

# PACIFIC CITIZEN

VOL. 16; NO. 16.

SALT LAKE CITY, U. S. A.

THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 1943.

Price: Five Cents

## Nisei Soldiers May Visit Evacuated Areas

### Army Commander's Attitude Balked Plan to Return Some Evacuees to Coast, Is Report

United Press Says Program to Release Loyal Group for Useful Work in Area Upset by "Jap's a Jap" Statement of General DeWitt

WASHINGTON — The attitude of Lieut. Gen. John L. DeWitt that "a Jap's a Jap . . . It doesn't matter if he is an American citizen or not" has upset for the present an administration plan to return to useful work on the Pacific coast a majority of the 110,000 evacuees of Japanese ancestry in the war relocation centers, the United Press stated.

As a result, it was stated, the administration is trying to transfer some American-born Japanese to eastern farms, homes and industry.

It was understood in Washington, according to the U. P., that a high War Department official is trying to get Gen. DeWitt to change his mind.

Officials said the attitude of Gen. DeWitt was expressed at a time when it appeared that the program was ready to be put into operation. His attitude, it was said however, will not affect the placement of evacuees elsewhere in the country.

It was said that many of the Japanese Americans themselves are reluctant to leave the camps for fear of ill treatment because of their race. However, one official said that the effect of the clearance of the individual by the joint investigation board should be his acceptance as a loyal citizen or alien by the community to which he goes.

### Lt. Gen. DeWitt 'Misquoted' on Statement Opposing Evacuees, Washington Sources Declare

Los Angeles Times Quotes "High Authority" Army Considering Relaxing of Restrictions; Opposition in Congress Cited by Newspaper

LOS ANGELES—War Department sources maintain that Lieut. Gen. DeWitt was "misquoted in the press" regarding his attitude toward relaxing restrictions against the return of some evacuees of Japanese ancestry to the evacuated area, the Los Angeles Times declared in a dispatch from its Washington correspondent on April 17.

The Times said in its Washington story that return of loyal Japanese and Japanese Americans to Pacific Coast areas from which they had been removed a year ago was "under consideration." The Times said the idea drew prompt protests from "western members of congress."

The Times said that E. M. Rowlett, acting director of the WRA, denied reports his agency is exerting pressure on the War Department, but the Times said "it had learned on high authority" that the army is considering relaxation of restrictions keeping all persons of Japanese origin out of the coastal states.

Any modification of exclusion regulations should be weighed with extreme care, three Pacific Coast congressmen declared, according to the Times. The congressmen are Rep. Henry Jackson of Washington and Rep. Costello and Sheppard of California. All three congressmen have previously gone on record in favoring of strong restrictions against Japanese Americans. Jackson is the proponent of a resolution to form a congressional committee to investigate the "Japanese problem."

The Times also said that "other legislators" from California doubted the wisdom of permitting relatives of Japanese Americans in the armed forces to return to the prohibited area.

It was stated that various plans for releasing trustworthy evacuees were being studied by the WRA and other federal agencies.

The Times said that "justification for loosening the restrictions was linked with the War Department decision to permit Japanese Americans to volunteer for

the army. The argument was advanced in some official circles, according to the Times, that "if a man is good enough to die for us, he ought to be able to go where he wants." It was also suggested that wives and children of Japanese Americans in military service should be given complete freedom, as evidence of the country's gratitude.

No official comment was forthcoming from the War Department in Washington, but the Times said it had "learned various high military authorities are inclined toward gradual easing of the present bans."

### Story of the Week Washington Post Raps DeWitt Statement on Nisei

WASHINGTON—In an editorial comment on Lieutenant General John L. DeWitt's recent declaration in San Francisco that "a Jap's a Jap . . . it makes no difference whether he is an American citizen or not," the Washington Post, influential capital daily, declared that "the general should be told that American democracy and the Constitution of the United States are too vital to be ignored and flouted by a military zealot."

"Whatever excuse there once was for evacuating and holding them (evacuees of Japanese ancestry) indiscriminately no longer exists," the Post said.

The Post comment in its April 15 edition declared:

"The Government of the United States—sometimes referred to as a symbol of democracy—now holds some 70,000 American citizens in places euphemistically called 'relocation centers.' These citizens were brought inland from the Pacific Coast on the morrow of Pearl Harbor because of their racial background. No violation of the law has been charged against them. No court

### Resettled Evacuees Eligible to Get Emergency Help

WASHINGTON—If any evacuee on leave from a war relocation center gets into emergency financial difficulties he will get help from a local relief or welfare agency the same as established citizens of the community, the Associated Press reported on April 17.

The War Relocation Authority was quoted as saying it has worked out an arrangement with the Social Security Board whereby local relief programs will be open to Japanese and Japanese Americans, and the board will allocate federal funds to the local agencies for that purpose.

However, the WRA said, it seems unlikely many of the evacuees will need financial help with jobs as plentiful as they are.

### ACLU to Enter Cases Affecting Evacuee Rights

NEW YORK — The American Civil Liberties Union may enter court cases involving property rights of Japanese and Japanese Americans excluded from the Pacific Coast, Roger N. Baldwin, national director of the ACLU, indicated this week.

"Ordinarily the Union does not regard property issues as involving civil liberties, but when persons are deprived of property on racial grounds those issues come within the field of our protection," Mr. Baldwin explained.

### California Legion Group Commends DeWitt on Stand

RICHARDSON SPRINGS, Calif. — Lieutenant General DeWitt's opposition to permitting civilians of Japanese ancestry from returning to the west coast was endorsed Sunday by the First Area of the California department of the American Legion.

The Legion, in a resolution, praised the general for his "clear-sighted and courageous stand."

### First Relaxation of Japanese Evacuation Orders Proclaimed This Week By Lt. Gen. DeWitt

Japanese American Soldiers on Furlough and Active Duty Given Freedom of Movement Inside Western Defense Command by Proclamation

SAN FRANCISCO — American soldiers of Japanese ancestry on furlough were granted freedom of movement in states of the western defense command, according to a proclamation from Lieutenant General J. L. DeWitt, commanding general of the WDC, on April 18.

It was the first relaxation of barriers erected against persons of Japanese ancestry in the months immediately following Pearl Harbor, the Associated Press stated.

General DeWitt signed a proclamation granting the privilege, although less than a week ago he publicly took a firm stand against allowing any person of Japanese descent on the west coast.

Sunday he announced it had been determined to be in the national interest to allow uniformed United States soldiers of Japanese ancestry to enter and travel within the evacuated areas of the western defense command when on furlough or leave. (Although American soldiers of Japanese ancestry had heretofore been granted the right to travel within the western defense command, they had not been allowed inside the evacuated area which includes the entire state of California, western Washington and western Oregon and southern Arizona).

Public proclamation No. 17, issued as of Monday, suspends existing proclamations against the presence of persons of Japanese ancestry in the evacuated zone in regard to such soldiers. Regulations prohibiting the presence, entry and movement of all other persons of Japanese ancestry remain in full force, a news release accompanying the proclamation said.

The Associated Press reported that the nature of the order convicted sharply with convictions expressed only last week by General DeWitt when he told a house naval affairs subcommittee here he didn't want any Japanese on the west coast.

The proclamation issued by General DeWitt, numbered Public Proclamation No. 17, follows: "Whereas, it appears desirable in the national interest to revise restrictions governing the entry and movement of persons of Japanese ancestry within certain military areas of the Western Defense Command, as specified below, to permit such persons who are members of the army of the United States, on active duty or who have been inducted and are in uniform on furlough or leave, to enter and travel within Military Area No. 1 and that portion of Military

Area No. 2 within the State of California while on such furlough or leaves:

"All terms and conditions of public proclamations, civilian exclusion orders and civilian restrictive orders, this headquarters heretofore issued, governing the presence, entry and movement of persons of Japanese ancestry within said military areas of western defense command, are suspended in said military areas as to persons of Japanese ancestry, who are members of the army of the United States on active duty or who have been inducted and are in uniform while on furlough or leave."

During the past several weeks American-born Japanese at the various relocation centers and elsewhere have volunteered for army induction and will be, in turn, assigned to the army's newly formed Japanese American combat unit in training at Camp Shelby, Miss.

In addition, there are some 5000 other Americans of Japanese ancestry in the army of the United States who were inducted prior to December 7, 1941.

It is anticipated that some of them will take advantage of the new order to return to the evacuated area.

### MIKE MASAOKA NOTIFIED OF INDUCTION DATE

Mike Masaoka, national secretary of the JACL, has been notified by his Salt Lake City draft board to report for his army physical examination on May 6. If he passes the army test, he will be inducted immediately for service in the Japanese American combat unit now being activated at Camp Shelby, Miss.

Masaoka is now in Washington, D. C., and may be inducted in the east if he is unable to return to Salt Lake City before the specified date.

He is being accompanied on his present trip by Mrs. Masaoka, the former Etsu Mineta.

### Dillon S. Myer To Visit Poston

POSTON, Ariz.—Dillon S. Myer, director of the War Relocation Authority, was scheduled to visit Poston on April 22 to attend a teachers' conference, according to the Press Chronicle. Myer will speak on resettlement.

### Army Guards Withdrawn From Inner Relocation Camp Areas

Order Follows Fatal Shooting of Resident At Topaz Center

TOPAZ, Utah — The project administration has received an order from Washington, effective as of April 21, that all military police sentries except one will be withdrawn between the hours of 7 a. m. and 7 p. m. from gates and observation points adjacent to the inner boundaries of the project, according to the Topaz Times.

The one exception will be a soldier stationed at the main gate by the administration area, and the function of this sentry will be limited to routine checking of incoming baggage and parties.

The military will continue to

patrol the outer boundaries of the project area, and there will be guards at checking stations that have been established at the boundaries of the project along the from molesting the center residents, the Times added.

A resident, James Hatsuki Wakmain roads to Delta.

All military police personnel have been ordered by Lt. H. H. Miller, commanding officer of the local military police, to refrain from molesting the center residents, the Times added.

In the presence of some 2000 residents, outdoor funeral services were held for the deceased April 19, at the project high school grounds.



## WRA Reveals Curtailment of Present Relocation Program Considered, Says L. A. Times

LOS ANGELES—The War Relocation Authority has revealed that curtailment of the relocation program is being considered and has gone on record as approving proposals to draft all Americans of Japanese ancestry of military age into the armed services, the Los Angeles Times reported on April 15 in a dispatch from its Washington correspondent.

"Even Japanese aliens and their American-born descendants who refuse to support the United States may be released from relocation camps for work under strict federal supervision," the Times report stated.

The Times said that war relocation officials are seriously considering a policy under which all loyal evacuees would receive "freedom to reinstate themselves in normal life" while those refusing to support the United States might be permitted to leave the relocation camps if they "may safely be employed in closely supervised agricultural labor or similar work in areas where they cannot possibly do any damage to the country's war effort."

It was stated that these suggestions were conveyed to Senator Chandler (D., Ky.), chairman of the senate military affairs subcommittee investigating the relocation camps, by Acting Director E. M. Rowalt of the WRA in reply to a request for comment on program revision ideas suggested by Chandler's committee. Rowalt reaffirmed the desire of the WRA to put the maximum number of first and second generation persons of Japanese ancestry from California and other Pacific Coast states to work.

The WRA is not attempting to bring about return of any evacuees to the west coast areas from which they were ousted by Lieutenant General John L. DeWitt, commanding general of the western defense command, Rowalt told the Times correspondent.

Rowalt explained that loyal individuals, while given freedom, would not be permitted to enter any areas where military authorities consider them undesirable.

The Washington report said that those refusing to pledge loyalty to this country, according to Rowalt, would be kept under scrutiny and allowed to take jobs only in areas where the War Department and Justice Department felt they could be watched and have no opportunity to interfere with the war program. He declared, however, that no decision has been made on this idea, and members of Congress as well as the FBI and army would be consulted.

In regard to loyal evacuees, the WRA official said "it is our opinion that a separation must be made and we are planning to make one. The federal agency feels, he explained, "when the disloyal are removed it will then be possible to relax or eliminate entirely the restrictions placed against the loyal."

In regard to a proposal by Senator Chandler to draft American-born Japanese deemed trustworthy by the army, Rowalt said the WRA "concurs wholeheartedly in this point of view and has joined others in urging the War Department to reinstate selective service for all Americans of Japanese ancestry."

