

# Warren Farmers Demand Exclusion Of Jap Laborers

## Committee Is Appointed At Great Meadows Meeting To Make Protest; Bitter Resentment Is Expressed

Feelings ran high and resentment was bitter last night among over 500 Warren County farm folk who filled Independence Township School auditorium in Great Meadows and vehemently protested against the importation of Jap farm labor into that section.

Denouncing officials of the War Relocation Authority, who were charged with having broken faith with the people of the county by sending in Jap farmers contrary to their wishes, and criticizing county and state officials invited to the meeting for their absence, many in the audience favored taking the law into their own hands to rid the county of what some called "the yellow peril," but cooler heads prevailed and a committee of nine men was appointed to petition State Senator Harry Runyon to take action to have the Jap farm hands removed. A collection was taken to defray expenses of the committee.

John Rogers Jr. was appointed chairman of the committee, other members being Michael Prystak, Joseph Kasper, Edwin Piasecki, Selden Richards, Frank Merrill, Thomas Hutchison, Stanley Rogers and Raymond Bolzan.

"If this committee does not produce results, then let us take the law into our own hands, let's do something now and do it quickly," one person said amidst cheers and shouts, and others spoke in a similar vein as the men and women gathered in the school auditorium appeared to be practically unanimous that there is no room for any Japs in Warren County.

### Dissenting Voice

There was but one dissenting voice, that of Mrs. Mary Hulse, 62-year-old writer of short stories who resides in Great Meadows, and although she was jeered and booed, she remained on her feet to complete what she had to say and later rose to defend herself against charges leveled against her.

"We have Germans, Austrians and other natives of countries of our enemies living among us, why in a Christian country should we object to just one of our enemies, a Japanese?" she asked. "Among the Japanese are to be found just as fine, law abiding citizens as in any other nation. This is a Christian nation, we all serve one God. He does not say we should not love our enemies."

### Protests Useless, Patterson Says

PHILADELPHIA, April 12 (U.P.)—Henry R. Patterson, of the Philadelphia Regional War Relocation Authority office, said today that farmers protesting the employment of five Jap-Americans on a Great Meadows farm in Warren County, N. J. are "wasting their breath."

Commenting on the demand of the farmers that the WRA remove the Jap-American laborers from the farm of Edward Kowalick, Patterson said, "as long as Kowalick will have them the WRA intends to keep the five men on the farm."

Patterson said that the farmers had no legal course of action to force the removal of the laborers. He termed the farmer's protest "a tempest in a teapot," caused by a few "stubborn people." "They have no basis for their protest," he said, "and are constantly changing their minds."

George Yamamoto, Patterson disclosed, one of the three American farmhands who figured in a similar protest in Sussex County, Del., last month, is the father of a son who was drafted into the U. S. Army.

This remark did not go well with the audience and shouts of "sit down" and stamping of feet followed. After order was restored, Mrs. Hulse continued: "Every man has a right to liberty and happiness, it is guaranteed to him by our Constitution. We are doing the same thing here Hitler did in Europe. I signed the petition to keep Japanese out of Great Meadows because I was told that 100 are coming in with their families. But when I found out that only one came and but five more were to come, I was sorry that I signed. The only sin of the Jap now here is that he is not a citizen of the United States. He cannot become a citizen. This country was founded on the principle of liberty for everybody."

Many replies were hurled at Mrs. Hulse, among them being that of Miss Mary Bernasky, who has a widowed mother and four brothers in the Navy.

"It's all right for Mrs. Hulse to preach brotherly love," she said. "She has no land here and doesn't realize that in a few years we will have several hundred Japs here. When we got into the war, three of my four brothers enlisted in the Navy and we thought that our youngest brother would be allowed to

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MRS. MARY HULSE, left, lone dissenter at last night's mass meeting; and right, Miss Mary Bernasky, whose four brothers are in the service, who took issue with her.

## Warren People Make Protest

Continued From First Page

stay home and work the farm and help my widowed mother. But they took him too and now I have to work on the farm."

Showing her calloused hands, Miss Bernasky continued: "I, too, would like to go into a war plant and make some money, but I would rather work on the farm and do without the money than have Japs working it. What will my four brothers say when they come back and find Japs here, what do you say to that, Mrs. Hulse?"

Again rising to her feet, Mrs. Hulse replied: "My youngest son, the dearest person in the world to me, fought in North Africa and was shell-shocked. I don't know if he will ever fully recover. My only nephew, whom I love as much as my son, is in the South Pacific, fighting the Japs. But don't forget that we have American-Japanese in our Army, fighting and dying for us."

ington banker. "Mob violence is deplorable in any community, let's exhaust all legal steps," he said.

Selden Richards, chairman of the Independence Township committee, said that he was 100 per cent against Japs being brought to the township, since that was the wish of the people.

Dr. Frederick Haggerty, a practicing physician in that section for 50 years, said that it looked to him like a one-side story, that the Japs are not wanted and asked: "To whom are we going to report this meeting, so it will have effect?"

John Rogers Jr., Great Meadows farmer, asked: "If this George Yamamoto, who was sent here, was investigated by the FBI and is so loyal to the United States, why are they sending him to new ground? Why doesn't the Government put him back in California, where he managed a 1,500-acre farm? The answer is: people there don't want him, and we don't want him. It isn't prejudice on our part, it's their standard of living and cheap labor."

### Action Demanded

"So far as Christianity goes, the Japs never had one," a man in the audience shouted. "We sent a lot of missionaries to Japan, trying to convert them, but where are our best missionaries today? In a concentration camp. We sent our boys across the Pacific to clean up the Japs, let's clean up those who are left behind. We should have had some of our politicians here to tell them what we think of them. But they only come around when they need our votes."

Others rose to demand immediate action with such statements as: "If we don't get rid of the Japs, they will multiply fast," "Let's keep them out of Great Meadows," "Send them back to California," "They belong in the Jap camp," "Let's put them on a freight train and ship them out," and others in a similar vein.

Coming in for considerable abuse, as many men and women had their say in true "Town Hall" fashion, was Edward Kowalick, who, it was charged, was the only farmer in the county to ask for Jap labor. Among those who attacked him was his cousin, Michael Kowalick. "My name is also Kowalick, but I won't have Japs on my farm," he said.

It was charged that although the labor situation on farms in the Great Meadows section is acute, it was not such as to warrant importing Japs and that many farmers who had farms five and six times as large as Kowalick's are getting along without such help.

### Legal Steps Urged

Cautioning against violence and urging to settle the dispute in the American way, Kenneth Woolf, supervising principal of the Hacketts-town schools, suggested the appointment of a committee to ask Senator Runyon to take steps to remove the Japs from the county.

"Personally I wouldn't want to be in this man Kowalick's shoes," he said. "I don't believe the Japs will get any farther than Kowalick's farm, from what I see here. Kowalick has to live with you people, I understand that he tried to get his truck fixed around here and no one would do it. He'll sense how you feel, and if he is a social being, will find out. Forget violence and use social disapproval."

Another who warned against mob violence was R. B. Stevens. Wash-

### Not A Citizen

Warren W. Sutton, Independence Township committeeman, expressed his disapproval of the bureaucrats at Washington who sent Japs to Warren County. Referring to Yamamoto, he said: "There is no such person as a Jap-American. He is not a citizen of the United States, nor can he become a citizen, since he is not acceptable. Must I point out that we are at war. The Japs proved at Pearl Harbor that they are treacherous, that they can't be trusted. We have war plants in this area. How do we know we can trust the Japs to be brought here. If the situation was reversed, an American in Japan would find himself in the lowliest concentration camp."

A sailor in the United States Navy, one of several servicemen at the meeting, who wore several campaign ribbons, rose to say that when he comes back home after the war, he does not want to see any Japs around.

The charge that Henry Patterson, of the War Relocation Authority office in Philadelphia said that Yamamoto was an American citizen and later was made to retract this statement was made by William Cramer, a veteran of the first World War and others.

"Patterson was made to own up that Yamamoto was not a citizen, after telling us that he was, and that he can't be a citizen," Cramer said.

"If he is not a citizen, why was he taken out of the concentration camp? New Jersey is the fifth war producing State in the Union and Japs in the State are dangerous."

"What has Patterson got to do with New Jersey?" another man asked. "John C. Taylor, (State superintendent of emergency farm labor of the New Jersey Extension Service), promised us Yamamoto would be removed from here. If Taylor can't get him out, we will. Taylor promised he would take him away, if we did not want him. Why isn't Patterson here? He was invited."

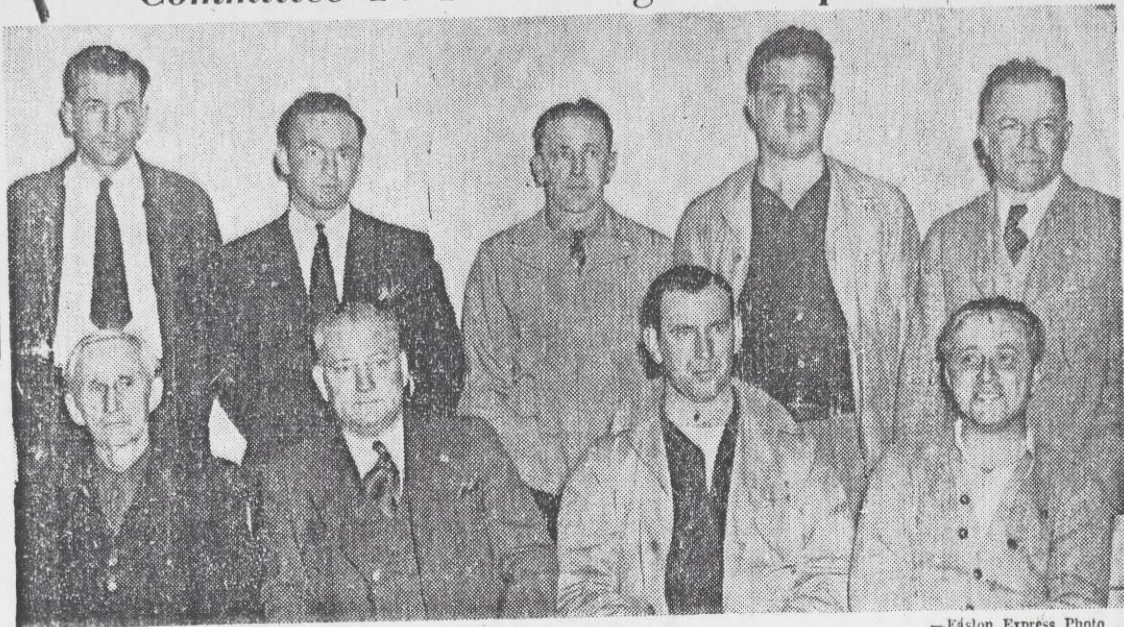
Still another charged that Yamamoto was brought to Great Meadows to raise celery, a luxury crop. "Since when is celery a war necessity?" he asked.

