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# INFORMATION WRAMA DIGEST

For the use of the WRA Staff

WAR RELLOCATION AUTHORITY

Washington, D. C. December, 1944

## ALIEN LAND LAWS

Recent months have seen renewed activity by the states of California and Washington in the enforcement of their Alien Land Laws. No fewer than 35 suits asking that the lands of Japanese aliens be forfeited to the state have been filed in the courts of the two West Coast states. No cases have yet been reported from Oregon.

These Alien Land Laws forbid aliens ineligible for United States citizenship to acquire, hold or transfer land or interests in real property. If aliens acquire land in violation of the law, the property may be forfeited to the state, and the violator is subject to criminal penalties. The laws in no way affect the right of American citizens of Japanese ancestry to own real estate on their own behalf, and could not constitutionally do so.

Before states enacted statutes or before constitutional provisions defined the rights of aliens to hold land, the common law permitted them to acquire it. Although aliens could buy land, or receive it as a gift or through a will, the state could, under the same common law, invoke the court action of "office found" or "inquest of office" and have the property forfeited to the state. This nonstatutory rule could be enforced when it was deemed in the best interests of the state.

While the majority of state Alien Land Laws have not placed aliens on an equal footing with citizens, all 48 states, Hawaii, Alaska and the District of Columbia have passed legislation which modifies in varying degrees the strict common law. Thus the general tendency has been for greater equality for aliens, except for the Alien Land

Laws in the farwestern states, which are applicable only to aliens ineligible for United States citizenship. This legislation was initiated by California in 1913, Washington followed suit in 1921, and Oregon in 1923.

Recent developments indicate that the tide of restrictive legislation may have turned. Lack of sufficient signatures killed a referendum in California this year, which would have made it virtually impossible for any person of Japanese ancestry, alien or citizen, to own certain other types of property, as well as land. Also in the November election, Colorado defeated a proposed state constitutional amendment to authorize restrictions on land ownership by aliens ineligible for United States citizenship, by approximately 17,000 votes.

While the Constitution of the United States safeguards certain rights of aliens, the cases in the courts in California and Washington are unlikely to be decided on constitutional issues. The Supreme Court, on several occasions, has upheld the constitutionality of the Alien Land Laws of California and Washington as proper exercise of the police power of the states. The constitutionality of the Oregon law has never been tested, but it was copied from the California law and is likely to be upheld.

The decisions in the pending cases

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will be determined by the adequacy of the evidence presented by the state to establish violations of the laws, or by technical questions of law that arise from the facts peculiar to each case. The situations in the cases now pending are not uniform, but fall generally into three categories:

(1) Cases in which an alien personally, or a corporation controlled by aliens, has record title or interest in land; (2) cases in which the state alleges that the alien parent has retained so much control over the land and exercises so many rights of ownership that the land actually belongs to the alien, and that placing title to the land in the citizen child's name was merely a subterfuge to evade the law; (3) cases in which a third person - for example, a real estate agent - has record title to land, but the state alleges that the third person in fact holds title for the alien.

Only one of the recent cases has been decided so far. This was a case

in which the alien failed to appear in court, personally or through an attorney, and judgment was entered in favor of the state.

Inasmuch as the Alien Land Laws of the West Coast states reflect the legislative policies of these states, the War Relocation Authority in no way interferes with their enforcement. WRA does, however, seek to prevent the restrictions placed upon the evacuees under the exclusion and relocation program, from interfering with their defense of the cases filed against them.

C. Moxley Featherston  
Office of the Solicitor

Ed. Note: This article furnishes the background for the cases now pending in West Coast courts. When several of these cases have been heard, Edgar Bernhard, Assistant Solicitor in the San Francisco office, will write his interpretation of the decisions for a later issue of the Information Digest.

Questions and requests for help will be given prompt attention

## BUDGET DEADLINE JAN. 1

The necessity for incorporating 20 separate 1946 budget estimates into a single WRA appropriation request points up the urgency of meeting the January 1 deadline set for completion of center, field, Refugee Shelter and national office estimates.

Advanced planning is imperative in order to submit the agency's fiscal requirements to the Department of the Interior by February 15. Interior in turn must place in the hands of the Bureau of the Budget its appraisal of all next fiscal year's needs by March 1.

A number of WRA personnel, not concerned with the actual work of budget estimates, will be called on for assistance in the preliminary steps. The authority-wide importance and the exacting demands of this undertaking make obvious the need for cooperation on the

part of everyone in a position to help.

Next year's objectives must be planned in line with latest experience. Needs for 1946 should be based on this year's accomplishments, and what activities and funds were required to achieve these objectives.

The Washington Budget Unit is prepared to assist any field office in preparing its estimate. Questions and requests for help will be given prompt attention.

Full details for field preparation of 1946 budget estimates are included in Administrative Notices Nos. 183-A and 183-B, covering field, center and Refugee Shelter offices.

Reuben Levine  
Budget Estimates Officer

# VISIT TO CALIFORNIA

Frankly I was apprehensive as to the reception we might receive when I escorted two Japanese American boys from Gila to Santa Maria, California, where prior to evacuation they had farmed 3,000 acres of land, growing vegetables. We traveled by way of the Southern Pacific and returned in the car one of the boys had in storage in Santa Maria. The entire trip was devoid of any incidents that could be construed in any way to be critical of the two Nisei.

The one exception occurred while we were eating lunch one day in Guadalupe. A drunk Mexican who was eating at a nearby table made some derogatory remarks when he saw the two Japanese Americans.

He was rather insulting in these remarks but before anything could develop, two other Mexicans in the restaurant who overheard his remarks interceded and removed him from the restaurant, telling him that the two were their friends and were good Americans and had been good employers and they did not propose to stand by and see them insulted by anybody.

On other occasions during our stay at Santa Maria, we called on numerous Caucasian friends who in every instance invited them into their homes and expressed sincere pleasure in seeing them again. I do not remember the names of all these people, but one, who is in the shipping business and an influential citizen in that region remarked that in his opinion they would be welcome to return to that area in a short while.

While in Santa Maria, we stayed at the Santa Maria Inn, having obtained reservations before leaving Arizona. One of the boys I was escorting had been a member of the Rotary Club in Santa Maria before evacuation. Consequently he saw many of his old friends at this hotel, since the Rotary Club holds its meetings there. We also saw many former employees who without exception were very pleased and cordial in their reception of these boys, expressing a desire for them to come back and resume farming operations so that they could work for them again. On several occasions while walking down the street, someone inside a store

would recognize these boys and come outside to shake hands with them and express pleasure in seeing them again.

Upon arriving at Guadalupe, we discovered that to get to Santa Maria, seven miles away, we would have to take a bus. At the depot the two Japanese Americans were recognized by a police officer who very cordially offered to take us over to Santa Maria in his car if we should find the bus crowded.

When we arrived in Santa Maria, I went to the police station to notify them that I was serving as escort for these men. When I gave the police officer their names he remarked that there wasn't anything to worry about because he knew these boys, and knew that they would be well received in Santa Maria.

On one occasion in Guadalupe, a Chinese restaurant owner saw these men and invited them into his restaurant where he served us a very special Chinese dinner. He refused to take any pay, saying that he gave them this dinner for "old times' sake" and because he liked them. While in the restaurant a Filipino came in, who had been a former employee of one of the boys. He was very glad to see them and also expressed a desire to work for him again. Well there we were in a Chinese restaurant--two Japanese Americans, several Chinese, a Filipino, and a Caucasian escort enjoying a very pleasant visit.

On the return trip we stopped in Santa Barbara to transact some business. Here also the two Nisei were received cordially in the bank, and in the attorney's office. On the street in San-

to Barbara, as well as elsewhere, no one apparently paid any attention to them. This was true on the entire trip back to Gila.

W. F. Miller, Principal  
Gila River High School

## HANDLING 11,000 PROPERTY PROBLEMS

In spite of the fact that evacuees are still not fully aware of the services available to them through the Evacuee Property Division, more than 11,000 individual problems involving \$1,017,000 in evacuee funds have been referred to the Property Supervisors in the past two and a half years. The Transportation Section in the same period has picked up, packed and shipped more than 1,200 carloads of personal property to centers and relocation points, and provided safe storage on the West Coast for the belongings of 5,000 families.

The establishment of Evacuee Property offices at relocation centers greatly speeded up the handling of property problems because it made it possible to clear up many matters by direct communication without referring them to the area offices in Seattle, San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Also, relocation offices have in recent months had an increased share in the handling of evacuee property matters because of the departure of so many families from the centers.

IRA's policy has always been to provide service only for those who want it. Evacuees are at liberty to work through their own representatives. The primary function of the Property Division is to investigate and report to evacuees who request information, then to take any subsequent action required by the evacuee's instructions. More evacuees need to understand, however, that on request the division can furnish assistance in the management, protection or disposition of real or personal property.

In addition to the complete, accurate information called for on the prescribed forms, it is important to show the exact location where property is

stored. A simple road sketch will usually facilitate the work of finding the property to be picked up.

