

In order to receive cash dividends, however, a patron must become a member of the association either by outright investment in a membership or by assigning the appropriate portion of the initial dividend necessary to cover a membership investment. Only members of the association are permitted to vote for the election of officers and to have a voice in the formulation of policy.

#### EVACUEE NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS

At all centers, the WRA encourages the evacuee residents to assume the fullest possible responsibility for publishing a newspaper that meets community needs and urges the newspaper staffs to work toward progressively high journalistic standards. Like all other newspapers in the United States, relocation center papers will enjoy full freedom of editorial expression. The Project Director, however, may suspend publication of the newspaper at any time if this seems necessary in the interest of public peace and community security. Each relocation center paper is permitted and encouraged to include a supplement or section in the Japanese language.

##### WRA-Sponsored Newspapers

At those centers where no agency or organization of the residents is in a position to assume full responsibility for publication of a newspaper, the WRA will provide the community with a mimeographed paper as a Government-sponsored enterprise. Such papers will be prepared and edited by evacuee residents under general supervision of the Project Reports Officer and will be distributed throughout the community free of charge. No sale of subscriptions or of advertising space will be permitted in the case of papers financed wholly from Government funds.

##### Evacuee-Sponsored Newspapers

Any organization of the evacuee residents which is authorized to handle and disburse funds—such as the Consumer Enterprise Association—may assume full responsibility for publishing a community newspaper or may provide the paper with partial financing in return for specific services. Any type of financial arrangement that meets the community needs may be worked out provided it has the approval of the Project Director. Even after the paper has been transferred to evacuee sponsorship, the WRA may (in the discretion of the Project Director) continue to provide employees of the paper with compensation and clothing allowances at standard WRA rates and may furnish rent-free space in available buildings. In return, the WRA will expect the paper to publish official announcements or releases and to check such stories (in the interest of accurate presentation) with the appropriate project official in advance of publication. Once the newspaper has been transferred to evacuee sponsorship,

it *may* sell subscriptions, charge the residents a nominal fee for individual copies, and collect advertising revenues.

#### Other Publications

Any group of evacuee residents desiring to issue (in either English or Japanese) some other publication—such as a school or church paper, a literary magazine, or a newspaper representing some particular segment of the population—may apply to the Project Director for permission to use WRA supplies and facilities. If the Project Director determines that the publication is in the community interest, he may authorize the WRA staff at the center to furnish all possible assistance and may (in his discretion) provide the staff of the publication with standard compensation and clothing allowances. The WRA, however, is not in a position to provide compensation and clothing allowances for the staff of more than one community-wide newspaper in each relocation center.

#### LEGAL AID

Evacuee residents needing legal advice or services may apply at any time at the office of the Project Attorney for help. No fees will be charged for advice or aid rendered by the Project Attorney or members of his staff to evacuee residents. Charges made by outside agencies for notarization, recordation, filing, and similar services, however, must be paid. In cases where legal work outside the relocation center is involved, the Project Attorney or members of his staff may refer the evacuee resident to an appropriate attorney in private practice, but the expense for the private attorney's services will be borne by the evacuee. The Project Attorney's office will also furnish legal assistance to the consumer enterprise association, the community government, and other evacuee activities.

#### PUBLIC ASSISTANCE GRANTS

Any evacuee resident who has not refused to work and who finds that his total income (from all sources) is inadequate to meet his needs and those of his dependents may apply at the office of the Project Counselor for public assistance grants. Where certified, such grants will ordinarily be made in the following amounts:

- (a) \$4.75 per month for each man over 17;
- (b) \$4.25 per month for each woman over 17;
- (c) \$2.50 per month for each dependent between the ages of 13 and 17, inclusive;
- (d) \$1.50 per month for each dependent under 13.

In unusual cases where an actual need exists, grants in excess of these amounts may be made upon approval by the Project Director.

If the grants are spent for purposes other than those for which application was made, they may be suspended at any time.

#### RECREATION

A broad and varied program of recreational and other leisure-time activities is encouraged at all relocation centers. Responsibility for organizing and conducting such activities rests largely with the evacuee residents. At all centers, however, the WRA will set aside certain areas and buildings specifically for recreational purposes and will lend every possible assistance to the residents, particularly in organizing activities with a direct bearing on the general welfare of the community.

