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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
700 Telegraph Building,
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

*Regan
Poughs*

Patman

October 8, 1943.

Project Employment Officers:

The new relocation office for central and eastern counties of Pennsylvania and northern Maryland is now "open for business."

I shall appreciate your calling the enclosed literature to the attention of any evacuees who may be interested in Pennsylvania. More information is available in case they care to write for it. I believe there are some real opportunities in this region.

Sincerely,

C. L. White
Relocation Officer
700 Telegraph Building
Harrisburg, Pa.

NEW RELOCATION OFFICE IN PENNSYLVANIA

A new W.R.A. Relocation Office was opened last week at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, by C. L. White, former relocation officer at Minneapolis. This office will serve central and eastern counties of Pennsylvania and northern Maryland.

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Dotting the rich rural regions of central Pennsylvania are industrial cities such as Harrisburg, which is the same size as Berkeley or Pasadena in California; Lancaster, with about the same population as Fresno, Stockton or San Jose; Reading and Allentown, in the same population class as Sacramento or Tacoma; Lebanon, which matches Yakima.

Pennsylvania has about 350 towns and cities above 2500 population, many more than any other state. Within its borders or a few hours away by motor truck are the majority of the big cities of the United States. All of this points to town and rural opportunities of a great variety.

The Project Employment Office has illustrated material about Pennsylvania. Interested persons may secure additional information by writing C. L. White, Relocation Officer, 700 Telegraph Building, Harrisburg, Pa.

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OCT 25 1948

PENNSYLVANIA -- NEWEST RELOCATION AREA

Pennsylvania is a paradox.

It is one of the smaller states -- 31 others are bigger -- yet tops all others except one in population.

It is one of the two or three greatest industrial and mining states, but it also ranks near the top as an agricultural state.

It has many more towns and cities above 2500 population than any other state, yet it is exceeded by only one other state in rural population.

In area California is three and one-half times as large as Pennsylvania. Yet all of California has fewer people than live in Pennsylvania outside of its two largest cities, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. Oregon is twice the size of Pennsylvania, but has about one-tenth as many people. Washington also is much larger, but has about one-sixth the population.

TOPOGRAPHY -- The southeastern and northwestern quarters of Pennsylvania have rolling or flat topography, generally speaking, the southeast sloping gently down to sea level along the Delaware River and the northwest to the Shores of Lake Erie. These areas, especially the southeast, and the valleys of the central section, comprise some of the richest farming country of the United States.

Some of the finest farms lie between the ridges of the Allegheny Mountains, which cross the state diagonally from northeast to southwest. The highest points of the Alleghenies reach barely 3000 feet above sea level. Many of the mountains are farmed to the very top, though most of the steeper ridges are forest land.

About half of Pennsylvania, including most of the north and central plateau region, is woodland. There are state forest areas in over half of the state's 67 counties. The woods provide a natural "shelter belt."

CLIMATE -- The varied topography results in considerable differences in climate. Southeast of the Alleghenies the temperature goes up to 90 degrees only 15 days during the average summer. It drops to zero at Harrisburg only one winter in three on the average. The growing season is from 170 to 200 days; rainfall averages from 38 to 46 inches.

The mountain region's growing season averages from 130 to 165 days. Rainfall averages three or four more inches than in the southeast. Somewhat greater extremes of temperature are experienced, due to the mountain and valley influence.

Precipitation in the higher northern counties averages 41 inches and the growing season is 130 days or somewhat less in most parts of the plateau area.

For comparison with a midwestern state, precipitation in various parts of Iowa ranges from 26 to 36 inches. The average growing season there is 158 days. The extremes of temperature are greater in Iowa -- that is, it gets hotter in summer and colder in winter in the Midwest.

INDUSTRY AND MINING -- Pennsylvania leads all other states by a wide margin in the production of iron and steel products, and in cement, glass, cigars, leather, rayon goods and many other manufactured articles and materials. The state is sometimes known as the workshop of the world. Towns of all sizes have their factories and these days most of them are concerned in some way with the war effort.

Practically all of the nation's anthracite coal is mined here, and more bituminous coal than in any other state except one. There is heavy production of petroleum and natural gas.

VEGETABLE AND FRUIT PRODUCTION -- Vegetable production is increasing rapidly in Pennsylvania as more growers take advantage of their unequalled nearby markets. The country's largest producers of canned soups and tomato products recently have made great increases in their contract acreage in Pennsylvania.

Although 31 other states are larger than Pennsylvania, in commercial production of vegetables it ranks high: in asparagus it ranks 4th; beets, 3rd; snap beans, 9th; cabbage, 3rd; celery, 10th; carrots, 12th; late spinach, 4th, tomatoes, 11th.

Pennsylvania's rank in production of fruit: cherries, 7th; grapes, 5th; pears, 8th; peaches, 8th; apples, 4th.