When the evacuee gives the Property Office the name and address of the person having custody of the property, he should also address a letter to the custodian, authorizing him to surrender the requested articles to the IRA representative who calls for them.

Descriptions of belongings should include number of each, kind of container, size, color, manufacturer's serial number or model designation, and any identifying markings such as package numbers or names. This will eliminate questions as to the identity of the articles.

Victor Furth  
Evacuee Property Officer  
San Francisco

## EVACUEE PAMPHLET IN PREPARATION

Federal assistance from Social Security funds, available both to alien and citizen resettlers, will be explained to evacuees in a new pamphlet now being prepared.

Operated through cooperative agreements between the Social Security Board and the state departments of welfare, the program is known as Services and Assistance to Enemy Aliens and Others Affected by Restrictive Governmental Action.

The pamphlet will explain to resettlers how to apply at a public assistance or IRA office when in need of such aid as medical care or money for necessary living expenses. It will advise them that they need not be legal residents of the community in order to seek counsel or cash. The leaflet will detail what information is necessary to provide to the office visited, and that assistance is available even though the relocatee is able to work, or has property not in usable form for current needs.

# TRENDS...

**RELOCATION** Heightened interest in group relocation destinations is tempering the fall slump occasioned by returns from seasonal leave and by oncoming colder weather. 55 new arrivals at Seabrook Farms late in November brought total evacuee population at the New Jersey plant to 707. Orchard recruitment remains slow but steady. 231 evacuees are now employed at Tooele, 139 at the Sioux plant.

New areas continue to attract pioneer center residents. New Orleans has stimulated the interest of Manzanar and Granada people. Eight from Manzanar, each representing three or more families, made a trip to Louisiana to investigate a plan for about 200 resettlers to purchase land there for farming and flower raising. A Topaz family were recent "firsts" to try the new Cleveland Family Resettlement plan. Four Cleveland organizations, including several church groups, encourage the re-establishment of families. The hostels gives preference to family units.

**ATTITUDES** Concrete examples reported by the majority of centers point to an upswing in favorable attitudes. Improved sentiment is evident not only on the part of the public toward center residents, but in evacuee feeling toward the outside.

Local papers in the vicinity of Rohwer have done an about-face. In place of hostile editorials they used to print about the center, they now carry front page stories of Nisei in the war. While not inclined to crusade, papers fairly give as much space to evacuee stories as to town items.

National interest is increased too. The Denver representative of Time magazine called Granada for details of Sgt. K. Kenji Yasui's Pacific exploits. The Director of Community Service of Plymouth Congregational Church visited Topaz from Oakland, California, to make a film strip of evacuees' patriotic activities for screening in California churches.

A high school football game between Manzanar and nearby Big Pine helped prove to players and spectators that the outside world is not against them. Both sides displayed excellent sportsmanship, but evacuees were particularly impressed at the readiness of Caucasian boys to help center players to their feet. Minidoka's project newspaper, the Irrigator, now has a paid, outside circulation of 1,000.

**SELECTIVE SERVICE** Departure ceremonies at all centers are contributing both to cause and

effect of growing acceptance of Selective Service. Issei residents indicate their increased interest in the Nisei's part in the war by assuming responsibility for send-off programs. Several centers attribute the growing Issei support of these ceremonies to the fighting record achieved by Nisei troops. New inductees profit by reflecting some of the prestige earned by soldier Nisei. The first Nisei to volunteer and leave directly from Colorado River shared honors at a departure ceremony for boys recently called from the ERG.

As the first anniversary of the reinstatement of Selective Service approaches, active duty figures for December and for six months ago show sharp contrast. December inductions from centers are expected to carry the total past 2,200, while last June 169 center boys were in service as inductees.

**SIXTH WAR LOAN DRIVE** War Relocation Authority appointed staff had met

81.2 per cent of their Sixth War Loan quota by December 1, leaving less than 20 per cent of the allotted 167,992 to be pledged by December 31 when the drive ends.

Manzanar leads with 90.6 per cent of its 14,186 goal. Tule Lake is second, reporting 86 per cent toward its assigned 23,718.87. Rohwer is a close third, having bought 85 per cent of a 14,440.30 quota.

# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. If a soldier's dependents remaining in a relocation center, find their status changed may the amount of their allotment be increased, decreased or stopped?

A. Should a change in family status occur (through birth of a child, decrease of family income, or relocation) the dependent should fill out Change of Status Form (D. G. Form No. 641) and mail it with necessary evidence to the War Department Office of Dependency Benefits, Newark, N. J.

Marie D. Lane  
Head, Welfare Section

Q. May an appointed staff member take annual leave while he is on travel status?

A. Yes, if he has the prior approval of his immediate supervisor. The employee's travel voucher must show the hour and date both of the beginning of his leave and of his return to duty.

Earl D. Brooks  
Head, Personnel Management

Q. Which is responsible for the upgrading or reclassification of an appointed staff member in VHA -- Section head, Division Chief or Personnel Office?

A. A Civil Service employee's Section Head originates the request for upgrading or reclassification. Under Division Chief approval the Personnel Office determines qualification for upgrading or acceptability of reclassification.

Margaret DeLieux  
Procedures Officer

Q. In the Korematsu and Endo cases, would a Supreme Court decision holding that evacuation or detention was unconstitutional affect the legal authority of VHA to continue operating the centers and conducting its relocation program?

A. No. Executive Order No. 9102 authorizes VHA to provide for the relocation of evacuees and for their maintenance in the meantime. Congress has appropriated funds for these purposes. A Court decision favorable to Korematsu or Endo would merely declare invalid certain restrictions that have been imposed on evacuees and would not affect the remainder of the program.

E. S. Ferguson  
Solicitor

## LEUPP GOES BACK TO INDIAN SERVICE

VHA will terminate its related agreement with the Indian Service as soon as the Authority completes an inventory of the former Leupp Center. Since December 1943, when evacuees were transferred from this locality to Tule Lake and the projects, VHA has been custodian of the installation. Leupp operated after April 1943, at the time evacuees at the isolation center in Hoab, Utah, were transferred to this center.

Navy contracts recently awarded the Granada Silk Screen Shop are bringing renewed activity to that center's industry. An earlier lull in wartime poster making was used for training of inexperienced personnel.

## STREAMLINING SUPPLY

Laying the groundwork for a general conference in January, four center officials last week concluded a preliminary meeting with the Washington Finance and Supply staff to streamline procedures affecting finance, property control, procurement and supply.

The general conference, at which all centers will be represented, will tailor handbooks on property and expenditures to meet changing center conditions and to make basic data readily available so that they can be handled by minimum staffs. Provisional changes resulting from the November meeting are being forwarded to the field for preview. Center staff members will be able to bring suggestions and recommendations to the January session.

Among those to be invited to the 1946 conference will be assistant project directors in charge of administrative management, and one of the following officers in charge of property and warehouses, supply, or finance. Further discussion of the preliminary revisions will develop procedures workable at all projects. Centers will then immediately put these new regulations into effect.

Field personnel present at the planning meeting were Victor J. Ryan, Assistant Project Director from Heart Mountain, Arthur J. Blair, Finance Officer from Tule Lake, Ray Coetting, Cost Accountant from Colorado River, and Hugh A. Falbey, Property and Warehouse Officer from Gila River.

J. W. Clear

Finance and Supply Officer

Twenty members of the last graduating class of Manzanar's High School were named to the newly established chapter of the National Honor Society at that center. This item was published in Student Life, organ of the National Association of Secondary School Principals. A junior chapter of the Society is also being formed at Manzanar.

Of Kohler's 188 residents who are more than 70 years of age, 94 are between 70 and 72. The average age of those past the three-score-and-ten mark is 73. The oldest man, Yoichi Ota, is 91, and Kiyo Sono, the oldest woman, is 83.

Tule Lake reports a sharp decline in public assistance cases due to the rigid enforcement of its employment policy allowing only two members of one family to engage in paid project work, and only one member out of a two-person unit.

## TRAFFIC AT CENTERS

Full-time assignment to traffic duties for Arthur Williams, Assistant Chief of Internal Security at Manzanar, has resulted in a marked improvement in driving at that center. Two youths recently charged with traffic violations were sentenced to two hours each of traffic control duty, and ordered to write a 1,000-word thesis on accident prevention.

Ten Topaz evacuees were cited for involvement in an accident that put most of the participants in the hospital, three of them rather seriously injured. Feeling that the administration should take a firm stand in enforcing regulations regarding personal and government property, the Council, Block Managers and Judicial Commission agreed that the settlement was fair.

A survey at Colorado River revealed the consensus of Internal Security personnel there: that the present staff is inadequate to cope with the desirable program they would like to institute. This would include, they state, fuller juvenile delinquency control, a traffic safety program, measures to prevent misuse of government property, and a revision of records and reports system.

Manzanar has increased traffic safety by cutting, trimming or removing trees and shrubs at intersections. Shrubs were cut to four feet, tree limbs removed below five feet.

