

at Long Beach Junior College. He wanted to go on. . . . And he did—to Kalamazoo College in Michigan.

Mother and Dad are living and working at the Jerome Relocation Center in Arkansas even today, patiently waiting for the day when they too can once again enjoy the thrill of living. Mother who at first proclaimed the generosity of the government in caring for people like her, was soon stating very plainly: "It's all right for those of us who are older; but it is pathetic to see the young people. They have a future. . . ."

It has been a year and a half since the evacuation, but it is still a hideous image in the back of my mind. I cannot help but picture all those kids—the average age of the 70,000 Americans in the centers is 21 years and 40 percent of them are below 15 years of age—all the wiener-baking, fun-loving, basketball-playing, studious kids who can become good American citizens if given half a chance.

Some have left, but the majority will wait, hoping that someone will understand that they are guilty of no crime, that they need to live a normal life—as normal as life can be in wartime—in order to grow and mature. Above all, they want people to know that they are "just like any other American."

To me and to most of the 70,000 Americans in the Relocation Centers, Japan is a place far away across an immense ocean. There is no going back to it for us. For me going back always means the drylands of Colorado and Keller School and Christmas programs and wiener bakes and Campus Inn. The mountains that I see in the back of my mind are not those around Fujiyama but the yellow-green and blue-green hills in the heart of the Rockies with the snow-capped peaks in the distance. New York was nothing strange to me because it is like San Francisco and Los Angeles combined, with the Bowery thrown in for good measure. Tokyo would be a strange city whose ways I would have trouble and no desire in learning.

One need not understand the Oriental mind in order to understand us; one needs only to understand the American mind with all its quirks, for we are the product of American culture and environment. Some are wise like Jim and some are queer like me but American nevertheless.

Someone has said we are "pathetically American." We belie our appearances; we cannot help looking Oriental and we cannot help feeling American. We are a problem which war hysteria has created and is a difficult one to solve because we are such damyankees.

It is to be remembered that the bulk of these American citizens are the children of emigrant parents. What sort of lives did their mothers and fathers live, thirty or forty years ago? In the *Pacific Citizen*, organ of the Japanese American Citizens League, Joe Grant Masaoka recently wrote a vivid description:

Relive for a brief moment the raw experiences of your fathers. At the turn of the century, thousands of Japanese laborers were lured from their homeland as contract workers for the railroads and mines and lumber mills and farms. They were herded about almost as droves of cattle. Since few, if any, in the various gangs of workers understood English, all had to take it and like it.

As construction gangs on the railroads, they were shunted about in cattle cars. Sometimes in winter on a forgotten siding, the pitifully huddled group of men almost froze to death. Isolated in railroad shacks, far from their kind, many subsisted sometimes for weeks on a dumpling made of flour, water and salt. Until they made their wants known to their Japanese boss, provisions were not forthcoming. Many were victimized by racketeering methods and prices.

Generally, they wore shoes several sizes larger than

their fit—they didn't know how to exchange them *via* mail order. Not being able to talk or understand the customs of their fosterland, their entertainment was almost nil. When it came to tending to their aches and pains, they were perforce obliged to bear through their ailments, since no country doctor could understand their strange gibberish. Even today, the Issei tongue can scarcely roll out the simple medicines and remedies they need. When they try to pronounce *Mentholatum*, the end result sounds like "lantern." To indicate any article they wanted in a store or drugstore, they either brought back a part of the used item or searched among the stock of the store until they came across the merchandise they needed.

The traveler who wanted a round trip ticket called for a "come back teketsu." Sometimes, when a gang of workers had been gathered together on a farm, the aroused farmers roundabout pounded on their bunkhouse door in the middle of the night. Under the light of lanterns and the menacing barrels of shotguns, they escorted them out of town.

When they lived in town, they were still being annoyed. The favorite trick of town hoodlums was to taunt and throw rocks at them. Another bit of petty mischief was to knock at the door and when it was opened and an Issei head peered out, the trouble-maker would poke his fist into the other's face.

Many of our mothers came over as picture brides. Many a maiden's dreams were shattered by the reality of unremitting toil. Uncomplainingly they have raised families and have found happiness in their stalwart children and the more congenial lives of their progeny. It's common knowledge that in the agonies of childbirth seldom have Issei women ever cried out in pain or terror. In their trial of enduring labor pains, as in their rigorous daily living, our mothers kept their hardships to themselves and bore their lot with fortitude.

There aren't any monuments raised to our pioneer fathers in token of their struggles and guts to hang on in an alien country where peoples and customs were so strange. But their heritage of fortitude lives within us. Some Nisei may be cynical, but the proof is already history.

The principal concern of Japanese Americans is to prove by every possible means the truth enunciated by Miss Sugihara—namely that they are far more Americans than they are Japanese; indeed, that they are only physically Oriental. The *Pacific Citizen* for January 8 of this year contains the following anecdote, related by Dale Oka, writing from Detroit:

He was just a little tyke, was the lad. I would place his age at around 8, certainly not more than 10 years.

He came into the store and while Sam the salesman was wrapping the merchandise which the youngster had purchased, I engaged him in a conversation.

It was nasty weather outside and he wore only a sweater. So I asked him, "Aren't you cold?"

While mumbling his reply, with characteristic youthfulness, of "No," he pulled out his "bank"—which was merely a small round tin can—and proceeded to count out the change for his purchase.

After a couple more minutes of questioning on my part, my attention was diverted to another section of the store. When I returned some five minutes or so later, Sam the sales-clerk buttonholed me with a big smile.

"Dale," he started out, "you know what that little kid told me?"

"No, what did he say?"

"He asked me what you were and I told him that you were a Japanese."

"Yeah?" I says. "What did he say to that?"

