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1 of 3

Vol. I, nos. 24, 26, 28, 34, 36, 37  
39, 43

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James

DAILY INFORMATION ROUNDUP

War Relocation Authority

San Francisco Regional Office

No. 24

June 3, 1942.

ARMY ANNOUNCES  
XY-GRANADA SITE;  
PECOS, TEX., SITE OUT

The Army is announcing the approval of the XY-Granada site in southeastern Colorado for 7,000 evacuees. Surveys, however, indicate possibility that site can be raised to 10,000.

After reconsideration, the Army finally rejected the Pecos, Tex., site "for military reasons". Rejection of the Pecos proposal came after more than half of the report on the project had been drafted by the Economic Management Division. Specifically, the site was rejected because of its proximity to important air bases.

Most important development during the last twenty-four hours, looked at from its broad social and geographic significance, was the announcement by General DeWitt of the selection of a site at Rohwer, Desha Co., in Arkansas. Selection of the Arkansas site points out the serious problem of finding economic opportunities for resettlement in the high, arid plateau country of the inter-mountain region.

There is nothing new to report on the McCormick site in central Utah; the Army is continuing its effort to acquire stock for necessary control of the project.

The Cambridge, Neb., site is "still dead" following rejection of the application for sufficient copper to construct power lines.

The Economic Management Division is now considering the location of a project in the Blue Water area in New Mexico, located



between Gallup and Albuquerque. The land within the area is held by a private irrigation company, the ditches are in, and practically all development work has been completed. The area is reported to have an adequate water supply, reasonably good soil and good transportation facilities. Project, however, is reported as being "a little short on acreage", is spread out over a considerable distance which will present some difficulty from the standpoint of military safety and with an elevation of 6,000 feet, has a short growing season.

A restudy is also being made of the Black Canyon project, approximately six miles north of Caldwell, Ida., on which considerable study has been made although no recommendations have been submitted to Washington. Black Canyon area involves a large number of small private land holdings and a large construction program, including the driving of a tunnel for approximately 1600 feet. The area, however, is in the heart of a large agricultueal district which presents heavy seasonable labor demands in the production of sugar beets.

TULE LAKE PROJECT  
TO BE ENLARGED  
TO 16,000

The Army has been asked to announce that because of "military necessity" the Tule Lake Relocation Project is being expanded to care for 16,000 evacuees. Expansion of the Tule Lake Project to 16,000 will make that "city" almost the same size as Klamath Falls, Ore., which at the 1940 census had 16,497. The Tule Lake Project



will practically treble the population of Modoc County which in 1940 had 8,713 people.

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CALIFORNIA  
TO BE CLEARED  
OF JAPANESE

Highly important from WRA's standpoint was General DeWitt's Public Proclamation No. 6, issued yesterday, which will lead to the immediate clearance of all persons of Japanese ancestry from the remaining area of California, officially known as Military Area No. 2. Proclamation No. 6, issued exactly three months after the General's Public Proclamation No. 1 which defined the military areas of the Pacific Coast, followed immediately after an announcement from his office that all Japanese have been cleared out of Military Area No. 1.

Estimates of Japanese living in Area No. 2 range from 10,000 upward. Included in Area No. 2 are important Japanese settlements in Tulare and Fresno Counties where local prejudice against the Japanese has been particularly strong. During the period of so-called "voluntary evacuation" hundreds of Japanese moved from Military Area No. 1 into the more important agricultural districts of Area No. 2. In most instances this movement was "just across the line," a situation which led to considerable crowding of Japanese into small agricultural communities.

Military Area No. 2 in California offers relatively little economic opportunity. For the most part it includes dry grazing lands in the foothills of the Sierra Nevadas, the vast watershed



June 3, 1942

of the Cascade-Sierra Nevada region, national forest areas, brushlands and inaccessible mountain districts with practically no habitation. Only in sections of the great Central Valley, where the dividing line between Areas 1 and 2 cut through important farming districts, was there any appreciable economic opportunity for resettlement in Area No. 2.

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CIVILIAN RESTRICTIVE  
ORDERS FORWARDED FOR  
POSTING IN SUGAR BEET AREAS

General DeWitt has required the Regional Office to forward copies of his Civilian Restrictive Orders approving the evacuation of Japanese for private employment to all persons signatory to agreements under which such employment is permitted. These orders are forwarded to the County Sheriff for public posting on telephone poles and buildings around the perimeter of the area within which the evacuees are employed and also to the employer for posting in the workers' living quarters. A few copies are sent to the Governor and the local county officials, aside from the sheriff, who are thus "put on notice" with reference to the terms of the order. These Restrictive Orders must also be translated into Japanese, a problem which is presenting considerable difficulty in the Regional Office.

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CO-OPERATIVE PROGRAM

GETS CAREFUL REVIEW

The Community Services Division is giving careful study to



June 3, 1942

the whole scheme of co-operative management of relocation center enterprises based on early reports and observation of the store at Manzanar. Determination of wage policy and the establishment of activities which will provide "payrolls" at the center are regarded as carefully enmeshed with the extension of co-operatively conducted enterprises.

A program of education on the organization and conduct of co-operatives is being worked out between two sections at the Regional Office -- Community Enterprises and Documents -- under which relocation center libraries will be provided with books, pamphlets and other material for the information of block leaders and other evacuees interested in learning the fundamentals of co-operatives.