## PERSONNEL CHANGES

Three women members of the Tule Lake appointed staff have joined the armed services. Marian Young, elementary school teacher from Gurdon, Ark., joined the WAC. Hazel Loomis, fiscal clerk from Medford, Ore., has begun WAVE training. Louise Parrish, personnel clerk from St. Louis, had gone to Des Moines for WAC training.

Mrs. Lucy Adams, Assistant Project Director in charge of Community Management at Manzanar, has resigned to accept a position with UMRRA.

Dr. Morris Opler, for more than two years Head of Community Analysis at Manzanar, has accepted a position with OWI. His new work will deal principally with Japanese and the Orient.

From the War Labor Board office in San Francisco Maurice Liptan has come to the Colorado River center to be Assistant Project Director in charge of Administrative Management.

Adels Moore has been appointed Assistant Supervisor at Manzanar Children's Village.

John F. Graham is the new Reports Officer at Minidoka. He replaces Angus Acree, who died recently at the Veterans Hospital in Salt Lake City.

John H. Futz has resigned his position as the Relocation Officer for Wisconsin to be Welfare Director for UMRRA.

Henry C. Patterson has resigned as Relocation Officer in Philadelphia. His place has been taken by Herman L. Yager, formerly in the Washington Relocation office.

Robert Ross is the new Assistant Reports Officer at Tule Lake.

Transferring from the Office of the Secretary of War, W. Honor Hill is Relocation Officer in the newly opened office in Dallas, Tex.

James D. Crawford, Relocation Pro-

gram Officer and former Unit II Administrator, has left Colorado River for Belcourt, North Dakota, where he will be superintendent of the Turtle Mountain Indian agency. The new Relocation Officer is Corlies Carter.

Manzanar lost two of its medical staff with the resignations of its Senior Staff Nurse, Edna M. Anderson and Dr. George H. Catermole, Senior Medical Officer.

Mrs. Mima R. Pollitt has transferred from RFC to the Solicitor's office in Washington.

Herbert J. Vatcher is now Evacuee Property Officer replacing Paul J. Fischer at Granada.

The new Reports Officer at Topaz is E. W. Conrad. His predecessor, Russell Bankson, is now a member of the Washington Reports Staff.

Formerly Relocation Planning Officer at Minidoka, Joseph G. Bosson has left to take a job with the Veterans Bureau.

Principal Medical Officer at Poston, Dr. Abraham Pressman has been appointed Head Medical Officer in Washington.

C. W. White is the new Property Control and Warehouse Officer at Manzanar.

Henry K. Beardon is the new Assistant Reports Officer at Poston.

Fred M. Haverland, Property Officer at Poston, has gone to be in charge of the Indian Service Warehouse in Chicago.

## "SOMETHING TO BEHOLD"

Two German prisoners of war were treated recently at the Poston General Hospital, the Colorado River Center reveals.

"The amazement of the patients at being surrounded by Japanese doctors and nurses aides," a Poston report says, "and by Negro nurses, in addition to Caucasians, was something to behold."

# TEACHING THE ISSEI

Although center residents have spoken more Japanese since evacuation than at any time during their stay in America, many have realized the importance, the urgency of learning English. Adult Education personnel consider the knowledge of English one of the biggest factors, not only in relocation, but in the whole process of Americanization.

At Rohwer we have tried to keep our teaching as practical as the students' requests for help. Many have come to us saying, "My son is in the Army, I must learn to write letters in English," or "My husband is coming to take me outside; I'll have to learn enough English to be able to shop," and "I read English. I write English. But when I speak I sound awful. Will someone teach me how to say the words?"

While we are trying to fill the immediate needs of their lives, we also try to give them a feeling of success that will impart the confidence to continue learning. Formal methods have been abandoned, though, and when a student quits after a few lessons, he can still manage "Hello," "I am fine, thank you," and "Give me a bus ticket to Omaha."

Even though there are 15 adult English classes at Rohwer, most of them meeting for two hours a day, language also is taught to groups studying other activities. A church group comes to the language center to teach hymns. The foods teachers give help in learning the names of kitchen equipment and terms used in recipes, and encourage cooking class students to use English at the table. An English teacher visits 10 sewing classes.

Most Rohwer English teachers find it difficult to give classes the initiative. One attempted to have students correct each other's recitations, but got no response. The solution seemed to be that they felt it would be impolite.

The same teacher felt she could not accurately gauge the students' understanding of their instruction. Their facial expressions were not revealing. As a test she told them the story of

## ENGLISH AT ONTARIO

More advanced students in English at the Ontario Refugee Shelter attend weekly lectures on the culture of America, with an hour of discussion afterwards. Sessions are scheduled to continue through the first week in March.

Forums will highlight American family and community life, government and political parties. Explanations of the history and geography of the United States will be followed by lectures on the nation's agriculture, business and industrial organization, banking and finance.

Other subjects for refugees talks will include American art, music, drama and literature; sports, recreation, clubs and organizations; education, contributions to science and minorities in the United States.

"Little Red Riding Hood." Reaction was spontaneous. To make juvenile stories acceptable to her class, she explained that these were the stories their children are learning.

Dramatizing everyday situations and activities is a device many teachers have found effective. One class set up a "grocery store" with familiar items from the mess hall, and mimicked clerks and customers with toy money and ration stamps. One class, too advanced to be more than bored "playing store," became much interested in an explanation of the Arkansas sales tax. The instructor

took advantage of this opportunity for a simple lesson in arithmetic.

Another teacher reported that one of her most natural, spontaneous conversation classes was devoted to discussion of a map of the United States. Students were eager to locate their former California homes, the states they crossed coming to Arkansas, and cities where friends had relocated. A map showing where various American products originated evoked much the same voluntary discussion.

Most of the Japanese-speaking evacuees are found to have a vague background in American history. When this was a class subject, students showed much interest and curiosity. One entire session was spent on the Declaration of Independence and its signers, along with contemporary colonial personalities such as Betsy Ross. All expressed a desire to know more American history.

Many evacuees have been helped, but many more still do not grasp the full importance of knowing the language of the rest of their countrymen. Much can still be accomplished through the cooperation of everyone who is capable of contributing to a wider use of English, and encouragement to those who need special help.

Helen Frasier  
Supervisor of Adult Education  
Mohrwer Relocation Center

#### STUDENT AID SCHOLARSHIPS

Six \$100 scholarships were recently awarded from the Topaz Student Aid Fund which now totals more than \$1800.

A donation of \$5 from Pfc. Frank Shimada in a hospital "somewhere in Italy" to the Scholarship Fund at Heart Mountain carries the center's student aid total over \$680.

#### PRICE OF INCIDENTALS

Co-op Directors at Tule Lake estimate that residents are spending \$100,000 a month above their center income, an average of \$1.34 per resident a week.

## INTERIOR EMPLOYEES REWARDED FOR VICTORY IDEAS

First awards for ideas to improve home-front service were made to Interior Department employees recently with cash and salary promotion prizes totaling \$6,710.

Simultaneous ceremonies in Washington, Pittsburgh, Denver, Salt Lake City and Portland, Ore., were the occasions for making 121 awards. Eight of these were salary promotions of from \$60 to \$206 a year in recognition of contributions to speed governmental operations and hasten victory.

Two Pittsburgh employees won \$1,000 each, the highest single award permitted under the Congressional authorization for a total of \$20,000, to be given in recognition of extraordinary merit. The awards were for an electronic chronoscope, a time measuring instrument, estimated to save between \$5,000 and \$10,000 per instrument as compared to its more complicated predecessor.

Another award went to the inventors of a wind-propelled boat that will make 40 miles an hour in an inch of water. The boat will be used by the Fish and Wildlife Service in wildlife habitats heretofore inaccessible. Another idea earning a prize for its inventor was a substitute for scarce "Quebracho," a discovery which prevented the shutdown of Puerto Rican tanneries.

In all cases originators of ideas and inventions have turned over to the government, partially or entirely, their patent rights.

Secretary Ickes paid glowing tribute to prize winners:

"...Nobody pretends that a Purple Heart, or any other medal, can compensate for the valor displayed by its winner, or that a mere monetary reward can be evaluated in terms of medals or in dollars and cents...But such awards are symbols of your country's justifiable pride in yourselves for having done more than your duty."

# OUR JOB AT HAND — AS VIEWED BY THE WRA DIRECTOR

By DILLON S. MYER  
Director

Our job at hand - stated in figures - would sound a little appalling if it weren't for the job that WRA has already done. Beginning with March, we must plan to provide relocation assistance to an average of 6000 or more evacuees every month. That is nearly three times our record for any one month in the past. But there are many new factors in the situation today which, added together, will make this job less difficult than the one you have already done.

A big part of the groundwork, necessary to this accelerating of the relocation tempo, has been done. I refer particularly to the matter of information. Since revised policies went into effect following the rescission announcement, I have been watching with keen interest the manner in which information on new procedures has been carried to the evacuees. The staff is to be complimented, collectively and individually, on the effectiveness of this job. I also wish to congratulate WRA personnel on the way in which they handled rumors which arose after the opening of the West Coast.