## L. A. Times Editorial Opposes Program to Return Evacuees

LOS ANGELES — In an editorial comment the Los Angeles Times declared on April 16 that return of evacuees of Japanese ancestry "to the Pacific Coast ought not to be considered under any circumstances."

The editorial was titled "Bleeding Hearts Discuss the Jap Problem" and commented unfavorably upon a statement made by a relocation official before the National Conference of Social Work in St. Louis that the evacuees "were not and are not dangerous."

## California Senate Committee Approves Seizure of Equipment

SACRAMENTO — The senate agricultural committee on April 13 approved legislation providing for seizure of farm machinery of Japanese evacuees for use in the state's agricultural production.

## Native Sons Back DeWitt Stand on Nisei

Supports Opposition To Return of Evacuee Group to West Coast

SAN FRANCISCO — Lloyd J. Cosgrove, grand president of the Native Sons of the Golden West, on April 15 issued a statement supporting Lieut. Gen. John L. DeWitt's stand against the return of evacuated Japanese to the west coast.

In his statement, Cosgrove, head of the organization which has assumed the leadership in a campaign to revoke the citizenship rights of Americans of Japanese ancestry, declared:

"Representing a patriotic organization of 20,000 members composed entirely of native born Californians, I am pleased to learn that the commanding general of the west coast defense area has made politics secondary to security and has testified before the House Naval Affairs Subcommittee here in San Francisco that it is his opinion and recommendation that removed Japanese be not permitted to return to the west coast, an area vulnerable to the enemy."

"The Native Sons of the Golden West," as a statewide organization, foresaw Japanese treachery not only in the individual, but also as a nation. We have time and again appealed over a period of 36 years, to national and state officers, to curb Japanese aggressiveness. Records in the files of our organization substantiate these facts.

"It is my opinion, in these critical times, that no one should have his testimony given more serious consideration than a person who is on the scene and who has studied California's emergency Japanese problem, and that man is Lieut. General John L. DeWitt, U. S. A., whose command is charged with the western defense of the United States of America. We, therefore, publicly and heartily endorse, support and thank Gen. DeWitt for the moral as well as material protection he is rendering to the people of California."

## Sonoma Grange Lauds Gen. DeWitt's Recent Statement

SANTA ROSA, Calif. — The Pomona Grange of Sonoma county, meeting at Sebastopol, Sunday gave wholehearted approval to the opinion expressed last week by General DeWitt opposing the return of evacuees of Japanese ancestry to the Pacific coast.

The grange passed a resolution commending General DeWitt and pointing out that "a million acres" of farming lands were under the control of alien and "American-born Japs" until the evacuation last summer. This, the grange held, "deprived American youths from establishing decent rural homes."

## California Legion Commander Wants Military Control

FRESNO — A demand that control of war relocation centers be turned over to the army by the federal relocation authorities was voiced here by Leon Happell, California state commander of the American Legion, on April 15 at a civic dinner sponsored by Fresno Legion Post No. 4.

## Loyalty of Nisei Evacuees Told By WRA Official in Seattle

SEATTLE, Wash. — R. B. Cozzens, assistant national director of the War Relocation Authority, said in a recent Post-Intelligencer interview that American born Japanese who have spent all or nearly all of their lives in the United States have proved loyal in virtually every instance at the four relocation centers under his supervision.

The troublesome ones among the American born Japanese are those who were taken back to Japan for educating before they reached the age of 10, he told the Post-Intelligencer reporter.

"Not all the Kibei are disloyal

by any means," Cozzens explained. "All of the men who volunteered for the army, to serve as Japanese language instructors for soldiers, were naturally from the loyal group."

"But most of the instructors are men who spent most of their boyhood in this country. They were so disgusted with conditions in Japan, after what they had been accustomed to in America, that there wasn't a chance of indoctrinating them."

Relocation centers under Cozzens' administration are Tule Lake and Manzanar, Calif., and Poston and Rivers, Ariz.

## Japanese Americans Were Not Dangerous to National Safety, Social Work Conclave Told

Camp Confinement Damages Initiative, Says WRA Official

ST. LOUIS, Mo. — Japanese Americans are not, and were not dangerous to national safety, John W. Powell of Poston, Ariz., assistant chief of community services at the Colorado River war relocation center, told a regional meeting of the national conference of social workers last Friday, according to the United Press.

"In spite of rumors repeatedly denied by all official sources," Powell said, "there is no record of a single act of sabotage either in California or in Hawaii, where tens of thousands (of Japanese Americans) are working on secret military preparations, and where ten thousand of them have volunteered for the army."

Denouncing the controlled migration of Japanese Americans from California, Powell said that their major crime was "to have created hundreds of millions of dollars in agricultural wealth which some of their neighbors sought to control by forcing the racial issue under the forced draught of war fears."

Powell described the desert barracks at the Colorado River project in Arizona where the evacuees were crowded as being planned for young soldiers on field duty, and not a place in which to carry on family life. He praised the almost immediate improvements the evacuees have made on the barracks by decoration, planting seeds and trying to overcome the desert dust.

Camp confinement is destructive to initiative, Powell believes, and the nation should make use of the skills, trained minds, and education being wasted there. Workers with responsible jobs in the camps are doing magnificent work, he said, but there is not enough responsibility to go around and workers are developing a "WPA attitude" toward labor.

Speaking at the same meeting, Homer Morris, Philadelphia, head of resettlement work for the American Fields Service Committee, described efforts of the War Relocation Authority and private welfare groups to resettle Japanese Americans as individuals in communities.

"Keep in mind that two-thirds of the people at these centers are American citizens," Morris said. "They have been charged with no crime; they are guilty of no offense against the peace and security of the United States."

## California Senate Committee Passes Alien Fishing Bill

SACRAMENTO—The California senate fish and game committee has approved two bills regulating granting of licenses to aliens of Japanese ancestry.

One measure prohibits issuing of any kind of fishing or hunting license to alien Japanese or to any corporations whose stockholders or members are alien Japanese.

The other includes all aliens ineligible for citizenship, thus barring Filipinos and Chinese also.

## Dr. Yatabe to Aid JACL in Chicago Area

George Inagaki Will Enter Military Service In Minnesota Shortly

Dr. T. T. Yatabe, formerly of Fresno, Calif., will take over the Chicago office of the National JACL, according to Saburo Kido, national president of the JACL, this week.

Dr. Yatabe, past national president of the JACL, recently arrived in Chicago from the Jerome relocation center in Arkansas.

He will replace George Inagaki, chief resettlement officer of the National JACL, who has volunteered for military service and who expects to be inducted at a Minnesota training camp.

Fumi Yaki, formerly of San Francisco, who was employed at the National JACL office in San Francisco at the time of evacuation and who recently arrived from Topaz, Utah, to work in the National JACL office in Salt Lake City, left Tuesday evening for Chicago, evening, where she will be employed as a secretary in the Chicago office.

Miss Yaki was accompanied by Utako Takasu, formerly of Los Angeles, Calif., who has been employed for the past year as a secretary by the Pacific Citizen. Miss Takasu expects to do secretarial work in Chicago.

## General DeWitt Gets Backing From Patriotic Group in California

EL CENTRO, Calif. — Unanimous backing of his stand to keep all persons of Japanese descent out of the West Coast military area, whether alien or native born, has been pledged to Lieut. Gen. John DeWitt by an organization called "Fathers of Fighters," according to the Los Angeles Times.

"Fathers of Fighters" was described as a "nonpolitical organization whose objectives include expediting the war effort by keeping supplies flowing, combating work slow-downs and preventing wastefulness in government expenditures."

C. G. Halliday, secretary of the group, in a telegram to Gen. DeWitt, declared:

"You have unanimous backing of this organization in your stand to keep the Japs from this West Coast area. Japs are Japs and will stay Japs so far as this organization is concerned until the war has been won and they have no business in this area at this time."

"There are no free Americans around loose in Japan now nor have there ever been any in the past. Sentiment is a fine thing but it is damn poor stuff to put on tombstones for your loved ones who may lose their lives due to unnecessary allowed sabotage. Jesus said, 'Forgive them, Father, for they know not what they do,' but there will be no forgiveness for those responsible for bringing the Japs back into this military zone during wartime."

## 211 Minidoka Volunteers Pass Army's Tests

Twenty-Eight Others Classified at Hunt For Limited Service

HUNT, Idaho — Of the total of 289 Minidoka relocation center volunteers given medical "screening" examinations by four army doctors from Butte, Mont., at the Center hospital last week, 211 or 73.3 per cent were classified for general military service, War Relocation Authority officials announced last Friday.

Twenty-eight or 9.3 per cent were classified for limited military service. Two in the latter category would have been accepted for general military service except for remedial defects. Fifty or 17.4 per cent were rejected.

Of the 211 classified as acceptable for general military service, 188 were single while 12 of the 23 married men have children.

The medical examining team from Butte induction station was headed by Major M. M. Campbell of the medical corps.

Not all of the 304 Minidoka volunteers were available for examination during the medical team's visit. Those who were not examined and any others who volunteered for induction into the army for service in the army's nisei combat unit will be given their screening examinations at Jerome, Idaho, later, it was announced.

The next step for the volunteers, according to WRA authorities, will come through the Jerome county selective service board which will notify volunteers as to their acceptability. Volunteers will be inducted at Fort Douglas, Utah, and then be offered a seven-day furlough, which will not be subtracted from their annual furlough. At the end of their furlough, they will again report to Fort Douglas and from there go to Camp Shelby, Miss., for combat training.

## Five at Poston Get Jail Terms

Kobayashi Brothers Sentenced For Resisting Federal Officers

PHOENIX, Ariz. — Five residents of the Poston war relocation center were sentenced to jail on April 12 by U. S. District Judge David W. Ling.

Two brothers, Kenneth and Dan Kobayashi, 23 and 19 years old, respectively, were sentenced to six months in jail for resisting a FBI agent in a recent "cleanup" at the camp. The Kobayashis had previously pleaded guilty.

Admitting they stole quantities of bacon and sugar and a half-crate of eggs at the camp, Edward Muraoka, Nick Sugioka and Masato Furubayashi were sentenced to 60-day terms.

## Senator Wallgren Opposes Return of Evacuees to Coast

WASHINGTON — While trustworthy evacuees should be released from relocation centers, federal authorities should not permit any of the evacuated group to return to the Pacific coast during the war, Senator Wallgren (D., Wash.) said Monday.

Wallgren, a member of the senate's military affairs subcommittee studying the relocation problem, objected to the idea of removing barriers against the return of trustworthy evacuees to the west coast.

## Art Competition For Evacuees Set By Eastern Group

AMACHE, Colo.—The Friends Center in Cambridge, Mass., is arranging an art competition for the relocation centers, according to the Granada Pioneer.

The entries will be exhibited in Cambridge during the latter part of May and prizes will be awarded for the best work in each class. The deadline is set for May 15.

Twenty-five cash awards are offered.



## Secretary Ickes Hires Nisei Evacuees for Maryland Farm

"I Believe We Should Do All We Can to Ease Burden Has Placed Upon This Particular Group," Declares Member of President's Cabinet

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Harold L. Ickes wields plenty of power in Washington under a hatful of Government titles, but it is different when he is back at his Onley, Md., farm—Mrs. Ickes is the farm boss and she will set the pay of three Japanese Americans who are going to work there, according to Charles Molony, Associated Press staff writer.

As related by Molony, that is what the Interior Secretary, Solid Fuels Co-ordinator and Petroleum Administrator for War told reporters pressing for details on his employment of Japanese Americans from the Poston, Ariz., relocation center.

Ickes said he had arranged with the War Relocation Authority for release of "seven United States citizens who are of Japanese ancestry" to help meet the manpower problems of himself—or rather, Mrs. Ickes—and a neighboring chicken farmer.

Four of the group—two married couples—are going to work for the neighbor, Sam Rice, former Washington baseball player. The other three—a man, his wife and his brother—are going to work on the Ickes' chicken farm.

All four men, three of them graduates of the California Polytechnic Institute, are highly trained poultry farmers.

But an equal reason for hiring them, Ickes said, was that "I believe we should do all that we can to ease the burden that the war has placed upon this particular group of our fellow citizens."