POULTRY AND LIVESTOCK -- The nearness of good markets and much direct-to-the-consumer marketing gives Pennsylvania farmers a large share of the consumer's dollar. They received \$59,618,000 for their eggs in a recent year and \$115,332,000 for their milk. Milk worth \$30,444,000 was retailed by farmers to nearby users. The state regularly ranks first or second in poultry income and third in dairy income.

In 1941 Pennsylvania farmers averaged \$4.40 for each of the nearly four million dollars worth of turkeys sold -- a higher price than all other states except one. Half of the hogs killed in the state are farm-butchered -- again giving the producer a much larger than average share of the consumer's dollar.

MARKETING METHODS -- Millions of dollars of farm income are derived from sales through stands in retail farmers' markets in central Pennsylvania cities. For example, some days in normal times over 3,000 dressed chickens are carried out of one of the farmers' markets in York by housewives of that city.

Some vegetable and fruit growers maintain roadside markets for both retail and wholesale trade. In peace times some roadside stands far out in the country measure their weekly business in hundreds and thousands of dollars.

Many producers do a profitable door-to-door retail business. Others sell their products to hucksters either direct or through community auction markets.

Farmers' cooperative egg auctions have for years at a time brought producers two or three cents a dozen above the top New York prices for corresponding grades -- the buyers being wholesale and retail dealers from nearby towns. Numerous other auction markets provide outlets for livestock and most other farm products. Besides, the big city wholesale markets are within easy reach by truck or by rail. Their nearness means that shipping costs are low.

Much of the state's whole milk is sold through producers' cooperatives to retailers in New York, Newark, Baltimore, Washington, Cleveland and other nearby big cities.

FISHING AND HUNTING -- To round out a very sketchy picture of the Keystone State it should be mentioned that Pennsylvania farmers and business men are sportsmen. The state is famous for its fine trout streams. There is also lake fishing in some sections. Those who prefer salt water enjoy nearby Delaware and Chesapeake Bays and the Atlantic Ocean.

Pennsylvania is the greatest big game state. Practically every year from 100,000 to 200,000 or more deer are killed by hunters, along with several hundred bear. One recent year's bag of small game included over 3,000,000 rabbits, 1,000,000 squirrels, 450,000 ringnecked pheasants, 220,000 ruffed grouse, 70,000 quail, 52,000 wild waterfowl, 5,000 wild turkeys.

Further information about Pennsylvania and employment and farming opportunities may be obtained from:

C. L. White, Relocation Officer
War Relocation Authority
700 Telegraph Building
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
700 Telegraph Building,
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

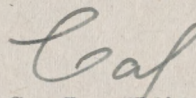
November 20, 1943

Mr. Robert M. Cullum
c/o Edwin G. Arnold
Acting Chief,
Relocation Division,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Cullum:

Attached is a 200-word yarn entitled "Opportunity
in Pennsylvania" which I have sent New York in re-
sponse to your request for something for the area
bulletin.

Sincerely,



C. L. White,
Relocation Officer

CLW/hb
Enc.



OPPORTUNITY IN PENNSYLVANIA

*file in
Pa file*

Sitting in an office of the California Department of Agriculture in Sacramento years ago, we overheard a busy telegraph instrument in the next room. Being a visitor from Pennsylvania, we had to ask what the dots and dashes were saying.

An official said: "We are relaying market reports to branch offices for the benefit of our California farmers."

"What markets are you reporting on," we queried.

"Oh, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Baltimore, and all the big eastern markets," he said.

No doubt radio has changed the markets reporting methods. But millions of Easterners still buy California vegetables, fruit and eggs, because the rich nearby eastern farms don't fully supply their needs.

There are 38,000,000 people in Pennsylvania and the states which border it. More than 30 cities from 100,000 to 7,000,000 population are as close to Harrisburg, the capital of Pennsylvania, as San Francisco is to Los Angeles.

From Harrisburg it is only 176 miles to New York, 114 to Washington, 302 to Buffalo.

The Relocation Officer in the W.R.A. office at Harrisburg will be glad to hear from evacuees interested in vegetable, poultry and dairy farming possibilities in central Pennsylvania which is dotted with and surrounded by these rich markets.

Address C. L. White, Relocation Officer, 700 Telegraph Building, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

HARRISBURG OFFICE

Report for the Initial Period, Ending October 9, 1943

Furniture for the new relocation office, 700 Telegraph Building, Harrisburg, Pa., was uncrated October 5th. No office visitors and no correspondence from the projects. Some calls:

Raymond Mason, Pennsylvania State Director of the War Manpower Commission, indicated that his organization and the U.S.E.S. would cooperate fully. He arranged for me to work out details with Rudolph Koenig of his staff.

Mr. Mason gave me the Commission's ratings as to labor stringency of the principal Pennsylvania cities, as follows:

Group I

Allentown

Group II

Aliquippa
Chambersburg
Erie
Harrisburg
Lancaster
Philadelphia
Pittsburgh
Reading

Group III

Lebanon
New Castle
Washington
York

Group IV

Altoona
Berwick
Johnstown
Scranton
Williamsport

In the coal mining regions there is at once a surplus and a shortage of labor. The mines need help, but the people who make up the surplus cannot or will not work in the mines.