Now that revocation is a reality, now that the day has been set for closing of the centers, there has developed in the minds of many of the evacuees a perhaps natural reaction of bewilderment, frustration and trepidation. The

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# INFORMATION WRA DIGEST

For the use of the WRA Staff

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
Washington, D. C.

March 1945

unusual patience, restraint and understanding which staff members have shown in dealing with center residents is highly commendable. I am sure you will continue to maintain this excellent attitude in your relations with evacuees and others.

High pressure methods and threats have no place in WRA policy. But at the same time it is imperative that no doubts be expressed on our ability to do the job before us. The worst possible disservice that any staff member could do to the evacuees, and to the country at large, would be an expression of uncertainty. There are important - urgent - reasons for the announced time limit on completion of the relocation job.

First, the institutionalized, subsidized manner of life at the centers is a poor environment, especially for the impressionable young people.

Second, it is important that relocation into normal communities be achieved while job opportunities are the most plentiful in this country's history.

Third, full wartime economy has placed private and public welfare agencies, right now, in the best position in which they have been or will be to help evacuees become rehabilitated and reestablished. The return of large numbers of veterans and unemployed from war plants will radically change the employment and assistance pictures.

Fourth, Consideration must be given to the fact that members of Congress have asked repeatedly how long WRA will continue to spend public funds for the maintenance of persons able to return to their normal, rightful places in society.

Fifth--and I have long considered this an important consideration --as

long as the centers remain open and occupied, their residents will be targets for criticism and hostility originated by the "anti" groups.

I don't want anyone to think that we are not faced with a big job. It is a big job. But although it is a part of the world-wide job that has to be done, we might well remember for a moment that our job is infinitesimal in comparison with the job being done in Europe and in the Pacific.

Our past accomplishments prove that we can do our part of the job - in the allotted time - because in spite of wartime conditions there has never been a period in the history of this country when the general attitude of its people has been better toward persons of Japanese ancestry. This is true on the West Coast as well as elsewhere. The support of public officials and law enforcement agencies has been publicly expressed and individually demonstrated.

This is the time for appointed staff, as well as evacuees, to keep reminded that no one can stand still in the middle of time for more than one second.

## COAST RELOCATION IS UNDER COZZENS

Opening of the West Coast has brought a new seaboard relocation network under the supervision of Assistant Director Robert B. Cozzens. Charles Miller, former Denver Relocation Supervisor has been appointed overall Relocation Assistant to Mr. Cozzens in the San Francisco office. Harold I. McGrath has transferred from Farm Security Administration to be Mr. Miller's assistant.

New Relocation Supervisors on the Coast are Russell Robinson in San Francisco, Paul Robertson in Los Angeles, and Harold S. Fistere in Seattle. Mr. Robinson had been Principal Evacuee Property Officer in San Francisco. Mr. Robertson transferred from Tule Lake, where he had been Assistant Project Director in charge of Operations. Mr.

Fistere had been Supervisor for the Middle Atlantic Area in New York.

The District office in San Francisco is headed by Fred Ross, formerly District Relocation Officer in Cleveland. Also assigned to this office are John Robertson from Idaho Falls, Idaho, and LaFayette F. Sloan, formerly Commercial Property Officer in Los Angeles. Former District Relocation Officer in Chicago, Raymond Booth is in charge of the District office in Los Angeles. Sheldon Hagen, former Commercial Property Officer in Seattle, is District Relocation Officer in that city.

Theodore R. E. Lewis has transferred from Salt Lake City to become a Relocation Officer in Watsonville, Calif. Paul E. Fischer, formerly Property Officer at Granada, is Relocation Officer for Fresno, Calif. Wayne Phelps, new Relocation Officer in Sacramento, was Assistant Agricultural Property Supervisor in the San Francisco office.

Albert G. Motsch is the new Relocation Officer in Sacramento. He was formerly with the Appeals Board in that city.

Assigned to the Los Angeles office as Relocation Officers are George E. Booth, formerly in the Chicago office, and Earl W. Barton, who had been Evacuee Property Supervisor.

In charge of the Portland, Ore., Relocation office is Clyde Linville, who had been Property Officer in that office.

Murray Stebbins, former Relocation Office in Harve, Mont., is Relocation Officer in Yakima, Wash.

Formerly Assistant Manager of the California Grape Growers and Shippers Association, Ralph I. French has been appointed Relocation Officer for El Centro, Calif.

Earl S. O'Day was promoted from Information Specialist to become Relocation Reports Officer in Los Angeles. Milla Z. Logan, transfer from Marin County Housing Authority in San Rafael, Calif., is Relocation Reports Officer in San Francisco. Florence West formerly with the War Labor Board was named Relocation Reports Officer in Seattle.

Elementary students at Minidoka sold 10,000 Tuberculosis Foundation seals.

# AMONG THE ANSWERS

"My problem, Mr. Anthony [redacted]

Chance is against an evacuee telling an appointed staff member his predicament in exactly this manner. But the opportunity to help a puzzled center resident may come the way of anyone in WRA. Perhaps the evacuee does not recognize his problem in its real light. He may fail to evaluate its gravity. He may not give it full expression because a possible solution is not immediately evident.

Community analysts consider the instilling of self-confidence and the dissemination of full information as the most important steps leading toward a well-adjusted relocation. The fact that there is a solution and that information is available can start an evacuee toward constructive thinking. One of the major aids to relocation problems lies in the Social Security Resettlement Assistance program.

Neither WRA nor the Social Security Board regard this assistance as relief in the accepted sense. Rather, its funds happen to provide a logical extension and supplement to the War Relocation program, outside the centers. Where WRA was the interim agency, the SSB program can take its place in a normal community until the family has made its own life again. A special program for a particular group, its assistance is the right of that group, restricted by government action and helped in rehabilitation by the same government.

The primary basis for SSB assistance is need. Need is anything creating an obstacle to resettlement of the family or individual. Need can be small or extensive, acute or chronic. Help can be indefinite if necessary. A time limit, formerly attached to provisions of the program, was revoked some time ago.

Aliens and citizens alike are eligible for many kinds of aid. Among other problems the program has met are sudden or continuing illness; loss through fire or theft; maternity and child welfare cases; circumstances brought about through travel or the moving or storage of furniture; needed clothing; advance rent; essential household furnishings in a new community. In short, not just dire or emergency needs, but most of the problems arising from setting up housekeeping for a new start may be met

with SSB assistance.

Early in the war President Roosevelt, in a letter to Paul V. McNutt, then Chairman of the Federal Security Administration, charged that agency with responsibility for carrying out this program. Applicable to all those restricted through removal, detention or internment, the program preceded the setting up of the War Relocation Authority. Created early in 1942, it actually aided in emergencies created by evacuation.

A close-meshed gearing of SSB's Division of Public Assistance to the WRA program has done more than adapt the Resettlement program to WRA needs. By anticipating many of these needs, the Board has been a step ahead of WRA development.

Although funds are federal, administration of them is through local public assistance agencies. Local standards of need may vary. But both state and local agencies have agreed to maintain assistance standards for relocatees not lower than those available to local people. In some cases, additional services are available to evacuee resettlers.

Some relocatees have misunderstood eligibility for public welfare aids. Illness, for example, does not in itself entitle an evacuee resettler to assistance. Illness coupled with the inability to pay for treatment or care does make the applicant eligible. In an actual case, four men lost clothing and personal property in a rooming house fire. One had ample resources and received no assistance. The other three, without adequate private means, were provided with replacements for their losses.

The Social Security Board has told

local administrators of Resettlement funds all about the special circumstances and needs of evacuees going to new localities. For instance, local agencies have been informed of particular factors and customs which sometimes raise costs of evacuee funerals above the usual local level. Cash assistance has been given in defraying part of all of the cost of burials meeting these special conditions.

The program already has helped in a wide variety of problems. Families newly arrived in a town have received a month's rent to carry them through their first pay day. Family reunions have been effected through grants for house furnishings, making it possible for members in a center to join those already relocated. Some resettlers have received financial assistance to supplement wages which were temporarily inadequate.

In addition to expenditure of funds, public welfare agencies have given other services. Well acquainted with local conditions, they are particularly well qualified to advise families how to manage in a given community on a limited income. These agencies are obviously excellent sources of information regarding every type of community resource.

Private welfare organizations in any community are highly specialized and therefore well equipped to provide for persons requiring individual case treatment. Generally these staffs are in a position to spend much more time on each individual, and frequently better able to provide counselling and other services in their particular field, than are public agencies. Private groups may give assistance from their own funds, but cannot be reimbursed by the Social Security Board.

The final phase of the WRA program means the relocation of more than 60,000 evacuees before January 1946. The resettlement or rehabilitation program is important to bridging the gap between center life and community adjustment. Use of the program to its fullest extent will facilitate completing the relocation job. Effectiveness of the program will hinge upon its proper

interpretation to evacuees.

