

# DIES GROUP TO PROBE NIP CAMP ISSUE

### Committee Says Jap-American League Linked With WRA; to Study Detroit Riot Case

WASHINGTON, June 23.—(INS)—Representative Martin Dies (Democrat), Texas, chairman of the House committee probing un-American activities, announced late today this committee will begin sweeping investigations next week into the Detroit race riots, the hiring of Japanese workers by Secretary of Interior Harold L. Ickes and the general conduct of the war relocation authority.

Dies disclosed his committee recently confiscated evidence linking the Japanese-American Citizens League with operations of the WRA. He added public hearings would start next week.

### JAPS IN RIOTS

According to Dies, investigation of Japanese released from WRA camps and their reported propaganda activities also figures in the "Detroit case" of recent race riots. This also will be investigated along with activities of three Japanese-Americans hired on the Ickes farm after they were released from a WRA internment camp in the West, Dies stated.

Ickes said he had nothing to do with hiring of the Japanese-Americans but that it all was arranged by his wife.

Of the files seized from the Japanese-American Citizens League, Dies said:

### WRA DICTATED

"If true, these statements show a very close contact with the War Relocation Authority and other Government officials who have jurisdiction over interned Japanese."

The evidence indicated, Dies added, that the organization "largely dominated policies of the WRA—and dictated some—and constantly was in very close contact with the Authority."

The J. A. C. L., according to its claims, was responsible for the release of many Japanese-Americans interned in various camps, he said.

Dies said his investigators had worked in Detroit for several years investigating various "subversive" organizations in that area accused of spreading racial hate. One Japanese, a Major Takahashi, was apprehended some time ago for activities in connection with the National Workers League and the Universal Negro Improvement Association, Dies said.

### Santa Fe Relocation Camp Swept by Fire

SANTA FE, N. M., June 23.—(INS)—A disastrous fire today swept the Japanese relocation camp on the northern edge of Santa Fe where 5000 Japanese are interned. Government officials immediately opened an investigation to determine the cause of the blaze.

All of the internees and camp employees escaped injury.

Destroyed by the flames were the camp laundry, dining hall, kitchen, recreation hall, store houses and two barracks.

Santa Fe firemen were handicapped in their efforts by a lack of water.

Exploding cans of food simulated gun fire during the blaze and added to the excitement.

## Committee To Fight Race Discrimination

A new committee, headed by Pearl Buck and including Wendell Wilkie on its board, is being organized, and will be called the Committee Against Racial Discrimination in the War Effort. It will fight discrimination in industry, public housing, trade unions, Government civilian employment and the voluntary services, according to Leonard Lyons in San Francisco Chronicle.

## Agent Holds Class for Hawaii Girls

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who invented the sport some 350 years ago.

"It's a great game for women," declares Kami. "In case of an emergency, they can utilize the opponent's strength to the greatest of ease."

But it's not all fun for instructor Kami. Favorite gag of the girls is to shake hands with him on arrival at class and then cartwheel him over their shoulders and on to the floor.

## Washington Issues Reply to Allegations

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of the committee.) Comment: As the War Relocation Authority has pointed out on numerous occasions, evacuees at relocation centers are subject to the same rationing restrictions as all other civilians in the United States. No evidence has been found to prove that any evacuee has ever sent any rationed food to persons outside the centers. If this were done, it could be done only at the expense of the sender's rationed allowance.

### NO PLEASURE DRIVING

(a)—Evacuees in the centers are permitted large quantities of gasoline for pleasure driving, some using government automobiles.

(b)—They have been allowed to bring their own automobiles to the centers and use them mainly for "visiting back and forth."

(Statements attributed to Rep. Joe Starnes, acting chairman of the committee in a United Press dispatch from Washington dated June 2. Rep. Starnes has categorically denied ever having made the statement.) Comment: All of these statements are wholly unfounded. No evacuee is permitted to use a personally owned automobile at any relocation center. Only in a very few cases have evacuee-owned automobiles even been stored within the cen-

### —Dies Checked

(Continued from Page One)

ters, and in all these instances, the cars have been impounded by the WRA. All evacuees who have used their own automobiles in going out of the centers on indefinite leave, have obtained their gasoline through the local ration boards and in accordance with the regular rationing procedure.