One speaker accused Kowalick of wanting to get rich quick by employing cheap Jap labor. "I spoke to him today and he told him that he couldn't get help, that white farm laborers want too much pay," this man said.

No one seemed to know how many



## *Committee To Protest Against Jap Labor*



—Easlon Express Photo  
Front row, left to right: Frank Merrill, Thomas Hutchison, Stanley Rogers, Raymond Bolzan. Back row:  
John Rogers Jr., Michael Prystak, Joseph Kasper, Edwin Piasecki, Selden Richards.



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## Farm Revolt Against Japanese Threatens Violence in Jersey

'Get Them the Hell Out or We'll Run Them Out,' Employer in Warren County Is Told; He Yields After His Shed Burns Down

By Seymour Freidin

GREAT MEADOWS, N. J., April 12.—Five Japanese evacuees who thought they might have a chance to start anew among the muck-land farms here in Warren County packed their bags and prepared to leave today as outraged farmers threatened to run them off with shotguns, if necessary.

Edward Kowalick, twenty-three-year-old farmer, on whose land the Japanese have been working on a tenant basis, yielded to his neighbors' pressure after his large shed containing seven tons of fertilizer burned down in mysterious fashion last night, causing damage estimated at \$800.

The fire occurred while 400 farmers and townspeople held a tumultuous meeting at the local school, which is six miles from Hackettstown. Those at the meeting demanded that the Japanese be ousted and in plain talk castigated the War Relocation Authority for bringing the men here from the Gila River Relocation Center, Mr. Rivers, Ariz., although Mr. Kowa-

lick said he wanted them to work until fall.

Every one, including Mr. Kowalick and the Japanese, assailed the W. R. A. bitterly. The farmers said frankly that their primary consideration was an economic one. They felt that the Japanese would, in time, undersell them and drive them out.

Mr. Kowalick, who observed his twenty-third birthday today by poking around the charred remains of the shed, said he thought the W. R. A. "acted kind of sneaky in bringing the Japs to me without asking every one how they felt."

The Japanese, four of whom arrived only two days ago, agreed with George Yamamoto, who has been here four weeks, that the community sentiment should have been sounded out before they entered.

Although none of the Japanese was born in the United States, they maintained that they wanted to prove their loyalty by co-operating in a government program. They came to Great Meadows, they

(Continued on page 21, column 6)



# Farm Revolt

(Continued from page one)

said, to ease a labor shortage and also with a view to relocating permanently after the war.

They were to farm thirty acres of Mr. Kowalick's land, for which he provided the seed. After the crop was harvested they were supposed to share on a 50-50 basis with Mr. Kowalick.

"The W. R. A. didn't do a very good job," said Mr. Yamamoto, as he puttered around the weather-beaten farm building he and his friends shared. "We wanted to prove by working hard and living decently that we could be accepted by the community. We didn't have a chance. It was useless to come."

Mr. Yamamoto said he and the others, Eddie Taniguchi, Frank Kitadawa, T. Matsumoto and Ted Midmura, had all been farmers in California before the war. They had been engaged in this type of muck farming all their lives, he added.

He sought aid from various county, state and Federal agencies and subsequently was notified by the W. R. A. he could employ the Japanese if he wanted them.

Harold S. Fistere, W. R. A. supervisor in the middle Atlantic states, said that if the evacuees wanted to stay "they are entirely within their rights to do so." He pointed out that local, state and Federal laws insured the safety of the men.

Mr. Fistere said that the arrangements made between the Japanese and Mr. Kowalick "was entirely one between the individuals and the W. R. A. has no legal right to change the arrangement."

The Japanese sent to Great Meadows, said Mr. Fistere, had been thoroughly investigated before they were permitted to leave the Arizona camp. He observed that at a time when food production is so necessary, "opposition to getting workers on land can hardly be considered in the national interest."

## Threaten to "Run Them Out"

"They're good hands," said Mr. Kowalick.

Men and women with sons in the services were all for going right out to the Kowalick farm and driving the Japanese off immediately.

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Last night Great Meadows seethed with more activity than the hamlet has ever known. In Andrew Nykun's general store a sign was placed in the window: "Meeting about Jap laborers." Farmers in outlying districts were told by telephone to show up.

The farmers admitted that a "secret committee" of 300 had been organized to take care of the problem if legal means failed. A sign with the words "To Little Tokio, One Mile" pointed toward the forked road leading to the Kowalick farm.

## Family Is Ostracized

John Rogers Jr., who said he sent telegrams to many New Jersey Legislators and to Governor Walter E. Edge in the name of the rest of the community, said that if "the government won't help us, then the committee will take action."

Members of the committee apparently had already made themselves felt. Mr. Kowalick received several telephone calls telling him to "get rid of them Japs if you know what's good for you."

In addition to the threats, Mr. Kowalick and his family were the targets of deliberate ostracism, which can be very deadly in a place like Great Meadows. Not only did his neighbors refuse to talk to him, but when he sought to have a truck repaired, he was told to get one of the Japanese to do the job.

Only one voice in Great Meadows was raised in defense of the Japanese. Mrs. Mary Helze, sixty-three years old, who said she is a writer and rents a house here, urged the farmers to treat the Japanese "with true Christian."

At the meeting Mrs. Helze tried to emphasize that point, but met catcalls and jeers. "We'll

show them love with shotguns," shouted a dairy farmer.

The Rev. Ignatius Bombenek, pastor of the Roman Catholic Church of St. Peter and Paul, said that he had no personal animosity against the Japanese on the Kowalick farm. Nevertheless, he added, "the community feelings must be served if bloodshed is to be avoided."

Some of the cooler heads in the community, who feared the "secret committee" might proceed with actual violence, prevailed upon the farmers to appoint a committee of nine to see their Representatives in the New Jersey Legislature and to arrange for an appointment with Governor Edge.

Despite the promise to refrain from manhandling the Japanese, there were dark mutterings in this vicinity all day today on what would be done if the men didn't leave in a hurry.

Mr. Kowalick acquired the Japanese evacuees after he cast about

## "Broadway Rhythm"

A screen musical, based on Jerome Kern's and Oscar Hammerstein's "Very Warm for May" with additional songs old and new, opens today at the Capitol under the title "Broadway Rhythm." Among those in the reviewing stand today will be critic Howard Barnes whose review will appear in

Tomorrow's New York Herald Tribune



# Farm Revolt Against Japanese Threatens Violence in Jersey

## 400 Neighbors Hold Protest Meeting, Demand Employer Get Rid of Five Evacuees; He Yields After His Shed Burns Down During Night

By Seymour Freidin

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Last night Great Meadows seethed with more activity than the hamlet has ever known. In Andrew Nykun's general store a sign was placed in the window:

dates got 90.7 per cent of the vote in Byelorussia and 90.9 per cent in the Ukrainian constituencies. The new assemblies immediately petitioned for incorporation into the respective Soviet republics; the petitions were granted on Nov. 1 and formal annexation took place on Nov. 3.

There seems no particular reason to doubt the figures or even the technical purity of the elections. A substantial proportion of the peasantry was presumably sympathetic with Russia to begin with; an intensive propaganda had come on the heels of the Red Army troops; great numbers of the Polish element and its leaders had been deported or shot, or had fled the section; the official Soviet slate was the only one entered, while finally the sole choice was between joining the Soviets or being thrown to the wolves of Hitlerism. "War and the Working Class" itself recognizes the importance of the last factor. This explains, it says, the pro-Soviet majorities returned even in predominantly Polish districts, and warrants the recent Soviet offer to consider rectifications of the

ing our law courts of dis

What the Governor the type of legal action suit." This is the kind brought against a corpse in the hope of getting a "nuisance" settlement. Mr. Dewey pointed out accompanying his action of baseless suits has grown by many unethical practices, many suits were brought, not in the hope of obtaining money for its stockholders. All too said he, in secret settlements for silence—which subjects of common suspicion.

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only did his neighbors refuse to talk to him, but when he sought to have a truck repaired, he was told to get one of the Japanese to do the job.

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## Protests Force Japanese Evacuees to Leave Jersey Farm



This sign on Route 6 points in the direction of the Great Meadows farm of Edward Kowalick, on whose land five American-born Japanese had been placed by the War Relocation Authority



ing to the continued protests from neighboring farmers and townspeople the five Japanese farm-  
e preparing to find a new home. Left to right are Edward Kowalick, owner of the farm, and  
Eddie Taniguchi. Frank Kitadawa, Ted Midmura, George Yamamoto and T. Matsumoto

Herald Tribune—Warman

## Farm Revolt

(Continued from page one)



newark news  
4/10/44

# Act to Ban Jap Labor

## Great Meadows Farmers Form Secret Committee

Special to Newark News.

**GREAT MEADOWS**—Muckland farmers' opposition to importation of Japanese-American labor to work on the Edward Kowalick farm has brought formation of a secret and self-styled "reception committee" dedicated to keeping the Japs out.

This became known during the week-end when Kowalick received an anonymous phone call warning him to abandon his plans to keep one Japanese-American at work and receive five others this week from a relocation camp in Arizona.

The farmers in the area already have expressed strong opposition to the employment of the Japs, but the War Relocation Authority is continuing plans to place them on Kowalick's farm.

### Tells of Meeting

Efforts to learn details of the committee brought from John Rogers Jr. of Townsbury an explanation that between 250 and 300 men attended a meeting Friday which he said "was like a secret meeting." Rogers said he thought it was "not wise" to mention the name of the chairman and other speakers. He indicated the duties of the committee were loosely defined, but all those present, he said, voted "to keep up the fight to keep the Japs out."

Rogers said the meeting was spontaneous, word that it was to be held having been passed about the community only about an hour before it was held.

Residents reported seeing a large group of men gathering Friday night in the mile-long lane that leads to the Kowalick farm. They were said to have gathered there in anticipation of Kowalick's return from Philadelphia with his new workers, but when Kowalick appeared he was alone. Rogers said he did not know if these were the same men who attended the meeting, as he had no way of knowing where the men went after they left the meeting.

Over the week-end a large sign in heavy red letters bearing the inscription, "Little Tokio, 1 Mile," appeared along Route 6, opposite the post office box indicating the entrance to the road leading to the Kowalick farm. Rogers said he had seen it and another reading "To Jap Colony," but did not know who erected them.

Rogers, who said he was spokesman for a large group of farmers,

asserted that their chief concern is that the Japanese-Americans will sell their vegetables at prices lower than those demanded by other growers. He denied opposition was based on prejudice or emotion.

### Fear Permanency

Rogers also said the farmers believed that Henry Patterson of the Philadelphia office of the WRA had misrepresented the situation. Patterson said at a meeting here April 1 that the new workers would return to the relocation center at the end of the season, but a statement from the WRA office in Washington indicated that the Japanese now on Kowalick's farm intended to bring his family here, Rogers said.

