

## SILK SCREEN SHOP

The Amache Silk Screen Shop, at the request of the US Navy, was officially organized on June 1, 1943. Amache can well boast of this Silk Screen Project, for this is the one and only such shop in all the relocation centers. Its success is accredited to the WRA supervisor and the evacuee personnel of forty-five members.

The program conducted in cooperation with the Navy, fulfills, monthly, contracts for thousands of training-aid posters. Though the WRA furnishes adequate training materials and all needed labor, the Navy provides all necessary materials for the posters.

There are three different processes in the art of silk screen--the film, tusche and the photographic methods.

The film method, widely used for commercial purposes, is taken up as the first course of training. This process takes up the delicate task of cutting elaborate designs and letterings on a lacquered film.

The technique of drawing the picture onto the silk screen with a black wax known as "tusche," used for fine art work, is then taken up as a secondary training course.

A photographic process is included in advanced study.

Productions of the shop, including US Navy posters and center work with up-to-date equipment, are rated as "professional" jobs. Many evacuees, after completion of their training at the local shop, have relocated and obtained employment in silk-screen shops outside.

## COMMUNITY ENTERPRISES

The local consumer's cooperative known as the Amache Consumer's Enterprise Incorporated, owned and operated by the residents of this project, with a total capitalization of \$25,000, is one of the largest organizations of this kind in the State. It was incorporated on January 25, 1943, and is a member of the National Cooperative Incorporation of Chicago, Illinois. Since the charter membership drive in February, 1943, 5,000 shares at \$5.00 each were sold, and nearly 1,000 more shares have been purchased by both new and old members since that time. From the 2,650 members of the Consumer Enterprise Incorporated, a board of directors and various committees are elected to act as the "voice" of the members.

During its first fiscal year which ended on August 31, 1943, the Co-op's volume of business reached \$362,188.58, which equals more than \$30,000 per month. Net savings, including a co-op wholesale patronage refund or rebate, reached nearly \$42,000.

During the months of November and December, 1943, the various stores and shops of the Amache Consumer Enterprises Inc., moved into the new co-op U-shaped building which is a combination of three barrack type building, 40' x 100'. The co-op building includes a clothing store, variety store, shoe store, shoe-repair shop, cleaning and pressing agency, barber and beauty parlor, canteen, jewelry and watch-repair shop, newspaper department, radio repair shop and optometry supplies. This building was built by the WRA and is rented to the Consumer Enterprises.

The responsibility of supervising this organization is vested in a board of directors of nine members who are elected annually by the stockholders.

## ADMINISTRATION

There are several administration buildings not far from the entrance gate. It is through these buildings that the various administrative functions of the project are carried out. Here are the offices of the project director, assistant project director, procurement, cost-accounting, finance, auditing, senior administrator, telephone switchboard, chief of police, personnel, public works, education, project attorney, and timekeeper.

The community service department includes housing and social welfare activities of the center. The Pioneer Building in the western portion of the administration area houses the newspaper office for which the building is named, the reports office including the documentation section, and the community analyst's office.

The duties of the office-services section include such functions as filing records, sending and receiving teletype messages, sorting and routing all mail, and project mimeographing.

The important work of handling evacuees' leave clearance papers and placing them in contact with suitable employers on the outside is conducted in the leave and employment offices.

Near the entrance gate are offices of the supply and transportation division and the project farm section.

In front of the fire department is the garage and motor pool division which handles all the vehicles and matter of transportations.

The living quarters of the appointed personnel are located between 4th and 5th streets southwest of the fire department.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

The important duty of preserving law and order within the center lies in the hands of the Amache police department. This force, headed by the three internal security officers who are the members of the WRA staff, consists of 30 evacuee men properly trained in police tactics. Their efficiency is attested by the fact that no serious crime has occurred within the center to date. Only 84 minor cases were reported for the year of 1943.

The Amache police department is modeled after a similar organization on the outside with the following officers: 1 evacuee chief-of-police, 3 captains, 2 desk sergeants, 2 field sergeants, 3 detectives, one release sergeant, one transportation sergeant, and 17 patrolmen.

The patrolmen are assigned beats in 8 hour shifts. The police headquarter and barrack are located in block 9F, while the office of the chief security officer is located in the south administration building.

The function of the military police at the center is restricted to the patrolling of the warehouse areas at night and guarding at the main gate.

