

OCTOBER 29 -- (1)

DeLoach

People have lost interest in the closing of the centers and the opening of California. I have not observed anyone discussing this problem for several days. The Issei are absorbed in the war news, especially those credited to the Japanese oversea broadcasts. The Nisei (predominantly of teen age now) seem to be interested in socials and sports. Even the calls for pre-induction physicals and induction have become matters of routine and have lost the force to create excitement among them.

October 30

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Belmont

I met two secretaries working in the Administration Building who are enthusiastic about the closing of centers. They are graduates of high school in Orange County and are about twenty-two years old. They are competent secretaries, but they are prevented from relocating because of parental objections. They said that the closing of centers would be the best thing that would ever happen to them. They despise this "dump", and

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would welcome any opportunity to get out of this center.

November 9

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According to French, Allan Cushman, the former Leave Officer, was forced to resign from the WRA due to a pressure from the Army. Cushman escorted a group of evacuees to Los Angeles for property settlement. As an escort, he was required to keep in sight of the evacuees. But he failed to do so, and let the evacuees roam around in the city freely. The matter was reported to the Army by some meddling Caucasian, and this meant the end for Cushman with the WRA.

OEM-809
(4-13-42)

ROUTING SLIP

TO

Deck Rushmore
Block Manager

FOR

APPROVAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YOUR INFORMATION
REPLY, PLEASE	NECESSARY ATTENTION
SEE ME, PLEASE	RETURNED AS REQUESTED
YOUR SIGNATURE	INVESTIGATE AND REPORT
NOTE AND FILE	IMMEDIATE ACTION DESIRED
NOTE AND RETURN	READ AND DESTROY
YOUR COMMENTS	PREPARE FOR ME
MORE DETAILS	DRAFT OF SUGGESTED REPLY
ADVISE, PLEASE	INITIAL AND FORWARD

REMARKS:

DATE

4/3/45

FROM

C.B. Carter (R.8)
RELOCATION

GPO

16-20000-1

COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION CENTER
Poston, Arizona

T E R M I N A L D E P A R T U R E S - 1 9 4 5

Date	FORMER EVACUATED AREA			OTHER				Total	Center Pop.
	Daily	Monthly	Cumulative	Daily	Conv.	Monthly	Cumul.		
January	-	31	31	-	-	184	184	215	11,312
February	-	98	129	-	27	159	344	473	11,028
Mar. 1	-	0	129	4	1	5	349	478	10,795
2	1	1	130	-	-	5	349	479	
3	-	1	130	-	-	5	349	479	
4	-	1	130	1	-	6	350	480	
5	8	9	138	1	-	7	351	489	
6	-	9	138	28	-	35	379	517	
7	-	9	138	2	-	37	381	519	
8	5	14	143	4	-	41	385	528	
9	3	17	146	1	-	42	386	532	
10	-	17	146	-	-	42	386	532	
11	3	20	149	-	-	42	386	535	
12	2	22	151	-	-	42	386	537	
13	-	22	151	5	10	57	401	552	
14	-	22	151	4	-	61	405	556	
15	6	28	157	6	-	67	411	568	
16	3	31	160	1	-	68	412	572	
17	-	31	160	-	-	68	412	572	10,786
18	-	-	160	2	-	70	414	574	
19	8	39	168	3	-	73	417	585	
20	5	44	173	38	-	111	455	628	
21	2	46	175	4	-	115	459	634	
22	5	51	180	-	3	118	462	642	
23	-	51	180	4	-	122	466	646	
24	1	52	181	-	-	122	466	647	
25	-	52	181	-	-	122	466	647	
26	3	55	184	1	2	125	469	653	
27	-	55	184	50	-	175	519	703	10,625
28	-	55	184	7	-	182	526	710	
29	-	55	184	2	25	209	553	737	
30	2	57	186	2	-	211	555	741	
31	2	59	188	2	-	213	557	745	

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
461 Market Street
San Francisco 5, California

MEMORANDUM TO: All Project Directors

SUBJECT: Travel of Aliens

We have been asked on several occasions to furnish information regarding the rumor to the effect that aliens of Japanese descent, who might be returning to the West Coast, would be restricted in their travel to an area not more than five (5) miles from their homes.

This matter was referred to the Assistant Solicitor and for your information, I am quoting below his report on this subject:

"There appears to be considerable misunderstanding as to the regulations controlling the travel of aliens."

"The rumor that has been brought to our attention from at least two sources, that they may not travel more than five miles from their homes has no basis in fact. Under the regulations of the U.S. Department of Justice, an enemy alien may freely travel without special permission within the limits of the community in which he resides, in such a way to permit his engaging in normal activities. In each his community includes all the area generally thought of as constituting a metropolitan district or an urban or rural community, and is not limited to the boundary lines of a city or a county. Thus he may commute between his home and his place of business, and may travel between his home and his church, school, etc., as is normally required. If he wishes to make a trip or move from one community into another, he should send a statement to the U.S. Attorney of the district of his residence at least seven days before his intended departure, stating in a form furnished by the U.S. Attorney, his name, his home address and telephone number, his business address and telephone number, his alien identification number, the purpose of his trip and the persons to be visited, his intermediate and final destinations, the dates of his intended departure and return, his address while he is away, the route to be followed to and from his destination, and the means of transportation. If neither the U.S. Attorney or the FBI know of any reason why the trip would endanger the national security, the U.S. Attorney will stamp an endorsement upon a copy of the statement and will deliver it to the alien, who shall have it with him at all times while he is traveling."

There is also provision for frequent or regular business travel to cover the cases of traveling salesman, drivers of trucks, etc. so that they will not have to make a separate application for every trip."

"Travel by airplanes is not permitted."

"Changes of residence or of employment shall be made only after at least seven days' notice to the U.S. Attorney, of the proposed change; and the holder of certificate of Identification shall not change his name, residence address, or place of employment without written

notice to the Alien Registration Division of the Immigration and Naturalization Service and to the FBI at the office whom in the holder's Certificate of Identification.

"The travel restriction apply to all aliens fourteen years of age or older, who were or are citizens of subjects of Germany, Italy, or Japan, or who are at the present stateless but who were citizens or subjects of any one of these countries."

"The curfew regulations of the Western Defense Command no longer apply, since they were rescinded under Public Proclamation No. 21."

"If any instance arises indicating the U.S. Attorneys are not uniformly interpreting the Department of Justice regulations controlling the conduct of enemy aliens, we shall of course be glad to investigate such cases, and if verified, contact the attorney General's Office through the Solicitor's office in Washington. We believe that it will be found however, that the only difference in interpretation are those which properly follow from the geographic limitations of the community involved. For example, in the case of San Francisco, the bay area would undoubtedly be considered a part of the community; whereas in the case of another city the community might properly be considered to be a much smaller area. But if there are actual differences in interpretation, they should be called to our attention, so that they may be uniformly interpreted and enforced.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ R.B. Cozzens

R.B. Cozzens
Assistant Director

OCTOBER 22 --- (6)

The Poston Chronicle in its Japanese section on October 14 reported on the Block Managers' meeting of October 10, which heard Duncan Mills on the closing of centers: (Cf: October 10, page 1) It is ^{trans}lated from the original in Japanese.

Center Will ^Not Be Closed in The Near Future

Release
It is told that rumors are rampant in camp that the center will be closed in the near future. Although false rumors (dema) are nothing new in relocation centers, some people might worry about some of these rumors. And sometimes those who desire to live quietly might be alarmed and confused. It is believed at any rate that centers will not be closed suddenly without due notice. It is ^{not}₁ believed that such an absurd ^{act} will be accomplished. (RSN: The writer means that the WRA will give an ample warning before it will close the centers. Such warning has not been given yet.)

Realizing this ^{point}, our Block Managers believed it best to hear directly from Director Mills on this subject. They ^{re}₁quested his presence in the meeting of October 10, and heard information from him.

According to this meeting, it became known that an order to close the relocation centers (excepting Tule Lake) will be announced when the exclusion orders had been lifted. This is not definitely set at present. But it is not ^{to}₁ be in the next spring. ~~So~~ It is told that the Project Director said so.

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(The Editor of the Japanese section was present at the meeting of Block Managers on October 10 and heard Mills speak.)

OCTOBER 23 -- (1)

Some of the sentiments expressed by residents pertaining to the opening of California and the closing of the centers are recorded below. These sentiments were recorded between October 10 and October 17.

Rel.
Nisei male (graduated from high school this year, and evacuated from Orange County): I don't think we would go back to California. We lost our farm equipment, and our land is now occupied by Mexicans. It's no use to start all over. We don't have money to get going again. Besides, my parents are too old.

Issei woman (married, about fifty years of age, from Los Angeles): You talk about closing of these centers. You are "loyal" to the U. S. You are "ass-kissing" the WRA. That's no way to be a Japanese. If you are really a Japanese, you should hold out to the last day like I would. I am going to stick it out here. ---(She was talking with another Issei woman.)

Issei man (educated in a college in Japan, urban evacuee, about fifty-five years old): These Issei talk about holding out in here. That shows how short sighted they are. They are always like that. They can't see their future. They acted like that after Pearl Harbor. They said that the United States Government could not evacuate Japanese from California, because there were too many and it would cost too much money. If they could see their future a little better, they wouldn't have suffered so much in the past. They lacked foresight for the last fifty years. All they thought about was to go back to Japan after making money in the quickest time. If they had planned with foresight, these Japanese would have been accepted as Americans long ago. They can't see that the relocation centers could be closed anytime, ^{irrespective of} whether or not the Japanese would stick it out

OCTOBER 23 -- (2)

here. They don't realize that the Congress can refuse to appropriate ^{the} next budget for the WRA. If that happens, the WRA will not be able to run these centers.

Issei male (about sixty years old, crippled due to arthritis, his wife supported their family of four before evacuation): The Government can't throw us out of here. They stuck us in here. I have no place to go. It's the duty of the Government to care us for the duration. (This sentiment is common.)

Return
Issei male (a bachelor, evacuated from Delano, a migratory farm hand, about fifty-five years old): The United States wants to kick us out of the centers. If the Japanese are kept here until the end of the war, the U. S. Government has to pay indemnities to us.

Nisei male (about twenty-four years old, evacuated from Lancaster): It's a good thing that California will be opened soon. But I have no desire to go back to California. I am fed up with race prejudice in California. I want to go to the Middle West and try out my luck this time. If it's no good out there, I can always come back to California.

Issei male (married, about fifty years old, an independent farmer from Orange County): This is another way to make us relocate. They failed to relocate Japanese to the Middle West and East. So this is the last trump ^{card} which the WRA will use to get us out. If we don't go out, the WRA will be forced to keep these centers open. (This sentiment is common, too.)

Issei woman (married, about forty-five years old, high school graduate, evacuated from Los Angeles.): Nicholson (Herbert Nicholson of the Friends Service) told us that the Government will built a farming settlement for the Japanese. They will

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be encouraged to farm on Government-owned lands with government loans and government subsidized farm equipment.

Issei male (about sixty years old, produce merchant, no property, evacuated from Los Angeles, and has three daughters -- two of them out of high school and the third in the fourth year of high school): Well, if the WRA closes the centers, we cannot help it. (Shikata ga nai) No use to get excited about it. (This sentiment is increasing now.)

A common sentiment: They can't close these centers all at one time. Common sense tells that. Anyway, Poston will be the last center to be closed, because this is on an Indian Reservation. Why should ^{we} worry about the closing now. It will be a long, long time yet. (This sentiment is found among Issei, Kibei, and Nisei.)

Issei male (widower, about fifty years old, evacuated from Terminal Island): Give us money enough to cover what we lost at the time of evacuation. Then, I am willing to go out of here.

Issei middle aged male: These people don't like to be told that they will have to get out of the camp soon. They don't know what to do on the outside. They do have chips on their shoulders. They get all hepped up if anyone tells them that the WRA will fold up. They get all excited. It's best not to irritate them. We better hold our tongues.

Nisei male (high school senior): It's a good news. That last symbol of the racial discrimination against the Japanese is to be eliminated. As far as I am concerned, I want to see back East and Chicago and Detroit. This is a good chance to see new places. Guys who have come back from the East talk about the Detroit Tigers and the Notre Dame football team. They talk

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about seeing the Chicago Bears (the professional football team) in action. I want to see them once.

Nisei female (about twenty-two years old, works in the administration office as a secretary, evacuated from Orange County): I am a farmer's daughter. I used to help my folks when I was back home in California. I am the only child in the family. I used to use a team of horses. As soon as school was over, I got out in the fields, and bunched carrots and turnips and what nots. I don't want to go back to California, because it means that we have to go back to farming. That would be about only opening for the Japanese of our kind. I have had enough experience in secretarial work now. I want to go to the East and work in office. I have passed the Civil Service examination, and I know I can get a good job. But my folks are old, and my mother is not strong. My parents won't let me go out. My mother would cry if I begin to talk about relocation. That's her weapon. I always have to give in to her. But when I think of our future, I am worried. What can they do when they return to California. They don't realize that. They often talk about going back to Japan. But I am not interested in going to Japan. I want to live in this country. I feel like rebelling --- I want to break away from them sometimes --- but I guess I am not strong enough to do that. I suppose I will be here till the last day of Poston.