Rogers also said that it was not clearly understood until last Wednesday night that this Japanese, George Yamamoto, is not an American citizen. Rogers mentioned that Patterson admitted to township committeemen in Central School that Yamamoto was born in Japan and therefore was denied citizenship under existing laws. Patterson made it clear, however, that Yamamoto, like others which are being relocated, has been thoroughly investigated and found to be loyal.

### Public Meeting Tomorrow

Patterson has been invited, Rogers said, to attend another mass meeting tomorrow night at 8 in Central School. This meeting, according to Rogers, has been called by township committeemen of Independence, Liberty, Allamuchy and Hope. It will be open to the public.

Kowalick was not available for comment yesterday, but his mother, Mrs. John Kowalick, said she did not think he had altered his plans. Yamamoto said he will remain as long as Kowalick wants him to.

Meanwhile, the situation is virtually the sole topic of conversation in this vicinity and excitement continues to mount, with arrival of the other five Japanese-Americans expected any day.

# Jobs Gone Because of Protests, Jap-Americans Await Relief

By the Associated Press.

**PHILADELPHIA**, April 14.—Sad but resigned, five Japanese-Americans faced the prospect of becoming Government charges today—their New Jersey farm jobs gone because of neighbors' protests. "It looks," said George Yamamoto, spokesman for the group, "as if we'll have to go back to letting the Government feed us. We have no money. We have no income. But those people didn't want us to earn our own living."

The five were brought here by 23-year-old George Kowalick, farmer who had employed them, after protest signs were posted, a shack on his farm was burned and neighbors held indignation meetings. "We feel ashamed," Yamamoto told reporters at a hotel operated by the War Relocation Authority. "that the Government has to feed us. We want to help. But if they won't let us work, we'll just have to go back to that camp."

"We are not mad with those people. We know how they feel. But we are not responsible for what Japan did. We are just Americans and want to do our part."

The men were held at the Gila River Relocation Center in Arizona until the Federal Bureau of Investigation certified them as loyal to the United States.

Yamamoto previously left a job on a Sussex County, Del., farm following neighbors' protests.

WASH. STATE 4/14/44 p. 14

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# Jap Farm Hands Fired as Community Seethes

By United Press

GREAT MEADOWS, N. J., April 13—Edward Kowalick, fearing further trouble after a shed on his farm burned mysteriously, agreed to yield to public protest today and discharge five Japanese-American laborers he had acquired as "share-croppers" thru the War Relocation Authority.

The 28-year-old farmer, who lives with his wife, daughter and mother, said "we can't sleep nights worrying about what is going to happen next. If it were only myself to worry about I wouldn't give up."

Sentiment of the Japanese was expressed by George Yamamoto.

"We don't want to stay and cause any trouble for Eddie (Kowalick.) If he is going to have his buildings burned, we don't want to be responsible for it."

## PROTEST MEETING HELD

A contract between Kowalick and the Japanese was negotiated with WRA aid, and in effect set the workers up on the farm as "share-croppers." They were to farm 30 acres, for which Kowalick was to furnish seed. After the crop was harvested they were to reap half of the harvest.

"They're good workers," Kowalick said. "I don't know where I'm going to get any more hands."

Four of the Japanese, from the relocation at Rivers, Ariz., arrived three days ago. Tuesday night, farmers in the community, called together by signs in the general store and 'phone calls, held an indignation meeting.

They formed a committee of 300 and announced that if the Japanese workers were not moved from the area, the committee would take action.

While the meeting was in progress a shed on Kowalick's place caught fire and burned to the ground.

## SEEKS NEW PLACEMENT

"Maybe I don't know exactly who did it," Kowalick said, "but I know who was behind it. If they stoop so low as to put over a sneak attack like this, I give up."

Shortly after the shed burned, the farmer said he received an anonymous telephone call.

"Get rid of them Japs if you know what's good for you," a voice said.

Henry Patterson, of the WRA regional office in Philadelphia, when advised of developments, said "WRA no longer will insist that the Japanese remain, and we'll try to place them someplace else."

## Farmer to Oust Five Japanese Laborers Over Protest in Jersey to WRA Program

4/13/43

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

GREAT MEADOWS, N. J., April 12—Yielding to public protest over his employment of five Japanese-American laborers supplied by the War Relocation Authority, Edward Kowalick, 23-year-old farmer here, agreed today to dismiss the workers by Saturday.

Mr. Kowalick disclosed that fire had been set to a shed on his property last night, causing \$800 damage. The blaze was discovered during a mass meeting called by townspeople and truck farmers to urge the removal of the Japanese.

"That fire was planned," Mr. Kowalick charged. "I can get the proof, and as soon as things cool down, I will. Those Japanese were good workers, but I'm getting rid of them because I've had enough trouble to last me."

The young farmer declared that the Japanese no longer wanted to stay on his farm. "They feel the same way I do about it—we just don't want any more trouble," he said.

The Kowalick farm was visited today by Recorder Thomas Hutchison, who was delegated to try to persuade its owner that it would be best for him to send the Japanese away. After learning that it was the beleaguered farmer's twenty-third birthday, Mr. Hutchison asked, "Why don't you just give yourself a little birthday present and fire the five men?"

Mr. Kowalick finally agreed and got in touch with Henry C. Patterson of the WRA's Philadelphia branch, who had brought four of the five workers here Monday after the first had arrived a few days earlier. Mr. Patterson is scheduled

to come to the farm tomorrow.

In New York, Harold S. Fistere, WRA supervisor in the Middle Atlantic States, said the Japanese could be removed only with their own consent. "The laws of the county, State and nation exist to insure their safety," he asserted.

None of the Japanese is an American citizen, according to Mr. Fistere. He explained however, that aliens were permitted to leave relocation centers only after thorough investigation of their background.

TRENTON, N. J., April 12 (P)—Warren County Assemblyman C. Leslie Hudson said today he was considering legislation that would "discourage the settlement of Japanese-Americans in New Jersey."

Commenting on the War Relocation Authority's action in sending five Japanese-Americans to Warren County as farm helpers, Mr. Hudson said:

"I think the Federal Government is all wrong in trying to spread these people all over the country, and the people of my section of the State seem to think the same way. They don't want the Federal Government to start settling them here."

Mr. Hudson's opposition to the Japanese-Americans apparently was based on a fear the newcomers would settle down, eventually become land holders and offer "disastrous competition" to the farmers already in the area. The Assemblyman, a Republican, asserted he would study legislation enacted in some far Western States in an effort to restrict the holding of agricultural land by Asiatics.

## Judge Rules Martial Law Is Not Needed in Hawaii

of Nimitz and Richardson  
HONOLULU, March 31 (P). —

Federal Judge Delbert E. Metzger ruled unequivocally today that martial law is no longer necessary in Hawaii.

He issued a writ of habeas corpus freeing Lloyd C. Duncan from the city and county jail, where he had been held under a ruling of the Provost Court.

Judge Metzger made this decision despite an affidavit and declarations filed in his court by Admiral Chester W. Nimitz and Lieutenant General Robert C. Richardson Jr. that martial law still is necessary in the territory because the islands are in "imminent danger of invasion" by Japanese forces.

Judge Metzger said he had ruled last October that Territorial Governor Ingram Stainback's proclamation of Oct. 3, 1942, had restored the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus in Hawaii.



Many of the 19 were American planes lost in the main heavy blow into Hungary was not specified.

A recon of more than 1,100 miles, including the Thunderbolts of the U. S. Eighth and Ninth

## Edge Backs Ban on Japs

### Tells Warren Farmers, 'I Don't Blame You.' Praises Food Plan

Trenton Bureau.

TRENTON — Governor Edge today told a delegation of Great Meadows muckland farmers "I guess I don't blame you" for their attitude against Japanese farm laborers.

The farmers, who had watched five Japanese leave Great Meadows yesterday after several days of indignant protests against them, visited the Governor to ask his aid against any more Jap labor being sent to their community.

The Governor told them:

"If you don't want them I am sure you don't have to have them. I guess I don't blame you. I'm glad your spokesman has given assurance that through co-operative effort there will be no diminution of farm products in your neighborhood."

#### Seek American Workers

This last referred to the group's promise to help replace the five Japanese who left yesterday from the farm of Edward Kowalick. The group will seek workers who are Americans. The Japs were aliens born in Japan and unable by law to be naturalized here.

Meanwhile, at Great Meadows itself the departure of the Japs was followed by a common resolve: "Now let's get back to work."

Much energy had been expended the last two weeks in the fight to oust the Japanese.

Wet, cold weather has been against muckland farmers this Spring, but with warmer days in prospect all now are eager to prepare beds so onion sets and lettuce plants can be put into the ground without delay. Already, the season is two weeks late.

#### Watch Japs Go

A small group of citizens gathered yesterday afternoon at the post office corner to watch the departure of the Japanese. They wanted to be sure WRA carried out its promise to take the unwanted workers out of the community.

In the group was round-faced, affable Charlie Yee, young naturalized Chinese, who raises Oriental vegetables for the New York restaurant trade near the village. Yee has taken no part in the anti-Japanese discussions or meetings, but watched the Japs depart because he happened to be in the vicinity. His neighbors have long since accepted him as a friend.

Members of the group which visited Edge today told him they thought WRA had practiced deception in its efforts to place the Japanese here. They said the community was first given the impression the workers would remain only until Fall, and then return to their camp, but a statement from the Washington office of WRA later made it plain that Japanese released from relocation centers were seeking permanent locations for their families.

The committee also holds that people were informed some, if not all, of the workers assigned to the Kowalick farm would be citizens born in this country, but later learned all five were

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## Jap Farmers

(Continued from First Page)

had emphasized the point, however, that all Japanese sent here were loyal with American ideologies.

Obviously disturbed by charges of misrepresentation, Harold S. Fister, supervisor of the Middle Atlantic Area office of WRA in New York, asked for a chance to accompany the committee before the Governor and defend the authority against the charges. His request was denied, and the committee advised him to seek his own appointment with the Governor.

Although the committee is most concerned about keeping alien Japanese out of this area, there was some consideration yesterday of a proposal that it take a stand requesting they be kept out of New Jersey altogether.

Evidently, the hearty reception Kowalick received at a birthday party in his honor Wednesday night in Great Meadows Inn, had registered and he gave the impression of a man wanting to be neighborly and forget the whole thing, if others would do the same.

#### Still Needs Help

"But I still need help, and need it bad," continued Kowalick. "That's serious, and the committee is going to try to see what it can do to get high school help for me."

Kowalick now has only eight persons besides himself to work the muckland. He needs at least 15 this season. The farm, inherited from his father, has 600 acres, of which 100 are muckland and 500 upland. At one time the farm had a 100-herd dairy farm also and supported 126 people.