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TERMINAL DEPARTURES  
SINCE JANUARY 1, 1945

<u>Center</u>	<u>Number</u>
Gila River	351
Colorado River	316
Heart Mountain	297
Granada	277
Rohwer	266
Minidoka	248
Central Utah	178
Manzanar	122
Tule Lake	12
Total	2,067

NOTE: The above tabulation includes 62 men inducted into the armed services, 439 relocations to California, 47 each to Oregon and Washington, 32 to Arizona, and the remainder to 33 states, Hawaii and the District of Columbia. The Tule Lake figure does not include those sent to Alien Enemy Internment camps.

## SILK SCREEN SHOW

Nearly 50 prints from Granada's Silk Screen Shop are on tour of Colorado in an exhibit being shown in public schools, colleges and universities. Previews of the posters have met with praise from the schools' Art Department representatives.

The exhibit is scheduled to end its showing in Denver public schools the latter part of February. Tentative itinerary from March through July lists Colorado State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, Colorado State Teacher's College, University of Denver and Colorado University.

A program note states that except for trainees' prints all shop output goes to Washington as Navy training aids. Total Navy production to date has topped 250,000.

Evacuee bond purchases in the Sixth War Loan Drive at Heart Mountain totaled \$1,084 in bonds and stamps.

# RELOCATION ARITHMETIC

Sixty thousand center residents. Roughly six thousand persons to be reestablished every month, beginning in March. That is the goal set by the WRA Director.

Three WRA staff members, one of them a strickly amateur statistician, got to thinking about the task this week.

"It isn't just one big job," declared Mrs. Marie D. Lane, Head of the Welfare Section. "It's a collection of many smaller ones, spread out over eight centers."

Siding along in this view was H. Rex Lee, Chief of the Relocation Division, with whose personnel Welfare staff members are cooperating closely to complete the relocation job. Mr. Lee had this to add:

"Center population statistics look imposing, but we have a large appointed staff to help reach the goal. No one center, no one division, and certainly no one staff member, is responsible for the total relocation."

The amateur statistician went bravely beyond what could be expected of a professional figure wrangler. Since evacuee families average 3.3 persons, overall relocation placements, she began, actually total not 60,000 individuals but 18,181 families. Residents average 7,500 per center, but each center averages only 2,272 family groups. The monthly requirement based on this calculation calls for a relocation average of 1,818, or 227 for each center. In terms of a weekly family relocation movement, centers will need to average less than 57, with resettlements from all centers totalling under 455 a week.

She sharpened her pencil and divided the responsibility among the 2,450 WRA employees, each staff member thereby becoming accountable for the reestablishment of seven and one-half evacuees, considerably less than one a month for the remainder of 1945.

"We are calling on a great number of established agencies to aid WRA in rehabilitating evacuees," Mrs. Lane stated. "In the same way that problems will be spread thin among the staff, those receiving help will be distributed over a wide area and a large number of agencies. State public welfare departments, with long experience, regard such calls as routine. To county agencies, geared to a hundred cases for each worker a month, a few more mean little added burden."

Blind, deaf and other handicapped persons requiring institutional care number very few at each center, Mrs. Lane said. An exchange of letters with state departments of public welfare is all the negotiation necessary for most of these cases and for the comparatively few bed patients who will require continued hospitalization. The Welfare Section Head emphasized this point in minimizing some concern expressed over individual placement of such persons.

"Most appointed staff members are, I believe, unaware that many of the unattached minor children are already under the protection of normal state machinery in the localities from which the young people were evacuated," Mrs. Lane continued. "And every youngster in the Children's Village at Manzanar is to be individually placed in foster or free homes before the opening of the fall school term. Several adoption cases are pending."

Many elderly men have received old-age benefits, including Railroad Retirement pensions throughout their residence in centers. Welfare personnel continue to discover more aged persons who are eligible for Social Security and other benefits. Arrangements are underway for blind persons to receive benefits to which many are entitled under the Social Security Act.

The Social Security program of Resettlement Assistance will care for many families who need only the temporary aid of grants for advance rent, furnishings and other expenses until they receive their first pay check.

Negotiations are in progress for local care of families with minor children but without a wage earner. Every family with a relative in the armed services has been checked during the winter for eligibility to receive Army dependency allotments.

## PERSONNEL NOTES

The first appointed staff member to return to the Manzanar staff from military leave is Arlin Hooper, recently medically discharged from the Waves. She rejoined as an Elementary School teacher.

Lyle G. Wentner has been appointed Assistant Project Director at Manzanar. Mr. Wentner, who had been Superintendent of Recreation at San Rafael, Cal., previously directed Adult Education at Kentfield, Cal., and was physical education instructor at the University of California in Berkeley.

Dr. Jay Dee Dunshee is the new Senior Medical Officer at Poston. His wife has been made Assistant Chief Nurse at the project hospital.

Transferring from Washington, Charles C. McCallister has been put in charge of the newly opened district office in Hartford, Conn.

W. E. Hoffman, Head of the Fire Protection Section since May 1942, is transferring to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to be in charge of fire protection and safety for War Surplus Commodities Administration. Glenn B. Rumley, Fire Protection Officer at Granada, has been detailed to Washington to replace Mr. Hoffman.

Relocation Reports Officers in newly opened areas are Charles Coyne in Boston, who was public relations counsel for USO in that city, and Leibert Miner in New Orleans, formerly Executive Secretary of the Arkansas Press Association and editor of several journals and newspapers.

Dr. Thomas B. Cracroft, Principal Medical Officer at Rohwer, has transferred to Heart Mountain. He replaces Dr. Charles E. Irwin, who resigned as Principal Medical Officer there.

Robert E. Gibson, Liaison Officer, has resigned from the office of the Field Assistant Director in San Francisco.

Formerly Assistant Area Supervisor, Everett Lane is now Acting Supervisor for the Denver area.

New head of the Welfare Department at the Fort Ontario Refugee Shelter is Mrs. Jeanette Margulies, replacing Mrs. Le-

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more Levin who resigned. Arthur J. Muir, formerly Finance Officer at Tule Lake, has transferred to Washington as Budget Officer.

John E. Connolly has been made Finance Officer at Poston, following the resignation of J. W. Sheppard. Mr. Connolly came to WRA from the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs where he was responsible for fiscal work.

From Supply Officer at Jerome, James D. Williams has been reassigned as Field Examiner in the Washington office.

Martin Sherry, Relocation Officer in the Washington office, has transferred to the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. He is currently attending training classes for overseas service.

Richard D. Johnson, Adult and Vocational Education Adviser in Washington, has transferred to the Department of the Interior where he will be a Training Officer.

Walter N. Parmeter has been reappointed Assistant Relocation Supervisor in the North Central Area after an absence from WRA since last June.

Adrian J. deHaan has transferred from Minidoka to Central Utah as Senior Medical Officer.

Martin P. Gunderson, formerly Acting, is now Assistant Project Director at Tule Lake.

Hupp Robb Douglass, who had been Fiscal Accountant in Washington, is a Field Examiner.

Transferring from the Department of Labor, Lloyd Buchanan is Project Attorney at Topaz.

Hans J. Jepson resigned as an attorney in the San Francisco office.

Ralph Butterfield, formerly a Field Examiner in the Washington office, has been made Supply Officer at Tule Lake.

Kenichi Nishimoto has returned to the Washington WRA office after being discharged for disability from the Army as a sergeant and winner of a Purple Heart. Mr. Nishimoto, the first Japanese American to be employed in the Washington office, is a new Relocation Officer.

A promotion for Dr. Walter Maier has made him Senior Medical Officer at Manzanar.

Harry Weiss, who had been an Information Specialist in Cleveland, is Relocation Reports Officer for that area.

District Relocation Officer Ray Haight has been detailed from the Spokane office to act as Relocation Supervisor in Salt Lake City.

Ralph O. Brown is Tule Lake's new Reports Officer. His wife, Pauline Bates Brown, holds a similar position at Poston. Mr. Brown, in newspaper work for the past 20 years, had been Assistant News Editor of the Arizona Republic, Bureau Chief and Night Manager of the Associated Press, and editor of the Calxico Chronicle.

From Kansas City, where he was in charge of relocation in the area, Leo T. Simmons has been detailed to New York as Acting Relocation Supervisor of the Middle Atlantic Area.

Allan N. Quast, Property Officer at Heart Mountain, has resigned.

Margaret Woolford, formerly Assistant Chief Nurse, replaced Anna S. Van Kirk as Chief Nurse at Heart Mountain following Miss Van Kirk's resignation.

A promotion made Walter N. Moers Personnel Officer at Granada. He had been Assistant Personnel Officer.

Two Special Relocation Officers have joined the Washington staff. Russell Derickson was formerly Director of Health Education for the Erie County Health and Tuberculosis Association. Edna L. K. Monsees transferred from the Office of Civilian Defense.

Harold M. Mann, formerly Reports Officer in Chicago, has been appointed Assistant Relocation Supervisor in the North Central Area, under Acting Supervisor Mrs. Prudence Ross.

Formerly Medical Officer at Tule Lake, Dr. Martin Loebman has been appointed Senior Medical Officer at Gila River.

Frederick M. Haverland has separated as Supply Officer at Poston.