Mr. Koenig was interested and promised to work closely with W.R.A. However, he prefers that we see Mr. McNamee, the regional director in Philadelphia, before we attempt to work out details of a directive to be sent to the local offices throughout the state telling them how to cooperate.

Mr. Koenig says there are numerous vocational schools giving defense training courses which he believes will be open to evacuees. He says the need for labor is pressing, but the greatest need is in plants which probably will require Joint Board War Plant clearance.

The Dauphin County Agricultural Agent, Mr. Frommeyer, said that farm needs have easily been taken care of locally, excepting seasonal work such as fruit picking. The transfer of men from non-essential to farm work to avoid the draft has held farm wages down. Fifty dollars a month plus room and board is a common wage and \$75 is tops. He mentioned two farms that may need year-around help. Am checking.

The general secretary of the Harrisburg Y.W.C.A., Edith Groner, have numerous helpful suggestions. She wanted to hire a Nisei girl for her staff but her board of directors rejected the idea. The colored secretary of the local negro Y.W.C.A. also made a plea to Miss Groner against hiring a Nisei, saying it would add to the already critical racial tension in this area. Temporary housing probably will be available at the Y.W.C.A. when needed, though the demand for rooms there far exceeds the number available.

Harrison Nolt, an orchardist and very prominent farm organization leader of Lancaster County pointed out that Pennsylvania agriculture is based on family size farms. He insisted that leaves little or no room for extra families, since most farms have no extra housing. He said that regardless of government urgings, farm production is being scaled to the visible labor supply, so there is no great need of help from outside.

The Hershey Chocolate Corporation at Hershey, Pa., has fifty or more farms, most of which are operated in connection with the Hershey Industrial School. Mr. Rockwell, farm superintendent, said their present needs have been cared for by their old help and by part time schoolboy workers. He was not so sure about the future and said my call may not prove to have been fruitless. The large Hershey Hotel, which should have jobs for gardeners and inside workers, has been taken over by the State Department. Expect to explore other possibilities at Hershey.

Chris Cassel, perhaps the outstanding farmer of Dauphin County, has a very good tenant house standing empty. He promised to consider an evacuee couple and asked that I return some evening to talk with his son, who is his partner.

The State Secretary of Agriculture, Miles Horst, said local people would fight importation of labor that might result in a relief and school burden later. He had in mind the influx of negroes after the last war. He probably can be convinced that a few evacuees would not duplicate the negro problems but he indicated he would remain cool to any "outsiders" contemplating settlement in the Pennsylvania Dutch communities. William Hagar, Deputy State Secretary of Agriculture, is perhaps less conservative, but he was noncommittal.

W. E. Overstreet, local F.B.I. representative, insisted he did not think the army would permit any evacuees to be brought into this area. Of course, that indicated entire ignorance of the subject and my explanations left him still fearful of the "sly Japs."

This again points up the need of instruction to F.B.I. men from F.B.I. headquarters on the relocation program.

Mr. Overstreet asked that we talk with J. F. Sears, district head of the F.B.I., 500 Widener Building, Philadelphia.

Attached is copy of an announcement about the Harrisburg office prepared for possible use in the project newspapers.

Have prepared for the project employment offices a general statement on this area containing information that may answer inquiries about local business, farm and climatic conditions. Also secured from various agencies a supply of a half dozen illustrated folders and booklets on Pennsylvania industry and agriculture which have been sent to the project employment offices.

- - C. L. White
Relocation Officer

OCT 25 1943

HARRISBURG OFFICE REPORT

October 11 to October 23, 1943

OCT 25 1943

The attached material has been prepared for distribution by the project employment offices to interested evacuees.

Several speaking engagements have been accepted. Spoke first, by request of the state chairman of the U.S.D.A. War Board, to the state conference of field supervisors.

The principal activity of the period has been continued missionary work. At the Pennsylvania State College received job offers for three research assistants and for laborers in the college poultry projects. The Dean of the School of Agriculture was interested and co-operative. The Assistant to the President, in charge of instruction, promised to reopen with the Eastern Defense Command the question of hiring evacuees as staff members. The idea was vetoed by the army a year ago, after which the Board of Trustees took similar action. There is reason to believe the Trustees will reverse themselves now if the army changes its stand of a year ago.

Little hope of nisei being admitted as students due to lack of sufficient facilities for qualified applicants from Pennsylvania.

The Director of Agricultural Extension expressed strong feeling on racial matters but volunteered to co-operate by sending matter on relocation to the County Agents throughout the state. At a later meeting with the Extension Director in Harrisburg he seemed so hostile to relocation efforts in Pennsylvania that little active cooperation can be expected. This seems to be a matter of Pennsylvania Dutch conservatism plus some personal racial prejudice. It was the only adverse attitude encountered among those interviewed at State College.