Kibei who has applied for expatriation (about thirty years old, from Delano): This man expressed that he was fortunate that he did not have to go out of the camp on account of his application for expatriation. On the other hand, he was somewhat worried whether he would be sent to some other center.

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OCTOBER 23 -- (5)

The committee of the Local Council to select the new chairman for the Executive Board met in the afternoon of October 21. (Cf: October 18, page 4) It chose the following three candidates:

First choice	Kato (the former General Manager of the Community Enterprises)
Second Choice	Mas Kawashima (the former chairman of the Executive Board, and the acting Supervisor of Block Managers, May-June, 1944)
Third choice	M. Nagai (the former chairman of the Executive Board)

The committee selected four or five men from among themselves to see Kato. It was reported through grapevine today that Kato was very receptive to the offer and asked for a time to deliberate.

October 22

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Relocation
Pacific Coast
Bar

The articles written by Minoru Okamoto, Chariman of the
Unit I Council and City Manager, which ran in serial in the Poston

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Chronicle (Oct. 17, October 19, and October 21) are translated below from Japanese (Cf: October 21, page 1, the second paragraph).

*Pacific Coast
Bn*

As a result of Director Myer's statement and the unofficial conversation by the Project Director after the conference of Project Directors held in Denver in September, many wild rumors (dema) are rampant as if California will be opened tomorrow and the majority of the evacuees will be thrown out of relocation centers in the near future. These rumors are spread as if they were biblical truth. It is not my intention to correct these false impressions, but I want to express my point of view here.

The return to California depends on ~~the~~ decision by the Army. If so, it depends on the developments of the war. I believe the relocation problems of evacuees, too, viscollate with the developments. A WRA policy is to disperse during the wartime all the evacuees in the relocation centers throughout the United States. If that is impossible, it proposes to relocate as many Japanese as possible. Therby, it ^eplans to diminish the responsibility of the Government in regard to the problems of those of Japanese ancestry to a minimum after the war. This is the desire of the WRA. Therefore, it is too obvious and natural that the WRA is spending an enormous money and using this method and that method to accelerate relocation.

This recent talk of the return to the Pacific Coast is another example of the WAR to relocate the evacuees. It is a reflection of the recent hearings (RN: the interviews of the Family Counseling program). I have heard that many residents of this center are naively thinking that they are willing to return immediately, if the destination was ~~to~~ California, and expressed so in these hearings.

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OCTOBER 22 -- (5)

Is it that easy to materialize the return to California? Even when the evacuation orders are lifted, is it possible to guarantee safety within that deep-rooted anti-Japanese atmosphere?

It is self-evident that the WRA will assume its responsibility for the duration and after the peace, because the Government had ordered the compulsory evacuation. Therefore, relocation and the return to California differ in words, but they are identical in their purposes. It is the purpose of the WRA to carry out its responsibility. It is not impossible to imagine that relocation centers might be combined and ^{from the standpoint of economy} might be closed if relocatees greatly increased by this method and the center populations greatly decreased.

I don't doubt the policy of the Government to approve those of Japanese ancestry to return to California. But if Germany is defeated by the next summer and the subsequent war is centralized in the Pacific, the Pacific Coast will become the center of military operations than before.. I cannot believe that at that time the Army will approve a mass return of Issei and Nisei to the Coast.

In essence, the WRA desires to decrease ~~the~~ residents in the centers as much as possible before the peace. This is understandable from the fact that the Government fully realizes how difficult it is to solve the relocation problems of Japanese with other internal problems simultaneously ~~with~~ in the post-war days, and the Government wished to solve the Japanese problem during the war when frictions are relatively absent other than in carrying out the war efforts.

From these standpoints we should deliberate on our future calmly.

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OCTOBER 19 -- (9)

Reloc

If the percentage of leave from each area is compared with the percentage of the total population that came from each area, the two will be found to be remarkably similar. The two figures do not vary in any case as much as three per cent. The Arizona leaves are a little high, but most Arizona people can return to their former homes whenever they wish. The southern coastal areas -- Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego Counties -- had a slightly higher percentage of leaves during the month than the percentage of the total population, but the difference is not significant. In conclusion, there are no special factors operating in the case of people from any of the areas.

Of the 158 leaves, 75, or 47.5%, were people with urban backgrounds and 83, or 52.5%, were those with rural backgrounds. This was determined by examining not only the pre-evacuation residence but also the pre-evacuation occupation of those obtaining leave. In the case of students and those who had no pre-Poston occupation listed in the June 30, 1944 census, the occupation of the head of the family was noted.

Apparently, early departures from Poston were mainly former city dwellers. Some of the appointed personnel may still believe that urban people make up the majority of those leaving. Figures on the total number of rural and urban individuals are not available; however, considerably more than half of the Poston population came from farm areas. Hence, a higher percentage of those from cities are relocating as compared with the percentage of those with farm backgrounds that relocate.

October 19

#####

A statisfiseal study by French, titled Pre-Evacuation Residence of Poston People Taking Indefinite Leave During September, 1944, is reprinted below:

From time to time in the past, there has been a consistency in the behavior of people that were evacuated from the same area of the West Coast. This has been demonstrated in studies made by analysts in other centers, and can be verified in a non-statistical fashion in Poston by questioning anyone familiar

Reloca
Leaves

OCTOBER 19 -- (6)

with the history of the project. One factor, of course, that has contributed to the similarities in the behavior of individuals from the same area is the geographic homogeneity of many of the blocks in Poston.

This study was made in order to learn whether the number of indefinite leaves during this period was particularly high or low among the people from any of the areas. Had this been the case, we would have analyzed further, using other methods, to determine the reasons.

We studied 158 indefinite leaves, which was all but 21 of those reported during the month in the daily population summaries by individuals of the Statistics Section. Of the 21, 20 were soldiers who went to Ft. Douglas, Utah for active duty in the Army; the other was a non-resident of the center who changed from seasonal to indefinite and on whom no information is available. We included 5 who changed from short term to indefinite leave, 12 who changed from seasonal to indefinite, and 2 who changed from trial indefinite to indefinite.

The areas chosen were counties, or groups of adjacent counties with economic and other interrelationships. These areas have been used in other research that we have done; they were worked out after careful thought and with consultations with evacuees as to their validity.

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INDEFINITE LEAVES DURING SEPTEMBER^{1/} 1944

Pre-Evacuation Residence (by Areas and Towns)	No. of Leaves	% of 158 Leaves	No. from Area in Poston ^{1/}	% of total Population
SAN FRANCISCO-CONTRA COSTA-ALAMEDA-SONOMA-SAN MATEO	0	0.0	78	.7
SACRAMENTO-PLACER-SUTTER-YOLO	9	5.7	406	3.4
Sacramento	9 ^{2/}			
SAN JOAQUIN-STANISLAUS	0	0.0	10	.1
FRESNO-TULARE	29	18.3	2162	18.2
Reedley	8			
Dinuba	5			
Fresno	3			
Cutler	2			
Oroshi	2			
Clovis	2			
Visalia	2			
Yettum	1			
Terra Bella	1			
Lindsey	1			
Sanger	1			
Strathmore	1			
KERN	8	5.1	570	4.8
Bakersfield	4			
Delano	3			
MacFarland	1			
MONTEREY-SANTA CRUZ-SANTA CLARA-SAN BENITO	31	19.6	2436	20.5
Salinas	13			
Watsonville	4			
Gilroy	4			
San Jose	2			
Castroville	2			
Cupertino	2			
Monterey	1			
Santa Cruz	1			
Hollister	1			
Soledad	1			
SAN LUIS OBISPO	0	0.0	97	.8
SANTA BARBARA-VENTURA	0	0.0	70	.6

^{1/} From an analysis made in this office of the June 30, 1944 census

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LOS ANGELES		26	16.5	'	1869	15.7
	Los Angeles	22		'		
	Westminister	2		'		
	Terminal I.	1		'		
	Buena Park	1		'		
ORANGE		15	9.5	'	870	7.3
	Anaheim	6		'		
	Santa Ana	3		'		
	Huntington B.	2		'		
	Corona Del Mar	1		'		
	Seal Beach	1		'		
	Talbert	1		'		
	(Unspecified)	1		'		
SANDIEGO		21	13.3	'	1251	10.5
	San Diego	17		'		
	Chula Vista	1		'		
	Encinitas	1		'		
	San Marcos	1		'		
	Oceanside	1		'		
SAN BERNADINO-RIVERSIDE		5	3.2	'	574	4.8
	Riverside	2		'		
	San Bernadino	1		'		
	Upland	1		'		
	Thermal	1		'		
IMPERIAL		10	6.3	'	980	8.3
	El Centro	3		'		
	Hotville	2		'		
	Callexico	2		'		
	Brawley	1		'		
	Niland	1		'		
ARIZONA		4	2.5	'	93	.8
	Phoenix	2		'		
	Glendale	2		'		
Others- POSTON BIRTHS		-	-	'	409	3.5
TOTALS		156	100.0		11875	100.0

72

Poston-born babies were included with parents in the leave figures

October 19

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Report on Poston for Week Ending October 15, 1944, written by David French, the Community Analysis, is reproduced here in part:

Return to West Coast: Center Closure

On October 5, Duncan Mills held a meeting with key appointed staff members to discuss the results of the recent project directors' meeting. At that time, and during the larger staff meeting on October 7, he made guarded disclosures of the advance plans that have been made in view of the possibility that the Army will reopen the West Coast before the end of the war. On October 5, he met with the community councilmen, and on October 10, with the Unit I block managers; he told each group approximately what he had told the staff meeting, namely, that the centers would close a reasonable time after the Army opens the West Coast to evacuees.

To evacuees, center closure and a return to the West Coast

*Relocated
Refugee Camp*

OCT OBER 19 -- (3)

are not as closely tied together as they seem to be in the minds of many appointed staff members. There were immediate and fairly strong reactions following the above meetings; they concerned the closure, not the return. Two schools of thought developed among the general population. One group, made up largely of those who would not mind leaving the center, insisted that the closing would come before the end of the war, perhaps by March or June 30, 1945. The other group, made up to quite an extent of those who feel they can't leave, has been trying not to believe in the facts and rumors of closure; they insist that it won't happen. Arguments between members of the two groups have broken out. There is a belief, not yet well articulated, that Director Myer and Project Director Head both made pledges that the centers were to last at least for the duration. The charge of bad faith, on this basis, will be an issue raised when organized resistance to closure develops. There seems to be little organization now, but unfortunately, the same effects as those of a formal announcement of center closure are going to be felt now or soon, while the West Coast is still closed and while many are still unsure of their future in America.

There has been a rumor that some families, or whole blocks, are packed and waiting to return to California, but there seems to be no foundation for it.

Two ex-Poston Residents, Jitsuo Kajioke and Henry Sakemi, visited the project on their way back to their home towns in California. Both are men that present a good appearance; they will undoubtedly be welcomed by their old friends and will make a good impression on new ones. Under the Army's present policy

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of allowing individual exceptions to the exclusion order, it seems likely that individuals who are quite Americanized, self-confident, and extroverted will be those who return during this pioneer stage. Such people are the ones that are applying now, as a matter of fact.

October 17

#####

A weekly meeting of the Block Managers was held in the conference room of the Unit Administration Building from 9:30 o'clock this morning.

The meeting was mostly spent for routine announcements. ~~One of the~~ Two major businesses, however, were taken up this morning. First, Corlies Carter, the Assistant Relocation Program Officer, explained in detail the two types of leaves to California. (Cf: Western Defense Command Taking Applications for West Coast Return) in the October 10th edition of the Poston Chronicle) He stated that it was impossible to ascertain how the Army would react on individual applications. The WRA did not know what criteria the Army uses. But, he stated, the policy of the Army has become very liberal in granting permits to Japanese. So far the Japanese of mixed marriages and the families of Nisei soldiers have very good chances of returning to California. It was still doubtful whether the Army would react favorably to other cases.

Reloca

October 16

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A group of Kibei was talking about the news and their discussion touched upon the return to California. One of them said, "It's best not return to California for the duration. Now that

reborn

OCTOBER 16 -- (2)

the Japanese have begun to take the offensive again in the Pacific. If we go back to California, we might be re-evacuated."

OCTOBER 12 -- (4)

relocate

Herbert Nicholson of the American Friends Service told me that most of the residents in the various relocation centers are not relocatable. They believe that they cannot make living on the outside or they simply refuse to relocate, because "They don't have to worry about tomorrow's bread and butter." An evacuee leader, he reported, at Heart Mountain reported to him that as many as 70% of the Heart Mountain population are not relocatable for the present. Of course, this figure included those persons that had some bona fide deterrents to relocate. On the other hand, Jimmie Hirano, the Central Block Manager at Topaz, thought only 25% of the Topaz population was not relocatable. As ^I was questioned on this subject, I replied that at least eighty percent of the Poston population are not relocatable, considering both psychological and physical deterrents to relocation. Whatever might happen in the near future, only twenty per cent of the present Poston population would be able to relocate in the next six months. This figure is the highest possible rate of relocation from Poston.

