

FACTS ABOUT CLEVELAND, OHIO

Standing roughly 700 feet above the level of Public Square on the observation floor of the Terminal Tower in the heart of the city, a visitor gets a splendid panoramic view of Ohio's first and the country's sixth largest metropolis----- GREATER CLEVELAND.

On clear days, an old-time resident can pick out familiar spots as far as 25 miles in all directions.

Directly north is Lake Erie. There one may see pleasure and commercial crafts of all descriptions leaving their wakes in the relatively shallow and oftentimes treacherous waters.

Large barges, laden with the red dirt from which is claimed the steel and iron that make Cleveland a leading industrial city, head towards the snaky Cuyahoga River which leads them through the "flats" to the docks of the steel mills.

One sees these mills to the south, their stacks pouring smokes of different colors...blue, yellow, orange and black as the furnaces make ton after ton of pig iron and steel. Cuyahoga County, of which Cleveland is the heart, and the neighboring Lorain County, produced 3,838,000 tons of pig iron in 1941.

In the volume of tonnage handled, the port of Cleveland ranks fourth among all the ports of the Great Lakes.

In 1941, for example, 2,096,000 tons of freight were shipped out including almost a million and a half tons of coal, and 18 million tons were brought in, including almost 15 million tons of iron ore.

Eight and a half miles to the southwest at almost any time airplanes can be seen circling to land or taking off from the municipally-owned one thousand-acre Cleveland Airport. If you know your aircraft, you will recognize in a day the span from the largest of commercial and military planes to the smallest of "puddle jumpers".

MANY NATIONALITIES IN BUSY CITY

Dropping one's eyes to the Square, one sees a teaming business section; streams of people shopping; going into the huge Federal building to pay taxes; entering Cleveland College or the Old Stone Church; returning books to the great Public Library which boasts of two million books printed in 26 different languages; heading for the Municipal Stadium which seats 80,000 people; feeding pigeons on the Mall; or going to see the latest stage and screen shows or a major league baseball game.

It is significant to note that 67 per cent of the Cleveland population is either foreign-born or the offspring of foreign-born parents. Thus the majority of the population is "issei" or "nisei".

In 1940, when the last census was taken, 7 percent of the city's 878,336 people were Negroes, and of the foreign-born white folks, those from Poland predominated with 13 per cent. Next in numbers with 12 per cent were those from Czechoslovakia. In equal numbers are the Italians and Hungarians with 11 per cent, followed by those from Germany, Britain, Yugoslavia and Russia.

Mayor Frank Lausche was born of Slovenian



SUNDAY DINNER IN CLEVELAND FINDS CHILDREN HUNGRY. THE SERVER FORMALLY LIVED AT POSTON; THE CHILDREN AT RIVERS.

parents, and his predecessor in office was a naturalized Welshman. This would indicate that racial or national antecedents do not count overly much as a factor in advancement in Cleveland.

HOUSING FACILITIES VARIED

Cleveland has large, extensive residential sections with rather limited accommodations in the way of apartment houses. The influx of war workers filled what little space there was and as a result apartments and small homes are difficult to find. However, all evacuees who have come into the city have found housing of a kind. Some are staying in private homes where they do part-time jobs as domestics; many have found housekeeping rooms and apartments; others live in rooming and boarding houses and still others have banded together in a co-op house arrangement, having rented a huge



house formerly used by a fraternity. In many cases a municipally-sponsored war housing agency has helped persons of Japanese ancestry find suitable living quarters and a large number of unmarried Nisei inhabit rooms in several low-cost downtown hotels, one of which is operated by an Issei.

Generally speaking, housing in any Midwestern and Eastern industrial city

is older; dingier; considerably more expensive than in the West. Most of the relocated evacuees living in rented rooms and eating out pay from \$5 to \$8 a week for rooms and between \$1.75 to \$2.00 a day for food or a total of from \$75 to \$95 a month for subsistence. Regular rooming and boarding houses charge from \$60 to \$70 a month for

room and meals. The rental on apartments when they are to be found varies from \$40 to \$80 a month depending upon the neighborhood and the kind of accommodations.

