cannot get rooms in hotels when on leave."

Dr. Vincent P. Mazzola of 133 Clinton St., another of the petitioners, made public a letter he had written to Representative Delaney in which he listed six reasons against the project and three "recommendations"—that the Japanese not be kept in one group, which would encourage intolerance, "but that they be permitted to live like other American families, not collectively but separated."

The hostel is being set up as a temporary home until the Japanese-Americans can find individual homes and jobs.

Victims of Wartime Hysteria

Bishop DeWolfe's statement declared: "These innocent men and women are being made victims of wartime hysteria. I trust that the members of the parishes and missions in my own diocese will do all that they can to kill the stupid and pernicious rumors which so easily spread in such circumstances as these, and will stand by every legitimate effort to protect the rights of loyal citizens and long-time residents of Japanese-American and other nationality origins."

The hostel plan is sponsored by the War Relocation Authority, which has set up a number of such havens in other American cities to aid loyal Japanese-Americans while they look for employment and living quarters. A committee of community leaders to help in the establishment of the Brooklyn hostel is scheduled to hear an explanation of the project by WRA representatives at 4 p.m. today at 72 Schermerhorn St. The WRA spokesmen are Harold S. Fistere, supervisor of the Middle Atlantic area, and Dr. Mary Hayes, head of the local office.

The bishop's statement explained: "In the effective prosecution of the war to which we have unrestrainedly pledged ourselves, it is to be deplored that any American should allow the hatred aroused against a foreign enemy to vent itself on any innocent and attested fellow-citizen of such national extraction. Japanese-Americans are fighting and dying in the European theater of war. It is a mockery of both Americanism and Christianity to accept their sacrifices and at the same time to treat their loyal kith and kin with contempt and hostility. The duty of the Christian Church is to insist that its members draw

clear and generous distinction, an individual and not a race."

Social Council Supports Plan

Among those who have supported the hostel plan are the Brooklyn Council for Social Planning, which formed the committee of community leaders, and the American Labor party of the 1st A. D.

In Washington yesterday, Representative Delaney voiced opposition to the plan before Dillon S. Myer, WRA director.

In addition to the 136 names originally on the antihostel petition, Mrs. Rasi said the following have been added:

Dr. William Howes, 152 Clinton St.; Mrs. John Longmore, 39 St. Mark's Ave.; Dr. Cornelius Love, 167 Clinton St.; Dr. H. Chandler Malfnken, Schermerhorn St.; Dr. George R. Horton, 10 Schermerhorn St.; Dr. John Ohly, 22 Schermerhorn St.; Dr. Bruce Harris, 174 Clinton St.; Louis Garrell, lawyer, 200 Clinton St.; Dr. Arthur Michele, 166 Clinton St., and Dr. George W. Phelan, 165 Clinton St.

750 Japs Now Slated For Relocation Here

Harold S. Fistere, regional supervisor of the War Relocation Authority, said today that more Japanese aliens and Japanese-Americans are scheduled to be relocated here than originally planned. He issued figures in connection with a statement to the effect that he "will be very glad to co-operate" with Mayor La Guardia, who recently protested on the subject in Washington. On March 15 the Interior Department announced 406 Japanese would be relocated here next month, he said, adding: "Naturally, the number has changed since then. It is now about 750." Residents of Brooklyn Heights, scene of a proposed privately operated hotel—where the Japanese would be sheltered pending placement in jobs—also have protested to the WRA. They fear trouble between the newcomers and servicemen who frequent the residential area.

N. Y. Sun, 4/27/44

ASSURES CITY ON JAP HOSTEL

WRA Supervisor Declares Evacuees No Menace.

Fears entertained by Mayor LaGuardia that the relocation of Japanese-American evacuees in New York constituted a menace to security were termed groundless today by Harold Fistere, area supervisor of the War Relocation Administration. The agency has "absolutely nothing to hide and will co-operate fully with the Mayor's office," Mr. Fistere added.

All Japanese-Americans from the WRA's nine relocation centers in the West are carefully investigated before release papers are signed, Mr. Fistere said. Army, Navy and Federal Bureau of Investigation files are examined and the background of each individual is checked fully before a release is granted, he said.

Commenting on the projected hostel to be opened by the Church of the Brethren and the American Baptist Home Mission Society in a house at 168 Clinton street, Brooklyn Heights, Mr. Fistere said that the WRA had no control over such an undertaking.

Will Free Loyal Citizens.

"Our policy is to release only loyal citizens and peaceful aliens, and we only release them when we have the assurance that they will not become public charges," Mr. Fistere said. "The hostels issue an invitation to the evacuees to stay there, and we honor such invitations. But we do not exert any control over their establishment or their operation."

Mr. Fistere explained that the WRA co-operated with the United States Employment Service and the War Food Administration in finding jobs for the evacuees, most of whom are agricultural workers. Their movements about the country are not controlled, with the exception of the Western defense area, but they must keep the WRA informed at all times of a change in their address.

"Our main problem with the evacuees in the relocation centers is not to find them jobs, but to convince them that it's perfectly safe for them to leave the centers," he said.

Few to Be Released.

Mr. Fistere said that the Japanese-Americans comprise only one-tenth of 1 per cent of the American population, and that only a small percentage of this number would be released.

In the past fifteen months approximately 750 Japanese-Americans have been settled in New York, most of them in domestic employment, Mr. Fistere said.

George Rundquist, executive secretary of the Committee on Resettlement of Japanese-Americans organized by the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America said today that all business details of the Brooklyn hostel, scheduled to open on May 10, were being handled by the Brethren Service Committee of the Church of the Brethren at Elgin, Ill. He said that an announcement concerning the hostel was expected momentarily.

Mr. Rundquist said that it had been shown at other hostels operated in the Mid-West by the churches that evacuees stayed at the hostel only an average of ten days each before securing self-supporting jobs.



IN THE FAMILY CIRCLE—Mary Shigeta, left, Japanese-American girl, in the living room of the Carpenter home in Flatbush. Seated beside her are the Rev. Dr. J. Henry Carpenter, Mrs. Carpenter and Frances Metcalf, a niece, while Mary Carpenter, daughter, sits on the floor.

Jap Girls Find Refuge In Carpenter Home

Church Federation Secretary Puts Views
In Practice in Support of Boro Hostel

By ALICE COGAN

So convinced are Dr. and Mrs. J. Henry Carpenter that it is the Christian-like, tolerant thing to help in the rehabilitation program of loyal Japanese-Americans, that for several months they have harbored in their own home young girls

Continued on next page

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Jap Girls Protected In Carpenter Home

of Japanese ancestry.

Dr. Carpenter, secretary of the Brooklyn Church and Mission Federation, revealed the fact last night in practical support of the move to establish at 168 Clinton St. a hostel for Japanese-Americans evacuated from the west coast.

Mary Shigeta, 23-year-old Japanese-American art student, is the current guest in the Carpenter home at 610 E. 38th St. and she has been there for more than six months.

Mrs. Lily Fuji, whose husband is in the army and stationed at Fort Bragg, N. C., lived with the Carpenters and worked with Dr. Carpenter in the Federation office until a few weeks ago when she accepted an offer to teach Japanese to American army officers at Yale University.

Shigeko Kawano is the third Japanese-American girl who found refuge in the comfortable Carpenter home but she has now sufficiently rehabilitated herself to make her own way. She is working as a secretary with the United Council of Women, Dr. Carpenter said, and has her own apartment with another girl.

The little art student still under the protecting wing of the Carpenters seemed tranquilly at ease in the happy home atmosphere. Seated at the dining room table, at Mrs. Carpenter's right, she joked back and forth with the Carpenter's young daughter, Mary, and the latter's cousin, Frances Metcalf. They joked about who would do the dishes and the Japanese girl giggled when the photographer pulled out his bag of tricks and proceeded to snap the family gathering. She just loved Mrs. Carpenter's steaming hot corn bread and shyly feared she had disappointed Dr. Carpenter by turning out to be artistic instead of an office worker.

Mary's home is in Seattle, Wash., where she lived with her mother, father and one brother. She was born in this country, is an American citizen and knows no other ways except American ways.

Worked in Loeser's

Small and attractive, Mary wore American clothes, because that is the way she has always dressed. In a red and white striped blouse, blue skirt, brown and white saddle shoes she looked as most American girls do. Her black hair was worn in a long bob. She is a student at the McDowell School for Commercial Dressmaking. There she finds "no feeling whatsoever because of my race." Around Christmas time she worked in a department store and believes "there was no person of my race in the neighborhood who made me feel I was inferior."

After war was declared, Mary was interned with her family in a camp in Hunt, Idaho. Some months ago she was sent to a National Youth Administration school in Salt Lake City. When that school was closed she came East with several other Japanese-American girls.

"When Dr. Carpenter met us in Grand Central station I felt that I was reborn," the young girl stated. "I have been made to feel as though I were in my own home here."

Prays Every Night

Mary receives letters from her parents and brother, still in Idaho, on an average of once a week. She prays every night that they will have the chance to come East, too.

Mary's family has long been Christianized and she has always gone to the Baptist Church and Sunday School. She is a graduate of the Broadway High School in Seattle and was studying custom design in an art school on the Coast when war came.

Cheerful and comfortable, Mrs. Carpenter obviously has a knack for making the girl feel at home in this new environment. "Mary has fitted in in every way and we all love having her," smiled Mrs. Carpenter.

At Christmas time all three Japanese girls were living under the Carpenter roof, and for Christmas dinner five Japanese sat down to partake of the big turkey Dr. Carpenter carved.

Came for Freedom

"Every one of the Japanese-Americans we have taken into our home has been a splendid, good citizen," Dr. Carpenter said. "They are as friendly as any one could possibly be. The parents of one of these girls left Japan because they could not accept the ideas of government and came to this country to gain freedom from the tyranny of the Emperor and the military of Japan, much as our forefathers came to this country to find freedom of thought and worship."

Dr. Carpenter firmly feels that people who enjoy this precious heritage of freedom should do all in their power to extend it to others.

All three girls have worked in his office and he has found them to be intelligent, alert and versatile.

The Federation secretary laughed away any suggestion that the neighbors might object to his guests.

"My neighbors are well used to unusual guests in my home," Dr. Carpenter said. "We are apt to entertain guests of all races and creeds. As a matter of fact, when we had to go away for a week a little while back, our nearest neighbor looked after Mary for us."

County VFW Opposes Jap Hostel in Boro

Action Taken After Retiring Leader Backs Plan —L. I. Women's Clubs Unit Also Protests

Kings County Council, Veterans of Foreign Wars, at its convention in the Columbus Club adopted a resolution last night opposing establishment of a relocation hostel for evacuated Japanese at 168 Clinton St.

The action was taken in order "to show that the Veterans of Foreign Wars are against this scheme," after Thomas Brennan, retiring county commander, had expressed his own support of the project in a public statement.

The resolution, presented by Past County Commander Harold Burke, was adopted despite some sharp argument, in which Louis Hoffman, past county commander, declared that "if they (the relocated Japanese) can vote, they're as good as I am—and I don't bow to any one in my loyalty to this country," while John Durant, another past county commander, cautioned against haste without full investigation.

Burke argued that if the Japanese-Americans were needed here to fill a labor shortage, "Why can't our boys get jobs?"

"Disabled veterans are returning every day and there are no jobs for them. We try to get them jobs as fire watchers in war plants or anything and it's always the same story. No soap."

The resolution of the council made it clear that this was no attempt to interfere with the right of individual V. F. W. members to hold their own opinions.

The council elected John Gardella of Postoffice Post county commander to succeed Brennan; William Burns, Bulloch Post, senior vice commander, and Max Grossman, Kitcham Hennessy Post, junior vice commander. Edward White, Comrade Post, was named to his tenth term as chaplain.

Action similar to that of the veterans was taken by the executive board of the Long Island Federation of Women's Clubs, meeting in the Pennsylvania Hotel, last night, in a resolution declaring that "We . . . protest and deplore the proposed allocation of 8,000 Japanese in Brooklyn, or any transfer of Japanese to our Atlantic seaboard."

Mrs. Thomas H. McClintock explained that "it is not a matter of race discrimination but a matter of safety. We do not question the loyalty of these people."

Brooklyn Eagle 4/29/44



NEW V. F. W. CHIEF—John Gardella (right) of Post Office Post 930, Veterans of Foreign Wars, receives gavel from retiring County Commander Thomas Brennan.

VFW HEAD FAVORS JAP HOSTEL HERE

**States His Own Views
Only, Says Brennan
Legion Fights Plan**

While Mayor LaGuardia and the Kings County American Legion were listed in opposition to the proposed establishment of a hostel for evacuated Japanese-Americans at 168 Clinton St., the head of another organization of Brooklyn war veterans today expressed his individual view in favor of the hostel. He was Thomas Brennan, Kings County commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Commander Brennan made it clear he was expressing his own view, not that of his organization, which has not considered the subject.

"These people, as I understand it," he said, "are, many of them, two and three-generation Americans. They have been investigated by Government investigators, who know what they're doing. I don't see why

Continued on Page 11

**Borough Committee,
Headed by Hagarty,
Begins to Function**

A committee to foster the interests of Japanese-Americans in Brooklyn hostel was functioning today with Associate Justice William F. Hagarty of the Appellate Division as chairman.