When I mentioned this figure to Corlies Carter, the Assistant to James Crawford, the Relocation Program Officer, he believed of unrelatables my estimate ¹ was too low. Carter estimated that at least ninety per cent were not relocatable. He thought, even after the date of the liquidation of the WRA centers is announced, at least ninety per cent would remain to the last day. He was worried as to what the WRA should do with these people at the end. Carter wanted to revise some plans by which the people be convinced that such a time would come in the near future when the WRA would not have any money to run these centers. He wanted to put across to the people that the WRA could not operate the centers when they failed

See also Administration, October 12
(re. enacting WPA liquidation)
and returning to California)

Reloca

OCTOBER 12 -- (5)

to get money. He realized that difficult tasks are looming ahead
for the WRA people before they could close these centers.

October 10
Belk Mgr
Meeting

As requested by Supervisor, Mills appeared before the body in the company of Moris Burge. (Cf: October 6, page 1) Nishimoto gave an introductory speech. "We are honored this morning with the presence of our Project Director and Deputy Project Director. As you know, for the past several days, we have been hearing many wild rumors regarding the future of

Reloca

OCTOBER 10 -- (2)

the WRA and the probable return to California. I have traced these rumors and have found out that some of the Councilmen were guilty of spreading them. Of course, to have an inside dope on the WRA elevates one's prestige greatly here, and these Councilmen need such opportunity to raise their prestige. Seeing the activities of these Councilmen, I was convinced that the Block Managers, too, should have opportunities of spreading rumors, instead of being on the receiving end. Therefore, I have asked our Director to come to our meeting and explain about the Denver conference. I am not expecting our Director to say much, but if you think up a lot of questions and ask him in a rapid fire fashion, we might be able to catch him off guard to say something which he is not supposed to say."

Mills: "I did discuss in confidence with the members of the outgoing council several days ago. I discussed some of the things we discussed about in Denver. I reported only those things that I was authorized to say with exception, of course, of the key members of my staff. I cannot report everything ~~everything~~ that had been discussed in Denver, since a great deal of the planning had been involved.

"WRA's position in the raising of the exclusion orders had been very clearly stated. WRA is making, furthermore, no public announcement. The WRA is not making public any guess, speculation, or estimation on the date when the order will be lifted. I doubt if anyone can say when that date will be. Speculation, of course, has the effect of causing people who plan . . . who are planning to relocate to defer their plans to go back to the evacuated area. The WRA plans to close the center . . . to announce the future closing at the time the exclusion ~~is are lifted or soon~~

OCTOBER 10 -- (3)

orders are lifted or soon after that date is something quite new to most of you. The proposal is to allow what is called a reasonable period for everyone to make up ^{4.5} ~~their~~ minds whether it would be suitable for him to choose evacuated area or whether it would be suitable to choose another area. We are going ahead to find out. WRA in Washington is going ahead with the Federal Security Agency and other agencies who would assume responsibilities for financial and hospital care for the evacuees. The evacuated area will be on the same basis as the other parts of the United States. We are trying to establish some machineries so that the return to the area will be regulated and orderly and insure as best as we can rehabilitation. WRA at that time will take the position that anyone who wishes to return to the coast immediately and doesn't require assistance will be free to go just the minute he wants to go. Provided he has been granted a leave clearance. Those persons who require assistance may be asked to schedule their returns to fit as best they can be fitted their plan to a regulated return. I am informed on good authority that the Director in Manzanar last week had something to say on it, but I might as well tell before you hear from Manzanar. He said that at least six months will be permitted before the centers are closed. I think the period will be longer than that. Of course, he was stating the minimum. . . . It is expected to have one closing date for the centers. I believe that is all we were told we could announce.

Nishimoto: There is anxiety of the part of many evacuees, especially ~~of~~ those that have been denied of leave clearances, as to their status in the future. What would happen to them when the centers are closed?

OCTOBER 10 -- (4)

Mills: I hoped that something definite could be made at the same time as raising the ^cexclusion orders. At the moment, there is nothing definite I could tell you. The question is still being studied.

Shigemi: Are the citizens and aliens to be treated alike?

Mills: Yes. Except that the Issei, as in every case of indefinite leave for them, must conform to the same provision that the Immigration and Naturalization Service prescribes.

Sumida: Is there any connection with the Family Welfare Counseling now for releasing the evacuees?

Mills: I think the Family Counseling program is very important with the whole problem because we feel that through those interviews WRA people will be in a better position to know each family's situation --- to come to their assistance and to advise them, to help them decide on what they could do in all circumstances.

Sumida: Didn't Mr. Myer and Mr. Head say that those who wished to remain in the centers may do so?

Burge: I told Mr. Mills that I was under the same impression that Mr. Myer and subsequently Mr. Head said that.

Mills: I would like to have the question checked on.

Shigemi: When Mr. Head dedicated the adobe buildings (The Poston I Elementary School), he said these buildings would be used by our great grand children too. (Laughter)

Sasuga: When the centers are closed, are there any provisions for assisting evacuees?

Mills: As I said, the WRA is only working with the Federal Security Agency and other agencies and are now trying to formulate plans.

Yamasaki: Has it been decided that the centers would be closed

OCTOBER 10 -- (5)

in March of next year?

Mills: No.

~~Kodotani~~ Burge: Better ask same questions for April, May, June, and so on. (laughter)

Kodotani: Would you say that in the near future all the centers will be closed?

Mills: Yes, except Tule Lake.

Kodotani: If that's the case, what Mr. Myer said might be construed as false.

Mills: Well, let's find out what Mr. Myer said first.

Tanaka: When do you think the date of closing of centers? ^{will be announced}

Mills: I am not allowed to say that.

Sasuga: We have been hearing rumors of probable closing of centers for the last several months. You have been to Denver, and I am sure that some of the rumors have been confirmed. What part of these rumors have become definite after the conference?

Mills: Well, I probably did not hear all the rumors.

Sasuga: The project rumor is that California will be opened in November.

Mills: I heard that as a rumor and that is what it still is.

Nishimoto: Mr. Sasuga wishes you to speculate.

Mills: I am specifically forbidden to speculate.

Sasuga: What aspects are definite?

Mills: I should say this --- in my opinion, it is not absolutely certain that the military authorities will rescind the exclusion orders in the near future. The Director (Myer) feels that there is a strong possibility. I should say further that his mind is firmly made up that when and if the ^cexclusion orders are lifted the centers will be closed in due course of time.

OCTOBER 10 -- (6)

Kadotani: What are you going to do with those persons that have applied for expatriation and repatriation?

Mills: I don't have the answer yet. The question is still being studied. I can tell you this much. I think it is fairly obvious now that there is no future large movements to Tule Lake.

Fujimoto: When the WRA announces the date of closing --- Suppose the evacuees refuse to go out on that date. What are you going to do with them?

Mills: That is a very interesting question.

Nishimoto: Oh, you are not prepared to answer that question this morning, are you?

Mills: No.

October 7

#####

Release

During the conference of the appointed staff this afternoon, Mills announced that the members of the staff would be interviewed individually by social workers to plan their futures after the liquidation of the WRA. It would be patterned after the Family Planning Survey, which is conducted at present for evacuees. Mills stated that the survey was for the purpose of making adjustment ^{them} by the staff after the liquidation easy. He assured [^] that no one would be terminated by the WRA before its closing (excepting incompetency), but they would be allowed to transfer to other governmental agencies.

#####

October 7

#####

Relates

Burge believed that a great portion of evacuees would remain in these centers after the Pacific Coast was declared open to them. He could not agree with the WRA estimate that the centers could be closed sometime after the opening of California, he stated. "Mr. Myer refused to believe that these people don't want to go out of centers," Burge reported. "He thinks that most of these people will go back to California soon after the opening. I am sure he will be greatly disappointed."

OCTOBER 7 -- (1)

Relvea
Gerry Wumino, the Administrator of Unit III, relocated to ~~Chicago~~ ^{Detroit}. He left on the special train on October 3.

The office of Unit III Administrator has not been filled yet. It was reported that Burge went to Camp III early last week and canvassed the opinions of evacuees holding the administrative positions in the various sections and divisions in the Unit III. The residents, however, are sceptical of such voting, because those holding the positions are the ones who had been appointed by Wumino and have been regarded as Wumino supporters. It was told that much jockeying around is going on Unit III at present for the position of Administrator.

See also Expatriation; Repatriation, September 25

Reloca

SEPTEMBER 21 -- (2)

Chamberlain, therefore, failed to accomplish his mission, but he left the papers with the Japanese so that they could sign it should they change their minds.

SEPTEMBER 21 -- (1)

Return

One Chamberlain, an attache (civilian) to the Commanding General of the Western Defense Command, flew to Blythe, Calif., where he was met by Duncan Mills. ^{Yesterday} As soon as he reached Poston, he requested ^{to see} those five persons that had filed an ⁱⁿjunction suit against the Command. (Cf: September 19, page 3) To the plaintiffs he presented papers to have them sign. He explained that the paper was to acknowledge the willingness by each of them to have his case investigated by the Army. On reading, it revealed that it was an agreement whereby he would agree to abide by all the restrictions imposed by the Army and the Presidential Proclamation to the Japanese until his case was cleared by the Army. Elmer Yamamoto ⁵contrued the document as to mean that each of the plaintiffs would be bound by all the restrictions individually in addition to the general application to the Japanese. That is to say, he believed that by signing the document his freedom to move to California would be denied if the general prohibition to return to California was lifted. In such a case, other Japanese would be free to return, but the five persons could not do so just because of the separate agreements. Yamamoto also reasoned that the document was a result of The Army's intention to pass its judgement on each individual, and the Army had no intention to allow a mass return of the Japanese. The purpose of the suit ^{however,} was, to test the legality of barring the Japanese from California, and it was aiming at the mass return.

Yamamoto immediately telephoned to ^Wirin of the American Civil Liberties Union at Los Angeles on the matter. Wirin, according to Yamamoto, was very much surprised of the fact that the Army sent its representative to Poston without his knowledge. The attorney instructed the five Japanese not to sign the papers, and told the representative of the Western Command to get in touch with him.

September 18

#####

Screen

An Issei widow, who has two daughters and one boy, came back from a Family Counseling Survey interview. She told me of her experience. She was asked if she wanted to resume the job she held before the war. She replied affirmatively. The interviewer asked her what she was doing. Then, she replied that she was working in a cannery at Terminal Island. The interviewer told her that her chance of going back to California was very slim; in fact, it would be too dangerous to return to California in the near future. She was advised to plan to relocate somewhere in the Middle West for the sake of her physical safety. At the end of the interview, she said that she did not know anything to do to earn her living. Therefore, she said, she could not go to anywhere else but Terminal Island, and came out of the office.

#####

As Issei

Relief

September 16

#####

Dorothy Stevick, one time ~~the~~ secretary to Wade Head and the present Executive Secretary of the Leave Clearance Board, visited San Francisco recently. She talked with many people, including Chester Rowell, and gained an impression that a group of people, although small, is vigorously fighting the battle for the Nisei. The majority of people, however, seemed to have forgotten the Japanese problem. California cleaned the Japanese out,

Reluctant

SEPTEMBER 16 -- (3)

the populations of more than 150 persons are unaffected; new quotas were worked out for the blocks with the populations less than 150 persons. The committee ~~plan~~ proposed to limit the number of male workers under 65 years of age in each messhall.

6. The committee plan was adopted by the general meeting of the special block representatives χ amid strenuous oppositions from several blocks, which are to be affected by the plan.

7. No one seems to know how the adopted plan is to be enforced. The several blocks, which opposed to the plan, are resolving not to abide by it. They are saying, "Try and make us."

September 16

#####

This is a resumé of what happened to the idea of combining some of the messhalls. It came back to where it started ~~from~~.

1. Mills wrote a memorandum dated August 28 to the Manpower Commission. It is doubtful whether Mills himself conceived the idea or, as it is popularly believed, Okamoto instigated Mills to send the memorandum.

2. The Manpower Commission realized that it was too big a problem for the group to decide one way or another. It sent the matter to each Unit.

3. Okamoto announced the proposal to the Block Managers and the Local Council. He called a meeting of the special block representatives.

4. The special block representatives were opposed to the plan of combining the messhalls. They were in favor of some alternative plan to divert manpower from the messhalls to other divisions.

5. The special block representatives could not agree on any alternative plan. They selected a special committee to study the problem.

5. The special committee made a sliding scale ^{for} ~~of~~ the number of workers according to the size of messhalls. The blocks with

SEPTEMBER 16 -- (2)

and its people are used to the absence of the Japanese now. They more or less believe that the evacuation was a good riddance of bad rubbish. Although they are ^{getting} acutely conscious of coming Negro problem, they are reluctant to face the old Japanese problem again by allowing them to return to California. She was of the opinion than it would be much better all way around if the Japanese could scatter and relocate in the Middle West and the East.

Block Manager's Meeting
September 12
Relocate

Supervisor reported the difficulty of sending the freight belonging to those who had relocated. The relocatees had left their baggages and crates expecting the Leave Office to ship them to their destinations. Because of the present labor shortage, the shipments had been delayed ⁱⁿ ^{by} some cases as much as several weeks. Many crates and boxes were being left untouched in the blocks. Last week, the Leave Office requested some eleven Block Managers to donate their services for a day to pick up and load in freight cars those crates and boxes left behind by the relocatees in their blocks. Supervisor Nishimoto, however, refused to let the Leave Office utilize the Managers on the ground that the work was not within the duty of Block Managers.