Checked with the head of the State Soil Conservation Service on land his agency operates in northern Pennsylvania. These tracts had been mentioned as possible relocation sites. He said these abandoned farms are being reforested and made into permanent pasture. No buildings remain. He referred me to a better located area in southern Pennsylvania where there are some

** as he would call it*

unoccupied farms. Am investigating.

Lt. Col. W. Morgan, head of the Security Division of the army for central Pennsylvania, promised cooperation but requested that we get in touch with his superior officers in Baltimore. Hope for his cooperation on placements in non-critical defense plants without the necessity of waiting for Joint Board War Plant clearance. Have reported to the Relocation officer at Baltimore.

X With Mr. Cullum and Mr. Patterson called in Philadelphia on J. F. Sears, regional director of the F.B.I., and Frank L. McNamee, regional War Manpower Commission director, to clarify relationships with local offices of these agencies. To date the state office of the War Manpower Commission seems not to have received the promised go-ahead signal from Mr. McNamee for a directive to the U.S.E.S. offices.

The state secretary of the Y.M.C.A. was hardly enthusiastic but probably can be counted on for limited cooperation. However, housing problems will have to be handled with the officers of the individual Y.M.C.A.'s.

Doctor Mudge, secretary of the Pennsylvania Council of Churches, provided names of key religious leaders throughout the state and can probably be counted on for some cooperation.

The head of the Harrisburg Kiwanis Club thought his members would want full information. He asked that the story be presented at a luncheon meeting in November.

The secretary of the Harrisburg Chamber of Commerce emphasized strong racial prejudice in some places but said there is great need for all kinds of help in the non-essential industries -- mostly at rather low wage levels.

By request of Colonel Morgan saw Mr. Nelson of the Pennsylvania Railroad, who is desperately in need of freight and mail handlers. These turned out to be temporary jobs but I was introduced to the Division Engineer who needs 400 trackmen. He is to let me know about possibilities for evacuees of higher skills.

The president of the Pennsylvania Hotel Association gave me some fairly good offers from his own hotel. He promised to run an announcement about the Harrisburg relocation office in the bulletin of the state association.

Informed Lt. Col. Wilhelm, head of the Pennsylvania State Police, of W.R.A. activities in this territory. He indicated a willingness to be helpful.

OCT 25 1943

Vance McCormick, called Harrisburg's leading citizen, was definitely sympathetic. He owns two of the city's newspapers and is perhaps the most influential Trustee of the Pennsylvania State College. He had no vacancies on the farms he operates on shares. He wanted to give the relocation work publicity by having our public talks reported in his two newspapers. Asked that we see the editors of both.

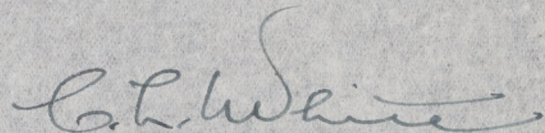
The head of the Harrisburg ministerium asked that the relocation story be presented to the ministers at their next meeting.

Was not too successful in contacting county agents and other key people in brief trips into surrounding counties. Obtained leads on a few farms for rent or for sale. One friendly county agent wanted to go slow because he feared the infiltration of foreign ideas and the future development of "social problems."

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Efforts to get even a temporary secretary, pending the possibility of securing an evacuee, have so far been unsuccessful. Civil Service seems to have no one even partially qualified.

To date much needed supplies, booklets, etc., have not arrived from Washington.



C. L. White
Relocation Officer

October 23, 1943.

File news

HARRISBURG OFFICE

Report from October 25 to November 6



Doctor Mudge, executive secretary of Pennsylvania Council of Churches, with whom I talked earlier, stopped me on the street. He wanted to warn me not to indicate that the Pennsylvania Council of Churches is backing the Relocation Program in this area. They want to do the "Christian thing", but they do not want people to get the idea the Council is helping to bring in potential saboteurs. This indicates the Relocation Officer did a poor selling job in his initial but rather brief interview.

President of the Harrisburg Ministerium invited Relocation Officer to present our program in ten minutes before about forty Harrisburg Ministers. There was less evidence of interest than in ordinary audiences.

William Cleveland, executive secretary of the Presbyterian Synod of Pennsylvania, seemed more interested and asked for information for the Church publications.

Dean Hoffman, chief editor of the Harrisburg Patriot and Evening News, seemed very much interested and inclined to cooperate.

Miss Helen Bitner started work as Secretary in the Harrisburg office on a 90-day appointment. Her first full day here was October 29.

A check-up on an inquiry from Mount Joy produced a domestic offer from a President of a small independent oil company, and an invitation to address the Mount Joy Rotary Club.

Calls on various county agents have yielded the names of people who "might" be interested, but the usual story that little additional year-round help is needed except on dairy farms.

Have sent very attractive farm offers to several projects, with no response. One of these tentative offers provides housing for three or more families, and what looks like a good opportunity for experienced vegetable growers.

The Manager and Contracting Officer of the large H. J. Heinz tomato processing plant at Chambersburg are much interested, and provided the names of potential farm locations which look promising.