Traditional Japanese activities—such as bon odori, shibai, goh and flower arrangement—which have no political implications are freely permitted. Formation of local branches or chapters of national organizations such as the Red Cross, YMCA, YWCA, and Boy Scouts is definitely encouraged.

#### RELIGION

Like all other residents of the United States, evacuees at relocation centers are free to worship as they please and to conduct any type of religious service of a nonpolitical nature. Because of the critical shortage of building materials, it now seems unlikely that WRA will be able to provide church buildings at relocation centers as originally intended. Space for all denominations, however, will continue to be made available in the recreation halls.

Religious workers among the evacuee residents may carry on their religious activities and may hold other WRA jobs at regular rates of compensation. No such worker, however, will receive WRA wages for the performance of religious duties. Religious leaders from the outside will be admitted within the centers only on the invitation of church groups among the residents.

#### BURIAL OR CREMATION

The WRA will provide standard undertaking and burial services or cremation for all evacuees who die while in residence at a relocation center. The choice between burial and cremation will be governed by the wishes of the deceased or (in case no preference has been expressed) by the desires of the immediate family. Burial will ordinarily be in a cemetery located on or near the relocation area. In cases where burial at some other cemetery is preferred, costs of transporting and interring the body will be borne by the immediate family of the deceased.

At centers where no photographic service is provided through consumer enterprises, families desiring funeral photographs should

apply to the Project Reports Officer. Wherever possible, the WRA will take such pictures and will supply the evacuee family with two prints free of charge. If additional prints are desired, necessary arrangements will have to be made with a commercial photographic shop.

## GENERAL INFORMATION FOR EVACUEES

### PROPERTY ASSISTANCE

The job of helping evacuees with their property problems, which was handled during the evacuation period by the Federal Reserve Bank and the Farm Security Administration, was taken over by the War Relocation Authority in August 1942. To carry out this function, an Evacuee Property Office has been established in San Francisco with branches at Los Angeles and Seattle.

All evacuees—whether residing in a relocation center or elsewhere—are entitled to the services made available by this Office. These services including the following types of assistance:

1. Secure tenants or operators for both agricultural and commercial properties.
2. Negotiate new leases or renewals of existing leases.
3. Obtain buyers for real or personal property of all kinds.
4. Effect settlement of claims for or against an evacuee.
5. Adjust differences arising out of inequitable, hastily made or indefinite agreements.
6. Obtain an accounting for amounts due, and facilitate collection thereof.
7. Ascertain whether property is being satisfactorily maintained or whether damage or waste is occurring.
8. Check inventories of goods and equipment, and recommend utilization of material for the best interests of the evacuee and the nation.

Residents of relocation centers needing property assistance should consult with the Evacuee Property Officer (if there is one) at the center or (if not) with the office of the Project Attorney. Evacuees who live outside relocation centers and who need property assistance should communicate directly with the Evacuee Property field office in the city nearest to the property in question. This would be Room 955, 1031 South Broadway, Los Angeles, Calif., for properties in southern California or Arizona; Whitcomb Hotel Building, San Francisco for properties in northern California; and Room 6609, White Building, Seattle, Wash., for properties in Oregon or Washington.

Any evacuee having a property problem that cannot be solved readily at the relocation center will have to execute a "Request for Assistance" in order to provide the Evacuee Property Office with proper

authorization to act in his behalf. In filling out this form, the property-holder may designate specifically how the problem shall be handled or may give the Office broad authority to determine an advisable course of action. In cases where broad authority has been provided, the Office will take no definite action (except in emergency cases) without obtaining prior approval of the property-holder.

All evacuees are entitled to have their personal properties stored in Government-leased warehouses without charge during the war-time period. Those who have such property now in private storage may request that the Evacuee Property Office transfer it to Government storage. In such cases, both transportation (to the warehouse) and storage will be at Government expense.

Each evacuee is also entitled to one movement of personal property at Government expense over and above the movement to a Government warehouse for storage. This movement may be from the point of storage either to a relocation center or to a railhead outside the evacuated area, but not first to one and then to the other. Each unattached evacuee or evacuee family going out of a relocation center on indefinite leave is entitled to have a maximum of 500 pounds of personal property (over and above the limit permitted by rail or bus tickets) shipped to the point of destination at Government expense.