Ransom C. Boczkiewicz has been named Finance Officer at Manzanar, where he had been Fiscal Accountant.

Walter Mewing, formerly Relocation Officer in Salt Lake City, has transferred to Washington as a Special Relocation Officer.

## RESETTLEMENT SIMPLE FOR MANY

The Community Analysis Section has produced a study incorporating the known factors which cause evacuees to resettle Edward Spicer, Section Head, announced to the Information Digest. Mimeographed copies of the report, prepared by Margaret Lantis under Mr. Spicer's supervision, will be made available shortly to interested administrative personnel.

Covering an intensive four-and-a-half-month study of a center's residents, many of whom formerly farmed on the West Coast, the report opens with a reminder that no one factor or event brings about relocation. To aid resettlement Miss Lantis recommends instilling confidence, and as one means encourages dissemination of full and detailed information, and applauds family counselling.

Of Issei who have been in agriculture, the study states that the fuller an evacuee's social experience in this country has been, the more readily he will consider relocation, particularly if he is under 60 and in good health. He will have added impetus if he is a Christian and therefore not in a position to be isolated from accustomed Buddhist rites. Chances increase if he has many friends already outside the center.

Background farm experience is important. A former large-scale farm operator is more likely to go out than one who farmed a smaller acreage. Successful earlier experience at farming makes him a better prospect, and he is still better prepared if he knows wholesaling as well as agriculture. Some business background and unencumbered capital lead to greater confidence for a new start, particularly if he has adequate resources to care for his dependents.

A former agricultural worker will be more willing to resettle if associations with pre-evacuation Caucasian friends were pleasant and intimate, and if he has had no disillusioning experiences with them since.

Unwillingness to believe rumors, or other indications of independent judg-

ment, will make the center resident more able to discern the benefits of a normal life. This is also true of persons with above average independence and ability, particularly to plan and organize.

The probability of resettlement is greater if no family member is physically handicapped. Some, however, are willing to undergo loneliness or other difficulties if impelled by a strong enough desire to seek better health for a relative.

Relocation offers an escape for some center residents. There is strong motivation for those who want to start over after a social or occupational failure in the Japanese community. Others find in relocation a means of escaping center gossip or other unpleasantness. Young people see it as evasion of parental domination, or the way to avoid expatriating or going to Tule Lake at the insistence of parents.

Not present among some members of the laboring group is the necessity for face saving. They can accept the same low paid employment of pre-evacuation days and not lose caste among associates at the center.

A strong leader, possessing financial resources or initiative can draw out the more timid, when the entire group is interested in a cooperative or colonization plan.

## WRA PRIZE WINNER

Edgar Bernhard, Assistant Solicitor in the San Francisco WRA office, received an Honorable Mention Award of \$10 for his victory idea, the Department of the Interior announced. Mr. Bernhard was one of 17 Interior employees awarded cash prizes and salary increases for ideas contributing to the Department's home-front service.

Mr. Bernhard suggested sending only the original of letters and memoranda. WRA adopted his idea as it concerns inter-office correspondence, at an estimated \$200 saving in time and paper.

The attorney, who has been with the agency since October 1942, is the first WRA employee to receive recognition under the Interior Idea Awards system.

## LEAFLETS, RECORDS AVAILABLE IN D.C.

Newest available information materials acquired in Washington include two pamphlets and recordings of two network broadcasts.

Limited quantities of the two-color folder-poster, "Democracy Demands Fair Play for America's Japanese," are still on hand. Designed for personalized distribution, the folder was purchased by WRA from the American Baptist Home Mission Society. It is valuable as a graphic approach to prospective employers, persons with rooms or houses to rent, and representatives of church, business, labor and service organizations.

The Education Section has completed distribution of its pamphlet "Education Program in War Relocation Centers," aimed at West Coast school superintendents, parent-teacher associations, college authorities, U. S. Office of Education, WRA projects and field offices, and individuals in and out of the agency. A limited supply may be obtained through the originating section.

Recordings of radio shows may be secured for short-term loans at centers and relocation offices. One glass disc of the "Army Hour" broadcast of an all-Nisei soldier choir is available. Two sets of aluminum recordings of the series "They Call Me Joe" feature the story of a Nisei soldier overseas. Recordings are suitable for use on playback machines at centers, or for re-broadcast locally. They can be borrowed by writing to the Current Information Section of the Reports Division.

## NEW RULE FOR P-1'S

Announcement of a sharp reversal of Civil Service policy will be of interest to members of WRA appointed staff who will be taking new positions following dissolution of the Authority. College education is no longer absolutely necessary to obtain P-1 professional jobs with government, the Civil Service Commission revealed recently.

"More than a simple decision"

# A NEW OFFICE OPENS

By HOWARD E. MATHER  
Relocation Officer, Pittsburgh

Opening a new district office is more than a simple decision by WRA to extend relocation to a new field. Back of the opening of the Pittsburgh office were more than two years of effort on the part of inter-cultural, social and religious groups. Out of this came the first step, organization of a Citizens Resettlement Committee.

This committee is necessary for proper community approaches. That leading citizens are working on their behalf assures relocatees reasonably agreeable community reception. Leadership of prominent local people means that the community itself has taken responsibility for relocation, instead of its being just another Federal program imposed upon the community. The committee is an invaluable asset in combatting possible adverse criticism or organized opposition.

Sponsoring the opening of the Pittsburgh WRA office were the American Service Institute, the Race Relations Committee of the Council of Churches, and the Conference of Christians and Jews. Executive officers of these groups met with the Area Supervisor and other WRA representatives to divide lists of names, proposed for enlistment into the Committee, among the group for personal contacts. Meanwhile the new office followed through on additional names. Whipping together this initial group meant an endless volume of telephone calls, correspondence and personal contacts.

Agenda of the first meeting is important. If possible the headlined speaker should be a Japanese American able to make a goog speech. The Area Supervisor or a Washington staff member should present the agency's program. After the first meeting of the Pittsburgh Committee, every one of the thirty-seven present committed himself to membership, although many had qualified their interest before.

The general organization meeting, five weeks later, was a business gathering, highlighted by the election of a permanent chairman. It then became incumbent upon the new Committee head to take over much of the detail work heretofore handled by the WRA office, with continued cooperation of Authority

staff.

Leaders best fitted for specific work were named to five sub-committees; Advisory, to assist and counsel resettlers in community orientation and any need that arises; Public Relations, to direct community understanding through press, radio and speakers' bureau; Housing, to survey local housing, assist relocatees in securing dwellings, and set up a family hostel for temporary accommodations; Labor Relations, to promote the best possible understanding on the part of labor groups and smooth out cases of specific friction; Business and Employment, to assist the office in securing job openings, and to counsel and assist relocatees interested in setting up their own businesses.

Such competent and valued local leaders were proposed for vice-chairman that six were named, including a business leader, head of the city's largest produce company; the wife of the mayor, also active in civic affairs in her own right; and the chairman of the sub-committee on Race Relations of the Council of Churches, one of the first promoters of the resettlement program for the district.

Officers of the Citizens Committee and chairmen of sub-committees constitute an Executive Committee to perfect organization and supervise work of the Resettlement group. Officers on the committee are outstanding in the community -- Public Relations Director of the Chamber of Commerce, of a prominent local realtor, the head of a personnel

counselling organization representing 200 cooperating local industries, and a judge of the county courts.

Initial public relations are important to a new office. Representatives of all local newspapers attended the first meeting of the Citizens' Committee. Unqualified support by civic and religious leaders did much to pave the way for favorable press reaction.

Announcement of the appointment of the relocation officer, carried in all but one paper, brought immediate results. Telephone calls and letters poured in, with some of the most attractive job offers yet received-- farm offers, institutional service, athletic and boys club directors, nurserymen, greenhouse men, and others.

A valuable approach to public relations has been through meetings of social service and religious groups. Uniformly good results have come from talks before such groups. The relocation officer explained the WRA program to leaders of 35 community agencies at the Community Executives Round Table. He spoke before ministerial meetings of several denominations. The Relocation Officer and the Nisei counsellor of the Cleveland Council of Churches were featured one Monday on the city's largest radio round-table forum, a weekly half-hour show.

Of equal importance in opening a new district is the approach to center residents. Because there was already considerable general knowledge about "the industrial heart of America," facts were presented briefly yet in sufficient detail to answer evacuees' questions in "Facts About Pittsburgh," distributed to centers the first week the office was open.

Job offers received after the opening announcement were supplemented from every source. Classified advertisements were studied and employers seeking numbers of workers contacted for receptivity toward evacuees. Selections were made from job lists of the U. S. Employment Service office and the local Civil Service for submission to centers.

This office is currently following through the suggestion from the Resettlement Committee of the Federal Council of Churches and asking indivi-

dual churches each to accept the responsibility for the resettlement of at least one Issei family. Because this will occupy four or five weeks additional time, it is still too early to note results from this line of approach.

We have discovered some dangers in our "two-man" office set-up. First is the temptation to give too close attention to routine office detail.

