

Charles Kikuchi
November 17, 1942

18 44

Developments on the Gila Newspaper

The Gila Courier had its beginnings in the Tulare Assembly Center as the editor there anticipated that there would be a need for a reliable source of information during the first period of confusion. Before discussing these points, I might mention briefly a little more of Ken. (See previous notes on more details)

Ken worked for five years on the Rafu Shimpō, a Japanese language paper in Los Angeles. He was in the English section. (1927-32) He then went into the produce business where he was a buyer for a large Caucasian concern. He contacted the Japanese chiefly in this work. In Los Angeles he was a dues-paying member in the JACL, but he never took an active part in it.

About the time of evacuation, Ken moved to the free zone near Fresno. He then began to see the importance of the whole thing and he wanted to fight the move to get all of the Japanese behind fences. He said that while he was a boy in Lowell, Massachusetts, he lived behind barbed wired fences during the first war. His father had a restaurant within one of the defense plants there. Anyway, Ken started to mimeograph a lot of articles written on this whole question and they were sent out to various interested Nisei through the Fresno Loyalty League, a member chapter of the JACL.

In this connection, he began to write to the center editors of the various camps because he began to see more and more that evacuation would also be immediate for the free zone people. This is how he renewed his acquaintanceship with Brownie Furutani, the editor of the Tulare paper. They used to write for opposition papers back in the early 30's. It became evident that they would both land at Gila so plans were made for the two of them to plan out the paper for this center.

Naturally Brownie wanted to look after his own staff. But just before Tulare was evacuated, Brownie and his wife decided to go to Texas to join some of his wife's relatives. He really did not want to go, but his wife was able to persuade him. He is now operating a small chicken farm in Texas and very unhappy

Charles Kikuchi
November 17, 1942

about the whole thing.

Brownie figured that Ken would get the editorship. He even wrote to Mr. Smith to make sure that they would not be left out. Ken came here just after the Turlock people came in. He was in Canal camp at this time. He wanted to get into the paper work right away, but he found that there was nobody from the Turlock Center who was capable of working on the paper. The Turlock paper probably turned out the poorest assembly paper. He could not find anyone who had definite ideas about how the paper should be organized. Finally, Mr. Gaba put him on in his community recreations paper. Ken found out that all it was doing was to act as a publicity organ for Mr. Gaba. (CAS Bulletin) Ken quit this and began to correspond with Brownie again because he found out that the Tulare group was going to come in soon. He did not know any of the other Tulare paper workers.

Since Canal was full he realized that the Tulare group would be in Butte camp so he transferred over here. He found conditions in this camp just as bad and there was no possible way of getting supplies. He knew that Tulare planned to bring most of their equipment so he wrote Brownie again. On August 20 Brownie wrote a letter in which he gave an analysis of his staff. (See the letter below)

INSERT:

Tulare Assembly Center
Tulare, California
August 20, 1942

My dear Ken:

This is the last letter I am writing from the Tulare Assembly Center. Part of my staff is on the way and the rest will follow from day to day. According to plans the next groups will leave Tulare center on Tuesday. One will leave tomorrow though. I guess the housing conditions must not be ready as you indicated in your letter.

We had a staff meeting today for the last time and I gave the kids the final instructions on what to do. To be sure that you will know the full business angle of the Tulare News, I am writing to you the detailed account and also the best possible plan for your paper. With the housing and other necessities still in the air....I am sure it will take some time before you will have a full working

Charles Kikuchi
November 17, 1942

staff and also the newspaper office...I have requisitioned to Mr. Smith.

You can have the following working on the printing staff:

George Iwasaki: technical and for purchasing. He is a good writer too. He is a bit slow in his work and very disorderly, so be sure to check him up. He also has a tendency to get mixed in "order house" business and likes to fool around in this line. He is the best mimeograph operator and excellent in this line.

Tadashi Masumoto: Pinter. He is a hard worker. A bit rough, but I think you will like him.

Isamu Otsuki: He is a young kid and will probably enter high school, but he is a hard working kid. The best you can find. He is also a draftsman and cuts heads on the stencils. He is a mimeograph operator.

