

Some Notes for the Nisei: A HOUSE OF PRAYER FOR ALL PEOPLES

By FRED FERTIG

(Continued from last week)

What are we doing—what can we do—to establish the liberal idea in the minds of our constituency? How are we educating our selves towards total democracy and world citizenship? Of course the best part of our education to these ends is by-product of our shared play, work and worship. Yet we also must promote our ends by taking thought and by creating certain symbols that represent our ideal. We must not let our people easily conclude that the world at large is as friendly to minorities as we are congenial to each other. It is our business, for example, with our non-caucasian constituency, to help them meet prejudiced employers and to destroy their prejudice by winning personality, constructive attitude and an adequate vocational training. So this matter is regularly dealt with in our clubs and Church School classes. In way of physical symbol we are decorating the church parlor with a photo panel showing the various groups that constitute this "Nation of nations."

Again, we are challenged to bring color and beauty into a drab quarter, near factories and far from parks, where the housing was erected at the turn of the century. The adults we contact are mostly honest and industrious, but they cry for a church that will bring significance and dignity into their honest and busy lives. We are to them, caught up in a industrial, impersonal age, a warm and personal fellowship. Underline on socials and family nights, pastoral calling, the open parsonage door, is therefore a "must" with us.

Racial equality is a scientific fact as well as a religious faith and so we count on scientific instruction as a basic element in our program. And we begin the scientific discipline with our staff, to wipe out any lingering suspicions of race inferiority or superiority among those who are the focus of the organizational endeavor. Our next staff meetings have as their theme a review of race and culture in the light of the latest anthropological research. Eventually these same studies will be participated in by our whole membership, so that each individual might go our into the world, strong in the knowledge that "all men are created equal" and are equally creative.

A case in point is a Chinese American member, just graduated from high school who is beginning university education in preparation for an engineering career in China. He wants to be an engineer since he has a mechanical, mathematical turn of mind. But he desires to go to China because he thinks his Chinese face will prevent his locating an engineering position in America. Our responsibility to that chap goes something like this. We should encourage his studies in engineering because he seems eminently fitted for such work. Still we should at once try to discourage his going to China just to avoid discrimination in his homeland. We should help him overcome prejudice in the engineering profession in America, or if he would go to China, to have him go there not because he will be accepted racially but because there is a great modern China to build and engineers of all nationalities are called to build it.

Take further this case of the Chinese Americans that come to All Peoples. They are drawn out of Chinatown, away from its restricted affairs and into a church (community) that is more closely integrated into the whole of American life. All-Chinese sport, social, or religious organizations have less interest for them as they discover the thrill and value of interracial activity. A Chinese American chap who has preferred to play on an all-Chinese basketball team, because he, admittedly, felt "more at home with them," is a star player on our interracial team because he now feels more at home with us. In other words, he has by that much become a part of the America that is a mixed neighborhood. In other words, he has by that much become an AMERICAN.

A list of some of the programs for our family night and the young people's forum-social club will best give an idea of how we follow out the interracial-international theme in our activities: a Calypso singer

from Trinidad; a Filipino wild-game hunter; missionary from China; Negro expert on race relations; Negro newswoman on newspaper writing and propaganda; "ordinary, white" Americans leading forums on cooperatives and city politics; a German Jewish refugee describing his life in Europe; a Vesper arranged around the recording by Paul Robeson of "Ballad for Americans."

The present schedule includes: the Chancellors a social and forum club; one girl's and two boy's clubs; Church School; Jr. Church; Vespers; Devotionals; Nursery-Kindergarten, and Mother's club; daily playground; weekly Family Night; monthly newspaper; summer camps and twice-yearly Retreat to Advance for leaders; Vocation School; workshop; game room; branch of the public library, with our own added books and magazines emphasizing race, culture, America, international subjects; athletic teams. Our community interests include: contacts with the Japanese at Hillcrest Sanatorium; participation in the programs of the Los Angeles Church Federation, Urban League, YMCA, Christian Youth Association (district, interdenominational), Disciples of Christ Youth Fellowship, War Chest; supplying speakers on race relations; exchange meetings with youth of other sections of the city; visits to various spots of civic and cultural importance. Some other activities under consideration are: a Calypso choir; Americanization class for parents of foreign birth; young married couple's forum-social. Our methodology includes: motion pictures; broadcast system; phonograph; hand-work; discussion; field trips; personal counseling; group therapy.

One of the Negro boys on our basketball team has made clear how the membership has caught the spirit of the program at All Peoples. Previous to a game where we played a white team to a white grandstand, he remarked, "Boy, we'll sure teach them a lesson." He was asked to explain his statement. "Why, we'll teach them how Chinese, Koreans, Mexicans and Negroes are together as friends and we play together with real teamwork. We'll show them all races (the coach is Anglo-Saxon) can cooperate."

If fascism comes to America, it shall have no beginning or find no appeal among our members. If racism becomes rampant, All Peoples shall be a refuge for all the races. (When Japanese Americans can return to California it will be in a church like this where they shall find the first and most sincere welcome). By the advantages of our unreserved brotherhood, we know better than any group that dictatorship and racial divisiveness are completely evil. Instead, however, of preparing a refuge in fear of the coming of fascism and racism, we are positively engaged in promoting democracy in all its forms—social and cultural, political and economic. We recognize that a nation has unity and advances as it has a social base of equality and fraternity. But also we know that equality and fraternity are protected by political liberty and economic democracy. Political liberty begins at home, and with us—in the voice of every member in deciding the policy of our church and center. Economic democracy should start across the counter of the nearest store, so we early hope to form a consumer's co-op.

The type of things we are trying to do has proved its worth in the example of last year's race riot in Detroit. Where Negroes

and whites had lived side by side for a reasonable length of time, and in defense plants organized by the liberal United Auto Worker's Union with its commission on racial equality, there were no Negro-white encounters. On the contrary, it was only in these particular plants and neighborhoods that all through the riots relationships remained at a high level of understanding and concord. Whites stood in front of Negro shops and homes to protect them from white hoodlums, and union officials distributed fliers and made talks encouraging workers to remain busy at their benches.

It was mentioned that this church was once the Japanese Christian Institute—and thereby hangs a moral. The moral came in a letter a few months ago, written to the director of All Peoples. Mary Takemura, one of the Nisei leaders of the former Institute, wrote: "After the war is over I would like to come back and serve in your church. It is the kind of church I have come to believe in. If only more of our Japanese American Christians had been ready to lead off in interracial projects such as yours, there would probably have been much less anti-Japanese clamor on the coast than there now is." (Some of the youth of the Institute had debated inviting non-Japanese into their membership in the year before the war). But since the war and evacuation many Nisei Christians—and Issei too—have learned the lesson of purely racial churches: That they but prolong segregation. Some of the Nisei pastors have sworn themselves that never again will they work in a church that limits itself to one racial group. They prefer to take a lay position in a mixed church than to have charge of a pulpit in any Japanese church of any size. Already some of these pastors are employed in interracial churches, in three cases at least where the majority of the congregation is caucasian.

