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ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 17(1)
OF THE INFORMATION ACT
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(2010) 2010-00000



STANDARD VANILLA COMPANY

EXCLUSIVE MANUFACTURERS OF

Fine Vanilla Extracts and Powder

3131 NORTH MAIN STREET • LOS ANGELES 31, CALIFORNIA • CAPITOL 4168

MAY 18, 1951

DR. EDWARD N. BARNHART
DEPARTMENT OF SPEECH
424 WHEELER HALL
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
BERKELEY 4, CALIFORNIA

DEAR DR. BARNHART:

YOUR GOOD LETTER WAS DELAYED A BIT, INASMUCH AS I MOVED FROM ALHAMBRA SOME MONTHS AGO TO SOUTH PASADENA. THE RE-ROUTING OF YOUR LETTER INVOLVED ALMOST A WEEK, UNFORTUNATELY.

YOU INQUIRED FIRST ABOUT A STATEMENT I MADE AT SACRAMENTO IN 1942 RELATIVE TO THE IMPORTANCE OF THE JAPANESE IN CALIFORNIA FOOD PRODUCTION. IT IS PROBABLE YOU CAN GET A COPY FROM THE DEPARTMENT IN SACRAMENTO. I WOULD SUGGEST YOU WRITE TO:

Mr. M. H. HUSSONG
PUBLIC INFORMATION SPECIALIST
STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
STATE OFFICE BUILDING No. 1
SACRAMENTO 14, CALIFORNIA

21 May →

A SECOND CONSIDERATION YOU RAISED WAS THE THEORY THAT THE JAPANESE EVACUATION WAS FOSTERED BY LOCAL AGRICULTURAL GROUPS. I AM GLAD TO NOTE YOU FIND LITTLE SUPPORT FOR SUCH A NOTION, FOR IT CERTAINLY IS NOT FACTUAL. IN YOUR RESEARCH, YOU MAY HAVE RUN ACROSS REFERENCES TO THE ALTERNATIVE PLAN WHICH I SPONSORED DURING THE TWO OR THREE MONTHS FOLLOWING PEARL HARBOR: OTHER THAN KNOWN TROUBLEMAKERS OR THE VERY ILL, ESTABLISH THE 100,000 JAPANESE IN THE FIFTEEN OR MORE C. C. C. CAMPS ADJACENT TO THE CENTRAL VALLEY, USING THE ABLE-BODIED AS A MOBILE FARM LABOR FORCE. THE FARMERS WOULD PAY GOING WAGES (THEN \$12.00 OR MORE PER DAY WAS READILY EARNED), BUT THE STATE WOULD FIRST DEDUCT CAMP AND RELATED COSTS, DEPOSITING OF THE REMAINDER ALL BUT "CIGARETTE MONEY" TO THE ACCOUNT OF THE WORKER, PENDING END OF HOSTILITIES.

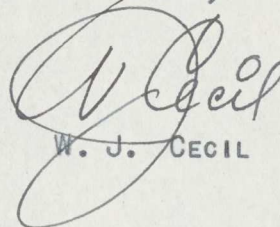
THAT PLAN WOULD HAVE BEEN ENTIRELY SELF-SUPPORTING AND LARGELY CONSTRUCTIVE, WHEREAS THE EVACUATION WAS DESTRUCTIVE AND INVOLVED MILLIONS OF DOLLARS, AS YOU KNOW. ASIDE FROM OTHER SUPPORT, YOU MAY BE SURE THAT I SECURED THE SUPPORT OF ALL FARM GROUPS AND RELATED ORGANIZATIONS BEFORE EVER SUGGESTING MY PLAN. TO MY POSITIVE KNOWLEDGE, THE ENTIRE IMPETUS FOR THE EVACUATION CAME FROM WASHINGTON, PARTICULARLY FROM THE WHITE HOUSE. MANY OF US THEN WERE CONVINCED IT WAS IN LARGE MEASURE A

-2- DR. EDWARD N. BARNHART, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY, 5/18/51

DIVERSIONARY MEASURE BY F. D. R. IN AN ATTEMPT TO LESSEN THE ATTENTION BEING PAID TO THE DEPLORABLE MESS OUR UNPREPAREDNESS HAD LED US INTO. UNTIL THE WHITE HOUSE ENTERED THE PICTURE, MY PLAN WAS NOT OPPOSED BY THE ARMY OR THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

I HOPE YOU GET THE MATERIAL YOU SEEK. IF MR. HUSSONG DOES NOT HAVE IT, I DO NOT KNOW WHO WOULD.

SINCERELY,



W. J. CECIL

WJC;RDW



STANDARD VANILLA COMPANY

MANUFACTURERS OF

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MAY 23, 1951

DR. EDWARD N. BARNHART
DEPARTMENT OF SPEECH
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
424 WHEELER HALL
BERKELEY 4, CALIFORNIA

DEAR DR. BARNHART:

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22 June
YOUR LETTER OF MAY 21 AGAIN PRESENTS QUESTIONS WHICH I FEAR CAN BE ANSWERED ONLY BY SACRAMENTO RECORDS. AS YOU APPRECIATE, THOSE RECORDS ARE STATE PROPERTY AND YOUR PERUSAL OF THEM WOULD FIRST REQUIRE PERMISSION OF THE OFFICIALS THERE. YOU SHOULD SEE OR ADDRESS:

MR. A. A. BROCK, DIRECTOR
STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
STATE OFFICE BUILDING NO. 1
SACRAMENTO 14, CALIFORNIA

WHILE THE LAPSE OF TEN YEARS HAS DIMMED ANY SPECIFIC RECOLLECTIONS, I BELIEVE THAT MOST OF THE "CLEARANCE" PHASE RELATIVE TO MY ALTERNATIVE PLAN ON THE JAPANESE WAS HANDLED BY 'PHONE. TIME PRESSED AND I DIDN'T HAVE ANY PARTICULAR REASON THEN TO DOCUMENT THE SITUATION.