Ruth Araki: A good writer and probably the best typist and stencil cutter you can find. She is an excellent reporter and secretary. I am hoping that you will let her head the office business and let her become the office secretary-treasurer. The funds of the Tulare News is entrusted to her, which amounts to \$160.00. She has a good business sense with a very good personality. Until the office is actually started you can let her do reporting work. (She is very careful in her writing and so it makes her a slow writer.)

Michiko Yamamoto: She will make a good associated editor or city editor. In spite of her many years in high school journalism she has ability plus brains. A good and fast reporter and writer and a good stencil cutter...one of the best. In case you are not very much familiar with mimeograph newspaper, you can depend on Michiko to carry the work as I had to do. She is indispensable.

John Fujimoto: Artist and cartoonist. He is an excellent worker too and you can depend on him for any art work. He can head your art department and he can cut all the heads for the stencils.

Alice Uchiyama: Special art editor, reporter and writer. A good foreman in any department. She has originality and excellent taste.

Paul Hagiya: An honest worker and a good leader. Sports writer, but I am hoping that you can promote him to Associate Editor or City Editor. If you prefer him to head the sports department you can let him handle it alone and in his own way as I have done.

Shigeo Otsuki: Circulation manager. If you have him in this department you will not have to worry about circulation any more. He can manage well. He did all the statistic work for the sports department and ended up by being a sports writer. He is good in math. Hard worker like his little brother Isamu.

George Nakamura) -- Both are excellent reporters and sports writers. You can
Sunao Tautsumida) depend on them for excellent work. George was my co-operation
reporter and did a good job on it. He knows this department pretty well. Sunao
was strictly a sports writer.

Jessica Hoshino: Reporter, writer and artist. She is only sixteen but has talent in all departments. With her triple threat ability. She is lots of fun too.

John Tachihara: Sports writer. He will probably go to school., but he has the stuff in him to become a good writer.

Charles Kikuchi
November 17, 1942

May Moriguchi: Hard worker, and excellent reporter, but cannot write well. You can depend on her for anything, if you instruct her.

Yasuko Tsutsumida: Typist and stencil cutter. She is slow in her work, but tries hard. If you can use her in the circulation department under Otsuki..I think she will serve you best.

Chizuko Yamamoto: A good reporter and writer. She is very nice and can work very hard. She pairs with Alice Uchiyama so you just have to hire both to get any of them.

Tokiko Inouye: Typist and literary writer. She will probably go to school.

Tom Hirashima: Cartoonist. He is angling to go into the agricultural field in Gila (Davis graduate) so you may not be able to have him on the staff. If you can see him, I am sure he will be willing to contribute the cartoons.

Ken Kobayashi: Cartoonist:--very shy. He will go to school, but with arrangements he will contribute.

The funds which belongs to the Tulare News will be in your management. To be sure that public funds will not be abused I have appointed George Aratani and Yoshiko Araki to be co-signers of the checks with Frank Sakamoto and Mas Oji as auditors with reports being checked by Harry Miyake and Ken Utsunomiya. I hope you will remember this arrangement. The funds came from donations and movie collections.

All the supplies are coming by the various staff members so it may take sometime before you can have everything before you. In the meantime you can be planning with the staff for the future paper.

I did not mention Hiroshi Takasugawa in the group of staff members because he has been a big problem to me. He is a likeable chap, a good writer, and knows his business, but he cannot get along with the staff. He is a bit over ambitious and talks too much for his size. He likes to run things, when he himself has no ability or when he does not have the experience. If you hire him, you cannot let him take any of the foreman jobs. He must be a plain reporter. With all this problem, I had to him cover news on the outside so that he will not be in the office. He covered most of the front page stories as my stooge so now he has come to the conclusion that the paper cannot get along without him. He has no sense for news....or actually know what is news. I leave it up to you to hire him. Incidentally, he is smart enough to capitalize on anything that is cooking in the editorial room. It has been my grief since coming to Tulare, for sometimes he will two-time anyone to capitalize for himself. He also likes to participate in many activities which made him unpopular with the staff because he was never around when the work was hardest or when everyone is very busy.

The staff being young...you will have to be up on your toes for all the news and that they are covered right.

I had one reporter for each department and made them responsible for all the news. Also had several on hand to cover each department over again for checkups...and I myself personally went out to see what was cooking.