Incidentally, in San Francisco All Peoples is soon to be matched in another former Japanese church. There Alfred Fisk, professor of Philosophy in the College of San Francisco, long-time friend of the Nisei, is to share ministerial duties with a Negro, Howard Thurman. Dr. Thurman, one of America's most able preachers, comes from an eight year's post as dean of the chapel of Howard University. (He chaired the special Negro delegation to Indian, Burma and Ceylon a few years ago, a mission new in the history of Christian enterprise in America.) The church will serve Russians, Filipinos, Mexicans, Chinese, Koreans, Negroes and whites now resident in the once ill' Osaka of S. F.

It should be said that some of the policy and plans listed above are still mainly in the dreams of staff persons. This article states the ideal as much as the actuality at All Peoples. Since we had to start from very scratch, and as many of the young adults in our area are either in the armed services or working odd hours, we have not had the lay leadership available by which we might have already realized many of our possibilities. But this is our advantage even as it is an obstacle. With a preponderance of grammar and high school age folks, a few college age youth and young married couples, we do not have to work with the back pressure of adults whose arteries and ideas have already set. We prefer to grow adults who shall always be young and adventuresome in their approach to society and its problems. We can do that if as children and youth, the members of All Peoples attack each immediate problem in society, in devotion to truth—and love—wherever these principles shall lead them.

We do not as some churches give an emotional opium, to deaden the pain of a cruel and war-mad century, to prevent our people from rising up against the status quo inequalities and vested interests. Instead, we strive to be an example in miniature of the peaceful and progressive society that is still possible to mankind. We demonstrate that one can en-

TIMELY TOPICS

By SABURO KIDO

VFW Once Sent Delegation to Japan

The Veterans of Foreign Wars is replacing the American Legion in its attack upon all persons of Japanese ancestry in this country. The Ogden, Utah, post seems to be vicious in its campaign. This is one of the background reasons for all the agitation in Utah in the last six months. The combination of the American Federation of Labor, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and some chambers of commerce is a powerful, disturbing factor.

Before they brand all Japanese organizations as subversive and all other names, we wish the present leaders of the VFW to look into its own history since 1936. Some interesting questions will be answered such as: Who invited Admiral Takeshita and other Japanese veterans to America? And who reciprocated the visit by sending official delegates to Japan?

In this connection, we recall that it was at the instigation of the VFW that the Japanese Veterans were organized in Los Angeles. All former veterans of the Japanese armed forces were rounded up to form some sort of a group to serve as a welcome committee to add color to the visit. We don't know how the names were obtained but the result was the formation of the veterans' association. And the VFW names this organization as one of the subversive groups. It seems to be a "double cross" when the "god-father" of the organization throws it to the wolves when the purpose has been served.

During those days when relations between the two countries were peaceful, many things were done by various groups. If they had known that war would come, they may have been more diplomatic. Just as the Veterans of Foreign Wars consorted with Japanese militarists, which looks awfully bad and suspicious today, others may have made the same mistake.

Before the VFW begins branding every Japanese organization which existed in this country prior to Pearl Harbor as subversive, it may be well for it to study the backgrounds. When it starts throwing bricks at others, its own skeletons will be rattling in the closet.

S. F. Chronicle Surveys Resettlement

One of the best series of articles pertaining to the present attitude and outlook of the evacuees from the Pacific coast was written by William Flynn and published by the San Francisco Chronicle. It should give the reading public in California a clearer picture of what confronts the citizens of Japanese ancestry today and in the future.

Excepting for those who have farms and other properties through which they may be able to make a living, the large majority have nothing to return to. Consequently they are seeking for some solution. Those who have funds and can start life anew have been the first to leave the relocation centers. Then those with jobs followed. This group consisted chiefly of single men and women, married couples or small families. They are the ones who are finding new opportunities in the "New America" they have discovered east of the Rockies. The next group to follow is expected to be those who will work on the farms with indefinite leaves. Thousands have obtained seasonal leaves, which means that they returned home to the centers after their contracts with the farmers or canneries and other employers had terminated. But many had tasted the life on the outside and were

joy the benefits of a machine age, and still not have to ride the machine but to battle and international chaos. Being of various national ancestries, we show that some kind of League of Nations is feasible. Working mostly with adolescents who will be the adults of post-war years, we are producing citizens who will know how to use their vote, their talents and good will to mend the nations. Enabling Americans to live together in peace, we help America gain exemplary leadership in

(Continued on page 8)

expected to come out to establish a more permanent foundation whereby their families may come out too.

Group Resettlement Under Discussion

The biggest problem pertaining to the largest group still remaining in the relocation centers is finance. Those with families of five to six children are afraid to come out and start life anew with only a thousand or two dollars in cash. Therefore, it was only natural that they should ask Mr. Dillon S. Myer, the national director, if the government would not help by subsidizing each person with \$500 to \$1000. From the standpoint of long term economy, this would seem to be the best solution if the residents are willing to move out. It would be the ideal way to help families to relocate. But the money must be appropriated by Congress. This means it would be almost an impossibility.

Every year the War Relocation Authority will be spending millions to feed and house the residents. Many of the barracks will be requiring extensive repair work soon because they were of the demountable type the army used in the theatre of operations. This means that they were of flimsy, temporary nature and would be good for two to five years at the most. Since most of the doctors, dentists, nurses and other professional men and women of Japanese ancestry have left the centers, the WRA has had to employ people with civil service ratings. Naturally the budget will be greatly increased as far as these items are concerned. No longer can they obtain professional services of trained men for \$19 a month.

Group resettlement has been under discussion and study for a long time by all those interested in this problem of bringing back the center residents into the normal stream of American life. But then there is the question of public acceptance as well as the matter of employment and financing. It seems as if practically all hope has been abandoned since many of the problems seem to be insurmountable.

Need Militant Action Against Intolerance

With a better understanding of the evacuation and its aftermath, we hope the people on the Pacific coast will lend their weight to this question of resettlement. We stated in the early stages that the California Congressmen and race-baiters were defeating the project of eliminating large congregations of Japanese in any one district. Also, if the Pacific coast did not want persons of Japanese ancestry back, the surest way to attain this end would be to help the War Relocation Authority in its resettlement program. Otherwise, the only place the residents will have to return to will be the Pacific coast after the war.

It is too bad that the trouble makers as usual make the most noise and the good people have no medium to have an honest and fair appraisal made of the entire problem. One of these days we hope to see militant leaders with funds, newspaper and radio support make a crusade of this issue. The Time Magazine made a good start when it lambasted the Gannon Committee. The Life Magazine showed one side of the issue when it published the pathetic picture of the blind nisei soldier who had just returned from the Italian battle front. But these are only at intervals. The public is apt to forget. And the continual hammering of the Hearst papers, the Dies Committee, and other race-baiters begin to sink in as if they were gospel truths.

We are greatly encouraged with recent developments. An awakened America will one day have a Congressional investigation of what is really behind this agitation; the motives which prompt each group and speakers; who subsidizes the campaign; and what amounts are involved. Until this is done, a fair appraisal cannot be made. We believe a good start in the right direction has been made. It may not be long before the fair minded group will be directing the investigation to get the true facts.