"He says (at this point Sam broke into a big grin), 'Well, as long as he's an American citizen he must be okay.'"

It struck me as a unique experience because that statement came from a young Chinese American lad of 8 or 10 years of age. Yes, that little shopper was of Chinese ancestry. . . .

One obvious means used by the *Pacific Citizen* to convince its readers that Americans are fair-minded is to reprint letters from "Caucasians" appearing in other papers throughout the country—especially when these letters are from soldiers. Thus we find an excerpt from a letter by Sergeant G. E. Maschmeyer, originally published in the *San Francisco Chronicle*:

It is pretty sickening to come home for your first leave in 15 months to find your State in the scene of a modern witchhunt rivaling anything seen in New England in the early days.

I refer to the persecution now being visited upon interned Japanese by self-appointed vigilantes. I can feel nothing but revulsion at this scene of intolerance toward a racial group in supposedly democratic California. If the "investigating" parties are too blind or too prejudiced to know better, they might learn something from any man in the armed forces.

And he is not enduring separation from home and physical hardship and gambling his life so that some persons or groups can tear things apart in this country by firing race and class frictions.

The *Pacific Citizen* also quotes from an article written by Yori Wada, a graduate of the University of California, who contributed an article to the *California Monthly*. Wada was inducted into the army before Pearl Harbor. After December 7 he received a letter from his sister in California, which reads in part:

But Mom wants me to tell you that you have a greater responsibility now. She says that for your America, do not hesitate to give your life. We'll make out somehow at home, but her concern is that you do not fail your country. She's awfully proud that you're in the Army.

Wada continues, writing on his own behalf:

Raking the embers of our family past, I knew that there was nothing un-American in our lives. It has always been true that Mother kept our eyes focused on the American scene. She was an alien mother who was proud that her children were learning to be of America. She was a foreigner who could never become an American except in spirit and faith, which she did nobly. As an American son in uniform, I am grateful to my Japanese mother. She deserves much more.

Finally Wada tells how he heard the story of his family's evacuation from California, and adds a moral:

Gradually I learned the painful story of evacuation: the curfew, the storing and selling of family goods, how the family had to sleep on the floor during the final days in Hanford, how they ate canned food or sent Caucasian friends to a restaurant so they would not go hungry. The sale of our ice cream store which had been ours for 25 years had also to be borne in bitter shame and silence since the United States Government had wanted it so. We had committed no crime; it was only that Japan, our enemy, was the land of our ancestors. . . .

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I left my family and friends behind in the camp surrounded by barbed wire and guards. I left with the fervent hope that among these young Americans of Japanese ancestry would rekindle that vital faith in a democratic America and grow stronger in the face of distress. . . .

Recently a Japanese American hero has been touring the country making speeches. He is Sergeant Ben Kuroki, of the Air Forces, who has flown 30 bombing missions in a Liberator over Europe, including the famous bombing of the oil wells at Ploesti, Roumania. He has been awarded two Distinguished Flying Crosses and an Air Medal with five Oak Leaf Clusters. Recently he spoke before the Commonwealth Club in San Francisco, affirming his faith in American institutions, but he felt obliged to say to his audience that he has not, in his own case, completely won the battle against intolerance:

Especially now, after the widespread publicity given the recent atrocity stories, I find prejudice once again directed against me, and neither my uniform nor the medals which are visible proof of what I have been through, have been able to stop it. I don't know for sure that it is safe for me to walk the streets of my own country.

Communications

IN VIEW of present circumstances, the editors of THE COMMONWEAL felt it à propos to submit the following question to Bishop Paul Yu-pin.

QUESTION: We have learned with great interest of the hope of the Chinese National Government that after the war it may be possible to recruit a large number of Americans, with special technical training, to assist in the rebuilding of China and in the necessary development of that country. We understand, of course, that Your Excellency is particularly interested in having a proper proportion of Catholics among these Americans. We know that many American Catholics will be inspired at the thought of being both material and spiritual missionaries in China. Supposing that an American of Japanese ancestry or an American Negro were properly qualified to participate in this work, would you conceive that any objection would be raised on the ground of race by the authorities of the Chinese National Government?

ANSWER: No. Racial prejudice does not exist in China.

✠ P. YU-PIN,
Vicar Apostolic of Nanking, China.

WE STILL CAN CHOOSE

Princeton, N. J.

TO the Editors: I found my feelings wholly in accord with the eloquent editorial of C. G. Paulding in the issue of February 18. Like him a lover of Italian art, and resembling him also, I suspect, in an incurable affection for the Italian people, I cannot view the invasion of the peninsula with anything but a heavy heart.

But if our hearts protest, our brains should not. The invasion of Italy was begun, as Mr. Paulding implies, in

the hope, buoyed by the Italian surrender, of a speedy and relatively undestructive occupation. Suppose, when "their first hopes of a swift and total occupation of Italy had been denied," the military authorities had decided to "stabilize that front and force the Germans to parry a thrust elsewhere." This would have been an Allied defeat, a German victory, and a distinct boost to the Nazi morale whose collapse is the chief objective of our attack and our chief hope for an early termination of the war.

As a member of a committee engaged in the effort to protect so far as possible the cultural monuments of Europe from the hazards of war, I have some information on the amount of destruction that has already occurred in the fierce fighting in Sicily and South Italy. It is remarkably small. In Sicily the heaviest damage to cities has been suffered by Palermo, Messina, Catania and Syracuse, but of the monuments listed by our committee as of cultural value, surprisingly few have been destroyed or seriously damaged. In Palermo, for example, all of the fine twelfth-century churches and their mosaics are intact. In South Italy, the cathedral of Benevento was hit by a bomb, the museum of Pompeii destroyed, and the newspapers have detailed the destruction of Monte Cassino and the ruin wrought in Naples by bombardment, German time-bombs, and German premeditated destruction (e.g. the University Library). But even in Naples, one can be thankful for the escape of the vast majority of its artistic treasures.