You will need a good copy reader and rewrite man, in fact, you will need several of them. Michiko can do both, but you will need several more. The kids have a tendency to forget newspaper style so be sure to remind them consistently.

Charles Kikuchi
November 17, 1942

If you call the staff together and talk with them, you will get the general idea. I regret that I will not be able to see you, but if conditions are bad, maybe I can get back to the center again.

Sincerely,

Brownie Furutani

end of insert.....

Ken went to Gaba around August 22 after receiving the letter from Brownie. Conditions were still so confused that he was sort of shifted aside. Ken went to Smith also and although Smith realized that it was important to have some source of news for the people coming in, he could not give it much attention. The employment office was too busy trying to get people registered for work and they had no list of people with newspaper experience. The employment office at this time was merely a small branch of the housing department.

Ken finally persuaded Gaba to allow him a small space in the back of the property department which at that time was issuing blankets and cots to the new arrivals in the 57 Rec. hall. Ken had no equipment. In the next few days he realized that the administration would do nothing for him. He had committed himself to Brownie so that he looked up some of the Tulare paper group. Much to his disappointment, he found most of them even younger than he expected. Most of them were just out of high school and none had had any previous newspaper experience. However, he decided, to put them all on for a trial period on a temporary basis. Besides he had no facilities and the Tulare mimeograph, paper, and other equipment had arrived. Ken had also been put in charge of the Tulare News funds which amounted to \$150.00. To make sure that the Tulare group got in, Brownie has asked George Aratani and Yoshiko Araki to be co-signers of the checks with Frank Sakamoto and Mas Oji as auditors with the reports to be checked by Harry Miyake and Ken Utsunomiya so that the funds would not be abused. This sum has been collected from donations and movie collections.

By the time Ken had contacted all of the staff, there were about 35 of them. Later some of them were fired, quit, went to school, or went into other departments.

Charles Kikuchi
November 17, 1942

With the additions of the Japanese section, writers later on, plus some technical people, there are now about 20 people working on the paper.

Since paper and other material was not immediately forthcoming from the Administration, Ken went to them and asked them if they would replace any of the Tulare paper used. This was agreed upon. By this time it was the first of September and when I looked up Ken for the first time, the paper was just getting underway.

On September 12, the first edition of 16 pages came out. The format was all ready and mimeographed. Ken had been after Smith for a formal statement, but it did not come until the day for distribution so that Ken hurriedly had his staff make up an extra page. This was stapled on to the front of the paper.

Ken was not pleased with the work of some of his workers so that they were dropped after the first edition. He wrote Brownie to this effect. On September 18, Ken received another letter from Brownie in which a case was put up for those young workers. Since most of this camp was composed of the Tulare people then, Ken had no choice except to do what he could with his staff. (see letter attached)

INSERT:

September 18, 1942

My dear Ken:

Perhaps I should send you a box of aspirin for all the headaches you must be going through. I lost several pounds on the job. I know how it feels kidding the little kids in a man-size job. What you have now is a staff of improved personele, who are all tackling a job, which they know little about. Unless you keep driving them and keep teaching them and point out the news, they will all fall on the wayside. None of them can actually be classed professionally. They all have high school classification except a few(one or two) who will show sparks once in while. Some of the kids are mechanically all right. Even then I had to figure out a system for consistency by making the dummy sheet, which you are probably using.

Like you, I know that a newspaper, which must be read and lead a population of 15,000 or more, cannot stand on high school journalism. It needs matured minds and writers. If you begin to print the regular paper, many of the kids on the staff will be useless. As a mimeograph sheet, you can use the kids for the dirty jobs and make them write fillers. That is the best solution.

Charles Kikuchi
November 17, 1942

Very often you will find that the little kids are more efficient in certain work on a mimeograph sheet. An older person will not be able to stand the pace...or perhaps the long hours required in printing. But using the kids will require all your time. They are unable to head a department with their own initiative and newspaper being a newspaper...you just can't let responsibility fall on the wayside. That makes you the goat.

My intention in Gila was to replace the majority of the staff with matured newsmen and gradually change the bunch. The kids know this and they are pretty good sports about being dropped out. They know their limits and the keen competition they must face. I have told them again and again.