Authorities Understand The Views Of Nisei--Ralph Merritt

To an encouraging degree, Project Director Ralph P. Merritt learned in Washington that the key authorities in the WRA, the Department of Interior, the War Department and other allied agencies understand and anticipated the basic viewpoint of the nisei draftees contained in their resolutions from the centers.

"Insofar as Washington's attitude toward Manzanar is concerned," the director reassured the residents," there is no present plan at the WRA headquarters to liquidate this center. Our budget for 1944-45 has been accepted."

This was the keynote of the director's report upon flying back from Washington Friday where the project directors conferred on administrative matters with Director Dillon Myer and Secretary of Interior Harold Ickes, under whose department the Authority now functions. When interviewed on Monday, Mr. Merritt expected to meet with the residents' committee on draft on the following day to report to them in detail Washington's answers to the resolutions prepared by the committee.

SECRETARY STIMSON

Secretary of War Stimson acknowledged receipt of resolutions from the centers which were transmitted by Myer to Ickes, who in turn submitted them to Stimson.

"Important added support to the WRA program has been gained by the merger of the Authority with a Federal cabinet department," Mr. Merritt declared in commenting upon the conference of the project directors with Myer and Ickes.

BACK FROM WASHINGTON



the best policy.

U. S. Army Commander Defends Camp Grant Nisei Soldiers, House Investigator Reports

Murder Charge Filed Against Nisei Woman

Mrs. Takata Charged With Strangling Infant In Salt Lake City Home

Mrs. Mabel Takata, 32, of Salt Lake City was charged with first degree murder on March 7 for the strangling of her nine weeks old son, Monroe.

The complaint was drawn up by Chief Deputy County Attorney J. Patton Neeley and signed by City Judge E. G. Foxley.

Named Monroe, the New Year's Day baby was found dead of what appeared to be strangulation by a fire department rescue squad which had been called by George Kabata, brother of Mrs. Takata. Mr. Kabata told police that his sister had been staying with him and his wife for several weeks because the family didn't feel she was well enough to take care of the baby while her husband, Edward M. Takata, 76 North Fifth West street, was away at work.

Mr. and Mrs. Kabata told police that Mrs. Takata had been suffering from a nervous condition and was under a physician's care.

The mother admitted strangling the child when questioned by police, declaring: "His crying annoyed me."

Colonel's Statement Declares Nisei Are Loyal, Cooperative

WASHINGTON—The campaign of the Hearst newspapers and Rep. J. Parnell Thomas, R., N.J., a member of the Dies Committee, to oust American soldiers of Japanese ancestry from the Army hospital at Camp Grant, Ill., is answered in a House Military Affairs committee report which quotes Colonel John F. Bohlender, executive officer who has been at Camp Grant since Dec., 1940.

The House report quoting Col. Bohlender declares:

"He said the Japanese American soldiers were there before Pearl Harbor. They were from the west coast area, and were soldiers of the United States Army when they were sent to Camp Grant. Col. Bohlender described them as efficient, cooperative, obedient, and loyal and had not given any trouble at any time.

"He said he never heard of any complaints by soldiers either in or out of the hospital against the Japanese attendants, and did not believe that their presence in the camp as soldiers in any way lowered the morale or was a source of irritation to the other men stationed there."

The House report also quoted a nurse as saying "they (the Japanese Americans) were not, to her knowledge, resented by any of the patients."

In a letter to Chief of Staff General Marshall, Rep. Thomas has asked that Japanese American soldiers not be employed in military hospitals because their presence might be a "psychological irritant that would be detrimental to the therapeutic value of hospitalization."

The report by the House investigator, which Thomas forwarded to Gen. Marshall, stated that although the 126 Japanese Americans stationed at Camp Grant hospital had performed their duties efficiently, there were some complaints by enlisted personnel that the Japanese Americans were being "favored with high ratings."

The report said that of the Japanese Americans in the camp, all were born in the United States, all were in the army before Pearl Harbor, about 70 were serving as clerks, cooks, chauffeurs, laboratory and X-Ray technicians, and orderlies, about 36 were with the medical service company, and 20 were used "in various capacities at camp headquarters."

moderator, assisting him on the Saturday, March 11, 1944

Hearings Will Be Held for Tule Segreges

Seek to Determine National Sympathies Of Some at Tule Lake

SAN FRANCISCO—Additional hearings to determine the national sympathies of Japanese and Japanese Americans interned in the Tule Lake segregation center were under way last week, the regional office of the War Relocation Authority announced.

A special hearing board is conducting the investigation.

The evacuees now being interviewed, the WRA report said, constitute principally those residents who were at the Tule Lake project before the segregation program was begun last fall in an effort to make Tule Lake the center for all evacuees regarded as disloyal to the United States.

They also include young persons who came here during the segregation program because of family ties who now will transfer to other centers.

The WRA said that the new series of interviews was designed to "make it possible for the WRA to complete its program of segregation." Completion now is scheduled for May 1.

Transcripts and records of the hearings will be sent to WRA headquarters in Washington for final determination regarding each case.

National Lawyers' Guild Hits Dies Group as 'Fascist'

WASHINGTON — The Dies Committee, which last week released a report criticizing the relocation of persons of Japanese ancestry by the War Relocation Authority, was attacked by the National Lawyers' Guild on March 5 in a letter which charged that Chairman Martin Dies, D., Texas, and his "cohorts" were seeking to "pave the way for fascism in the United States."

The guild's letter, addressed to all members of Congress, asserted that continuation of the activities of the Dies Committee would result in "nothing less than destruction of national unity, the betrayal of the nation's war aims embodied in the Teheran and Cairo agreements."

The letter accused the Dies Committee of intending to "destroy every democratic group in the country which supports the war policies of President Roosevelt."

CIO Undertakes Unionization of Sugar Workers

Nisei Trade Unionists In Hawaii Begin Campaign for ILWU

HILO, T. H. — Jack Kawano, territorial representative of the CIO, is now assisting in the organization of sugar workers on the "Big Island" in the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, ILWU, it was announced recently by Bert Nakano, ILWU business agent and CIO representative on the Island of Hawaii.

Plans to organize "Big Island" in the ILWU, a CIO affiliate, under a plan worked out with Harry Bridges, Pacific Coast ILWU leader, were announced here by Mr. Nakano.

Mr. Nakano indicated that the plan proposed by Harry Bridges had been discussed by him and Mr. Kawano in broad outline, and that Arthur A. Rutledge, who was instrumental in organizing the Big Island Labor Council, had been informed of it.

"The plan proposed by the ILWU for sugar workers should prove to be acceptable," Mr. Nakano said.

He emphasized that the steps taken to organize sugar workers, the majority of whom are of Japanese ancestry, are the result of "mounting requests" from workers for a union plan "they can subscribe to without fear of any kind, a plan they can be sure will last."

Overseas Servicemen Protest Coast Attitude Toward Nisei

Fears of Violence Termed Ridiculous By Chinese American

LOS ANGELES—Mrs. Maynard Force Thayer, chairman of the Pasadena chapter of the Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play, disclosed last week she has received numerous letters from servicemen overseas protesting coastal racial prejudice against Americans of Japanese ancestry, the Los Angeles Tribune reported.