Mr. Paulding fears that an "advance to the Alps means the destruction of a thousand cities, towns and villages." The result of the advance thus far does not imply so vast a devastation. But there has been and will be devastation, civilian casualties and ruin of buildings. Irreplaceable beauty will here and there be the victim of the progress of invasion. Some creations of centuries of human effort and genius, representing the most precious of human values, will be lost. But this war is being fought that the values themselves be not lost; that the freedom of thought, the dignity of the individual, the decencies of civilization, which the monuments of Italy commemorate and which inspired the hands and minds of her architects, sculptors, painters and poets—that these things be not obliterated, as they once were by another German onset in the fifth and sixth centuries. What created the "assembled stones of Italy" is even more important to defend than the stones themselves. We have told our military leaders to defend them in the best way they know. The best way is the quickest, in a global catastrophe such as this, and we art-historians, art-lovers, and Italophiles are short-sighted if we argue for a slower one. If the quickest way in military judgment lies through Italy, it at least is not through France or Greece, and we may remind ourselves that Italy is not the site of all the treasures of the past.

Nothing is so important as to win this war, and win it quickly, and no consideration or criticism has any point at present which is not aimed in that direction.

C. R. MOREY.

If things are as simple as this then there is no problem. In that case I do not see why Professor Morey remains

WARREN MOVES FOR NIP RETURN TO SCHOOLS

'We Do Not Want Any Untoward Incidents,' Governor States, Orders Dexter Call Parley

will begin, he said, after January 2.

"This is one place that if we do not have careful guidance, there can be a lot of friction," he continued. "Some of our school children may take on the complexion of sentiment in their own homes and give vent to their feelings on the school grounds."

"We certainly do not want any untoward incidents in our public schools."

Warren added that "when the final history of this war is written, our reputation as state for all-out participation in the war effort will depend in a great part on the manner in which we comply with the return of the Japanese. It will be a test of our patriotism. We must cooperate to the fullest extent with the military order, and carry out the edict in a loyal manner."

60,000 Due to Return Will Take 18 Months

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 18.—(AP)—Approximately 60,000 alien and American born Japanese are expected to return to the Pacific Coast under the new Western Defense Command policy effective Jan. 2, authoritative sources disclosed today, but the process is expected to be gradual, extending over a year and a half.

This number will be between 50 and 60 per cent of the 119,000 persons of Japanese ancestry excluded en masse from the western states under executive orders dating back to March, 1942. It includes both those now in the eight relocation centers and the segregation center at Tule Lake, Calif., and those who have been relocated in other parts of the country.

However, sources close to the War Relocation Authority indicated the percentage of returns from resettled Japanese probably would be small, since most of them seem to be happy in their new surroundings.

NO MASS EXODUS

While the Army proceeded with screening Japanese at the various relocation centers, a process which began yesterday with the announcement of the revocation of the mass exclusion order, the War Relocation Authority promised there would be no mass exodus of Japanese to any part of the country, and said relocation work in all parts of the nation would be speeded.

Robert B. Cozzens, assistant director of WRA, issued the following statement:

"The War Relocation Authority staff on the West Coast will continue to carry out provisions of executive order 9102 dated March 18, 1942, which empowered the agency to relocate persons of Japanese ancestry.

"Despite modification of the military order, the War Relocation Authority expects and hopes that relocation to the Middle West, the East and the South will be intensified in the months ahead.

INDIVIDUAL EXCLUSION

"With full constitutional rights having been restored to the loyal citizens of Japanese ancestry and to law abiding aliens, many of the evacuees will be free to return to the West Coast area. Those who are free to come back will be only individuals of Japanese descent who will have full military approval for freedom of movement.

"Individual exclusion will continue under control of the military.