The executive secretary of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Federation asked for a thirty-minute talk before the County Farm Bureau Managers. It produced many questions and enough apparent interest to justify considerable follow-up. Numerous promised job offers were involved, but mostly for laborers.

At State College again, saw Dean Fletcher of the School of Agriculture, and Director Fry, of Agricultural Extension. Supplied the latter with copies of 'Relocation of Japanese Americans' for all members of the extension forces. He asked that the Question and Answer material be supplied so he can mail it to all the county agents.

Doctor Boucher withdrew his application for a research man in Agriculture Biochemistry since the position had been filled.

Mr. Callenbach of the Poultry Department may give us some definite job offers on positions which can wait for the Joint Board Defense Plant clearance which evidently will be required.

R. C. Blaney, center agent, Bellefonte, said there was little demand for farm labor that could not be supplied locally. He referred me to local defense plants.

Mr. Curtin, head of American Lime and Stone Plant, Bellefonte, thought there might be opportunities for chemists, but their laboratories are in Philadelphia, and I am referring this to Patterson.

Robert Parks, Secretary of the Pennsylvania Poultry Association, Altoona, promised to send the material about evacuees to 175 of the largest and most active members. His father employed a Japanese years ago who was by far the best man they ever had.

County agent Hamill of Blair county, said the draft regulations are causing family men to drift back to the farm, relieving the situation. However, he referred me to some prospects.

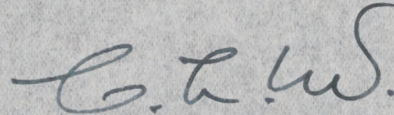
Gilbert Watts, of Bellwood, is one of the largest vegetable growers in Penna. He admitted a shortage of high-class help and supervisors, but felt the need was not acute enough to risk bringing in people from the outside who might take jobs needed by local men after the war.

Mr. Frank Witter, of the Johnstown Cut Flower Company, who had inquired, withdrew his offer because the evacuees who got in touch with him wanted too much money.

L. P. Shafer, acting area supervisor of U.S.E.S. at Altoona, promised cooperation, but confirmed the information that his large region is classified as a surplus labor area.

I am now in the process of trying to find a place for the evacuee wife and child of a Lieutenant coming to the army post at Carlisle. The last word from the local housing people, including the Chamber of Commerce Housing Bureau is that no accommodations are available. However, I believe they can be taken care of here or in Carlisle.

While results in this territory to date are not encouraging, it is perhaps a little early to judge whether the continuing "Missionary work" will open job opportunities, particularly farm jobs.



C. L. White,
Relocation Officer

CLW/hb

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Mr. Robert M. Cullum
Relocation Supervisor
War Relocation Authority
350 Fifth Avenue,
New York 1, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Cullum:

Attached is a review of my principal activities
during the past two weeks. A copy is also being
addressed to you in Washington.

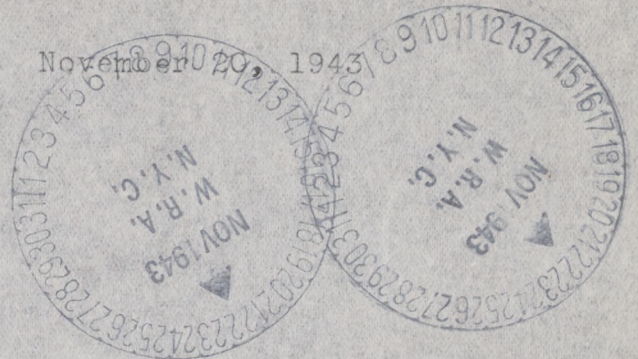
Sincerely,

W

C. L. White,
Relocation Officer

CLW/hb

Enc.



HARRISBURG OFFICE REPORT
November 6 to November 20

Reverend J. E. Rudisill, of the Christ Lutheran Church, said the Lutherans of central Pennsylvania had supported Marion Potts as a missionary in Japan. She now is with W.R.A. in Manzanar and has written asking support for evacuees coming here. Doctor Rudisill was much interested in information that National Lutheran organization has money for a hostel. Wants me to talk to the Lutheran ministers as a group. He asked me to speak to a representative group of his members at a mid-week meeting, which I did.

Reverend Alton Motter, a leading liberal, is head of the Lutheran ministers organization. He is also much interested in the hostel, and asked me to "sell" certain leading Lutherans before the matter is taken up in the meeting. Meanwhile, he is getting in touch with Franklin Coch of the United Lutheran Board in New York, who is a close friend of his.

Mayor Milliken of Harrisburg was interested and frankly hostile to Japanese generally. However, he said since the Army and F.B.I. are interested in the relocation program, he will not oppose it. Volunteered his cooperation. Asked me to see Chief of Police Blough, who he said is against relocation. Captain Blough was non-committal, but said evacuees would be stopped a half dozen times in every block if they come to Harrisburg. However, he agreed to cooperate.

Colonel Morgan, head of the Army security division for this area, indicated he will have to stick to the letter of the army's war plant rules, which also affect places bordering war plants. He is cooperating by indicating plants which do not come under the restrictions.