Despite objections voiced by a number of Brooklyn Heights residents at the first meeting of the committee called together by the Brooklyn Council for Social Planning yesterday at 72 Schermerhorn St., the committee proceeded with its business. Mortimer Brenner, president of the council and chairman of the meeting, announcing that a resolution in favor of the project was carried.

In answer to questions put by
Continued on Page 11

Boro Hostel Group Approves Project

Continued from Page 1

Councilman Genevieve Earle, a member of the committee, George L. Rundquist of the American Committee on Resettlement of the Japanese said the location at 168 Clinton St. was all but settled and he hoped to hear within a few days that the lease had been signed.

Between 40 and 50 men and women attended the meeting, with a large majority favoring the hostel.

This did not prevent their opponents, a number of whom had not been invited, from being permitted to state their objections. Three of these spoke, Dr. Vincent P. Mazzola of 133 Clinton St., Mrs. H. S. Rasi, retiring president of the Brooklyn Woman's Club, who lives with her husband, a physician, at 139 Clinton St., and Dr. George W. Phelan of 165 Clinton St.

Calls Site Too Prominent

Of these Dr. Mazzola and Mrs. Rasi agreed in principle with the idea of aiding the Japanese-American evacuees but opposed the establishment on Clinton St., Dr. Mazzola holding that the street was a busy one and the location too prominent for a building which would come to be known as "that Japanese house."

Mrs. Rasi held that many truckloads of soldiers passed the house each day, often on their way overseas, and that the trucks had to stop at a traffic light directly in front of the house.

Dr. Phelan opposed the idea flatly.

"I am not altogether sure I want to live with the Japanese," he said. "I am paying taxes up to the hilt. I have one son overseas and another about to enter the service. And now my home is being jeopardized. I think it is unfair to cause property in this neighborhood to deteriorate."

"I am a little bit concerned about our boys who are coming back every day now and who have no place to sleep. Why not a hostel for our own boys. You can go to our big hotels and find the boys sleeping on blankets while the big gathering rooms are empty."

"I'm at war with the Japanese. I want to do a little bit more for our own before we go afield. This talk about Americanism of this and that is used to cover too many things. Let us remove the beam from our own eyes."

Dr. J. Henry Carpenter, secretary of the Brooklyn Church and Mission Federation, answered Dr. Phelan, calling attention to the Japanese-Americans fighting in the United States forces in Italy.

Roy G. M. Richardson, president of the Brooklyn Heights Association, spoke, although not a member of the committee. He further qualified his remarks by observing he could not speak for the association, the board of governors of which would not meet until Tuesday.

The Rev. Dr. Philips Packer Elliott of the First Presbyterian Church, who was present; the Rev. John Howland Lathrop of the Church of the Saviour, not present but a member of the committee, and the Rev. William Howard Melish of the

Select Alternate Jurors in Drucker Murder Trial

Monteello, April 27 (U.P.)—The jury of eight men and four women selected for the murder trial of Jacob Drucker, 38, alleged Murder-for-Money associate, was expected to be augmented today by two alternate jurors to be chosen from a list of 17 veniremen remaining from an original panel of 109.

Drucker is charged with being "finger man" in the 1937 icepick slaying of Walter Sage, Brooklyn loan shark, at Loch Sheldrake.

tests in Chicago or Cleveland, Cincinnati, Detroit or Des Moines," he said. "On the contrary, the experience has served to enrich those communities."

Dr. Elliott urged that the committee go beyond an indorsement of the principle involved and take a stand in favor of the hostel wherever it is located in Brooklyn.

"To approve the principle and not the application would be futile," he added.

Name Committee Members

The meeting was adjourned subject to call by Justice Hagarty. In addition to those already mentioned, the following were announced as members of the committee, present at the meeting:

Maj. J. Fletcher Agnew of the Salvation Army, G. William Calaccone, Mrs. Francis T. Christy, president of the Brooklyn Y. W. C. A.; Richard A. Farley, president of the St. Vincent de Paul Society; the Rev. J. Emmet McDonald of the family division, Catholic Charities; Mrs. Irving J. Sands, president of the Brooklyn Section, National Council of Jewish Women; Mrs. Muriel Webb of the Department of Christian Social Relations of the Protestant Episcopal Church on Long Island; Mrs. Martha Ross Leigh, chairman of the committee for the Extension of Human Freedom of the United Parents Association.

Members of the committee who were not present but who have signified their willingness to serve are Harold Curtice Amos, headmaster of Adelphi Academy; the Rev. Dr. Hugh D. Darsie, president of the Brooklyn Church and Mission Federation; Andrew J. Gonnoud, Mrs. Raymond Vall Ingersoll, Mrs. Henry A. Ingraham, chairman of the national board of the Y. W. C. A., who was represented by Mrs. William H. Chambers of the national board; Surrogate Francis D. McGarey, who was represented by the clerk of the Surrogate's Court, Aaron L. Jacobi; Joseph M. May; Edwin P. Maynard, chairman of the board, Brooklyn Trust Company, and Mortimer H. Michaels.

Petitioners against the establishment of the hostel at 168 Clinton St., from a list received from Representative Delaney, follow:

Lt. (j.g.) Edwin W. Smith, U. S. N. R., 166 Clinton St.; Sidney J. Baker, 108 Joralemon St.; Angelo F. Manone, 108 Joralemon St.; Augustus Lee, 108 Joralemon St.; Dr. Joseph Nevins, 253 Henry St.; Timothy Casey, 159 Clinton St.; Capt. Didrick Holt, 38 Livingston St.; Charles L. Hargert, 38 Livingston St.; Sam Dresner, 202 Clinton St.; Ernest Furo, 41-A Schermerhorn St.; Mrs. Jessie McCann, 10 Schermerhorn St.; Mrs. May Michel, 151 Clinton St., and Raymond E. an

Brooklyn Eagle
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The Rev. Dr. Phillips Packer Elliott of the First Presbyterian Church, who was present; the Rev. John Howland Lathrop of the Church of the Saviour, not present but a member of the committee, and the Rev. William Howard Melish of the Church of the Holy Trinity, present and a member, are all members of the board of governors.

Harold S. Fistere, supervisor of the War Relocation Authority for the Eastern States, explained the evacuees had been sent to relocation centers in Mountain and Western States after Pearl Harbor, that about 50 percent were native Americans and the rest had been in this country from 20 to 40 years. Half of them were Christians, he said, with the balance Buddhists who participated freely in Christian functions.

The War Relocation Authority, while interested in seeing such movements as the Brooklyn hostel established, had no authority in the matter, he said. Its financial obligation was limited, he explained, to providing the evacuees with day coach tickets from their center to whatever place they picked out for settlement, plus \$3 a day for meals and \$25 in cash.

Mr. Melish read to the committee and observers a leading editorial in the Brooklyn Eagle yesterday in-dorsing the idea of the hostel.

Mr. Brenner, in calling the meeting to order, announced Justice Haggarty's acceptance of the chairmanship but explained he could not be present due to court duties. He then said:

"The purpose of this committee is not to foster or propose a hostel in Clinton St. It may be this decision will come later. Our purpose is much broader. A challenge has come to the people of Brooklyn. We in Brooklyn must not be found guilty of the excesses that do occur in other parts of the country.

"As a result of the war emergency, the Japanese-Americans have been called upon to make greater sacrifices than any others. Not only have their sons gone to war but those who lived on the West Coast have been required to abandon their homes and businesses and to live under Government supervision before relocating themselves in strange cities.

"Fewer than 2,000 are to be brought to Brooklyn, a city of 3,000,000 people. We should be able to take them in without even noticing it. We should be able to help them readjust themselves without unpleasant or sensational occurrences. This not only would be preaching democracy but living up to it."

Cites N. J. Incident

The Rev. Alfred L. Scott, pastor of the Church of the Nazarene, spoke of the danger of incurring the same kind of incident in Brooklyn which occurred when five Japanese were

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Also Constance M. De Sio, 135 Clinton St.; Gussie Taxel, 133 Clinton St.; Meyer Taxel, 133 Clinton St.; Helen E. Lawson, 141 Clinton St.; Elizabeth Lawson, 141 Clinton St.; Edmund W. Meyer, 141 Clinton St.; Mary Ormsby, 141 Clinton St.; Eileen Battle, 143 Clinton St.; Jessie Randel Fitch, 141 Clinton St.; Pierce W. Grace, 401 Clinton St.; Katherine G. Walsh, 11 Schermerhorn St.; Lorretto W. O'Connor, 11 Schermerhorn St.; Richard L. Walsh, 11 Schermerhorn St., and Andrew A. Ayers, 11 Schermerhorn Street.

Also Ann Joseph Grant, 59 Livingston St.; Elizabeth Grant, 59 Livingston St.; Mrs. G. T. Strock, 59 Livingston St.; A. H. Macksand, 59 Livingston St.; Mrs. Kathryn Valche, 143 Clinton St.; Mrs. E. Battle, 143 Clinton St.; Dr. Hazimen S. Rasi, 139 Clinton St.; Lucy B. Rasi, 139 Clinton St.; Fred Liece, 154 Clinton St.; Lillian Longmore, 158 Clinton St.; Shafia G. Haddad, 137 Clinton St.; Lillian Howes, 152 Clinton St.; H. C. Mahnken, M. D., 151 Clinton St., and Dorothy W. Phelan, 165 Clinton St.

Also Dr. Lillian Shulsky, 165 Clinton St.; William Spohler, 184 Clinton St.; Clara L. Harris, 174 Clinton St.; Mrs. H. Hagoplen, 180 Clinton St.; Beatrice Woolsey, 161 Clinton St.; May H. McAuley, 159 Clinton St.; Dr. and Mrs. Crane, 157 Clinton St.; Frank E. Flower, 172 Clinton St.; Mrs. A. Doheny, 170 Clinton St.; Dr. James M. Downey, 162 Clinton St.; Dr. L. Krahulik, 160 Clinton St.; Otto Miller, 11 Schermerhorn St.; William C. Delventhal, 43 Sidney Place; Mrs. Celia Litch, 222 Columbia Heights; Dr. William Litch, 12 Schermerhorn St., and George R. Horton, 10 Schermerhorn St.

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Also Alice Karneeb, 147 Pacific St.; Alice Kirsky, 247 Clinton St.; Florence Massed, 205 Clinton St.

Mayor, Legion Rap Jap Hostel Plans

Continued from Page 1

we should stick our necks out and start objections. If they're patriotic Americans and if they behave themselves, we should not hold their descent against them.

"None of us is a true-blooded American. We're all descendants of countries that might have been at one time enemies."

Meanwhile, it was learned that 800 Japanese evacuees have been settled in the New York area and public officials are known to fear their concentration and possible friction with other nationalities.

Protests to Army, Navy

The Mayor has voiced vigorous objection to location of the Japanese-Americans in the city or anywhere on the east coast, filing formal protests with the army, navy and War Relocation Authority at Washington. It was understood he had made his protests several weeks ago, even before plans were completed for establishment of the Brooklyn Heights hostel.

Tremendous concentration of military installations, including shipyards, war plants, airports and army and navy transportation facilities in the metropolitan area make it unwise to locate the Japanese-Americans here, the Mayor is reported to have told Government authorities.

In addition he has pointed out that location of the evacuees anywhere on the eastern seaboard would result in their eventual gravitation to New York. It was believed mayors of nearly all major Eastern cities were in agreement with LaGuardia.

Legion Sends Telegrams

The Kings County Legion, meeting last night, voiced strong opposition to the plan to set up a hostel on Clinton St. in a resolution and in telegrams sent to Representative John J. Delaney, Harold S. Fistere, WRA Middle Atlantic States head; Dr. Mary Hayes, director of the local WRA office, and Dillon S. Myer, WRA chief in Washington.

Declaring the Clinton St. address "is located in an area adjacent to the waterfront war area," the legion asserted that "the duty of tolerance toward alleged loyal Japanese-Americans and actual war experience is subordinate to the precautions necessary in the safeguarding of our war effort."

The resolution specifically placed the legion on record as "opposing the location of said hostel in such a strategic war area."

Objects to Location

Representative John J. Delaney, apprised in Washington of the turn of events in Brooklyn, today reaffirmed his stand against the hostel being in Clinton St. In principle, he said, he was entirely in favor of doing all that was possible to aid the Japanese-Americans but he could not agree that Clinton St. was the place to house them because it was too near the Navy Yard, the waterfront, defense plants and shipyards.

"No place is more vulnerable to espionage," he said, "and additionally the neighborhood is an old-time residential section with people whose forebears have lived there for generations."

Dr. H. C. Mahnken, 151 Clinton St.

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Cites N. J. Incident

The Rev. Alfred L. Scott, pastor of the Church of the Nazarene, spoke of the danger of incurring the same kind of incident in Brooklyn which occurred when five Japanese were taken by a farmer to work in Great Meadow, N. J. Objections of neighbors finally forced the abandonment of the project and the removal of the Japanese.

Mr. Rundquist told the meeting the hostels had been operated by the Friends Service Committee, a Quaker organization, and the Brethrens Service Committee of the Church of the Brethren, which sponsors the Brooklyn project. They supplied board and lodging for the evacuees during the time it took them to settle for about \$1 a day.