Ickes said the seven were investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Military Intelligence, and that he had been given "excellent reports on them."

Their pay, he said, will follow the requirement laid down by the Relocation Authority whenever an evacuee is released and they will get "the 'going-rate' though I don't know what that'll be—Mrs. Ickes is the farmer."

Asked whether he intended to "keep them after the war," he replied:

"How can I keep them after the war? How can I tell whether they'd want to stay? There isn't any forced labor in this country—least not yet."

When a reporter asked if the women would be used as domestic servants as well as farm helpers, Ickes inquired:

"Aren't you getting pretty close to the personal and private side?"

## Kobayashis of Poston Arrive To Take Jobs on Ickes Farm

Others Will Work on Farm of Sam Rice, Former Baseball Star

WASHINGTON—With reporters and news cameramen on hand to greet them, the Kobayashis of Poston, young Americans of Japanese ancestry evacuated last year from their California home, arrived at the Maryland farms of Secretary of Interior Harold Ickes and Sam Rice, former Washington Senator baseball star.

Washington newspapers gave prominent displays to the story with pictures of the evacuee Americans, four young men, two of them accompanied by their attractive wives.

The nisei Americans arrived at the Silver Spring station of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad last Saturday morning, April 17. Attired in collegiate fashion, according to newsmen, the six young people courteously avoided interviews. Graduates of California Polytechnic Institute at San Luis Obispo, they quietly commented that they were looking forward which they have been trained.

They said they had no trouble on the trip from Poston, Ariz., and although they carried official identification papers, they were required to display them only once or twice.

A station wagon was waiting for them at the station and they were whisked to the Ickes and Rice farms about 13 miles north of Silver Spring, Md.

Mrs. Ickes, red-headed wife of the cabinet member, welcomed them with a smile and showed them to their quarters near the main house.

The nisei are William Kobayashi, 23; his wife, Betty, 21, and Giichi Omori, 23—who will work on the Rice place—and Fred Kobayashi, 24; his wife, Barbara, 18, and Roy Kobayashi, 26—who will work for Mrs. Ickes. Joseph Kobayashi, another brother, will arrive this week to join the trio at the Ickes farm.

Mrs. Ickes took the Kobayashis on a tour of the farm, showed them the livestock and poultry. She posed willingly with her new employees and with Robert Lymburner, farm manager, for news cameramen.

The Kobayashi brothers operated a chicken farm near Santa Barbara, Calif., before the war. Omori grinned when a photo-

grapher called a request for "the Irishman to turn around."

"Always when I go to a place," Omori quipped, "right away they start calling me 'the Irishman.' But you can see I look more like a bulldog."

Mrs. Ickes said one of the Kobayashis will work on her poultry project, a small operation with 2000 chickens and 3000 growing biddies for replacements. The other will help Lymburner, who works part of the 250-acre Ickes farm and Barbara will work in the garden and dairy. All six will receive the regular farm wage.

Over at the Rice place, the former major league ball player disclosed he planned to pay his new workers \$50 a month wages, plus use of the house, a garden plot for each worker and time to work it, a pig, and perhaps a cow for themselves. This would total around \$100 to \$110 a month, he said.

Other farmers in the vicinity are also requesting evacuee help.

## Senator Chandler Endorses Ickes' Move To Employ Nisei

WASHINGTON—The action of Secretary of Interior Harold Ickes in bringing a group of evacuees from Poston, Ariz., to Maryland and affording them an opportunity to make use of their skills was endorsed this week by Senator Chandler, D., Ky., chairman of the military affairs subcommittee investigating the relocation problem.

"That is just what my committee recommended in a report to the military affairs committee," he said. "If more people would follow the Secretary's plan the need for relocation camps would disappear. Loyal Japanese Americans could be scattered out in states where they would help relieve the manpower shortage."

Of the 110,000 Japanese Americans who were moved inland from the west coast area, about 6,000 have been permanently evacuated from the relocation camps. Persons wishing to hire them can write to the War Relocation Authority, stating work, wage and housing details, it was stated here.

Poston's big dream came true last week with the first issue of a printed Poston Chronicle. Mechanical difficulties held up the printing for several weeks, but were at last solved, resulting in the first center newspaper published within a WRA project.

## Wirin: Contractual Obligations Exonerated By Evacuation

### Rep. Rankin Hits Combat Service For U. S. Nisei

WASHINGTON—Assailing "appeasement" of Japanese Americans, Representative Rankin of Mississippi warned in the house last week that Hawaiian-born Japanese "are being sent into the south where we don't want them and where an invasion would surely occur if the Axis ever attempts it."

Representative Rankin declared that these same "Hawaiian-born Japanese" were responsible for the "fifth column work" which made Pearl Harbor possible. He suggested that instead of training these Japanese Americans as combat troops, they should be put into labor battalions to do manual labor.

The Mississippi congressman is regarded, according to observers, as one of the most reactionary legislators in the house and was assailed in a Saturday Evening Post editorial for his race theories in April, 1942. Rankin has often publicly expressed the view that Japanese Americans in the United States should be kept in concentration camps.

## Maryland Farms Seek Evacuees

WRA Says 100 Nisei Released For Work in Eastern Area

WASHINGTON—Fifteen applications for the release of about 25 Americans of Japanese ancestry for work as domestics and farmhands in the Washington, D. C., area are before the War Relocation Authority, it was learned last week, following disclosure that Secretary of Interior Harold Ickes and a neighbor have already hired seven such war evacuees, according to the Washington Post.

The WRA said that about 100 Americans of Japanese ancestry have been released for employment in the east, while about 3500 others have left relocation centers for work in the middle west and northwest.

Although stressing that the WRA is not an employment agency, officials said every effort is made to release persons found to be loyal after thorough investigation. The small number released for employment in the east was largely attributed to the reluctance of authorities to pass on any but the clearest cases. Clearance must also be obtained from the army's eastern defense command.

Clearance for such workers is a slow process, officials said, pointing out that Mrs. Ickes, who conducted the negotiations, wrote her first letter to the authority three months ago.

Anticipating a rush of applications, authorities pointed out that the American-born Japanese still in relocation centers because of "wrong ancestry" are not by any means all farmers or domestics, but many are lawyers, tradesmen, dentists, just as is the case in any American community.

## California CIO Will Back Bills Repealing Chinese Exclusion

SAN FRANCISCO—The California CIO Council last week notified Mme. Chiang Kai-shek it will support pending congressional legislation to repeal the Chinese exclusion laws.

In a statement of policy the council declared it urged freer immigration laws for the Chinese because present regulations are an injustice to Mme. Chiang's people and are being used as anti-American propaganda by the Japanese.

Mervyn Rathborne, council secretary, sent the CIO statement to Mme. Chiang, Liu Chieh, counselor of the Chinese embassy in Washington; Consul General C. T. Feng in San Francisco and Consul T. K. Chang in Los Angeles.

## California Appellate Tribunal Orders Retrial of Oshiro Test Of Evacuee Property Rights

By A. L. WIRIN  
Special Counsel, JACL

A Japanese tenant who leases a hotel for purposes of sublease to roomers in an area which Japanese have been excluded by the military orders, is exonerated from further liability under the lease.

This is the effect of a noteworthy appellate court decision handed down last week.

The court: The Second District Court of Appeals of California.

The Japanese: Y. Oshiro.

The premises involved: A rooming hotel located in Los Angeles' "Little Tokyo" at First and Los Angeles streets.

Even more significant, perhaps, is the first judicial recognition of the worthwhile aims of the Japanese American Citizens League. In its decision, the California Court of Appeals thus recognized the JACL:

"A brief has been filed on behalf of the Japanese American Citizens League as amicus curiae. It is set forth in this brief that the Japanese American Citizens League is a national organization, organized in 1920 and incorporated in 1937; that it represents approximately 20,000 American citizens of Japanese ancestry; that it is maintained to protect their interests; that many members of the league are in a position similar to that of defendant, and that they have other contractual obligations which because of the evacuation order are either impossible of fulfillment or can be fulfilled only as the result of 'unconscionable hardship.'"

Interestingly enough, the JACL brief merely requested the appellate court to send the case back to the Los Angeles Superior Court for a new trial because the record was not properly prepared. A majority of the court of appeals accepted the JACL recommendation and ordered the case sent back to the lower court for a new trial, declaring:

"The issues presented should not be decided upon the incomplete factual record now before the court... the trial court should permit such amendments to the pleadings and such proof as will enable the court to accurately ascertain and declare the rights and obligations of the parties."

Presiding Judge Minor Moore, however, took a more liberal and more friendly position to the Japanese. He was of the view that the court of appeals should have decided the entire case in favor of Oshiro. Here are his views:

"Defendant is of Japanese ancestry. In the prosecution of a war by the United States with the island kingdom, the commander in chief of the armed forces, in the lawful execution of his duties ordered defendant and all others of the same status to remove from the coastal cities to interior points where they are held in concentration, virtual prisoners of the army. Such was an unanticipated circumstance and it has made performance of his obligations as lessee 'vitally different from what should reasonably have been within the contemplation of both parties when they entered into the contract.' If the parties never in fact agreed upon their mutual rights and obligations in the event they should be forced into such a crisis upon what principle may a court decree that the did so agree? Clearly the situation is far different from that existing at the making of the contract. Then there was an 'equality between two opposing considerations,' viz: the building of plaintiff and the rentals of defendant. Such equality has been violently disturbed by an authority beyond the control of either by reason of an event that neither could have anticipated. Defendant is now detained with those who would have been his patrons in a remote quarter. In such a situation the enforcement of the lease will impose enormous burdens upon him, so enormous that their fulfillment appears well-nigh impossible. The very fact that its enforcement would be extremely onerous to defendant is apparent from the facts recited as well as from the insistence of plaintiffs that defendant operate the lease by remote control. If the terms of the lease were as easy of performance by defendant as they were in February, 1940, surely plaintiffs would not squander their time in seeking a decree to compel his performance, for others would to a reasonable certainty be ready to occupy the premises on equivalent terms. The lease was that of a hotel and office building to a person of Japanese origin in a community where people of his blood congregated and transacted business among themselves, where transient Japanese sought accommodations and where Japanese business men established offices. From the very nature of the lease and the surrounding circumstances the parties from the beginning must have known that it could not have been carried out by defendant unless during the term of the lease the presence of the Japanese colony in Southern California continued. They must have contemplated such continuous presence of that group as the basis for the operation of his business by defendant. Therefore, we must read into the lease the implied condition that the parties shall be excused in case performance without the default of either party becomes impossible because of the disappearance of these conditions which at first made the lease desirable. Had the current war and the exclusion of the Japanese from Los Angeles been envisaged by these litigants it cannot be doubted that they would have expressly covenanted that the lease should terminate on the day of the exclusion order by the military authorities.

"Without the slightest token of bad faith, defendant now finds himself frustrated, unable to fulfill his obligations and should be relieved by the judgment of this court."

The case will accordingly go back to the Los Angeles Superior Court for retrial.

At the retrial the JACL will appear as a "friend of the court" to assure an adequate presentation of the constitutional and legal issues involved; and undertake to cooperate in taking the case to the Supreme Court of the United States, if necessary, in order to protect the thousands of Japanese, both citizen and alien, whose property rights are directly endangered by the suit against Oshiro.

A. L. WIRIN, noted Los Angeles civil rights attorney, has been retained by the National JACL as its special counsel in California. Mr. Wirin filed a brief for the National JACL in the Oshiro case in Los Angeles. He also filed a JACL brief in the Regan Native Sons case in San Francisco last February. Mr. Wirin is also Southern California counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union.

## Wapato Chamber Opposes Return of Evacuated Group

WAPATO, Wash.—Members of the Wapato Chamber of Commerce have endorsed a resolution opposing the return of evacuees to the Yakima valley, according to the Yakima Morning Herald. The proposal was written by the McKinley Grange.



# PACIFIC CITIZEN

Official Publication of the  
Japanese American Citizens League

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25 East Second South Street, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Editorial and Business Office: 415 Beason Building,  
Phone 5-6501

Washington Office: P. O. Box 1721,  
Washington, D. C.

Saburo Kido, National President,  
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Subscription Rates: JACL members, \$2.00 year.  
Non-members, \$2.50 year.