Temperatures in Cleveland are moderate. In the coldest month of the year, the average low temperature is about 20 degrees. This means that many days are warmer and a few hover about the zero mark. Infrequent snowfalls cover the ground to several inches but the snow melts and is gone in a few days.

Average high temperature in the hottest month of the year, July, is about 78 degrees. Occasionally the mercury soars to the 100 mark. Generally the severest weather is shortlived. It is good conversation but nothing which causes great concern.

LIVING COSTS

A comparison of estimated costs for a like-sized family in several of the larger cities of the United States may be helpful in giving the reader some perspective in making a decision as to where to relocate.

According to estimates based on a budget prepared in March 1943 by the Works Project Administration and brought up to date with the cost of living index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, it cost a four-person unskilled-manual worker's family \$1,765.94 a year to live in Cleveland at December 1943 price levels.

This annual Cleveland figure is a minimum subsistence budget and does not constitute a high standard of living but a comparison between cities on this same basis is helpful.

Thus, while it cost that family \$1,765.94 in Cleveland, it would have cost the same family an estimated \$1,675.86 in Portland, Ore.; \$1,713.94 in Seattle; \$1,807.51 in San Francisco; \$1,783.11 in Chicago; \$1,854.39 in New York City; \$1,649.36 in Los Angeles; \$1,790.53 in Detroit; and \$1,678.05 in Cincinnati.

INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE

Although the production of iron and steel is the chief industry of Cleveland, it does not dominate this city which is remarkable for its diversification of industry. Other important industries include the manufacture of machine tools, heavy hoists and conveying machinery, automobiles and automobile parts and bodies, paints and varnishes, electrical equipment, clothing and others.

This wide diversification makes the city relatively free from booms and abrupt business slumps. Its fortunes vary with the fortunes of the country as a whole.

According to Chamber of Commerce figures, the greenhouse vegetables industry in Cleveland and vicinity represents a \$10,000,000 capital investment. There are 275 acres under glass, said to be the largest concentrated area under glass in America. These greenhouses are found in large numbers at the western outskirts of the city.

Business sections dot the city with a total of 46 sections alone of more than two miles of shopping facilities. In addition, a Cleveland statistical bureau records 255 shopping districts in the area. These are the smaller neighborhood concentrations of stores. It would appear that in such a large number of different business sections opportunities should exist for evacuees.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Cleveland schools are open to children of in-migrants without charge. They are well-dispersed throughout the city and thus convenient to reach. There are the usual elementary schools with their kindergartens, junior and senior high schools, trade schools and special schools for the handicapped. Night courses are available to those who want to learn a trade or continue studies.

For the convenience of working mothers, about 35 pre-school nurseries have been established and are available at a nominal charge.

There are nine beautiful public parks with endless trails and parkways. Museums of Art,

Natural History, and Public Health, a zoo, bathing and swimming facilities are all part of the Cleveland scene. Greater Cleveland is the home of Western Reserve University, Case School of Applied Science, Baldwin Wallace College, Fenn College, John Carroll University and other institutions of higher learning. In addition there are a variety of music schools. In the field of music Cleveland is outstanding, boasting among other nationally-known organizations, the Cleveland Orchestra and the Wings Over Jordan Choir.

CHURCHES AND HOSPITALS

At the last official count of churches for the more than 1,200,000 people in Greater Cleveland there were 704 of which 103 were Catholic, 33 were Hebrew and the remainder were Protestant including just about every denomination existent.