#### CONTRABAND REGULATIONS

The War Relocation Authority has adopted no contraband regulations. At all centers, however, the Authority is cooperating with the Western Defense Command and the Department of Justice in carrying out the applicable contraband regulations of those two agencies.

Western Defense Command regulations apply to all persons of Japanese descent living in California, Washington, Oregon, Arizona, Nevada, Idaho, Utah, and Montana. In terms of relocation centers, this means that all residents of Japanese extraction at Manzanar, Tule Lake, Colorado River, Gila River, Central Utah, and Minidoka are affected. Department of Justice regulations apply to all alien Japanese living anywhere in the United States.

The lists of items which are contraband for all persons of Japanese descent in the far Western States listed above and for alien Japanese throughout the United States are virtually identical. They include (1) firearms and other weapons, (2) ammunition, (3) bombs and other explosives, (4) radio transmitting sets, (5) codes and signal devices, (6) cameras, (7) radio receiving sets with short-wave bands, and (8) certain types of books, photographs, maps, and drawings. The contraband regulations of both the Department of Justice and the Western Defense Command prohibit the affected persons from possessing, using, or operating these types of articles. At Manzanar and Tule Lake, provision has also been made by the Western

Defense Command for inspection of incoming parcels addressed to evacuee residents and removal from these parcels of any contraband items.

Citizen evacuees residing outside the Western Defense Command area who wish to recover cameras, short-wave radio sets, or other items previously surrendered as contraband are eligible to apply for restoration of such property at any time. The following procedures are suggested:

1. For recovery of items surrendered to the Army or the War-time Civil Control Administration at the time of evacuation or at an assembly center, application should be made to the Western Defense Command, San Francisco, Calif.
2. For recovery of items surrendered at a relocation center, application should be made to the Project Director.
3. For recovery of items surrendered to the Department of Justice, citizen evacuees residing at the Heart Mountain, Granada, Rohwer, or Jerome Relocation Centers may consult the Evacuee Property Officer or the Project Attorney. Any citizen evacuee living outside relocation centers and outside the Western Defense Command who wishes to recover items surrendered to the Department of Justice should communicate with the United States Attorney who has custody of the surrendered property.

#### REPATRIATION AND EXPATRIATION

Evacuees of Japanese ancestry are free at all times to request repatriation (in the case of aliens) or expatriation (in the case of American citizens) to the Empire of Japan. Residents of the relocation centers desiring to request repatriation or expatriation should apply to the Project Director. Evacuees residing outside the centers who wish to make such an application should communicate directly with the State Department in Washington, D. C.

It should be understood, however, that submission of an application for repatriation or expatriation is no guarantee that the applicant will actually be able to go to Japan during the wartime period. This will depend on the conclusion of exchange negotiations between the governments involved and on the amount of space available on the exchange ship if and when it sails.

Residents of relocation centers whose repatriation or expatriation has been requested by the Japanese Government will be so informed and will be asked to indicate whether they wish to go to Japan. The WRA will advise the State Department of these decisions. All persons, regardless of age, will be free to indicate their own individual decisions on this matter.

## VOTING RIGHTS

After careful study, the Solicitor of the War Relocation Authority has issued an opinion that evacuee residents of relocation centers are probably not legally entitled to vote in the counties where the centers are located. All American citizens of voting age who are properly registered in the counties of their residence prior to evacuation, however, are entitled to vote by absentee ballot in both the primary and general elections in California, Oregon, Washington, and Arizona. Citizen residents of relocation centers who were evacuated from California or Arizona and who are not now properly registered may be registered by mail if the residence requirements can be met. In the case of evacuees from Oregon and Washington, however, it seems doubtful that absentee registration will be permissible under the present laws of those States.

## INCOME TAX LIABILITY

Both citizen and alien evacuees are subject to Federal taxes on their personal incomes the same as all other residents of the United States. In making out income-tax returns, residents of the relocation centers should include all income received from sources outside the center plus all wages received at the center and all clothing allowances received as compensation for work. The Bureau of Internal Revenue has ruled, however, that evacuee residents of the centers need not pay Federal income taxes on (1) public assistance grants, (2) unemployment compensation, (3) clothing allowances received as a result of involuntary unemployment, or (4) subsistence provided by the War Relocation Authority. As residents of the States from which they were evacuated, all evacuees continue to be subject also to the income-tax laws of such States.