Application pending for entry as second class matter in the post office at Salt Lake City, Utah. Published weekly, under the act of March 3, 1879.

LARRY TAJIRI .....EDITOR

## EDITORIALS:

### The Tokyo Executions

To the treachery of the unprovoked attack upon Pearl Harbor, the Japanese war-makers have now added the barbarism of the execution of American prisoners of war in defiance of all international conventions for the treatment of such prisoners.

Together with all our fellow Americans we look with horror on this latest transgression upon the principles of human decency.

We know today the nature of the brutal enemy we face across the Pacific and in the jungles of equatorial islands and this knowledge should serve to intensify our efforts to achieve a speedy and complete victory.

Japanese Americans have pledged their efforts toward achieving this military victory, and the American men of Japanese ancestry fighting today on the Pacific and European fronts and in training for such service at army camps throughout America are living proof of that pledge.

The American people will not brook a negotiated end to this war, though such surcease may prove tempting in the difficult days ahead. We have but one purpose, one goal. There can be no peace with murderers. We must, and will, gain the unconditional surrender of our axis enemies. Any less would be to defame the bravery of Bataan and the fighting deaths of free men throughout the world. We will do away with the cancerous growths of the powers that loot and conquer, spread hunger, disease and desolation. We shall remember Pearl Harbor and the deaths of brave men before the firing squads of Tokyo.

### Freedom for Nisei Soldiers

Public Proclamation No. 17, issued April 19 from the Western Defense Command and Fourth Army headquarters in San Francisco, comes as welcome news not only to the nisei soldiers affected directly but also to the countless other nisei and issei indirectly affected by the proclamation.

It was, according to the proclamation, "in the national interest" to lift restrictions against persons of Japanese ancestry to permit members of the United States army the right to enter and travel within Military Area No. 1.

Release of this proclamation was all the more startling in that it came but one week after General John L. DeWitt made his highly sensational charges that "A Jap's a Jap," and stated his stand as opposed to the return of any Japanese Americans to the west coast.

It is not ours to question, to relate or draw any conclusions from these two facts, highly contradictory though they be on the surface.

But we rejoice with all those nisei men in uniform who have regained one of their essential freedoms — that of free movement.

These soldiers have won the recognition that men who go to battle in defense of the principles of their country have also the right themselves to those principles. The incongruous situation in which the nisei soldier found himself following the restrictive measures first imposed by the army in California has been to a great measure alleviated.

It becomes more apparent, too, to all nisei how much their ultimate destiny depends upon the nisei soldiers, who are fighting the battle for democracy upon the home front as well as the battlefield.

## The Nisei Future

The nisei, and perhaps naturally, have been prone to consider their own racial problem as unique in itself, as peculiar to the nisei alone and as an isolated problem in racial discrimination.

Actually, however, the nisei problem is one that runs a pattern already molded by decades of minority persecution.

The amazingly close correlation, for instance, between the Chinese problem in California, and the Negro problem in the south is brought out by Carey McWilliams in his most recent book, "Brothers Under the Skin," released this week by Little, Brown and Company.

The Chinese have found a not-too-happy solution to their own problem in an armistice, a stalemate in relations between Chinese and other Americans that enables both races to live alongside of, but not with each other. This solution to the Chinese problem was in great measure directed and influenced by the still sorrier problem of the Negro in America.

When, in 1870, Congress passed its naturalization act extending citizenship by naturalization to "aliens of African nativity and persons of African descent," it debated and then denied extension of that right to the Chinese. "Here, for the first time," says McWilliams, "a definite racial basis, utterly at variance with the American tradition, crept into our naturalization law. Undeniably the bias against the Negro jeopardized the case for the Chinese. And once the exception had been allowed, it was easy to apply it at a later date against Japanese, Filipinos and Hindus. The Negro or slave question was, however, at the bottom of the whole difficulty from the beginning."

This was part of the pattern as it was roughly sketched in its first early years. When the parents of the nisei first stepped upon the shores of California, they stepped into that pattern naturally and travelled the whole tortuous way. Evacuation of a scant year ago added another step to that pattern, a wholly legal and accepted step. Therein lies its greatest damage, not in the harm done 130,000 nisei and their parents, but in the strengthening of an evil pattern of social action.

The nisei must learn to recognize that the isolation of a racial group, whether in its growth or in its decline, is no longer possible. We must learn to recognize that the Jewish, the Negro, the Chinese, and all other racial problems are part of a whole, and as that whole is affected, so are we.

The nisei seemed a pretty friendless lot a year ago. But since that time, an almost unbelievable response has been evoked from the great heart of America. Thousands upon thousands of persons, many of whom had never before known of the existence of the nisei, have taken the problem of the nisei upon themselves.

So must we, too, recognize that our future is inextricably bound with the future of every other man in this country. To whatever measure any other person is injured, to that extent are we harmed. And in whatever degree we fight for the principles of democracy for ourselves or for others, to that degree we aid the cause of democracy everywhere.

## The Relocation Press

The center newspapers began quite simply as bulletins of information. In the early days of the centers they directed persons to the housing bureau; they announced classes; they aided in registration, in health measures, in all the minor and major work necessary for the creation and stabilization of a relocation center.

Out of these first small mimeo affairs have developed and are developing well-printed, well-edited and rounded newspapers. Each mimeo sheet took on a quality, a personality of its own.

But beyond that, the center paper has added that third requisite necessary for any paper that has a full function—that of leadership.

No paper is complete that merely reports, no matter how honest and complete that reportage. Newspapers today must interpret as well as report, and they must take the initiative in pointing out necessary reforms and necessary actions.

# Nisei USA

by LARRY TAJIRI

## Firing Squads in Tokyo

Shouting newsboys on the street corners of America and the jet, startling headlines about the execution of American aviators by the government of Japan should bring home with decided emphasis to the people of the land the brutal, ruthless nature of our enemy on the Pacific prong of the global war.

This barbaric defiance of the Geneva convention on prisoners of war does not, however, surprise those who have watched the bloody ascension of General Tojo and the military fascists to their present eminence as the supreme governors of the Japanese nation. Neither will it surprise the Chinese who remember the horrors of the sack of Nanking and the repeated atrocities against China's civilian population. And it is to be recalled that the present overlords of Nippon, these twentieth century shoguns, achieved their ambitions through murder and intimidation, by the assassinations of such moderate leaders as Inukai, Saito, Takahashi and Hamaguchi. The spitting revolvers of these fascist murderers punctuated an era of open defiance of constitutional government and has produced an aggressor nation with a mock parliament and puppet emperor who is today a virtual prisoner in his moat-circled Tokyo palace. The accession of the Japanese emperor to the depredations of Tojo's brigands marks a sorry epitaph to an age which began with the Meiji Restoration.

Like their counterparts and present partners, the Hitler gang, the Japanese fascists stripped their people of every civil right and pitilessly obliterated every democratic influence.

The fascists, in both Japan and Germany first won their war at home. The Nazis crushed the fragile remnants of the Weimar republic, while the Tokyo militarists were shattering the marginal democracy of Japan. The few within Japan whose belief in democratic ideals transcended their concern for personal safety suffered the tortures of the inquisition, were jailed for months and years without trial, sometimes felt the lash, the sword and the club. The crime of these Japanese democrats, for which such terrible punishment was exacted, was merely a belief in a nation and a world of free men.

In America there are a few who are refugees from that militarist terror of Japan. These men would not be surprised by any act of open contempt by the Tokyo warlords against international conventions, such as those concerning the treatment of war prisoners. They know that the enemy will give no quarter and the salvation of our way of life rests only with complete and irrevocable military victory.

Recalling personal history, these are not merely conjectural comments shaped to fit a contemporary situation. It so happens that we made our first and only trip to the Far East in the spring and summer of 1936. The ship docked at Yokohama a few short weeks after the murders of February 26, 1936, when a military rebellion flared momentarily and terror froze the arteries of a city of six millions. There was still martial law in Tokyo and the city lay supine before the machine guns. Patrols stalked the streets and even the ordinarily raucous horns of the "yen taxis" were subdued. It was a strange introduction to a foreign land.

The February 26 affair was the death rattle of constitutional government in Japan. The military fanatics had shown their hand in an overt act, attempting the assassination of the Premier, Admiral Okada (who escaped in his own coffin while his brother walked into the gunfire of the assassins). Viscount Saito, who strongly opposed militarism, was killed in his home. Takahashi, the Finance Minister, who had fought against increased appropriations for military expenditures, was murdered. Prince Saionji, a bulwark of liberal government and a fabulous figure whose life had encompassed

Japan's transition from feudalism to the neo-militarism of the 1930's, was marked for death but escaped. The Tokyo government attempted to appease the perpetrators and the way was cleared for Lukuo-chiao and the carnage of conquest in China. Little more than a year later, the Japanese army began the second phase of the war against the Chinese republic. The first had been completed five years before when Manchuria had been overrun.

In Tokyo we heard stories of the terror. Students, labor leaders, writers were hounded by the secret police. A few nisei fell into the net. One girl of our acquaintance was arrested, experienced the third degree, Tokyo style. We heard another story. A nisei and his mother were visiting in Japan. The nisei was arrested one day, charged with having "insulted" the throne, and was summarily executed. The mother was reported to have returned immediately to a small town in central California. The story has never been confirmed officially, to our knowledge, but we never doubted that it could have happened in the temper of those days in Tokyo. It was a fact, however, that we were under constant surveillance. Letters would be found opened. Papers would disappear, only to reappear later. One writer has described the attitude of the Japanese government toward nisei visitors as fear of the "white peril," for the nisei brought the clean breath of democracy, of the free world.

Tokyo fell, as Paris was to fall in 1940, like a ripe plum into the hands of the military fascists. The great mass of the people did not resist. Periodic raids by the police, usually in the middle of the night, thinned the ranks of men of good will. Some "reformed" and were released. Others stood firm and disappeared down the dark corridors of the prisons. The people were thoroughly intimidated and the warlords won a cheap victory.

They say there is no underground today in Japan. There are no active leaders within Japan in the fight for freedom. But there are men in the prisons and in concentration camps in the interior of Manchuria who have fought against the military fascists. They are few against millions, and they will be liberated only by a United Nations victory. But on these men, and on others like them, rests the destiny of their nation after the peace.

## the copy desk

### ON SEMANTICS

Ever since the nisei began to edit their own newspapers, the writing fraternity has sought a simple, terse word meaning, Americans of Japanese descent.

Official pronouncements by the government have used either the full term—American of Japanese descent—or Japanese Americans . . .

Some bright day assimilation will be carried out to the extent that it won't matter who one's forefathers happened to be. But for the time being the headline-writer is still stumped for an expressive word meaning Japanese Americans which will fit into the limited space of a line of type. —From the Heart Mountain Sentinel.

### Letter to Volunteers

"You mention the fact that you are not legally my constituents. In this I hardly agree. It might be that you are not voting constituents of mine, but as a United States Senator I hope that I represent all citizens of the United States rather than just the citizens who might have the right to vote either for or against me." —From letter to Topaz Volunteers from Senator Abe Murdock, Democrat from Utah. Topaz Times, April 6.



## Vagaries

### Fair Play . . . .

The work of the California Fair Play committee in seeking democratic justice for citizens of Oriental ancestry has driven home to many a nisei in war relocation centers the heartening fact that a substantial number of their fellow Americans do not subscribe to the race-baiting of certain west coast pressure groups . . . There is a movement under way to form similar committees in Portland and Seattle. Meanwhile similar committees may be formed in intermountain cities.

### Legion of Merit . . . .

The nisei soldiers who were awarded last week the medals of the Legion of Merit are among the first U. S. soldiers to receive the new honor. The Legion of Merit was recently authorized for those persons in the army who have distinguished themselves by exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service where the service performed was necessarily in a duty of great responsibility warranting the award of the Distinguished Service Medal . . . Wilfred Tsukiyama, former attorney for the city and county of Honolulu, and the first Hawaiian nisei to volunteer for the new combat team, is one of Honolulu's four zone wardens for the city's scrap metal drive.