"There were no community pro-

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"No place is more vulnerable to espionage," he said, "and additionally the neighborhood is an old-time residential section with people whose forebears have lived there for generations."

Dr. H. C. Mahnken of 151 Clinton St. told the Brooklyn Eagle he had sent a telegram to the commandants of the Third Naval District and the Brooklyn Navy Yard asking if they were aware that the hostel was planned for 168 Clinton St., on "a military highway" and "the main approach to the Brooklyn Navy Yard."

NEW YORK TIMES, May 1, 1944

MAYOR IS CRITICIZED ON JAPANESE STAND Citizens Union Would Allow Them to Relocate Here

The Citizens Union protested yesterday, in a letter to Mayor La Guardia, against his objection to the free admission of loyal Japanese-Americans from relocation camps to this city, asserting that "we Americans have prided ourselves on our readiness to accord equal rights and opportunities to all regardless of their race, color or national origin."

At the same time, Algernon Lee, national chairman of the Social Democratic Federation, sharply criticized Mayor La Guardia, Gov. Walter E. Edge of New Jersey and Gov. John W. Bricker of Ohio on their public statements on the relocation "of loyal Americans of Japanese descent in Ohio, New Jersey and New York."

The letter of the Citizens Union, signed by Richard S. Childs, chairman, said:

"Large numbers of persons of Italian and German extraction have been living peaceably among us and their national origin has properly not been held a bar in the midst of war to even the holding of high public office. Several hundred loyal Japanese have also been living here and their presence has been accepted without excitement in a liberal cosmopolitan city which is used to welcoming well-behaved men and women from every corner of the globe.

"The Japanese-Americans who are coming here from relocation camps have all been thoroughly investigated and their loyalty and readiness to live honestly and peaceably is hardly open to question."

Mr. Lee said: "The 800 Japanese-Americans living in New York City have been as loyal as have the Italian-Americans or German-Americans here, and constitute no more of a threat to our security."

MAYOR PROTESTS JAPANESE IN EAST

N. Y. Times 4/27/44

He Opposes Shifting of Former Pacific Coast Residents— Sees Military Peril Here

By PAUL CROWELL

Mayor La Guardia has filed with the Army, Navy and other agencies in Washington a vigorous protest against the relocation of Japanese-Americans in New York City or in any of the States on the Eastern seaboard, it was revealed last night.

Although the Mayor remained silent on the subject, it is known that his opposition was registered several weeks ago when it became evident that the Government planned to send to the Eastern seaboard a substantial number of Japanese-Americans, former residents of the Pacific Coast States, who had been lodged in various segregation camps throughout the country.

Word of the Mayor's opposition seeped out after publication of the fact that Representative John J. Delaney of Brooklyn had filed with the War Relocation Authority in Washington a petition by 136 residents of the Brooklyn Heights section, protesting against the proposed establishment of a hostel in that area to accommodate Japanese-Americans transferred from segregation camps.

Potential Dangers Seen

Army and Navy officials, it is understood, have been told by the Mayor that the settlement of any substantial number of Japanese-Americans in this area, crowded as it is with military installations, war plants and shipping facilities would hold potential dangers. The Government representatives in charge of the relocation plan, it is reported, were informed by the Mayor that he thought the number of evacuees sent here was larger than that given him in Wash-

ton. It was reported recently that 700 Japanese-Americans had been sent to New York and had found jobs here, most of them in personal service with well-to-do families.

Mayor La Guardia, it was learned, has asked the Federal authorities to let him know how many of the Japanese-Americans now in this area, or intended to be sent here, are American citizens.

There are indications that the position taken by the Mayor is shared by the Mayors of other cities on the Eastern seaboard.

Nearly all of the Japanese-

Continued on Page 4

MAYOR PROTESTS JAPANESE IN EAST

Continued From Page 1

Americans now in New York or about to be sent here, and most of those to be relocated elsewhere on the eastern seaboard, are said to be former residents of such States as California, Oregon and Washington, whence they were sent to camps after Pearl Harbor. These States have refused to take them back and the Federal Government has not pressed the point. Mayor La Guardia, it is reported, feels that they should not be forced upon New York City or any other Eastern community. The Mayor, according to reliable reports, has made known to the appropriate agencies his fear that once settled here the Japanese-Americans will form their own colony, creating serious danger of violent clashes with members of other racial colonies in the city. Washington authorities have been advised also that Japanese-Americans, relocated anywhere on the Eastern seaboard, would tend to gravitate to New York.

Officials in Washington, with whom the Mayor has discussed the problem, have been told that the Mayor appreciates the hardships and injustices that may be inflicted upon Japanese-Americans if they are not permitted to settle in the New York area. They have been told also that the Mayor feels that public safety must be considered and must be made a paramount factor.

Support for Hostel Plan

Prominent Brooklyn clergymen and laymen, at a meeting held at 72 Schermerhorn Street in that borough, named Justice William F. Hagarty of the Appellate Division to head an inter-racial committee to support the plan to set up a hostel for Japanese-Americans at 168 Clinton Street in the Brooklyn Heights section. Invitations to the meeting were sent only to persons known to favor the hostel plan, but some of the 136 persons who

signed the petition taken to Washington by Mr. Delaney also were present. Mortimer Brenner, president of the Brooklyn Council for Social Planning, presided.

Harold S. Fistere, supervisor of the WRA in the middle Atlantic district, told the meeting that his agency had the problem of caring for 75,000 loyal Japanese in nine relocation centers. The government, he added, does not intend to keep behind barbed wires persons not charged with any crime, but seeks to let them have normal lives. Twenty thousand, he said, have been resettled in the Middle West and the East in the last fifteen months. The proposed hostel, he explained, was not an official project, however, or connected with his agency in any way.

Several of those who objected to the hostel were among the speakers. Their remarks indicated their belief that it was inviting trouble to establish a home for Japanese-Americans in a residential area and especially one much frequented by soldiers and sailors. This view was expressed by Dr. Vincent P. Mazzola of 133 Clinton Street, one of the signers of the petition taken to Washington by Mr. Delaney. He suggested that the evacuees be "spread around all over the city," rather than concentrated in one small building.

Besides Justice Hagarty, the members of the committee organized at the meeting are Councilman Genevieve B. Earle, the Rev. Dr. Hugh D. Daisie, president of the Brooklyn Church and Mission Federation; the Rev. Dr. J. Henry Carpenter, executive secretary of the Federation; the Rev. Dr. Phillips B. Elliot, Harold C. Amos, headmaster of Adelphi Academy; Mrs. Raymond V. Ingersoll, the Rev. Dr. John H. Lathrop; Joseph M. May, the Rev. J. Emmet McDonald of the Catholic Charities, diocese of Long Island; the Rev. Dr. William H. Melish, Mrs. Irving J. Sands, president of the Brooklyn section of the National Council of Jewish Women; the Rev. Albert L. Scott, Mr. Brenner, and George Rundquist, executive secretary of the Committee on Resettlement of Japanese-Americans organized by the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America.

N. Y. Herald Trib. 4/27/42

Mayor Protests Resettlement of Japanese Here

800 Evacuees in New York; LaGuardia Fears They May Be Cause of Unrest

Eight hundred Japanese evacuees have been resettled in New York and Mayor F. H. LaGuardia is so concerned about the methods used in relocating them here that he has protested to Washington, it was learned yesterday.

It is known that the Mayor is so disturbed over the issue that he has lodged strong objections with the Army and Navy and even feels that he cannot be responsible for the safety of the evacuees.

Moreover, the situation has created an undercurrent feeling of anxiety among city officials, who feel they cannot raise public objections lest they be accused of inducing possible reprisals against Americans interned by the Japanese.

Among the fears entertained by the Mayor concerning relocation of evacuees in this area is that they will ultimately congregate into some type of colony here, which may produce friction with other groups.

In addition, he is believed to fear the possibility of agitation against the evacuees by some organizations that could lead to further unrest.

Lists Four Points

It is known that the Mayor in his protests to the Army and Navy has:

1. Asked for some definitive designation of evacuees to show which are citizens and which are not.

2. Contended that the number resettled in New York is greater than the number made public.

3. Asserted that there is no reason why New York should accept the evacuees when the states from which they were removed want no part of them.

4. Emphasized that there is a greater concentration of military installations in this area than on the Pacific Coast.

Among his other protests to government agencies, the Mayor also asked Federal authorities to specify the exact number of aliens and Americans among the evacuees to be transferred to this area.

22,000 Already Resettled

The War Relocation Authority, which handles the business of resettling Japanese now in nine relocation centers, has resettled 22,000 throughout the United States. There are about 70,000 in the centers and 17,000 in Tule Lake, Calif. Those in Tule Lake are not eligible for relocation.

Before an evacuee is permitted to leave a center, an official of the W. R. A. said last night, he is investigated thoroughly. If the evacuee was born in the United States and therefore a citizen, he receives indefinite leave to go to any place beyond the restricted area on the west coast where he believes he will find gainful employment.

When the evacuee who has received such leave wishes to move on elsewhere, he must inform the W. R. A. office in Washington of a change of address.

Seasonal Leaves Given

On the other hand, an evacuee who is not a citizen, but who has shown up well under investigation, receives indefinite leave, must report to the United States Attorney in the area in which he is staying for permission to go to another place.

Seasonal leaves also are granted to evacuees, especially to those who go to work on farms. There is, too, a "special indefinite" leave given to those who want to try out a job. If, after a few months, they find they cannot make a go of it, they can return to the relocation center.

The W. R. A. offices make special efforts, it was said, to help find

jobs for the evacuees seeking relocation. The evacuees furnish their own expenses and if they have no cash, the W. R. A. buys them a coach ticket on a train, and gives them an allotment of \$3 a day for each day in transit, plus \$25.

Of the 22,000 resettled so far in various parts of the country, 3,978 are in Chicago. Illinois leads all other states with a total of 5,012. Figures of six weeks ago list Denver with 1,083 evacuees and Salt Lake City with 790. These have undoubtedly risen since the report was made.

Plan Aid to Evacuees

As the Mayor pondered over the local dilemma, an interfaith committee, headed by Associate Justice William F. Hagarty, of the Appellate Division, 2d Department, was formed in Brooklyn yesterday to attempt to help acclimate incoming evacuees who

will stay at the first relocation hostel in this area.

The house, a three-story building, at 168 Clinton Street, Brooklyn, is a joint project of the Brethren Service Committee, the service agency of the Church of the Brethren and the American Baptist Home Mission Society. It is expected to open on May 10.

Home owners in the area, which is Brooklyn Heights, who protested about the hostel were chided in a statement by the Right Rev. James P. DeWolfe, Protestant Episcopal Bishop of Long Island.

Bishop DeWolfe supported the plan to house the evacuees and said: "These innocent men and women are being made victims of war hysteria."

The committee was formed at a meeting of the community leaders who were asked to attend the session at 72 Schemerhorn Street. Among those who attended was Councilwoman Genevieve B. Earle.

LAY RACE HATE TO LAGUARDIA

Two Groups Assail Mayor's Stand on Japanese.

Charges of racial discrimination were leveled at Mayor LaGuardia today as a result of his protest to Federal agencies against the relocation of Japanese-American evacuees in New York or other Eastern seaboard States. Telegrams bitterly condemning the Mayor's action were sent to Mr. LaGuardia by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and by the American Civil Liberties Union.

Indicating that the Mayor had, under the guise of military security, discriminated against the Japanese-Americans because they were not members of the white race, the N. A. A. C. P. said in its telegram: "Our understanding is that no Japanese are released from custody unless their loyalty to this country has been established beyond question. These people are American citizens who already have been arbitrarily confined to concentration camps, contrary to all American law and custom. It is now known, two years after this hysterical action, that the sole basis for the concentration camps was the color of these Americans.

"No camps were established for other Americans descended from people in countries now our enemies in this war. Despite the existence of well-known Nazi and Italian Fascist movements along the Eastern seaboard and elsewhere, no camps with barbed wire and guards were established for them. Instead, the guilty ones were ferreted out, arrested and given full benefit of American courts and full protection of the American Constitution.

'War of Color and Race.'

"American citizens of Japanese descent, on the other hand, were herded into camps along with Japanese aliens and known disloyal Japanese. The treatment of these people has been one of the major items cited by those who would interpret this terrible war as a war of color and race.

"In the East we have had Nazis working in war plants, in high and low positions, and Nazi spies caught red-handed on Staten Island spotting shipping and passing on information to the enemy. In the early days of the war, bundists with radio transmitters were directing Nazi submarines offshore in their deadly attacks on American shipping and American lives. Yet you have never advocated excluding these people from New York or the Eastern seaboard.

"Surely the Mayor of the city of New York has not used the cloak of military security to advocate differential treatment for loyal American citizens who happen not to be white. We vigorously protest your action in this matter."

Called Purely Racial.

The American Civil Liberties Union, in a telegram signed by the Rev. John Haynes Holmes, chairman of the board of directors, Arthur Garfield Hays, counsel, and Roger N. Baldwin, declared that the Mayor's protest was based on race discrimination and demanded that he reverse his position.