## Farm Protest Over Japanese

### Tells Delegation Opposing the Use of Evacuees, 'I Guess I Don't Blame You'

Special to the Herald Tribune

TRENTON, N. J., April 14.—A delegation of farmers from Great Meadows, N. J., in Warren County, told Governor Walter E. Edge today about their objections to the use of Japanese evacuees as farm hands and the Governor sympathized with them saying: "I guess I don't blame you."

The opposition of the farmers to the Japanese resulted yesterday in the departure of five evacuees from the farm of Edward Kowalick, who agreed to take them when the War Relocation Authority said he could employ the men if he wanted to use Japanese labor. The evacuees had all been investigated before they were permitted to leave the Gila River Relocation Center at Rivers, Ariz. All had been born in Japan.

Discussing a statement made by Thomas Hutchison, of Vienna, N. J., who said other farmers would pitch in and help Mr. Kowalick if he were short-handed, Governor Edge said:

"I am glad your spokesman has given assurance and guaranteed through co-operative effort that there will be no diminution of farm products in your neighborhood."

The Japanese were taken from the Kowalick farm by officials of the W. R. A. to Philadelphia. They will remain in Philadelphia a few days to ascertain if another community will accept them.



## WRA Takes Men Away to End the Threat of Violence Over Hiring Laborers From West

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.  
GREAT MEADOWS, N. J., April 13—The threat of violence to the five Japanese who were placed on the truck farm here of Edward Kowalick by the War Relocation Authority was removed this afternoon when representatives of the Federal agency packed the farm workers into automobiles and took them to Philadelphia.

Pressure applied on Mr. Kowalick by fellow Warren County agrarians, who feared the five newcomers were the opening wedge for an influx of Japanese farmers who would offer disastrous competition to established agriculturists, induced him yesterday to request the WRA to take them off his hands. There was talk of running the Japanese out of the county with shotguns, and Tuesday night a fire did \$800 damage to a shed on the Kowalick farm. Mr. Kowalick charged that the fire was "planned."

The unwanted workers were removed today under the personal supervision of Henry Patterson, head of the Philadelphia office of the WRA, and Harold S. Fistere, supervisor of the agency in the Middle Atlantic States, who indicated that they might try to place their charges elsewhere.

Mr. Patterson was reported to have said: "We are sorry about the whole thing, and did not realize that it would raise such a furor." The Japanese expressed a similar sentiment.

Mr. Fistere expressed concern about statements made last night by Mr. Kowalick, who told members of the citizens' committee organized Tuesday night and members of the Independence and Liberty Township committees, that the Japanese laborer had been placed with him under misrepresentation by WRA officials. He said he had been informed that all the men were American-born of Japanese parentage and were American citizens, but when they arrived here, he said he learned that only one of the five was American-born.

Members of the committees announced today they had made an appointment with Gov. Walter E. Edge for tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock to confer on steps to prevent the placing of Japanese laborers anywhere in New Jersey.

After the meeting last night, the members of the committees held an impromptu birthday party for Mr. Kowalick, who was 23 years old yesterday, and presented a box of cigars to him. Thus the young farmer was reinstated in the good graces of his neighbors.

## Edge Receives Farm Protest Over Japanese

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## 5 JAPANESE LEAVE JERSEY FARM JOBS

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4/17/44

NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE,

## Jersey County Expected to Lift Japanese Ban

War Relocation Official  
Says Citizens' Fears  
Have Been Overcome

GREAT MEADOWS, N. J., April 6.—Henry C. Patterson, chief of the Philadelphia office of the War Relocation Authority, said today he has been assured by "intelligent, responsible" citizens of Warren County that opposition to the settlement of Japanese farmers in the county would be overcome.

Last Saturday, at a mass meeting here, 100 residents of the county voted for the removal of George Yamamoto, an American-born farmer of Japanese ancestry settled here by W. R. A. as a tenant farmer, and voted opposition to the proposed settlement here of five other Japanese.

Mr. Patterson conferred last night with township committees here and said the relocation program was "licked in New Jersey" if the opposition continued. Today he said in a statement issued in Philadelphia: "Many of the people of the county are still cool toward the idea of moving in Japanese-Americans to meet a critical farm-labor shortage, but

today I received assurance from clergymen, a justice of the peace and other responsible persons that there would be no interference with our program."

Mr. Patterson said that the action against Mr. Yamamoto had been due to "hysterical talk", and added: "I believe my conversations with the people there and a meeting held last evening have done much to calm their fears. There is still some opposition, but the great majority is reconciled to the program."

## 5 U.S.-Japs Get Jobs On Phila. Area Farm

Five Japanese-American laborers who were driven from their farm jobs near Great Meadows, N. J., a week ago by public indignation have been relocated in this area, but their location will not

be disclosed until they have been accepted in their new community, Henry C. Patterson, regional director for the War Relocation Authority, announced yesterday.

Meanwhile, the establishment of a temporary hostel on Chestnut st. near 32d, for the Japanese evacuees was causing some unrest in the section, with two residents preparing a petition calling for the removal of the Japs.

### ASSAILS RELOCATION

Miss Clara Campbell, who with her sister, Loretto, lives at 3252 Chestnut st., declared yesterday that: "Our people interned in the occupied countries are not allowed to be relocated and we can't see why these Japanese should be treated with kid gloves."

The hostel, a four-story dwelling, is being supported by the Philadelphia Federation of Churches, the Citizens Co-Operating Committee, and the Woman's International League for Peace and Freedom, according to Miss Emma Cadbury, directress of the place.

### ON NEW JOBS IN WEEK

Mr. Patterson said that the five farm laborers, who were removed from the farm of George Kowalick, near Great Meadows, when some 400 Warren county farmers protested against their presence, were housed temporarily at the Chestnut st. building, which has been named "Friendship House," but will be at their new jobs in about a week.

## U.S.-Born Japs, Ousted in N. J., Get New Jobs

New jobs have been found for the five Japanese-American laborers who were forced out of farm jobs in New Jersey last week by neighborhood pressure.

The location of the new jobs will not be revealed until the men have been accepted into the new community, Henry C. Patterson, regional director for the War Relocation Authority, said yesterday.

### In Temporary Quarters

Temporarily, the men, who were brought here from the West Coast, are staying at "Friendship House," a hostel at 3228 Chestnut st., supported by the Philadelphia Federation of Churches, the Citizens Co-operating Committee and the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

The men were removed from the farm of George Kowalick, near Great Meadows, N. J., when 400 Warren county farmers protested against their presence and threatened Kowalick. Patterson said they will go to their new jobs in about a week.

Housing of the Japanese-Americans at the Chestnut st. hostel provoked a protest yesterday from a group of neighborhood women, who said they planned to circulate a petition calling for their removal.

### Program Called "Menace"

At Washington yesterday, a letter to Secretary Ickes from Rep. J. Parnell Thomas (R., N. J.) stated that the War Relocation Authority's program of resettling Japanese in this country "has now become a menace to the security of life and property, both of Americans and Japanese."

Thomas, a member of the Dies committee investigating un-American activities, referred to the Great Meadows disturbance and contended that the program "has gone far beyond the state of silly coddling and social experimenting."

Phila. Record  
4/19/44



# Rate N. J. Farmers With Oust Of U. S.-Japanese Hired Hand

## Federal and State Authorities Bow to Demand That Loyalty-Tested Helper Be Removed From Great Meadows, Despite Labor Shortage

Special to the Herald Tribune  
GREAT MEADOWS, N. J., April 12.—A week ago George Yamamoto, an American-born farmer of Japanese ancestry, who once managed a 1,500-acre farm at Brentwood, Calif., arrived in this little village, center of an onion and celery-producing area, in an effort to pick up the life he had had to surrender to go into a War Relocation Authority camp in Arizona.

Today Mr. Yamamoto was awaiting new commands from the W. R. A. Once again he was to move on. For his arrival, and that of five other Japanese-Americans scheduled to come here later as co-sharecroppers on the 100-acre farm of Edward Kowalick, had precipitated an outburst of opposition, to which Federal and state authorities have found it necessary to bow.

Parkes J. Cummins, chairman of the Liberty Township Committee, who has a nephew in New Guinea and another in England, both in the Army, spoke for those opposed to the presence of Mr. Yamamoto and his fellows. "We have a lot of people from this community away fighting the Japs, and we don't want them here," he said. A mass meeting last Saturday night, with some two hundred present, had adopted a resolution to that effect proposed by Mr. Cummins, and not one hand had been raised against the motion.

John C. Taylor, state supervisor of emergency farm labor of the New Jersey Extension Service, who was moderator of the meeting, said an effort would be made to find a new place of employment for the Japanese-Americans, before sending them back to the Gila River (Ariz.) interment camp.

Mr. Taylor said the state farm-labor committee had notified the farmers that Japanese-Americans, thoroughly investigated to assure their loyalty, were the only available help in the present labor shortage. Japanese-Americans previously brought in—ten in Cumberland County, three in Burlington, one in Salem—had proved satisfactory workers, he added.

The plan had been to use them only as seasonal help, not permanently relocated here, he added. They were to be brought in only in response to requests from individual farmers.

No one had had any objection to Mr. Yamamoto as an individual. It was only the race he stood for that was resented, participants in the dispute said. Criticism swelled so much that the Saturday night meeting had been called at Central School.

At that session, Mr. Kowalick got up, and tersely told his neighbors he had learned that four of his seven helpers of last year would be unavailable, and that Mr. Yamamoto had been a worthy worker, who had already suggested some valuable labor-saving ideas. A Methodist minister, the Rev. Lee Underhill, who said he spoke as an individual, and whose talk was marked by some adverse mutterings, pleaded for tolerance.

Mr. Cummins, however, reported a petition which had been only briefly circulated had obtained 162 signatures in Liberty Township and 240 in Independence to oppose bringing in the Oriental workers. The meeting lasted three hours. Mr. Yamamoto, who was not present, said later he had been afraid something like it would happen; there was nothing he could do.

men in liberated areas, for supplies and administrative assistance. *N.Y. Herald Tribune* 4/20/47

### 5 Ousted Japanese Get Jobs

PHILADELPHIA, April 19 (AP).—Five Japanese-American laborers who gave up jobs on the farm of George Kowalick, near Great Meadows, N. J., last week because Warren County farmers protested their presence, had new jobs today. The location of the new jobs will not be revealed until the men have been accepted in the new community, Henry C. Patterson, regional director for the War Relocation Authority, reported. He said they will begin work in about a week.

State's Army Council: M...

THE PHILADELPHIA

## N. J. Hostility to Oust 5 Japs on Truck Farm

Special to The Inquirer  
PHILLIPSBURG, N. J., April 12.—Alarmed by the hostility of his neighbors and a mysterious fire that destroyed one of his barns, Edward Kowalick, 23-year-old Great Meadow

farmers, today asked the War Relocation Authority to take back five Japanese-American laborers assigned to help him with truck crop production.