### Junket . . . .

With the advent of spring some congressmen with an eye toward a possible junket are now recommending a tour of war relocation centers by a house of representatives committee. A senate committee recently completed a similar tour. . . . The Gila River News-Courier last week published a letter hinting that "friendly alien" status may be conferred upon aliens whose sons are now in the armed forces of the United States. . . . The Yasui and Hirabayashi test cases on evacuation orders may be heard by the U. S. Supreme Court on May 10. . . . Many national religious and liberal organizations and individual leaders have protested General DeWitt's "a Jap is a Jap" statement. . . .

### Acrobat . . . .

Walter Winchell told the story last week of a Japanese acrobat in America who went to Japan just before the start of the war. There he was drafted into the army, being of Japanese birth. More than a year later the U. S. marines landed on Guadalcanal, started to wrest the big Solomons' island from the Japanese. One day a company of marines saw a white flag energetically waving in the distance. They went closer and saw that a Japanese soldier wanted to surrender. As the marines came up the soldier said in perfect English: "For heaven sake! What took you so long!" It was the one-time Japanese acrobat, now turned soldier.

Masao Satow, former secretary of the Japanese YWCA in Los Angeles, may leave Granada center for YMCA work in eight WRA centers outside of California. He may make his headquarters in Salt Lake City . . . A little American girl of Korean ancestry, a resident of Hawaii, has been invited by the city of Houston, Texas, to christen a new U. S. warship which will be named after her hero husband, a navy radio operator who died in the fighting in the Philippines. The ship will be called the U. S. S. Petitt . . . Peter Goo Chong, a young Chinese American actor, plays Mamoru Shigemitsu, Japanese ambassador to Great Britain, in the Warners film, "Mission to Moscow." The Chinese American thespian was in the cast of ill-fated played about love and admirals at Pearl Harbor, called "The Admiral Takes a Wife," which was scheduled to open on Broadway the week of December 7. Another member of the cast was the nisei actor, Shiro Takehisa, formerly of Los Angeles. Most of the comedy in the play centered about the activities of the two Oriental American actors. After a tryout in Baltimore, the cast arrived in New York for the Broadway opening. Then came

## "Brothers Under the Skin"

### Carey McWilliams' New Book Discusses Related Problems Of Non-Caucasian Minorities

By ROBERT R. TSUDA

A historical perspective on the entire race relations situation in the United States, a viewpoint for the long future, and a program for immediate, wartime action are provided by Carey McWilliams in his latest book, "Brothers Under the Skin." (Little, Brown and Co., New York, 325 pp., \$3.00.)

The author, who has served as chief of the Division of Immigration and Housing in the State of California, has come to be well known to the minority groups in the United States and to be recognized as an authority in the field of race relations. Previously published books of his include "Factories in the Field" and "Ill Fares the Land."

In this book, his treatment of the subject is based on the belief that the problem faced by a racial minority group is fundamentally that of a "high visibility" which enables others to identify the members of the group and place them in a special position in society; and that, therefore, the problem is essentially a problem of "cultural adjustment, susceptible to social invention and intelligent manipulation."

This emphasis on "high visibility" as the fundamental factor in race relations, of course, places the author in direct opposition to those who hold that the essence of race grouping lies in unique factors possessed by the members of the group, which forever must set them apart as "unassimilable."

This "high visibility" principle also brings together all the minority groups under this single factor and unites all the problems of all the groups into one, continuous problem.

It is in this light that his study is presented, showing how each group has inherited, and contributed to, the ills of the others. In the order given, chapters are devoted to the Indians, the Chinese, the Japanese, the situation in Hawaii, the Puerto Ricans and other islanders, the Filipinos, and the Negroes.

This unity and continuity of the problem, moreover, extends past our national boundaries, in the author's belief, to all of the western hemisphere and to all of the world. "The problem of colored minorities in the United States is merely a reproduction on a miniature scale of a set of similar problems which will be faced by whatever federation of powers or international organization emerges from this war," he writes, as a case in point. "Our Indian problem has its parallel throughout Central and South America. Our Negro problem has its parallel in the West Indies, in Central America, in Africa. Our small-scale problem with the natives of American Samoa and Guam has its stupendous counterpart in the whole problem of native peoples throughout the Pacific area."

And in this extension, a radical change occurs in the situation—the minority emerges as the majority. While it is patently true of the world population as a whole that the so-called "colored peoples" are in the majority, the author further points out that the same situation virtually exists for the western hemisphere as well.

In short, if we were to divide the population of the western hemisphere into two general classifications, "white" and "colored" (including in the latter group all those who, in the United States, would be distinguishable by a different coloration), we should probably find that the balance tipped in favor of the colored and mixed-breed groups," he writes. "Such a

the attack on Pearl Harbor. It was no time for comedy, especially for comedy on Pearl Harbor. The curtain never rose on the play. The closing of the play came as quite a blow to the two actors since the show had represented the "big chance" on Broadway for both of them. Peter Chong went on to Hollywood where producers are crying for Oriental types, particularly Japanese. But for the nisei actor evacuation meant a blackout on film hopes for the duration.

method of computation would be scientifically inexact and many groups would deny most vehemently that they belonged in the 'colored' category; but from the point of view of the prevailing race moves in the United States the grouping would be most significant."

It is this significance, with its attending implications, that is perhaps of the greatest concern to the author in the entire field of race relations; for the author, along with this viewpoint, holds also the outlook that we are entering into a new chapter in race relations in which the problem "will be worked out on a global basis and will necessitate tremendous internal changes in many countries, including our own."

In the concluding paragraph of his book, the author says:

"Some years ago, it was my good fortune to meet Byron Danton of the New York Times. We spent some time together traveling through the San Joaquin Valley in California, where I was endeavoring to show him, at first hand, something about the migrant problem. Recently he was killed in an accident on the New Guinea front and was buried in the military cemetery at Port Moresby. He is in good company there, writes a colleague, for he was buried along with another American, a Negro soldier, an Australian sailor, and a native of the Papuan infantry. That this would have pleased Danton, Robert Sherod of Time is certain, for he had the firm conviction that all men would one day be brothers, or they would be slaves. This is the lesson which America must learn, for it is not only the color of America that has changed: the color of the world has changed."

With this as his point of view to the future, the author's emphasis on the past is directed to the criticism that race relations in the United States has been almost entirely of regional character, in the lack of national interest and in the lack of federal power to act even where interest was aroused; and that this regional control has been exercised along lines of bi-racialism and exclusion, through measures directly effected in the region or conceived regionally and blown into national congressional legislation through pressure-politics.

"All but one of some eight anti-Chinese measures passed by Congress were passed on the eve of national elections and for avowed political purposes," he cites, revealing as the crux of the situation the factor of regional prejudices and ambitions saddled onto national politics.

In presenting the case history of the Negro problem, he shows that, relative to the Civil War, the problem was thrust upon the federal government. But in the "reconciliation" period following the war, political considerations relegated to the South the recognition of right to deal with the problem as virtually of exclusive concern and control. And this pattern of regional concern and control, set for the Negroes, has been followed in the main for all racial minorities (except the Indians), as in the case of the Pacific coast and the Oriental groups.

As to the inability of the federal government to intervene, the author calls attention again to the "reconciliation" period, when the Supreme Court, in a series of decisions, nullified congressional legislation designed to carry out the intent of the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendments, to extend to the newly freed Negro the civil liberties defined in the Bill of Rights. In the face of these rulings, the author continues, the government has been powerless to prevent local regions from violating these rights, even when such violations were fraught with international repercussions.

In view of this past situation, in offering an "immediate, practical, wartime program for dealing with race problems in the United States," the author advocates that the federal government shall assume complete control of race relations, and that this control shall be exercised on the principle of "cultural adjustment" as a solution to the problem, rather than

## From the Frying Pan

By BILL HOSOKAWA

### The Nisei Press Is Coming of Age

If the nisei are to be judged by their newspapers, then they as a group have come a long way toward intellectual and emotional maturity within the past year. Today most of the newspapers serving the nisei exclusively are a far cry from the English sections of the Japanese language press which died of evacuation a year ago.

Some day the complete story of the nisei press may be written. It will be an interesting tale of personalities and feuds and pet axes being ground. In its way it will not be dissimilar to the history of the American press, whose early chapters are filled with the conflict of strong hates and earnest soul-searching.

The difference is that the nisei press has made giant strides in little more than a decade. Many of the personalities who edited the first English sections are still active in press work today. Perhaps they look back on their early efforts with a bit of amusement, but it must be said that they started out seriously and with fine intent, and they did lay the foundations for what was to come.

Yet, in most instances, the early nisei press failed to provide the leadership that the nisei needed. Most of the English sections were merely bulletin boards chronicling the whirl of nisei social life. The editorial column was a rarity, and an editorial even more infrequent. The few individuals that tried to provide a positive leadership were unheeded as voices in the wilderness, except, perhaps, by a few sociological-minded students and interested Caucasians.

The early press was not entirely at fault for this infantile outlook. It reflected, as all newspapers must, the temper and spirit of the times. And so it was the adolescent nisei, still removed from maturity, that was reflected in their newspapers.

It must be recalled that a newspaper entirely devoted to the nisei could not be self-supporting. The nisei were not ready economically to carry the burden. The newspapers had to depend on financing by the older generation whose outlook was essentially different from that of the nisei.

Events since December 7, 1941, have matured the nisei far more than many suspect. And now

their newspapers reflect that growth.

Almost all of the 10 WRA center newspapers have strong editorial policies. They differ in a variety of ways. Some are printed, others mimeographed. Some show a high degree of technical skill in reproduction, others betray the fact that their technical facilities are limited and primitive at best. But all are alike in that if there is something to be said, it is said.

The various editors of the center newspapers have varying amounts of experience, and they have had varying amounts of adverse pressure put on them, but in the recent voluntary army enlistment program they were unanimous in support. They were providing an editorial leadership that is a necessary part of evacuee life.

It goes without saying that the Pacific Citizen is definitely in the van among newspapers for the nisei. Its wide contacts, its access to news sources, and its ability to keep currently informed give it a great advantage. It is serving its public well in providing information, but even more important, the Pacific Citizen's vigorous editorial policy is providing a leadership that was not available for the nisei prior to evacuation.

No one can tell how the evacuation and resettlement question finally will be evolved, but its ultimate settlement will depend to a great measure on the nisei press. The Pacific Citizen, as an independent organ, is proving its ability to lead. The center newspapers are in a sense subsidized, but the subsidy comes from a source vitally interested in solving the problem for the benefit of the nisei. At this juncture it would seem that the nisei press is more than holding up its end.

## A Trade Union View:

### Move to Deport U. S. Nisei Endangers Other Minorities

By GEORGE BLUMENSON  
Secretary, Municipal Employees  
Union, Santa Barbara Local  
No. 358

Rising out of the war hysteria, a situation which may well imperil the very things we are fighting has been given altogether too much publicity in the State of California.

"When the war is over," say certain of our politicians, "what about the Japs?"

Well, what about them? What about the Germans, Italians, Finns, Vichy-French, Rumanians, Hungarians, and all the other peoples whose homelands are fighting the United States? We hear no great do about them, and yet they are just as much our enemies as are the Nipponese.

The only saving factor these Caucasian enemies have is the fact that they cannot be distinguished from our Caucasian allies by a mere glance. There are definite reasons why certain elements wish to rid this country of the Japa-

any policy of exclusion or bi-racialism.

The author discusses in some detail his program, which would begin with enactment of civil rights statutes that will give life to the fourteenth amendment and provide to the racial minorities the rights inherent in the Constitution of the United States.

While disagreement may arise as to the merits of the program, and over some of the conclusions embodied in his point of view, the comprehensive past-future-present treatment of the subject provided by the book would seem to give it rank to serve as a definitive approach to the field of race relations in the United States. Certainly, it is a work that is a "must read."

nese, and these reasons have their solutions.

First: It is charged that the Japanese will work for less than the Caucasian; that the Japanese standard of living is lower than the American standard of living.

This problem must be met and faced by the unions. We have been lax in the past, but had the (American) Japanese been unionized, they would not have been working for less, and their standard of living, were they receiving equal pay on an equal basis with union men, would have risen accordingly.

Second: It is charged that ALL Japanese are disloyal to the United States. Certainly there were Japanese serving with our armies in the last war; there are AMERICAN soldiers of Japanese descent serving with our armies in this war. Are these men disloyal? True, there is a certain percentage of the Japanese population in this country which was and still is disloyal, but how about such people as the German American bundsters? Can these people change flags overnight? Can the leopard change his spots?