The Leave Office, then, contacted City Manager Okamoto, who recruited the Firemen not on duty to do the work for the day. Now, Okamoto thought it was a good idea to utilize the off-duty Firemen for the work in the future. (The Firemen work 12 hours one day, and do not work at all the next day.) But, he believed they should be compensated for the extra work. He worked out a plan whereby a family relocating would pay a certain set amount of money if they wanted their boxes shipped out quickly. The rate was set as one dollar for a family head and fifty cents for

SEPTEMBER 12 -- (3)

each of the accompanying family members. That is to say, if a relocating family consisted of one family head and four other members, it would cost them three dollars to have their boxes and crates taken to Parker and loaded on a freight car. According to ~~the~~ Okamoto's plan, when a family refused to pay the fee, their freight would be left here until the Leave Office could manage to ship it out. The plan received approval of the Managers, and Okamoto was requested to complete its details.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 A. M.

SEPTEMBER 6 -- (9)

NEWS RELEASE (9/7/44)

*Relocation
(Or Employment)*

The U.S. Army is offering Civil Service appointments to interested evacuees at the Tooele Ordnance Depot, 37 miles from Salt Lake City, Utah. The job offer is limited to Nisei men who will take their families with them. However, Issei members of the family are welcome. The work consists of handling ammunition ranging from 30-caliber rifle bullets to 4-ton bombs. All of the ammunition, with the exception of rifle cartridges, have no detonators and fuses and, as a result, the work is not hazardous. The wage rates per hour are 77¢, 82¢, 86¢, 90¢, and 95¢, depending upon ability and length of time employed. The starting wage of 77¢ may be raised, if the worker shows himself capable of performing the work, to the second bracket at the end of 60 or 70 days. Subsequent promotions to higher brackets are available at the end of similar lengths of time.

Housing is available from \$28 to \$38 per month. All furniture is included, with the exception of dishes, blankets, silverware, and such personal household appertenances. These, however, are available from the Depot at a rental fee of a dollar per month. The Army is prepared to furnish the worker and all members of his family with identification badges showing them to be essential war workers. Community sentiment of the nearby towns has been completely investigated and is found satisfactory both by the Army and the War Relocation Authority.

Draft deferments will be requested for all men 26 years of age or over who have dependents. Colonel Meek informs us that the Ordnance Depot has a very excellent working relationship with the local draft board in obtaining such deferments.

The houses are of concrete block construction and are adequately furnished with coal stoves, ice boxes, water heaters, and

August 25

#####

A letter from a former Poston girl who has relocated to Chicago in June is reproduced below:

Relocation
" . . . I imagine the block has become quite lonesome with so many people relocating each week. It won't be long till you'll be coming out too, I suppose. There seems to be quite a few Isseis in Chicago now as I see them wherever I go. And they're dressed rather nice too so they don't look so conspicuous.

"Since coming out here I haven't had much time to go places. In fact, I haven't gone shopping downtown yet. Went to a movie once with my brother and to a ball game also. The only time I get to go out is on Sunday afternoon, and that is to the park, which is

AUGUST 28 -- (2)

for Glenn's (her baby) sake.

". . . Last Sunday we all went to see the Nomura's (the former Unit Administrator) and gosh, she was so disgusted and disappointed, she felt like crying. I don't blame her, because her apartment is so small and crowded compared to ours. I already changed our place , because it was crowded, dirty, and inconvenient until I saw all the other people's homes. We really have a pretty good place, except for the sharing back room. . . .

"Oh, a couple of weeks ago C, Frank, Allen, George and Viola (her friends in the same block at Poston) stayed over the week end and boy, was I busy. I almost went crazy, but it was worth it because I really felt lost and lonely after they left again. C hasn't changed a bit. She still talks big and she sure has her future all figured out. I hope it turns out that way.

"The Miouras(also lived in the same block) live around the corner. I see them quite often. Mrs. Mioura seems bored with nothing to do. . . ."

August 23

The following paragraphs are the translation of an article that appeared in the Rocky Shimpo of the August 18th. This article reflects the prevalent attitude on the matter among the Issei and most of the Kibei.

"This is ^a story I heard ^r from a visitor from Boulder. This is a good lesson for those planning relocation in the future in selecting their jobs. He was born in Japan. He is a professional man who graduated college in this country. He has a special skill. This is his true story; so it is a naked truth.

"This man went to a relocation center from the Coast. He



AUGUST 23 -- (4)

was employed at the Boulder college as a Japanese language instructor last year and went there. That was motivated in a way by his desire to rejoin his children, who were all in Denver. But soon after he went there, his eldest son was drafted, and his second son ~~had~~ passed his pre-induction physics ¹this year and would be called for active service any time. In this predicament he was discharged from the college because of the curtailment in the number of employees. He thought nothing of this, for ~~he is~~ he is a professional man ^{with} of special skill. On this occasion he planned to start a business independently in Denver. But, I'll tell you something! He was refused of the business license due to his ^{enemy} alien status. In addition, one of his children was refused of entrance into a medical college because of his ancestor being Japanese.

"What do you think of his reaction to these? Because he is well educated and because he is a technical expert he criticized bitterly and scathingly the inconsistencies of the American authorities for discriminating against the enemy aliens. His bitterness was much greater than that of an average man. Simultaneously he realized acutely that he is a Japanese; his race consciousness was awakened. As I said the other day, I don't need to quote General DeWitt; but Japs are Japs just the same. We are Japs just the same whether we are well educated or we are illiterate. Since then his ways of thinking changed; he is re-examining the steps he has taken when he relocated for the first time. I don't think he is a sole exception; there are others who are frustrated from the inconsistencies under similar circumstances. Those who might relocate in the future ought to deliberate every angle thoroughly. They should choose their jobs well. Otherwise

August 22

#####

Relocation

Hayano, the Assistant Director of Education, returned from Chicago a few days ago. He had been on the outside on short term leave. He said that the most critical problem for those relocating is housing. He noted that it was very difficult for the Japanese to rent a house in the ~~middle bracket rental~~ *medium rental bracket*. He thought it would not be so hard to find an apartment which rented for one hundred dollars a month or over. The owners of higher rental houses were willing to rent their property to the Japanese, he observed while in Chicago. He leased an apartment house, which he intends to operate as soon as the summer season is over. He returned here to take his family out in the fall.

He said that Little Tokyo might be created on Clark Street near Chinatown, although he believed the chance was slim. He noticed many empty ~~stores~~ near Chinatown and these store~~rooms~~ might be occupied by the Japanese soon.

He believed that there ~~are~~ ^{is} a lot of jobs for the Japanese, even for the Issei. He could observe little racial discrimination; if there were, ^{any} it was not any worse than that of the pre-war days

~~image~~

AUGUST 23 -- (5)

they will face unsolvable dilemmas in the end. Of course, those
who will ^{be} able to mak~~ing~~₁ their livings by manual labor are an
exception."

AUGUST 22 -- (2)

in Los Angeles. He advised all middled aged or younger Issei to relocate. He did not see much opportunities for the older Issei on the outside. He noted that there were enough jobs for every Japanese, although it might be difficult to find a good, lucrative job at the beginning.

(Hayano is an Issei licensed arthitect, evacuated from Los Angeles. He is forty-four years old, with^a1 wife and four children. The eldest of his children is nine years of age, and the youngest about two years old.)

#####

AUGUST 21 -- (1)

March 4, 1943

Dillon S. Myer
Director of WRA
New Interior Building
Washington, D. C.

Subject: Transportation Expenses to Destination and Temporary Loans

Dear Mr. Myer:

Our Council favors your program of mass relocation. There are several delicate questions in connection with relocation that should be given consideration and attention.

Reloc
The evacuees in our Center are mostly from Los Angeles and smaller communities where they were working for Caucasians or for their own friends. Immediately following Pearl Harbor, many of the evacuees lost their jobs; others who were engaged in business suffered losses from December 7, 1941. For the most part, all of the evacuees, with the possible exception of the farming population in our Center, were restricted to home because of travel restrictions and time limits imposed by the Western Defense Command precluded going to work in their accustomed vocations.

From the earlier part of January, 1942, most of the evacuees here have been without work; what little resources they had was spent in living expenses from January until May when they were finally sent here, and in buying merchandise and commodities that they anticipated for use after arriving in Poston.

It is a fact that many more people might be willing to be relocated if transportation expenses were allowed to their job destination from Poston. It might help matter if a temporary loan could be advanced to evacuees without funds but who have a proven record of integrity and honesty and can supply reliable co-signers on a promissory note.

Economically speaking, it might prove cheaper to provide traveling expenses and risk a small loan for those who are eligible and worthy than to continue supporting them in Centers.

This letter was discussed in a regular meeting and it has the unanimous approval of the Temporary Community Council of Unit I. Will you kindly give this letter your attention and please give us an early reply.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Franklyn S. Sugiyama
Chairman, Temporary Community Council

/s/ Dr. N. Mizushima
Chairman, Issei Advisory Council

August 21

#####

both

Two visitors came to see me. They are [^]from Detroit. One is George Oki, the former Block Manager of Block 46, who relocated last November. The other is Yukawa of Block 5, the former Manager.

Relocated

AUGUST 21 9- (2)

The latter, an Issei, visited his children now in Detroit and Cleveland.

Oki said he had never encounteredⁿ unpleasant experiences on the outside. There were many opportunities to make money. He said he was accepted as an American citizen and enjoyed his stay in Detroit. He went to any restaurant in the city without being discriminated, although Negroes are not getting so equal a chance as Nisei socially. He pointed out, however, the Negroes^N are having^{an} easier time getting into defense works, while the Nisei are meeting a difficulty in obtaining a Provost Marshal's clearance. He said he waited six months for such a clearance, but he has not gotten it yet. He has given up the hope of getting it now. He commented on the Negro^N situation thus: "I am glad I wasn't born a Negro."

Although Oki talked a great deal about his being accepted by the public, he mentioned in his next breath that he ~~was~~ often mistaken for a Chinese and he thought he ~~was~~ passed for a Chinese-American. His statement gave me an impression that he was accepted on the outside as a Chinese-American instead of as a Japanese-American. "The people out there can't make a difference between the Japanese and the Chinese," he said. "They think the Japanese have buck teeth and horn rimmed glasses, as they see them in the newspaper cartoons."

Yukawa, on the other hand, disliked his stay on the outside. He encountered a series of disagreeable experiences. For example, when he went into a barber shop for hair-cut, the barber said he had a few customers waiting for their turns ahead of him, although there was no one in the shop. As he was walking out of the place, the barber stopped him and said, "Are you a Chinese?"

AUGUST 21 -- (3)

"Sure, I am a Chinaman," replied Yukawa.

"Come on," shouted the barber. "Sit on this chair. I'll work on you."

At another time Yukawa was looking for the main office of the Post Office in Detroit. He could not find it and asked one old woman on the street. She stared at him and then said, "I suppose you are a Chinese. You are all right. If you are a Jap, I'll slap your face and knock your head with a bottle." She directed him to the Post Office. Yukawa was very uncomfortable in her presence and fled away from her as soon as he had gotten the direction.

Yukawa said that he experienced similar incidents quite often while on the outside. He said that relocation is all right for the Nisei but the Issei have no business to go out. The feeling toward the Issei is very bad. It was especially bad during the recent War Bond Drive with the propaganda that fanned hatred toward Japan. He could not see any chance of the outside sentiment toward the Issei improving in the future.

The Japanese are having difficulties in finding ~~the~~ places to live. The house owners are not willing to rent their houses to the Japanese. It is common that the Japanese house hunter has the door shut in his face several times before he ~~can~~^{will} find a house.

"There is an interesting story I heard from my daughter who works in the WRA office in Detroit," Yukawa said. "One refined woman came to the office. She said she wanted to hire a help for her home. After looking over the names and qualifications of several Nisei, she asked whether the WRA did not have anybody besides Japanese. She did not want to hire any Japanese in her

AUGUST 21 -- (4)

home."

Many Caucasians do not wish to hire Japanese as domest^sics. They sometimes hire them half-heartedly. But when they have had Nisei girls for some months, they are ^{usually} very much satisfied with the girls. They often wrote to the WRA office thanking its service for supplying the Nisei girls to them. The Nisei are establishing a good reputation as competent, diligent domestics.

In the secretarial field, too, the Nisei girls are more ~~than~~ satisfactory. They are well liked, because they are conscientious workers. They are willing to work overtime without complaints. The employers are depending greatly on the Nisei girls now.

"If this continued for another fifteen years," Yukawa thought, "the Japanese-Americans will establish a solid, enviable niche in the Middle West and the East."

Yukawa, however, emphatically reiterated that he would advise any Issei, who might ask for his advice, against relocation. "The Issei's place is ⁱⁿ the relocation center" he concluded.

August 20

The letter from Tom Sakai, the former Block Managers' Supervisor, dated August 9 is reprinted here in part:

Relocated

"It is 7:40, Monday August 7th as I start off this letterx to you in the lunch room of the company where I am working. It is almost three months since I left you all, my home, my friends and Poston. Sitting here this early morn, pictures of you all come vividly before my eyes. D with his irresistable pipe, Mr. Sumida with my hat, P, her charming smile, G, his corny jokes, T, her sweet personality, K, my "henpecker" and hard working T. I wish I were with you once again for even a day. Those days will never be forgotten and I guess no matter how many months and years go by, the memory of your all, the block managers, the fun, the knocks, the work we went through we remain indelible in my memory.