Henry Patterson, of the Philadelphia regional WRA office, will drive to the little farming community 10 miles from here and take the five men away, said Mrs. Catherine Kowalick, the farmer's wife, who spoke for him in his absence from the farm.

### JAPS WANT TO LEAVE

"I think everyone will be satisfied now," she said. "The Japs say they are—they know it would only cause hard feeling and trouble if they stayed. They have asked to be sent back to the Government center in Arizona from which they were sent."

Resentment against the presence of the Japanese-Americans reached a high point last night when 450 farmers, farm-hands and their wives held a mass meeting and appointed a committee, headed by Jack Rogers, a local farmer, to lodge a formal protest with Governor Walter E. Edge and other State officials against the presence of the laborers in the community.

While the meeting was under way a fire of undetermined origin levelled a barn stocked with fertilizer on the Kowalick farm to the ground.

Earlier, Mr. Kowalick had felt the sting of his neighbors' anger in the refusal of a garage mechanic to repair his disabled truck, and the appearance at the entrance of his farm of signs that said "Little Toki—One Mile."

The protesting farmers said their antagonism to the Japanese-Americans was not racial, but was based on the belief that others of the race would be brought in and would remain to undersell established farmers, whose principal crops are celery, lettuce and onions. Mr. Patterson, the WRA official, said earlier that few "stubborn and ignorant people" were behind the protest.

Mr. Kowalick was quoted as telling State police at the Washington, I. J., substation, to whom he reported the fire on his place, that he had asked the Government to send Japanese-Americans, but merely requested help on his farm.



# Discrimination Committee Head Raps Edge's Stand Against Jap

Meyer Pesin, chairman of the discrimination committee of the recently formed Interracial Council of Good-Will of Hudson County and a member of the State Good-Will Commission, released a statement today in criticism of Governor Edge for his recent utterances in connection with the ouster of five Japanese sent to work as farmers on the farm of Edward Kowalick, of Great Meadows. The Japanese were sent by government officials of the War Relocation Authority as part of its program to rehabilitate worthy and tried Japanese.

Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes, who assumed charge of the War Relocation Authority, recently scored Governor Edge, Gov. John H. Bricker of Ohio and Mayor F. H. La Guardia of New York for their actions in approving of this alleged discrimination and asserting that their communities didn't want the Japanese. Pesin's statement follows:

"The Interracial Good-Will Committee of Hudson County deplores the recent utterances of Governor Edge with respect to the Japanese incident of Great Meadows. Mr. Edge's statements were clearly intolerant and contrary to the basic concepts of our law and institutions. The hysterical intolerance of many of the residents of Great Meadows which manifested itself in

threats to farmer Kowalick and the burning of his barn should have been condemned by the governor in no uncertain terms.

"Instead, the governor has lent himself to this hysteria by joining in the cry of 'get rid of the Japs—or else.' The governor's reply to the rebuke of Secretary Ickes was likewise ill-considered and a reaffirmation of his lack of understanding of the problem. The state of New Jersey has, by the governor's action, been labeled throughout the country as a place of intolerance. This is unfortunate, for if any state in the union has created good-will movements and endeavors, it is New Jersey, particularly since it has a legislative body known as the Good-Will Commission of New Jersey, the first state to have created such a body. We feel that the governor's past conduct has proven him to be a man of intolerance and disregardful of his constitutional oath. We attribute his action to a guidance of poor advice. We appeal to Governor Edge to right this grave issue of racism which he has participated in. If this attitude of hate and intolerance can be exhibited against Japanese, it can be condoned against other racial and national minority groups. It is an ugly example of intolerance and we appeal to the governor to remedy it forthwith by a clear retraction of his attitude."

## 5 Japs Ousted from Farm in N. J. Are Guests of Government Here

Inside the building with the marble front — part of a bygone day when the so-called Marble Terrace stretched on Chestnut st. above 32d — five men sat down to breakfast this morning.

They looked at each other, and then at the food. "Government food," said one. "We'll be eating that for a time." The others agreed.

The men spoke English, allowing only an occasional hiss to emphasize certain syllables. Dark eyes looked out from tan-skinned faces. Some had cheekbones that made them look like American Indians, but they were not.

They were Japanese — born in Japan.

By the total psychology of war, they were enemies; men who from birth had been taught the code, that loyalty to Japan is above all else.

### Americans at Heart

But the Government takes a different view. The Government, after an extensive investigation while the men were held in the Gila Relocation Center in Arizona, says these men have the hearts of Americans.

Yesterday the men had jobs; today they have none. Yesterday, before popular opposition forced their farmer-employer in Muckland, Warren County, N. J., to return them to the War Relocation Authority, they could have started making money to support themselves; today the Government must support them.

If the men felt resentful they concealed it well.

"We thought we'd be of some use," said George Yamamoto, one of the group. "We were happy when

the relocation people sent us to New Jersey. But we knew we'd have to come back as soon as we heard about the other farmers."

Their employer, Edward Kowalick, at first had said he needed the men and would keep them for truck farming work despite the opposition. Then the others held a mass meeting, and while it was going on, an accident happened. A shack on Kowalick's farm burned down. He asked the WRA to reclaim the Japs.

### Gets Box of Cigars

Today, while the Japanese sat in Philadelphia without a prospect of a job, Kowalick was what his neighbors called a "big man." Signs reading "Little Tokyo, one mile" and pointing to his farm, were taken down. In his living room was a box of cigars, presented to him by the others.

And in Trenton, Governor Edge was quoted as saying, "I guess I don't blame you," to a group of Muckland farmers who want all relocated Japs barred from the state. "I understand these men are not citizens. If you don't want them, I am sure you don't have to have them."

Edge also said he was pleased that the Muckland men had told him they would use all available manpower, including school students, to maintain farm production in the area.

This news caused no show of anger or excitement in the five men. "We'll ask the WRA again," said Yamamoto. "Maybe we'll be going back to Arizona." The others looked at him, but didn't speak.

Two inches tall, a terrier, presumably a Budd, a terrier, presumably a Budd, keep him from barking.

The mutilated dog, pet of Mrs. Don Hawke, was found whimpering in her yard. The reward is \$100.00. The reward is \$100.00. The reward is \$100.00.

Jersey Farmer Hires Five More Japanese

Disregards Protests Made by His Neighbors

GREAT MEADOWS, N. J., April 8 (P).—Edward Kowalick, a local farmer who is the center of a controversy over his hiring of Japanese-American farm laborers, said tonight five additional workers would start working Tuesday or Wednesday.

Mr. Kowalick said he had gone to Philadelphia today to get the Japanese-American workers, brought here from Arizona by the War Relocation Authority, but because their baggage had been lost in transit, had returned to his 600-acre truck farm without them.

Warren County residents already have sought the ouster of George Yamamoto, a Japanese-American working on the Kowalick farm. Henry C. Patterson, Philadelphia area relocation officer, had conferred with the opposing group earlier this week and said he believed there would be no further protests.

Mr. Kowalick, defending Yamamoto, asserted he was "a good worker." "Food is ammunition," continued Mr. Kowalick, "and we need the help of all loyal Americans regardless of the color of their skin or their national origins."



## Jersey County Expected to Lift Japanese Ban

War Relocation Official  
Says Citizens' Fears  
Have Been Overcome

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## Jersey Clergy Deplore Ouster Of 5 Japanese

200 Methodists Denounce  
Farmers' Action, Call for  
Committees on Tolerance

Special to the Herald Tribune  
NEWARK, N. J., April 21.—A meeting of 200 New Jersey clergymen at the eighty-seventh Newark annual conference of the Methodist Church unanimously passed a resolution today deploring the action of Warren County farmers who a week ago, forced the departure of five Japanese evacuees, assigned to work on a Great Meadows farm.

At the same time the ministers "heartily" indorsed "the effort of the War Relocation Authority to settle people of Japanese ancestry who were evacuated from their homes on the west coast." The resolution, introduced jointly by the Rev. Chester E. H. Hodgson, of Newark, and the Rev. Karl K. Quimby, of Ridgewood, N. J., said that the members of the confer-

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N.Y. Journal  
American  
4/14/44  
Seek Jersey Ban  
On Jap Labor

GREAT MEADOWS, N. J., April

14.—Nine members of an Independence Township citizen committee, formed to oppose the employment of Jap laborers in this area, will make a personal appeal to Gov. Edge today to avert the future employment throughout New Jersey of Jap laborers.

The trip to Trenton is an aftermath of the protest raised here during the past few days over the employment of five Jap-American laborers on the farm here of Edward Kowalick, 23.

The men were supplied to Kowalick by the War Relocation Authority. As a result of the insistent demands of the committee, WRA removed the five to Philadelphia.

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brought with them a lot of money from the state, is growing.

## Jersey Farmer Hires Five More Japanese

Disregards Protests Made by  
His Neighbors

GREAT MEADOWS, N. J., April 8 (P).—Edward Kowalick, local farmer who is the center of a controversy over his hiring of Japanese-American farm laborers, said tonight five additional workers would start working Tuesday or Wednesday.

Mr. Kowalick said he had gone to Philadelphia today to get the Japanese-American workers, brought here from Arizona by the War Relocation Authority, but because their baggage had been lost in transit, had returned to his 600-acre truck farm without them. Warren County residents already have sought the ouster of George Yamamoto, a Japanese-American working on the Kowalick farm. Henry C. Patterson, Philadelphia area relocation officer, had conferred with the opposing group earlier this week and said he believed there would be no further protests.

Mr. Kowalick, defending Yamamoto, asserted he was "a good worker." "Food is ammunition," continued Mr. Kowalick.



# 5 U.S.-Japs Get Jobs On Phila. Area Farm

Five Japanese-American laborers who were driven from their farm jobs near Great Meadows, N. J., a week ago by public indignation have been relocated in this area, but their location will not

be disclosed until they have been accepted in their new community, Henry C. Patterson, regional director for the War Relocation Authority, announced yesterday.

Meanwhile, the establishment of a temporary hostel on Chestnut st. near 32d, for the Japanese evacuees was causing some unrest in the section, with two residents preparing a petition calling for the removal of the Japs.

## ASSAILS RELOCATION

Miss Clara Campbell, who with her sister, Loretto, lives at 3252 Chestnut st., declared yesterday that: "Our people interned in the occupied countries are not allowed to be relocated and we can't see why these Japanese should be treated with kid gloves."

The hostel, a four-story dwelling, is being supported by the Philadelphia Federation of Churches, the Citizens Co-Operating Committee, and the Woman's International League for Peace and Freedom, according to Miss Emma Cadbury, directress of the place.