Lieutenant Commander Fleming of the local Office of Naval Intelligence said they may not accept Joint Board clearance as being adequate for people coming into this territory. If they do not, they will make their own investigation.

He requested and I promised to supply his office with the names of evacuees we release into this area. He has since been transferred. His place here has been taken by Lieutenant L. D. High.

Albert Schmidt, district governor of Rotary, thinks we will have a tough time relocating evacuees here --- more so than in Minneapolis which he knows. Thinks he may be able to use some, in low-pay jobs in his Capital Bakery. Indicated he would attempt a little educational work for us.

Later saw Albert's brother, Thomas. Called on him as the leading Catholic layman of Harrisburg. He was the most bitterly prejudiced person I have encountered in W.R.A. work, but I doubt if he will actively fight us.

Roy Stetler, head of Evangelical Press and president of Harrisburg Y.M.C.A., would hesitate to use evacuees in his plant, though he seemed unusually sympathetic. Thought the board of the Y would have to act on the acceptance of evacuees as roomers at the Y.M.C.A.

Doctor Thomas L. Guyton, chief of Pennsylvania Bureau of Plant Industry, said he hopes to get a seed analyst but probably will have to get one through the school for analysts in Indiana. Matter is up to the Deputy Secretary of Agriculture. Guyton also wants some good stenographers. All depends on "policy" as yet unsettled.

Appeared before the Mount Joy Rotary Club. Although this is supposed to be the heart of the very conservative Pennsylvania Dutch section, I was agreeably surprised by evidence of considerable sympathetic interest with questions for at least a half-hour after the talk.

Mike Johnson, of the I.L.G., the leading C.I.O. figure here, asked me to see several other people which I have done. He thought numerous women could be placed in his plants if they are available.

Mr. Moss, head of the radio station WKBO and on the Chamber of Commerce employers committee, arranged a small meeting in the Chamber of Commerce at which it was decided I would tell our story to the whole committee at the next meeting.

On Johnson's request, saw Mr. Medrick, director of the C.I.O. steel workers. I believe we can expect cooperation if we have men with defense plant clearance eligible for his unions.

My limited efforts with the large markets encountered wild fear of putting anyone into fruit and vegetable departments.

Tried a form letter on newspaper want ads. The first mailing of about twenty ~~offers~~ brought two offers from a cleaning plant.

In Reading, the War Manpower Area director could see little opportunity for us. He thinks their area is about

to be moved from #2 to #3 manpower classification. The county agricultural agent in Reading was very sympathetic, and offered suggestions as did other persons on whom I called. Spoke for half an hour before the Reading Friends Forum, and had nearly an hour of questions and discussion afterward.

Charles Englar, regional manager of Allis Chalmers, says ~~machinists~~ *mechanics* are particularly needed by farm equipment dealers, but there may be difficult attitudes in our way.

Joseph Straits, regional Firestone Tire manager, ignored the protests of his office manager to give me good job offers for a clerical worker and a man to start in the warehouse. If we can fill these jobs successfully, I think there will be many others in the Firestone organization throughout the state.

Sincerely,

CLW/hb

C. L. White,
Relocation Officer

HARRISBURG OFFICE REPORT
November 22 to December 4

Bruce Dunlap, Institutional Manager for the Pennsylvania Department of Welfare, said they needed many kinds of help and he would like to try evacuees. He referred me to the head of the Department of Welfare, Miss O'Hara. She seemed open-minded, but indicated there are many ramifications and that she would have to consult others before making a decision. She is to let me know whether they will give us job offers.

The regional Civil Service Commission Representative, who has his office at the Middletown Air Depot, was forced to break an appointment. His assistant said that at present there is little demand here for secretaries. She was familiar with the details of procedure effecting evacuees. Supposed to see the district representative later.

Spoke before a regional meeting of the American Association of Social Workers. There were many questions and the president and secretary suggested a later meeting when the plans for setting up a local committee could be discussed. Members of the organization from York and Lancaster asked that I attend similar meetings in their towns.

Reverend Manges, pastor of one of the largest Lutheran churches, to whom I was referred by the head of the Lutheran Ministerium, proved very sympathetic, contrary to expectations. He has a son in the South Pacific. Reverend Manges, however, did not commit himself on a Lutheran hostel.

On invitation from the industrial secretary, I met with the War Manpower Committee of the Chamber of Commerce. Their meeting evidently was for the purpose of trying to forestall the changing of Harrisburg from #2 to #1 manpower commission classification. Received two semi-domestic job offers, but evidently the other committee members did not feel like taking a chance.

Mr. Speers, district manager in charge of about 65 American Stores and Acme markets in eight counties, indicated he will put on Nisei if the home office in Philadelphia approves. He does not fear public reaction. Asked Mr. Patterson to check with the Philadelphia office; (later: he reports favorably.)

Brennen & Co. has been advertising widely for several kinds of help, but Mr. Kipp of that concern was almost violent

when I mentioned Japanese Americans. He refused to discuss the matter long enough for me to determine the source of his prejudice.