"It's three months now and my impression of relocation, the struggles, the hardwork before we can get anywhere has made definite impressions on me. The picture isn't rosy, far from it. Well, before I start, I had better work 4 hours for the whistle will blow in another 5 minutes.

"This is noon hour. You should hear the chatter, laughter and the noise that the hundreds of people are making. In the long table in front there must be about 20 niseis chattering away. So far I've made no attempt to get acquainted except the few that work nearby. Enough is enough.

AUGUST 20 -- (2)

"How is housing? Tougher, and I do mean it's tough. It's almost impossible to get decent housing. I know friends that have searched and searched, answered ads, put in ads and no success. Even two room apartments are scarier. Just imagine and yet people coming from Cleveland say it's tougher there. Then too, another factor, the Hearst newspaper entered into the already complicated situation with banner headline of 'Japs pouring into the City and the depreciation of real estate due to the influx.

"There are plenty of jobs here especially for fellows. Average wage I would say is about 75 cents for fellows. It isn't as easy for the girls for very few care to do defense work. There are quite a few of the lower paying secretarial jobs --- \$25 - \$30 --- but I think it's tough to find a good paying secretarial job at the start. T and K, I don't think a few more months of Poston would hurt if you are improving. For a girl who doesn't care for secretarial or defense jobs, I think she will be a trifle disappointed with relocation for all is not glory. There's a lot of ~~girls~~ griefs and heart aches involved too. . . ."

August 18

Excerpts from the Community Analyst's "Buddhism in Poston"

are reprinted here:

Poston had its largest population in August, 1942, numbering 17,942. Of this total population, seventy per cent were followers of Buddhism. According to the Buddhist priests, approximately fifteen per cent of the Buddhist families have transferred to Christianity or dissociated themselves from Buddhism, because they feared that the government authorities would send the family heads to internment camps. After these changes it was estimated that about fifty-five per cent of the total population, or 3,500 members, including 1,500 Nisei, were still Buddhist. Some of the members have relocated, and at present, there are about

AUGUST 18 -- (4)

1,200 Nisei members left in camp.

Most Caucasians regard Buddhism as a religion for Orientals only, but the teaching of Buddha is universal and acceptable to any race. Buddhism was founded in India, and from there it traveled to Burma, China, Korea, and Japan. Later, it was brought over to America during the immigration of the Japanese. There are several thousand Caucasians in America who are members of various Buddhist Churches. Japanese Buddhism is divided into thirteen important sects and fifty-six lesser ones under these. Five of the sects are common in the United States. Of the thirteen, there are only three, the Shin-Shu, Singon-Shu, and Nishiren-Shu sects that are organized in Poston.

There are a total of eleven priests belonging to the three organized sects. Since there are no churches or priests for the others, such as Sodo-Shu and Jodo-Shu, the members of these sects must attend the churches of one of the three mentioned above. Therefore, it is almost impossible to ascertain the number of members in these unorganized groups. . . .

Reloc
July 28
I met Rev. Herbert Nicholson of the Friends Service. He gave me a copy of the following circular and requested me to mimeograph it *for* distribution among residents here so that they, too, could write to their Caucasian friends in California who in turn would write similar letters to the Commander of the Western Defense Command, the Secretary of War, and Dillon Myer.

[Signature]
FRIENDS OF THE AMERICAN WAY
1362 West Colorado Street
Pasadena 2, Calif.

JULY 28 -- (3)

Nicholson said that Rev. Kowta and his Christian groups had expressed their willingness to participate in this work, but he thought it was not quite enough. He wanted a community-wide participation in appealing to their California friends. (Later in the afternoon Rev. Kowta expressed his skepticism stating that the Nisei who had many Caucasian friends in California had gone on the outside and these remaining residents had few acquaintances in the State. Even had they had some friends before the evacuation they lost most of them by now after more than two years' stay here. Besides, he said, there would be few who would be willing to write letters of this sort.)

FRIENDS OF THE AMERICAN WAY
1360 West Colorado Street, Pasadena 2, California

Report on Democracy in Action

150 letters, lately sent to the War Department by individuals and families in and about Pasadena, promise temporary homes, aid in finding employment, and a spirit of genuine friendship when the Government permits Japanese-Americans to return to the West Coast.

These letters promise 50 jobs and 125 homes, temporary or permanent, to our former neighbors. A small informal group, trying an interesting social experiment, sampled the sentiment in one important California community; 150 letters were the response. Goodwill, inarticulate and underground, is thus rising to the surface. The plan was simple and should succeed in other communities.

But --- everywhere there is community feeling to be mended, vicious legislation to be defeated, many urgent jobs calling for attention from real friends of the real America. What is your community doing?

The Pasadena group welcomes a chance to work and share experiences with others who would help preserve the democracy at home for which we fight abroad. We are writing you in the hope that you may enlist in this enterprise. We will gladly furnish suggestions if you will communicate with

FRIENDS OF THE AMERICAN WAY

by /a/ Mary T. MacNair
(Mrs. Jerome W. MacNair)
for the committee

JULY 28 -- (4)

(one the reverse side)

SCRAPS FROM THE MAIL BAG

"I am a student of P.J.C. and believe I express the sentiment of many of the students when I say we would be more than willing to have our fellow-students of Japanese ancestry again in our midst. We are sending our school paper out to them each week; we carry on a personal correspondence and keep the life-lines of friendship open and now feel we can help our friends in their readjustment and reintegration into a normal pattern of life."

"My husband, a public accountant, is very busy and could plan his work so that a former evacuee who had had training in accounting could have full or part time work."

"I shall be glad to provide living quarters in my home for any of the family of Poston, Arizona, and for any of the family, also of Poston, while they seek employment. This letter is written by one from whose home have gone two men into the service. I should be ashamed to face them on their return had I not fought here for those same rights for which they are fighting away from home."

"By profession I am a gardener and we need the Japanese gardeners back to help us this very minute. We gardeners who are left are meeting shortage the best we can but are met daily with frantic plea for help. Most home-owners would be willing to hire a loyal citizen of Japanese ancestry."

"We shall be glad to entertain Mr. and Mrs. of Manzanar in our home while they are seeking employment. We will then turn the house over to them, as it belongs to their oldest son, now relocated in Chicago."

"It has been our intention for some time to take into our home, Mr. and Mrs. , formerly of Pasadena. This is an elderly couple, but the lady is still capable of doing dress-making and has many former customers longing for her return. She could work in our home and there would be no problems either financial or from our neighbors."

"I shall be happy to assist them with my friendship and active good will to become reestablished. I shall be glad to help them find

JULY 28 -- (5)

employment by any means within my power, especially by helping my friends and neighbors to realize the value of their services and also to express appreciation of their loyalty to our land which is also theirs."

"It is our responsibility to be willing to demonstrate our convictions through our way of life . . . We would like to do our part by having a young Japanese girl live with us and work for us while attending school."

"As a group of neighbors we would like to offer hospitality to individuals or families of Japanese ancestry and will do all we can to facilitate their adjustment. We feel we represent the feeling of other families in this area."

"I am interested to provide home and shelter, food and employment for one family, and would welcome Japanese friends and neighbors. They are an asset to a community. I have found them honest, industrious, and dependable."

"I should like to go on record as being willing and eager to employ from 20 to 25 former Japanese Pacific Coast residents in my factory."

Rev. Nicholson believed that even though restrictions were lifted only about 10% of Nisei and a negligible number of Issei would return to California.

#####

July 22

The memorandum issued by the Leave Office on the Seabrook Farm offer is reprinted here in ^{part} ~~full~~:

July 18, 1944

We have the following to quote from a letter addressed to Duncan Mills, Project Director, by George Nishita and Thomas Masuda (the Chariman of the Community Council) which presents quite full the exceptional opportunities offered for relocation of people from this Project.

Rebaca
"The Seabrook Farms operate a total acreage of 25,000 acres of truck crop. They also purchase crops from surrounding farms. They have a large cannery, freezing and dehydrating and cold storage plant, employing about 3,000 in the plant at the peak of the season, with about 2,000 employed on the farm.

The housing facilities are unusually good -- there being very clean, modern dormitories for men and women, and 4 and 5-room cottages for families at very reasonable rent. The food is excellent and reasonable, served in a very clean, up-to-date cafeteria operated by the farm. Good schools and stores are also maintained by the farm. We believe that this is a good opportunity for families to resettle here for the following reasons:

1. There is year-round employment of all types -- mechanics, office works, farm help, harvesting help, cannery workers for all of the members of the family.
2. The relationship among employees appear to be very good.
3. School and living facilities are very good and convenient.
4. Sufficiently close to a large city for shopping purposes.
5. Operations are so large that individuals may put in as many hours as they desire, and there are possibilities of people working into higher positions.

JULY 22 -- (3)

6. Recreational facilities maintained at the farm and other entertainment can be enjoyed in a town 5 miles away, having a population of 20,000.
7. Hourly buses leave the farm for town."

E. S. Parsells, Employment Manager, of Seabrook Farm has been here for the last three days trying to get families to relocate to the New Jersey farm (About 50 miles from Philadelphia). His efforts has not been very successful so far except in Camp II where he signed up 60 persons. In Camp III he received an unusually cold reception. The young men who were scheduled to come in for interviews played baseball on the outside of the office and did not come in until very much after the appointed time. Parsells blew up and left Camp III. This morning, I was told, the Block Managers' Supervisor of Unit III tried to make a reappointment so that he would have another opportunity to speak to Camp III residents. But Parsells refused to budge.

In Camp I, too, reception has not been enthusiastic in spite of the advance publicity.

Parsells expressed his disgust to some evacuees that he had not known that the Japanese have been acting in this manner of late --- resisting the opportunities to rehabilitate on the outside. He had known these people (He was in Japan some years ago.) to be industrious and diligent, but he could not see any of these traits in these people here, he said.

JULY 12 -- (1)

Refer
John Powell told me that he was called to Washington to help dispose 1,300 leave clearance cases pending. A great proportion of these cases are from Poston. The ~~WAR~~^{NAV} office in Washington made a frantic call for help. Powell expects to leave Poston about July 23 and to return here in the middle of September.

According to Powell, Poston received ^{yesterday} a new list of names which had been placed on the stop list ~~yesterday~~¹. The number of persons on the stop list in this center is as high as 1800. Most of these, however, are those who have applied for repatriation or expatriation.

#####

July 3

#####

Okamoto made a report to the meeting of the Local Council on June 5 that he had heard from a reliable source that Japanese would be allowed to return to California by this September and that all relocation centers except four including Tule Lake would be closed in 1945. On the ~~next~~ ^{previous} day he appeared before the Block Managers and made a similar report.

It is reported now that Okamoto and his clique wanted to formulate an elaborate plan as to the return of the Japanese to California. He dreamed of making a step-by-step proposal to the WRA and wanted to lead the contingent to California. However, he was surprised that the news was recieved with indifference and could not get any support for presenting ^{to the WRA} his plan of how the Japanese be returned to California. Due to this cold reception he gave up his ambition of becoming "savior".

#####

JULY 1 -- (3)

Mas Kawashima left on seasonal labor for a town near Ogden,
Utah, on June 29.

Recd

June 27

The Supervisor, on behalf of the Leave Office, has announced

Reloca

1 Block Manager Meeting

JUNE 27 -- (2)

as follows:

(1) Those leaving for Phoenix on June 28 for their pre-induction physicals will not be inducted until a later date, contrary to a popular camp belief.

(2) Because of an overflow relocatees on June 27, a special thorough car to Chicago was prepared for June 29 to accommodate all those who wish to leave Poston before the freezing of all departures from here.

APRIL 29 -- (1)

Roy Tazawa, an Issei who was termed ~~as~~ pro-Japan by Norris James in his report on the November strike, had been on the stop list and recently was given his leave clearance. Tazawa claimed that he had not known why he was on the stop list; the questions during the hearing failed to reveal the nature of suspicion of him.

Reloc
Tazawa was a "lieutenant" for Rev. Mitani from the beginning in the cooperative movement here, and now occupied the position of the Executive Secretary of the Cooperative Board of Trustees.

He was offered a job by both the Rocky Shampo and the Colorado Times in Denver as a reporter, which pays \$175 a month. (An unusually high wage for a reporter on Japanese newspaper. It is probably accounted by the wartime condition.) He cannot, however, leave Poston to Denver for the reporter job because of some technical difficulties in getting his permit. He told me that he would leave to some city in the Middle West as a farm worker, and would route back to Denver.

#####

Both Nomura and Kawashima have been in the dark as to why they had been placed on the stop list beyond the fact that ~~the~~ somebody had made adverse reports on them. I suspect that the informer they are searching was Norris James ^{judging from} ~~according to~~ the content of his strike report.

#####

Several persons who had ^{returned} ~~been back~~ from Denver, Salt Lake City, or Chicago have been reporting that vicious types of "corner boys" and "gangs" of Nisei were developing in those cities. They saw the gangs go around after midnights and pick up gang fights on the street or pick on some unfortunate individual. They also added that Nisei in Zoot Suits are numerous in the cities and have

APRIL 27 -- (1)

David French, the Community Analyst, expressed his opinion on relocation thus:

Relocation

It is same as emigration from the old country. You can't send every one out of these centers. The young and more vigorous will go out, and some of them will call their parents or their wives and children to their new homes. This is a common phenomenon among the immigrant groups. But just as you can't emigrate every one out of the old country to the new country, you can't relocate every one out of relocation centers.