Many Japanese are reported to be generally familiar with the co-operative movement through the work of Toyohiko Kagawa, a Japanese minister, who has sponsored the movement in Japan as a program of "christianity in action." Among others there is said to be confusion between "co-operation" and "corporation".

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#### TULE LAKE

#### POPULATION

From the Tule Lake Project Acting Director Shirrell reports a population there of 735 and facilities available to receive 500 more.

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*James*

DAILY INFORMATION ROUNDUP

War Relocation Authority

San Francisco Regional Office

No. 26

June 5, 1942.

CENTRAL UTAH  
SITE STILL  
"IN THE MILL"

Telephone conversations with Radcliffe at Salt Lake City this morning make it certain that it will take "several more days" to work out the tangled water rights situation surrounding the proposed Central Utah site near McCornick. At one time last week it was believed enough stock had been purchased to guarantee the necessary flow of 15,000 to 20,000 acre-feet during the 50 per cent "normal" of a drought year to assure the project of sufficient water. Later, it developed that certain water stocks purchased by Army officials would not provide the water which had been expected. New charges also showed up, one of them described as "a distribution charge of some variety," which will make it necessary to review the entire basis of the McCornick proposal.

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UNFAVORABLE REPORTS  
RECEIVED ON TWO  
NEW MEXICO SITES

Unfavorable reports came in this morning on two sites under consideration in New Mexico. The Bosque del Apache site, now a wild life refuge on the Rio Grande River in Socorro County, had been proposed by the federal Fish and Wild Life Service. Investigation discloses it would be necessary to construct 20



June 5, 1942

miles of power lines, that the soil is unfavorable and water supply unsatisfactory.

The Blue Water site, located between Albuquerque and Gallup, is also "out the window" following a disclosure that a 20-mile power line would also be necessary to that location and it would require the displacement of 125 to 150 people to obtain sufficient land.

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REPORT IN  
ON  
WYOMING SITE

A report reached the regional office today on the so-called Austin Project located in Uinta Co., Wyoming. Signed by Edgar A. Reeves, State SCS Co-ordinator, the report describes the area as generally unfavorable for the type of settlement contemplated by WRA. Among other things the Reeves report discloses: "Adverse climate, insufficient agricultural land and water-rights complications."

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NEW TEXAS  
SITE  
UNDER STUDY

The regional office has been asked to study a proposed site near Balmorhea, Reeves Co., Tex., said to be about 75 to 80 miles from the Mexican boundary. Additional information is being requested by mail in advance of assignment of a person to make an on-the-ground study.

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June 5, 1942

REPORT DUE  
ON  
MANZANAR

A special report on Manzanar, requested by the regional office, will be ready tomorrow when George Dean of the Information Service Division returns to San Francisco following a short assignment at the Owens Valley center to assist Roy Nash in drafting a round-up statement of conditions there when WRA took over the management.

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RECRUITING OF EVACUEES  
TO START  
AT MANZANAR

Evacuees at Manzanar will have an opportunity to volunteer for private employment in Idaho beetfields starting tomorrow when an USES representative will begin recruiting there. Tom Holland, head of the WRA Employment Division, left for Manzanar this afternoon.

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RECRUITMENT IN  
AREA NO. 2  
BEING CONSIDERED

The regional office today asked the WCCA for a statement of conditions under which recruitment of Japanese residing in Area No. 2 in California could be carried out. This is the area covered by General DeWitt's Proclamation No. 6, issued June 2. Approximately 10,000 Japanese live in the Area.

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June 5, 1942

SCHOOL PLANS AT  
CALIFORNIA CENTERS  
WORKED OUT

The Division of Community Services at the Regional Office has arrived at an agreement with the California State Board of Education covering the operation of schools at Manzanar, Tule Lake and any other places within the state where WRA centers may be located. A memorandum of understanding has been exchanged.

In January a request will be made to the California legislature for special legislation to set up relocation centers as unified school districts to include elementary, high school and, if needed, Junior College. Until that time the WRA will conduct schools at relocation centers under California standards with reference to certification, curriculum, etc.

On Monday the State Board of Education and representatives of the State Department of Education inspected Manzanar, later met with the Inyo County (local) Superintendent of Schools. Plans for school buildings at Manzanar have been completed and construction will start soon. A layout for recreational facilities at all centers has also been worked out.

With a working agreement effected with California school officials, discussions will start next week with Arizona officials for a similar arrangement, later with those in Idaho and Colorado.

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June 5, 1952

JAPANESE AGE DISTRIBUTION

SHOWS UP

IN SCHOOL PLAN

The heavy concentration of Japanese in the age group of 16 to 25 shows up sharply in plans for school facilities at Manzanar. Round estimates are that 750 will be enrolled in the Senior High School there (3 grades), 530 in the Junior High (also 3 grades), and 850 in the elementary schools (covering the first-through-sixth grades). Operation of the Japanese Exclusion Law of 1924 is directly responsible for the heavy concentration within the age group which includes senior high school students.

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COPY

War Relocation Authority

San Francisco Regional Office

No. 28

June 9, 1942

A CENTRAL UTAH  
SITE REGARDED  
STILL POSSIBLE

A site for a relocation center in Central Utah is a possibility, Mr. Cozzens reported to the regional office from Salt Lake City today.