## ON NEW JOBS IN WEEK

Mr. Patterson said that the five farm laborers, who were removed from the farm of George Kowalick, near Great Meadows, when some 400 Warren county farmers protested against their presence, were housed temporarily at the Chestnut st. building, which has been named "Friendship House," but will be at their new jobs in about a week.

Brown, special No. 1 to No. 4, 47 lbs. and over 36; special No. 1 to No. 4, 46 lbs. average 35-35 1/2; special medium 42-43 lbs. 30-31; extra No. 1 and No. 2, 45 lbs. average 33 1/2; 34; extra medium 40 lbs. average 28-29; extra pull 37 lbs. 27.

## Farmers See Edge on Japs

TRENTON (AP)—Gov. Walter E. Edge yesterday sympathized with a group of Muckland farmers from Warren County who objected to the employment of Japanese evacuee workers on the Great Meadows farm of George Kowalick.

"I guess I don't blame you," the governor said to a delegation of seven farmers from the Great Meadows area. "I understand these Japanese are not citizens. If you don't want them, I am sure you don't have to have them."

The evacuees, hired by Kowalick to replace farm workers whom he had lost during the past year, left Great Meadows Thursday after Kowalick asked the War Relocation Authority to remove them.

Commenting on a statement by Recorder Thomas Hutchinson Jr. of Vienna, spokesman for the delegation, that other farmers would aid Kowalick if he needed extra help, Edge said:

"I am glad your spokesman has given assurance and guaranteed through cooperative effort that there will be no diminution of farm products in your neighborhood."

Enc. Bulletin

Philadelphia, Pa.  
Thursday, April 13, 1944

3

## JAPS TAKEN BACK FROM N.J. FARM

WRA Official Expresses  
Regret over Furor  
Workers Aroused

Five Japanese-Americans whose employment by George Kowalick, a farmer in Great Meadows, N. J., caused his neighbors to hold protest meetings, were removed from the farm today by the War Relocation Authority.

"I'm sorry this had to happen," said Henry Patterson, WRA officer for Philadelphia, after he met Harold Fistere, Regional Director, at Kowalick's farm. "I simply didn't realize there would be any furor." He did not indicate what future work would be assigned to the Japanese.

Announcing that he had asked the WRA to remove the Japanese and thereby protect him and his family, Kowalick was feted at a surprise party last night by his neighbors, who gave him a box of cigars to mark his 23d birthday and his change of mind about the Jap workers.

A shack has been burned down on Kowalick's farm, while 400 farmers and townspeople held an indignation meeting in a schoolhouse near Hackettstown and demanded removal of the Japanese-Americans who were brought by the authority from the Gila River Relocation Center, Rivers, Ariz.

Phila. Inquirer  
Wed. April 19 1944



# Jersey County Expected to Lift Japanese Ban

War Relocation Official  
Says Citizens' Fears  
Have Been Overcome

GREAT MEADOWS, N. J., April 6.—Henry C. Patterson, chief of the Philadelphia office of the War Relocation Authority, said today he has been assured by "intelligent, responsible" citizens of Warren County that opposition to the settlement of Japanese farmers in the county would be overcome.

Last Saturday, at a mass meeting here, 100 residents of the county voted for the removal of George Yamamoto, an American-born farmer of Japanese ancestry settled here by W. R. A. as a tenant farmer, and voted opposition to the proposed settlement here of five other Japanese.

Mr. Patterson conferred last night with township committees here and said the relocation program was "licked in New Jersey" if the opposition continued. Today he said in a statement issued in Philadelphia: "Many of the people of the county are still cool toward the idea of moving in Japanese-Americans to meet a critical farm-labor shortage, but

today I received assurance from clergymen, a justice of the peace and other responsible persons that there would be no interference with our program."

Mr. Patterson said that the action against Mr. Yamamoto had been due to "hysterical talk", and added: "I believe my conversations with the people there and a meeting held last evening have done much to calm their fears. There is still some opposition, but the great majority is reconciled to the program."

## 5 Japs Ousted from Farm in N. J. Are Guests of Government Here

Inside the building with the marble-front — part of a bygone day when the so-called Marble Terrace stretched on Chestnut st. above 32d — five men sat down to breakfast this morning.

They looked at each other, and then at the food. "Government food," said one. "We'll be eating that for a time." The others agreed.

The men spoke English, allowing only an occasional hiss to emphasize certain syllables. Dark eyes looked out from tan-skinned faces. Some had cheekbones that made them look like American Indians, but they were not.

They were Japanese-born in Japan.

By the total psychology of war, they were enemies; men who from birth had been taught the code, that loyalty to Japan is above all else.

### Americans at Heart

But the Government takes a different view. The Government, after an extensive investigation while the men were held in the Gila Relocation Center in Arizona, says these men have the hearts of Americans.

Yesterday the men had jobs; today they have none. Yesterday, before popular opposition forced their farmer-employer in Muckland, Warren County, N. J., to return them to the War Relocation Authority, they could have started making money to support themselves; today the Government must support them.

If the men felt resentful they concealed it well.

"We thought we'd be of some use," said George Yamamoto, one of the group. "We were happy when

the relocation people sent us to New Jersey. But we knew we'd have to come back as soon as we heard about the other farmers."

Their employer, Edward Kowalick, at first had said he needed the men and would keep them for truck farming work despite the opposition. Then the others held a mass meeting, and while it was going on, an accident happened. A shack on Kowalick's farm burned down. He asked the WRA to reclaim the Japs.

### Gets Box of Cigars

Today, while the Japanese sat in Philadelphia without a prospect of a job, Kowalick was what his neighbors called a "big man." Signs reading "Little Tokyo, one mile" and pointing to his farm, were taken down. In his living room was a box of cigars, presented to him by the others.

And in Trenton, Governor Edge was quoted as saying, "I guess I don't blame you," to a group of Muckland farmers who want all relocated Japs barred from the state. "I understand these men are not citizens. If you don't want them, I am sure you don't have to have them."

Edge also said he was pleased that the Muckland men had told him they would use all available manpower, including school students, to maintain farm production in the area.

This news caused no show of anger or excitement in the five men. "We'll ask the WRA again," said Yamamoto. "Maybe we'll be going back to Arizona." The others looked at him, but didn't speak.

DIVISION OF  
PRESS INTELLIGENCE  
1526-14th St., N. W.

NO. 2356

SYMBOL W/P

Journal & American  
New York City, N. Y.

DATE APR 14 1944  
p.

## N. J. to Farm Without Japs

TRENTON, April 14. — Gov. Edge today told a delegation of Great Meadows farmer he was pleased they could handle the planting and harvesting of crops this year without the help of Jap aliens sent by the War Relocation Authority.

"I understand these American-born Japanese are not citizens," the Governor declared.

"If you don't want them, I'm sure you don't have to have them. I guess I don't blame you."

"I am glad your spokesman has given assurance and guaranteed through co-operative effort that there will be no diminution of farm products in your neighborhood."

The trip to Trenton was an aftermath of recent protest over employment of five Jap-American laborers on the Great Meadows farm of Edward Kowalick, 23.

"We want to protect the home front for our boys so it may be the same when they come back from the war as when they left," Thomas Hutchinson, Jr., of Vienna, head of the delegation, told the Governor today.

Michael Pryslak, a member of the delegation, said he had a letter from a former resident of the neighborhood, now in the army, saying he planned to marry and settle down on a farm in that section after the war.

"That's why we don't want any Japs around, see?" explained Pryslak.

The five Japs originally sent by the WRA were removed yesterday because of the general opposition.



## SIGN BERATES FARMER HIRING JAP-AMERICAN

'One Mile to Little Tokyo,'  
Reads Message on  
Jersey Roadside

A sign reading, "One Mile to Little Tokyo," glared yesterday from a roadside near Great Meadows, Warren county, N. J., and pointed to the farm of George Kowalick.

The sign appeared over the week-end, was taken down, and reappeared yesterday morning.

It symbolizes the ill-feeling in the county over Kowalick's determination to hire American citizens of Japanese parentage to work on his 600-acre truck farm, and the determination of the War Relocation Authority to see that he gets them.

### All Investigated by FBI

The Japanese-Americans being sent to New Jersey are American citizens, born in the United States and thoroughly investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. All have been found to be loyal citizens. They lived in West Coast cities and were sent to relocation centers shortly after the war started and were kept there while under investigation.

The first to go to work for Kowalick was George Yamamoto, originally assigned to a farm in Sussex county, Del. There public feeling was so high Yamamoto had to move.

### Four More on Farm

On Monday night Henry Patterson, WRA officer in Philadelphia, took four more Japanese-Americans to Kowalick's farm and told him to put them to work.

The Warren County Board of Agriculture was called into session hastily and suggested to the WRA that the Japanese-Americans be removed in the interest of community peace.

Last night a mass meeting of farmers and their families, protesting against the WRA action, was held in the Great Meadows School.

### WRA Ignores Protests

But the protests were being brushed off by WRA. Harold Fister, New York regional director, said the organization was going ahead with its program in New Jersey and was laying plans for extensive activities.

WRA found an ally in the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America. George E. Rundquist, executive secretary, announced a committee of New Brunswick residents would be organized to co-operate in the WRA program. He added that committees will be organized later in Paterson, Newark, Trenton and Camden.

## Irate N. J. Farmers Win Ouster Of U. S.-Japanese Hired Hand

Federal and State Authorities Bow to Demand That  
Loyalty-Tested Helper Be Removed From  
Great Meadows, Despite Labor Shortage

Special to the Herald Tribune

GREAT MEADOWS, N. J., April 3.—A week ago, George Yamamoto, an American-born farmer of Japanese ancestry, who once managed a 1,500-acre farm at Brentwood, Calif., arrived in this little village, center of an onion and celery-producing area, in an effort to pick up the life he had had to surrender to go into a War Relocation Authority camp in Arizona.

Today Mr. Yamamoto was awaiting new commands from the W. R. A. Once again he was to move on. For his arrival, and that of five other Japanese-Americans scheduled to come here later as co-sharecroppers on the 100-acre farm of Edward Kowalick, had precipitated an outburst of opposition, to which Federal and state authorities have found it necessary to bow.

Parkes J. Cummins, chairman of the Liberty Township Committee, who has a nephew in New Guinea and another in England, both in the Army, spoke for those opposed to the presence of Mr. Yamamoto and his fellows. "We have a lot of people from this community away fighting the Japs, and we don't want them here," he said. A mass meeting last Saturday night, with some two hundred present, had adopted a resolution to that effect proposed by Mr. Cummins, and not one hand had been raised against the motion.

John C. Taylor, state supervisor of emergency farm labor of the New Jersey Extension Service, who was moderator of the meeting, said an effort would be made to find a new place of employment for the Japanese-Americans, before sending them back to the Gila River, Ariz., internment camp.