Second, if the relocation officer allows himself to become ensnared in a maze of local appointments, he will be unable to get into the field. Many of these meetings will involve important public relations, but such engagements must be "bunched" and not scattered throughout the week.

There must be a definite plan for field work. Within a 75-mile radius of Pittsburgh are a number of smaller industrial communities, where there are groups of farmers interested in Japanese American families, and large industries needing both men and women workers. It takes at least three days to reach these communities, make contacts with personnel offices, ascertain whether evacuees will be hired, find out about wage scales, housing, and all other facts which center residents must know.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Mather opened the Western Pennsylvania office early this year. Although continuously in charge of a pastorate, he also was employed in the Labor Division of the Pittsburgh War Fund. Before that he was with the Personnel Division of the Carnegie Steel Corporation.

## FIRST UNIT CLOSES

The first unit of WRA officially to close is Clearance Review. All the section's records and most of its former employees have been transferred to the Statistics Section.

Statistics will hereafter make the services of its files available to other sections as Clearance Review did.

Robert K. Thurber, Section Head, has transferred to Smaller War Plants Corporation, where he will head up personnel placement and training.

# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. Since the Supreme Court decision in the Endo case, by what authority are certain evacuees in centers now being detained?

A. The Endo decision passed only upon the question of detaining citizens concededly loyal. Persons in centers who are subject to detention fall into one of two classes -- persons designated by the War Department for detention after loyalty investigation, and certain aliens designated by the Justice Department for further investigation. Authority for this detention stems respectively from Executive Order 9066 and the Justice Department alien enemy control powers.

E. E. Ferguson  
Solicitor

Q. What other provisions are made in Public Law 525 which authorizes lump sum payment for unused accrued annual leave when a Civil Service Employee resigns from government service?

A. If a resigning employee, paid a lump sum for unused accrued annual leave, joins another Federal agency before the expiration of the leave for which he was paid, he must repay the government for that part of the leave for which he was paid but did not use. The leave, however, reverts to his credit. The lump sum terminal leave payment is subject to Federal withholding tax. Formerly not payable to beneficiaries, payment for unused annual leave may, under the new law, be collected by heirs or the estate of a deceased Federal employee.

Margaret DeRieux  
Procedures Officer

Q. How did farms operated by persons of Japanese ancestry in the three West Coast states

compare in 1920 and 1940?

A. These farms increased in number by 43 between 1920 and 1940; declined from 2.6 to 2.2 percent of the total number of farms; dropped from seven-tenths of one percent to four-tenths of one percent of total farm acreage; declined in size from 65 to 42.2 acres; fell in total value of land and buildings from 148 million to 72 million dollars.

From a speech by Dr.  
Paul S. Taylor, Pro-  
fessor of Economics,  
University of Cali-  
fornia

Q. Are there any special benefits available for maternity care of servicemen's wives?

A. The Emergency Maternity and Infant Care program, under the direction of the Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor, provides prenatal, hospital, nursing, medical and post-natal care for wives of servicemen in the four lowest pay grades, and health care of the infant, including immunization, up to the age of one year. Such service is provided as a matter of right without reference to the economic status of the serviceman's family. The program operates through State Departments of Health.

Marie D. Lane  
Head, Welfare Section

## MANZANAR WELFARE COUNSELLOR DIES

Mathilde Alch, Assistant Welfare Counsellor at Manzanar for the past year, died of coronary thrombosis January 22. Born at Kovna, Russia, Mrs. Alch gave up a successful law career in this country to pursue her interest in social service. Before joining the WRA staff she supervised relief work among refugees from Nazi controlled countries for the Jewish Welfare Federation.

# LIQUIDATION UNDER WAY

Reduction of center land, supplies and equipment is drastic and immediate. Malcolm E. Pitts, Assistant Director, said in contrasting this phase of project liquidation with the gradual pace planned for total relocation of evacuees.

"In view of dwindling center populations, the budget request for fiscal year 1946 has been greatly reduced, Mr. Pitts added. "WRA has asked for only about half the amount previously appropriated for center operation."

Transfer of surpluses will be carried on between centers to hold procurement to the minimum, he said. Where practicable substitute items on hand will be made to serve the purpose, or centers will do without if this does not work an actual hardship. Construction is at a virtual standstill. Maintenance continues only to the extent necessary to keep buildings and facilities in working order until disposal agencies take them over. Much of the cultivated land already has been declared to the Surplus Property Board or declared for return to owning agencies under lease arrangements.

Teams of Finance and Supply staff members are at present cooperating with center personnel in declaring various properties surplus and whipping records into shape. All supplies and equipment above minimum are to be declared surplus to Treasury Procurement by June 30, after branches of the Department of the Interior have been circularized, John W. Clear, Head of the Finance and Supply Section, added.

"We want no swollen inventories at the time centers close," Mr. Clear explained. "That is why the teams from Washington will continue their field trips as long as their help is needed to expedite disposal. We hope to insure that there will be no mechanical delay or tie-up in closing the eight centers."

Mr. Clear said further that the Washington office is making the necessary contacts with Reconstruction Finance Corporation, Surplus Properties Board, Treasury Procurement and War Food Administration, to perfect mechanics for disposal of WRA equipment and material in the least possible time. Continual contacts with the field offices of disposal agencies will be maintained to effect the physical removal of surpluses.

Because of wartime shortages and the

Granada, except for the center proper, has been declared to the Surplus Property Board.

Minidoka and Heart Mountain, leased from the Bureau of Reclamation, have been turned back to the Bureau except for areas in which buildings and needed facilities are located.

Rohwer, whose lease with the private owners of its cultivated acreage runs through next December, has sub-leased this farm land.

Central Utah agricultural and grazing lands are being leased except for those lands needed for building sites and for beef cattle, hog and poultry enterprises.

urgent need for agricultural items, farm machinery, equipment and such supplies as seed and fertilizer (above that needed to put land in standby condition) are being declared surplus at once.

Land, not including that leased from private owners, has already been declared surplus. Only areas encompassing actual centers, facilities, grazing land, hog and poultry farms are being retained through the calendar year, Ervin J. Utz, Chief of the Operations Division, said. Real property first declared surplus to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation has been turned over to Surplus Property Board procedures for which have now been completed.

Breeding of livestock and poultry has been discontinued, Ernest H. Reed, Agricultural Section head, stated. No additional poultry or feeder cattle will be procured. Mr. Pitts added that other foods on hand will be used before more staples are purchased.

# TRENDS . . .

**RELOCATION** As movement to the West Coast gathers momentum, other developments, like pieces of a mosaic, fall into place in a larger pattern which will be some time in the making. Two months after the lifting of the ban relocation Eastward was more than double the return to the West Coast. Greatly increased interest in the New Orleans area is further evidence of an acceptance by evacuees of the benefits of a new start in a new locality. Relaxing of Army rulings for Ordnance work applications demonstrated the growing confidence of the military in evacuees.

565 evacuees returning to the Pacific Coast since January 1 contrasts with 1,350 who relocated elsewhere. A year ago the relocation total was 19,170, as against a present total of 37,450.

Some Central Utah residents express a belief, that may be shared by evacuees at other centers, that it will be easier to return to the Coast if they relocate Eastward first rather than leave directly from the center.

Scouting parties to the New Orleans area from several centers have returned enthusiastic over the possibilities for vegetable farming, fruit growing, and opportunities for jobs and small businesses. Spokesman for one scouting party said New Orleans was cosmopolitan, its people courteous and friendly, their attitude excellent, adding that his party experienced no racial discrimination. Two evacuees currently are negotiating for a 7,200-acre tract in the area.

The agreement between the War Department and WRA, permitting evacuees, who are cleared to travel anywhere, to apply for Ordnance work on the same footing as other citizens, is a result of the unusual success of persons of Japanese ancestry already working in plants at Tooele, Utah and Sioux, Neb. To date more than 100 are employed at Tooele, approximately 50 at Sioux. These numbers increase slowly but without let-up.

A small trickle of relocation has begun directly from Tule Lake, with no known adverse reaction or comment.

**EDUCATION FOR OUTSIDE** Elementary school, high school and vocational training classes are being streamlined to meet special needs intensified by the year-end liquidation goal.

Although attendance in vocational courses at all centers averaged 5,890 a month during the latter half of 1944, this program is being stepped up further.

Stress on English continues. Vocational training programs at Topaz are underlining English nomenclature for the trades. Nursery schools, to operate through August, are emphasizing language to prepare youngsters for transfers to outside schools.

Since revocation the Heart Mountain Sentinel Supplement has printed simple, graphic lessons in English, in the Japanese section. Sponsors of the lessons, the Adult Education and Orientation Committee, also offer guidance on acceptable dress and habits, through the Japanese section of the Supplement.

Each of 18,000 evacuee school children is insured against a break in his school credit record through an accelerated, individualized transition program. The record of each child will be carefully checked, with health and other data brought up to date. In case of need pupils may be transferred to other classes, or regular or short courses will be added.

Pupils at Manzanar were given mental maturity, mathematics and language achievement tests to determine in what areas there is special need for intensified instruction.