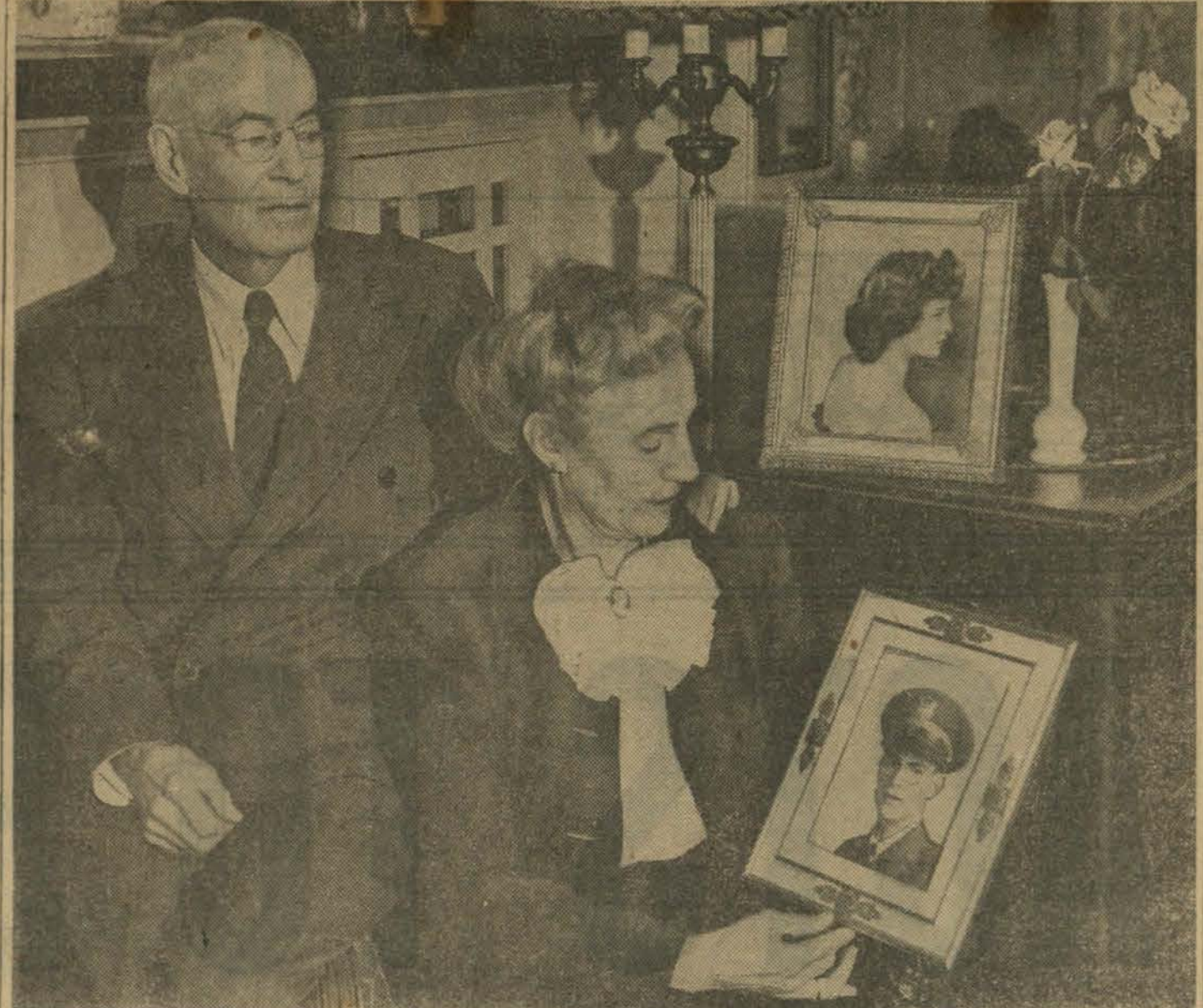
"Movement of loyal evacuees will be conducted in an orderly manner, and no mass exodus from the relocation centers to any part of the country is contemplated."

Figures released by the War Relocation Authority showed 32,800 Japanese already have been relocated in inland states, that 61,000 remained in relocation centers and 13,700 in Tule Lake, Calif.; segregation center. Some 3000 were on seasonal leave working in harvests. Some 2500 Japanese were inducted into the Army from relocation centers, but more than 13,000 are serving in the United States armed forces.

Truck of L. A. Man Kills Pedestrian

SANTA MARGARITA, Dec. 18.—Justo H. Mendoza, 23, of San Luis Obispo, was instantly killed early today in the downtown district, when struck by a truck driven by Donald Balcock of Los Angeles. The driver was not held.

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FEARFUL—Attorney and Mrs. Frederick F. Barker, whose son, Lieutenant Francis Barker, is a prisoner of the Japs (shown in photograph), see return of Japanese to Los Angeles area as "terrible news." Mrs. Barker fears any misfortune befalling Japs upon return here will mean reprisals on American boys held in Jap prison camps.

'Protect Japs' Policy Urged for Southland Ickes Reveals

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—(AP)—Secretary Ickes said today the Interior Department will expand its relocation program to send resettled persons of Japanese ancestry back to their west coast homes.

At the same time, he expressed the belief that a large proportion of the more than 35,000 Japanese-Americans relocated in other parts of the country may choose to remain.

Ickes emphasized that there will be no "hasty mass movement" of evacuees.

His statement, following the War Department's revocation of the west coast exclusion order, effective January 2, said it "is the responsibility of every American worthy of citizenship . . . to do everything that he can to make easier the return to normal life of those people. . . ."

of the Japanese will give rise to some very serious issues, among them housing, employment and protection.

"Housing is practically nonexistent. Negroes have moved into 'Little Tokyo' and other former Japanese districts.

"Industrialists say they will not hire Japs, fearful of sabotage and friction among workers.

"All this throws a big burden of protection on our already undermanned police force.

"As I understand the War Department's directive, it permits the returned Japs to live wherever they please—even on Terminal Island, unless the Army and Navy bans them as 'undesirable civilians.'

"The Japanese own dwellings and business property, from which they are entitled, under the law, to evict present occupants. That would be another contributing factor toward unrest, especially where families of servicemen are involved.

"We all have the respect for those Japanese citizens who have shown their loyalty by service with the armed forces, but their valor, I fear, will not serve to offset antagonism against all members of their race."

SCREENING NECESSARY

Sheriff Eugene W. Biscailuz: "A great deal depends upon the policy of the War Department and the military in properly screening these Japanese upon their return to California.

"I believe all citizens and public officials of our community will conform to our National Government and its military in the matter of allowing Japanese to return to our state.

"There must be sound reasoning behind our war leaders' action, and having decided upon policy, ours is not to question their conduct."

DECLARED 'DRAFTED'

"They are entitled to their full constitutional and legal rights and perhaps something more than ordinary consideration because they have really suffered as a direct result of the war. In a real sense, these people, too, were drafted by their country. They were uprooted from their homes and substantially deprived of an opportunity to lead a normal life. They are casualties of war."

Of the 110,000 persons of Japanese descent originally evacuated, said Ickes, more than 35,000 have been relocated by the WRA outside the West Coast area.

CONTRACT AWARDED TO BUILD SEWER

Sewer lines in the Farmdale avenue and Sarah street district, in North Hollywood, will be installed shortly after the new year under a contract in the amount of \$24,443 awarded yesterday by the city Board of Public Works to Bob Bosnyak, who submitted the low bid.

ELECTORAL VOTE CAST FOR FDR FOURTH TERM

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—(AP)—The 1944 winter convocation of the Electoral College was held today on 48 campuses.