## POST OFFICE

The Amache Post Office occupies a structure 100' by 40' located between the administration building and the fire station. It is a regular branch of the Lamar Post Office managed by five Caucasian personnel who are regular civil service employees of the United States Post Office Department. They are assisted by an evacuee postmaster and five clerks, handling approximately 3,000 to

3,500 letters, and 400 to 500 packages each month. Six evacuees deliver the letters and packages to the block office everyday in the afternoon, at the same time collecting the outgoing letters from a mail box. The block managers are responsible for the distribution of mail to their respective block residents.

During its first fiscal year, 1943, the post-office's volume of business reached approximately \$36,000, which includes registered mail, insured mail, money orders issued and money orders paid out.

#### HOUSING

Typical living quarters of the evacuees are rows of rectangular army-style barracks, 120' x 20', divided into six compartments of which two each are entered by a single common door. These rooms vary in size from 16' x 20' to 24' x 20' and are assigned according to the size of the family which range from two to seven individuals. Aside from a semi-completed closet, coal stove, folding cots, mattresses and quilts, no other articles were provided. All other necessary furniture was made by the evacuees themselves from scrap lumber found on the construction site. The interior walls and ceilings are lined with insulation board while the floors are merely a layer of bricks laid on loose dirt.

#### CENTER EMPLOYMENT

A community the size of Amache requires a large number of people to perform various public tasks, without which the inhabitants would suffer many hardships and often times be exposed to dangers. However, unlike an ordinary town of similar

size, the Granada project does not have private enterprises and utilities and hence must resort to other means for providing the everyday needs of its residents.

This problem is being adequately met in this center by the existence of a work corp composed of evacuees who have offered their services to the community for a nominal wage of sixteen and nineteen dollars, per month paid by the government.

There is a total of 2,663 evacuees employed in approximately 25 different departments, each supervised by WRA staff members who are termed the appointed personnel. Sections under the departments are usually headed by evacuees who have had previous experience in the particular work.

#### WAREHOUSES

Fourteen standard warehouses 40 by 100 feet occupy the northwest corner on the project site. They are utilized for storing mess-division supplies, furniture, motor-pool equipment, public-service supplies, and many other miscellaneous items.

In this area also are located two, 20 x 100 feet walk-in refrigeration plants, a meat house and a carpenter shop. In addition a 30 x 90 feet root cellar had been built to keep the farm surplus products, located on the west end of this warehouse area.

#### PUBLICATIONS

The Granada Pioneer is a local semi-weekly newspaper delivered free to each unit of every barrack on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons. It is mimeo-

graphed and has a total circulation of 3,500. About 400 complimentary copies are mailed to various other individuals, libraries and relocation centers.

This department is staffed by twenty-two evacuees who edit and publish news and comments in English with translations in Japanese.

#### MESS DIVISION OPERATION

The functional activity of the block is centered around the mess hall where the evacuees go not only to eat their three meals each day, but to hold their talent shows, block meetings, movies, wedding parties, and dances. This building is of a standard structure, 100' by 40', having a seating capacity of 200 and 300 people. The kitchen of each mess hall is equipped with an up-to-date refrigerator, four galvanized sinks, water heater, steam sterilizer, and three coal ranges. The kitchen personnel is composed entirely of evacuees one chef, two first cooks and a number of kitchen helpers.

In addition, a worker's mess is operated for the benefit of the evacuee workers in the administration area. This mess hall provides meals to an average of 450 to 500 daily except on Saturday and Sunday. Also, the night workers such as policemen, firemen, etc., averaging to a number of 40 to 50 are fed in this workers mess hall.

A WRA staff mess has approximately 100 appointed-personnel patrons.

All the food prepared for the meals served including that produced on the project farm, is based on a total meal cost of 45 cents per person a day. The meals are served in cafeteria style with each individual lining up at the counter to receive

his plate and then sitting down at a long wooden table lined with cups, spoons, forks, and salt and pepper. Coffee is served in the morning, while tea or water is served at other meals. Milk is served only to children and to individuals holding doctor's permits. Some blocks have adjusted themselves to new arrangements by having family-unit tables. The menus are prepared by the WRA mess division and adhere strictly to the ration regulation governing any institution outside the center.

The mess operation is the largest division handled by evacuee workers. There are only three caucasian supervisors. The mess division unit composed of a staff of one senior steward, staff members of five supervisors, nine cost-accounting clerks and fifteen workers performing duties in the commissary warehouse. These people are charged with the responsibility of making necessary arrangements for distributing food to each of the twenty-nine mess halls, worker's mess and staff mess.