*Aug 6, 1947  
Gall*

*53  
43*

# Nisei FBI Agent Holds Class In Jiu-Jitsu for Hawaii Girls

HONOLULU—Though its not usual in the line of work for FBI men, Federal agent R. T. Kami is now instructing an all-women jiu jitsu class at the Honolulu YMBA, according to a story by Betty MacDonald, NEA staff correspondent.

The girls, numbering 50, organized the class with an eye to self protection in case the island was invaded by the Japanese—

who invented the sport some 350 years ago.

"It's a great game for women," declares Kami. "In case of an emergency, they can utilize the opponent's strength to the greatest of ease."

But it's not all fun for instructor Kami. Favorite gag of the girls is to shake hands with him on arrival at class and then cart-wheel him over their shoulders and on to the floor.

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## Washington Issues Reply To Dies Allegations

By carrying on a "count the chickens before they hatch" method of reporting, the nation's press have been publishing numerous statements on the WRA and its program allegedly made by members, investigators, and "spokesmen" of the Dies Committee hearings while the investigation has been going forward—and to some extent even before it was fairly under way, Washington office of War Relocation Authority declares in a statement this week.

Although some of these statements are true; some are completely without foundation in fact and others are compound of half-truths blended with either careless reporting, slipshod investigating, or deliberate distortion. Therefore the Authority has taken time to select some of the more flagrantly inaccurate statements attributed to representatives of the Committee and has prepared factual comment on them.

### RATIONING RESTRICTIONS

"Both alien and American-born evacuees are being fed so well through the Quartermaster Depot of the Army that they are sending packages of butter, coffee and other rationed food to friends outside the center." (Statement allegedly contained in a report submitted by field investigators

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*FREE  
PRESS  
6-26-43*

this country, that none of us—not even the aliens—are accused of any crime or acts or intentions against the security of the United States.

It takes a long time for the facts to catch up with a lie. It will take someone as influential as the President to tell our fellow citizens the truth about us and our parents.

### Hope for Tomorrow

I am emphatically in agreement with you that "excessive hopes" should not be raised in reliance to Judge Fee's decision. In both California and Washington jurisdictions, the Federal Courts have unanimously upheld the action of the Military. Relief that might be eventually

legal decision in either the Circuit Court of Appeals, or the United States Supreme Court, I advocate that steps be taken to place the relocation centers upon a voluntary basis with reference to all American citizens.

However, with reference to your statement that the military could impose martial law in order to prevent us from returning to the Pacific Coast, I vehemently disagree. It is an established principle of law, and so reiterated by Judge Fee in his decision, that martial law may not be imposed with impunity by the military commanders at their whim and discretion, save for and except in the event of dire and utter necessity.

However true these legal principles may be, the practical aspects of the situation are inescapable. I most heartily commend the statement that "we may strike out anew to make our destinies in this, our country." Ours is to look forward to new frontiers, to new homes and living, without attempting to challenge reality by attempting to return from relocation centers to the Pacific Coast where we are not at present wanted by the military. Yes, there is hope for tomorrow!

Minoru Yasui  
Multnomah County Jail  
Portland, Oregon

(These are excerpts from a letter to the editor by Minoru Yasui, now imprisoned in Portland, Oregon for violation of curfew regulations. Yasui has reference to a Sentinel editorial commenting on the significance of Judge Fee's decision which found the military without authority to regulate the lives of civilians unless martial law had first been declared. Yasui broke curfew to establish a trial case and though American-born, was adjudged an alien and therefore guilty. Lack of space prohibits publication of the entire letter.)

—The Editor

forthcoming will undoubtedly take a long time, possibly so long a time as to be impractical to aid in the immediate problems that now face us today.

However, from the standpoint of evacuee morale, the vast significance of Judge Fee's decision should not be deliberately minimized. It does constitute, the so-called "foot in the door" lead to better things to come, and I feel that anything to give the disillusioned Nisei evacuees even a glimmering of hope is indeed worthwhile. Furthermore, from my own inadequate study of law, I am firmly convinced of the basic soundness of my stand, and confidentially expect that the United States Supreme Court will vindicate those principles of liberty and democracy for which I contend.