Yoshiya Tsujimoto happened in and I kept him for part of three days. We made numerous calls and he was given an opportunity to speak before the field men of the State Agricultural Administration and before the Cumberland County Commissioners. I had him visit some of the farms from which I received offers in the hope that he might interest evacuees in these jobs when he returns to the project.

Numerous other calls, some encouraging and some not, before departure for our conference in New York.

CLW/hb

C. L. White,
Relocation Officer

HARRISBURG OFFICE REPORT
December 6 to December 18

Publicity on Tule Lake has stirred considerable strong feeling in this area where so many atrocity stories have been told that numerous people seem to feel that rough treatment is in order for the Tule Lake segregants. An occasional person is quite violent on the subject. The latest encounter being with the head of the U.S.E.S. of Harrisburg, and his principal assistant. They are quite cooperative, but very strong in their denunciation of WRA "social workers."

Hoping to use them as "pump primers," have been spending some time calling on Hospitals in regard to Cadet Nurses. The outstanding nursing schools I have called on say they have a waiting list of prospects. I think this is true in the case of the largest Harrisburg nursing school, inasmuch as the Harrisburg Superintendent says a staff meeting resulted in approval of the policy of hiring Nisei nurses and other workers if they are available.

The local American Stores manager is anxious to try to recruit help, but the direct approval from Philadelphia headquarters, which has twice been promised to Henry Patterson has not yet come through. This looks promising, however, for the immediate future.

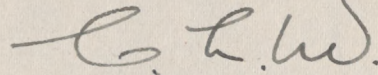
Contacts with state and local Y.M.C.A. officials are indicative of the general reaction I am finding in this territory. The state secretary is officially but not personally sympathetic. The president of the Harrisburg Y.M.C.A. is personally sympathetic but is very certain that he must not hire evacuees for his printing plant, one of the largest in this area. The secretary of the Harrisburg Y.M.C.A. has had favorable experiences with Japanese but couldn't think of using evacuees to fill vacancies on his staff. He fears public reaction, but I suspect the reaction of board members and heavy contributors is the real fear. It has been settled that evacuees may make room reservations at the Harrisburg "Y".

Likely looking prospects are now interested in the island farm prospect but lack capital. The owner does not want to finance the first year's operations nor offer security or loans. Production Credit will advance the money if someone will provide security. Farm Security will not consider loans to evacuees now, according to regional director Wood, because there is a waiting list for money at present available. If Congress provides more loan funds, Farm Security promises cooperation.

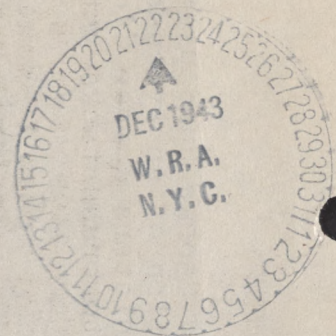
Explorations in Lancaster county indicate strong pro and anti feeling, with some good local people available to help when it comes time to set up a formal committee. The same seems to be true of Reading and York.

I have discussed with local Pastors George Rundquist's idea of having a church take the relocation of an evacuee family as a missionary project. The Ministers ~~appear~~ *approve* "in principal," but we haven't gotten down to brass tacks yet.

CLW/hb



C. L. White,
Relocation Officer



File
Full Harrisburg news report

HARRISBURG RELOCATION OFFICE

Progress Report

Period Ending December 31, 1943



The history of the Harrisburg office of the War Relocation Authority begins in October, 1943.

This relocation area in up-state Pennsylvania does not center around a large center of population, like most other relocation areas. Instead, it consists of rural regions dotted with towns and small cities, none having the more open-minded (or indifferent) metropolitan atmosphere of a large city, and none having previously been known to the evacuees in the projects.

This condition has made it necessary for the Relocation Officer to devote a large part of his time to immediately unproductive "missionary work."

This effort to overcome the typical small town resistance to relocation work has consisted of numerous talks before local organizations and countless interviews with key citizens and officials in the various communities -- people without whose sanction most employers would not consider hiring evacuees.

Paralleling this activity has been long range educational work in the projects to inform evacuees of the existence of the little known Pennsylvania communities and of the agricultural possibilities in this area which seems so well suited to the skills of experienced vegetable growers and farmers.

Either because the missionary work in the projects was inadequate, or because the short existence of this office has coincided with the "off season" for resettlement, evacuees were not found to fill the job offers from this area.

Although this stalemate existed at the end of the year, there were definite signs of a growing awareness of and interest in up-state Pennsylvania among evacuees. These signs indicated that the preliminary work of the first weeks might bear fruit in the early months of 1944.

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*M. H. H. has
copy*

Supplement to Harrisburg Report for December.

Here in Pennsylvania, more job offers have been withdrawn, after having been made in good faith, than in all my previous experience. There seems to be no organized opposition to frighten the would-be employers; the general public attitude apparently is enough to do that in some cases.