Certainly there are or can be set up federal organizations which can judge which of these aliens and citizens are guilty of disloyal acts. Then, and only then, is the time for action. The disloyal aliens should be deported, the disloyal Americans of Japanese, German or whatever descent they may be, should be punished according to American law.

After all, many of these so-called Japanese are American citizens born and raised here. We are fighting to preserve our American rights and privileges—so are most of these American-Japanese.

Once we start deporting whole-

(Continued on page 6)



## CALLING All Chapters!

By Teiko Ishida

### WE ACKNOWLEDGE

receipt of the \$1000 from the Portland Chapter at Hunt, Idaho . . . it will be remembered that this contribution was announced shortly after a meeting of the group in Minidoka . . . we also have to acknowledge with thanks a personal donation of \$25.00 from the former president of the chapter, Newton K. Wesley (Uyesugi), now attending Earlham College at Richmond, Indiana.

### SPECIALLY EARMARKED

for JACL Resettlement Work, last week the local Japanese Relocation Aid Committee donated the sum of \$110.00 . . . Jerry Katayama is now the chairman of the committee, with the aid of such able helpers as Mrs. Mary Kasai, Sachi Kasahara, Nobu Miyoshi and others . . . proceeds of the carnival sponsored by this group, with the cooperation of various local nisei organizations, a few weeks ago were used to make up part of this worthy contribution.

### JACL RESETTLEMENT

work is now well under way with the re-opening of our Chicago Midwest office under the experienced and capable supervision of Dr. T. T. Yatabe, past national president . . . the address of our office there is room 1008, 189 West Madison . . . our other resettlement office is continuing to offer more and greater service under the management of Earl Tanbara, 1725 James Street, St. Paul, Minn. . . of course, our Denver office, soon to be opened by membership director Joe Masaoka will also aid in resettlement . . . a news story appears elsewhere in this issue, while national headquarters is issuing a bulletin outlining our policy, aims and procedure with regard to resettlement . . . this bulletin will be mailed to all Associated Members as well as Active Chapter and center leaders.

### A CHANGE IN

our stenographic and clerical staff is temporarily leaving us short-handed . . . Fumi Yaki, formerly with the JACL in San Francisco and connected with this office since last November, left on the Challenger last night for Chicago where she will carry on her work assisting Dr. Yatabe . . . Utako Takasu, who has been handling circulation and distribution of the Pacific Citizen ever since publication was resumed in Salt Lake City last June, also left for Chicago on the same train to seek other connections . . . the entire staff went to the UP depot Tuesday evening to wish the girls "bon voyage" . . . our present set-up finds Atsuko Shigematsu on a full time instead of part time basis, handling the Pacific Citizen circulation . . . as stenographer we have the temporary services of Smiles Kinoshita, until recently secretary to the Legal Aid Department, Camp 2, Poston, Arizona . . . Miss Kinoshita is considering federal government work and we are momentarily awaiting replacement from Topaz . . . so, if there is some delay in our correspondence we hope you will bear with us and sympathize with our situation.

### OF SPECIAL INTEREST

will be the news that the San Benito Chapter is still carrying on as a unit in Poston, Arizona . . . of the 50-odd chapters formerly active prior to evacuation, this group is the only one still officially affiliated with national headquarters.

## Heart Mountain Art Students Establish League

HEART MOUNTAIN, Wyo. — Heart Mountain art students claim a bit of Paris in their center with their Art Students' League, according to the Sentinel.

The center league is a branch of the Los Angeles league, which is a direct "import" from the Art Students' league of Paris.

Of approximately 250 students enrolled, over half are active in the league. The league is under the direction of Estelle Ishigo, while instructors include Hideo Date, Bob Kuwahara, Benji Okubo, Shingo Nishiura and Yoneji Morita.

More than 3,000 persons witnessed the latest exhibit held by the league within the first three days of its showing.

## Ann Nisei Says: Easy-to-Make Accessories Add That Spring Look

This is the time of year when you need winter clothes for warmth, but new spring things for that spring lift. We aren't ready yet for light, summery things, but our spirits certainly are.

Sometimes all a dark dress needs is a fluffy white jabot to give it a new spring look. Sometimes a white hat and short white gloves will turn the trick.

Here are a few suggestions for making "easy-as-pie" accessories. Most of them can be made within an hour. All of them are guaranteed to be just what the doctor ordered for a winter-weary wardrobe.

**Ribbon Bow Hat:** This is easy as pie, takes one yard of three-inch wide ribbon, a comb (the slightly curved kind) and some veiling.

Tie the ribbon into a big flat bow, tacking down if necessary. Cut circle of net about 24 inches in diameter. Attach bow to net about six inches in from one side. Sew comb to underside of bow. The bow is worn straight across, flat and a little forward on the head. Try the hat on, taking a few stitches in the net to tack gathers in place.

For real glamor, try black velvet ribbon and black net with chenille dots.

**Instant Lapel Pins:** If you have a couple of interesting buttons and a scrap of ribbon you can make these without spending a cent.

If you haven't any buttons, you might consider buying a card of buttons—tiny gold hands, for instance (available at the dime store), military insignia buttons, miniature dolls, etc.

To make matching lapel pins, you'll need about 12 inches of ribbon.

Cut two six-inch lengths. Slant ends. Then fold in half, pulling ends apart slightly. Sew buttons to ribbon just beneath fold. Attach to lapels with safety pins.

**Jabot:** A white jabot does wonders for a suit or dress. Since this takes so little material you can probably make it out of a remnant. Use most any sheer white cotton, organdy, eyelet, etc.

Cut three ovals 8 inches wide, 14 inches wide. Hem all edges. Add very narrow crochet-type lace, if desired. Using loose tension, stitch down along center (lengthwise) from top to bottom in two rows half inch apart. Gather these threads and draw up till jabot is about eight inches long. Have gathers slightly fuller at one end that will be top end.

Cut strip 1 1/4 inches wide, 8 1/2 inches long. Turn in quarter inch hem all around and press. Place this on top of center line (the stitched lines of jabot). Baste, stitch down. Sew four tiny pearl buttons evenly along this top strip.

**Dickey:** Any sport shirt or shirt-waist dress pattern can be used to substitute for a dickey pattern. In other words, all that's necessary is a pattern with a collar and one that buttons down the front.

You need two pieces for the simplest dickey: the collar and the blouse front. The collar goes as is, but you have to do a little surgery on the front.

Cut off about three inches from the length of the blouse front. If you're using a shirt pattern, mark a point on the center line three inches above the waistline mark, draw a line straight across. If you're using a dress pattern, mark off a line three inches from the bottom of the pattern. Now, make a point on this line four inches out from the center line of the shirt. (Not from the edge of pattern, but from center line.) On the shoulder mark off a point four inches from the neckline. From this point make a line to the point marked off on the bottom line.

This makes your pattern. If your original pattern had a separate facing for the blouse front, cut out four pieces from this pattern (two for the new facing). Also cut two collars.

If, in your original pattern, the facing was part of the front and merely folded back, cut two of your new pattern pieces (and two collars), for you retained the facing in your new pattern.

Be sure to mark the buttonholes. Stitch collar pieces together along outer edge. Turn right side

## Nisei Evacuees Perform at Midwest Legion Post Meeting



SAKIKO SHIGA  
Plays For Legion Post

## Union Leader Comments on Deportation Move

(Continued from page 5).

sale groups of American citizens, we are setting a dangerous precedent—for who is to say who shall be deported and who shall not? If such a precedent is once started, it may easily spread to embrace religious, racial and other groups of nationalities. One of the things America has been proud of—one of the things which has made this country great—is that we are a polyglot nation.

The solution to this problem rests with the labor unions and with the government, which should make dual citizenship and dual allegiance illegal—and which should investigate before setting any dangerous precedents.

But before we attempt any solution to this problem, there is one other problem which must be met. We must beat Japan and Germany—and certainly the loyal Americans of Japanese descent are willing to help—along with all other loyal Americans.

The article by Mr. Blumenson originally appeared in the April 9 issue of the Ventura, Calif., Ventura County Labor News. It is republished here as an expression of what one trade union leader in California thinks of the current movement of certain California pressure groups "to deport the Japs" after the war.

## Eugene Kono Speaks To Des Plaines Post Of Veterans' Group

By JOE OYAMA

DES PLAINES, Ill.—The nisei are well assimilated into the normal community life of Des Plaines.

Des Plaines is a small suburban town of Chicago with a population of some 8200 inhabitants, located approximately 12 miles from the Loop in downtown Chicago.

Tuesday night, April 6, Eugene Kono and Sakiko Shiga, invited as special guests of Commander Einar J. Anderson, were featured on a program before the membership of the local American Legion post 26, together with one of America's outstanding aeronautical engineers, Nelson A. Baird, project engineer of the B-19, from Santa Monica, Calif.

About the meeting, the local Des Plaines Suburban Times wrote (April 8, 1943): "It was an unusually fine program that brought together an almost full attendance of post members. For, in addition to Mr. Baird, Commander J. Anderson had as special guests a number of Japanese American evacuees from relocation centers in Arkansas and elsewhere."

"After a short business meeting, the entertainment was opened by Miss Sakiko Shiga, an accomplished violinist from the University of Washington, who gave a splendid rendition of the difficult Bach-Gounod "Ave Maria," with Miss Joyce Nimitz of the Main high a cappella choir as accompanist. Miss Shiga, American-born Japanese, located in Montana on the outbreak of war with Japan, and thus anticipated the evacuation order. She is now living in Des Plaines and is employed by the Photo Service, Inc.

"Commander Anderson then introduced Eugene Kono, who only two months ago was released from the relocation camp in Arkansas, and who is now employed as a drafting engineer in Chicago, and lives with Mrs. Kono in Park Ridge. He immediately won the enthusiastic approval of the Legionnaires with his clean-cut story of his experiences. He was finishing his last semester at the University of California when evacuation was ordered. His record, however, had been so fine that the university advanced his graduation date so he could receive his B. S. degree before reporting to the assembly center at Fresno. After his talk, he answered numerous questions from the floor."

## Asiatic Americans Back Bill For U. S. Naturalization Rights

### Mercantonio Proposal Will Amend Present Citizenship Statutes

NEW YORK — Representatives of various Asiatic groups hitherto ineligible to become naturalized citizens of the United States decided at their meeting last week upon a six-point program to publicize and campaign for the passage of the Mercantonio bill.

The bill, officially known as H. R. 2011, which would amend the present naturalization law so that persons of Oriental nationality can become citizens of the United States, was introduced in Congress by Vito Marcantonio, representative from New York, and is now in the Immigration and Naturalization Committee of the house.

On the east coast, representatives of Chinese, Japanese, Indian and Caucasian American groups have been meeting since the intro-

duction of this bill. Already many letters have been received supporting the bill, according to a member of the joint group. At its last meeting, a letter was read from a Filipino organization on the west coast pledging its full support in the campaign. The American Committee for the Protection of the Foreign Born is acting as the coordinating organization for the campaign.

The six-point program to be initiated immediately is as follows:

1. A petition will be circulated to obtain at least one million signatures of people favoring the bill.

2. Endorsement of the bill will be obtained from prominent Americans.

3. A mass meeting in which all Asiatic groups in America will be represented will be called in New York followed by like meetings in other sections of the country to educate all Americans to the importance of this bill and to enlist their active participation in the campaign.

4. Pamphlets will be published to bring about a thorough understanding and to arouse interest in the problem of the whole relationship of the Asiatic people to the rest of the American people.

5. A national broadcast is planned, with Congressman Marcantonio as speaker.

6. Advertisements publicizing the bill will appear nationally in newspapers.

The Japanese American Committee for Democracy, representing the Japanese group, stated that ad-

## JACL News

## Colorado Calling!

By JOE MASAOKA  
Director, JACL Membership

ROCKY FORD'S COUNTRY-SIDE is dotted with evacuation episodes. A year ago five families in California had snipped a carload of their household effects here. When they arrived, their freight had been unloaded on a landing dock near the railroad station. A group of the aroused local citizenry gathered about and with shouts of "Japs, keep moving," they forced the evacuees to load their belongings on an out-bound freight and leave town.