"There can be no doubt that the discrimination is purely racial," the telegram said, "for you do not protest against any potential dangers by German or Italian aliens on the East Coast, who are free to live where they will. Japanese-Americans already cleared by Federal agencies as loyal constitute no danger whatever. Not a single charge of espionage or sabotage was ever brought against any of them."

DIVISION OF
PRESS INTELLIGENCE
304 COMMERCIAL BLDG.

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Examiner (I)
San Francisco, Calif
Circ. 205,276

DATE APR 29 1944

RIOTS AGAINST JAPS FEARED IN BROOKLYN

Congressman Warns of Outburst
If Evacuees Settled There;
Problem a Campaign Issue

By RAY RICHARDS
Examiner Washington Bureau
WASHINGTON, April 28.—
Riots in Brooklyn were predicted
today by Representative John J.
Delaney, New York Democrat, if
Interior Secretary Harold L.
Ickes persists in his attempt to
quarter hundreds of evacuated
west coast Japanese in that sec-
tion of the metropolis.

Delaney, leaving New York
City to investigate the suddenly
explosive situation there, de-
nounced the newest Japanese re-
location scheme shortly after a
statement from Ickes helped to
make the whole Japanese resi-
dent problem a definite part of
the 1944 political picture.

Ickes criticized Presidential
Candidate John W. Bricker, Gov-
ernor of Ohio, for the latter's
raps at War Relocation Author-
ity policies, and thus indirectly
criticized the position of Gov-
ernor Earl Warren of California,
Vice Presidential possibility, who
also holds that the evacuees
should not be located where they
are not wanted.

RAPS CANDIDATE.

The Ickes statement took side-
swipes at a third Governor, Wal-
ter E. Edge, of New Jersey, for
supporting a public demonstra-
tion in that State against Jap-
anese encroachment, and at
Mayor Fiorello H. La Guardia, of
New York City, who has sent a
protest to the War and Navy
Departments against Japanese
resettlement there.

West coast Congressmen com-
mented that the internal Jap-
anese problem at last has been
recognized as an acute national
question, and that it cannot es-
cape mention in the platforms of
both parties.

Representative Delaney de-
clared the people of his Brooklyn
district, where many of the Japa-
nese would live in a special three-
story hostel, will not tolerate the
presence of a people who stand
accused by the Dies Committee
of practicing "total espionage"
while they were residents of Cal-
ifornia, Oregon and Washington.

The Brooklyn Congressman
pointed out that the Japanese
were evacuated from the West
Coast because of the military
situation there, and now the War
Relocation Authority, recently
made a part of the Interior De-
partment, is dumping them into
a section containing even greater
military works and movements.

NEAR NAVY YARD.

He asserted that the aroused
people of his district know that
from one spot alone, the building
which would house the proposed
hostel, Japanese eyes would be
constantly on troop and military
supply movements of the most
important sort.

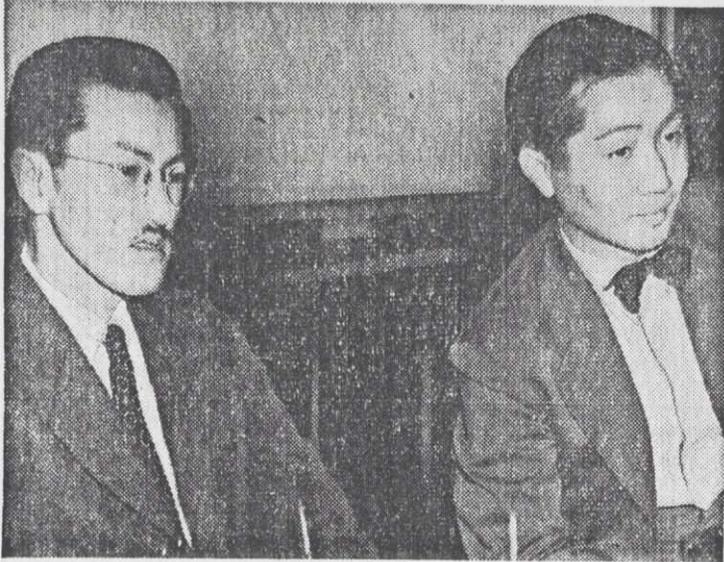
"If the Japanese could not be
trusted amid West Coast mili-
tary works, how can they be
trusted among East Coast mili-
tary works?" Delaney wanted
to know.

"This thing has got to be
stopped, or there will be rioting
in Brooklyn. I have heard from
my people there, and I know."

One of the protests in Brooklyn
has come from the Kings County
American Legion. It particularly
complains against the establish-
ment of the proposed big Japa-
nese lodging house at 168 Clinton
Street, only a few blocks from
the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

Japs Meet Delaney, Protest 'Ugly' Remarks

2879



Eagle Staff photo

TWO LOYAL AMERICANS—Eddie Shimano, left, and Minoru Yamasaki, who can't speak Japanese, deplore "unfair attacks on a hostel for Japanese-Americans whose loyalty is proven."

Two young Americans, Eddie Shimano and Minoru Yamasaki, born of Japanese parents in this country, met with Representative John J. Delaney in Washington yesterday, to talk with him "as loyal Japanese-Americans who feel deeply hurt at certain ugly remarks attributed to you "in reference to the proposed hostel for Japanese-Americans planned for 168 Clinton St.

The two young men are residents of Manhattan. Neither will live in the hostel. "Our interest is in Americanism," they said. "We oppose the Congressman's insult to all Japanese-Americans when he said, 'Why should we accept the scum and take care of them?' and likened the proposed hostel to a 'house of ill repute.'"

Some of these statements attributed to Delaney were published in another newspaper yesterday.

Delaney Denies Statements

In a statement to the Brooklyn Eagle, Delaney denied having made any such denunciation. He said that he reflected the wishes of his constituents in objecting to the proposed hostel location. He added that letters from American soldiers fighting in the Pacific indicated "they would not be responsible for what happened" if they returned

home and found Japanese in the neighborhood.

Delaney personally objected because "my district is in close proximity to vital war areas." He said he lives "about 100 feet from the proposed hostel," and added that he "was not impressed with the appearance of the two Japanese I saw in Washington" and would not want them for neighbors.

Both College Graduates

Both Japanese are college graduates. Yamasaki, an architect, has drawn plans for naval bases and training stations in New York State and Canada. He now teaches architecture at Columbia University night school and lives with his wife at 400 E. 87th St., Manhattan. He has never been held in a resettlement camp.

Shimano, who lived in Seattle, Wash., before "Japan attacked my country" was released from a resettlement camp Feb. 8, 1943. His wife is an American of European ancestry. "We were engaged on the West Coast, but State laws prevented our marriage. So we married here." He holds a bachelor's degree in journalism and has been editor of Common Ground, but is now doing publicity.

"I almost caused an incident between my country and Japan some years ago when I picketed the Japanese legations on the Coast and ships there loaded with scrap iron for Japan.

Hold No Hard Feeling

"Some papers on the Coast thought I would damage American-Japanese relations," he added, smiling.

Both men say that they are "more or less representative of loyal Japanese-Americans." While they feel that attacks against them are purely racial, they say they hold no hard feelings towards America.

"We know that the masses of Americans are willing to accept us as citizens," Shimano said. "We are certainly not influenced by the minority who, like Mr. Delaney, show no interest in facts."

Baptist Pastor Assails Move for Hostel Here

The plan to house Japanese-American evacuees in a building at 168 Clinton St. is "utter folly" and is prompted by "soft idealism," in the opinion of the Rev. Dr. Mark Wayne Williams, pastor of the Greene Avenue Baptist Church.

In his sermon on "Selling Your Soul" at the church yesterday, Dr. Williams questioned the wisdom of placing the evacuees from the West Coast in an area adjacent to the shipping and war production section of Brooklyn.

Meanwhile, the Citizens Union sent to Mayor LaGuardia a letter taking issue with his protest against establishment of Japanese-Americans in the city and along the eastern seaboard.

The letter expressed "much surprise" and said the union's executive committee was "disturbed" at the Mayor's action in filing protests with Government authorities at Washington.

"We Americans have prided ourselves on our readiness to accord equal rights and opportunities to all, regardless of their race, color or natural origin. Large numbers of persons of Italian and German extraction have been living peaceably among us and their national origin has properly not been held a bar in the midst of war to even the holding of high public office.

"Several hundred loyal Japanese have also been living here and their presence has been accepted without excitement in a liberal cosmopolitan city which is used to welcoming well-behaved men and women from every corner of the globe."

The letter went on to point out that the Japanese-Americans to be resettled here from relocation camps "have all been thoroughly investigated and their loyalty and readiness to live honestly and peaceably is hardly open to question."

"The acid test of our professed abhorrence of Axis persecutions and of our loyalty to American institutions is our treatment of our own minorities. Let us not be found wanting."

Hearts vs. Heads

Dr. Williams, on the other hand, contended, "we have million-dollar hearts and 10-cent heads."

"Just why should soft idealism insist that a colony of Japanese be

planted at the very gateway of our Navy Yard?" he demanded. "Every element of common sense dictates, without a morsel of prejudice, that such a program is utter folly.

"Who guarantees the loyalty of all these possible saboteurs? Nobody, except that fatuous good nature that preluded Pearl Harbor. So we sell out safety for an amiable sentimentality, and all in the name of tolerance. I protest that true tolerance is not the selling out of all my convictions, my American heritage and the hard-earned lessons of experience."

Negro Group Protests

In a statement issued today, Charles A. Collins, executive secretary of the Negro labor victory committee, asserted that Mayor LaGuardia, in opposing relocation of the evacuees, "has done a great disservice to the cause of national unity and has given comfort to the inciters of color prejudice and race hatred in our country."

He declared that Japanese-Americans and loyal Japanese aliens "must be accorded the same rights and privileges granted to Americans of German, Italian, Finnish, Romanian or Hungarian extraction. There must be no discrimination against any one whose ancestors happens to have come from Axis-dominated countries."

Takes Women to Task

George E. Rundquist of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ

in America vigorously protested against critics of the plan as people "who ignore facts." Pointing to "the obvious contradiction" in the resolution drawn by the Long Island Federation of Women's Clubs, he declared "it just doesn't add up."

Mrs. Thomas H. McClintock, secretary of the club, voiced her opposition to the hostel as "not a matter of race discrimination, but of public safety." She then added, "we do not question the loyalty of these people."

According to Rundquist, "these people" obviously don't know the facts, are in no position to voice objective opinions, and the opinion of Mrs. McClintock is contradictory.

3037

PM'S RADIO ROUNDUP, (N.Y.)
May 4, 1944

Mayor Rebuked

Clifford Evans (WLIB) took exception to Mayor La Guardia's opposition to the relocation in the New York area of loyal Japanese and Americans of Japanese descent.

"... If we persecute loyal Americans of Japanese descent today, tomorrow it may be the Americans of Italian descent, and so on, down the line. . . .

"It is our duty to protect the American heritage, and to accept into the American fold any foreigner who wants to be loyal to the American flag, certainly any person who is already a citizen. . . .

N.Y. Herald Tribune 5/1/44 3

Citizens Union Protests U. S.-Japanese Exclusion

State Law on Discrimination Cited in Letter to Mayor

Richard S. Childs, chairman of the executive committee of the Citizens Union, disclosed yesterday that the committee had protested to Mayor F. H. LaGuardia over his stand against the free admission of loyal Japanese-Americans from relocation camps to this city.

Declaring that the acid test of professed abhorrence of Axis persecutions and of loyalty to American institutions is our treatment of our own minorities, the letter

points out that the State Constitution, as revised in 1938, forbids discrimination against any one, in his civil rights, because of color, creed or religion.

"Large numbers of persons of Italian and German extraction," says the latter, "have been living peaceably among us, and their national origin has properly not been held a bar in the midst of war even to the holding of high public office. Several hundred loyal Japanese have also been living here, and their presence has been accepted without excitement in a liberal cosmopolitan city which is used to welcoming well-behaved men and women from every corner of the globe."

PASTOR DEFENDS JAP-AMERICAN HOSTEL IN BORO

Kilmer Post Demands Light on How Tokio Is Treating Prisoners

The "undue" excitement being shown by Brooklyn residents following the news of a hostel to be established for loyal Japanese-Americans at 168 Clinton St. comes as a surprise to the Rev. Dr. Alfred Grant Walton, pastor of the Flatbush-Tompkins Congregational Church, E. 18th St. and Dorchester Road.

Dr. Walton drew a contrast between Brooklyn and the Midwest, where Japanese-Americans have passed through without incident after being checked, by military authorities, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the War Relocation Authority.

"Some 21,000 already have been released," he said, "and it has met with approval in cities like Detroit, Cleveland, Des Moines, Chicago and other communities. The real difficulties have developed largely in the East.

"The people of Brooklyn should not become unduly excited at the proposal to establish a hostel in Brooklyn for the temporary care of Japanese citizens and loyal aliens. The American people believe in justice and fair play, and any person who can get the approval of the different Federal departments is not likely to be a menace to any community.

"Every one of these persons has been released only after careful examination, and if they have withstood the test, we do not need to have any great fear regarding them."

Points to Fascists Here

He pointed out also that while a fuss is being made about aliens whose loyalty has been proven, there are people throughout this country who, if reports are true,

have mental attitudes distinctly Fascist in character and yet are unmolested and roam our streets at will."