I BELIEVE I CAN SUGGEST TWO OR THREE AVENUES WHICH MIGHT GUIDE A SEARCH OF SACRAMENTO FILES, ASSUMING THE FELLOWS THERE ARE AGREEABLE: 1. THE APPLICABLE PERIOD WOULD BE DECEMBER OF 1941 AND THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF 1942; 2. THE DIRECTOR'S GENERAL FILES FOR THAT PERIOD PROBABLY INCLUDE ONE OR MORE FOLDERS WITH SOME SUCH LABELS AS "JAPANESE FARM LABOR CAMPS" OR "JAPANESE EVACUATION;" AND 3. IT IS MOST LIKELY THAT THE MINUTE BOOK OF THE STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE FOR THOSE FOUR MONTHS WOULD OFFER A CONSOLIDATION OF THE RECORD ON THE MATTER, SUCH AS IT IS. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS I PRESENTED THE SUBJECT TO THE BOARD, AND IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE OFFICIAL MINUTES WILL SUMMARIZE ENDORSEMENTS AND LIKE MATERIAL, AND CERTAIN CORRESPONDENCE MAY BE APPENDED AS EXHIBITS.

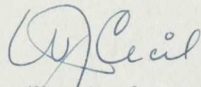
LET US HOPE THAT THESE SUGGESTIONS WILL PRODUCE THE DATA YOU NEED. OTHERWISE, YOU WILL HAVE ONLY THE SUBSTANCE OF MY COMMENTS. THOSE YOU CAN USE IN ANY PUBLIC FASHION YOU WISH. IF SACRAMENTO RECORDS DO NOT HELP, PERHAPS THEN YOU WOULD HAVE LEFT ONLY CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE WITH SUNDRY GROUPS, INQUIRING IF THEY CONCUR IN MY RECOLLECTIONS. THIS WOULD INCLUDE THE FARM BUREAU, ASSOCIATED FARMERS, THE

-2- DR. E. N. BARNHART, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY, 5/24/51

GRANGE, WESTERN GROWERS ASSOCIATION, AGRICULTURAL COUNCIL, AND OTHERS. TWO FEDERAL MEN WHO HAVE EVERY REASON TO RECALL MY EFFORTS TO SELL THE IDEA WOULD BE TOM CLARK, NOW ON THE SUPREME COURT (AS AN ANTI TRUST OFFICER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IN 1941 HE WAS CHARGED WITH THE FIRST PHASE OF THE EVACUATION) AND GENERAL JOHN DE WITT, PROBABLY NOW RETIRED. THE LATTER WAS AT THE PRESIDIO IN 1941, CHARGED WITH SECURITY IN THE WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND, AND WAS INVOLVED IN THE SECOND PHASE, THE RECEPTION CENTERS. HE, IN TURN, HANDED HIS CHARGES TO DILLON MEYERS ABORTIVE WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY. THESE FELLOWS GOT MORE THAN JUST ACCUSTOMED TO SEEING ME, AND I AM SURE THAT NONE OF THEM CAN SAY THAT FARM OR RELATED GROUPS URGED THE EVACUATION OF THE JAPANESE.

GOOD LUCK!

SINCERELY,


W. J. CECIL

WJC;RDW



STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Department of Agriculture

July 9, 1951

Mr. Edward N. Barnhart
Assistant Professor of Speech
University of California
424 Wheeler Hall
Berkeley 4, California

Dear Mr. Barnhart

I have before me your letter of June 22 requesting information for a study on the evacuation of the Japanese from California.

Except on continuing projects we do not keep correspondence over four or five years; therefore, we are unable to supply you with copies of Mr. Cecil's correspondence. It may be possible that the people with whom he corresponded have maintained their files, and perhaps he could give you their names.

We have checked through the 1942 Board of Agriculture minutes, and quoted below are excerpts concerning the Japanese:

Jan. 16, 1942 - "Unquestionably, there will be a labor shortage, since further reactions against aliens undoubtedly will take Japanese producers and field workers out of the picture. This may mean that certain areas now being used to produce vegetables will go into other production."

"On the Japanese problem, it was the opinion of Board members that protective supervision over Japanese farmers was advisable, this to be developed through the offices of the Director of Agriculture, the Committee on Agricultural Resources and Production of the State Council of Defense, and the U.S.D.A. War Board in cooperation with the proper groups and agencies."

Feb. 20, 1942 - "Mr. Parker stated that if Japanese could be moved out of the strategic and critical areas, they might very well be placed in some situations where they could still be utilized to the benefit of agriculture. It was his feeling that Japanese were anxious to embrace some

Mr. Edward N. Barnhart

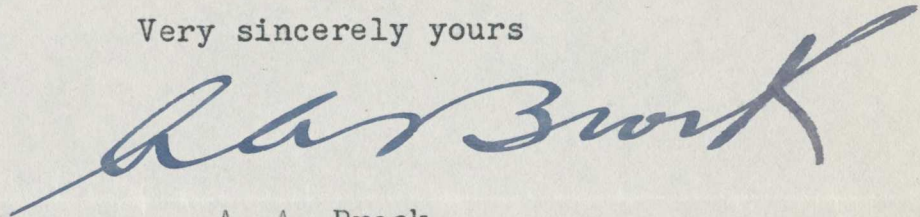
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July 9, 1951

means of protective custody, whether in concentration camps or elsewhere."

We trust that this information will be of use use to you even though we are unable to completely fill your request.

Very sincerely yours

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "A. A. Brock". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

A. A. Brock
Director