Cozzens has commenced investigations of an alternate location west and southwest of the city of Delta, about twenty miles from the McCornick area which has been held up because of the inability to acquire sufficient water stocks.

Preliminary investigations indicate the Delta site holds substantially the same advantages of the McCornick location and the problem with regard to water stocks is somewhat less complicated.

Cozzens is giving further study today to the Delta site and while in Utah also will investigate whether available water stocks at McCornick would support a relocation center for 5,000 or 7,000 Japanese. Studies of both locations have been geared to a project for 10,000.

Definite arrangements have not been completed for the army site board to view the Black Canyon area in southwestern Idaho, but it is anticipated this will be done this week. A central Utah location and Black Canyon, it is currently estimated, would round out the program of relocation centers.



The Muleshoe area in Texas is being held in reserve for more detailed consideration if the Black Canyon area is not cleared by the site board.

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"ONLY COMMENDATION  
DUE MANZANAR  
HOSPITAL STAFF"

Returning from a two day trip to the Manzanar Relocation Project, Dr. Thompson, regional medical officer, declared "only commendation" is due those directing the hospital, dental and sanitation operations there.

The hospital population as of last Saturday was 112, the patients, many of them ill with contagious diseases, being housed in improvised facilities in common barracks.

Construction on the new hospital had been stopped and, said Dr. Thompson, even Roy Nash, the project director, did not know the reason why.

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SPECIAL GUARDS  
AT TULE AFTER  
FOURTH BLAZE

The Tule Lake Relocation Project had its fourth fire in mess hall boiler rooms yesterday. Little damage was done, but the blaze emphasized the fire danger existing.

Project Director Shirrell stated that after the latest fire he stationed a fire marshal at each boiler room installation, to remain there until corrective measures have been completed.

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RECRUITMENTS IN  
AREA NO. TWO  
BEING HELD UP

Recruitments for beet field labor in Oregon and Idaho from among Japanese in Military Area No. 2, scheduled to get under way today, are being held up pending a clarification of certain details between the War Relocation Authority and the Wartime Civil Control Administration.

In the light of the "freezing order" issued recently affecting Japanese in Area No. 2, the WCCA has declined to process the Japanese and the WRA will not accept them for employment outside of the area unless they have been processed.

Offices have been set up in Chico and Marysville to receive enlistments for Malheur County, Oregon, and in Auburn, Reedley and Visalia for Idaho. Enlistments, however, will not be taken from unprocessed persons.

This morning, 150 Japanese left Manzanar for employment by the Amalgamated Sugar Company in Idaho beet fields. They were signed up over the weekend by the U. S. Employment Service.

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TYPHOID SHOTS GIVEN  
JAPANESE AT TULE

Typhoid fever inoculations for Japanese at the Tule Lake Project were commenced yesterday.

The first report of a death of an evacuee at Tule was received this morning.

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ARMY COMPLETES

EVACUATION OF  
COAST JAPANESE

The evacuation of some 100,000 Pacific Coast Japanese from their homes in Military Area No. 1 to assembly centers or relocation projects reached its final phase at midnight last night. Prior to the issuance by Lieut. General John L. DeWitt of Public Proclamation No. 7, a total of 99,770 persons had been evacuated. Proclamation No. 7 was in the form of a "clean up", covering all Japanese in Military Area No. 1 not affected by ninety nine exclusion orders applying to specific areas. A count has not yet been made on the number of Japanese reporting as directed by the latest order.

As of June 8, 1942, the population in the three operating War Relocation Projects was 19,198, leaving some 79,672 still in the WCCA assembly centers.

In reporting on the evacuation operations to date, the WCCA reported the program had been completed "without mischance, with minimum hardship and almost without incident." The report adds:

"This operation was of value to the affected (Japanese) communities in that they had a picture of an American Army moving in a democratic way even during the exigencies of war.

"They had a picture of an American Army at work. Army engineers, in twenty eight days, building shelter for nearly 100,000 people. In addition to shelter, building community kitchens and hospitals, equipping them, providing devotional, educational and recreational facilities. And when the assembly centers were ready, moving the



near 100,000 evacuees into them. All this without distraction from the war effort itself with the use of only a few hundred troops and only a handful of officers.

"Those who witnessed the operations must ever retain a vivid impression of a necessary job done with all the decencies compatible with the task.

"They will carry a picture that, but for the presence of a military guard, looked more like an excursion than an enforced removal.

"The general impression was that the evacuees may not have been doing the thing they liked best to do, but they were doing the best thing they could do under the circumstances, and going it cheerfully."

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#### IT'S "TULE LAKE"

The designation of the project at Newell, California, has been officially decided upon as Tule Lake, two words. Previously there had existed some confusion as between Tule Lake (the lake) and Tulelake (the city).

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COLORADO RIVER  
WAR RELOCATION PROJECT

JUN 20 1942

DAILY INFORMATION ROUNDUP

PARKER, ARIZONA

War Relocation Authority

San Francisco Regional Office

VOL. 1, No. 34

June 18, 1942

EISENHOWER APPOINTED  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, OFFICE  
OF WAR INFORMATION

Word reached the Regional Office this morning of the appointment of Milton S. Eisenhower, Director of the War Relocation Authority, as Deputy Director of the Office of War Information. Mr. Eisenhower will be succeeded as Director of WRA by Mr. Dillon Myer, Acting Administrator of the Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment Administration, Department of Agriculture. Mr. Myer was formerly Assistant Chief of the Soil Conservation Service.