He cited the instance of Mrs. Lily Fujii, formerly a house guest of the Rev. Dr. Henry J. Carpenter, secretary of the Brooklyn Church and Mission Federation. Mrs. Fujii, whose husband is in the U. S. Army, had been employed by the federation. She now is teaching Japanese at Yale University.

A resolution opposing the plan to establish the hostel has been adopted by members of Sgt. Joyce Kilmer Post, 55, American Legion, with headquarters at 773 Coney Island Avenue.

The resolution, presented by Vice County Commander James J. Tobin, who is a past commander of Kilmer Post, and adopted unanimously, asks the sponsors of this relocation center "if they can, tell the residents of Brooklyn how the American prisoners of war are living in Japan, how they are eating and if any of them are alive."

"It's high time," the resolution continues, "that we as Americans thought of our boys now in all parts of the world giving their life's blood for us, instead of worrying about the comforts of our enemies."

The Kings County American Legion has already adopted a resolution opposing the plan.

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2858
NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE

May 8, 1944

Mayor Assailed for Stand On Japanese-Americans

Civil Liberties Union Says They Should Be Welcomed Here

American citizens of Japanese ancestry should be welcomed here, the American Civil Liberties Union said yesterday in a telegram to Mayor F. H. LaGuardia rebuking his reported protest against further resettlement on the east coast. The message was signed by the Rev. John Haynes Holmes, board chairman; Arthur Garfield Hays, counsel, and Roger N. Baldwin, director.

"There can be no doubt that the discrimination is purely racial, for you do not protest any potential dangers by German or Italian aliens on the east coast who are free to live where they will," the telegram read. "Japanese-Americans already cleared by Federal agencies as loyal constitute no danger whatsoever. Not a single charge of espionage or sabotage has ever been brought against any of them."

"It is inhuman to condemn these thousands of our fellow citizens to life in concentration camps, which is the inevitable alternative if our communities refuse hospitality. They should be welcomed, and everything possible done to mitigate the suffering and injustice imposed upon them by military evacuation. We trust you will reverse a position contrary to the obvious demands of our democracy."

MAY 6 1944

EAGLE, Brooklyn, N. Y., May 3, 1944

HEIGHTS ASS'N TO CO-OPERATE IN JAP HOSTEL

**Resolves to Appoint
Group to Meet
Sponsors of Project**

The Brooklyn Heights Association today announced it had adopted a resolution "viewing with interest" the proposed establishment of a Japanese-American hostel in Clinton St., and had appointed a committee of five to "co-operate with the authorities sponsoring the project."

At the same time, officials of the American Labor party in Kings County assailed discrimination stemming from war hysteria and defended the relocation center.

The Brooklyn Heights Association's board of governors adopted a resolution reading:

"Resolved, that the Brooklyn Heights Association views with interest the proposal to establish a Japanese-American relocation hostel on Brooklyn Heights, and that a committee of five be appointed as an advisory committee to co-operate with the authorities sponsoring the project."

Vote Secret

In a statement issued by Roy M. D. Richardson, president, it was announced that the vote of the board was not unanimous, although the actual number for and against it was not made known. Mr. Richardson said that the meeting held yesterday from five to seven p.m. was marked by a lively discussion. Sixteen of the Association's 23 governors attended.

Those present were, George N. Whittlesey, chairman of the board, Haughton Bell, James S. Brown, Jr., Walter Bruchhausen, William H. Cary, Russel V. Cruikshank, Guy Duval, Mrs. Edward Haynes, B. Meredith Langstaff, the Rev. Dr. John Howland Lathrop, the Rev. William H. Melish, Leonard P. Moore, Charles E. Rogers, Jr., Pete V. D. Voorhees, the Rev. Dr. Phillips Packer Elliott and Mr. Richardson.

Advisers Not Named

The advisory committee has not been named yet. Another advisory committee attended yesterday's meeting but absented itself when the vote was taken. This committee includes Sidney W. Davidson, Associate Justice of the Appellate Term, William F. Hagarty, Robert A. Shaw and Gen. George Albert Wingate. Adrian Van Sinderen, a member, was not present. Justice Hagarty is chairman of the committee recently appointed by the Brooklyn Council for Social Planning to foster the hostel.

Harold S. Fistere, regional director of the War Relocation Authority, and George E. Rundquist, executive secretary of the committee for resettlement of Japanese Americans of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, were present and outlined the case for the evacuees.

The American Labor party's attitude was made clear in a statement issued by John W. Crawford, the county chairman, and Max Torchin, the executive secretary.

"The American Labor party is opposed to any form of discrimination directed against a loyal American minority group and is particularly opposed to that form of discrimination which stems from war hysteria.

Not Disadvantageous

"The temporary relocation of a number of loyal Japanese-Americans in a Brooklyn hostel would certainly not be disadvantageous to the citizens of Brooklyn.

"Thousands of loyal Japanese-Americans are already in the armed forces of our nation, both here and abroad. They have clearly demonstrated their loyalty and devotion to the principles of the United Nations and their hostility toward the Tojo fascist regime in Japan.

"We feel that the inherent American sense of fair play should prevail in our attitude toward this group whose loyalty to our nation has been ascertained.

"Any opposition to the plans for relocating this group of Japanese-Americans amounts to a violation of those very same principles of democracy and freedom for which our boys are today fighting on every front."

Women's Clubs Oppose Settling Japanese Here

**City Federation's Session
Also Denounces Federal
Seizure of Ward Plant**

Seizure of the Montgomery Ward plant, the proposed settlement of Japanese in Brooklyn and socialized medicine were denounced in resolutions adopted yesterday by the New York City Federation of Women's Clubs at its 124th convention at the Hotel Astor.

The Montgomery Ward resolution, introduced as emergency business by Mrs. J. Lester Lewine, protested the "menacing pronouncement of Attorney General Francis Biddle in the notorious case of the Montgomery Ward mail-order house—that in an emergency 'no business or property is immune to seizure'—thus countenancing totalitarian procedure in this country." There was no opposition.

Passed Without Opposition

Mrs. H. S. Radi, director from Brooklyn, offered the anti-Japanese resolution, which also was passed without opposition. It set forth that 2,000 west coast Japanese, 50 per cent aliens, were about to be designated temporarily to a hostel at 168 Clinton Street, adjacent to the waterfront, where their presence might jeopardize the war effort.

The resolution on socialized medicine, proposed by Mrs. Frederick L. Wakeham, chairman of the department of civics, brought forth some discussion, but little opposition. The most vocal opponent was Dr. Adele Sicular, of Mt. Sinai Hospital, and a member of the Manhattan section of the American Jewish Congress, who said that American health required more attention than it now receives, as shown by the rejection of so large a proportion of young men in the draft and the millions of dollars lost annually through illness of workers.

The women adopted for their fourth resolution a request that the Halloran General Hospital on Staten Island be absorbed by the United States Veterans Administration after the war.

Awards for Two Films

The motion-picture industry occupied the afternoon program with addresses by Major Orton H. Hicks, of the film circuit section, Army Service Forces; Dr. Fred-eric M. Thrasher, professor of education, New York University, and Howard Dietz, vice-president of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. The federation's scrolls of award were presented to "Song of Bernadette" and "Watch on the Rhine."

The following were elected directors for the five boroughs: Manhattan, Mrs. H. George Maul and Mrs. Kay Johnson Hansell; Brooklyn, Mrs. Robert H. Rappier and Mrs. John L. Beinert; Bronx, Mrs. Arthur J. Kramer; Queens, Mrs. Norman M. L. Bergh, and Richmond, Mrs. George Brown.

Mrs. Kenneth S. Strayer, president, gave her first annual report. Other speakers were Grover Whalen, chairman Civilian Defense Volunteer Organization, who warned that on the eve of the invasion it was more important than ever to exercise caution in discussing military secrets, and Mrs. Edward V. Rickenbacker, of Bundles for America; Mrs. Courtlandt D. Barnes, of the War Finance Committee; Sergeant Gerald Thomas La Belle and Louis Pink, of the Associated Hospital Service.

28 29
5/4/44

PETITION SIGNERS HOLD TO VIEWS AGAINST HOSTEL

A survey of the original signers of a petition against the proposed relocation hostel for Japanese-Americans in Brooklyn reveals today practically no change in the sentiment of persons in the area.

However, analyses of the answers to a series of eight questions seems to indicate that a substantial percentage of the original signers did not know certain things about the hotel at the time the petition was circulated.

With many of those questioned reaffirming their original stand emphatically, there was a mixture of some who, although reiterating that they were against the hostel, said one or more of the conditions attached to the proposal had not been known to them.

The questions submitted and the results were:

1. Since signing the petition opposing a Japanese-American hostel in Brooklyn, have you in any way changed your opinion?

To this 35 of the 37 original signers of the petitions answered No. Only 2 answered Yes.

2. Do you still oppose its location in Brooklyn?

To this 32 answered Yes. 3 No. and 2 answers could not be classified as either Yes or No.

3. Do you only oppose its location in Clinton St?

To this 16 answered Yes. 17 No. with 4 unclassified answers.

Question Contains an Error

The fourth question, in the form in which it was submitted to the petitioners, contained an error. It said "Did you know when you signed the petition that these were only Japanese-Americans, citizens of the U. S., a large percentage born here?" Actually, although a large percentage were born here and are citizens, all of them are not.

In answering this, 20 said they were aware of this "fact," 9 said they were not, while 8 could not be classified, several because they recognized the error and did not answer the question.

5. Did you know their records had been checked by the War Relocation Authority and then checked again by the Federal Bureau of Investigation against files of the army and navy intelligence?

To this question 21 said they had been aware of this when signing the petition. 12 said they had not known of it and 4 were unclassified.

6. Did you know when signing the petition that the hostel is to be temporary?

To this 20 replied in the affirmative, 12 negatively and 5 were unclassified.

7. Did you know that about 20 evacuees will be housed in it at one time?

Twenty-three said they did, 10 said they did not and 4 were unclassified.

The survey also revealed that of the 37 questioned, 20 were not property owners, 8 were, and 9 did not answer.

Voluntary Comments

A number of comments were volunteered, including one from Mrs. H. I. Rasi of 139 Clinton St., former president of the Brooklyn Woman's Club, who wrote on the blank:

"I am opposed to this. Please remember Pearl Harbor. One disloyal Jap will cause the deaths of hundreds of our boys. We cannot take a chance."

Mr. Rasi also appended to his blank this comment:

"My two sons are in the army and are pledged to fight the Japs to a finish. They are killing our boys and (have) killed many."

Dr. George W. Phelan of 165 Clinton St. also made a statement, as follows:

"We recently had our own soldiers and sailors, who through no fault of their own have to be in New York, lacking in places to sleep. This despite the generosity of our city administration and private citizens. A little over a week ago a picture in the Daily News showed your boy and mine sleeping in his own country without comfort."

"If we are so interested in do-

Declare Our Men Need Clinton St. Bed Space

The suggestion that the building at 168 Clinton St., proposed as a home for Japanese-American evacuees, be used instead to house American soldiers unable to find hotel accommodations was advanced today by three opponents of the relocation plan.

At an informal conference, Dr. Henry C. Mahnken of 151 Clinton St., Dr. George W. Phelan of 165 Clinton St. and Mrs. Lucy Blades Rasi of 139 Clinton St., expressed opposition to the hostel proposal, asserting that experiences at Japanese relocation centers in this country showed an "alarming proportion" of Japanese who flatly refused to declare loyalty to the United States.

The group—all of whom live within a block of the proposed hostel—met at Mrs. Rasi's home. They agreed that Japanese should be kept in internment camps for the duration of the war and held that even when peace is established the Japanese should not be permitted to form community groups but should be housed singly or in family units.

Mrs. Rasi exhibited a letter received by Dr. Nunzio J. Mazzola of 133 Clinton St. from Pfc. Albert J. Meldrum of the marines, which read:

"I am 100 percent for you regard-

ing any person of Japanese blood relocating in Brooklyn. My objection to Japanese? I was at Guadalcanal with the 1st Marine Division. In the name of my dead shipmates I will not be accountable if I see any Jap walking outside of barbed wire.

Referring to the sentiment expressed in the letter, Mrs. Rasi warned that riots might occur on Clinton St. if mothers of service men fighting the Japs and men on passing troop transport trucks realize that the building was housing Japanese persons.

ing the thing that is charitable, why not start it at home?"

A. H. Macksand of 59 Livingston St., said:

"My reason for signing was partly fear that these Japanese may at some time be molested by irresponsible people to the detriment of the neighborhood."

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play... of... the dispatch... to build its own,

Baptist Pastor Assails Move for Jap Hostel

The plan to house Japanese-American evacuees in a building at 168 Clinton St. is "utter folly" and is prompted by "soft idealism," in the opinion of the Rev. Dr. Mark Wayne Williams, pastor of the Greene Avenue Baptist Church. In his sermon on "Selling Your Soul" at the church yesterday, Dr. Williams questioned the wisdom of placing the evacuees from the West Coast in an area adjacent to the shipping and war production section of Brooklyn. Meanwhile, the Citizens Union sent to Mayor LaGuardia a letter taking issue with his protest against establishment of Japanese-Americans in the city and along the eastern seaboard. The letter expressed "much surprise" and said the union's executive committee was "disturbed" at the Mayor's action in filing protests with Government authorities at Washington.

