

This farm paper, with a <sup>paid state-wide</sup> circulation of 65,000 is likewise an independent, general farm paper, but has ~~not~~ shown less editorial concern with the problem of the Japanese farmer than has the Pacific Rural Press. The first mention of the situation appears on December 27 with the announcement that everyone dealing with Japanese-Americans ~~was~~ <sup>is</sup> urged to give them every ~~encouragement~~ encouragement to return to normal operation of the agricultural business. In this same issue is a story dealing with the effect of war on produce markets in New York and the steps taken by wholesale houses selling for Japanese firms ~~to protect~~ in handling ~~the~~ payments to their clients.

There is no further mention of the Japanese until February 7 when a small item appears quoting Tom C. Clark, alien defense co-ordinator for the West, to the effect that every consideration will be given the evacuees. On February 21 there is a <sup>sport</sup> warning to ocean fishermen to provide themselves with proper identification and proof of citizenship.

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An article in the March 21 issue explains the wartime farm adjustment program to assure continued production on Japanese agricultural lands. A similar, but more detailed article appears on April 4 under the same headline, "Alien Property Adjustment." March 21 also reported crop conditions in the south with particular mention of the ~~the~~ planting of truck crops in coastal areas being below normal because of ~~the~~ <sup>on the part</sup> uncertainty ~~position~~ of the Japanese farmers.

Nothing further on the subject appeared until May 2. At the end of a short article on increased production in northern counties was the first mention of the labor shortage. Another news item announces the recommendation of the California war board to import Mexican farm labor. A longer news story deals with the reduction of truck crop acreage as a result of Japanese evacuation.

On May 16 considerable space is given to the problems which the new truck crop growers have encountered in taking over Japanese lands, since a great number of them lack <sup>ed</sup> experience in more than a single phase of vegetable ~~growing~~ growing. Meetings were to be scheduled to discuss the problems of growing, marketing, and harvesting, and farm experts listed essential methods for the production of quality vegetables. A short item points out the challenge to American farmers in taking over the evacuated farms, which amount to 30% of all truck farms on the West Coast.

The labor problem, as seen by Yolo County farmers, is discussed in the issue of May 16.



4

The final article on the Japanese problem during this  
period appeared on May 30. It was a full account of the <sup>successful</sup> /  
experience of a Charlie Black, former salesman of insectides  
and fertilizers, in taking over 77 acres of Japanese lands  
with which he had become familiar previously. The account is  
allowed to stand by itself with no editorial comment.



PACIFIC RURAL PRESS

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This oldest of the <sup>California</sup> farm papers, with a ~~paid~~ circulation of more than 85,000 subscribers, <sup>has a wide</sup> coverage of the farm population in the state. ~~of the California, undoubtedly influences the opinion of farmers in that area.~~ ~~With no affiliation~~ with any organization, it nevertheless is probably ~~influenced~~ pretty well in harmony with the policies of the <sup>organized farm groups</sup> ~~California farm organization~~. and is undoubtedly in favor of the elimination of Japanese from California agriculture.

~~its December issue~~ <sup>to appear</sup> after the declaration of war - In the first ~~issue~~ <sup>editorial</sup> after Pearl Harbor, that of December ~~is~~ <sup>of necessity, have to</sup> a general statement on the relation of the farmer to war - that he will produce more with less labor and restricted machinery. ~~In the~~ <sup>its</sup> next issue, December 27, is the first discussion of the Japanese problem, which is continued from one angle or another through February 21. In a signed article, D. M. Rutherford advocates a strong policy in the handling of both alien and American-born Japanese. He suggests a thorough-going investigation into all leases and purchases under the Alien Land Law, the placing of all enemy alien property under Federal custodianship, and a strict licensing of all their business dealings. ~~In this issue~~ <sup>also carries</sup> ~~is~~ <sup>the first</sup> mention of the possible serious shortage of labor because of the Japanese <sup>evacuation</sup> ~~problem~~. There is also a résumé of current restrictions on trading with aliens, in "Market News & Comment" as well as <sup>in</sup> a brief news item. In a news article on tomato canning prospects for 1942 is the remark that the "government would not be very bright if it put Jap national farmers in concentration camps so long as they would work to grow tomatoes and other needed crops." In this same article there is some indication that canners were sympathetic toward American-born Japanese.