JEROME, ARKANSAS.  
SITE APPROVED

Announcement was made yesterday by Lieut. Gen. J. L. DeWitt of the selection of an additional center for relocation of Japanese evacuees at Jerome, Arkansas. The site consists of 10,054 acres in Drew and Chicot Counties and will have accommodations for approximately 10,000 evacuees.

This is the second relocation center to be established in Arkansas, the other near Rohwer, Desha County, in the Mississippi bottom lands, having been announced two weeks ago. Drew County lies to the west of Desha and Chicot County to the south.



REPORT ON CENTRAL UTAH  
ABRAHAM FAVORABLE

Mark Radcliffe, of the U. S. Grazing Service, on detail to the WRA for site selection, arrived this morning at the Regional Office from Salt Lake City with the report of the Army Site Board on the Central Utah Abraham site. The report is favorable.

Some work is being done on the report of the Black Canyon site, but for the present this site is being held in abeyance until definite decisions are made on Central Utah Abraham, Beardsley, and Cambridge.

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BUDDHIST SERVICES AT MANZANAR

Buddhist services in Japanese may now be held at Manzanar, announced Roy Nash, Project Director. Up to this time the evacuees have had only Catholic and Protestant English services.

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NEWELL, CALIFORNIA,  
NEW POST OFFICE FOR TULE LAKE

A press release issued yesterday by the Information Division announced the opening of a new post office at the Tule Lake War Relocation Project, Newell, California. The opening occurred on the fortieth anniversary of the establishment of the federal reclamation program. This new city has been named after Frederick Haynes Newell, first chief engineer of the U. S. Reclamation Service, who was one of the early pioneers in the movement to conserve the water resources of the Western States. It is appropriate that the Tule Lake center, which is located on the Klamath Reclamation Project, should bear his name.



CLASSES AT PROJECTS  
TO BEGIN OCTOBER 1

Whether or not school buildings are ready, classes will begin on October 1 at the relocation projects, according to Mrs. Lucy Adams, Director of the Education and Recreation Division. That schools will be ready by that date is considered doubtful.

Several factors make it difficult to estimate when schools will be finished at the projects now in operation or soon to open. The increasing scarcity of lumber and other materials is a primary reason.

Construction at Manzanar under the supervision of the Farm Security Administration will soon begin. Plans for school buildings at Poston, which will be built by the Indian Service, have been made and work has started on the manufacture of adobe bricks. Mrs. Adams together with the architect and chief engineer will go to Tule Lake next Monday to lay out the school building sites. From there they will go to Minidoka and then Gila River. The basic plans will be adapted to each location.

Mr. Coverly has suggested that perhaps contracts for schools should be let at the same time as contracts for the main construction of the centers to insure their being ready when the centers are occupied. The reason this has not been done is that it was possible to save approximately 50% on labor costs by making use of evacuee labor.

If schools are not ready at the time classes are scheduled to begin, they will be held either outdoors, where the climate permits, or in temporary quarters.



HOUSING CONDITIONS  
AT MANZANAR IMPROVED

Crowded housing conditions at Manzanar are fast being eliminated, according to Director Nash. Eight new blocks were opened last week and moving is proceeding daily. The crowded conditions were caused chiefly by lack of equipment and plumbing facilities in the new blocks.

An average of four to six persons per room will now be the rule. This is considered the minimum public health requirement by Arthur Miller, Director of Personnel and former head of the Medical Section. In cases of large families, partitions are being "moved over" to make proper accommodations.

A block adjoining the hospital area has been set aside for invalids and ailing persons. Proximity to the mess hall where special diets will be prepared has been worked out.

Floor covering will be laid in every barracks, and it is hoped that complete insulation can be affected before winter.

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ON NEGOTIATION OF TRANSFERS

In Circular Letter No. 19 Director Fryer called attention to the importance of "maintaining cordial relations with other Government agencies and the necessity for handling individual negotiations with consideration for the operating necessities of those agencies." This was in answer to a complaint that employees of WRA had in some cases attempted to persuade the employees of another agency to reconsider their decisions not to come to WRA.

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STUDY OF JAPANESE PROBLEM  
IN AMERICA TO BE ISSUED

A monograph on the Japanese problem in America has been prepared by Lt. Com. K. B. Ringle, who was on temporary leave from the U. S. Navy to work with WRA in a liaison and consultative capacity. The monograph will be mimeographed and issued this week for administrative use.

Com. Ringle has been a student of Japanese for many years, having been a language student attached to the U.S. Embassy in Tokio from 1928-1931. From 1936-1937 he was assistant district intelligence officer in Hawaii and held a similar position in Los Angeles from July of 1940. He was in charge of Naval Intelligence matters in that area before his assignment to WRA.

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POPULATION AT TULE LAKE INCREASES

With the arrival yesterday of 1000 evacuees from the Sacramento Assembly Center at Tule Lake Project, and 37 from Marysville the population increased to 2952. With 9591 persons at Manzanar and 7760 at Poston, the total population as of June 17 was 20,301.