It is a 150-year-old institution whose 531 members have a reputation in political science—for always picking the presidential winner.

Officially, it's the Electoral College which elects President Roosevelt to a fourth term by a vote of 432 to 99 over Governor Thomas E. Dewey of New York. The members are casting their ballots today. They will be counted and recorded at a joint session of Senate and House here January 6.

CO-ED'S SEX, KISSING LEAFLET MAY CAUSE STUDENT STRIKE

(Photo on Page 1)

BATON ROUGE, La., Dec. 18.—(INS)—A strike of the students of Louisiana State University was threatened today in Baton Rouge unless an 18-year-old co-ed, who wrote a leaflet on sex and campus kissing is reinstated.

The girl, Gloria Jeanne Heller, daughter of a hotel manager in Havana, Cuba, withdrew from school last week at the request, she said, of W. B. Hatcher, president of the university.

The student council, after hearing campus leaders warn that a general strike was threatened, passed a resolution protesting the manner in which Miss Heller was "ordered to leave the university."

The student council resolution denied that Miss Heller's essay had advocated anything immoral. The council described the situation as "symbolic of the crisis in student-administration relations."

ELSTERS FOR FREEZERS, 115 So. LOS ANGELES STREET.—Adv.

MEMORIES FRESH

"We must remember that even after the Jap war ends, these boys will be coming home in increasingly large numbers, fresh with memories of their bitter experiences, and I am afraid the whole idea is amiss at this time."

Los Angeles officialdom joined in the protest against the Japs being permitted to return. Mayor Fletcher Bowron said:

"We are very seriously concerned about this situation. I feel that the Federal Government has not given the problem full consideration. Return

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COURT UPHOLDS ARMY JAP BAN

High Bench, However, Orders Loyal Nip-American Released

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—(INS)—The Supreme Court in a 6 to 3 decision today held constitutional the order issued in 1942 excluding persons of Japanese descent from the Pacific Coast.

The decision handed down in the case of Fred Toyosaburo Korematsu was confined to the narrow grounds of military necessity at the time.

In another case, the tribunal handed down an 8 to 1 decision ordering release of Miss Mitsuye Endo, a Japanese-American whose loyalty has been established by a relocation camp.

READ BY BLACK

The Supreme Court decision came just a few hours after the War Department announced that, effective January 2, its order excluding Japanese-Americans from the West Coast was rescinded.

The majority opinion in the Korematsu case was read by Justice Hugo L. Black. In separate dissents, Justices Roberts, Murphy and Jackson vigorously declared the broad exclusion policy unconstitutional.

Because the court confined its rulings to narrow issues, further cases involving the internment, relocation and release of Japanese-Americans may result.

Morematsu, a Japanese-American of Oakland, Calif., was charged with violating the military exclusion order by remaining in San Leandro, Calif. He was placed on probation for five years.

ASSAILED VALIDITY

In appealing, he assailed validity of the exclusion order issued by Lieutenant General John L. Dewitt, commanding the Western zone, in 1942. Korematsu was convicted of remaining in the zone in defiance of the order after May 30, 1942—seven months after Pearl Harbor.

Justice Black said the high court would not pass on the entire relocation program. The Korematsu decision, he said, was limited to the order excluding Korematsu from the defense command.

The court said: "We upheld the exclusion order as of the time it was made and when the petitioner violated it. In doing so, we are not unmindful of the hardships imposed by it upon a large group of American citizens. But hardships are a part of war and war is an aggregation of hardships."

DENIES RACISM INVOLVED

Justice Black denied that a racial issue was involved. He said:

"Korematsu was not excluded from the military area because of hostility to him or his race. He was excluded because we are at war with the Japanese empire, because the properly constituted military authorities feared an invasion of our West Coast and felt constrained to take proper security measures, because they decided that the military urgency of the situation demanded that all citizens of Japanese ancestry be segregated from the West Coast temporarily, and finally, because Congress, reposing its confidence in this time of war in our military leaders—as inevitably it must—determined that they should have the power to do just this."

"There was evidence of disloyalty on the part of some, the military authorities considered that the need for action was great, and the time was short."

MURPHY DISSENTS

"We cannot—by availing ourselves of the calm perspective of hindsight—now say that at that time these actions were unjustified."

Justice Murphy, dissenting, declared that "such exclusion goes over the very brink of constitutional power and falls into the ugly abyss of racism."

Justice Roberts, dissenting, said that "I think the indisputable facts exhibit a clear violation of the Constitution."

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SOUTHLAND UNEASY OVER JAPS' RETURN

Protection of Key Dams and Housing Among Problems to Be Intensified by Army Order

Continued from First Page

these were vegetable farmers and their families. Some were in business in the Little Tokyo area—along First St. between Los Angeles St. and Central Ave.

Little Tokyo's \$4,000,000 in business interests were largely turned over to non-Japanese under various sales and leases. Only a handful of the buildings were owned by the Japanese and it is doubtful if many of these remain in Jap hands.

W. S. Rosecrans, former Chamber of Commerce president, who served as agricultural co-ordinator for Los Angeles County in early 1942 to supervise the voluntary transfer of farm lands by Japanese to Americans, said:

"I'm not in favor of the Japanese returning.

Want to Be Fair

"We must keep order and if we want to be fair the best advice we can give to the Japs, assuming they are loyal, is to suggest that they scatter throughout the country.

"We have to accept the decision of the military, but the Japs must realize it is better to wait until the end of the war before coming here. The war in the Pacific is being intensified. When news of more Japanese brutalities comes—and there have been Jap brutalities—some unthinking people may take out their revenge on Japanese living here, even though they are innocent."

Rosecrans, an agriculturist himself, told how the Japs, even if they find how to farm, will have difficulty in getting farm equipment.