The Nisei American must make a formal and legal reservation of his fundamental rights as an American citizen, lest the adverse precedent established by mass evacuation on the sole basis of racial antecedent will pave the way for the extralegal curtailment of our other citizenship rights. This, I believe, is our American duty, not only for ourselves, but to preserve the dignity and sanctity of American citizenship.

Admittedly, as you state in your editorial, the practical aspects are clear—no mass hegrira back to the Pacific Coast would reinstate us in our former position. I have strongly urged that a definite program of relocation be followed, with the assistance of the WRA, including financial assistance wherever necessary. In the event of a favorable

## Editorials

### Welcome to Heart Mountain, Senator Reynolds!

While the nation's statesmen concentrate on winning the war, lesser fry, apparently with nothing better to do, are beginning again to snipe at the War Relocation Authority and evacuees in general. A senatorial investigation of WRA centers is scheduled, and a subcommittee of the Senate military affairs committee will summon Dillon Myer, head of the WRA, according to widely circulated press reports.

Senator Reynolds of North Carolina is quoted in a press dispatch as saying: "Why, the Japs are even given fine bathrooms." With assurance that is amazing, he continues: "The Japs are getting everything and our people aren't getting anything. Why, they won't even let the Japs serve as common laborers."

Just why so much high-priced talent and interest suddenly has become focused on the evacuees is difficult to determine. Perhaps there is a connection between this movement and that in California where state legislators submitted proposals aimed at all persons of Japanese descent regardless of whether or not they are American citizens. At any rate it is obvious that this is not just a case of misunderstanding or misinformation.

The 110,000 of us in the WRA centers, and the \$70,000,000 WRA budget are too insignificant in the light of global war problems and the proposed 1943 budget of \$80,437,000,000 to rate so much attention. Rather, there are other implications, and it remains to be seen whether they are sinister or merely the familiar one of politicoes punishing the well-known football. Whichever the case, we are the victims.

Under the circumstances it does little good for us to proclaim our loyalty, assert that we did not evacuate of our own volition, or cry that we are not being pampered. Those that are against us are not interested in the truth, for certainly up to now there have been plenty of opportunities for interested individuals to ascertain the facts.

And yet we should welcome a senatorial investigation. We would be glad to have Senator Reynolds spend a month with us behind barbed wire and under the watchful eye of sentries who wear the same uniforms worn by our brothers, husbands and sons serving in the United States forces. We should be pleased to share our one-room apartments and the rationed mess hall fare with him, and perhaps walk through the snow with him to our "fine bathrooms" when the temperature is 30 degrees below zero.

We would welcome having him join our men shoveling coal out of freight cars for about eight and one-half cents per hour, or cleaning out an irrigation ditch for the same salary, or struggling all night in sub-zero weather to repair a water main, broken because of faulty construction, for the same remuneration. We would share too, what comfort and luxury we have been able to fashion and contrive with our own hands, scrap lumber and ingenuity from the bare barracks that were our homes when we first arrived.

We doubt if there are 10,000 Americans in all the length and breadth of the land today who would change places with us to enjoy the "coddling" and "pampering" to which we have been subjected.

This is not a criticism of the War Relocation Authority. Most of us have utmost confidence in its personnel and its policies. The WRA has done a difficult job well. It has been humane and understanding.

Union. The A. F. L. union endorsed the fourth term at their semi-annual meeting here. The executive committee also endorsed the Wagner-Dingle Social Security Bill.

treated today... received when a... transit bus piloted by Mr... Marie Lambert, 34, collided with a truck.

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CHINESE FOOD

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**Langendorf Bread**  
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# S ANGELES

# AGENCY!

# Japandora



If you remember your mythology you know that Pandora was the curious young lady who let loose all the troubles upon the world.

She did not know what she was doing, but those who are releasing Japs from relocation centers cannot plead ignorance for their actions.



Story of the Week

Dies Committee Takes Credit For Japanese Evacuation

WASHINGTON — The Dies committee, in its annual report issued last week, takes credit for the evacuation of persons of Japanese ancestry from the west coast.

Summing up its year's work, the Dies committee (the congressional committee to investigate un-American activities, Martin Dies, chairman) recalled that it had issued a "yellow paper" on Japanese espionage in America.

Concerning this "yellow paper" on Japanese propaganda, the majority report of the Dies committee said:

"A direct result of the committee's report on Japanese subversive activities in this country was the removal of the Japanese population from the vital west coast area."