A letter from a Chinese American soldier stationed in Hawaii, Cpl. William Leung, who was born and educated in California, declares:

"The opinion expressed that returning soldiers and marines would slit the throats of Japanese if they were seen on the streets of California is utterly ridiculous.

"Here in Hawaii the Japanese are everywhere. They are even permitted in army camps. In towns, thousands of servicemen, men who have fought the Japanese, mingle freely with them. Not once—and this is important—have I seen or heard of any incident of fist fighting or throat slitting. Here, if anywhere, bitterness against the Japanese should be at its height. Yet there is only tolerance and benignity.

"We in this company have seen the horrors of war and the sufferings of humanity. We have seen violent death come to both Americans and Japanese. I have heard

foundations of a second war in the Pacific," McWilliams told the Hampton audience.

McWilliams stressed that the government has recognized and assumed responsibility in the case of the American Japanese and the Indian as adequate grounds for federal intervention.

for the nisei to do as we are on the assumption that their American citizenship is inviolable. Whatever they do they ought not, even by implication, to attempt to bargain with Uncle Sam. That is what they would be doing by saying

my buddies—Americans all—express time and again, while gazing upon the dead, that they hope there will never be another war after this one is over. Yet how can this be if we have race-baiting fascists fomenting hatred at home?"

Work Must Be in Agriculture or Allied Activities, Report

HUNT, Idaho — New seasonal leave regulations have been announced for war relocation center residents by Dillon Myer, director, reports the Irrigator.

Under the new regulations, employment for seasonal leave must be in agriculture or allied activities, and no leaves will be granted except on government contract to an agency responsible for the farm labor program. These at present are the Extension Service and the War Food Administration. Other requirements are as follows:

Visits to relocation centers will not be permitted during the seasonal leave except under special emergency conditions

Persons accepting seasonal leave to some of the congested areas in northern Utah and northern Colorado will not be permitted to convert to indefinite leave in those areas.

No leaves will be issued for longer than seven months.

Where the appropriate relocation supervisor has reason to believe that an evacuee on seasonal leave has violated any condition of such leave he may revoke the leave and require the evacuee to return to the center.

If an evacuee now out on seasonal leave not in agriculture under old regulations refuses voluntarily to return to the relocation center and has or can obtain means of support, the relocation officer may recommend the granting of indefinite leave without application of the evacuee. If the project director finds that the evacuee meets the eligibility requirements for indefinite leave he shall transfer the evacuee to indefinite leave status.

Native Sons Deny Rights To Citizens

SANTA BARBARA, April 1—Reasons that existed when evacuation of Japanese from the West Coast took place still exist today and will continue to exist, said Walter H. Odemar, chairman of the committee of Japanese Legislation of the Native Sons of the Golden West at a meeting of the Santa Barbara chapter of that organization, according to the Herald Express.

Anyone who has studied Lieut. Gen. John W. DeWitt's report on his exclusion of Japanese will agree that the reasons, national security for one, are still valid, stated Odemar. Until the state of California is permanently rid of any further Japanese colonization, the Native Sons will continue to work for that purpose as they have done for the last forty years till it is done, Odemar added.

These statements were in answer to Dillon S. Meyer's statements regarding the return of Japanese, now evacuated from California.

Chinese Americans In Philadelphia Aid Relocation Centers

PHILADELPHIA—Many Chinese Americans in Philadelphia are sending clothing and money to Japanese Americans in war relocation centers, the Philadelphia annual Methodist conference was told last Friday.

The Rev. W. V. Middleton, executive secretary of the Philadelphia Missionary and Church Extension Society, said the work is being carried on through the Chinese Christian Center, supported by seven protestant denominations.

Local Chinese Americans also have helped relocated Japanese Americans find jobs and homes, Rev. Middleton said.

is bound up with the States, and they must do anything that would make the reckless charges now made by the bigots and haters."

Pioneers Celebrate 2nd Anniversary

To an uninhabited, sandy desert now known as Manzanar Relocation Center there came, exactly two years ago from next Tuesday, 150 pioneers. Tired, cold and hungry, after traveling hundreds of weary miles, they reached near the foothills of the Sierra Nevada ranges where America's first relocation center was to be erected.

Besides lack of manpower and material, the forces of nature had to be encountered. One of the severest winters ever to be witnessed by those Californians was encountered. A stingy, cold wind blew in from the snow-tipped mountains which majestically towered off at a distance. The desert sand was swept up with growing fury as the dust storms continued for days.

BUILD CABIN

Patiently those courageous pioneers started to build a cabin with what few materials they brought. But the wind was too strong and the cabin blew down. Braving the cold and the inconveniences—there were no stoves or bathing facilities then—they managed to open the road to the birth of Manzanar after weeks of continuous hardship and toil.

Hardships of the pioneers are told every year when March 21 rolls by. However, this year's March 21, with many of the former residents gone to Tule Lake and other established in "outside" communities, this anniversary draws an added meaning.

SACRIFICE

War means sacrifice. Never before in the history of the United States have citizens ever been put up to face the tests of confinement and isolation. But the doors of opportunities have again opened up to them and some of the pioneers have blazed a new road to relocation. The black bar-

racks stand row by row. Beautiful lawns lend a home-like appearance. Schools, homes, and other conveniences are found everywhere.

All that have replaced the old picture of a bare, ten mile desert that met the brave pioneers two years ago.

Chinese Nisei Hits Racial Persecution

LOGAN, Utah—"If you persecute the American-born Japanese in your nation now; if you exercise hatred toward the Negro and begin to criticize the Jew, perhaps you will then turn against the Chinese thirty years hence, stated Walter Ching, former Chinese American student at the Utah State Agricultural College here to members of the Logan club recently.

The Chinese American, now enroute to a position at Cornell University, spoke on controversial problems surrounding treatment of loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry.

Entitling his address, "Tolerance and Understanding," Mr. Ching admitted that he is much "amazed and shocked at the treatment of Americans of Japanese ancestry in California."

"I am not an apologist for the Japanese people—far from it," he continued. "My people have suffered most from Japanese activities. But I cannot condone the U.S. persecution of American-born Japanese."

"There is no justice in picking on a small group of American Japanese when they have proved their loyalty," Mr. Ching said. "If the current intolerance of Americans continues, I fear for the results. Live and let live is the best policy."

Sunnyvale Cannery Workers Union Protests Resolution to Bar Evacuees from California

Declares Action by City Council Is In Hitlerite Tradition

SUNNYVALE, Calif. — The Sunnyvale Cannery Workers Union, local No. 22473, CIO, on March 2 protested a resolution recently passed by the Sunnyvale City Council, urging Congress to enact legislation assuring the permanent removal of all persons of Japanese ancestry from the state of California.

The union, which in its by-laws adopted in 1941, assures full union membership to all persons, regardless of race, color or creed, reaffirmed its stand against discrimination in a statement which said, in part:

"The banning of Japanese citizens from California as proposed in the city council resolution is, in our opinion, un-American. Hitler in Europe has consistently blamed the Jews for everything which was wrong in Germany, thereby misleading the German people and winning them for the war against all humanity. We have vigorously condemned Hitler's persecution of the Jews, and will continue to condemn any program which in our opinion tends to discriminate against a racial minority.