The present staff is all that I could find in Tulare and even though I knew our papers' standard was a bit on the low side with nottoo much brilliant writing, etc. I had to make the most of it. The last four month, I had been conducting a school in mimeographing newspaper, which I tackled the first time. Perhaps it is your first experience too. Ask Oski Taniwaki, and he will tell you, what he thinks about mimeograph newspapers.

Use your judgment and change the staff to your own liking. I have gone through the mill and personally, I am pretty tired working with the young kids myself. A good matured staff of efficient newsmen will do the trick. In many ways it is hard to let the kids go, but it may be for their best.

What really surprised me, was the fact that they all started with "skilled rating. If I was in your shoes, I would have started everything with a "U" rating and promoted them as you went along. It is also unwise to have too many workers from one camp unless they are necessary. I have found out that the newspaper should be represented by allthe districts as possible for good will and also for fair play. The present staff of the Tulare kids are represented by the various counties of the south. I waited till the last group came in to select the final staff. I think Tulalake did the same to a certain respect.

I was able to have such a big staff at Tulare due to the fact that they all started with "U".. and most of them were "U" until the final month. If you figure out the budget, you can have a large staff provided the kids can stand a "U" rating. Those that never come up in their work can stay onr or drop out. But if you can see for yourself the way the kids love to sit around and do nothing instead of digging up news or feature stories for fillers or dash out a column or two, you will understand, why I needed such a large staff.

One of the reasons why I did not have matured writers was on account of the staff being too young. They could not stand the kids. The atmosphere was too high schoolish. I had several good people on the staff, who were brilliant, but they all dropped out due to the fact that the staff was composed of young kids.

If you have the present staff, you will be unable to do any of your writing. Even I would refuse working on the paper unless you can fill the ranks with matured journalist and matured secretaries, particularly typists and stencil cutters. I understand Yoshiko Inouye as typist with a skilled rating. Get the girls who used to receive professional rating as typist. Get the best you can and get the matured girls, who can shoulder the responsibilities and run the office for you. Get typists, who can cut stencils.

Probably you have found out that Paul Hagiya is a slow worker. He is a bit touchy in many ways too, but he is earnest in his own work. I would like your estimation of the staff.

Charles Kikuchi
November 17, 1942

I hope you can rig up a system so that you can do your writing with more time on your hands. I had an ambition of taking up theatre work as part of my work in Gila.

On the second day, I came to El Paso a patrol car with four officers stopped us to inspect our papers. Well, one of the officers quickly aksed us if we came from Santa Anita...then we told him that we came from an assembly center. They way the officer said "Santa Anita" it appeared that Santa Anita has quite a reputation after all the publicity they received in the papers.

Best regards to your wife and children

Brownie

end of insert/...

The main difficulty was that the young people on the paper looked on the paper as more of a lark and a place to have fun. At Tulare they did not work hard. With a large staff and a small camp area, they were able to loaf around most of the week. Ken had not gone through the Assembly Center experience and he expected to install an efficient paper setup like the one he used to work on in Los Angeles.

At first many of his reporters balked at walking all around this large camp. He had to send them to Canal for the administration news since the office was located there at that time. There was no regular system of transportation so they had to make their way over and back as well as they could. Ken had to break down this easy going attitude and after two months he has succeeded in setting up a fairly good routine in which he attempts to give them experience in all phases of newspaper work.

The first three issues were all Tulare used equipment. The administration has replaced it now. For over a month, only one Tulare mimeograph was used. Ken thought that they were going to get two electric mimeographs, but when the machines finally arrived, he found that they were practically useless. Three of them are now lying idle in the office because they are the wrong type.

After Bates came in, the paper finally got typewriters. Nothing could be done about the machines. They are the type that no ink is available for. They were priced at \$660, but they are of no use to the paper now. They can't stand the

Charles Kikuchi
November 17, 1942

heavy duty. Ken had hoped that he would get the electric machines and in this way he could control all of the material mimeographed in this camp. He even went as far as to try to corner all of the mimeograph operators. However, the electric machines were put in the regular administration mimeograph department, so that there is no contact between these two departments at the present time.