APRIL 29 -- (2)

been increasing steadily in number. They expressed their concern that these delinquent young men might become an early factor in creating anti-Japanese agitations there.

April 19

#####

The following article appeared in the Los Angeles Times of the April 19th edition:

Bricker Favors Local Action on Jap Question

Resettlement of the Japs after the war is a matter best left to each community, Gov. John W. Bricker of Ohio said yesterday.

This, his first expression on the controversial issue of what to do with the erstwhile California Japs, was made at a meeting of Town Hall at the Biltmore and in a statement issued earlier in the day.

"It would be a realistic solution," he said, "preventing disorders and racial tension. It might slow down the release of the Japs from the relocation centers, but it would make for a safer and sounder procedure."

"It is of national interest that admitted disloyalists be kept interned and under the strictest surveillance for the duration and that after the war they be sent back to Japan. The other Japs ought to be closely watched after they are released from the relocation centers. And, before then, a more careful investigation of their loyalty and their record should be made so that no disloyalists slip by the authorities. That some of these have gotten out is indicated by the anti-American demonstration of 28 Japs inducted as U.S. soldiers at Ft. McClellan, Alabama, who refused to salute the flag and disobeyed orders."

"As a law-abiding nation noted for its tolerance, we cannot ignore the constitutional rights of the Jap-American citizens. Many of them have demonstrated their loyalty to the United States and have contributed to the war effort. At the same time we cannot ignore the fact that the bestial treatment of American citizens and prisoners of war by the Japs has kindled a flaming resentment among our people. It is up to us to prevent this hatred from finding expression in revenge against innocent and patriotic Americans."

#####

April 17

The Los Angeles Times in its April 17th edition reported as follows:

Legion Leaders Denounce Ickes for Nisei Views

Reloc
Following its policy of opposing the return of Japanese to the Pacific Coast area, the executive committee of the American Legion meeting in the City Hall yesterday denounced Harold L. Ickes, Secretary of the Interior and director of the War Relocation Authority, and demanded his resignation as head of the W.R.A.

The denunciation was contained in a resolution presented by Frederick E. Hoar of Bakersfield, chairman of the Americanism Commission.

APRIL 17 -- (5)

The resolution is based upon numerous quotations by Ickes published April 13 in which he placed the problem of rehabilitation of Japanese upon residents of California, Washington, and Oregon, with the statement: "To a large extent it is their problem to see that Japanese evacuees are restored to normal living soon after the war ends."

The resolution further quotes Ickes as saying: "I know of no virus in these three States which has infected them so that they must be treated differently than the Japanese-Americans who reside in other States and that it is intolerable to think that decent people would suggest that this nation would for a moment consider sending loyal Americans of Japanese descent to a land which they have never seen and in which most of them have no interest."

The resolution took as a personal insult to the American Legion another remark attributed to Ickes in which he was quoted as saying that he was "particularly grateful to those groups and individuals of the West Coast who have been brave enough and Christian enough to speak out against the vindictive, blood-thirsty onslaughts of professional race mongers."

61
K. K. C. 114

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April 16

The following article appeared in the Los Angeles Times of
April 16th edition:

Reloc.
Federation Acts to Halt Return of Japs to Coast

Los Angeles District Federation of Women's Clubs has gone
one record as opposed to return of Japanese or Japanese-Americans
to the West Coast for the duration. Such a resolution was
adopted at the recent meeting of the district board.

The club also recommends that control of Japanese in the
United States be transferred from civilian to military authority.
It urges that, after the war, Congress expatriate all Nisei convicted
of disloyalty and expel from the country all Jap aliens. It
demands that Congress institute an exhaustive study which will
lead, at any event, to control of Japanese alien after the war.

This resolution will be considered by the convention of the
General Federation in St. Louis April 24, and will be presented
to all member clubs of the district at the convention here
May 17 and 18. . . .

#####

APRIL 13 -- (1)

The following letters have been borrowed.

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Washington

Relocation Planning Commission
Colorado River Relocation Center
Poston, Arizona

THROUGH DUNCAN MILLS, ACTING PROJECT DIRECTOR

In re: Relocation as Affecting Return of
Japanese-American to the West Coast

Gentlemen:

Return
The statement is often made by evacuees that return to the West Coast Area would be easier and quicker for them if they remain in Relocation Centers. Many have requested some statement on what must be recognized by all as an exceedingly difficult subject on which to make any predictions. Of this much we can be certain, that no advantage can result from continued center residence, when such return becomes possible. The advantage of making every possible effort to resettle now, and thus establish a place for Japanese-Americans in the life of normal American communities, in terms of the contribution that they can and should make, will in turn make for a more likely acceptance by the people of the West Coast later.

Refusal to accept a share of the responsibilities and possible hardships of such community life during wartime, and insistence on need and demand for just those skills and services that center residents can supply, will, in the public mind, certainly not enhance or improve the status of those who otherwise may be able to return to their homes and property on the West Coast.

You can be assured that center residents do not lose their legal residence in the States from which they were evacuated merely because they relocate. If they intend or hope to return to their former homes when military restrictions are lifted, they should maintain their voting privileges in those States by complying with the provisions of the State laws governing registration and absentee voting.

Sincerely,

/s/ D. S. Myer
Director

Colorado River Relocation Center
Poston, Arizona

April 10, 1944

Reloc
MARCH 25 -- (5)

Len Nelson was worried that the number of weekly departures on indefinite leaves have decreased greatly. He said he watches the departures on Tuesdays (~~the~~^{on} special through trains to Chicago) closely. In the past it numbered one hundred persons or more, but it dropped to forty last week.

#####

Mills told me that the Community Council members had approached him with a question whether the curtailment of employment was one of the WRA steps to force relocation. They believed that the WRA would make the evacuee life unpleasant and uncomfortable here to make the people relocate. Mills asked me if that belief was strong among the residents here. I replied that many hold that belief, but it was not so alarming as in other centers. For instance, I stated, in Topaz and Minidoka the project Directors, Ernst and Robertson, the key administrative officers, and in some cases the central block managers got on "the band wagon" for relocation, and this was enough to create in the minds of people great concern over their future.

#####

T. G. Ishimaru, the former chairman of the T.C.C., has been placed on the stop list a few days ago.

March 21

#####

Two persons, who left for Utah last night, returned to Poston. They told me they went as far as Phoenix, but they could not get on a bus from there, because the Leave Office ^{had} failed to provide them with proper government vouchers for travel. They are again leaving Poston tonight.

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#####

March 21



Block Mgrs'
Meeting.

Frank Abe of 37 reported that he was leaving for Philadel-
phia this evening. He is the second oldest Block Manager, as-
suming ^{his} ~~the~~ duty sometime in July of 1942.

#####

March 18

One boy came back to Poston from Delaware. (Cf: March 14, page 3, the last paragraph) He had relocated to a farm ~~work~~ in the state, but ~~their~~ his physical safety was periled because of the anti-Japanese agitation. He was angry, because Negroes, too, turned against the Japanese employed on the farm.

#####

Mar 14

The following post card arrived from a young Nisei who had relocated last week to Chicago to his friend here:

Well we finally hit town. I mean Chicago, almost 7:00 P. M. Friday / He left here Tuesday evening. 7 We're ~~are~~ at hostel in the outskirts of town. Almost 8 miles from main town. The hostel overlooks Lake Michigan. We also crossed the Mississippi and was it big and wide. It was frozen solid. The town is really big. No comparison to L. A. The people are pretty nice.

#####

Mar 14

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A regular weekly meeting of the Block Managers was held this afternoon in the conference room of the Unit Administration Building.

Tom Sakai, the Supervisor, announced that the Leave Office had initiated a weekly class to instruct the prospective relocatees what to do after arriving at their destinations, etiquette, table manners, etc.

Miss Rood, the chief of the Public Health Department, reported that the Hospital had a new addition, a specialist in babies and children, Dr. Bartlett. She announced that her department would undertake a series of lectures to mothers on baby feeding. These lectures would be given by Dr. Bartlett

MARCH 14 -- (3)

from Quad to Quad, beginning with Quad 1 (Blocks 2, 15, and 16) tomorrow morning.

The City Clerk requested to the Managers to submit lists of the names of persons unemployed at present and of types of works desired by them. He also reported that the City Manager would act as an/exchange agency for coolers, and all sellers and buyers should contact his office.

The Leave Office announced that all those out on indefinite leaves are allowed to return to various project after they had taken their pre-induction physical examinations. They will not be required to pay the charges for visitors --- sixty cents for meals a day, etc. It also informed the Managers that there would be no seasonal leaves for the next several weeks.

Unit Administrator Nomura announced that all blocks must participate in chasing wild horses and cows out of the wire fences which had been built recently around the project by the evacuees. It was set for March 16, and a project holiday was proclaimed for those who participate.

Sumida thanked the Managers on behalf of the "Friends of George Fujii" for their assistance in the donation drive. He requested Blocks 12, 43, 59, and 60 to turn in their donations.

#####

Feb 28

Relocation

A joint meeting of the Councilmen and the Block Managers of the three Units was called this afternoon in the Auditorium to hear Harold Fistere of the Cleveland office and ~~W~~/ Robert

FEBRUARY 28 -- (39)

Gullum of the New York office. They were introduced by Project Director Duncan Mills. First, Fistere Spoke.

"If this meeting were being held in the morn^g, I would say 'ohayo gozaimasu'; if it were being held in the evening, 'konbanwa'; since I have not had my third lesson, the only thing I could say is 'good afternoon'.

"Mr. Gullum and myself are here this week with two purposes in mind: The first prupose is to present information to the residents and to answer those questions which we are asked. The second purpose of our visit and in my opinion the more important reason is to get from you and the people you represent their ideas, their wishes, their desires in so far as they represent in taking up life outside again out of the Relocation Centers. We realize that moving outside of this project is something which only the individual and the members of his family can decide. We know that at some future date, whether it be tomorrow or next week or next year or some other time, that the folks in the center will once again have to take up residence some place else and there will be no Relocation Centers. I trust and I firmly believe that those people who believe that their best futures lie back on the West Coast will go ba&k to the West Coast. I think that Mr. Dillon Myer has expressed the thinking of the WRA when he said that it is his wish that that will come about. President Roosevelt said in one of his speeches that when security of the country permits that, all those folks who wanted to go back to the West Coast will be permitted to do so at some future date. But all of the people must make plans to take up living some place else for a time being. It is our consideration and our problem. We realize that and we hope that while we are

FEBRUARY 28 -- (4)

while we are here we may be giving the opportunity of participating in the solution of some of the problems. One of questions which is in the minds of some of the people in the center is: Suppose we do relocate and an emergency occurs, what happens? Suppose we are sick, what happens? Suppose we have an accident? The answer to that question is that there has been a fund set up by the Congress whereby emergency that confronts people who have been dislocated may be relieved. For example, a woman 30 years of age, who came to the city of Cleveland in August and who asked us to get her a job was fired from the job early in December. The reason she was fired was that she was pregnant and had not seen her husband in ten years. She had left the center when she found out about this. We had two alternatives. First, to send her back to one of the centers and have that youngster face it's life with the mistake of its parents on its name. Second, to see that the mother gets medical attention prior to the baby's birth and be given provisions through the fund I have just referred to which incidentally is referred to by the Social Security Board.

"The situation was met so that the mother has her hospital attention and the child will receive the proper care after it's born. And the mother will be able to work again. . . .

"A young man applied for a job and in the course of his physical examination he found that he was troubled with hernia, which he had to be operated on immediately. Through the fund the bills were paid and expenses during his convalescence were taken care of. No embarrassment, no publicity, no charity connected to the fund.

"While we are here at these series of meetings we would like

FEBRUARY 28 9- (5)

to feel that the people in the center will ask us questions in their minds, and give us the chance to help with the solution and if the people whom you represent ask you about us, I trust that you suggest to talk to Mr. Cullum or myself. On this tour we have visited other projects. This is our seventh. We have found that most of the people are interested in finding out facts about the East and the Middle West. We have some facts and we hope to relate those I think the residents of this center will be interested in.

"This is what occurred at Heart Mountain. One elderly gentleman turned to me just as the meeting was being over and said, 'The trouble with you WRA officials is all you do is come around and give lectures and we want to lecture you instead. And he did. I hope that you gentlemen will feel free to us, to tell us things that you have on your minds and so we go back to Washington to win the policy requested by the residents of the center.'"

Robert Cullum took the floor as Fister had finished.

". . . I have people ask 'How's relocation in New York City?' I think that's a question that can be given an honest consideration when we discuss their personal abilities with the prospective parties desiring relocation. We must know what we can sell for them to their employers. We must sell what they can do. We have to know something about their problem. How the family is composed, etc. . . .

"Here is a family that intends to go out, but they depends on one or two boys of draft age. They ask what they should do. . . . Very frankly in my personal opinion I don't believe it's likely that they could get deferment for the young men leaving the centers. I believe that on the whole the young men would

FEBRUARY 28 -- (6)

will not be deferred. You can't depend on going to a farm just to get away from the draft. It depends on the individual draft board. Some may be lenient, others may take you just the same."