On January 10 another signed article by Rutherford dealt at great length with the powerful Japanese associations, their questionable activities, and their hold on ~~even~~ even the American-born Japanese whose loyalty to the United States might otherwise be completely <sup>stable</sup> ~~satisfactory~~. There is also the implication that certain individual or corporate interests "are shielding alien Japanese interests and putting pressure in the right political spots," with a resulting dangerous relaxation of restrictions on Japanese activities. In the same issue ~~an~~ a story signed by Wheaton H. Brewer points out that by allowing foreign language press and radio broadcasts we have discouraged the Americanization of our foreign populations, and a stop should be put to this policy at once. On January 10 there is also a review of the California Alien Land Law.

On January 24 is the first indication that a program <sup>for the handling</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>of Japanese</sup> crystallizing, with the report of a survey made by the California Defense Council and the California Farm Bureau Federation, and ~~the~~ four specific recommendations for solution of the



fair  
~~satisfactory~~  
and the second a report ~~saying~~ that ~~two-thirds~~ deals had been  
completed for two-thirds of the Japanese farmers.



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Japanese farmer problem.

Again on February 7 Rutherford devotes considerable space to a heated plea for a definite Japanese policy which will provide protection for everyone. A brief story refers to a statement of the Washington Merry-Go-Round that more respect was being shown for civil liberties than for national safety. The final discussion of this problem for the period covered appears on February 21 when ~~the~~ Rutherford takes issue with the rumor that California is "utterly, completely, and abjectly dependent upon the produce of Jap farmers." He quotes percentages on production of various crops to show that Japanese can be eliminated from California agriculture without serious hardship.

The first full consideration of the prospective labor shortage appears on February 21 with a review of the reasons for the nation-wide as well as state shortage of labor. The suggestion that labor be imported (Negro or Mexican) is ~~discouraged~~ <sup>discouraged</sup>. The need is to organize home labor - "white, patriotic labor," and it is a matter for community committees to solve. "Victory vacations" are suggested as one solution. The "Victory vacation" idea is further developed on March 7 with a story of the efforts of the YMCA to organize youth for harvesting. On March 21, John E. Pickett reviews all the possibilities for meeting the labor shortage. A brief news story deals with the probable use of California high schools as harvest centers, and Dr. J. M. Tinley advocates the use of city workers on vacations and the advantages for both the farmers and the vacationists.

On the cover of the April 4 issue <sup>appeared</sup> ~~was~~ a photograph of Japanese laborers in the carrot fields. Editorial comment presented the challenge to the white race ~~was~~ literally to "stoop to conquer." "The Japs don't mind stooping to put their hands in the good earth...Now that we are moving out the Japanese, as we should have done long ago, the challenge is to the white man." Concern with the labor problem continues in news items on a farm labor conference, student help in San Jose Valley, and a local labor plan for Tehama County. Rutherford again declares that Japanese are not essential, this time in regard to the evacuation of chick segregators and the resulting ~~xxxxx~~ temporary inconvenience to poultrymen.

Only two small news items ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ in the April 18 issue are concerned with the labor problem, but on May 2 the subject is again spotlighted, with particular emphasis on ~~with~~ an apparent clash between farmers and government agencies ~~xxxxxx~~ as to the urgency of the labor need, farmers scoffing at government reports that no shortage is apparent at present.

[The subject of transfer of Japanese lands ~~was~~ under supervision of the FSA was mentioned on March 21 and again on May 2. The first was an announcement of the procedure