

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
520 Liberty Building
Des Moines, Iowa

Des Moines Area

Digest of current job offers in the State of Iowa for period ending
January 31, 1944...Investigated and approved by the WRA

Employment Summary...

The Des Moines office of WRA has been instrumental in aiding with the relocation of more than 252 evacuees in various types of positions, ranging from common laboring work to positions requiring the highest possible skills. Among these placements include stenographers, watch-makers, store-keepers, physicians, photographers, a host of technicians and many others as well.

Resettlers who have taken up farm work in this area are mostly doing the general type middle-west farming. While this work is somewhat different from that to which these people were accustomed on the west coast, they are adapting themselves quite readily. This is evidenced by the fact that neighboring farmers in the area having observed these evacuees at work are coming forward with more and more offers, a number of which as yet have not been filled.

General acceptance of the resettler in this area has been extraordinarily good. This applies to the larger cities as well as the rural districts. More and more Caucasians here are coming to view the program in a more favorable light and are assisting as individuals and in groups with the resettlement problems.

Housing and Living Costs...

Portions of the Iowa area have been somewhat over-populated like others of their kind, due to the influx of war workers. In these areas, including Des Moines, Burlington, Cedar Rapids and Waterloo, housing is not entirely suitable for extremely large families, although fairly adequate for couples with one or two children. Houses and apartments can be obtained for rentals ranging from \$40 to \$60 monthly. Rooms with meals, \$8 to \$10 per week and sleeping rooms around \$4 weekly.

In Sioux City and vicinity, also Dubuque, Fort Dodge, Ottumwa and Boone, the housing situation is much more favorable. Houses and apartments may be obtained for as little as \$20 per month. Single workers can find board and room for \$7 or \$8 per week. Single sleeping rooms, \$2 per week. Average cost to dine in restaurants is approximately \$7 per week.

In many of the small towns or rural districts, houses may be rented for as little as \$8 to \$10 per month.

Professional

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Registered Nurse | General duty and floor work at hospital, \$90 month and full maintenance. X-ray and laboratory work pays \$100 and full maintenance. |
| Lab Technicians | Routine laboratory work for University Hospital, male or female, \$129 a month. |
| Cadot Nurses | Training courses at eight hospitals. |
| Registered Dietician | To supervise diet kitchen in hospital and instruct class four hours a week, \$100 to \$125 a month plus meals. Another position pays \$80 a month plus maintenance. |
| Program Director | To assist direction of young boys in craft work at Y.M.C.A., also some custodian work, \$100 to \$125 a month. |

Industrial

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Pressers | For men's suits and lady's woolens, \$20 a week. Cleaners and spotters get \$25 a week. Hat blockers \$30 a week. |
| Printer | Experienced compositors, \$25 to \$35 a week. |
| Fur Cutter | Experienced cutter for furier, \$35 a week. |
| Shoe Repairman | \$30 to \$35 a week. |
| Radiator Man | To repair and recore radiators, \$35 a week. |
| Auto Mechanics | To work on International trucks, \$185 a month. For General Motors repair work, \$40 to \$50 a week on commission basis. |
| Broom Maker | To operate tying machine, \$30 to \$47 a week on piece rate basis. |
| Watch Maker | Experienced, \$35 a week. Jeweler to repair and set stones, etc., \$40 a week. |

Many unskilled jobs available for both men and women. Labors and factory workers paid 40¢ to 55¢ an hour. Section workers, 50¢ an hour, warehousemen \$22.50 a week, laundrymen at hospital, \$80 a month and maintenance. Other miscellaneous jobs include pin setters for bowling alleys, apprentice laboratory workers, photo lab workers.

Clerical

- Bookkeeper Straight bookkeeping at hospital, \$100 a month.
- Stenographer Experience not required for regular stenographic duties. For RKO Radio Picture Firm, \$21 a week to start. Experienced steno for sportswear firm pays \$100 month.
- Private Secretary To handle correspondence, dictation, and simple bookkeeping for a national CIO War Relief Committee, \$27.50 to \$32.50 starting salary.

Domestic Offers

- Part-time Five choice offers for student part-time domestic workers. Hours and salaries to be arranged.
- Single Girls More than fifty offers ranging from light housekeeping to full charge household. Salaries, \$12 to \$20 weekly depending on amount of work and experience. Duties may include housework, laundry, cooking, serving, and care of children. Let us know the kind of job you want.
- Couples Nine couples wanted with salaries up to \$125 a month and maintenance. Wife usually does housework and cooking while husband does yard work and heavy cleaning.

Services

- Dishwashers Five offers for hand and machine dishwashers ranging from \$60 to \$85 a month plus meals.
- Kitchen Helpers \$50 to \$75 a month plus meals.
- Busboys \$50 to \$100 a month plus meals.
- Bellhops \$25 month and tips.
- Housemen General handy work, \$75 to \$85 a month.
- Cooks Four needed at \$30 to \$50 a month plus meals. Two fry cooks, \$125 a month plus meals.
- Counter Man Make sandwiches, short orders, etc., \$35 a week and meals.
- Soda Fountain Two man to make sandwiches, sodas, etc., \$100 a month and meals.

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Butcher | Cut steaks, poultry, etc., \$85 a month and meals. |
| Housemaids | Six hotels and hospitals paying up to \$60 a month and meals. |
| Waitresses | \$19 a week plus meals. |
| Nurses Aides | Average \$50 a month plus board at three hospitals. |
| Practical Nurses | \$60 to \$75 a month plus board and room. |

Agricultural

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Farm Workers | A number of openings for single men paying \$50 to \$75 a month plus maintenance, some provide opportunity for share arrangement later. Some provide opportunities for family resettlement. Write us specifying your requirements. |
| Greenhousemen | Experienced worker for large nursery, \$35 a week. |
| Poultry Farm | Family to operate a poultry farm, \$100 a month plus housing and commodities. Other poultry offers on file. |
| Florist-Greenhouse | Man to take charge of greenhouse and grounds of school. Wife as florist and matron, \$100 a month plus maintenance. |