"It is regrettable that because of certain acts by disloyal Japanese, some persons have a tendency to condemn 85,000 loyal Japanese Americans."

The city council's resolution was proposed by Postmaster John Fahet, representing the Sunnyvale post of the American Legion and is similar to a resolution passed by the Legion.

The resolutions of the city council and the American Legion, which the Cannery Workers Union has protested, had demanded the permanent exclusion of people of Japanese ancestry from the state of California. The resolutions condemned the Japanese Americans on the basis of their racial ancestry.



BEFORE THE CITY OF MANZANAR came into being and first group of volunteers arrived two years ago yesterday, these men conferred here to map out the structure of the project. Left to right: Rex Nicholson of the Wartime Civil Control Administration, Colonel McGill, Ralph P. Merritt, then a representative of the Owens Valley citizens' committee, and Clayton E. Triggs, first project director, now reported to be the American Military Government's mayor of Naples in Italy.

California Attitude Toward Japanese Americans Hit by McWilliams in Hampton Talk

HAMPTON, Va. — Declaring that a large measure of federal intervention is absolutely essential in solving the problems of America's racial minorities, Carey McWilliams, author and authority on race relations, called for an immediate federal program to deal with these problems in a lecture at Hampton Institute last week.

Pointing out that the nation is rapidly becoming a more highly integrated industrial and economic unit and that wartime intra-national migration is changing the locale of concentration of racial minorities such as the American Japanese and the Negro, McWilliams also said that it is a gross fallacy to maintain that the racial minority problem in any community is local and should be treated as such.

"One state whether the concentration of a racial minority exists bluffs the nation into thinking that the state has the right to dictate the nation's policy," he stated.

"But it would be an international calamity if California's attitude toward the Japanese were characteristic of our national point of view. If the kind of bigotry manifested in the costly and dangerous step of relocating persons with any quantum of Japanese blood and other agitation now taking place in California became nationwide, it would only result in consequences of a most serious character. We would have laid the foundations of a second war in the Pacific," McWilliams told the Hampton audience.

McWilliams stressed that the government has recognized and assumed responsibility in the case of the American Japanese and the Indian as adequate grounds for federal intervention.

on the assumption that their American citizenship is inviolable. Whatever they do they ought not, even by implication, to attempt to bargain with Uncle Sam. That is what they would be doing by saying

Myer Reveals New Seasonal Leave Rules

Work Must Be in Agriculture or Allied Activities, Report

HUNT, Idaho — New seasonal leave regulations have been announced for war relocation center residents by Dillon Myer, director, reports the Irrigator.

Under the new regulations, employment for seasonal leave must be in agriculture or allied activities, and no leaves will be granted except on government contract to an agency responsible for the farm labor program. These at present are the Extension Service and the War Food Administration.

Other requirements are as follows: Visits to relocation centers will not be permitted during the seasonal leave except under special emergency conditions.

Persons accepting seasonal leave to some of the congested areas in northern Utah and northern Colorado will not be permitted to convert to indefinite leave in those areas.

No leaves will be issued for longer than seven months.

Where the appropriate relocation supervisor has reason to believe that an evacuee on seasonal leave has violated any condition of such leave he may revoke the leave and require the evacuee to return to the center.

If an evacuee now out on seasonal leave not in agriculture under old regulations refuses voluntarily to return to the relocation center and has or can obtain means of support, the relocation officer may recommend the granting of indefinite leave without application of the evacuee. If the project director finds that the evacuee meets the eligibility requirements for indefinite leave he shall transfer the evacuee to indefinite leave status.

Baltimore. Cronin pleaded for a place for the Japanese. He met strenuous opposition from the majority anti-Japanese group.

The meeting was in the big farmhouse of Mrs. Hannah Thompson. Allowing herself with a group of women who believe the Japanese should be admitted, Mrs. Thompson finally broke up the meeting by ordering the anti-Japanese group from the house.

FRED FERTIG: A House of Prayer For All Peoples

(Continued from page 6)

lieve in Christianity and America, even as many racials in this country can't — because we, on our street, are Christian America! At All Peoples we do not stop to prove racial identity or national background — as is the requirement in certain other sections of this city — before we enter into our activities together. We do everything here as members of the human race, who have common needs and aspirations to share. Unconsciously we acknowledge the dictum of the distinguished biologist, Edwin Grant Conklin: "Biology and the Bible agree that God hath made of one blood all the nations of men."

All Peoples Christian Church and Community Center believes in a literal interpretation of the Scripture, that the church should be "a house of prayer for all peoples," of and by all peoples.

So America to us is the world in miniature, the precursor of the Christian world state.

Interracial, intercultural, Protestant and Catholic, we are by that very condition unusually tolerant, cooperative, progressive and humanitarian. Not to say that we don't have our faults. But they are not the faults of social blindness. Having eliminated artificial social barriers, we can spend all our effort on the problems natural to all men, the richly rewarding problems of personality and character.

To be completed next week.

is bound up with the States, and they must do anything that would the reckless charges now made by the bigots and

Des Plaines Students Attend Recent Forum On Japanese Americans

DES PLAINES, Ill.—More than 700 social science students at Maine high school attended a forum conducted recently on Japanese Americans.

Cpl. William Himel, son of former Principal C. M. Himel, who was home on furlough, acted as moderator. Assisting him on the panel were three Japanese American servicemen, Cpls. Kay Kitagawa, Min Shinoda and Warren Tsuneishi.

Five Japanese American residents of Des Plaines also participated in the forum. They were Miss Sakiko Shiga, Mrs. Irene Kono, Noble Honda, Andy Shiga and Kaz Watanabe.

Tolerance and good will were reported to have been the theme of the forum which discussed the evacuation of persons of Japanese ancestry from the west coast and their subsequent confinement in war relocation centers.

FRED FERTIG: A House of Prayer For All Peoples

(Continued from page 6)

world peace. Let our soldiers or present statesmen win the peace, it will be young adults who come out of an experience such as we provide that shall keep the peace. With the schools, movies, radio and every other organ of education gone to war, it depends primarily on forward-looking unions, consumer and cooperative organizations, intellectuals, and our kind of church, to prepare for the peace. We shall do it—or nobody shall. We are doing it—and are excited about it. For, to borrow Lincoln Steffen's splendid phrase: "We have seen the future and it works!"

Nisei Are Not Friendless

The following letters appeared in a recent issue of Time magazine:

There are a lot of people in these United States who have nothing but a one-track mind.

I just came from Italy where I was assigned to the Japanese 100th infantry battalion. I never in my life saw any more of a true American than they are. To these people who don't have any military rank, probably don't even know that these little "yellow-bellies" (as one writer wrote) are saving his skin: I only wish that these people could witness these little "yellow-bellies" fight.

Ask anyone who has seen them in action against the Jerry (to) tell you about them. They'll tell you when they have them on their flanks they are sure of security in that section.