In a minority report, issued in conjunction with the majority of the report, Representative Jerry Voorhis of California referred to the Dies committee's claim as being responsible for evacuation as "extravagant."

Rep. Voorhis charged that the Dies committee was suppressing evidence of Axis activity in a minority report which was sharply critical of the work of the committee.

Voorhis also said members of the committee were not even given a chance to discuss or amend the annual report. The Californian, a liberal member of the committee, said that the Dies group had refused to publish the most important information in its possession and might persist in its refusal. He indicated that this information concerned operations of pro-Axis organizations in this country.

Although the Dies committee took credit for the publication of its "yellow paper" on Japanese propaganda in its report on its 1942 activities, the "yellow paper" was actually issued in October, 1941. At that time it was attacked on the floor of the House by Rep. Thomas Eliot of Massachusetts, a member of the House liberal bloc, who charged that the "yellow paper" presented no new information and that most of the information had been copied, word for word, from a news-letter issued in Los Angeles and that this news-letter was available for 19 cents. Congressmen, criticizing the Dies "yellow paper," said that most of its information was available in the public library.

California Legislators Open Attack on Nisei Citizenship

Engle-Lowrey Resolutions Ask Congress for Revocation of Rights of Japanese Americans

SACRAMENTO—The first of several proposed legislative attacks against American citizens of Japanese ancestry and alien Japanese was recorded in the California legislature last week, the United Press reported.

Senator Clair Engle of Red Bluff and Assemblyman Lloyd Lowrey of Yolo county joined on two resolutions and two bills to crack down on American-born Japanese, who have been evacuated along with alien Japanese from the west coast area. Assemblyman A. G. Thurman of Colfax also had a joint resolution memorializing congress to restrict all persons of Japanese ancestry.

Assembly Hall

WORK ALREADY BEGUN BY WORKS DIVISION

Equipped with the authorized WRA plans, which have been approved by the San Francisco and Washington, D.C., offices, the public works division has already put stakes in for the new high school assembly hall which will be located on the firebreak between 7 and 13, disclosed Lucy Adams, director of the community services department and Shigeru Nakanishi, draftsman of the public works division.

This barn styled assembly hall will be used as a community assembly room and gymnasium as well as an auditorium, stated Mrs. Adams. Glen Nakamura, chief draftsman of the public works division, added that movies can be shown there because of the projection booth, which will be provided. A regular size basketball court will be within the hall.

Mrs. Adams stated that essentially required buildings will be built along with the assembly hall like the science laboratory and the work shop. The school barracks now used as class rooms are to be used permanently.

Shop and health rooms as specified in the plans are to be located at the rear of the assembly hall. Location of the science laboratory has not yet been decided. The work shop is 20 feet by 100 feet and the health room, 20 feet by 10 feet.

The Assembly hall will be 118 feet by 118 feet which will contain a 30 by 22 foot stage, 2 dressing rooms, 1 storage room, 2 furnace rooms, locker room and shower room. There will be one main entrance with 8 side doors.

Requests also have been sent to have the wash room space enlarged for the high school students.

NISEI UNIT PRAISED

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—The 100th Infantry Battalion, G.H.Q. reserve, was highly praised today by Lieut. Gen. Farrant L. Turner. This unit is composed of men of Japanese descent.

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Final plans for the Manzanar worked out in between the army t Director Ralph E

As these measures were introduced, other members of the state legislature said they had similar measures in the making, or would join in pushing the original proposals.

Senator Engle, former district attorney of Red Bluff, represents Tehama county. Assemblyman Lowrey recently urged the state personnel board to push disbarment proceedings against the state's discharged civil service workers.

First Test Awaited There was no indication, it was stated, as to what favor the anti-Japanese measures would have, since the first test of legislative sentiment will come in the committees to which the measures will be referred, and the bills have yet to be introduced and referred.

The legislative activity was seen in some quarters as the first step of a concerted campaign by certain California interests to prohibit the return of evacuated Japanese to the state.

Discussing the anti-Japanese (Continued on page 3)

California Legislator Receives Resolutions Attacking Nisei Rights

(Continued from page 1).

fishing bill which he had proposed. Lowrey said that the prohibition against "persons ineligible to citizenship" would not deal unfairly with the Chinese and other Orientals who would also be barred by the provisions, since the "Japanese are the only Oriental people who engage in commercial fishing off the California coast."