The Japs relinquished their lands without forceful dispossession under the best deals they could make. In most cases they sold their equipment; in others they stored it.

Rented and Leased

Kenneth L. Wolff, chief deputy county agricultural commissioner, said that 74 Japanese-Americans actually owned only 1151 acres in vegetable and berry crops in early 1942. Rents and leases increased their total farming acreage to 26,045.

Rosecrans and Wolff emphasized that American farmers did a marvelous job in preventing any "scorched earth" devastation of 1942 crops.

"We have demonstrated conclusively that the people were crazy who said we would go hungry for vegetables," said Rosecrans. "We've had a full quota of production."

Should Scatter Out

"The farmers who took over when the Japanese left are now well established and doing a good job of growing vegetables," said Wolff.

The near 25,000 acres which the Japs rented or leased won't be available for them in January, Rosecrans stressed, and American owners will prefer to deal with Americans.

"Unless the Japanese buy a trailer and live in a trailer camp, there's no place to stay," Rosecrans added. "They'd be a whole lot smarter to go to areas where there is less prejudice and less crowding."

Prices Explained

Wolff said that increased vegetable prices which occurred here under American management have been nation-wide, caused largely by increased production costs. Production of berries and other less essential crops has been discouraged.

"Unless land now farmed for other than vegetable crops, such as alfalfa, dry beans and grain, is made available to Japanese," he said, "there is comparatively little desirable acreage not already in vegetables."

All former Jap-owned fishing boats in the Los Angeles Harbor area have been sold. Canneries reported yesterday that Japs have made no inquiries regarding fishing operations or the acquisition of boats.

Terminal Island Barred

The Japs cannot return to Terminal Island and its famed Fish Harbor because only Navy men are permitted to live on the island.

Capt. George B. Gelly, United

States Coast Guard, captain of the port, said he will continue enforcement of the 1917 Alien Law and only the 11th Naval District commandant in San Diego or Washington authorities can rule to permit any Japanese going to sea in fishing boats. Most harbor observers expressed doubt that any Japanese will return to the harbor until after the war.

Housing authorities hinted the only hope of large-scale Jap living accommodations lies in dangerous crowding of dilapidated shacks they once occupied in truck-gardening areas.

Negroes have boosted the population of Little Tokyo from 35,000 or 40,000 to some 80,000 and sanitation inspectors are attempting to halt instances such as one in which 16 persons were living in a single room.

Vacancies 'Zero'

"The estimate of vacancies in Los Angeles County is practically zero," said Research Engineer Cooke. "About the only houses vacant are those under construction and unfinished. In a great many parts of the county deed restrictions also block renting to Japanese. Under the present situation a great many house owners are prejudiced so they wouldn't rent to Japanese even if they had a place vacant."

The War Relocation Authority said that individual exclusions of persons of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast will be continued under control of military authorities.

"Those who are free to come back will be only individuals of Japanese descent who have full military approval for freedom of movement," said R. B. Cozzens, assistant director of the W.R.A. in San Francisco.

Army Will Decide

James M. Carter, chief assistant U.S. attorney in Los Angeles, commented briefly, "The position of the government depends entirely upon the position of the Army. We oppose the return of any Japanese to this area whom the Army deems to be unfit. Opposition also is based upon previous Supreme Court decisions on matters of this kind."

Commercially, the War Department's order provoked little concern. Chester Moore, general manager of the Western Growers Association, said, "Three months after the Japanese farmers left, the production was higher than ever. Increased needs led to increased farming. I have no idea what effect the Japs' return will have."

Moore's organization represents 250 California and Arizona shippers who, he said, handle 95 per cent of car-lot produce movements.

Need More Workers

H. R. Harnish, War Manpower Commission director for Southern California, said the prospective addition of man power to the local labor force will prove "of assistance" because of the need for workers in industry, commerce and agriculture.

Louis M. Dreves, War Production Board chief, anticipated no industrial aid from returning Japanese, however, because most have been trained as agricultural workers and have no assembly-line skills. Dreves said that all war agencies will accord constitutional rights to the Japs.

Frank S. Balthis Jr., district director of the O.P.A., said rationing and pricing of all commodities will be regulated for Japs just as for other residents here.

"Returning individuals probably will come back slowly on an infiltration basis," said David Barry Jr., O.P.A. rent-control director.

Right of Eviction

"Japanese-Americans who owned single-family dwellings or any other property prior to Nov. 1, 1942, the freeze date, and who retained ownership have the right to serve eviction notices through the courts on present tenants unless prohibited by lease provisions.

"The recovering of possession for self-occupancy is a recognized ground in ordinary rentals but final decisions rest with the local courts and not the O.P.A."

Supreme Court Rules Loyal Japs Must Be Freed

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18. (U.P.)

The Supreme Court ruled unanimously today that interned Japanese-American citizens whose loyalty has been established should be liberated from camps of the War Relocation Authority, giving legal substance to an Army order to that effect issued last night.

At the same time the court, by a 6-3 vote, ruled constitutional, as of the time it was carried out, the war-emergency program under which Japanese-Americans were evacuated from the West Coast shortly after Pearl Harbor to inland relocation centers.

The decisions followed a War Department order releasing loyal Japanese from the jurisdiction of the W.R.A. and permitting them to establish homes anywhere in the country. The announcement said they were to be accorded the freedom and privileges of law-abiding citizens.

Loyalty Defined

The court's opinion in the loyalty case was delivered by Justice William O. Douglas. Emphasizing the basic liberties guaranteed by the Constitution, he said that "loyalty is a thing of heart and mind, not of race, creed or color."

"We must assume," he added, "that the Chief Executive and members of Congress, as well as the courts, are sensitive to and respectful of the liberties of the citizen. In interpreting a war-time measure we must assume that their purpose was to allow for the greatest possible accommodation between those liberties and the exigencies of war."