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*James*

DAILY INFORMATION ROUNDUP

War Relocation Authority  
VOL. I, No. 36

San Francisco Regional Office  
June 22, 1942

CENTRAL UTAH ABRAHAM APPROVED

Approval of the Central Utah Abraham site was received from Washington this morning. Written military clearance was also received, although verbal clearance had been given on Saturday. Directives have now been written to the Army for the purchase of the land and water stock.

No further developments have been reported on other sites under consideration.

-----  
PLANS UNDER WAY  
FOR RELEASING STUDENTS

Dr. Robbins Barstow of Hartford Theological Seminary and the National Student Relocation Committee conferred on Saturday with Mr. Fryer and Mr. Coverly regarding the transfer of evacuee students to mid-west colleges. The plan will include sending a member of the Committee to each project to interview students and to have them fill out questionnaires. Until this is done the number of students desiring to continue their college work at mid-west institutions cannot be determined.

-----  
POULTRY FARM FOR POSTON

Arrangements are being made at Poston for an 80-acre chicken



ranch, for which plans and specifications have been completed. Additional farm projects, a swine and hog ranch and a fish pond, have passed the blue-print stage. W. C. Sharpe of Phoenix is now Superintendent of Farm Management.

Two trucks are now making daily hauls of sod from the 6½-acre plot of Bermuda grass bought by the Poston War Relocation Administration. Richard Wilson from Consolidated Ute Indian Reservation will assist the Landscape Committee, headed by Harry Kikuchi.

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MINIDOKA FIRST TO HAVE  
WRA MEDICAL SET-UP

Minidoka War Relocation Project will be the first one to have a hospital and medical set-up planned from the paper stage with the co-operation of the WRA medical office. Under the WRA plan hospital buildings are four feet wider than army-planned buildings, which allows considerable more space between beds. The interior plans differ in that adjustments had to be made for women at one end of the ward and men at the other. Administration, surgery, and out-patient departments will be housed in three separate buildings instead of in one.

At Manzanar, Poston, Gila River, and Tule Lake projects construction of the hospital units was according to army specifications. At Tule Lake, however, it was possible to make changes in the interior design in line with the WRA plan. At Gila River the administration building of the hospital will follow WRA design.



When the Gila River project was increased from a capacity of 10,000 evacuees to 15,000, it meant a change in the hospital plans. As a result, a temporary 35-bed hospital will be built within three weeks at the small camp (Buttes), reducing the need at the large camp (Canal) by one ward. When the hospital units are completed, the temporary hospital at Buttes Camp will be made a dispensary and infirmary, able to accomodate patients over night before sending them on to the main hospital at the Canal Camp.

Present plans call for a 180-bed hospital at Tule Lake, with some possible expansion, 250 at Poston, 250 at Manzanar, 221 at Gila River in the main hospital and the 35-bed infirmary in addition, and 185 beds at Minidoka. Tule Lake, Poston, and Manzanar will have the standard 37-bed wards, while the other projects will have 14-bed wards.

The hospital at Tule Lake is finished except for the two possible additional wards. Equipment and supplies have been ordered and are en route. Basic equipment has also been ordered for Poston, Manzanar, Minidoka, and Gila River.

Caucasians have been named chief of staff at both the Tule Lake and Minidoka hospitals. Dr. A. Bradford Carson is Chief Medical Officer at the former project and Dr. Lauren M. Nehr has been appointed to that position at the latter. Dr. Nehr is at present on special detail at Tule Lake. Dr. Jack Sleath, also temporarily at Tule Lake, has not yet been permanently assigned. Miss Margaret Graham is Chief Nurse at Tule Lake.

The medical skills available among Japanese doctors have not yet been determined. There will ~~xx~~ probably have to be some reshuff.



of doctors and nurses to balance the various centers. Dr. Thompson, Regional Medical Officer, expects that there will be one doctor for about every 1200 persons.

The problem of nurses is acute. There will have to be training schools for nurse aids, and it is probable that at least one school for the training of nurses must be established. Where this school will be located will depend to a great extent upon where the best teaching staff is available and a large enough number of cases to offer the variety necessary for developing the best nursing skills.

More dentists and pharmacists are available than necessary for community needs. Here the problem will be to make use of these professionals so that all of them will have enough practice to retain their skill. Pharmacists particularly will be used on hospital staffs wherever the best use can be made of their knowledge.

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#### POPULATION INCREASES TO 22,351

With the arrival of 499 evacuees from the Sacramento Assembly Center, the population at Tule Lake as of June 21 was 4972. Manzanar reported 9610 and Parker, 7769, making a total population at the projects of 22,351.

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DAILY INFORMATION ROUNDUP

War Relocation Authority

San Francisco Regional Office

VOL. I, No. 37

June 23, 1942

AND THERE WAS NO FIRE AT TULE

The lumber lay where the contractors had piled it - scrap lumber, the left-over pieces that weren't worth the price of transporting ~~it~~ back to the town. Clean, unused wood, piled in a gigantic heap. And trash must be burned, particularly when it lies on land that is unexpectedly destined to be the site of more buildings. Tule Lake War Relocation Project was to be enlarged. The cluttered site must be cleared. It would be a pity to burn lumber that still had life in it - not for buildings, but for shelves and tables, partitions and porches - that only needed clever hands to fashion it into badly wanted articles for transforming barracks into homes. So thought the administration.

A call was sent out by the employment office for workers to remove the lumber. Eighteen Japanese responded - not enough to make a dent in the huge pile in the time allowed. So there would have to be a fire. Tule Lake had had fires, but none before had been planned.