**ARMED SERVICES** A whispered truth of long standing, that Nisei GI's are fighting on many Pacific war fronts, now is being preached in patchwork pieces. Revealed in the main through outside sources, stories have

come to light one at a time in the press and on the air. Associated press, in reporting the death on Leyte of Pvt. Frank T. Hachiya, followed the growing tendency of newspapers to connect Nisei soldiers with their Pacific assignments. In this case, the wire service also identified Pvt. Hachiya as one of the men whose names were removed from the Hood River Legion Post's Honor Roll.

Casualties among evacuee soldiers now total 504. Of these 113 were killed, 375 wounded, and 16 reported missing in action.

Inductions during February brought the total number entering the Army from centers close to 2,300, signifying one year's aggregate.

**WEST COAST ATTITUDES** Reports of West Coast "incidents", ballooning upon reaching centers, have obscured the fact that much Pacific seaboard sentiment is agreeable. This is too lacking in sensationalism to rate newspaper space or much comment in letters to friends still on the projects.

A Relocation official drew attention to the 50 evacuees settled in Palo Alto and five living in Salinas who say that public attitude there is good. An evacuee relocated from Granada investigated Sonoma, California, and stated that sentiment is better than before evacuation. Evacuee visitors to San Francisco and Los Angeles send back favorable word of their reception in those cities.

The A. F. of L. fisherman's union at Monterey, California is supporting the return of the Japanese. Visitors to Costa Mesa found old friends still friendly.

Poston's Community Analyst tells of the increasing number of cars with California license plates coming to the center since December 17. Many of the cars carry Caucasian friends, arriving to take evacuees back with them. Letters have come in quantity too, most of them to regain the services of employees, others to re-establish friendships.

Widespread condemnation of discrimination has been a powerful force, and a growing one. Churches and other or-

ganized groups, prominent, locally active individuals, are constantly recruit new men their solid opposition to it and the bigotry of ignorance.

Before revocation, a considerable number of evacuees had already returned to the Coast under individual WDC permits. So far as it is known, not a single "incident" occurred.

A representative of another agency, visiting Central Utah from his West Coast office, said he believed many who outwardly are lined up with "anti" groups inwardly desire the return of evacuees, for personal or economic reasons.

## BASIC VISITING POLICY UNCHANGED

Although interpretation of the new policy for visitors at centers has been slightly modified, essential features of the policy and the underlying reasons for them remain valid, WRA Director Dillon S. Myer stated.

In answer to questions regarding these restrictions, Mr. Myer underlined the present emphasis on an outward movement. He added that permission to visit remains open to persons on legitimate relocation planning business, servicemen on furlough, students graduating or vacationing, relocatees whose relatives are critically ill in centers and persons with a family death occurring at a center.

The Director pointed out that reunions among families, friends and former neighbors can take place as satisfactorily outside as within a center. He declared that it is imperative that appointed staff members, taxed with the job of total relocation, direct all their energies toward this return to private life for center residents. He also drew attention to the extra burden which additional population would place on evacuee workers during the time when essential services must be maintained while able bodied evacuees are leaving centers in large numbers.

It is necessary to the war effort and to the liquidation program, Mr. Myer added, that transportation lines be kept unclogged.

# CANADA PRESENTS CONTRAST

Canadian policy regarding Japanese in the Dominion probably will be maintained whether or not it conflicts with the policy of the United States, a despatch from the United States Embassy in Ottawa declares in reporting to the Secretary of State the results of a recent poll conducted by the Canadian Institute of Public Opinion.

As set forth by the Prime Minister in a statement to the House of Commons last August, Canadian policy, briefly, is to keep all Japanese from the coastal area until after the war, when arrangements are to be made to deport all Japanese whose record of loyalty is not satisfactory, and to distribute the remainder across Canada so as to prevent a recurrence of the concentration existing in the Vancouver and Frazer Valley areas before the war.

Discussion with reference to the movement of Japanese within the Dominion was occasioned by the revocation of the United States War Department exclusion orders, the despatch said.

"From reports received it is apparently felt in British Columbia that any move in Canada to shift the Japanese back to the coast during wartime would cause widespread hostility there," the Embassy report stated.

There is strong agitation for the perpetual exclusion of Japanese from the coastal region, advocated, the despatch continues, by the representative of British Columbia (extension of the American Pacific Northwest) in the Federal Cabinet and by the Mayor of Vancouver. The Mayor stated recently that in the interests of national safety, as well as of the standard of living of workers in British Columbia and of the Japanese themselves, they should be excluded for all time. Apart from political opposition, organizations such as the Canadian Legion have expressed opposition, as have fishermen and other labor groups.

Opinion of the Canadian Japanese themselves is indicated in a recent issue of the New Canadian, a publication of the Japanese in British Columbia. The article stated that the prospect is rather remote that Japanese already relocated in homes east of the Rockies would rush back to British Columbia even if they could. There is no valid reason, the story goes on, to suppose that Japanese Canadians will pull up social and economic roots they have es-

tablished in present places of residence for the mere pleasure of enjoying the British Columbia climate.

The New Canadian commended the United States government for its action in permitting Japanese Americans to return to their former homes despite protests by American organizations and added that racial antagonism is far more extreme on the B. C. coast than in the American States. This judgment was based on statements of patriotic organizations, various labor groups, civic officials and sections of the press in the province "who have already evidenced their undemocratic prejudices in the matter."

The movement of Japanese from British Columbia to points east of the Rockies continues, although on a reduced scale, the Embassy report states. The British Columbia Security Commission has reported that in 1943 more than 1,400 Japanese house in interior B. C. re-allocation centers migrated across the mountains, while in 1944 only 635 left the province. It added that more than 15,000 of Canada's total Japanese population of 23,854 are still in British Columbia.

## FORMER WRA MAN KILLED IN CHINA

Clement L. White, former WRA Relocation Officer, was killed in a truck accident in the Chungking-Chengtu-Kunming area, the American Friends Service Committee has advised WRA. Mr. White, 46, joined the Authority staff in January 1943. He served as Relocation Officer in Minneapolis and in Harrisburg before leaving the agency for the AFSC to go overseas with the China Convoy in April 1944. No close relatives survive.

## SEEKS ADDITIONAL APPOINTED GUARDS

To insure added protection in coming months for government and private property, Arthur W. James, Internal Security Head, has contacted the Police Department Personnel Branch and the Retirement Board for Police and Firemen for the cities of San Francisco and Los Angeles to recruit more appointed guards for the eight centers.

The more rapid pace of relocation will leave fewer evacuee police and fewer persons in each block, Mr. James pointed out.

Many retired Los Angeles police, retired on pensions after 20 years on the force, are physically capable of center guard duty, Mr. James said.

The Metropolitan Police Department of Washington, D. C., has presented the Internal Security Section with officer-training materials currently in use in the Washington Police Academy. In accordance with requests for such material, each center will be sent the information on basic criminal law and police work, in order to carry out the final phase of the program with greater efficiency.

## AROUND THE CENTERS

Secretary to the noted American poet Carl Sandburg, Sunao Imoto recently visited her parents at POSTON from Herbert, Mich.

School children at MINIDOKA purchased \$420 in war stamps in the last bond drive.

When four evacuees from ROHWER attended a conference of representatives of 12 Arkansas colleges, at Conway, evacuees not only were well received, but delegates approved plans to assist evacuee students materially.

TOPAZ residents staged a President's Birthday Ball and turned out for a co-op sponsored movie, which together netted \$342.46 for the Infantile Paralysis Fund.

To help overcome youth problems, MANZANAR has established a Youth Center

## ALLOTMENT ELIGIBLES CHECKED

Eligibility for Servicemen's Dependency allotments is being carefully checked and widely publicized at centers.

Heart Mountain's Welfare Section sends each selectee a memorandum urging him to visit the Red Cross for details on filing his application. This establishes eligibility promptly and obviates language difficulties now encountered by some dependents.

At Minidoka the fact has been brought out that residents might establish B-1 dependency if outside the center. It would enable those contending they cannot survive in a civilian community to have adequate finances, center officials said.

Sono Osato, Irish-Japanese danseuse whose first success came last year in Broadway's "One Touch of Venus," is described in her new show, "On the Town," by Time magazine: "In her second Broadway show, as in her first, jet-haired, slant-eyed Sono Osato catches and keeps the spotlight. She has personality and piquant looks as well as nimble feet." Miss Osato has a brother with the 442nd Combat Team.

in a remodeled mess hall. Booths around the walls seat four and eight, with space in the center for entertainment and dancing. Light refreshments are served cafeteria style.

A center-wide drive at HEART MOUNTAIN for funds for books, games and the like for wounded Nisei soldiers brought in \$800.

262 TULE LAKE appointed staff members bought 176% of their Sixth War Loan quota. Their purchases totaled \$41,758, while their quota was \$23,718.

The Pinal County United War Fund Chest sent a \$100 check for "drop-in" entertainment for service men who visit GILA RIVER.

Vegetable and field crops and livestock products raised at GRANADA during the past season are valued at \$290,571.