When Yeaton became the community recreation director, Ken was able to get the whole rec. hall assigned as the official newspaper office. However during the interval just before Yeaton came in, Ken had gone to Fryer and had the paper put into an independent department by itself in the Community Service Division. Since there was no caucasian head for it, Ken is responsible for the requisitioning of all material. For this reason he has kept a close check on his books and regular inventories are taken twice a month. He is still trying to find out about the 100 bottles of missing ink which supposedly has been delivered to the paper office.

He is getting on well with his staff and they have no conflicts. Individually they are all likeable young kids, but few have any ability. The technical staff is good. Most of the policy of the paper is determined by Ken, although the Tulare people did want to expand on the social and sports news for a considerable period of time.

After Bates and Fryer came in, the paper gained considerable prestige with the administration. They got the heavy mimeograph paper as long as possible, but because of the paper shortage the paper had to use a cheaper and smaller grade after the 14th edition. (Oct. 31) A special edition on the large colored paper was put out for Armistice Day on the Tulare paper which they have kept in reserve. The people on the staff have worked hard and many evenings they work overtime to get the paper out twice a week on time.

For all purposes, there is no censorship on the paper. However, the fact that Bates came in indicated that there is an unofficial watch on the paper. The Japanese section first appeared on October 7 with the 8th edition. The administration has never made a definite policy in this regard and Ken has just put the Japanese

Charles Kikuchi
November 17, 1942

writers on. The material is not checked before it is mimeographed. It is possible that it is checked by the military authorities before it is allowed to enter the mails. However, none of the copies are checked here beforehand. The only kick-backs so far by the administration has been mosquitoes.

Ken has told the Japanese section writers to go ahead at their own discretion but they must realize that they should be careful if any inflammatory statements are made and it would be their neck. He has checked as much as possible on the Kibie and Issei writers used--there are four of them and he believes that they are all right. One of the men is a former editor of the Japanese section of the S. F. Nichi bei. Bill is a former Kibei newspaperman with Domei. Many of the administration are still under the impression that the Japanese is strictly an interpretation of the English section. Actually this is not the case, as the Kibei writers put in things at their own discretion, although Bill usually goes over the matter with Ken. In some of the exchange copies which Ken sends out to his friends, he takes off the Japanese section in order to save on the postage. He also does the same for his brother in the Army because it may prove embarrassing for him. Ken says that if they pull a fast one, they will be the ones to suffer. He says that he never trusts a Japanese fully "because you know the Japanese mind in a dark corner." However, he thinks that Bill is pretty sincere about wanting to be Americanized. Bill also claims to have been a former war correspondent for the Tokyo Nishi Nishi in China and was also stationed in Washington, DC. At the outbreak of the war he was one of the Japanese editors for that section of the New World Sun in S. F. It is rumored that Bill used to be a big time gambler in Los Angeles. He is about 36 years old and married. On November 13 he told the editor that he was going to resign. Later in the afternoon he said that he had reconsidered because when Ken went to Salt Lake the responsibility would be his. There is a possibility that pressure may have been placed on him from the Kibie group with which he had trouble recently. (see previous notes)

There has been no pressure put on them from the Turlock paper staff since the paper in that center was very poor. No other center group came in here intact so that reporters put on have been scattered ones from Fresno, Santa Anita and the Free Zone.

One of Ken's policies has been to carry no name box on the paper. The fact that he was editor got out accidentally via the Fresno paper and then the Pacific Citizen. There still is no name box on the paper. The staff resented this at first, but Ken soothed them off with the explanation that all appointments are still temporary and that they also have a limited amount of space. Ken did not want to be known as the editor because he planned from the beginning to do other types of work-- chiefly research.

The editor feels that he is going out to private employment in a short time. He has been looking about for an editor but none is available. He approached me a few weeks ago. He has also approached Frank Sakamoto and Matt Inouye, but they are not interested either. In my talks with him, we have both realized that a strong editor who would carry on the policy of Americanization was needed, but there is just not anybody in camp. We have been thinking about Nobu Kawii, but he is too wrapped up in J.A.C.L. Regardless of who he is there is bound to be criticism. "In times of discontent, the people will criticize those on top due to personal jealousies and otherwise. The editor will thus take a beating and I would like to get one in who will not be continually backing down."