"We Americans have prided ourselves on our readiness to accord equal rights and opportunities to all, regardless of their race, color or natural origin. Large numbers of persons of Italian and German extraction have been living peaceably among us and their national origin has properly not been held a bar in the midst of war to even the holding of high public office. "Several hundred loyal Japanese have also been living here and their presence has been accepted without excitement in a liberal cosmopolitan city which is used to welcoming well-behaved men and women from every corner of the globe." The letter went on to point out that the Japanese-Americans to be resettled here from relocation camps "have all been thoroughly investigated and their loyalty and readi-

Continued on Page 1

Boro Pastor Hits Jap Hostel Plan

Continued from Page 1

ness to live honestly and peaceably is hardly open to question." "The acid test of our professed abhorrence of Axis persecutions and of our loyalty to American institutions is our treatment of our own minorities. Let us not be found wanting." **Hearts vs. Heads** Dr. Williams, on the other hand, contended, "we have million-dollar hearts and 10-cent heads." "Just why should soft idealism insist that a colony of Japanese be planted at the very gateway of our Navy Yard?" he demanded. "Every element of common sense dictates, without a morsel of prejudice, that such a program is utter folly. "Who guarantees the loyalty of all these possible saboteurs? Nobody, except that fatuous good nature that preluded Pearl Harbor. So we sell out safety for an amiable sentimentality, and all in the name of tolerance. I protest that true tolerance is not the selling out of all my convictions, my American heritage and the hard-earned lessons of experience."

Takes Women to Task

George E. Rundquist of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America vigorously protested against critics of the plan as people "who ignore facts." Pointing to "the obvious contradiction" in the resolution drawn by the Long Island Federation of Women's Clubs, he declared "it just doesn't add up." Mrs. Thomas H. McClintock, secretary of the club, voiced her opposition to the hostel as "not a matter of race discrimination, but of public safety." She then added, "we do not question the loyalty of these people." According to Rundquist, "these people" obviously don't know the facts, are in no position to voice objective opinions, and the opinion of Mrs. McClintock is contradictory.

Costello Protests Hotel For Japs Near Navy Yard

By the Associated Press.

Representative Costello, Democrat, of California protested to the House yesterday that on May 10 the War Relocation Authority plans to open a three-story hotel building in Brooklyn to house 800 Japanese—"within the shadow of the Brooklyn Navy Yard." "It seems to me very ill-advised that they should be located alongside such a strategic installation," he said.

A WRA spokesman said a hostel to house a limited number of Japanese evacuees from relocation centers was being established in Brooklyn several blocks from the Navy Yard under auspices of several church groups. He said the hostel would provide only temporary accommodations until the evacuees, each of whom he asserted has undergone a thorough loyalty check before being released, can find permanent quarters.

The WRA, while not operating the hostel, was co-operating with the church groups, including the Church of the Brethren and the Methodists, the WRA spokesman said. Similar hostels have been in operation in Chicago, Cleveland, Minneapolis and Des Moines, he added.

Gunfire Heard Off Portugal

LISBON, May 6 (AP) Reports reaching here early today said violent gunfire, indicating a possible naval battle, was heard yesterday in the Gulf of Cadiz off the coast of Algarve Province in Southern Portugal.

Wash. DC. Star
P.A.-7 5/6/44

Protest B'klyn Hotel for Japs

WASHINGTON, May 6 (AP).—Rep. Costello (D.-Calif.) has protested to the House that on May 10 the WRA plans to open a three-story hotel building in Brooklyn to house 800 Japs—"within the shadow of the Brooklyn Navy Yard."

A WRA spokesman said a hostel to house a limited number of Japanese evacuees from relocation centers was being established in Brooklyn under the auspices of several church groups.

The hostel, he said, would provide only temporary accommodations.

Burdick Ellsworth
Busbey Elmer

WARD PLANT SEIZURE PROTESTED BY WOMEN

Club Convention Also Opposes Bringing Japanese to Kings

An emergency resolution "vigorously protesting" the recent Montgomery Ward seizure and branding it as "totalitarian procedure in violation of its citizens' constitutional prerogative as set forth in the Bill of Rights," was adopted unanimously yesterday at the 124th convention of the New York City Federation of Women's Clubs at the Hotel Astor. The resolution, introduced by Mrs. J. Lester Lewine, honorary chairman of the federation, will be forwarded to Attorney General Francis Biddle, Mrs. Kenneth S. Strayer, president, said. A second emergency resolution, proposed by Mrs. H. S. Rasi of Brooklyn, opposing the contem-

plated resettlement of 2,000 Pacific Coast Japanese and Japanese-Americans at 168 Clinton Street, Brooklyn, "an area adjacent to the waterfront," also was adopted without opposition. It was asserted that "50 per cent of these Japanese are aliens." Copies of the resolution will be forwarded to Mayor La Guardia, the City Council, and to George Rundquist, chairman of the Commission on Resettlement of Japanese-Americans. A plea for the socialization of medicine was made by Dr. Azele Sicular, of the staff of Mount Sinai Hospital, who argued that health is a national problem. Two hundred and sixty federation delegates, representing about 265,000 women, also heard addresses by Grover A. Whalen, Mrs. Edward V. Rickenbacker, Manhattan director of Bundles for America, Inc.; Mrs. Courtlandt D. Barnes of the Treasury Department's War Finance Committee, Sgt. Gerald Thomas La Belle, and Louis Pink, president of the Associated Hospital Service.

Women's Clubs Oppose Settling Japanese Here

N.Y. Herald Tribune
City Federation's Session
Also Denounces Federal
Seizure of Ward Plant

576144
Seizure of the Montgomery Ward plant, the proposed settlement of Japanese in Brooklyn and socialized medicine were denounced in resolutions adopted yesterday by the New York City Federation of Women's Clubs at its 24th convention at the Hotel Astor.

The Montgomery Ward resolution, introduced as emergency business by Mrs. J. Lester Lewine, protested the "menacing pronouncement of Attorney General Francis Biddle in the notorious case of the Montgomery Ward mail-order house—that in an emergency 'no business or property is immune to seizure'—thus countenancing totalitarian procedure in this country." There was no opposition.

Mrs. H. S. Radl, director from Brooklyn, offered the anti-Japanese resolution, which also was passed without opposition. It set forth that 2,000 west coast Japanese, "50 per cent aliens," were about to be designated temporarily to a hostel at 168 Clinton Street, adjacent to the waterfront, where their presence might jeopardize the war effort.

The resolution on socialized medicine, proposed by Mrs. Frederick L. Wakeham, chairman of the department of civics, brought forth some discussion, but little opposition. The most vocal opponent was Dr. Adele Sicular, of Mt. Sinai Hospital, and a member of the Manhattan section of the American Jewish Congress, who said that American health required more attention than it now receives, as shown by the rejection of so large a proportion of young men in the draft and the millions of dollars lost annually through illness of workers.

The women adopted for their fourth resolution a request that the Halloran General Hospital on Staten Island be absorbed by the United States Veterans Administration after the war.

...tion-picture industry oc-

cupied the afternoon program with addresses by Major Orton H. Hicks, of the film circuit section, Army Service Forces; Dr. Frederic M. Thrasher, professor of education, New York University, and Howard Dietz, vice-president of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. The federation's scrolls of award were presented to "Song of Bernadette" and "Watch on the Rhine."

The following were elected directors for the five boroughs: Manhattan, Mrs. H. George Maul and Mrs. Kay Johnson Hansell; Brooklyn, Mrs. Robert H. Rappier and Mrs. John L. Beinert; Bronx, Mrs. Arthur J. Kramer; Queens, Mrs. Norman M. L. Bergh, and Richmond, Mrs. George Brown.

Mrs. Kenneth S. Strayer, president, gave her first annual report. Other speakers were Grover Whalen, chairman Civilian Defense Volunteer Organization, who warned that on the eve of the invasion it was more important than ever to exercise caution in discussing military secrets, and Mrs. Edward V. Rickenbacker, of Bundles for America; Mrs. Courtlandt D. Barnes, of the War Finance Committee; Sergeant Gerald Thomas La Belle and Louis Pink, of the Associated Hospital Service.

County Legion Chief Blasts Jap Hostel Plan

The most strongly-worded opposition yet heard to establishment of a hostel at 168 Clinton St. for Japanese-Americans until they can be relocated in individual jobs and homes came yesterday in a statement by Vincent D. Cronin, Kings County commander of the American Legion.

Instead of placing such Japanese "in a fine home in one of the fine sections of Brooklyn," he said, "it is my opinion that we should give them a march from the Battery to our northern border similar to the march which their countrymen gave our courageous Americans and Filipinos when they captured the Philippines, only not as brutal."

Commander Cronin urged those Brooklyn citizens who have interested themselves favorably in the hostel to become interested, instead, "in the program to construct a Veterans Hospital in Brooklyn" in preparation for the casualties "to many of our boys while these Japanese live on the fat of the land in Brooklyn between the Navy Yard

and our defense plants and yet our boys are fighting and being shot down by Japanese snipers."

'Time to Wake Up'
It is time, he concluded, for Brooklynites "to wake up to the fact that we are for America First in preference to any other country, especially our Japanese enemies whom we shall never forgive for their sneaky attack on Pearl Harbor."

Dr. Vincent P. Mazzola of 133 Clinton St., leader of the vocal opposition to the hostel project, said in a letter to Appellate Division Justice William F. Hagarty, chairman of the committee for relocating the Japanese-Americans here that "I have supported the principle of relocation of Japanese but I am most opposed to the methods employed in accomplishing the resettlement."

He proposed that the Japanese-Americans be permitted "to live like other American families, not collectively but separated as distinct individual family units."

3487

N.Y. Herald Tribune 6/29/44 p. 9

be picked for field headquarters are Atlanta, Columbus, Detroit, New Orleans, Dallas and Salt Lake City.

Writes to Mayor on Japanese

In behalf of thirteen members of the faculty of the New York School of Social Work, Columbia University, Miss Mary E. Hurlbutt, professor of cultural studies at the school, made public yesterday a letter to Mayor F. H. LaGuardia asking him to reconsider his reported opposition to the relocation of Japanese in New York. "In the interest of sound public opinion

toward an appropriate handling of all minority questions," the letter said, "we may hope that you will give this matter your further attention and continue your leadership in supporting liberal thought and sound administration."

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SYMBOL *WUK*

Journal & Amn. (I)
New York City

DATE

Japs in Hostel, Stir Protest

Angry neighbors today protested the arrival of the first Japanese-American family to occupy the hostel newly opened at 168 Clinton st., Brooklyn.

A 24-hour-a-day uniformed guard was placed about the four-story red brick building.

One neighbor, a physician, seeing newspaper photographers snapping pictures, exclaimed:

"Instead of taking the pictures, why don't you throw a brick?"

A housewife living nearby declared: "It makes me nervous. I've been sick about the whole thing."

THREE IN FAMILY.

The Jap family consists of Matsunosuka Satomi, 54, a gardener, whose wife died recently; his daughter, Midori, 24, a social service worker, and son, Motoi, 18, awaiting the draft call.

They had ridden three days by coach from the War Relocation Center at Gila, Ariz., and all were investigated by the FBI. Until the father finds a job, they will pay \$1 a day for room and board.

The Rev. Ralph E. Smeltzer, hostel director, was not expecting them for several days, but hastened to get them installed. About 30 more are due here within two weeks.

Despite the proximity of vital harbor defenses, the newcomers are permitted full freedom of movement without restrictions.

First Hostel Guests Expected in Boro Soon

Local Church and Welfare Groups Represented On Four Newly Formed Subcommittees

Formation of four subcommittees to aid in the settlement of Japanese-Americans, via the new hostel to be opened at 168 Clinton St., was announced today by the Japanese-American Resettlement Committee of the Brooklyn Council

for Social Planning.

Thirty-one names are included in the four groups and two more are to be added. They make up a cross-section of representatives of Brooklyn church and welfare organizations.

The appointments were made by Appellate Division Justice William R. Hagarty, chairman of the committee, and Mortimer Brenner and the Rev. Dr. J. Henry Carpenter, vice chairmen. At a conference at which the announcement of the subcommittees was made, the Rev. Ralph E. Smeltzer, director of the new hostel, and Harold S. Fistere, Middle Atlantic Area supervisor of the War Relocation office of the Department of the Interior, explained that the hostel was merely a temporary means of redistributing Japanese-Americans in the city.

Mr. Smeltzer said he and Mrs. Smeltzer had already moved into the Clinton St. place, formerly a fraternity house, and that the first guests, probably no more than two or three, would arrive within a week or two. More will come later and stay an average of two or three weeks until they are able to find jobs and homes for themselves. While here they will pay \$1 a day per person, receiving room and three meals a day, sharing collectively in doing the housework.

Mr. Smeltzer conducted a similar hostel in Chicago, now closed because enough Japanese-Americans have been relocated there so that new arrivals from Government Relocation Centers can find friends who can help them over the difficulties incidental to arrival in a new community. He thought the hostel in Brooklyn would have a similar experience. It will be closed, he said, when the hostel would be no longer a necessity, merely a convenience.