Mr. Taylor said the state farm-labor committee had notified the farmers that Japanese-Americans, thoroughly investigated to assure their loyalty, were the only available help in the present labor shortage. Japanese-Americans previously brought in—ten in Cumberland County, three in Burlington, one in Salem—had proved satisfactory workers, he added.

The plan had been to use them only as seasonal help, not permanently relocated here, he added. They were to be brought in only in response to requests from individual farmers.

No one had had any objection to Mr. Yamamoto as an individual. It was only the race he stood for that was resented, participants in the dispute said. Criticism swelled so much that the Saturday night meeting had been called at Central School.

At that session, Mr. Kowalick got up, and tersely told his neighbors he had learned that four of his seven helpers of last year would be unavailable, and that Mr. Yamamoto had been a worthy worker, who had already suggested some valuable labor-saving ideas. A Methodist minister, the Rev. Lee Underhill, who said he spoke as an individual, and whose talk was marked by some adverse mutterings, pleaded for tolerance.

Mr. Cummins, however, reported a petition which had been only briefly circulated had obtained 162 signatures in Liberty Township and 240 in Independence to oppose bringing in the Oriental workers. The meeting lasted three hours. Mr. Yamamoto, who was not present, said later he had been afraid something like it would happen; there was nothing he could do.



# Fire Warning Stirs Farmer To Oust Jap-American 'Hands'

A shack was burned down yesterday on George Kowalick's Warren county, N. J., farm.

"For the protection of my family," Kowalick said later, "I am asking the War Relocation Authority to move the five Japanese-Americans assigned to my farm."

The fire was the final touch to a campaign of terror that has been waged against Kowalick since the first Japanese-Americans arrived on the farm last week.

## Warning Signs Posted

Both he and members of his family were threatened verbally and by letter. Signs denouncing him were posted. The threats were redoubled on Monday when four more Japanese-Americans, all American-born citizens, arrived on the farm.

And last night, Henry Patter-

son, WRA officer in Philadelphia, who assignel the men to the farm, said he will probably have to move them.

"There is nothing else to do," he said. "They've been subjected to so much terror that they probably don't want to stay, anyway. I'll make a trip up there and try to straighten things out, but I haven't got much hope of doing it."

## Fire Follows Meeting

The shack was fired early yesterday a few hours after the end of a meeting of angry farmers at Great Meadows, a few miles from Kowalick's 600-acre farm.

Immediately after the fire subsided, Kowalick went to Police Recorder Thomas Hutchison, of

Continued on Page 2, Column 6.

## FARMER TO OUST JAP-AMERICANS

Vienna, asked him for protection, and told him of his decision to get the War Relocation Authority to remove the Japanese-Americans.

All five were citizens who had been sent to a relocation camp in Arizona shortly after the war started. Their loyalty has been thoroughly tested by the FBI.

## "Good Citizens"

"They're good citizens," Patterson said, "but the odd part of it is that many of the people protesting against them aren't. Some of the most angry farmers are immigrants who never bothered taking out their first papers."

"Several of these aliens told me, 'We just can't have these damned foreigners with us.'"

The meeting which preceded the shack burning was attended by hundreds of farmers and their families—and there was only one voice raised in defense of the Japanese-Americans.

## Woman's Plea

That came when Mrs. Mary Helze, 63, stood up and heatedly declared.

"In a Christian community, why should we take exception to one of our enemies. When you try to banish these people, you are doing the very thing our boys have gone abroad to fight against."

But the farmers, almost as a unit, declared they feared that if the Japanese-Americans were permitted to stay it would mean more would come.

The meeting voted to send a committee of nine to see Gov. Walter E. Edge, State Sen. Harry Runyon, of Warren county, and John C. Taylor, supervisor of emergency farm labor for the State Extension Service, and demand that they take steps to see no more Japanese-Americans are sent into the area.

## Farm Leader Protests

W. Warren Button, a farmers' committee chairman, said he had written to U. S. Senators and Congressmen, placing the blame for the situation on a "few Government-appointed bureaucrats," and demanding that action be taken to curb them.

Assemblyman C. Leslie Hudson, of Warren county, stepped into the picture by announcing he was studying the possibility of drafting legislation which would discourage "the settlement of Japanese-Americans in New Jersey."

He said: "I think the Government is all wrong in trying to spread these people all over the country, and the people of my section of the State seems to think the same way. They don't want the Federal Government to start settling them here."

## Jersey Clergy Deplore Ouster Of 5 Japanese

## 200 Methodists Denounce Farmers' Action, Call for Committees on Tolerance

Special to the Herald Tribune

NEWARK, N. J., April 21.—A meeting of 200 New Jersey clergymen at the eighty-seventh Newark annual conference of the Methodist Church unanimously passed a resolution today deploring the action of Warren County farmers who, a week ago, forced the departure of five Japanese evacuees, assigned to work on a Great Meadows farm.

At the same time the ministers "heartily" indorsed "the effort of the War Relocation Authority to settle people of Japanese ancestry who were evacuated from their homes on the west coast." The resolution, introduced jointly by the Rev. Chester E. H. Hodgson, of Newark, and the Rev. Karl K. Quimby, of Ridgewood, N. J., said that the members of the conference were "greatly disturbed" by the citizens' action "in denying the right of others to work and produce for the good of the entire nation." The resolution added:

"We call upon our churches to foster in the communities interracial or reconciliation committees composed of representative Christian citizens to study the situation and work out plans which will lessen the tension and spread the spirit of good will."

The Japanese laborers were brought to the farm of Edward Kowalick by the W. R. A. from the Gila River Relocation Center, Rivers, Ariz. Their appearance stirred the farmers into bitter opposition. They said they felt the Japanese would, in time, undersell them and drive them out.

Following a tumultuous meeting of 400 farmers on April 11 and the mysterious burning of Mr. Kowalick's fertilizer shed the same night, the Japanese were withdrawn by the W. R. A. and sent to Philadelphia.

The Rev. Francis J. McConnell, Bishop of the Methodist Church in the New York area, presided at the conference, held in St. Luke's Church, Clinton Avenue and High Street, Newark. Bishop McConnell who will retire in June, received a gift of \$1,050 from the conference. An anonymous gift of \$10,162 to the Methodist Hospital, Sixth Street and Seventh Avenue Brooklyn, was announced by the Rev. Harold N. Smith, superintendent of the Jersey City district

Phila. Record, Thurs., 4/23/44



# Irate Farmers In Jersey Oust U. S. - Japanese

## Authorities Bow to Demand to Remove Hired Hand in Great Meadows Area

Special to the Herald Tribune

GREAT MEADOWS, N. J., April 3.

A week ago, George Yamamoto, an American-born farmer of Japanese ancestry, who once managed a 1,500-acre farm at Brentwood, Calif., arrived in this little village, center of an onion and celery-producing area, in an effort to pick up the life he had had to surrender to go into a War Relocation Authority camp in Arizona.

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Parkes J. Cummins, chairman of the Liberty Township Committee, who has a nephew in New Guinea and another in England, both in the Army, spoke for those opposed to the presence of Mr. Yamamoto and his fellows. "We have a lot of people from this community away fighting the Japs, and we don't want them here," he said. A mass meeting last Saturday night, with some two hundred present, had adopted a resolution to that effect proposed by Mr. Cummins, and not one hand had been raised against the motion.

## Only Available Help

John C. Taylor, state supervisor of emergency farm labor of the New Jersey Extension Service, who was moderator of the meeting, said an effort would be made to find a new place of employment for the Japanese-Americans, before sending them back to the Gila River (Ariz.) interment camp.

Mr. Taylor said the state farm-labor committee had notified the farmers that Japanese-Americans, thoroughly investigated to assure their loyalty, were the only available help in the present labor shortage. Japanese-Americans previously brought in—ten in Cumberland County, three in Burlington, one in Salem—had proved satisfactory workers, he added.

The plan had been to use them only as seasonal help, not permanently relocated here, he added. They were to be brought in only in response to requests from individual farmers.

## Resent Race, Not Person

No one had had any objection to Mr. Yamamoto as an individual. It was only the race he stood for that was resented, participants in the dispute said. Criticism swelled so much that the Saturday night meeting had been called at Central School.

At that session, Mr. Kowalick got up, and tersely told his neighbors he had learned that four of his seven helpers of last year would be unavailable, and that Mr. Yamamoto had been a worthy worker, who had already suggested some valuable labor-saving ideas. A Methodist minister, the Rev. Lee Underhill, who said he spoke as an individual, and whose talk was marked by some adverse mutterings, pleaded for tolerance.

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Phila.  
RECORD  
FRIDAY  
APRIL 14  
1944

## 5 JAP-AMERICANS DRIVEN OFF FARM FIND REFUGE HERE

Five Japanese-American farmers sat huddled sadly last night in a little hotel operated by the War Relocation Authority in Chestnut st. near 32d.

Only a few hours earlier they left the 600-acre farm of George Kowalick, near Great Meadows, Warren county, N. J., because of threats of neighboring farmers.

### "Won't Let Us Earn Living"

"It looks," said George Yamamoto, spokesman for the little group, "as if we'll have to go back to letting the Government feed us. We have no money. We have no income. But those people didn't want us to earn our own living."

All five are American citizens, although of Japanese ancestry, and had been thoroughly investigated and found loyal while they were held at the Gila River Relocation Center in Arizona. They had been permitted to leave there to make their living in the East.

### Feared Jap Menace

Through Henry Patterson, WRA officer in Philadelphia, Yamamoto obtained a job in Sussex county, Del., but farmers talked about the "Jap menace" and he was forced to leave there.

He went to work on Kowalick's farm and on Monday the other Japanese-Americans arrived to work with him. They are Edward Taniguchi, Ted Miyamara, T. Matsumoto, Frank Kitagagwa.

Instantly a flood of written and verbal threats descended on the Japs and on Kowalick. Threatening signs were posted. Tuesday night more than 400 farmers held a mass-meeting in protest, and a shack on Kowalick's farm was burned.

### Not Mad at Anyone

So at Kowalick's request Patterson went to the farm yesterday and brought the Japanese-Americans back to Philadelphia.

"We feel ashamed," said Yama-

Continued on Page 10, Column 6.

CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE

## 5 JAP-AMERICANS DRIVEN OFF FARM

moto, "that the Government has to feed us. We want to help. But if they won't let us work, we'll just have to go back to that camp."

"We are not mad with those people. We know how they feel. But we are not responsible for what Japan did. We are just Americans and want to do our part."

Yamamoto said he was sure the farmers meant no violence toward them. "They just wanted to get us out," he said. "And they did."

### Free to Accept Jobs

Patterson said the men are free to come and go as they please.

"They, like other American citizens, are free to accept any job they can obtain," he said, "and may remain in this section of the country if they so desire."