The chief opposition to the paper has come from the Kibei and some of the Issei group who feel that they are being neglected. They are also opposed to some of the editorials and stories. The Issei have been yelling for a larger Japanese section; the Kibei want to put out a paper of their own. Certain stories have been objectionable such as the following sent in on November 9 in regards to the Tateishi case of beating up a block manager and getting 6 months. (See attached letter)

Charles Kikuchi
November 17, 1942

Page

Editor asked to retract story on basis of beating. Letter sent in from another party in regard to Tateishi case.

November 9, 1942

Dear Ed and to the person who wrote the enclosed article:

Congrats and a thousand pats on the back for your nice article about Tat. It was no doubt the best news of the month for your department; so you had to smear it on the front page, and I presume you've succeeded in creating a gruesome picture of how brutal this person was in the readers' minds. Mr. Ed, you may not be guilty of this million dollar article, but you should have sense enough to withhold this kind of a good news from the public. It's bad as it is now for us to be interned in camp without your reminding the readers and rejoicing over our fellow Japanese resident that has been sentenced to jail.

Also enclosed was this note:

To the person who wrote the article:

Frankly speaking, I admire Roy T's guts, and determination to do things openly, more than the "snake" that crawled over to the Caucasians and hissed for help without half trying to settle this matter among the Japanese people here, or your kind that commits assault and battery on black and white, taking advantage of a porr fellow who is already down and helpless. It would have been different if you'd considered there's always two sides to an argument.

If you are so eager to write about this case, why don't you write something more useful without throwing favoritism, and try to work up public sympathy and help him out of the hell hole as soon as possible. After all, this camp we're in is no summer resort. If you think otherwise, you're a sad case of a Jap trash.

Furthermore, if there's any more argument as to this matter, I'll be tickled pink to go to your office. Just kindly put a small article asking my presence. If it permits me, I'll be glad to show you what assault and battery is like and pound some sense into you, risking a jail sentence myself. A Reader

In the November 11 issue, Ken put in a small notice: "We mention first, to a certain aggressively-minded individual, that his letter is answered at the bottom of this column. This individual forgets that Armistice Day is in commemoration of peace... "We and there is only one of us, wrote the story. You ask for an article desiring your presence. Here it is. Today, Armistice Day, is as good a time as any. 7:30 p.m. at the office. No one else will be there so don't bring any baseball bats."

At 5:40 that day, the fellow came in followed by four other Hawaiian Nisei. One of them is a champion Sumo wrestler, while another is a boxer. They are all from the Turlock Center and employed in this camp. Ken sat way down at the middle of the Rec Hall in order to have the psychological advantage. The fellow evidently had talked about his letter and been forced to follow through by his friends. He was very belligerent at first and wanted to fight. Ken invited him to sit down. During the conversation, he found out that Takeishi was also a Hawaiian boy and these fellows were all burned up because they thought that he was not getting the right treatment and that the Hawaiian boys were misunderstood. Ken explained that he had nothing against the boys and that he was only interested in seeing that the gang element was eliminated as much as possible. "If you fellows feel the same way about it, then you should see why I played the story up." They finally thought that they saw the light and the fellow shook hands with Ken and said, "No hard fellings."

Most of the letters sent to the Editor have been gripes of one sort or another related to conditions around here, such as mess hall conduct, and clothing and housing. There have also been several letters condemning the editor for playing up the thefts of lumber committed by the Japanese as they feel that this is a reflection against the "inherent honesty" of the Japanese.

In discussing the policy of the paper, it occurs to me that it follows the J.A.C.L. policy of cooperation with the administration. Ken is very interested with the progress of the J.A.C.L., but he has not given it unnecessary publicity although

there are plans to give the organization a page in the paper as soon as the membership drive commences. However, Ken is a keen thinker and he is looking at the whole thing from the long range point of view. He feels that the W.R.A. is acting in good faith and he claims that he has not found an instance yet in which they have broken a promise, although some matters have been delayed. "As long as the W.R.A. tries to fulfill its policies, I will support it with the paper as much as possible" In such a limited space, this has to be done chiefly with editorials and selection of the articles.