They, my friends, are not the little "yellow-bellies", you are.

E. D. Chasse
2nd Lieutenant
Moore General Hospital
Swannanoa, N.C.

We are just back from overseas where we were trying to preserve democracy for the very same people who say the nisei should be deported.

I was bodyguard to an American of Japanese descent who was risking his life to act as an interpreter for us. He was a target for both Jap and American bullets.

I wish to God that some of the people at home who say, "Democracy is for the white race only," could be made to go out and fight for it.

(Serviceman's Name Withheld)
Camp Carson, Colo.

Pioneers Celebrate 2nd Anniversary

To an uninhabited, sandy desert now known as Manzanar Relocation Center there came, exactly two years ago from next Tuesday, 150 pioneers. Tired, cold and hungry, after traveling hundreds of weary miles, they reached near the foothills of the Sierra Nevada ranges where America's first relocation center was to be erected.

Besides lack of manpower and material, the forces of nature had to be encountered. One of the severest winters ever to be witnessed by those Californians was encountered. A stingy, cold wind blew in from the snow-tipped mountains which majestically towered off at a distance. The desert sand was swept up with growing fury as the dust storms continued for days.

BUILD CABIN

Patiently those courageous pioneers started to build a cabin with what few materials they brought. But the wind was too strong and the cabin blew down. Braving the cold and the inconveniences—there were no stoves or bathing facilities then—they managed to open the road to the birth of Manzanar after weeks of continuous hardship and toil.

Hardships of the pioneers are told every year when March 21 rolls by. However, this year's March 21, with many of the former residents gone to Tule Lake and other established in "outside" communities, this anniversary draws an added meaning.

SACRIFICE

War means sacrifice. Never before in the history of the United States have citizens ever been put up to face the tests of confinement and isolation. But the doors of opportunities have again opened up to them and some of the pioneers have blazed a new road to relocation. The black bar-

racks stand row by row. Beautiful lawns lend a home-like appearance. Schools, homes, and other conveniences are found everywhere.

All that have replaced the old picture of a bare, ten mile desert that met the brave pioneers two years ago.

Chinese Nisei Hits Racial Persecution

LOGAN, Utah—"If you persecute the American-born Japanese in your nation now; if you exercise hatred toward the Negro and begin to criticize the Jew, perhaps you will then turn against the Chinese thirty years hence, stated Walter Ching, former Chinese American student at the Utah State Agricultural College here to members of the Logan club recently.

The Chinese American, now enroute to a position at Cornell University, spoke on controversial problems surrounding treatment of loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry.

Entitling his address, "Tolerance and Understanding," Mr. Ching admitted that he is much "amazed and shocked at the treatment of Americans of Japanese ancestry in California."

"I am not an apologist for the Japanese people—far from it," he continued. "My people have suffered most from Japanese activities. But I cannot condone the U.S. persecution of American-born Japanese."

"There is no justice in picking on a small group of American Japanese when they have proved their loyalty," Mr. Ching said. "If the current intolerance of Americans continues, I fear for the results. Live and let live is the best policy."

Sunnyvale Cannery Workers Union Protests Resolution to Bar Evacuees from California

Declares Action by City Council Is In Hitlerite Tradition

SUNNYVALE, Calif. — The Sunnyvale Cannery Workers Union, local No. 22473, CIO, on March 2 protested a resolution recently passed by the Sunnyvale City Council, urging Congress to enact legislation assuring the permanent removal of all persons of Japanese ancestry from the state of California.

The union, which in its by-laws adopted in 1941, assures full union membership to all persons, regardless of race, color or creed, reaffirmed its stand against discrimination in a statement which said, in part:

"The banning of Japanese citizens from California as proposed in the city council resolution is, in our opinion, un-American. Hitler in Europe has consistently blamed the Jews for everything which was wrong in Germany, thereby misleading the German people and winning them for the war against all humanity. We have vigorously condemned Hitler's persecution of the Jews, and will continue to condemn any program which in our opinion tends to discriminate against a racial minority.

"It is regrettable that because of certain acts by disloyal Japanese, some persons have a tendency to condemn 85,000 loyal Japanese Americans."

The city council's resolution was proposed by Postmaster John Fahet, representing the Sunnyvale post of the American Legion and is similar to a resolution passed by the Legion.

The resolutions of the city council and the American Legion, which the Cannery Workers Union has protested, had demanded the permanent exclusion of people of Japanese ancestry from the state of California. The resolutions condemned the Japanese Americans on the basis of their racial ancestry.

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Five Japanese American residents of Des Plaines also participated in the forum. They were Miss Sakiko Shiga, Mrs. Irene Kono, Noble Honda, Andy Shiga and Kaz Watanabe.

Tolerance and good will were reported to have been the theme of the forum which discussed the evacuation of persons of Japanese ancestry from the west coast and their subsequent confinement in war relocation centers.



BEFORE THE CITY OF MANZANAR came into being and first group of volunteers arrived two years ago yesterday, these men conferred here to map out the structure of the project. Left to right: Rex Nicholson of the Wartime Civil Control Administration, Colonel McGill, Ralph P. Merritt, then a representative of the Owens Valley citizens' committee, and Clayton E. Triggs, first project director, now reported to be the American Military Government's mayor of Naples in Italy.

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There are a lot of people in these United States who have nothing but a one-track mind.

I just came from Italy where I was assigned to the Japanese 100th Infantry battalion. I never in my life saw any more of a true American than they are. To these people who don't have any military rank, probably don't even know that these little "yellow-bellies" (as one writer wrote) are saving his skin; I only wish that these people could witness these little "yellow-bellies" fight.

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I wish to God that some of the people at home who say, "Democracy is for the white race only," could be made to go out and fight for it.

(Serviceman's Name Withheld)
Camp Carson, Colo.

'Duty as Citizens Transcends All Personal Humiliations'

Portions of a letter written by a Caucasian friend of the nisei to a local resident last year at the time of the registration contain timely advice for nisei caught in the whirlpool of conflicting thoughts growing out of the reinstatement of the selective service. The writer, Harold D. Carew, of Sierra Madre, Calif., who passed away in June, was literary editor of the Pasadena Star-News.

"Evacuation was a shameful violation of the rights of citizens; but even so, these violations can in no way impair the validity of your citizenship.

"Therefore when you ask my views as to the proposition whether the nisei should demand certain guarantees on their future citizenship status before they enlist for army service, I think it would be the worst mistake they could make.

"In the first place, because they are citizens, the government could draft them and they would have to serve.

"In the second place, the nisei are citizens and cannot be deprived of their citizenship by any retroactive law that might be passed. All the ballyhoo you read in newspaper reports can be discounted. The flannel-mouthed politicians and super-patriots do not represent the reasoned opinion of the majority of our people.

"In my judgment, the thing for the nisei to do is to act on the assumption that their American citizenship is inviolable. Whatever they do they ought not, even by implication, to attempt to bargain with Uncle Sam. That is what they would be doing by saying

to him, 'You let us know what our future rights are to be, and if we like your proposition we'll see about enlisting in America's armed forces.'

