

CURRENT RELOCATION OPPORTUNITIES AND HOUSING SITUATION, KANSAS CITY AREA

For period ending March 10, 1944

DES MOINES, IOWA DISTRICT

A. CURRENT RELOCATION OPPORTUNITIES

1. Employment Opportunities for Evacuees:

During the first eleven days of March, seventeen evacuees relocated in the state of Iowa. A high majority of these individuals did not come to a particular job but were placed after arriving.

At Clinton, Iowa there is a demand for common laborers, welders, and machinists. Due to scarcity of labor one of the local plants has set up a plan so they can train their own welders and machine shop workers. Since the company is working on a defense contract, it will be necessary that individuals accepting this type of work should have defense plant clearance. At present six Nisei boys are employed there as welders. A soybean plant is being constructed at Clinton, which will start operation about May 1. They need five laborers immediately and can use twenty-five more in the next thirty days. The minimum pay for labor is 60¢ per hour with a 5¢ per hour increase at the end of thirty days. As laborers show ability, they will be advanced to packers, sewers, etc. The pay ranges for this type of work is from 65¢ to 77¹/₂¢ per hour.

2. Other Relocation Opportunities:

The owner of a cleaning establishment advises us that he will be inducted into the Army on April 7 and he would like to have an experienced cleaner and presser to take over the shop during his absence. The individual would have full charge of the plant and would pay rent for the space and equipment with an understanding that, if satisfactory, he would employ the inductee's wife as one of the workers. The shop is located in one of the largest hotels in Des Moines. The hotel has been occupied by the W.A.C.'s for the past two years, but will open again for business to the public on May 1, so the cleaner would have in addition to other business, a majority of the hotel guest work. An experienced cleaner and presser who is interested should write directly to Mr. Alcazar, 413 Locust Street, Des Moines, Iowa.

3. Job Offer Digest:

Men

Draftsman - One opening - 65¢ per hour.

Shipping Clerk - responsible for shipping and checking - retail store - 55¢ per hour. Time and a half for work in excess of 40 hours.

Laboratory Technician for Photographic Studio - \$20 per week to start. 44 hour week.

Bus Boys - 19. 40¢ per hour plus meals.
Bell Boys - 3. \$25 per month plus tips.
Housemen - 3. \$75 to \$85 per month.
Fry Cooks - 3. \$85 to \$125 per month plus meals. 48 hours weekly.
Butcher - 1. \$85 per month plus meals. 48 hours weekly.
Dishwashers - 12. \$50 to \$85 per month plus meals.
Farm Hands - 12. \$50 to \$75 per month plus full maintenance.
General farm work.
Pressman - 1. \$20 per week, 48 hours per week.
Pressman and Dry Cleaner - 1. \$25 per week.
Apprentice Laboratory Worker - 1. 50¢ per hour. Time and one-half
over 40 hours. 44 hours weekly.
Shoe Repairmen - 2. \$30 to \$35 per week. 48 to 52 hours per week.
Printer - 1. \$30 to \$35 per week. 44 hours weekly.
Auto Radiator Repairman - 1. \$35 per week. 48 hours weekly.
Fur Cutter - 1. \$35 per week, 48 hours weekly.
Mechanic (Auto) - 1. \$185 per month. 48 hours weekly.
Watchmakers - 3. \$35 to \$50 per week with overtime at \$1.00 per hour.
48 hours weekly.
Welders - 10. 70¢ to \$1.00 per hour. Overtime after 8 hours daily.
Can work 60 to 70 hours weekly.
Greenhouse worker - 1. \$35 per week. 51 hours weekly.
Common Laborers - 5. 60¢ per hour. Overtime after 8 hours daily.
Can work 60 to 70 hours weekly.

Women

Cadet Nurses - 5.
Registered Nurses - 2. \$90 to \$100 per month plus maintenance.
48 hours weekly.
Stenographers - 2. \$25 to \$32.50 per week. 39 to 44 hours weekly.
Bookkeeper - 1. \$100 per month. 48 hours weekly.
Students to assist with domestic work - 4. \$2 to \$5 weekly plus
maintenance.

- Domestics - 48. \$30 to \$100 per month plus maintenance.
- Practical Nurses - 2. \$15 per week plus maintenance.
- Hospital Workers - 18. \$50 to \$60 per month and meals.
- Cook - 1. \$60 per month plus board and room.
- Dieticians - 2. \$100 to \$125 per month plus meals.
- Seamstress - 1. \$2.50 per day - general dressmaking, small shop.
Increase in salary if employee proves satisfactory.
- Seamstresses - 4. 40¢ per hour or piece work. 40 hours per week.

Couples or Families

- Farm Families - 20. General farming ranging from \$50 per month plus house and commodities to \$100 per month plus.
- Farm Couple - 1. Poultry farm \$100 per month plus house, etc.
- Farm Families - 4. Truck farming. \$80 to \$90 per month plus house, or can work at hourly wage. These offers are all in the same vicinity for the same type of work.
- Domestic Couples - 7. \$100 to \$125 per month plus full maintenance.
- Couple - 1. Man to cook and wife to serve in small restaurant with possibility of purchase of establishment in the future. \$80 per month plus meals for the man and \$10 per week plus tips for the woman.
- Family Group for Farming and Yard Work - \$100 per month, plus house. Modern 3 bedroom house, bath, furnace, gas, electricity and water furnished in addition to salary. Mostly yard work. Would like family with two sons over 16, the sons to do the farm and dairy work and the man to do yard work. Sons would receive \$75 per month each. Woman could seek employment elsewhere if she desired. Can have other children in family as house is fairly large.

B. CURRENT HOUSING SITUATION:

Portions of the 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.

<u>Type of Accommodation</u>	<u>Furnished</u>		<u>Unfurnished</u>	
	<u>Supply</u>	<u>Price Range</u>	<u>Supply</u>	<u>Price Range</u>
Temporary - Single persons or groups	<u>Hostel</u>	\$7 per week per person, or 50¢ night, Breakfast 25¢, lunch 35¢, dinner 50¢		
Furnished Room	Adequate	\$2 to \$6 per week		
Houses and Apartments	Fair	\$20 to \$60 month		
Board and Room	Fair	\$7 to \$10 week		