In normal times, 2,200 physicians practiced in Cleveland and better than 20 hospitals, many of large capacities, were available for all kinds of



THIS NISEI IS ONE OF THREE OTHERS FROM JEROME WHO WORK IN A CLEVELAND TIRE-RECAPPING PLANT. HE IS MARRIED.

care. The war has taken more than 700 doctors but no serious pinch has been felt by the residents. The last official count of dentists showed 1,300 practicing in the city. Through a well-operated hospital service association, hospital care is available at a minimum charge. Most industrial concerns participate in the hospital plan and no bars exist as to race.

PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS LICENSES

Municipal ordinances governing the licensing of various businesses in Cleveland make no distinction as to race, color or creed. In only a few cases, citizenship is a requirement but generally citizenship is not necessary to obtain a license. For example, a non-citizen can operate a butcher shop, restaurant or hotel but the proprietor of a bowling alley must be a citizen.

As for state licenses in professional fields, persons with the required educational training may take tests and get Ohio certificates in this way. One exception to this rule is in the pharmacy field where only citizens may obtain certificates.

In certain occupations, state examining boards may with discretion grant licenses without requiring examinations. Experienced barbers may practice under a journeyman certificate until a test is given. Optometrists with licenses from other states may obtain licenses either with or without examination at the board's discretion based on the applicant's experience. Hairdressers fulfilling certain minimum requirements are granted license without test.

No racial bars would keep a man from obtaining dental or medical licenses if he had the proper training and qualifications and passed required examinations. Persons with specific questions in this regard should address them to the Cleveland WRA office for further clarification.

In the interest of assisting incoming evacuees in getting started in Cleveland, a group of relocated Issei have organized an informal club

which meets regularly. At these meetings they pool their ideas as to business opportunities and make suggestions designed to help newcomers.

Virtually every field of endeavor has welcomed the employment of residents of Japanese ancestry. Engineers, surveyors, auto mechanics, machinists, dental and laboratory technicians, commercial artists and dress designers are among the occupations followed by Issei and Nisei here.

Transportation facilities vary from the old noisy electric streetcars to modern trackless trolleys, and buses. Ofttimes it is slow but always frequent enough and dependable. Fare varies from a high of 10 cents a ride to 3 cents depending upon the time of day, the type of tickets one purchases, and the place one is going.

UNIONS--FEES, MEMBERSHIP

Many of the evacuee men and women working in industrial jobs in Cleveland are members of unions holding contracts with their employers. On the whole the CIO here has had a receptive attitude toward accepting persons of Japanese descent into its locals.

Among the specific unions in which relocatees have been accepted are: United Auto Workers, Warehouse and Distribution Workers, United Electrical Workers and Amalgamated Clothing Workers, all of the CIO; the Bakery and Confectionery Workers, Brotherhood of Auto Rebuilders and Teamsters of the AFL; the International Ladies Garment Workers; and one or two independent unions.

Initiation fees vary in Cleveland locals from an unusual low of \$2 to an extreme high of \$25 and dues are generally \$1 to \$2 a month. In some locals, Nisei have become active in the social and business affairs of the organizations.

AILING THE RESETTLER

When an evacuee comes to Cleveland, he receives individual attention from members of the WRA staff who assist him in finding housing and a job. If he arrives on a hostel invitation, officials there assist him in finding some permanent

type of housing. A handful of medical and financial problems that have from time to time arisen amongst the new settlers has been quickly handled through Social Security or local welfare agencies. The Church Federation has provided counselling service through a Nisei minister who has operated effectively and won friends amongst the newcomers.

Church groups have been quick to invite Nisei to their social and religious functions and inter-group affairs take place occasionally at the city's Y.M. and Y.W.C.A.'s.

Composed of leading Clevelanders in every walk of the life of the city, the Committee for Resettlement of Americans of Japanese Ancestry meets regularly to determine how they can aid the work of relocation. They assist in solving problems relating to housing, public relations, social service and community sentiment.



NEW-ARRIVALS FROM ARKANSAS, ARIZONA, WYOMING AND CALIFORNIA SHARE THE CHORES AT THE CLEVELAND HOSTEL.