Mr. Hoffman, regional supervisor of fire protection, was visiting the project. He, too, thought of the waste. As fire chief he refused his consent to the bonfire. It would be a terrific fire hazard. He was disturbed. You couldn't force the residents to remove the lumber against their will. There must be



some way to make them want to remove it. That was Saturday noon, June 6.

Not many hours later there were rumors flooding the camp. "I hear it's going to be burned on Monday..... if it's burned, we won't get more for furniture....we can use the trucks....it belongs to us.....did you hear,.... do you know..." On Sunday morning the block leaders got to work. They backed up the rumors with urgent pleas. Soon a new activity was noticeable throughout the camp.

By the tens and hundred men, women, and children were flocking toward the lumber and coming back, their arms piled high. All day they worked and as long as the twilight lasted. All day twenty trucks rumbled back and forth, carting the lumber. Little heaps grew in scattered spots. More fire hazards, thought Chief Hoffman, but we can take care of them later. The lumber will not be burned.

June 16. The recreation hall. Excitement at fever pitch. The judges had arrived. This was the day of the Furniture Exhibit. Prizes would be awarded. Among the judges were outsiders, men who were in the furniture business or who appreciated this type of craftsmanship. It was a great day. It was an amazing exhibit.

And into that exhibit had gone many pieces of <sup>that</sup> "scrap" lumber.

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#### MANZANAR ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF SET

With the War Relocation Authority's taking over the management of Manzanar has come a reorganization of the administrative staff. Directing the activities of the project now are the following: Roy Nash, Project Director; Louis Hicks, Asst. Project Director;



Robert Brown, Asst. in charge of project reports; Fred L. Conner, Senior Administrative Officer; Kenneth Horton, Chief of Police; Arthur Miller, Director, Employment and Personnel; Capt. T. I. Clevenger, Mess & Lodging; R. R. Best, Warehouse and Freight; Frank Grilly, Auto Maintenance; William L. Hall, Chief Steward; Howard Mann, Procurement Department; J. B. Peters, Finance Department; Thomas Temple, Service Department; Herbert F. Thorne, Maintenance Department; and R. J. Yust, Mess Division.

Three of the administrators are veterans, retained from the previous Wartime Civil Control Administration: Robert Brown, Arthur Miller, and Herbert Thorne. Mr. Horton also saw service under the WCCA, but his department was under the jurisdiction of the Internal Security Division.

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#### REX LEE SPEAKS AT CONFERENCE

Mr. Lee, regional re-employment officer, is speaking today in Boise, Idaho, before a meeting of the Federal Regional Advisory Council. His subject will be the labor shortage, the employment of evacuee labor, and the means of securing this labor. The Council is concerned primarily with health and welfare activities, and the two-day conference in Boise will deal mainly with problems in Idaho.

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#### MEMOS OF AGREEMENT

Word comes from Washington that Community Management and the Solicitor's office are collaborating in development of a memorandum of understanding with the Federal Security Agency. The memo



will cover WRA relocations with the Office of Education, U.S. Employment Service, Public Health Service, and other agencies of the Federal Security family.

A draft of an agreement covering operation of the Tule Lake project has not yet been reached with the Department of the Interior. Draft of a memo covering Gila is being held up pending outcome of the Tule negotiations. The Tule agreement, as finally signed, will serve as a pattern for future agreements with Interior. An agreement has been signed with Farm Security governing the Rohwer project, and negotiations are now under way on a similar agreement for Jerome.

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#### REGIONAL OFFICE APPOINTMENTS

Solon T. Kimball of the U. S. Indian Service is to handle the affairs of the Community Organization Division.

Mr. Hall Stenz comes from the Navajo Indian Agency to assume the duties of Head of Procurement.

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#### RESS TO INVESTIGATE SITES IN MOUNTAIN STATES

Fred W. Ress, Senior Land Economist, is due to arrive tonight in Fort Peck, Montana, to investigate a suggested site in that region. On paper, at least, the area appears to be a rather unlikely prospect.

Following Fort Peck, Mr. Ress will investigate sites at Mirage Flats in northwestern Nebraska, Buffalo Rapids No. 1, in the Lower Yellowstone River region, Montana, and the Buford-Printon



area in North Dakota. These sites are being investigated for the North Central Regional Office under the direction of Mr. Smart.

Files on the X-Y Ranch and Heart Mountain projects are being sent from the Lands Division to the Denver office, from where these projects will be administered.

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POSTON TO HAVE AMPHITHEATERS

Construction of two or possibly three outdoor amphitheaters, each seating approximately 3000, are being planned for Poston and will be started shortly. These theaters will serve for the exhibition of motion pictures and other entertainment.

Bulldozers and scrapers will be used for the excavation. The design is in keeping with a civic beautification plan mapped out by Isamu Noguchi, a famous sculptor of Polish-Japanese ancestry who formerly lived in New York.

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BOOKS AND MAGAZINES WANTED

Books and magazines of all kinds are wanted badly for the project libraries. All members of the regional office staff having books and magazines which they would like to give are asked to leave them with Miss Eleanor Bauman, Head of the Documents Section, in Room 362.

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POPULATION 23, 876

Census reports as of June 22 show the following: Tule Lake, 5481; Poston, 7778; and Manzanar, 9617. Total: 23,876.