Ken has been very conscious of the evacuation and the problems arising from it. The editorials reflect this. When he was first on the way down here, he was listed as an agitator by the soldier in the train because he passed out copies of "American Refugees." A report of this was sent in to the W.C.C.A. offices.

The first editorial was on the question of whether mass internment was fair or not. It was a reprint from a Phoenix paper. In this same issue, Ken made a statement about a Japanese section because he felt that the Issei could be reached and he has continued in this belief.

In general, his policy has been in pushing the Americanization program as much as possible because he sees no other future for the evacuees. Sometimes he becomes impatient at their general apathy. One of the means by which ^{he} thinks that this aim can be accomplished, is to push the J.A.C.L. program as he believes that this is the only Nisei organization in a position to get the Nisei united. He has worked actively towards this goal both through the paper and by helping the organization of the J.A.C.L. in this center. Another thing he has stressed is the work project. He wrote several editorials on cotton picking and even went out himself for several days to see what it was like.

Ken has tried to keep the morale up by stressing to the people that improvements were coming. It has been his aim to play up the things of lasting value. At

first, he played-up recreation a little because of the early unsettled conditions and he felt that it was needed to keep the morale up. Now it has taken more or less of a back seat. He has also pushed to resettlement program by listing the people who have gone out. He also lists possible outside employment. At the present time (November) he is playing up the crime problems because of their recent growth. In this respect, he has had Williamson write several articles on crime and they have been placed on the editorial page. He has stressed the point of giving the people information because he feels that "75% of the confusion in this center is due to the insufficient or distorted information. Regulations change overnight and the people are not aware of them."

There has not been censorship as such, but on November 12, Cozzens issued the following memorandum to the administrative staff: "I further request that all articles written by a staff member that are to be placed in the Gila News Courier be cleared with the respective division chiefs until a Caucasian Information Specialist arrives on the project...Policy matters of W.R.A. should not be discussed by anyone unless they are positive that the information they are giving to the community does comply with W.R.A. regulations--I request that everyone adhere strictly to this memorandum."

The paper has pretty well followed what has been the main concern of the community in the editorials. The aim has always been one of hope and Ken has tried to see that the Nisei do not become disillusioned.

In Vol. 1, No. 2, Ken had a statement against rumors. "Whatever it may be called, it is a certainty that without foundation, it will not last, and that the flimsy, though sometimes skillfully, woven material that goes into its fabrication will provide excellent firewood for the torch of truth that we hope this publication will be permitted to carry, even though the flashlights are contraband." In the same number, he quotes from the Phoenix Republican and Gazette: "War is against the

Japanese in the Pacific War theater, not against those who are citizens of this country." This was the first reference to the drive being made then to employ the evacuees to harvest the crops.

3. Directed against the Army planes that zoomed down over the place. "If the young pilots want to play soldier, they should dive over the agriculture fields as the irrigation workers could stand a little diversion." Issue also gave front page play up to cotton picking.

4. In an editorial entitled "Cotton for War" as quoted from the Pacific Citizen, Ken appealed to the workers here to go pick cotton. "We are confident that the evacuees will come forward....to bridge this manpower gap in the nation's supreme war effort."

5. Ken went cotton picking this week and Jimmy wrote an editorial on colony beautification.

6. Jimmy wrote another editorial on the importance of the community council. Scouts, schools and fire prevention were discussed in No. 7.

8. Plea to take part in the agriculture program here. "A moral obligation is thus thrust upon every individual not otherwise employed to help allay the present labor shortage in the agriculture division."

9. Another appeal to work in the agriculture division.

10. Appeal to take interest in Absentee Ballots.

11. Denounces Pres. Atkinson of University of Arizona for saying that we were enemies and therefore not entitled to educational opportunities.

12. Quotes Los Angeles Times absolving evacuees for not getting enough out for cotton picking due to labor shortage.

13. In a pep talk to the Nisei entitled "Yellow Americans" in this editorial Ken attempted to reaffirm the Nisei's faith in America because he felt that the growing bitterness would be detrimental to their future. He asked the Nisei to consider all of the facts before they cast aside this country. He even accused them of

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being disloyal if they failed to face the issue squarely. Quote: We ask them if they are able to see beyond the fog of frustration that obscures their view, if they are strong enough to throw off the impediment of embittered defeatism that b ogs down their processes of free thought, to stop crying and line up to help the thousands of FELLOW AMERICANS of all colors, inside and outside of our city and our nation who are fighting to preserve the rights which are unalterably ours.