"Such a course would only invite vituperation from the narrow-minded group that has been yelling, 'A Jap is a Jap, and none of them, aliens or citizens, can be trusted.' The thing to do is to shame these racial bigots by an honest display of patriotism. That is what the nisei of Hawaii did when 7,600 volunteered, when only about 2,500 were called for.

"I hope the nisei will never do anything that can be used against them. Time is on their side; they can afford to await complete vindication against the slanders and libels of wartime.

"But they ought not to do anything that would mar their good record. In my judgment, it would be a tragic error for them to assume a bargaining attitude toward the government. Proving their patriotism and their loyalty to the United States in this crisis will rebound to their credit; and when the war is ended, they will be in a position to claim for their parents every special consideration—which I have no doubt Uncle Sam will gladly grant.

"Let me repeat—nisei must proceed on the assumption that as American citizens they have a duty to perform, and that this duty transcends all personal hurts and humiliations. Make no mistake: the day will come when they will be splendidly vindicated.

"The nisei must look to the long future, as much for their children as for themselves. Their

future is bound up with the United States, and they must never do anything that would confirm the reckless charges now being made by the bigots and race-haters."

Navy Official Says McCoy's Attack on Nisei Does Not Reflect Department's Policies

"Pacific Citizen" Representative Told Bataan Hero's Views Entirely Personal; JAACL Filed Protest on Statement With War Department

WASHINGTON — A high Navy Department official told a representative of the "Pacific Citizen" Thursday that Commander Melvin McCoy's slur against the loyalty of Japanese American soldiers, and McCoy's demand for deportation of all persons of Japanese ancestry, "do not reflect the opinion or views of the Navy Department."

The Navy Department official stated the comments by McCoy on Japanese Americans were only "personal remarks" of the speaker, and were not expressions of official opinion.

Commander McCoy, leader of nine other Americans in an escape from a Japanese prison camp in the Philippines, achieved national prominence recently when the "March of Death" atrocity stories were released in January.

He declared in a newspaper interview in San Francisco on March 18 that the Japanese were fighting a "race war" and inferred that Japanese American soldiers in Italy were similarly fighting a "race war" against Germans because they were "whites."

"They are killing white men. They would just as soon be killing Germans as other white men," he was quoted by United Press as saying.

Commander McCoy also stated in San Francisco that "every Japanese in America should be shipped back to Japan after the war."

McCoy's comments were also called to the attention of the War Department on Monday in a telegram from Saburo Kido, national president of the Japanese American Citizens League. The JAACL telegram protested the attempt to smear Americans of Japanese ancestry now fighting in the armed forces of the United States.

(For editorial comment see Bill Hosokawa's column on page count five.)

ANOTHER BILL'S AIM

Another bill which Johnson has prepared would establish a three-member "deportation commission" to

Soldiers Face Court-Martial; Defied Orders

Report 28 Involved Are "Kibei" Inducted Before Pearl Harbor

WASHINGTON — Informed quarters here indicated this week that the twenty-eight members of a Japanese American battalion in the U. S. army who refused to submit to military training were pre-Pearl Harbor inductees. It was reported that these men, who have been confined to a stockade at Fort McClellan, Ala., to await court-martial proceedings, were "1940 kibei," American-born Japanese who had received most of their formal education in Japan and who had returned to the United States shortly before the war.

It was indicated that these men, who had been on detached duty at U. S. army posts, had recently been called up for combat training with a Japanese American battalion at Fort McClellan. Reports from Anniston, Ala., declared that other members of the unit of 600 Japanese Americans had subjected themselves readily to military discipline and their training had proceeded "without untoward incident."

The disclosure was made at Fort McClellan by Brig. Gen. Wallace C. Philoon, commanding officer of the infantry replacement center at the fort. He said that the men in question "have lived for many years in Japan and have become indoctrinated with the philosophy of the Japanese people."

A United Press report said that these 28 soldiers had refused to obey training orders and would not salute the flag.

Washington quarters stressed that the 28 soldiers involved have been in the army since 1941, and that they were not new inductees from war relocation centers, although some press reports had given the erroneous impression that they were.

American volunteers for combat duty in the army but only 2,645 could be accepted.

Since the war department long ago held that a large-scale evacuation of Japanese Americans from Hawaii would be impracticable, it is fortunate that by testimony of a disinterested observer from the mainland the policy that has been followed has been successful, or at the very least, unmarked by incidents."

I feel that can citizens who will now be inducted should they accept their assignments, wherever they may be, with the spirit that they are fulfilling an obligation to their country and that largely upon their manner of performance will be judged the loyalty and sincerity of all-American citizens of Japanese descent.

Myer Backs Washington Trip To Evacuate To Local Citizens

SALT LAKE

ector of the War Re that when the milita question" that Japan Coast states "should l

Merritt Tells Of Washington Trip To Local Citizens

"I anticipate that in about ten days, a team of Army doctors will arrive to give pre-induction medical examinations to qualified men of Manzanar," stated Project Director Ralph P. Merritt in an address, Saturday, to the members of the draft-age block delegates at mess hall 14.

He disclosed that 311 names of Manzanar boys, including those who were transferred to Tule Lake, are now on the list at the selective service board of Sacramento and that notices should be forthcoming.

RESOLUTIONS

He then gave a detailed report on the answers he received in Washington on the ten-point resolution which a committee of 11 draft-age men drew up early in March, and said that the comments received by him were favorable. He also said that getting the resolutions to the proper authorities and having them understand "our viewpoint" was a "tough assignment" but that he was happy to do it since it was a "sacred mission on your behalf."

The document consisted of three sections, a memorandum to Mr. Merritt, a set of resolutions to the War Department and to the Assistant Secretary of War John J. McCloy and a set of resolutions to Harold L. Ickes and the WRA.

DIFFICULTIES

The Project Director related the difficulties which he encountered in traveling to and from Manzanar and said that he had to obtain a priority to travel to Washington and an allocation from the War Department to return.

He then told of the various places of interest in Washington and of meeting his old friends Willis R. Pack and William "Wild Bill" Donovan and other dignitaries such as Colonel Bicknell, Representatives Claire Engle and General Lewis Hershey.

Director of Group Investigation of Inquiry

of a hard-working and tious agency. Even more at, the investigation has ed the American public se the people in reloca-ters with our real eneo-the Pacific.

It has fostered a type thinking which is al-ducating ugly manifesta-d which seems to be in intensity. Unless d is checked, it may y lead to ill-advised ac-at will constitute an uly shameful blot on onal record."

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National Director Dill-ger and Ray R. Best, center director, should ved because of their inability" to cope with lem of disloyal Japa-

EDITORIAL DIGEST

er, Not Color

UKEE JOURNAL

g the accomplish- g soldiers Sgt. Mike Miyake and vaukee Journal o-red: "Wisconsin v- men themselves ho- ery and utter dev- of these Japanese- ill convince the- man should be ju- actor and his acc- d not on his ance- his eyes, or the- No better antic- ounded for the- of war bred suspi- treds."