"WE DON'T SERVE JAPS HERE" is a sign over the doorway of a Rocky Ford cafe-bar. The Denver Fellowship of Reconciliation is sending them a copy of the Colorado statute, providing penalties for refusing service to anyone on account of race, color, or creed.

The Haradas, largest growers and shippers of fruit and vegetables hereabouts, were forced to change their brand and trademark when a local group protested the illustration of a sunset on their brand.

RESIDENTS OF VROMAN, four miles northwest on the highway, refuse to lease any land to Japanese. Manzanola, three miles farther up the road, felt likewise until the sugar beet harvest. At that time furlough beet workers from Granada Relocation Center topped beets here. After the work was through, they said, "Just take out for our groceries, and give the money coming to us in War Bonds." Now those with Japanese faces are welcome.

SWINK TOWNSPEOPLE, a year ago, held a mass meeting to oust all Japanese in the surrounding area. Talk of violence and forced ejections was rampant in the frenzied city hall. It required the personal intervention of Governor Carr, Denver U. S. Attorney Tom Morrissey and General J. L. De Witt to quell the disturbance.

REV. JAMES SUGIOKA is a missionary in this area who is creating much good-will. His duties consist of visiting and talking before the various churches in southeastern Colorado, explaining the evacuation situation. Rev. Sugiooka was the former executive secretary of the National JACL. He was an electrical engineer and contractor in his home town of Hollister before he evacuated to Denver. Because of so much misunderstanding current among the rural population regarding Japanese Americans, Sugiooka assumed his present position. Reportedly, he is doing excellent work.

HAILSTONES, BASEBALL size, bombarded a two-mile wide by nine-mile long strip of countryside last summer. Foliage from trees and bushes was stripped and standing crops were beaten to the ground. Roofs were splintered and windowpanes shattered. The storm had come from the north. Now all roofs on the northward side of houses and barns are laid with new shingles. Telephone poles, especially those smoke-blackened by weeds burned around them, are clearly indented and marked by the round shots of the hailstones.

A PARALLEL was drawn between this nature's storm and last year's man-made storm which resulted in the evacuation of those of Japanese ancestry living in the coastal and prohibited strip. This was the theme brought out when I talked before a group of nisei residents gathered in the home of Rev. James Sugiooka, recently. Present were: Mrs. Janet Sugiooka, Lucy Taguchi, Yuji Harada, Roy Nishimura, Tom Ushiyama, Sammy Maruyama, Tom Nakayama, and Mr. Tracy.

EXPLANATION OF JACL activities among nisei seems all that is necessary to swing their support to the organization. This will be speeded up when the Denver office is established after the first of May. Colorado nisei are translating their assent to the JACL program by becoming members in ever-increasing numbers.

ditional information, as well as campaign material in the immediate future, may be obtained from them. The committee also added that suggestions, comments and information about publicity will be appreciated.



# California 'Little Dies' Group Charges Evacuees Pampered

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — The charge that "an overwhelming pampering of Japanese evacuees" in relocation centers has become the policy under the War Relocation Authority was made on April 16 in a report jointly submitted by the American Legion and Senator Jack B. Tenney's investigating committee on un-American activities.

The report, which was ordered printed into the senate journal, was made by Tenney, who served on both committees.

The report recommended that the administration of all relocation centers be placed under the United States army.

It also proposed that Americanization and English courses be established, and that efforts be made to "segregate subversive from loyal evacuees."

The report explained that "taking of testimony under oath was resorted to in order to overcome the inability of the committee to summon and interrogate witnesses and inspect the relocation centers freely."

Due also to this lack, the report said, the "investigation is necessarily incomplete and many reports and allegations by numerous citizens of California have not been completely checked and verified."

The report included the following charges:

"When the Japanese were evacuated and placed in the relocation centers government officials established the policy of treating the evacuees in a 'most civilized manner' in order to secure decent treatment for American soldiers and sailors who might become prisoners of war of the Japanese. An overwhelming pampering of the Japanese evacuees has been the result of this policy under the War Relocation Authority.

"Your committee learned that

many citizens in this (the Tule Lake) community are apprehensive and fearful, realizing that the military authorities could not intervene in any, other than a dire, necessity.

"In a sudden riot or outbreak, the citizens believe that, even though military forces moved with lightning speed, their assistance would come too late.

"Witnesses, in sworn affidavits, have declared that they look upon the situation at Tule Lake as alarming and a 'potential danger' . . . through the administration of the camp, to the citizens of the community.

"Citizens in and around Tule Lake declare that Caucasians were hired with truck in 1942 to haul potatoes for the internees and that the Japanese have gone on strike from time to time and have refused to participate in labors, the results of which are designed for their own benefit, such as unloading coal which had been brought to the camp for their particular comfort. It was stated under oath that between four and five hundred acres of barley were left unharvested in the Tule Lake center, although there was abundant equipment and manpower available.

"It was learned that passes permitting entrance to the camp at Tule Lake were issued by the Japanese themselves.

"Housing in many cases is said to be better than housing in some military training centers being used by our own boys."

## Evacuee Held In Border Area

Entered Prohibited Area on Way to See Mother in Chicago

TUCSON, Ariz.—Border patrolmen arrested Jiro Oishi, 25, an evacuee from the Gila River relocation center, on a railroad train here on April 14 and held him for WRA authorities because he assertedly failed to have proper credentials or an escort necessary in Military Area No. 1, the FBI announced here.

Oishi, according to the FBI, had no right to pass through this military area without authorization from the commanding general of the western defense command.

According to investigating officers, Oishi had in his possession a pass issued by the Gila River project leave officer for a "short-term leave."

Oishi told the officers, they said, that he had been given permission to visit his mother, who is ill in Chicago. Investigation disclosed that the pass was issued on the condition that Oishi go by bus via Globe, avoiding military area No. 1, of which Tucson is a part.

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## Vital Statistics

### BIRTHS

To Mrs. Mitsugu Kawaguchi, a girl, on March 31, at Jerome.

To Mrs. Matsushi Ikeda, a girl, on April 2, at Jerome.

To Mrs. John Toshiyuki, a boy, on April 2, at Jerome.

To Mrs. Takeshige Tabuchi, a boy, on April 3, at Jerome.

To Mrs. Paul Tsunehara (7-12-H, Minidoka), a boy, on April 6.

To Mrs. Kanae Mizuguchi (28-11-A, Minidoka), a girl, Sharon, on April 7.

To Mrs. Chiyeko Suyama (38-7-D, Minidoka), a girl, on April 9.

To Mrs. George Otsuji (65-8-C, Gila River), a boy, on April 8.

To Mrs. Tetsu Kageyama (31-5-C, Gila River), a boy, on April 8.

To Mrs. Toshiko Tsuji (22-14-5, Manzanar), a boy, on April 8.

To Mrs. Umeno Fujisaki (33-7-2, Manzanar), a girl, on April 8.

To Mrs. Sumiko Tokunaga (22-9-2, Manzanar), a boy, on April 10.

To Mrs. Jean Tsukashima (19-3-4, Manzanar), a boy, on April 10.

To Mrs. Henry K. Fujita (10H-12C, Granada), a boy, on April 10.

To Mrs. Takayo Okada (28-4-E, Minidoka), a girl, on April 10.

To Mrs. Kiyo Nakayama (32-8-D, Minidoka), a boy, on April 10.

To Mrs. Hatsuko Sakano (37-2-C, Minidoka), a girl, on April 11.

To Mrs. Yukio Akatagawa (28-24-C, Heart Mountain), a girl, on April 11.

To Mrs. Toshimune Okubo (11G-7B, Granada), a boy, on April 12.

To Mrs. Ito Takehara (12-7-D, Minidoka), a boy, on April 13.

To Mrs. Chika Niimi (16-3-D, Minidoka), a girl, on April 13.

To Mrs. Sam Kumata (2-7-F, Minidoka), a boy, on April 13.

To Mrs. Fukumoto (127-C, Poston), a boy, on April 13.

To Mrs. Fred Ota (6-2-A, Poston), a boy, on April 13.

To Mrs. James Sakamoto (8-3-E, Minidoka), a girl, on April 14.

To Mrs. Masao Okasaki (44-13-F, Poston), a boy, on April 12.

To Mrs. Ken Yokoyama (7K-1A, Granada), a girl, on April 15.

To Mrs. William Uyeki (8-4-D, Rohwer), a girl, on April 15.

To Mrs. Masao Ashimoto (226-1-C, Poston), a girl, on April 15.

To Mrs. Tsukio Shimizu (9-19-D, Heart Mountain), a girl, on April 16.

To Mrs. S. Uchiyama, a girl, at Poston.

To Mrs. Charles S. Sakai, a boy, at Poston.

### DEATHS

Utaro Shioji (10-2-3, Manzanar), on April 8.

Mrs. Kiju Yamada, 70, (309-5-C, Poston), on April 10.

Ishimatsu Teramura, 57, (20-23-E, Heart Mountain), on April 10.

Lily Emiko Abe, 25, 309-1-B, Poston, on April 13.

Mrs. Rio Abe (Block 309, Poston), on April 13.

Mitsuei Sentachi, 63, on April 16, at Heart Mountain.

### MARRIAGES

Masa Yamamura to Lieutenant Roy M. Wierano, on March 31, at Minneapolis.

Barbara Takemoto to Takumi Okada of Jerome, at Denson, Ark., on April 6.

Leona Nakamoto to Frank Inamazu, on April 7, at Rohwer.

Yoneko Kato to Tasumi Nakamura, on April 8, at Gila River.

Ruth Hiraoka to Yukio Matsunaga at Gila River.

Frances Okajima to Frank Kataoka at Phoenix, Ariz.

Kara Matsushita to Sgt. Tak Kondo, on April 10, in Chicago.

Fumi Yaeuchi to Frank Shingu, on April 12, at Poston.

Yoshiko Kubo to Shuzo Kuhara, on April 15, at Poston.

Yoshiko Tanzawa to Frank Fukunaga, on April 17, at Cody, Wyo.

Edith Ito to Harold Horiuchi at Twin Falls, Idaho.

## Rohwer Outpost Staff Is Cut By Relocation

ROHWER, Ark. — Six staff members of the Rohwer Outpost, publication of the Rohwer relocation center, have already relocated, according to that newspaper.

The staff members who have already left are Sus Hasegawa, associate editor; Bob Takahashi, business manager; Naoma Kashiwabara, reporter; Jiro Aratani, sports writer; Tom Nakamura, reporter; and Jun Kasa, technician.

# Takahashi, Osawa Receive Jail Terms for Embargo Violation

Five Year Sentences Imposed by Judge Black In Seattle Court

SEATTLE, Wash. — Charles T. Takahashi and Edward Y. Osawa, former Seattle exporters, convicted last fall at their second jury trial of violation of the United States embargo on exports to Japan, were sentenced to three years' imprisonment by U. S. District Judge Lloyd Black on April 1.

On Monday, two days after the first verdict, Judge Black made a surprise move and announced that he had added two years to the sentences he had imposed on both Takahashi and Osawa. The judge commented that he was not satisfied with the original sentence he had imposed. The defendants are now sentenced to five years in prison.

U. S. Attorney Dennis had suggested that the pair be sentenced to not less than five years and not more than nine.

The sentence was imposed after Tracy Griffin and Samuel B. Bassett, counsel for the pair, had made a plea for a deferment or suspended sentence in order that the defendants might enter the armed forces of the United States along with other volunteers at the Minidoka relocation center in Idaho where they have been living with their families.

Appearing in court, H. R. Sprinkel, senior administrative officer at Minidoka, read a petition signed by Japanese American soldiers of the United States asking that Takahashi and Osawa be asked to join them, according to the Seattle Times.

J. Charles Dennis, United States attorney who had prosecuted the case, had recommended nine to five years apiece.

Takahashi and Osawa, whose first trial ended in a deadlock jury, were last fall found guilty on three counts each—conspiracy, making false affidavits and falsely giving China as the destination of oil-storage tanks sent to Japan.

Each was sentenced by Judge Black to two years on each of the

## Many Evacuees Will Work in Spokane Area

Will Be Employed on Eastern Washington Farms This Year

SPOKANE, Wash. — Edward M. Connelly, United States district attorney, revealed recently that large numbers of evacuees would be employed on eastern Washington farms during the current crop season, according to the Associated Press.