Cullum then related about a woman who relocated to New York on an invitation of the Relocation Officer. She was a graduate of Smith College. "The first two weeks she worked as a domestic worker. Then she was placed by us with a lawyer as a stenographer. The girl wasn't competent, and she was discharged. We went to see this lawyer. The lawyer said the legal stenography is different from a regular stenography. She tried as a beauty operator, but she came back to us the third time. This time she was placed at the switch board at a hospital. She has been there for 6 or 8 months, and is getting along well."

Cullum concluded his speech with a statement that the WRA could help those who would try to help themselves.

The next period was devoted to questions and answers.

Question: If we go out to some place to work on a farm to learn how the farming there is done, what kind of assistance can we get from the WRA? For example, like me how can I get a job on a farm and go out to learn farming? I am trained in farming in California. I am broke today, and so if I go out in the spring, I can't afford to remain idle. I can't get a job, because I am too old. I know how to farm, but now I want to know how I can start and get a ^a place to live.

Answer: Of course, the answer to that question is simply that I don't have the answers entirely. To be entirely frank with you, we haven't even begun to find a solution for the farm people. There is no use kidding ourselves to kid you on that. I think there will be possibilities in the eastern section for

FEBRUARY 28 -- (7)

permanent relocation once that area has come to know you and your farming skill. . . . (Cullum)

"I would like to say this. You've told us two things about yourself. One, that you have operated a farm and you have told us about that ^{you} ~~we~~ are along in years and you do not feel able to go out and do a work for a year to acquire the farming education. I would like to know some other things about you. What kind of products you raised? How extensively you operated? Who worked with you on the West Coast? Is there a group surrounding you or is there 3 or 4 or 5 workers in your family? I would like you to sit down with Mr. Cullum or myself and let us see if there isn't something.

"The reason I say that is this. A new section of the state of Michigan has been opened up, which is the best farm area in the country. It's the western section of the peninsula right along the Lake Michigan. Up until last July the people in that section had never seen a person of Japanese ancestry. Fifty-six men, most of them Issei, did move there. And because of diligence and because of their behavior and because they showed themselves as decent and law abiding people that section of Michigan has been opened to people of Japanese ancestry. There are a number of large families that have moved in there. Now there are people of old age and there are younger people. There is one family of seventeen, the youngest is three and the oldest is seventy-three. So we would like to know a little bit more. We may not have the answer but with the courage and the hope of the folks in the center and with the knowledge of various areas in the East and the Middle West a solution might be worked out. I must repeat something I have heard this morning because I

FEBRUARY 28 -- (8)

~~W~~ think it sho^Wed the possibilities. A Issei lady in her 50's who know very, very little English and ~~a~~ her daughter who is 23 years old, al^ymost blind, wanted to get out of the center, but that would stop a lot of people. But it didn't stop them, and they didn't stop us. They are now working side by side cleaning lenses. Each earns 65 cents an hour. We are not afraid of the problems. We would like to know; we may not have the answer but we might have the answer to some of them.

Question: Is there a possillility of getting financial aids in relocating in large groups or small groups?

Answer: We, like every other agency of the government go before the Congress every year and ask for an appropriation to continue business for the following year. When we submit our budget we must itemize in that budget the purposes for which that money will be spent. ~~A~~ At the present time there is nothing in our budget which would permit WRA to loan money or to finance business.

Question: Is there any possibility of the WAR financing an eva-
cues to go^{out} to investigate the farming area?

Answer: They have been financed by us in the past. And we have gotten reports back in the center that they have been branded as WRA stooges.

Question: Family of 10. We are financially embarassed. If I should take up farming outside with the family and I should be drafted, what should the family do?

Answer: Your status would be the same as any other person outside. For your mother and father you would have to answer those questions yourself like any other in a similar circumstance.

FEBRUARY 28 -- (9)

Question: How is housing problem outside?

Answer: In the large industrial cities in the East and in the Middle West, housing is tough. It's hard to get. I think in the case of families we would advise against going into a city unless you have an invitation to the hostel. Best idea is that the head of the family come out first and get settled in the position of a job, and the WRA will assist in that. But people are finding houses and families are joining their folks who went out as the ice breaker for the rest of the family.

Feb 15
BER Mgrs
Meeting

Relocation

Supervisor Sakai announced that 70 Postonians were relocating this evening on the special train. They were advised to leave the project early, because the Parker depot could process only twenty-five persons an hour.

Feb 22
Bell Vase
Meeting
Relocation

The advanced team of the relocation ^{program} ~~team~~ had been scheduled to appear ⁱⁿ ~~before~~ the meeting, but they failed to return from Unit III in time. However, Sakai announced for them that the Relocation Team would arrive here at the end of this week, and a mass meeting of the Councilmen and the Block Managers of the three Units would be staged in the Auditorium Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock

#####

Feb 2

K of the Poston Chronicle believed Rohwer would show the best record for relocation in proportion to its population.

He reads the evansee publications of all relocation centers

FEBRUARY 2 -- (5)

and has observed that the WRA program of relocation is most successfully carried out in that center. He gave two reasons for the success of relocation program; first, better jobs from St. Louis, Chicago, and Kansas City are offered to the residents of that center, and secondly, the Rohwer Japanese are not exposed to fanatic anti-Japanese agitation.

#####

JANUARY 30 -- (1)

Relocation
31-2

A Nisei girl, about twenty-two years of ~~age~~ ^{age} who relocated to New York on Januasry 4, wrote to her friends here. She is working as a domestic.

I arrived in New York on January 10 around 11:30 p.m. at the Grand Central. Its nearly two weeks since I have been here but it seems like months already. I miss my folks, my brothers and sisters and all my friends in Poston, but one thing I really miss is the sun. It's usually foggy, gloomy and it has snowed once already. The temperature varies from 39° to 30°. But New York certainly interesting with all different races all over. Also one sees all the different ~~for~~ sailors from many different countries in their interesting sailors costume. We've gone to many interesting points of interest already but ~~several~~ certainly have lots to see yet.

My employers are really very understanding and nice to me. The children are very well mannered and like me very much so I am getting along fine. Since Dr. S. and Mrs. S. are teachers they are helping me to find a good school to go in the evenings. Then later I will work part time and go in the day time. I think I can't ask for a nicer place or family to wok for than these people. I have my own nice room with bed and dresser set, sofa chair, radio, lamp. Some friends have come to visit me already, and my employers tell me I'm free to make coffee and waffles or cookies etc. So I really feel at home.

About 17 blocks from here there is a large shopping center (it's just like going into L. A. downtown only taller buildings tho we can go into Manhattan to shop but it takes about 25 minutes to get there by subway.) where I go shopping. By subway it takes only around 5 minutes. I like to shop in Manhattan but one has to walk all over because its so large. But I really haven't done really shopping because I spend my days off sight seeing and going palces.

I'll be ~~staying~~ ^{staying} here. I was going to send a post card when I reached N. Y. but I wanted to write a letter and I didn't get the chance until today so I hope you will excuse me.

The same girl wrote another letter to another friend of hers.

Jan. 25, 1944

I thought that the people who come into your office would like to read this article so I am enclosing this page from the P.M. I have found this paper to be the most interesting of all the newspaper I have so far read. Tho it doesn't contain very many pages every column is in-

JANUARY 30 -- (2)

teresting. I also have enclosed a letter written in the paper showing how people like it.

Most Sincerely,
V----

#####

Jan 28

Relocation

Several Councilmen and Block Managers were discussing Myer's speech of yesterday in the City Hall this morning. They agreed that nothing new had been revealed by Myer.

"It's a same old story," one of them said.

"I should have stayed home. The next time he speaks, I am not coming," another said.

The residents at large were nevertheless anxious to find out what Myer had stated in the Auditorium. They were mostly interested in Myer's statement that as the Japanese in relocation centers decrease the number of centers operated will decrease. They, however, expressed relief that Poston would not be closed in the near future.

The residents were interested in another statement by Myer that the difficulty for relocation lies elsewhere other than a lack of fund, and that he was willing to consider a relocation assistance of \$500 per person if every one had signed a contract to that effect. The listeners failed to express any opinion on this.

People were also anxious to find what kind of person Duncan Mills is.

#####

End

Jan 24

Relocation

I had a long talk with Sakai, the Supervisor of Block Managers on relocation. He believed that the Block Managers should cooperate to the fullest extent with the Leave Office to induce the residents to relocate to the outside. He argued that relocation was the best solution for the future of these people. I maintained that the Block Managers should leave the relocation program entirely to the Leave Office, and they should not have a direct hand in it. Sakai said I was short sighted. I said I am realistic. "I want to tell you before you get into any trouble with the Japanese people here," I said. "I am telling you this, because you are a nice kid. This is the first time I told anyone what I am going to say."

JANUARY 24 -- (3)

"Do you know these people believe in the Japanese victory?" I continued. "I don't have to tell you how far you would get if you told them that America is going to win the war. Besides, they believe in what the high officials of the Japanese government said ~~what~~ over the short-wave radio, that is, they are depending on the promise that Japan will take care of these people after the war. These beliefs are held not only by the Issei and Kibei but by some of the Nisei. What would you do if you believed in those things?"

"I will stay here for the duration," Sakai replied.

"If somebody persistently told you to get out of here under the circumstance, how would you feel?" I asked again.

"I will get mad sooner or ^{later} ~~mad~~. Maybe I'll lose my temper," said Sakai.

"There you are. The relocation program is going to fail. It will be only successful when the American forces approach much nearer to the mainland of Japan and start bombing Japan as they are doing ^{to} Germany now. That is a long time from now yet. Until then we should not push a program for the future of the Japanese as you are thinking now. Don't tell this to anyone of your acquaintances. It's bad for ^{the Japanese} ~~them~~. It's a long story why they are acting like that. Don't condemn them as disloyal."

Sakai seemed to have understood it well. "I didn't put two and two together," said he.

JANUARY 24 -- (2)

I inquired this morning of Hayano, the Assistant Director of Education, if he knew about ~~this~~ notice. He told me that he had read it, but the P. T. A. had nothing to do with it. He offered to go down to the Women's Club and find out if it had posted the notice. Later on Hayano called me up and informed me that the club had no knowledge of it either.

This notice has drawn more comments ~~from~~ the boys in the teens than the Nisei draft. They claimed that it was "within their right to wear the kind of trousers and of haircuts they pleased" They argued that there was no law preventing them to do as they pleased in the mode of appearance. They thought "old phogdes" were getting too nosy. Of course, these statements were heard from those who would wear the zoot suits and Pachuko haircuts ^{themselves} or from those who associate with the former. The more sensible young people were quiet about the issue.

#####

Jan 23

Relocated

31-9

Cross ref.
in person files

On January 20 I attended a Leave Clearance hearing for a Kibei as a witness. The members of the Board for this case were Dr. Arthur Harris and Arthur Main. In order to ease the tone of their questioning and to let the Kibei get by easier, I told them as soon as I stepped in the room, "This is a man you ought to thank for his contribution in stamping out the wave of juvenile delinquencies, by which you were troubled sometime ago. He has been and still is working closely with the Youth Counseling Board and the Police Commission. As you know, I am connected with both organizations and I owe a great deal to him in successfully maintaining law and order here." My introduction did the trick I had anticipated. They did not

JANUARY 23 -- (2)

put the Kibei to any of the usual hypothetical questions on loyalty. They merely stuck to questions which would bring out his vital records and his occupations in the past. Their questioning revealed the following facts:

Let us call the Kibei as M. M. was born in 1907 in Sanger, California. At the age of three he lost his father, and at four he was adopted by the present father, who operated a vineyard in the vicinity. At seven he was sent to Japan for schooling; he went to an elementary school in ~~the~~ Hiroshima Ken, Japan, from his uncle's house. His step father sent a regular amount of money every month to pay his expense. His step father by that time was working as a reporter on one of the vernacular newspapers in California. Harris at this point clarified from M. that the newspaper was not financed by a capital from Japan, but controlled and operated by a Japanese capital in California. After graduating from the elementary school he advanced to a Buddhist middle school where he was schooled in ^{preparation for} the Buddhist priesthood. He, then, went to Tokyo and enrolled in Hosei University, where he majored in jurisprudence and foreign language. He stated he received some military training while in the middle school and the university, as it was a required course.

About the time he was finishing his second year in the university he decided to quit school and come to the United States. His adopted ~~adopted~~ parents were well advanced in their 50's and it was getting difficult for them to earn enough money to send ^{to him} every month to M. While he was in Japan, M. claimed, he saved and deposited in a bank about \$2,000 Yen out of his allowances from his parents.

JANUARY 23 -- (3)

After returning to the United States in 1927 he worked as a reporter on one of the Japanese language papers. Then, he went to Delano, California, and farmed. (The true story is that he "loaned" his citizenship to his Japanese "tenant" farmers for a set sum of fee. He claimed, at one time, he made about twenty thousand dollars net out of this business. This easy money spoiled him and made him to crave for more easy money.) While farming he also acted as the priest of the Buddhist Church in Delano. After three years in farming he came to Los Angeles and was associated with a firm handling the stocks and bonds of Japan. (X's note: This was a lucrative business. The Japanese immigrants in California did not have much resistance to be induced to purchase Japanese stocks and bonds by such stock brokers. The brokers made extra profits by manipulating shrewdly with the fluctuations in the foreign ^{exchange} ~~exhange~~ in ^{placing} ~~ordering~~ their customers' orders to Japan.) At this point M was questioned closely by Harris and Main whether he sold any of the Japanese government bonds. He denied it, and reiterated that he was only interested in the corporation stocks and bonds. He also stated, on questioning, that he did not sell any of stocks and bonds listed in the stock exchanges in the United States. (X's note: The truth is that he made a good profit by selling the Japanese government bonds. It was very easy to sell these government bonds to the Japanese people with some money.)