BORN IN WALES

"America offered sanctuary to E. V. Robertson after the Boer War. He was born in Wales of Scotch parents. He arrived in Park County, Wyo., in 1912 . . . but it was not until his opportunist eyes foresaw a political future did he petition for citizenship in the United States. This was 14 years after arriving in Park County."

The Sentinel's editorial was unsigned. Haruo Imura is editor of the paper, which is published under direction of Vaughn Mechat, WRA reports officer.

Kuroki

LIC TIMES

The Republic Times of Ill. on Feb. 23, noted t Sgt. Ben Kuroki, and prai- nese American, the Distinguished and whose pres- o bombard Toky- is a proof that are like Tojo: Japanese blood- ch inexorably de- to damnation," Times. "Kuroki, beside the mar- of German blood.

Discrimination

BIBUNE HERAL

ork of Hawaii l Farrington in t the Farm Secur- ion free of dis- ngs was praised- une Herald on F

Attitude

glad to be able at the agitation urn of the Japa- eific slope is su- bad case of l But in those case RE able to roun- l of "selective" ti- elements of the press have so m- drum for the m- en are that a casual reader m- led to believe that the entire Coast is in high fever over the matter."—Mason Roberson in the San Francisco, Calif., People's World of March 6.

STOCKTON RECORD—M

Senator Blasted by U. S. Japanese

HEART MOUNTAIN, Wyo., Feb. 28 (INS)—

Japanese evacuees at the Heart Mountain War Relocation Center today turned their "big guns" on U. S. Sen. E. V. Robertson (Rep., Wyo.), who was quoted last week as saying that America's Jap problem could be solved by sending "them all back to Japan."

Removal of all Japanese—including those born in the United States—presents a "ticklish problem" under the Constitution, according to the statement attributed to Robertson.

EDITORIAL

The Japanese-edited Heart Mountain Sentinel, published under supervision of the WRA, attacked Robertson in a page one editorial for his published remarks, saying:

"This intimates that this nation's most sacred document—the U. S. Constitution—can be tampered with, and this from a foreign-born . . . The matter of a foreign-born politician having the effrontery to think of circumventing the Constitution is bitter gall."

The editorial added: "America offered sanctuary to E. V. Robertson after the Boer War. He was born in Wales of Scotch parents. He arrived in Park County, Wyo., in 1912 . . . but it was not until his opportunist eyes foresaw a political future did he petition for citizenship in the United States. This was 14 years after arriving in Park County."

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Disc Not Reason For Segregation

ALIEN ASSET REPORT ISSUED

29 Million Worth of Properties Taken Over by Custodian

More than \$29,000,000 worth of alien properties, \$27,000,000 worth of Japanese owned, has been taken over by the United States Alien Property Custodian in the Pacific coast States up to mid-1943, the agency reported here yesterday.

Assets of forty-two California enterprises, eight in Washington, and one in Oregon are held by the custodian. Forty-three out of fifty-one businesses were Japanese owned; seven were German, with assets rated at \$1,700,000 and one Italian, with \$300,000 as sets.

The custodian announced that liquidation of properties, where deemed in the national interest, has been completed for many of the corporations. Farm properties in Utah and Oregon have been offered for sale under sealed bids, but the Butte Farm Land Company, operating 1,000 acres in California's Butte County, and the Land Feeding Company near Los Angeles were operated under supervision.

Banking assets of the Japanese on the coast included branches of the Yokohama Specie Bank, with about \$6,750,000 in San Francisco and Los Angeles; Sumitomo Bank of California, Ltd., Sacramento, \$1,000,000; Sumitomo Bank, Ltd., of Osaka, \$650,000. According to the report, the California Sumitomo Bank recently paid deposits in full, except for alien blocked accounts.

I feel that can citizens who will now be inducted should they accept their assignments, wherever they may be, with the spirit that they are fulfilling an obligation to their country and that largely upon their manner of performance will be judged the loyalty and sincerity of all-American citizens of Japanese descent.

Making a Distinction

ANNISTON STAR

Noting that "several hundred" Japanese Americans are being sent to Fort McClellan to obtain their "basic training, the Anniston, Ala., Star stressed in an editorial on March 12 that Alabamans should make a distinction between the "enemy Japs" and Americans of Japanese ancestry.

The editorial noted that Japanese Americans "have been born and reared in an atmosphere of liberty and democracy and Christianity, which places prime emphasis on the dignity of the individual soul."

"But these men are of a sensitive nature," the Anniston Star commented. "They are deeply hurt when referred to as 'Japs,' but do not mind being called 'J-A's,' which stands for Japanese Americans or Niseis to denote they are second-generation Japanese."

"We should treat them with consideration, therefore, and respect them for just what they are: patriotic young men who are offering their lives on the altar of their country, to the end that freedom and justice may not perish from the face of the earth," the Alabama paper concluded.

Wicked Business

OGDEN STANDARD

Commenting on the formation of farm bodies which urge discriminatory treatment of Japanese Americans, the Ogden, Utah, Standard Examiner declared in an editorial on March 26:

"It happens that while farmers are going to great lengths to form responsible bodies to facilitate the hiring of farm labor and enter into covenants looking toward the welfare of the labor, irresponsible or unthinking groups and individuals are fanning race hatreds in a manner calculated to undo, at least in part, the farmers' efforts."

In the editorial titled, "Fanning Race Hatred Is Wicked Business," the Standard-Examiner, asked:

"In a day of unlimited jobs what minority group will continue to work for long in communities where hatreds are fomented and discrimination advocated?"

"If recruitment of labor becomes a difficult, farmers, no doubt, will begin to ask who are these people who are preaching race hatred and what do they hope to gain by arousing unrest after the Hitler manner."

"Farm work is war work," the Standard-Examiner declared. "To impede food production by intimidating minority groups required for farm work is wicked business. In the case of Japanese evacuees it is folly to feed them at public expense in centers when there is important work for them to do which they want to perform."

Attorney Tsurutani Makes Urgent Plea

thurs., Apr. 6, 1944—Part I, Page 9

FBI ARRESTS 12 U. S. JAPS

Accused of Failing to Report for Pre-Induction Tests

DENVER, April 5.—(INS)—H. R. Duffy, special agent in charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Denver today announced the arrest at Heart Mountain war relocation center in Wyoming, of 12 Japanese-Americans who had previously been evacuated from the West Coast and are now at the WRA center at Heart Mountain, for failure to report for their pre-induction physical examinations.

The 12 are being held at Caswell, Wyo., county jail, awaiting action on May 8 by the Federal grand jury. Official announced that other arrests are contemplated.

per cent American, they made the 100 per cent Caucasian Americans seem mild! . . . The lot of the nisei in Japan was not wholly a happy one. Their relatives and friends were bewildered and annoyed by these strange young people who looked like Japanese but acted and thought like Americans."

Declaring "there may be treacherous Japanese waiting under cover" Sandburg said, "but it may count in favor of the nisei that so far there seem to be no cases of treason or espionage or sabotage."

The third type, the Japanese nationals, are Japanese subjects who came to this country and retained their loyalty to the emperor. They are considered in the same category with the residents of the Japanese islands and members of the Japanese military forces. They are placed in different camps than the Nisei and aliens and interned for the duration", the article concluded.