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DAILY INFORMATION ROUNDUP

War Relocation Authority

San Francisco Regional Office

VOL. I, No. 39

June 25, 1942

CENTRAL UTAH ABRAHAM  
SITE ANNOUNCED

Public announcement of the selection of the Central Utah Abraham site for the relocation of 10,000 evacuees was made yesterday by the Army.

Contracts for construction will be let immediately, and the U. S. Army Engineers hope that the camp will be completed within 60 days.

The area lies in the famous alfalfa region of Utah, and at the present time alfalfa, sugar beets and grain are being raised on the 9760 acres of land owned by private interest. This land, together with the 8840 acres owned by Millard County will be purchased by the government. The balance of the 20,000 acres, 1400 acres, is in the public domain. Ample water is available for the complete development of the area.

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POSTON COMPLETING WATER SUPPLY

Early completion of Poston's domestic water supply is seen in an announcement from the Colorado River War Relocation Project that equipment for Camp No. 2's pumping system arrived on June 21 and is now being installed at Well No. 1, which is located in the north central section of the camp. Equipment consists of a



centrifugal pump capable of 1000 gallons per minute, a 40 h.p. motor supplemented by a 50 h.p. auxiliary gasoline engine. Pump fittings, however, have not been received.

Ellis Georgia, area engineer for the U.S. Army Engineers, announced that an excellent water supply is now available at Camp No. 3. Crews brought in a 300-foot well in the Recreation Area between E and F Streets.

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NATIONAL STUDENT RELOCATION  
COUNCIL ORGANIZES COMMITTEE

Mr. Coverley met last night in Berkeley with the National Student Relocation Council for the West Coast Area, at which time it was decided to organize an executive committee to carry on the campaign to secure release of evacuee students for continuing their education at colleges and universities.

The executive committee will be headed by President Sproule of the University of California. Mr. Fryer, Mr. Coverley, and Mrs. Adams will act as consultants. The executive committee will be assisted by three district committees, the Pacific Northwest, Northern California, and Southern California. They will have a number of counsellors who will pass on the applications of the Japanese for education furloughs.

The Army is now checking a complete list of institutions of higher learning in the United States to determine which ones will be acceptable. So far, about one-fourth of the list has been cleared. It appears that the larger, urban universities will, in general, be excluded.

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ADEQUATE FIRE PROTECTION  
ASSURED FOR PROJECTS

According to Colonel Foy, General DeWitt has promised that all the relocation centers will get equipment necessary for adequate fire protection. Mr. Hoffman, supervisor of fire protection, is now in the regional office working on requisitions for the necessary equipment.

At the present time Tule Lake has 650 ft. of fire hose, which had fortunately been delivered the day before the fire which damaged the dormitory of the administrative staff. According to Mr. Hoffman, the alertness and cooperation of the Japanese in constant patrol has saved Tule Lake from having more serious fires. Aside from the dormitory fire, which resulted in approximately \$1500 worth of damage, there have been twelve fires, of which the total damage has probably not amounted to more than \$200. This was due to the fact that the danger was known and the spots patrolled.

A system of fire patrols has been organized at the Colorado River Project. It is proving very efficient in the removal of fire hazards and constant vigilance. Thomas Nichimoto, fire chief, believes that with minimum equipment it will be possible to go through the year without a serious fire.

Fire protection will be under an organization consisting of an associate fire protection officer, assistant fire protection officer, and a complete fire department of Japanese personnel. This will include a fire chief, captains, engineers, auto firemen, and firemen. A Bureau of Fire Education will be established which will undertake community education in fire prevention.

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RAILHEAD WAREHOUSES EASE  
POSTON TRANSPORT PROBLEM

Completion of six warehouse, each 40 x 100 feet, served by a 1500-foot spur track built by the Santa Fe Railroad, is expected to alleviate Poston's problems of transportation between the Parker, Arizona, railhead and the Colorado River Relocation Project. The warehouses were ready for occupancy on June 22.

The new warehouse area is located southwest of Parker's town limits. Work crews this week are completing the final assignment, construction of loading platforms. Chief feature of the Poston railhead warehouse setup is Warehouse No. 2, sole refrigerator unit, which has three separate sections planned for meat storage, dairy products, and produce.

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3371 EMPLOYED ON MANZANAR PROJECTS

Of 6298 employable persons at Manzanar, 3269 citizens and 3029 non-citizens, 3371 are now employed on 70 different work projects.

Two hundred workers are now on the camouflage net project with more expected. Persistent rumors around the camp that this work was not healthy have been denied by Public Health Administrator Dr. Yoshiye Togaski, who stated that no major occupational hazards were involved. "It will not be a source of tuberculosis. Ventilation conditions are satisfactory."

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WAGE POLICIES UNDER DISCUSSION

Since wage policies of the WCCA and the WRA are not the same, an attempt is being made to reconcile the differences. Mr. Coverley



and Major Shumacher of the WCCA are meeting to discuss the whole matter of wage policies.

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POLICIES GOVERNING AGRICULTURAL  
PRODUCTION ESTABLISHED

Instructions have been issued by the Washington office regarding the policies to be followed by WRA in planning agricultural production at relocation centers.