Indorsements Cited

Mr. Fistere pointed out that the relocation program, including establishment of hostels—there are six now in existence in Cleveland, Cincinnati, Philadelphia, Des Moines and Minneapolis—has been sanctioned by the Department of Justice "from the point of view of national security," while the War Manpower Commission has given its approval aiding manpower.

Ninety-five percent of those expected at the hostel, it was pointed out, would be American-born citizens, while the small number of aliens—who are barred by law from becoming citizens—have been in this country not less than 20 years and on the average 30 years.

Present at the conference besides Smeltzer and Fistere were: George E. Rundquist, executive secretary of the Committee on Resettlement

of Japanese-Americans of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America; Vice Chairman Brenner, retiring president of the Brooklyn Council for Social Planning, and Dr. Carpenter, executive secretary of the Brooklyn Church and Mission Society.

Subcommittees Listed

The subcommittees named were: Education and Interpretation—Harold Curtice Amos, G. William Calascione, the Rev. Hugh D. Darsie, Mrs. Raymond V. Ingersoll, Mrs. Joseph H. Kohan, Mr. Rundquist and Mrs. Henry A. Ingraham, national president of the Y. W. C. A.

Social and Religious—Mrs. Francis T. Christy, the Rev. Dr. Phillips Packer Elliott, Dr. Jacob Greenberg, the Rev. Andrew P. Londi, Winthrop G. Martin, Mrs. Irving J. Sands, Jules Schrager, Mrs. Frank D. Schroth, the Rev. William Stewart and Mrs. Muriel S. Webb.

Housing—Mortimer H. Michaels, Maj. J. Fletcher Agnew, Muriel Ferguson, Andrew J. Gonnoud, Walter Kruesi, Joseph M. May and M. C. O'Brien.

Personal Service—Mary Rittenhouse, Marjorie Earp, the Rev. J. Emmett McDonald, Mrs. Violet Roach and Florence Zunsner.

BROOKLYN EAGLE, (N.Y.)

May 10, 1944

URGES BROOKLYN ACCEPT HOSTEL IN U. S. SPIRIT

Mrs. Draper Cites³⁰⁴¹ Boro's Large Population Of Many Racial Origins

Mrs. Mary Childs Draper, president of the Brooklyn Bureau of Charities, urged today that Brooklyn, with its large population of many racial origins, welcome the coming of relocated Japanese-Americans at the hostel about to be opened at 168 Clinton St. in the traditional "American democratic spirit."

The bureau, largest welfare agency in the borough, is "expressing the sentiments of the majority of Brooklynites in approving establishment of the hostel, she said. Mrs. Draper added:

"We have been talking about promoting better racial understanding; here is an opportunity to put our words into practice. Much as all of us hate Japanese cruelty, this is not the group on which to visit our vindictive feelings.

"A large proportion of these families are natives of this country and the balance have lived in the United States most of their lives. They have accepted the American way of life with all that means in kindness and tolerance. Their loyalty has been carefully investigated and established. They have proved their patriotism by sending many of their sons to serve as volunteers with the armed forces, and a good number of these young Japanese-Americans have lost their lives in the Mediterranean fighting.

"Certainly Brooklyn with its large population of mixed foreign extraction has a peculiar obligation to show the American democratic spirit by giving these families a temporary resting place while they make their permanent plans. This borough of nearly 3,000,000 population representing more than 40 different national origins should find no difficulty in absorbing the 2,000 Japanese-Americans who may eventually settle here. We believe that these notably industrious, law-abiding people will become real assets to our community."

Mrs. Draper revealed that the downtown and southern district committees of the agency had also gone on record approving the Brooklyn hostel. The bureau has lent a case worker for six weeks to assist the War Relocation Authority in one of the West Coast camps, she stated. The worker is aiding the families in making their plans for settling in new homes.

DIVISION OF
PRESS INTELLIGENCE
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Herald Tribune (IR)
New York, N. Y.

DATE
p. MAY 10 1944

Hostel to Open In Brooklyn for U. S. Japanese

Project of Church Groups Expects First Evacuees to Arrive in Two Weeks

The red-brick fraternity house at 168 Clinton Street, Brooklyn, first hostel planned in the metropolitan area for the relocation of Japanese-Americans seeking permanent homes and jobs here, will receive its first group of evacuees within two weeks, the Rev. Ralph Smeltzer, director of the hostel, said yesterday.

Speaking at press conference at 72 Schermerhorn Street, Brooklyn, called to explain the objectives of the project, Mr. Smeltzer said that the average stay of each evacuee at the hostel will be about ten days—the time it will take him to find more permanent living quarters and a job in this area—and that the Clinton Street quarters will accommodate between twenty and twenty-five evacuees at a time.

The hostel is a joint project of the Brethren Service Committee, the service agency of the Church of the Brethren, and the American Baptist Home Mission Society, and will be operated along the lines of similar hostels sponsored by various church groups in Cleveland, Cincinnati, Detroit, Des Moines, Philadelphia and Chicago.

Two Chicago Hostels Closed

Mr. Smeltzer explained yesterday that the two hostels in Chicago, one of which was operated for fifteen months and a second for nine months, had been closed because there no longer appears to be a need there for special, temporary accommodations for Japanese-Americans.

When the hostels there became merely a "convenience" rather than a "necessity" for evacuees

who resettled in the Chicago area, he said, now can provide temporary accommodations for other Japanese-Americans.

Mr. Smeltzer emphasized that evacuees are selected from relocation centers with great care, after careful investigation of their personal histories by the War Relocation Authority, and a check of these records against records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, plus the recommendation of church correspondents in the relocation centers.

Lease To Be Signed Soon

The New York hostel, a three-story, fourteen-room structure, will be leased for a year from the Phi Chi chapter corporation of Alpha Chi Rho fraternity at the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn. Mr. Smeltzer said yesterday that the lease will be signed within a few days.

The project will be operated on a co-operative basis, Mr. Smeltzer said, with meals being served "family style" three times a day. A \$1 charge will cover each evacuee's room and board. The brunt of the cost of the project will be borne by the sponsoring groups. Every one will share in the housework and take his daily turn at the chores.

Most of the cooking will be American style, since that is the preference of the average evacuee. Occasionally, however, chop suey and chow mein will be served.

"The Japanese-Americans love Chinese cooking," Mr. Smeltzer explained.

N.Y. SUN
22 5/10/44
**JAP-AMERICANS
OCCUPY HOSTEL**

First Family Arrives Early at Brooklyn Home.

The first family to occupy the newly announced hostel for Japanese-Americans at 168 Clinton street, Brooklyn, arrived unexpectedly today. The sponsors of the hostel, the first in the metropolitan area, hadn't expected any occupants for at least two weeks.

Today's arrivals, who were greatly impressed by the speed of the taxicab which took them from Grand Central Station to their new temporary home in Brooklyn, consisted of Matsunosuke Satomi, 54 years old, a gardener; his daughter, Midori, 24, a social service worker, and his son, Matoi, 18, a student, who is expecting to be called for Army service.

The new hostel is a fourteen-room, four-story red brick building, formerly the Alpha Chi Rho fraternity house. It is expected that within the next two weeks it will be filled with Japanese-Americans who have been sent here from war relocation centers to be resettled in this area.

Run by Church Groups.

The hostel is operated by the Brethren Service Committee, the service agency of the Church of the Brethren, and the American Baptist Home Mission Society. The Rev. Ralph E. Smeltzer, director of the hostel, and an associate of the home mission society, welcomed the Satomi family. Mr. Smeltzer, his wife and two assistants, were busy getting the house in order and Satomi and his children promptly began to help. The hostel is to be run along co-operative lines, with each occupant paying a nominal sum of \$1 a day for room and board.

The Satomis arrived here from the relocation center at Gila River, Ariz. Satomi said he had been in this country for twenty-eight years. His wife died last January at Gila River. They had formerly lived at Pasadena, Cal., where the children were born. Miss Satomi is a graduate of the Chapman College for Christian Disciples at Los Angeles. The boy attended Pasadena Junior College until he went to Gila River, where he continued to go to school.

Miss Satomi, who acted as spokesman for the family, said that coming to New York was like a "dream come true. We were particularly impressed by the sight of the Statue of Liberty as we were crossing Brooklyn Bridge," she said. "To us the Statue of Liberty is a symbol of freedom and tolerance. Our only complaint was that the taxi crossed the bridge too fast."

Unfriendly Feeling Prevails.

While there was no outward demonstration of hostility, feeling in the neighborhood of the hotel, as expressed to reporters and photographers, was unfriendly.

A photographer, while taking a picture of the building, was addressed by a neighboring physician, who said: "Instead of taking a picture, why don't you throw a brick?" Another resident, a housewife, said that she was nervous and had been "sick about the whole situation."

This despite the assurance that all occupants of the hotel will have been investigated by the FBI and found to be trustworthy and loyal to the United States.

Japanese Get Hostel Here Despite Mayor's Opposition

By HELENE PLEASANTS

Mayor La Guardia's racist jitters to the contrary notwithstanding, the 14-room house at 169 Clinton St., Brooklyn, is ready and waiting to receive Japanese-Americans into New York City.

A year's lease has been agreed on by officers of Alpha Chi Rho Fraternity, which owns the building, and the Church of the Brethren, one of the sponsors of the hostel project. The lease itself has been mailed to Manchester, Ind., for signing by Andrew Cordier, chairman of the Brethren Service Committee.

The Rev. and Mrs. Ralph Smeltzer, who will head the hostel staff, already are installed in the former fraternity house. They expect their first Japanese-American guests to arrive early next week. And the board of governors of the Brooklyn Heights Assn., an organization of tenants and landlords in the vicinity of the hostel, has approved its establishment.

Although hostels for Japanese-Americans have been established in seven other American cities, only in New York has any protest been raised, Smeltzer said at a press conference yesterday at the Brooklyn Council for Social Planning.

Purposes

The conference was called by the Council to make clear to the press how the hostel plan operates and what its purposes are, and to refute charges that its establishment in New York will be "harmful" or "dangerous" to the city.

Harold S. Fistere, Relocation Supervisor for the Middle Atlantic Area of the WRA (War Relocation Authority), emphasized that the resettlement program, into which the local hostel will be integrated, has been approved by:

¶ War and Navy Depts.

¶ Justice Dept. as sound from the standpoint of national security.

¶ War Manpower Commission as a contribution to national manpower needs.

Fistere outlined how the WRA, through comprehensive questionnaires prepared with the assistance and advice of Army Intelligence and the Justice Dept., learns from each person at a relocation center his place of birth, his education, whether he has relatives or investments in Japan, whether he has worked for the Japanese Government or Japanese companies, and similar information.

Checked by FBI

These questionnaires are sent to the Justice Dept. for checking with its master files.

Fistere and Smeltzer explained that a relocation center evacuee applies for admission to a hostel through a church representative. First, he is checked for a clearance with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and other Government agencies. Then, if "his character and record show him to be the type of person who will fit in at a hostel run by a church," he is recom-

him acceptable, he is sent an invitation to make the hostel his temporary home through the WRA.

Smeltzer said that the purpose at each hostel was to create a friendly atmosphere for the Japanese-American who already has been uprooted from his home, and to give him, at the cost of \$1 a day, his room and board until he can find a job and a permanent home.

Fistere said 70 per cent of the persons in relocation centers are American citizens. Since no Japanese—except war veterans—can be naturalized under the Exclusion Act, those born in Japan are aliens—but frequently aliens whose records are spotless, who have been living in American cities according to American customs and among Americans.

WRA Encouragement

Although there is no official Government connection with the hostel movement, the WRA has encouraged hostels, it was pointed out, ever since the Quakers in Chicago conceived the plan more than a year ago. Japanese-American evacuees, they continued, could be brought to a job through hostels, which would provide inexpensive room and board.

Thus, Japanese-Americans could more easily be absorbed again into the normal stream of American life to their own and the country's advantage.

The Church of the Brethren and the American Baptist Home Mission Society will foot the bills for the Brooklyn hostel. Life there will be "family style," Smeltzer said. Meals will be taken together, housework will be co-operative.

The staff will include, besides the Smeltzers, "another Caucasian American"; a Japanese-American cook-dietician, and an assistant director, who will be Japanese-American.

Accommodations for 25

There will be accommodations for about 25. Smeltzer, who headed a similar hostel in Chicago, said experience there indicated a turnover of residents about every 10 days.

The Committee on Resettlement of Japanese-Americans of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America and a similar committee formed by the Brooklyn Council for Social Planning will co-operate with the hostel staff.

The Brooklyn Council's committee has created several sub-committees, which will help the Japanese-Americans find permanent homes, attend the church of their choice, and in other ways to become integrated into the community.

The housing subcommittee will put special emphasis on "spreading" the Japanese-Americans through the city, avoiding their segregation and thereby spiking the criticism that has been raised

Justice Dept. as sound from the standpoint of national security.

War Manpower Commission as a contribution to national manpower needs.

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Checked by FBI

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If local hostel authorities find

Japanese-American cook-dietician, and an assistant director, who will be Japanese-American.