One man who had discussed having an evacuee farmer for his country place received a telephone call about it. He "cannot remember" who it was, but the caller said he had talked about the matter with several others. They had decided they would "run out of the community" any evacuee who comes in. Apparently house burning was mentioned. The would-be employer, whose farm is in Perry county, was so thoroughly frightened that his earlier offer of a good job in his city place of business has been cancelled.

This month has seen some reaction as a result of our inability to point to some jobs filled by evacuees. Employers who screwed up their courage to give us offers naturally feel let down, in spite of their understanding of the problems involved.

The manager of the York Hospital told of hiring a very highly skilled Korean doctor for laboratory work just before the war. Because he was Oriental the doctors, nurses and patients would have nothing to do with him and he had to be released although badly needed. The manager was sure there would be violent reaction to evacuees as workers or Cadet nurses. The manager of the Lancaster Hospital was himself rather violent until he recalled the popularity of Nisei in his daughter's college.

The Harrisburg Chief of Police, who insisted an evacuee walking down the street here would be reported a half dozen times in every block, did not reflect public opinion. But he did reflect the very commonly held opinion of public opinion.

Apparently the only solution is to have evacuees appear in person. If they cannot be persuaded to come to smaller cities like those of central Pennsylvania, then perhaps they can be led out to those cities, and surrounding farms, from the big cities that seem to attract them. A hostel in Philadelphia should be of great help toward getting resettlement started in upstate Pennsylvania.

The general wage level of this area is not high. Job offers generally do not look attractive enough to compete

strongly with other sections. Currently there is a local reaction in Harrisburg due mainly to the release of thousands of workers from the Middletown Air Depot and to a slowing of activity in the large steel plants.

Through contacts made at Harrisburg, York, Lancaster and Reading, there should be little difficulty in organizing local committees in those areas at the proper time. The committees at first will probably be more representative of church and social agencies than of the business community.

C. L. White,
Relocation Officer

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
700 Telegraph Building
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania



Harrisburg Relocation Officer's Report for January, 1944

The Harrisburg Relocation Office was closed during the greater part of January, as the Relocation Officer was in Philadelphia substituting for the regular officer there who was visiting a project.

The temporary secretary in Harrisburg transferred January 3rd to a permanent position with the War Housing Agency. Civil Service clearance on the expected permanent evacuee secretary did not come through, so there was no one to leave in charge in Harrisburg.

A 27-year-old single nisei, a high school graduate, arrived in Harrisburg from Granada during January on invitation. After declining available orcharding offers he asked for temporary city work. A warehouse job at 70¢ per hour, with considerable overtime, was secured for him. After working in Harrisburg two weeks he left for New York without notice to the Relocation Officer who was then in Philadelphia. He took an orchard job at \$75 per month, near Rochester, N. Y., obtained through the New York W.R.A. office.

On the urgent request of the secretary of the Hospital Association of Pennsylvania the Relocation Officer returned to Harrisburg to address the hospital superintendents of central Pennsylvania. This resulted in job offers for engineers and maintenance men from the Philadelphia area. They were turned over to Mr. Patterson. The president of the State Hospital Association asked that a similar message on relocation be given before the meeting of the State Association in Pittsburgh.

The relocation story also was given before a meeting of the social workers of York County, Pennsylvania.

Statistics of the Harrisburg Relocation Officer's work in Philadelphia doubtless are covered by the January report of the Philadelphia office. His activities there consisted of numerous office interviews with evacuees and employers; contacts with the American Stores Company; New York Shipbuilding Corporation; various printing and jewelry concerns and hospitals, the U. S. Employment Service, etc.

There were several contacts with Seabrook Farms following a visit there with the first of the evacuees to arrive.

By request of John Seabrook material was provided (and mimeographed by him) to acquaint his staff and employees with the background of the evacuees. Material also was provided for local newspaper editors and letters were written to leading Bridgeton clergymen about the Seabrook evacuees.

By request of Mr. Patterson a follow-up was made with the personnel manager of the New York Shipbuilding Corporation regarding two evacuee applicants. He said "Navy Intelligence gave an unfavorable report on one of these men. He stated emphatically he did not want to hire any evacuees, even those with War Plant Clearance and Navy approval. He considers his company's war work too important.

A nisei girl who applied for work at the Radio Corporation of America in Camden reported on the grilling she received from an investigator. She was unaware of his identity except that he apparently was "from Trenton." He seems to have asked her the same type of questions reported by one of the New York Shipbuilding applicants a few weeks earlier.

Technically trained evacuees stated that U. S. Employment Service interviewers said it was useless to refer them to war plants without Joint Board War Plant Clearance. As new applications for such clearance evidently must be made through the employer, the evacuees could not see how to break this vicious circle. An interview with the assistant director of U.S.E.S. for Philadelphia resulted in an arrangement for referring technically trained men to one of the higher U.S.E.S. officials who has contacts with employers.

The new W.R.A. automobile originally intended for the Harrisburg office was driven from New York to Philadelphia and delivered to Henry Patterson on his return.

C. L. White
Relocation Officer