On account of the freezing of the Japanese assets in the United States by the Presidential proclamation in 1941, he was forced to change his occupation. He became a truck driver for a Japanese transfer company, and stayed on this job until the time of evacuation.

JANUARY 23 -- (4)

As soon as he arrived in Poston, he worked as a nightwatchman for his block, then as a block carpenter. In May of 1943 when the Police Department was cleaned up after the regime of Shigekawa, he was drafted by Nomura into the police force.

The questioning of M. concluded at that point. I stated into the record on ~~the~~ M's behalf that both the Police Commission and the Youth Counseling Board owes great deal to him for his cooperation in maintaining peace and order in the community. I also added that the Police Department is benefitted by his mature judgement and stability.

M. after the hearing told me that he did not know why he had been placed on the stop list. He believed it was due to his dual citizenship, or to the fact that he had been educated solely in Japan. Or it might be, he stated, due to the fact that he had sold the Japanese stocks and bonds, and the Joint Board had suspected him of selling the Japanese government bonds.

Relocation
31-8

#####

The first contingent of segregants, Tule Lake ~~X~~ bound, will leave Manzanar on February 15. Those at Poston who are acheduled to leave for Tule Lake would do so about the latter part of February.

● Jan 22

Relocation
(Crossing in
Attitudes)

#####

I saw completed questionnaires (re: survey by the Community
Council) in the Office of the Supervisor. (Cf: January 11,

JANUARY 22 -- (2)

page 7) They are usually answered in simple "yes" or "no", but some of them had interesting comments. To Question 6, one paper had, "Are you insinuating that they can buy off my humiliation of having been shoved in here?" To Question 8, " Life isn't so bad here." Another reply to the same question, "They shoved us in here, so I will stay here until they shove us out of here." Most of them agreed that a subsidy of \$100 per person is not a sufficient inducement to relocate. Many of them asked anywhere from ^{\$1,000}~~\$1,000~~ per person to \$10,000 per person to relocate. Another common answer was asking a guarantee for living for a period of one year.

For Question 10 the answers ran more alike. They asked protection, safety from violence, and equal treatment with others. The answers revealed that they are acutely conscious of belonging to a racial minority.

#####

Jan 21

Relocation
(Cross Ref in
Social Welfare)

About two months ago, H. Okabe of the Executive Board told me today, He was called in a conference with Zimmerman, Crawford, Butler, etc. over the proposed survey by the Family Welfare Department (Cf: January 4, page 3, the second paragraph). The WRA at Washington had sent the proposal here and had requested for advices and suggestions from Poston. The purpose of the survey is for relocation; they want to determine what problems the WAR must solve to make families relocate. They want to find out medical, financial, property, and other problems, which are hindering people from relocation. They want to call in the heads of families and to ask them what are stopping them from relocating. He was greatly worried when he heard the nature of this survey, because such prying into private matters for the sole purpose of relocation would antagonize and excite the residents unduly and unnecessarily.

Okabe argued lengthly and succeeded in diminishing the odor of relocation in the survey. As a result, it was camouflaged as a counseling survey to assist personal problems of each evacuee.

#

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K of the Poston Chronicle believed that the Japanese here are wavering. They do not know whether to relocate to the outside or to remain here for the duration. He thought most of them want to relocate, if the conditions on the outside are not too adverse to the Japanese, and if they can get some lucrative offers in the way of subsidy from the WRA. In other words, K claimed, they are angling for the best terms for relocation.

Relocation
Jan 20

#####

Unit Administrator Nomura is on the stop list. He is
cheduled to appear before the Review Board for Leave Clearance
on January 21. He is a vetran of the World War I and a member
of the American Legion. He was born in Hawaii under the old
monarchy.

Reloc 31-8
Jan 17

31. Relocation
-9

Crawford and Hunter appeared in the room and gave speeches

practically identical with theirs of yesterday. The new additional information given was as follows:

Local Council
Meeting

Jan 5

This project was up to date on last December 15 as far as Leave Clearance hearings were concerned. There was no case awaiting hearing. Since that day about 400 new dockets have arrived here. To speed up hearings for these newly added persons, the personnel on the Review Board was enlarged. The Board now contains 25 members. They are devoting two or three half days each for the work. Hearings ~~will be~~ are going on today. Tomorrow the entire 7 teams will be in session. Crawford believed 99% of those on the stop list will be cleared.

Yukawa of Block 5 called for an explanation as to how Crawford could reconcile his relocation program with the agricultural expansion program of the project. "Mr. Head said he wants 3000 to 5000 acres of

JANUARY 5 -- (3)

farm here. That needs lots of men, you know."

Crawford reiterated that he did not want to push anyone out of here. There are, on the other hand, lots of people who want to relocate. It is his duty to assist these people. He was certain that many, many thousands of people would remain here, probably for the duration. The program on the project should be planned in proportion to the size of population in the future. Rupkey would not wish to subjugate land beyond the scope of manpower available. "He knows there isn't any use in developing, say, 5,000 acres of farm when there will not be sufficient men to work on. He is anxious to know about how many will remain here. My department also wants to know how many will relocate in 1944. We have to make a budget to cover train fares and other expenses for those people going out. If no one goes out in 1944, we don't need any budget for relocation, and the budget for subsistence and that for agriculture must necessarily be very large." In order to obtain these data, as Crawford stated, the Community Council survey and the counseling survey of the Family Welfare Division have been planned. Crawford reported that 76 persons left Poston last night and \$7,000 was spent for their train tickets alone.

T. Matsumoto of Block 36 asked Crawford if the W.R.A. would assist those relocatees who are unable to collect their wages.

Crawford answered he knew only a case of that sort. It was in Chicago. A Nisei had joined the A.F. of L., then changed to C.I.O. His wages were held up due to the inter-union difficulty. Crawford stated that the W.R.A. officers have the authority to take up matters of the sort and to assist the relocatees.

JANUARY 5 -- (4)

T. Sumida, the Block Manager of 16 who was substituting for the regular councilman during his illness, reported a case in his block. This Kibei had had a great difficulty in getting his leave clearance last summer, but by Myer's direct dispensation, he was allowed to relocate to Harvard University (presumably for teaching Japanese). Subsequently he received his leave clearance. But just recently for some unknown reason he was placed on the stop list, and the fact was transmitted to him. He immediately returned to Poston without notifying the Leave Office, having thought that he would be recalled automatically. Now his sister in Philadelphia, who had been also placed on the stop list, is coming back.

Crawford stated it was the most unusual and regrettable case. Had he known that he was coming back, he would have stopped it. The boy was back on the project without having let them know. There are several cases where the parents are all excited when they had been notified of their children having been placed on the stop list. "They talk about calling their children back. That is absolutely unnecessary," Crawford stated.

#####

Relocation
Tonight 76 relocatees left Poston on a special train - the first of year.

At the Departure Station I met Norsoff. He believed that the relocation program would face a difficulty this year because the manpower shortage on the outside has been relieved. He also mentioned that his department was getting "top heavy."

Jan 4
I mentioned the relocation team coming here soon, "Looks like a bunch of high pressure salesmen are coming here." Norsoff retorted, "no, I think they are more of advertising men."

#####

Relocation
31-6

One Stebbins, the Relocation Officer at Hardin, Montana, is here on leave for the snowy season to assist the relocation program at Poston.

Block Mgt
Meeting
Jan 4

As Crawford reported, a relocation team will arrive here in the latter part of February or in the early part of March to assist those who desire to relocate. According to the present plan the team will be composed of Fistere (Cleveland), Shirrell (Chicago), Weber, and a Reports officer from Washington. They will bring a technicolor movie of the Japanese battalion at Camp Shelby and numerous photographs and literature. "They will not come here to shove you out of here. They will be here to answer questions and assist those people who want to

JANUARY 4 -- (3)

go out," Crawford emphasized. The Leave Office had sent a list of specific questions and had instructed the team to come here with the answers to those questions. The questions concerned mostly with the opportunities for families to relocate, especially the farming opportunities and possibilities of financing by the F.S.A.

Under the auspices of the Relocation Department, Crawford reported, the Family Welfare Division will undertake shortly a counseling survey to ascertain the various problems individuals and families have. The survey will go into their medical problems, their educational problems, the problems of their properties in California, their problems for relocation, etc.

Crawford, then, asked for the full cooperation of the Block Managers for the survey on relocation, which had been decided upon by the Community Council. He stressed the importance of getting an accurate data on how many would remain and how many would relocate. The budgets for the relocation expenses and for the self-sustaining programs, for instance, must be appropriated in a proper proportion.

Crawford introduced Hunter, who informed the meeting that contrary to the popular belief the seasonal leaves have not been discontinued and would not be discontinued. The seasonal leaves in the future, however, would have a nature of means to final relocation.

The Relocation Officer, then, went into an explanation of leave procedures, about which there is a great confusion in the community. "The number of persons on the stop list is increasing at a surprising rate. They are on the stop list for any one of dozen or more reasons. Now we have a long list. Some of them, we believe, have no reason to

JANUARY 4 -- (4)

be on the stop list," Crawford commented.

As Crawford explained, on February 15 and ⁱⁿ March registration for the evacuees was completed. Copies were made of some 80,000 registration records. They were sent to the F.B.I., the Army Intelligence, the Navy Intelligence, the State Department, and two or three other departments. Each agency, then, retyped those records and distributed them to its field offices for investigation of the individuals. The results of these investigations were returned to the W.R.A. for further review by the Japanese American Joint Board. If the records of investigations were favorable, the Board issued clearance. However, many inquiries were returned with a notation, "no information available." The dockets for these individuals without information were sent to the projects for hearings, and they are now on the stop list. These individuals were in addition to the previously stopped individuals on the "so-called eight categories" such as "no-no", Shinto priests, repatriates and expatriates.

According to Crawford, the Japanese American Joint Board is represented by the F.B.I., the Naval Intelligence, the Army Intelligence, the State Department, the W.R.A., the Department of Immigration and Naturalization.

While he was addressing the meeting, he received a notice that the practice of issuing the Eastern Defense Clearance has been abolished. The evacuees are from now on allowed to relocate anywhere in the United States except in the prohibited military zone on a simple leave clearance. Those who wish to work in the defense plants are still required to receive the Marshal Provost's clearance and the Joint Board's vital defense clearance.

#####

Attitudes

3-a

Block Manager

Meeting

Jan 4

Tom Sakai, the Supervisor of Block Managers, reported that on the advice of three or four Block Managers he had requested Dr. John Powell to postpone indefinitely his plan to stage the war-news-broadcast transcriptions. It had been originally scheduled in the Auditorium on January 2. Sakai was asked many questions by Powell and had quite a difficulty in answering them, he reported.

James Crawford, the former Unit II Administrator, took the floor

in the new capacity of the Director of the Relocation Department.

He informed the Managers that the Unit Relocation office had been

established in the Block 27 Employment Office, where Hunter is in charge

as the Relocation Advisor. All direct contacts on relocation with the

residents would be made in this office.

Blk Mgr
System

Block Mgr

Meeting

Jan 4

Raw + Order
20-2
JANUARY 4 -- (1)

A regular weekly meeting of the Block Managers was held this afternoon in the conference room of the Unit Administration Building.

Dick Nishimoto, the Chief of the Sanitation Department, explained the newly initiated system of licensing cats and dogs. Seventy-five percent of dogs have their owners, Nishimoto stated, but most of cats are ownerless. The cat situation is appalling.

According to the present plan, the owners will be required to register their cats and dogs in the two weeks after next Monday. Tags will be issued to the licensed dogs, but cats will not be given tags, because "the Block Managers would know which cats are licensed and which are not", as Nishimoto put it. After this period of registration all stray cats and dogs will be picked up with the cooperation of the police. They will be kept at a pound, whose location will be established shortly, for three days. Those unclaimed cats and dogs will be shot by the M.P's.

One of the reasons which alarmed the Sanitation Department about the canine situation was the fact that the dogs and cats were seen often fighting with the coyotes, which invade the community during the night. Rabbits may be transmitted to the canines, and from the canines to the residents. In addition there have been several reports of dog bitings in camp. Necessity for prevention of hydrophobia made Nishimoto act quickly.

During the discussion, the question of authority in enforcement of licensing and that of extermination of unclaimed animals were brought out. The law of the State of Arizona covers only dogs. Nishimoto and

JANUARY 4 -- (2)

Harper, the Director of Police, who was present to assist the former, were dispatched to the Legal Department to frame an ordinance to be enacted by the Community Council.

MARCH 6 -- (4)

Relocation
Employment

Bob Okazaki, the former Manager of Block 22, who relocated to Chicago in last December, wrote to his friend ^W here that he is working as a dish-washer in a restaurant and finds it difficult to make a decent living for himself.

He had gone out with a job offer ^{as} ~~of~~ foreman in a factory, but upon his arrival there he was told that he could not have the job because he was not a citizen.

According to his letter there were many Japanese, not only Issei but many Nisei, were finding it difficult to earn enough money. The jobs offered by the WRA were not so lucrative as they had been pictured by the WRA officials.

#####