14. In this issue, there was no editorial because of the fact that Ken did not have paper for this issue. He was going to put out a large issue on the following Saturday, but the paper came in at the last minute so the regular edition came out without any editorials.

15. The whole editorial page was devoted to the first article ~~in~~ a series on crime submitted by Chief Williamson, Director of Internal Security. It was about this time that the gambling problems became acute in ~~this~~ center. Williamson gave the views on the types of gambling which his department was attempting to control for the good of the community.

16. The police problems were also continued in this issue. The Chief stressed that there were no stool pigeons in his department. A rumor had circulated that many of the wardens were acting as stool pigeons and some of them had been intimidated. In this edition, also, a strong plea was made to the residents to support the agricultural project. A plea was made that if we wanted to be well fed, we should have to contribute our part. "The Federal Government is willing to meet us half way in this problem. We must go the other half."

17. The crime series was continued in this issue with a discussion of the liquor problem. This was an effort to control the amount of liquor being brought in by construction workers.

18. Crime was again emphasized in this issue with a letter from the Project Director in regards to lumber and property thefts. In the column, "Gila Tom Tom",

the editor again made an effort to bring to the attention of the residents the importance of Armistice Day.

19. The Americanization program was again emphasized in volume number 19. In an editorial entitled "Liberals for the Nisei" the editor attempted to combat the growing fear that all evacuees would be departed to Japan after the war. A strong appeal was made to the Nisei in an attempt to reaffirm their faith in this country and not turn tail when the going became tough. The editor felt that a philosophy of defeatism would make the Nisei lose perspective. He pointed out that there were many liberal groups in this country who felt that the evacuees had been denied justice and they had been working towards a goal to eliminate this rising reactionary spirit in America. He suggested that the Nisei should back these groups for the benefit of all minority groups rather than stewing in their frustrations and doing nothing about it. A second editorial was written on the matter of thefts in this camp.

The editor/^{left}for a J.A.C.L. convention in Salt Lake City on the 15th. During his absence, the paper will be edited by several of his younger staff. This morning I was talking to Jimmy Nakamura. He said that Ken had asked him to write the editorial for the following two weeks, but he did not know what to write on yet. I suggested that he write a strong editorial directed to the Nisei on the matter of morals, pointing out to them that they should view the whole picture of evacuation from a long range perspective. In this way, they may perhaps realize that complaining about the immediate fiscal facilities was not the most important point, but that they should direct their prime energies towards the next stage of resettlement. If they wasted their energy over the small matters which would be taken care of anyway, They would fail to keep up with a healthy viewpoint for the post war period. I also suggested that he should write an editorial directed towards the Issei pointing out to them that they should reconsider some of their viewpoints which are based on emotional reasons rather than facts. Jimmy said that he would not know whether the

Issei would approve of such a strong statement. He thought that they would only widen the gap between the Issei and Nisei if the paper took sides on political issues. However, he said that he would try to bring these points in some way during the following two issues. I also suggested that he could possibly say something in regards to the matter of private industries. There has been a considerable amount of possessiveness on the part of individuals. They do not want to pull any of their wages. If we could bring out the fact that this money would be for the benefit of all workers in the community, they would perhaps change some of their opinions since many of the workers are suspicious of the W.R.A.. They feel that if they pulled their money, they would never receive any of the profit, but that it would go for other purposes.

In viewing the progress of the paper during the first four months, there has been a trend to make the paper to appeal to all groups in this center instead of being aimed primarily at the Nisei. For this reason, a Japanese section had been added and space has been given to various activities derived from the Japanese culture, such as, Bon Odori, Sumo, Kendo, Flower arrangements and Goh-games. A great deal of space has also been devoted to the activities of the Buddhist church. All of this indicates that the Japanese element in this center is very strong. The policy of the paper will probably continue to stress Americanism to a greater degree if Ken remains as the Editor. Further developments in the paper policy will be noted from time to time.