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The housing subcommittee will put special emphasis on "spreading" the Japanese-Americans through the city, avoiding their segregation and thereby spiking the criticism that has been raised on that score, as well as permitting the evacuees to resume normal living.

3039

PH, (N.Y.), May 14, 1944 Workers Defense League Asks Mayor to Back Down

The Workers Defense League has wired Mayor La Guardia asking him to retract his statement on the relocation of loyal Japanese Americans in the New York area. The wire said that La Guardia's statements on relocation "are shockingly out of line not only with your own previously expressed opinions on racial tolerance but with the principles of a nation that is fighting a costly war in the name of freedom and democracy for all the peoples of the world."

Business Start
Jap-American Hostel
Opens in New York *NY*
By the Associated Press. *A-8*
NEW YORK, May 11.—The New York City area's first hostel for Japanese-Americans was opened yesterday, a week early, with the arrival of family of three, father, daughter and son, from the Gila River (Ariz.) relocation center.
A 24-hour police guard has been placed outside the hostel as a precautionary measure. The hostel is sponsored by the Church of the Brethren and the American Baptist Home Missions Society.

DATE MAY 11 1944
P.

Brooklyn Heights Fears Hostel Is Too Near Docks

Numerous residents in Brooklyn Heights were upset today by the setting up there of a relocation hostel for Japanese-Americans, but the protests seemed to rest on the fear that their presence near the water front endangered this country's security.

The hostel is the joint project of the Brethren Service Committee of the Church of the Brethren and the American Baptist Home Mission Society. Antagonism toward it developed afresh yesterday when the first arrivals were announced. The Rev. Ralph Smeltzer, director, said that no Japanese had been expected for another two weeks and that he was surprised when Japanese-born Matsunosuke Satomi, 54 years old, and his American-born children, Miss Madori Satomi, 24, and Motoi Satomi, 18, knocked at the door.

One of the more outspoken residents was Mrs. Lucy B. Rasi, wife of a dentist, of 139 Clinton street, a few doors from the hostel at 168 Clinton street.

Criticize FBI

Mrs. Rasi said today that she had been particularly exercised by the apparent lack of interest of the Federal Bureau of Investigation as to the background of Japanese who are transferred from place to place in this country. She asserted that reports that the FBI investigated these people as to their loyalty and trustworthiness were wrong.

She has a letter from J. Edgar Hoover, national director of the FBI, dated May 6 and in reply to her inquiry, Mr. Hoover said:

"In reply to your telegram of May 4, please be advised that the FBI does not make a certification as to the character or loyalty of any individual other than its own employees."

Mr. Hoover added that the relocating of Japanese is entirely in the jurisdiction of the War Relocation Authority, but that if she observed anything suspicious she should communicate with the FBI office in New York.

Mrs. Rasi said she was speaking in behalf of at least 200 persons who all agree it is dangerous to allow Japanese quarters where they can sit by windows and watch shipping movements in the harbor. Also, she said, Clinton street is used frequently by military trucks and troops. She said that she was one of 200 who had protested to Representative John J. Delaney of that district, who has not yet replied.

She told also of a petition which representatives of 150,000 members of the Long Island Federation of Women's Clubs had signed, copies having been sent to Dillon Meyer, head of the War Relocation Authority; Mayor LaGuardia and to George Rundquist, a member of the committee of resettlement of Japanese-Americans of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America.

Denies Racial Prejudice

Mrs. Rasi insisted that the question of racial tolerance did not enter the picture, only that of national security. This was heightened in her own case, she said, by the fact that she has two sons in the Army Medical Corps, one a physician and the other a dentist. She suggested that the property could be better used for American service men who have to sleep in hotel lobbies because of the room shortage.

She said that she thought the Japanese might be in some danger if spotted by American soldiers on the streets of Brooklyn, and cited a letter a friend had received from a former United States Marine who had fought at Guadalcanal.

"Am 100 per cent for you in regards any person of Jap blood relocating in Brooklyn. My objection to the Japazies? I was at Guadalcanal with the First United States Marine Division. In the name of my dead shipmate, I will not be accountable if I see any Jap walking outside of barbed wire."

Procedure of FBI

Inquiry in Washington revealed that when the War Relocation Authority decides to release a Japanese it sends his name to the FBI which checks its records and reports whether the Japanese has a record with them. The FBI, it was learned, makes no investigation of its own and the fact that a man has no record in the FBI files does not mean necessarily that he is absolutely trustworthy.

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New York City

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Threats Made Over

FBI Takes Hand in Controversy in Brooklyn Heights

The New York Sun learned today that several residents of Brooklyn Heights who have publicly protested against the opening of a hostel for Japanese-Americans at 168 Clinton street have received threatening letters and post cards which have been turned over to the FBI for investigation.

This development added fire to the already bitter controversy over the setting up of the hostel so near the waterfront and the Navy Yard, where it is felt that the presence of the Japanese may endanger the nation's security. Several thousand Brooklyn residents, particularly mothers with sons in the service, and a number of organizations have joined in protests to city and Federal officials, and more than 300 post cards objecting to the hostel have just been signed and mailed by Brooklyn citizens to President Roosevelt and the secretaries of War and Navy. Similar protests previously were made to Mayor LaGuardia, Representative John J. Delaney and others.

The threats received yesterday and today by residents in the Brooklyn Heights section were anonymous, and followed newspaper publication of the names of persons who signed a petition calling for the removal of the hostel from that district. It was said that the threats generally took the form of calling the petition signers "Fascists" and "friends of Hitler." The FBI immediately started an inquiry.

Jap Hostel

Controversy Raging in Section.

Several residents of Brooklyn Heights who have publicly protested against the opening of a hostel for Japanese-Americans at 168 Clinton street have received threatening letters and post cards which have been turned over to the FBI for investigation.

Post Card Protests.

The printed post card protests which are now being mailed to the President and other Government officials read as follows:

"We protest. A hostel is being operated for the relocation of Japanese at 168 Clinton street, Brooklyn, within full view of New York harbor, the navy yard and strategic defense plants. This is not keeping faith with the boys in the armed forces."

Representatives of 150,000 members of the Long Island Federation of Women's Clubs are said to have signed petitions which recently were sent to the War Relocation Authority, other Government agencies and Mayor LaGuardia. More than forty mothers in the Brooklyn Heights held a meeting yesterday to discuss the matter.

The hostel is operated jointly by the American Baptist Home Mission Society and the Brethren Service Committee of the Church of the Brethren. The first Japanese family arrived at the house at 168 Clinton street earlier this week and antagonism immediately flared in that residential area. A twenty-four hour police guard has been placed outside the building.

Residents of the section insist that it is not a question of racial tolerance but one of national security. It was pointed out that Japanese in the building can sit by windows and see shipping movements in the harbor and the frequent passage of troops and military equipment on Clinton street. Persons objecting to the hostel there can not understand why such projects are not located in sections far removed from coastal areas and military installations. The FBI recently disclosed that it does not investigate Japanese as to their loyalty and trustworthiness, and announced that the relocation of the Japanese is entirely within the jurisdiction of the War Relocation Authority. It was said in Brooklyn that the War Relocation Authority, in turn, insisted that the Brooklyn hostel was not a Government project.

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Three Japanese In Brooklyn Stir Angry Protests

Father and American-Born Children Evacuees Are in Hostel on the Heights

By Lester Grant

Three persons of Japanese ancestry—an alien father and his native-born American son and daughter—arrived yesterday ahead of schedule at a Brooklyn relocation hostel to the surprise of the hostel director and the outspoken indignation of neighboring Brooklyn Heights residents, who are bombarding Mayor F. H. LaGuardia with protests over the housing of these evacuees in the area.

The three evacuees, first to move into the first such relocation hostel set up in the metropolitan area, are Matsunosuke Satomi, fifty-four years old, the father, and his two children, Miss Midori Satomi, twenty-four, and Motol Satomi, eighteen, the son.

The hostel, at 168 Clinton Street, near Schermerhorn Street, is a joint project of the Brethren Service Committee, the service agency of the Church of the Brethren, and the American Baptist Home Mission Society.

The director is the Rev. Ralph Smeltzer, who said yesterday that he had not expected the first arrivals so soon. A twenty-four-hour police watch was placed over the house as a precautionary measure, as the Japanese father and his two children, apparently unaware of the heated neighboring parlor discussions their arrival provoked, sat placidly on a sofa in the front room of the hostel and discussed their personal histories with reporters.

Outspoken in his condemnation of such a project in that area was Dr. H. Chandler Mahnken, a nose and throat specialist, who lives at 151 Clinton Street and who re-

(Continued on page 19, column 3)

Three Japanese

(Continued from page one)

vealed that 300 postcards objecting to the Clinton Street hostel and signed by Brooklyn residents had been sent to the Mayor and another 200 had been sent to Dillon S. Myer, director of the War Relocation Authority, in Washington.

"They won't take them back on the west coast because they don't trust them (the Japanese)," Dr. Mahnken said, "so why should we take them here? It is argued that the west coast is a defense area. What is New York—a playground?"

Too Near Waterfront

Dr. Mahnken guessed that in the immediate vicinity of the hostel three-fourths of the residents are opposed to the project, an estimate which was raised to "95 per cent" by Mrs. H. S. Rasi, of 139 Clinton Street.

The question—"Why not wait until the war is over before relocating them near the New York harbor and the navy yard?"—was asked by several residents, whose strongest objection, it appeared, resulted from the proximity of the hostel to the waterfront.

At 168 Clinton Street, however, life was comparatively serene as Mr. Smeltzer and his wife hastily made available a second floor to accommodate the arrivals.

The trio answered questions graciously and revealed that the father would like to work in a greenhouse, the son is awaiting induction into the Army and has post-war ambitions of becoming a zoologist, the daughter is a former student at Oberlin College, Ohio, and a graduate of Chapman Col-

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lege, Los Angeles, and wants to get into "Y. W. C. A. or church related work."

They said Mr. Satomi's wife, Mrs. Yae Satomi, died in January of last year at the Gila River relocation project in Arizona where the family has been confined since shortly after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

Yesterday's arrival marked the first trip to New York for Mr. Satomi and his children. The hustle and bustle of the big city, the speed of vehicular traffic, the proclivity of New Yorkers to jaywalk, and the sight of the Statue of Liberty, which they saw from a taxi while riding across the Brooklyn Bridge, overwhelmed them.

"To us," said Miss Satomi, "the Statue of Liberty is a symbol of freedom and tolerance."

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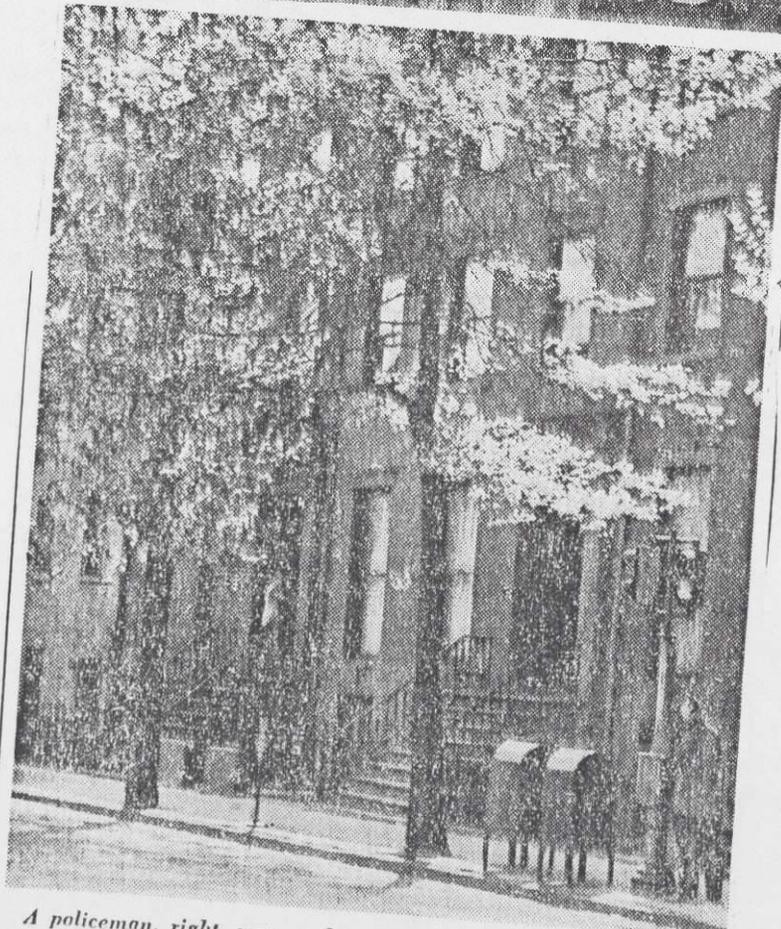
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First Guests Arrive at Hostel for Japanese Americans



Herald Tribune—Rice

The Rev. Ralph Smeltzer, left, director of the first hostel in the metropolitan area for the relocation of Japanese-Americans seeking jobs, uses a map to show points of interest to Matsunosuke Satomi, his son, Motoi, and his daughter, Midori, who arrived at the hostel yesterday



A policeman, right, was on duty near by yesterday as a reporter was entering the hostel at 168 Clinton Street in Brooklyn