

Grace Oshio  
Per. V  
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Manzanar  
When I first arrived here on that blizzary night of April 2, 1942, my first final impression of Manzanar reminded of an isolated place for prisoners.

As the days went by, water pipes were installed, faucets were in use and temporary latrine were put up. But then of course, there were such inconveniences as no laundry rooms, thus boiling your water, brought from the pipe faucets and washing in the home. No showere or baths, thus, not taking a shower for about three weeks, just sponge baths and imagining as if you weighed a ton. What experiances they were!

You jumped out of the barracks to go outside because of no steps and the result is about a half of a pound of sand and rocks in your shoes. If you went out of your own block, you have a terrible time looking for your apartment, because everyone of them looked exactly alike.

Gradually you get acquainted with your neighbors, start planting flowers, vegetables, grass, building steps, shelves, tables and all kinds of miscellaneous items.

I never realized you could borrow so many articles from your neighbors, such as ironboards, washboards, pans, dishes, pins, and oh, such numerous items that will take hours to mention. You certainly are grateful to such friendly people.

Day by day, improvements were made and the population increased steadily, thus building more and more barracks. It was certainly boring to hear nothing but pounding sounds of the hammer here and there. Canteen and postoffice opened, latrines were built, wash-rooms were made and recreational halls were opened.

Now everything is of convenience that you could think of. Of course there many, many things that could be done to make this camp a more enjoyable place. Such as the young people are always saying there isn't anything to do. Naturally there are, but what they mean is recreational doings. There should be more activities here. Why can't we have a skating rink, or a bowling alley? It may sound impossible, but other camps have done it, so why not Manzanar?