Connelly said most of them would go to the Yakima and Walla Walla areas, but that five had been placed on Spokane valley farms and six brought to the city to serve as domestics.

"Many Japanese are employed now in the asparagus fields in the Walla Walla area, Connelly said, adding the people who protested last year over the employment of evacuees "must get over their race prejudice and recognize that the employment of American born Japanese in that area is a war necessity."

Frank A. Brown, area officer for the War Relocation Authority, said some evacuees were released from the relocation centers to take permanent jobs as farm workers, but that the majority were sent to a crop area for not more than seven months and then returned to the center.

first two counts and three years on the third, the sentences to run concurrently. Both Takahashi and Osawa will be returned to Minidoka until their appeal to the Circuit Court of Appeals is decided.

Bassett and Griffin said the defendants had volunteered for military service as soon as the army decided to accept Japanese Americans again and that they have had their preliminary examinations.

# Utah Official Opposes Use of CCC Housing for Evacuees

County Commission Chairman Roscoe Boden has announced he is taking a firm stand against any plan which would have former CCC camp buildings moved into Salt Lake county to house Japanese Americans recruited for farm work from relocation centers, according to the Salt Lake Tribune.

His statement was made after he and other county commissioners held an informal discussion last week with W. J. Eustice, state purchasing agent, concerning the matter of cooperating with county farm officials in the possible transporting of the former CCC buildings to this area to relieve an acute farm worker housing shortage.

Commissioner Boden stated "Salt Lake county won't spend 5 cents to bring Japanese here" and house them for farm work "while American boys are giving their lives on the war fronts."

"If Japanese are going to be housed in these buildings, I don't think our commission is going to

let the bars down for them any more than California has done," he added.

Commissioner Boden said the county had not been given definite assurance just what kind of farm workers would occupy these structures, and said before the county can take action as an intermediary between the state and the farm officials and farmers it must have a program laid before it.

According to an announcement made recently by Eustice, the state is providing a fund of \$25,000 for transferring portable CCC camp units at Hooper and Huntsville to suitable locations in North Davis and Weber counties for the use of farm workers from the Topaz relocation center.

Necessary additional equipment for the camps will also be provided through this fund, which is to be paid back to the state through a camp assessment of 15 cents per person per day. This assessment will probably be paid by the companies or agencies employing the workers.

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## Evacuees Get Exemption on Property Tax

Attorney General Kenny Rules on Question Posed by Evacuation

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. — Attorney General Robert W. Kenny has ruled that evacuees who have left California are entitled, as is everyone else, to the \$100 householder's exemption on the personal property tax.

The opinion was given to Oran W. Palmer, Kern county counsel, who had suggested that the evacuees were no longer entitled to this exemption since they were absent from the county and their furnishings were stored.

But Kenny held that if such an opinion prevailed, it necessarily must apply to all persons who had been compelled to move by the war emergency—even to those in military service.

## Rivers Co-op Incorporated

Licensed For Business In State of Arizona; Policies Unchanged

RIVERS, Ariz. — Under the name of "Gila River Cooperative Enterprises, Inc., the center's cooperative organization has been incorporated as a District of Columbia cooperative corporation licensed to do business in Arizona, according to an announcement made by the organization.

The announcement revealed that, as of Feb. 28, 1943, the merchandise inventory totalled approximately \$291,000, with accounts payable listed at less than \$80,000. This was compared to an inventory of \$200,000 and liabilities of \$165,000 on December, 1942.

Under the transfer and license agreements from the WRA, the organization receives all assets and assumes all liabilities of the Gila River Community Enterprises, it was said. Gilbert Kuramitsu is continuing as general manager, and it was stated that there will be no change in policy.

## Wyoming Clubmen Ask For Passes For Volunteers

HEART MOUNTAIN, Wyo. — The Cody Lions Club has asked the administration at the Heart Mountain relocation center to provide that center's volunteers with passes to enable them to "leave the camp at will and freely visit any or all of Park county during the remainder of their stay here pending their actual induction into service," according to the Heart Mountain Sentinel.

**WANTED**—To correspond with Japanese girls—all ages—in war relocation centers or elsewhere. Paul S. Franks, 6235 Primrose Avenue, Hollywood, Calif.

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## CIO Union Opens Great Lakes Shipping to Nisei Seamen

NEW YORK—An announcement this week by the National Office of the National Maritime Union, CIO, will mean release from various WRA centers of about 200 nisei seamen, many of whom were serving aboard American merchant marine vessels up to the time of evacuation, to take part in the nation's war effort, the Japanese American Committee for Democracy declared this week.

The committee has been conferring for the past several weeks with trade unions having jurisdiction over these seamen and with government agencies concerned. The meetings have resulted in the announcement by the NMU that all nisei seamen who wish employment on the Great Lakes should get in touch immediately with Jack Lawrenson, vice president, or E. J. Cunningham, NMU port agent, 317 West Fort street, Detroit, Mich.

By agreement with Marine Cooks and Stewards Association, the Marine Firemen, Oilers, Wipers and Watertenders Union, former members of these unions, as well as for-

mer NMU members, will be placed by NMU. In writing NMU, seamen are asked to give their former union affiliation so that their union books can be recognized.

The Great Lakes ports are due to open shortly. There are definite jobs waiting for nisei seamen there, NMU said, and their skills are needed in that area. The committee urged all seamen to write immediately to the Detroit NMU so that they can be assigned work without further delay.

The question of the placement of nisei seamen aboard ships on the Atlantic is now being considered by the Joint Board made up of representatives of the War and Navy Departments, War Shipping Administration and the WRA. Because of the good records of the nisei seamen, mostly Hawaiian-born, some 20 of whom are already engaged in transporting war materials and food across the Atlantic to our allies, there is every hope, the committee stated, that evacuee nisei seamen will also be granted this opportunity of direct participation in a vital war industry.

## 50 Percent of Evacuees May Be Resettled Soon, Is View

We Are Not Fighting Racial War, Gila River Director Says in Talk

PHOENIX, Ariz. — Through the resettlement plan now getting under way it is expected that within a short time about 50 percent of the evacuees in the relocation centers, two thirds of whom are American citizens, will be resettled in non-defense areas, Leroy Bennett, director of the relocation center at Rivers, Arizona, told members of the Phoenix Rotary club at a luncheon meeting held recently at the Hotel Westward Ho.

Bennett discussed problems connected with the resettlement program, explaining that the War Relocation Authority would be glad to fold up the relocation centers, according to a report in the Arizona Republic.

Bennett also pointed out that while we are not fighting a racial war, every time a move is made in this country discriminating against the Japanese, whether native born or foreign born, the Japanese press makes capital of it for consumption in China and other Asiatic countries, singling out what they term undemocratic actions.

He explained that the evacuation had been carried out by the army chiefly to prevent infiltration of Japanese spies and saboteurs from submarines and possible injury to innumerable innocent persons in combatting such activities. The WRA, he said, took over when the evacuees arrived at the relocation centers.

Regarding the cost of these centers, Bennett said the Rivers center would be about 70 per cent self-sustaining by July 1 of this year, which means it will not be drawing heavily on food supplies of Arizona. During the past season, he revealed, about \$300,000 worth of crops were grown at Rivers.

Bennett revealed also that evacuees employed at the center receive from \$16 to \$19 a month, and that it has cost an average of 35.4 cents a day per person to feed the center.

## Watercolor by Nisei Artist Receives Honorable Mention

LOS ANGELES — A watercolor by Henry Fukuhara, resident of the Manzanar relocation center, was given honorable mention at the ninth annual exhibition by alumni of the Otis Art Institute which opened Sunday.

Fukuhara's entry, "Manzanar," will be on exhibit with the nearly 100 other canvases and prints until May 22 at Earl House in Los Angeles.

The nisei artist, former president of the Santa Monica JACL, is now in farm work in Idaho.

## Poston Issues Printed Paper

Chronicle Is First To Be Printed Inside War Relocation Center

POSTON, Ariz. — The first newspaper printed at a War Relocation Authority center has been published at Poston, Arizona, by the staff of the Poston Chronicle.

Heretofore printed center papers have been made up in neighboring towns. Linotype and photo engraving work on the Chronicle are done outside of Poston, but all other work is done in the Poston print shop.

The press was purchased several months ago in preparation for this printed edition.

The Poston Chronicle is published daily except Monday. Staff members include Isao Fukuba, editor in chief; Susumu Matsumoto, associate editor; Yoshiye Takata and Bob Hiratsuka, city editors; Tsugi Teri, copy editor; Joe Toi, sports editor; Bob Amano, business manager; Ken Hirose, promotion manager, and Kaz Oka, editorial liaison.

The staff of the print shop is headed by Saburo Tomita, superintendent, and includes Umon Nakanishi, Roy Sugiura, Tamio Yamada and Tom Nakanishi.

Saburo Tomita is the only Japanese member of the International Printing Pressmen's Union.

The print shop will be enlarged within the near future and conduct vocational training classes held under Tomita.

## May Yoshino Weds Shigeru Horio in Salt Lake Ceremony

Miss May Yoshino, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Y. Yoshino, formerly of Alameda, Calif., and Shigeru Horio, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Toyoji Horio, former residents of San Francisco, were married in Salt Lake City recently.

Horio and his bride were formerly students at the University of California in Berkeley and are at present attending the University of Utah here. Horio is a third year medical student.

## Great Falls Group Opposes Land Sale To Evacuee Farmers

GREAT FALLS, Mont.—Use of Japanese American evacuee labor to assist in sugar beet and general farm production in the Great Falls area was approved, but any effort to establish the evacuees in the commercial truck gardening industry was vigorously opposed by Cascade county commissioners at a public meeting last week.

## JACL Purchases \$2,000 in Bonds

National headquarters of the Japanese American Citizens League in Salt Lake City this week purchased \$2,000 in war bonds, Serial B, it was announced by Hito Okada, national treasurer.

"Despite the drain this sum represents upon our league funds, we feel it is the duty of every citizen to aid the country's war effort by purchasing war bonds," he declared.

"We urge every member of the JACL to cooperate in this community with the war bond drive."

## Youth Escapes From Hospital

Kiyoshi Okubo Found By Authorities at Palo Alto Hotel

PALO ALTO, Calif. — Kiyoshi Okubo, 20, and a companion, Richard W. Whitmore, 24, escaped inmates of Agnew State hospital, made themselves at home in Palo Alto for 24 hours last Wednesday until apprehended by the police.

Registering at a local hotel on April 13, the pair applied for a job with a railroad the following morning; went to the bus station to make inquiries about fares and schedules; received \$46.37 from the Red Cross office after claiming veterans' disability; applied to the board for a ration book, and cashed a check at a restaurant, using the proceeds to go to a show—all in one day.

It was stated that Okubo, who represented himself as Whitmore's brother, was taken for a Chinese.

They made their mistake in placing long distance calls to Santa Clara, near which the Agnew hospital is located. Police officers found them at the hotel in the process of making a call.

The two celebrants were turned over to county officers.

## Arizona Firm Files Under New Law of State

Requires Registration of Groups Dealing With "Restricted" Persons

PHOENIX, Ariz. — The first registration with the secretary of state of Arizona of a person or firm doing business with "restricted" Japanese was filed last week by the accounting firm of Rogers and Bailey of Phoenix.

A new war law, aimed at evacuees of Japanese ancestry, which was passed recently by the Arizona legislature and signed by Governor Osborne, requires the registration of all persons doing business with "restricted" Japanese.

The firm advised Dan E. Garvey, secretary of state, that it is engaged in auditing the accounts of the Gila River Co-operative Enterprises, Inc., which conducts the merchandising commissary at the Rivers relocation center.

## American Legion Posts in Arkansas Fete Volunteers

JEROME, Ark. — Members of three near-by American Legion posts joined with legionnaires in the Jerome war relocation center on April 14 in a send-off party for 36 volunteers for a Japanese American combat team being formed at Camp Shelby, Miss.

A dinner, given by evacuee veterans of World War I, was attended by legionnaires from Lake Village, Dermott, McGehee American Legion posts and members of the Chicot county draft board.

Richard Itanaga, 22, former employee of a Fresno, Calif., automobile agency, said: "We may have volunteered for various reasons; but the basic reasons for that final decision was because we believe our future is with Uncle Sam. We believe this because we feel and are Americans."

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