Meat is raised and slaughtered at the project farm and kept in the neat house, which has modern butcher-shop equipment. This department's staff consists of one head butcher, five butchers and seven butcher helpers.





## WRA FARM

The main industry of the Granada Relocation Center is agriculture. Its prime objective is to produce enough vegetables and meat so that it will, to a great extent, become self-sustaining.

The actual land under the farm section embraces 4,095 acres known as the XY Ranch and 5,688 acres known as the Koen Ranch formerly operated by the American Crystal Sugar Company. Of this acreage, almost 6,000 is under irrigation. The water is supplied by the Lamar Canal and the Manvel Ditch of which 40% and 67% respectively of the capital stock is held by the WRA.

The farm boasts a completely equipped blacksmith-shop for general repair, electric and gas welding, forge work, drilling and cutting.

The enormous output of 3,838,699 pounds of vegetables and 55,000 bushels of field crops were harvested on the Granada Relocation project farm in 1943, valued at \$190,000. This value filled more than the production quota set by the WRA office in Washington. The cost of production last year was less than \$50,000.

Other noteworthy accomplishments were that many crops not grown extensively in the nearby areas were produced in large quantities. These include potatoes with production as high as 200 sacks per acre, head lettuce, celery, spinach, lima beans and onions. The habucha, an annual tea plant native of Asia but grown commercially in California, was grown for the first time in Colorado. Mung beans are also new to Colorado. These beans, used for bean sprouts, produced heavily on the WRA farm. Daikon, a Japanese winter radish, and Chinese cabbage, unusual crops, were successfully produced last year.

Other vegetables grown on the project farm were squash, radishes, Chinese mustard cabbage, tablequeen squash, tomatoes, lettuce, green peppers, turnips, garlic, beets, cucumbers, broccoli, pumpkins, cashaws, green onions, snap beans, cantaloupes, watermelons, Swiss chard, peas, carrots, sweet corn, and pinto beans. Other crops included alfalfa, grain, and sorgum.

The growing of vegetables was especially emphasized in order to supply the center with as much food as possible.

Surpluses produced have been sent to other relocation centers. However, a canning plant is now in operation at the center and considerable amounts of vegetables will be preserved for use during the winter months.

None of the crops produced on the project farms were sold commercially. One carload of spinach was given to the Army quartermaster Corps for Army use.

Another important farm program is livestock production. At present there are approximately 600 head of cattle in XY Ranch feed lots and pasture. An additional 100 head are fed by the vocational agriculture students.

There are 3664 chickens and 915 hogs, which will be increased to 25,000 and 1,000 respectively soon. The hog project is progressing well and are fattened on garbage accumulated within the center.

Special merit goes to the vocational agriculture boys who have formed a chapter of the Future Farmers of America. Forty of these high school students had full charge of farming 500 acres of land and produced 400 tons of alfalfa hay, 10,000 bushels of corn, 800 tons of cornfodder and milo, 200,000 lbs. of potatoes, 20,000 lbs. of dry beans, 18,000

ears of sweet corn and 25,000 lbs of tomatoes. They are now feeding 100 head of cattle and are establishing a hog-breeding project.



## RELOCATION

The long-range program of rehabilitating the evacuees once again into the stream of normal American life is taking shape and qualified persons, both citizens and aliens, are being encouraged to resettle in those areas not under military restriction. However, preparatory to leaving the center, they must undergo a thorough investigation and check with records of the FBI and other intelligence agencies as to their educational, political and environmental background. Only upon the Government's satisfaction that the evacuee is loyal, is he or she granted leave clearance to go outside and accept employment. According to its policy of encouraging resettlement of the evacuees, the WRA has established relocation field offices in various parts of the United States to explore employment possibilities, to assist local civilian agencies, committees on resettlement, and to forward job offers directly to the project directors in the centers.

Since the latter part of 1942 up to January 31, 1944, nearly 3,000 persons left the center on seasonal leave as farm laborers while others left as students for colleges and universities throughout the middle west and the eastern states; thus, enabling them to continue their education through their own effort. This was made possible through the cooperation of the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council which was organized for this purpose. On January 31, 1944, 1,687 persons were out on indefinite leaves, more or less in permanent occupations.

The tempo of relocation has been accelerated by the army's acceptance of nisei into the armed forces of the United States. One hundred and twenty-four American Japanese volunteered at an earlier date for specialized service.