The authors of the measures declared that the basic inability of "Japanese nationals" to be assimilated as Americans has been shown clearly "by the necessity of confining them, citizens and aliens alike, in relocation centers for the protection and safety of the American people at war—a procedure not found to be necessary in the case of other enemy aliens."

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor: A friend of mine, A. B. Larson of Los Angeles, sent me the enclosed clipping from the letters to the editor section of the San Francisco Examiner. I thought you and other residents of Heart Mountain might be interested.

Yoshie Hashimoto 8-23-C

The text of the letter follows: "Director Hoover of the FBI has stated officially that there was no sabotage committed in Hawaii prior to December 7, 1941, or on December 7, or subsequent to that time."

"The Tolian Committee says: We cannot doubt, and every one is agreed, that the majority of Japanese citizens and aliens are loyal to this country."

"Lieut. Col. Farrant L. Turner, commanding officer, 100th Infantry Battalion, U. S. A., made up of Americans of Japanese descent in Hawaii, and stationed in Hawaii on Dec. 7, stated: "Those of us who had the privilege to witness the demonstration of these boys on the morning of December 7 would never dare question their loyalty."

"Blake Clark says in 'Remember Pearl Harbor: The local Japanese did not fail us. Police Chief Gabrielson told me, "there has not been one single act of sabotage

committed by a Japanese." Quite the contrary. They jumped in where all Americans jumped—into the line of blood donors, to the wheels of ambulances, to surgery as doctors, nurses, attendants.

"The Examiner had a fine editorial on December 14 on the unpatriotism of making racial or group distinctions.

"President Roosevelt has said: 'Remember the Nazi technique, 'Pit race against race, religion against religion, prejudice against prejudice. Divide and conquer. We must not let that happen here.'"

"Anne Graham "Brentwood, Calif."

To the Editor: Some copies of your paper loaned by Mrs. Stafford of Springfield, Mass., interested me so much that I should like to become a subscriber.

You people will make good in spite of injustice and prejudice. Your spirit in the face of these and other difficulties will win the admiration of decent Americans everywhere.

With congratulations, Margaret Shipman Lee, Massachusetts

in Uprising Jailed

PHOENIX, Feb. 3. (AP)—Dan Kobayashi, 19, and his brother Ken, 22, American-born Japanese farmers, were in Maricopa County Jail here today in default of \$500 bond following a hearing yesterday before United States Commissioner Hickernell on charges of resisting F.B.I. agents. The brothers are two of the Japanese arrested at the Poston (Ariz.) war relocation center in connection with an uprising last November. They denied obstructing the Federal officers.

U.S. Atty. Frank E. Flynn said the seven will be arraigned on an enemy internment charge in El Paso, Tex., within next two weeks.

a rough way to the treatment of the Moors in Spain four centuries ago by Antonio R. Martin, Spanish vice consul inspecting Heart Mountain in the interests of the Japanese government.

To many questions shot at him by the temporary council of block chairmen, Martin countered with a frequent, "It is difficult to answer," explaining that evacuation had no real precedent.

While Martin's official interest extends only to the treatment of subjects of Japan, block chairmen asked many questions relating to the welfare of American citizens of Japanese descent.

Questions ranged from requests to provide a more balanced diet to increased cloth-

ation Compared to of Moors in Spain

everyone ing allowances, and fulfillment from the of WCCA clothing allotment compared in Martin is without authority to look after the interests of American citizens but chairmen requested aid in speeding the return of cameras and radios to the citizen group, and urged some method of aiding youths to continue college studies.

For various questions Martin requested the council to draw up petitions which he promised to bring to the attention of authorities in Washington. Shoji Nagumo was acting chairman in charge of the conference while Joe Koide was principal spokesman.

Martin, who is on a tour of various relocation centers, arrived Tuesday and left Wednesday for Topaz, Utah.

Martin delighted to find Samuel Nagata speaks Spanish and the two exchanged remarks in the vice consul's native tongue.