The second decision was delivered by Justice Hugo L. Black. It answered an appeal by Fred Toyosaburo Korematsu, a Japanese of California birth who was given a five-year probationary sentence for failing to report to an evacuation station.

War Imposes Hardships

"We uphold the exclusion order as of the time it was made and when the petitioner violated it," Black said. "In doing so, we are not unmindful of the hardships imposed by it upon a large group of American citizens. But hardships are part of war, and war is an aggregation of hardships. All citizens alike, both in and out of uniform, feel the impact of war in greater or lesser measure.

"Compulsory exclusion of large groups of citizens from their homes, except under circumstances of direct emergency and peril, is inconsistent with our basic governmental institutions. But when under conditions of modern warfare our shores are threatened by hostile forces, the power to protect must be commensurate with the threatened danger."

The loyalty decision was in the case of Mitsuye Endo, 22, Japanese-American woman now in the Topaz (Utah) relocation camp. She had appealed for freedom on the contention that her rights as a citizen were impaired by W.R.A. regulations.

Douglas said that the intent of the original evacuation order was not to place undue hardship upon those evacuated but simply to remove any threat that they might aid the enemy.

'Evacuation Justified'

"If we assume (as we do) that the original evacuation was justified," he said, "its lawful character was derived from the fact that it was an espionage and sabotage measure, not that there was community hostility to this group of American citizens."

In the other case, Korematsu challenged the constitutionality of the entire evacuation program. In June, 1943, the high court upheld the Army's authority to subject internees to curfew restrictions but did not touch upon the program's constitutionality.

The court's validation of it was disputed by Justices Frank Murphy, Robert H. Jackson and Owen J. Roberts, who wrote dissenting opinions.

Murphy charged that such exclusion "goes over the very brink of constitutional power and falls into the ugly abyss of racism."

Ickes Denies Mass Return of Evacuees to West Coast

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18. (P)—

Secretary Ickes said today the Interior Department will expand its relocation program to send resettled persons of Japanese ancestry back to their West Coast homes.

At the same time he expressed the belief that a large proportion of the more than 35,000 Japanese-Americans relocated in other parts of the country may choose to remain where they are.

Ickes emphasized that there will be no "hasty mass movement" of evacuees.

His statement, following the War Department's revocation of the West Coast exclusion order, effective Jan. 2, said it "is the responsibility of every Ameri-

can worthy of citizenship . . . to do anything that he can to make easier the return to normal life of those people . . .

"They are entitled to their full constitutional and legal rights and perhaps something more than ordinary consideration because they have really suffered as a direct result of the war. In a real sense, these people, too, were drafted by their country. They were uprooted from their homes and substantially deprived of an opportunity to lead a normal life. They are casualties of war."

Of the 110,000 persons of Japanese descent originally evacuated, said Ickes, more than 35,000 have been relocated by the W.R.A. outside the West Coast area.

Gov. Bricker Asks for Local Control of Decision on Evacuees' Return to Coast

Deportation of 'Disloyal' Group Urged by Ohio Governor in California

LOS ANGELES — Deportation of "disloyal Japanese Americans" after the war and determination by each community on return of former residents of Japanese ancestry was advocated Tuesday by Governor John W. Bricker of Ohio, candidate for the Republican presidential nomination, the Associated Press reported.

Remarking that 98,000 of the 127,000 persons of Japanese ancestry in the continental United States formerly lived in California, the Ohio governor told the Town Hall audience:

"We had good reason to suspect that the espionage among the Japanese in this country prior to the war was well organized and widespread. We also know that many of the Japanese were under the influence of direct imperialistic teachings from Tokyo and that the Japanese consulates supervised and dominated the general economic life of the Japanese in this country."

Bricker declared that admitted disloyalists among the Japanese should be kept under strictest surveillance for the duration of the war and afterwards deported, and that Japanese released from relocation centers should be closely watched.

"But before they are released a more careful and thorough investigation of their loyalty and their record should be made to prevent disloyalists from slipping by the authorities," the Republican candidate said.

"As far as the resettlement of the Japanese after the war is concerned, I believe that is a matter that had best be left to each community. The strict and careful culling out of the disloyalists and other undesirable aliens would tend to remove suspicion from the rest of the Japanese."

The Idaho Daily Statesman

Japanese Will Be Imported For Farm Work

Labor Official Says Several Thousand Workers to Arrive

Several thousand Japanese evacuees from relocation centers in Arizona and California will be imported to Idaho this season as farm laborers, R. K. Pierson, deputy state emergency farm labor director, said Tuesday.

Pierson said 260 Mexican nationals already have been brought into southwestern and south central Idaho for spring hoeing and weeding. He added that if ideal growing weather continues a crisis may develop and townspeople will be asked to take hoes in hand to help weed and thin beets and onions as they did in 1942.

Pierson pointed out that the several thousand workers to be imported "will not replace selective service withdrawals."

He said Mexicans and Japanese will be sent to southeastern Idaho later this month when the growing gets under way there.

CALIFORNIA LEGION GROUP HITS ICKES' STAND ON NISEI

LOS ANGELES—A demand for the resignation of Harold L. Ickes from his capacity as chief of the War Relocation Authority was voiced by a resolution passed at a meeting of the executive committee of the California department of the American Legion on April 16.

The resolution, prepared by the Americanism committee of the California Legion, quoted remarks which it attributed to Ickes, in defense of WRA policies concerning persons of Japanese ancestry evacuated from the Pacific coast.

The Legion resolution declared that Ickes placed the problem of rehabilitation of Japanese American evacuees upon California, Washington and Oregon and quoted him as stating April 13 that "to a large extent, it is their problem to see that Japanese evacuees are restored to normal living soon after the war ends."