The first objective is to supply as much as possible of the food required by evacuees. The 1942 program will be almost wholly directed to this end. Tule Lake, Manzanar, Colorado River, and Gila are probably the only areas on which a reasonable variety and quantity of food can be grown this year.

The second objective is to grow "such products as are most urgently needed for supplying the armed forces and for sale to or through the Office of Lend Lease Administration to provision the United Nations. Much of this production will need to be processed, probably by dehydration, in order to be of maximum value in the war effort. Every effort will be made to dispose of these products direct to the armed forces and the Lend Lease Administration."

Third place in the schedule will be given vitally needed crops such as seeds and long-staple cotton, and possibly oil crops. Crops not coming into production for several years will be grown only on land not suitable for other crops.

Livestock production will be confined to poultry and hogs. Dairies will not ordinarily be established.

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COLORADO RIVER  
WAR RELOCATION PROJECT

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POSTON GROUP WORK  
IN FULL SWING

Although there are still many phases of the education and recreation program to be worked out, considerable progress has been made at the Colorado River Relocation Project in organizing groups for both instruction and recreation.

Two nursery schools have been set up for the three to five age groups with 40 to 50 children registered in each school. The leader of one school is from the Institute of Child Welfare in Berkeley and the other is an elementary-school teacher from Bakersfield. Each leader has about four assistants, who are high-school graduates. The children are picked up by truck from 8:30 to 9:00. The morning's schedule calls for play from 9:00 to 10:00, milk at 10:00, music from 10:15 to 10:30, more activity until 11:00, when the children are returned home in time for a rest before lunch.

These two schools care for only about one-third of the population in the 3-4-5 age groups. Several blocks have their own organizations for supervising the children's activities. About 1000 are registered in the vacation school run by the church groups. This includes children up to the age of twelve.



Adult and collegiate education will be grouped together, according to John Powell, regional associate education specialist, who has been working on the problem at Poston. Although plans are not yet complete, it is hoped that instruction will be in seminars rather than in formal classes. There are quite a number of undergraduates and recent graduates who will probably not take advantage of education furloughs.

The first course in the adult education program was an introductory course, "Planning for Poston," a series of seven lecture-discussions given by the administrative staff particularly for group leaders. The topics discussed were "The Natural History of Poston," "Engineering Poston," "Doing Business in Poston," "Employment Policies," "Education and Welfare," "Health and Sanitation," and "Planning for Poston." The material will be available in mimeographed form, both in English and Japanese, for use in other groups.

English classes are in great demand, particularly by the older women and the Kibei. A greater understanding of American concepts through an understanding of English will undoubtedly be the result, since there are apparently many American terms which have no accurate translation in Japanese.

High-school, young women, and mothers' clubs are now functioning. The sewing class had a registration of 150 the first day. 100 are in boxing classes, 170 in wrestling, 160 in the Japanese game of Go, and 12 boys are making model aircraft. Social and tap-dancing classes occupy a whole building and classes go



on all day. The piano classes also have a full day's teaching schedule on the five available pianos. There are three art classes and one in fashion design.

Motion pictures, 16 mm. sound, are shown every night. At present these are free and are supported by the store's profits. Each night two quads (4 blocks) have shows. Dances are held every weekend, and talent shows of 15 acts every week. The Nisei have also organized a weekly talent show.

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#### ATTORNEYS AT MANZANAR

Robert B. Throckmorton and Lewis Sigler, who is from the Washington Solicitor's Office, have gone to Manzanar to determine to what extent attorneys are needed there and how best they can fit in if they are needed. Mr. Throckmorton and Mr. Sigler plan to spend about ten days at Tule Lake on the same mission. While Mr. Throckmorton is gone, Mr. Lachliter from the Washington office is taking his place in the regional office.

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#### NURSING CONSULTANT APPOINTED

Miss Joy Barragrey Stuart has been appointed Regional Nursing Consultant. She was formerly on the staff of the Utah State Department of Health as maternal and child health nursing consultant.

Dr. Thompson, Regional Medical Officer, will act as advisor to the other regional offices on medical and health problems.

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NED CAMPBELL SUCCEEDS LOUIS HICKS

Ned Campbell, formerly Assistant Project Director at Large, has succeeded Louis Hicks at Manzanar as Assistant Project Director. Mr. Campbell has been in the regional office for the past two days.

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PAMPHLETS ORDERED FOR PROJECTS

The Documents Section of the regional office has ordered free pamphlets from various agencies for the use of both the administrative staff and the evacuees at projects. Material has been ordered from the Bureau of Reclamation, the Department of Agriculture, and other federal agencies, and from the Cooperative League of U. S. A. The Tolson Committee Reports have been sent.

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ELECTION SYSTEM SET UP

AT MANZANAR

A new procedure for block leaders' nominations and elections at Manzanar has been established to enable residents to elect their representatives on a democratic basis.

Eligible to vote will be every adult person, 21 years of age or over. The election will go to the candidate polling the largest number of votes, the alternate being the second highest. Previously, residents were permitted to nominate three persons from which list the administration made the appointment. Prior to the election by secret ballot, nominees' names will be posted for several days.

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FIRST BABY AT TULE LAKE NAMED

The first child born at the Tule Lake Project has been named Newell Kazuo Noda.

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26,986 EVACUEES AT PROJECTS

As of June 29: Tule Lake, 9038; Parker, 8272; Manzanar, 9676. Total: 26,986.