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## GENERAL REGISTRATION OF MEN OVER 17 DUE

### ARMY OFFICIALS DUE HERE SOON TO INTERVIEW VOLUNTEER BUCKS

WASHINGTON, D.C., Feb. 3 (By Wire)—E. M. Rowalt, acting director of WRA, announced here today that a general registration in all relocation centers of all evacuees who are 17 years or over will start next week.

#### GOV. WANTS CARS

Evacuees with cars and trucks in Fresno, who desire to dispose of them, are asked to see Henry Tsurutani at the legal aid department in the Ad building.

## Assembly Hall

### WORK ALREADY BEGUN BY WORKS DIVISION

Equipped with the authorized WRA plans, which have been approved by the San Francisco and Washington, D.C., offices, the public works division has already put stakes in for the new high school assembly hall which will be located on the firebreak between 7 and 13, disclosed Lucy Adams, director of the community services department and Shigeru Nakanishi, draftsman of the public works division.

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CITIZENS of Japanese descent... life could not successfully be negotiated without our fortitude and willingness to serve. May we be fully of this privilege.

Simultaneously, the War Department announced that teams of army representatives left Washington yesterday for Manzanar and other WRA centers to obtain questionnaires from all male American citizens of Japanese ancestry who are 17 years or over.

#### ARMY REPRESENTATIVES

Heading the team of army representatives who will visit the local project is Lieut. Eugene D. Bogardus, accompanied by Sgts. James A. Hemphill, and Irving V. Tierman, and Technician 4th grade, Kenneth M. Uni. Similar teams will visit all other relocation centers to start the registration not to be later than Feb. 10.

#### FOLLOWS STATEMENT

The War Department's action follows the statement made by Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson last Jan. 28, that plans for the admission of loyal nisei into the U. S. Army have been completed. Combat unit of American citizens of Japanese ancestry will be formed for active service in a theatre of war.

All nisei at the Manzanar project who desire to volunteer for service in the combat unit will have an opportunity to do so while the army representatives are here. Nisei who do not desire to volunteer at this time or who are beyond military age will be considered for jobs in agriculture or industry including jobs in plants producing war materials.

#### WOMEN TO REGISTER

Included in the WRA registration to be made at the same time will be all females regardless of citizenship who are 17 years of age or over, and all alien Japanese men over 17 years old. No registration will be made, however, of persons who have applied for repatriation.

Mr. Rowalt explained that through this general registration the WRA expects to get clearance on a large number of employable persons before they apply for leave and thus be able to speed up the relocation program.

#### NOT FORCING RELOCATION

"We are not trying to force any person to relocate who does not desire to do so," Mr. Rowalt said, "but there are increasing opportunities for evacuees to get jobs and if we can get a backlog of registrations on which we can be working, we should be able to get clearance for indefinite leave for many people who later will want to relocate."

Final plans for the registration at the Manzanar project will be worked out in conferences between the army team and Project Director Ralph P. Merritt.

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The brothers are two of the Japanese arrested at the Poston (Ariz.) war relocation center in connection with an uprising last November. They denied obstructing the Federal officers.

U.S. Atty. Frank E. Flynn said the seven will be arraigned before an enemy internment board in El Paso, Tex., within the next two weeks.

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a rough way to the treatment of the Moors in Spain four centuries ago by Antonio R. Martin, Spanish vice consul inspecting Heart Mountain in the interests of the Japanese government.

To many questions shot at him by the temporary council of block chairmen, Martin countered with a frequent, "It is difficult to answer," explaining that evacuation had no real precedent.

While Martin's official interest extends only to the treatment of subjects of Japan, block chairmen asked many questions relating to the welfare of American citizens of Japanese descent.

Questions ranged from requests to provide a more balanced diet to increased cloth-

## ation Compared to of Moors in Spain

everyone ing allowances and fulfillment from the of WCCA clothing allotments pared in Martin is without authority to look after the interests of American citizens but chairmen requested aid in speeding the return of cameras and radios to the citizen group, and urged some method of aiding youths to continue college studies.

For various questions Martin requested the council to draw up petitions which he promised to bring to the attention of authorities in Washington. Shoji Nagumo was acting chairman in charge of the conference while Joe Koide was principal spokesman.

Martin, who is on a tour of various relocation centers, arrived Tuesday and left Wednesday for Topaz, Utah.

Martin delighted to find Samuel Nagata speaks spanish and the two exchanged remarks in the vice consul's native tongue.