Governor Considers Protest
on Japs Returning to State

SACRAMENTO, Nov. 16.—(INS)—Governor Earl Warren conferred with his aides today over what action he might take on protests against a reported impending mass return of relocated Japanese-Americans to California.

His intervention has been sought by Arnold Bean, prominent rancher and horse breeder in the Marysville district, in a telegram to the Governor.

At the same time, it was disclosed at least one foreign-born Japanese has been returned by the War Relocation Authority to his former home at Sacramento. He was identified as K. Osada, who formerly operated a farm labor contracting office here. Osada is the husband of a white woman, formerly proprietor of a Sacramento drug store. Federal authorities said Osada had been allowed to return because of his wife's illness.

CONFER AT MANSION

Warren conferred at the Executive Mansion, where he is convalescing from his recent illness, with William T. Sweigert, his executive secretary, and Verne Scoggins, his press secretary, who brought the protests over return of the Japanese to the Governor's attention.

From still another source—George Feil, manager of the Florin Fruit Growers Association near Sacramento—it was revealed several relocated Japanese had applied to the WRA to return to their former farms near the state capital.

Fell pointed out the Japanese farms now are operated by white persons, but that present leases carry a clause permitting cancellation by the owner in December of each year.

In a telegram to the Governor, Bean said:

"Understand Japs coming back to California in two weeks. People disturbed. Probable bloodshed. Please prevent Japs returning."

Bean's telegram followed a meeting of the Yuba-Sutter American Legion Post, which was informed of rumors that Japanese agricultural workers will begin to replace imported Mexican nationals.

These rumors closely followed predictions from state officials that former Japanese residents that soon would be returned to their former West Coast homes by the War Relocation Authority.

Gen. R. W. Hays Against Return of Japanese

SACRAMENTO, Nov. 16.—(AP)—Adjutant General Ray W. Hays, head of the State Guard, said today he thought it unwise at this time for Japanese to be returned to California, but if they were and disturbances arose which local authorities could not handle the Guard would be "duty bound" to step in and enforce the law.

"Bringing the Japs back would only complicate our problems," Hays said. "We should devote all our efforts to winning the war and sentiment so far expressed indicates return of the Japs would hinder that effort in California."

"However, should they be returned and should trouble arise, the State Guard would be ready to uphold the Federal and state laws regarding the rights of American citizens if local authorities could not."

4/1/44
HEART MOUNTAIN SENTINEL

Radio Talk:

California Minister Defends Nisei

Following is a resume of a radio talk given by the Rev. James W. Bell over KMPC of Los Angeles on February 27.—Ed Note.

I am not talking tonight about Japan or the Japanese war lords or even the Japanese people. I am talking about a group of fellow-Americans, citizens of this great country of ours, whose ancestors came from across the sea. All of our ancestors came from across some sea, and we had nothing to say about where they came from—whether it was from Europe or Africa or Asia.

Of course, it is hard to believe that those whose ancestors came from the Far East want to be good Americans. Some of the newspapers have poisoned our minds with lies about them, but here are some facts taken from a government study;

Fact No. 1 . . . Most nisei do not know the Japanese language. In searching the Japanese resettlement camps for teachers of that language for our interpreter groups, we were able to locate only 300 out of 113,000 who spoke Japanese well enough to teach it. They speak our language.

Fact No. 2 . . . Before their forced evacuation the crime record among Japanese Americans was lower than among any other "foreign" section of our big cities. The congressional committee reports almost no juvenile delinquency, very little prostitution, and no dependency at public charge.

Fact No. 3 . . . The nisei paid their bills promptly. I received verification of that fact in a re-

cent conversation with a funeral director here in Los Angeles. He said they were the only people who used to pay him in advance when he handled their business.

Fact No. 4 . . . In our public schools the Japanese American children have been regular in attendance and hard working. Teachers report them as respectful and diligent, and statistics show the percentage going on through high school and college as above the American average.

Fact No. 5 . . . Reports in Los Angeles show that the Japanese section was the only section in the city that always oversubscribed its quota for the Community Chest and Red Cross.

Fact No. 6 . . . There are now more than 7,500 nisei in the American army. They have maintained the same ratio of soldiers to their numbers on an enlistment basis that the country as a whole has maintained through the draft. White officers of the camps where these men are training and at the battle front in Italy are enthusiastic about them as soldiers and have asked for more.

We could go on piling fact on fact, but the current issue of the Presbyterian Tribune summarizes the case when it declares, "Taking all the facts together, they furnish a fine measure of citizenship."

There is an unholy alliance of interests on our West coast which is out to smear this minority group of our citizens. It has included many selfish and prejudiced groups. But, thank

God, it has not included the Church of Jesus Christ.

Our Presbyterian church, numbering more than two million members, stands by the Bible in declaring the solidarity of the human family as creatures of God and by the constitution of the United States in affirming the rights of all minority groups in this country to liberty and justice under law. This attitude is generally shared by all the great communions.

But you ask: "What about the disloyal Japanese Americans? Well, I make no defense of disloyalty for them or anyone else. Let those who have been segregated to Tule Lake and all others who do not propose to be loyal Americans—let them go back to where they can be loyal. But the segregation has been made, is being made, can be made.

The nisei constitute only one-tenth of 1 per cent of our citizens, but they are entitled to a square deal. By square deal, I mean that the disloyal ones should be segregated and sent back to Japan after the war, and that the loyal ones should be restored to their full rights of citizenship as soon as is practical.

My plea in this radio-talk is that we should judge all men by what they are and not by the color of their skin or the shape of their noses or the slant of their eyes. Let us cease condemning men for the accidents of their birth and begin to measure the stature of their souls.

That, I take it, is the essence of real Americanism — and the spirit of Christ.