Peace had settled among the Warren County farmers last night and Kowalick had become sort of a neighborhood hero for having the Japanese-Americans removed. Wednesday night, a few hours after he announced his decision, farmers who had led in the threats, gave him a birthday party—he is 23. They presented him with a box of cigars and drinks were passed around. But he still doesn't know who is going to do his farming.

### Statewide Protest Planned

Although Kowalick was back in good standing, feeling in the community was running high and Police Recorder Thomas Hutchison, of Vienna, said a committee of nine farmers will call upon Governor Walter E. Edge today to demand the immediate removal of Japanese sent into the State R.A. There are scores of working on farms in various parts of New Jersey.



CONTINUED

Phila. RECORD  
Friday April 14  
1944

## They Weren't Wanted—No Where to Go



Five Japanese-American farmers are shown above at a War Relocation Authority hostel in Chestnut st. near 32d after being brought from a Warren county (N. J.) farm where they were subjected to threats. Left to right: Ted Miyamara, Edward Taniguchi, George Yamamoto, T. Yamamoto and Frank Kitagagwa.



Cottage cheese can be kept fresh at least five or six days if wrapped in a damp cloth before being placed in the refrigerator.

## N. J. to Farm Without Japs

TRENTON, April 14.—Gov. Edge today told a delegation of Great Meadows farmer he was pleased they could handle the planting and harvesting of crops this year without the help of Jap aliens sent by the War Relocation Authority.

"I understand these American-born Japanese are not citizens," the Governor declared.

"If you don't want them, I'm sure you don't have to have them. I guess I don't blame you.

"I am glad your spokesman has given assurance and guaranteed through co-operative effort that there will be no diminution of farm products in your neighborhood."

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Michael Pryslak, a member of the delegation, said he had a letter from a former resident of the neighborhood, now in the army, saying he planned to marry and settle down on a farm in that section after the war.

"That's why we don't want any Japs around, sec?" explained Pryslak.

The five Japs originally sent by the WRA were removed yesterday because of the general opposition.

ACLF

DATE APR 13 1944

## Japs in Warren Removed

### Farmers Give Party for Kowalik as Row Ends

Special to Newark News.

GREAT MEADOWS—The Japs are gone and peace has descended upon Great Meadows.

Neighbors who for two weeks had opposed Edward Kowalik, muckland farmer, in his determination to retain five Japanese farm hands last night gave him a party to celebrate his 23d birthday in Great Meadows Inn. The party was arranged in appreciation of Kowalik's decision yesterday to dismiss the Japs. They had been assigned to him by the War Relocation Authority.

And at noon today the WRA—represented by Henry Patterson of the Philadelphia office of the authority—bowed to Kowalik's decision and took the Japs away. They were driven to Philadelphia, where it will be decided if they are to be returned to an Arizona relocation center or assigned elsewhere.

#### Wanted to Help

As the Japs were driven away, Harold J. Fistere, WRA area supervisor who accompanied Patterson, said:

"We came here in good faith and had talked with Kowalik, the county agricultural agent and a representative of the county war board. All assured us the Japanese would be accepted. We are withdrawing them because we do not want to disturb or upset the normal life of any community. We like to think we are helpful."

Kowalik said:

"I did what I thought was right when I asked for Japanese help. Now I know it was the best interest of the community that I let them out. I am badly in need of help and the committee has assured me it will make an effort to aid me."

One of the Japs, Frank Kitagawa said:

"Eddie Kowalik told us the place was getting hot and we limit. It's a losing fight and we know we should not try to challenge any one. No use trying to fight with a community against us. If we have another offer we will accept, but there is a limit as to how long we can stand being kicked around."

Inspiration for last night's session came from a committee appointed at a mass meeting of citizens Tuesday night. The committee had been instructed to lay before Governor Edge the objections of the 500 persons at the meeting to the presence of the Japanese.

A conference with the WRA has been arranged for this morning, when the relocation Authority will be sought.

#### Police Probe Fire

While the mass meeting was in progress Tuesday, a shed on Kowalik's muckland property mysteriously burned. Damaged were several tons of fertilizer and three celery washing tanks. The shed was quickly consumed, and Kowalik decided it was useless to send for firemen from Hacketts-town.

State police of the Washington (N. J.) barracks are investigating the fire, and Kowalik said yesterday it had been started by some one with whom he had become unpopular. But the fire came in for slight discussion at the party last night. It was an old shed, anyway, and maybe some of the fertilizer can be saved.

It was yesterday morning, long before the armistice conference was arranged, that Kowalik's previous determination to keep the Japs was shaken. He said:

"I can't afford to have any more of my buildings burned, or any harm come to my family. I didn't think any one would pull a sneak attack like that, but if that's the way they're going to treat me, I guess I'd better let the Japanese go back to their relocation center."

#### Gets Birthday Present

Word that Kowalik had changed his mind in favor of the majority quickly spread and the committee, which had learned that yesterday was Kowalik's birthday, agreed that nothing would heal raw wounds better than an arms-around-the-shoulder occasion in the hotel.

Recorder Hutchinson, who was chairman of the Tuesday night mass meeting, presented a box of cigars, wrapped in white tissue with birthday card attached, to Kowalik. There were a few other gifts, too, and the informal speeches all contained a note of harmony, good-will and confidence in the future.

#### Called "Big Man"

Keynote was the remark of John B. Rogers Jr., committee chairman, who said:

"It takes a big man to change his mind the way Eddie did and we think he deserves the thanks of the community."

The committee, which collected nearly \$80 at the mass meeting to cover costs of traveling, telephone charges, postage and other incidentals in the fight against the Japs, wants it known most of the money is intact and will be turned over to the Red Cross.



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Evening News (I)

Newark, N. J.

DATE APR 17 1944

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## Warren Farmers Plan Protest Tonight

Special to Newark News.

**GREAT MEADOWS**—Four more Japanese today began work on the Edward Kowalick farm while muckland farmers and others opposed to the Japs continued to make preparation for another mass meeting tonight in Central School.

Action aimed at forcing Kowalick and the War Relocation Authority to remove the Japs from the community is expected at the meeting.

The four new Japs arrived late yesterday afternoon in a government car driven by Henry Patterson of the regional office of WRA in Philadelphia. No member of the secret "reception committee" formed over the week-end was present.

### Anonymous Warning

Kowalick previously had received an anonymous telephone call warning of action by the "reception committee" if he did not abandon his plan to use Japanese workers.

Five had been scheduled to come, but only four left the Gila River Relocation Center at Rivers, Ariz., Patterson said. They arrived in Philadelphia Saturday, remaining there over the week-end to "see the sights." Plans of the WRA call for them to remain on the Kowalick farm until next Fall.

Patterson again stressed last night that the government is determined to carry out its original intentions. He said he would seek assurance of co-operation from state police and Sheriff Willever. Independence Township has no regular police force and depends on state police at Washington and Blairstown for protection. State police patrols were present in this area during the night.

### Sticks to Contract

Kowalick said as long as the government continues to back him up he will stick to his contract to employ the Japs. It was the arrival several days ago of one of them, George Yamamoto, which stirred the community to protest.

Last night Yamamoto was host for the new arrivals and cooked them their first meal in New Jersey.

The new workers are Frank Kitagawa, Ed Taniguchi, T. Matsumoto and Ted Miyamura.

### Look Toward Future

Kitagawa, graduate of Los Angeles High School, had completed three years in a Western university, he acted as unofficial spokesman for the group. He said he was familiar with the generally hostile attitude of the community and continued:

"We'd like to educate our kids like real Americans. We know some

people are not willing to accept us, but we are willing to suffer if we can win pursuit of happiness for future generations of our people."

"That's right," agreed Taniguchi, "we are willing to make any sacrifice for the future of our families."

Kitagawa said hardships being endured by loyal Japanese-Americans now are mostly mental. He said: "When we appear on the street we walk like a thin man, trying to make ourselves as inconspicuous as possible."

### Seek to Avoid Trouble

Kitagawa explained the group was resigned to spending several months without movies or other outside recreation, remaining on the farm to avoid friction. The sacrifices will be worth while, he said, if the group can prove it is sincere in its desire to help the war effort by producing food.

Kitagawa said his generation is in the transition period, between the first and second generation, and is anxious only to be accepted as Americans. He said he and others were anxious to raise their standard of living, but in spite of his college training he had been prevented from competing for white collar jobs.

Kitagawa is 37 and came to this country when he was 12 years old. His wife is a Nisei, or American born, and they have four children. He formerly kept a fruit stand in Gardena, Cal.

### Played on School Teams

Taniguchi is 39 and came to this country when he was 14. He attended California grammar schools and was graduated from Liberty Union High School, where he played on baseball and tennis teams. He was engaged in packing and shipping, as well as growing vegetables, at Brentwood, Cal. Taniguchi said his wife is "very American," and they have two children. His daughter has taken tap and acrobatic dancing lessons several years.

Miyamura, 37, has been in this country 20 years. He always has been a farmer, he said, and was married only five months ago. He, too, chose a Nisei for a wife, adding: "When I have the choice between Japanese and American ways I always choose the American."

The oldest of the group is T. Matsumoto. Now 57, he has been in this country 41 years. His wife also is Japanese-born, but his children are all American-born. Four married daughters are in Chicago and vicinity, and two sons are in camp with their mother. Matsumoto was a farmer near Whittier, Cal.

### Son Awaits Induction

Yamamoto, 41, has five children. The oldest boy has passed examinations and is awaiting induction into the Army. Yamamoto was field manager of a large vegetable farm near Brentwood, Cal., and owned a sporting goods store on the side.

Members of the group denied they had any intention of cutting prices on vegetables they raise. They said they had arranged with Kowalick to do all the marketing. One of the fears raised at public meetings in the community has been that the Japanese would sell produce for less and thereby force other growers to reduce their price also.

### Sailor Protests "Bigotry"

One of Yamamoto's first acts when the others arrived, was to show them a letter he received from a sailor at the Naval Air Station, Brunswick Me. It stated:

"I have seen press reports of the action of Liberty Township farmers

with respect to your freedom to live and work in that community.

"I want to express my deep sympathy and to let you know that I think this and other similar action taken in other communities completely reprehensible.

"Maybe one day bigotry will have been banished and men will learn to live in peace with one another."

### Signs Smashed

Appeals to representatives, senators and other government officials are expected to be made at the meeting tonight, in an effort to have the five Japanese removed. Meanwhile, members of the secret "reception committee" have a mystery to solve. Signs which appeared mysteriously along Route 6, opposite the post office, pointing to "Little Tokyo, 1 mile," have as mysteriously been smashed.

Jack Rogers Jr. of Townsburry, who admitted Sunday he was present when the "reception committee" was formed in Weber's Tavern, said yesterday he had no idea who erected the signs, but indicated he wouldn't be surprised if a bigger and stronger one appeared today. It did—but no one could be found who saw it installed.