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The MINIDOKA Strigator

Remember Our Boys
Overseas
WRITE TO THEM

Published in two parts. Part I.
HUNT, IDAHO

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1944

VOLUME IV, NUMBER 34

Products of The Land



29 Sign Up for Sioux Ordnance Depot Work

Army Clearance Awaited By
Recruits For Munitions
Plant; Good Housing
MANY POSITIONS AVAILABLE

To date 29 families have signed up for the Sioux ordnance depot near Sydney, Nebraska, according to V. V. McLaughlin, acting relocation program officer. According to a telegram received by McLaughlin from army officials at the ordnance plant the starting minimum wages for workers will be 75 cents per hour. The rental prices are at present being studied in order to conform to the amount of wages received by the workers.

Residence For Service Vote Is Clarified

Japanese American soldiers cannot claim Hunt as their residence and therefore they cannot vote in the state of Idaho, Secretary of State George H. Curtis said last week, according to the Idaho Statesman.

The case arose in the application of Pvt. Easaku Hirohara of Camp Shelby, Mississippi, for an Idaho soldier ballot. When Pvt. Hirohara first applied, he listed Portland, Oregon, as his residence. When informed by Curtis that if he was a resident of Oregon he should apply to that state for a ballot, he changed his application to read that his residence was Hunt.

Since the ordnance plant is in need of workers immediately some of the families will leave for Sioux next week, McLaughlin said. Honorable and medical discharge veterans who are interested in this type of work are requested to contact George Anderson of the Outside Employment division for more detailed information.

As soon as families receive their army clearance from Washington they will leave for the depot.

Further information reveals that at the outset all applicants sign as munition handlers where workers have to load and unload cars, load and unload in and out of warehouse. However, as soon as openings occur, they can be transferred into other types of work, depending upon ability and seniority.

The grocery at the ordnance plant is selling groceries at chain store prices. Besides there is a P-X store selling cigarettes, candies, etc., and a cafeteria which serves meals at a very reasonable price. Grade school is two miles away and free transportation is provided for children by bus to and from school. High school is in the town of Sydney about eleven miles away and free transportation is also provided.

The town of Sydney is a town about the size of Jerome, and the town has already gone on record to welcome Japanese that are going to work in the plant. There are many jobs open in the town, and wives, parents or relatives living with the workers in the plant may work in town if they desire. The transportation charge is 25c one way or 45c round trip. The commuters ticket is \$1.60, good for 14 rides.

COMMUNITY CHEST WAR FUND DRIVE A SUCCESS

Agency to Aid Veterans Into Civilian Life

Veterans who are medically discharged by the Army and are in need of rehabilitation facilities to adjust themselves to civilian life should make direct application to the Veterans Administration, V. V. McLaughlin, acting relocation program officer, announced this week.

Discharged veterans will be permitted to visit in the center for a period of one month free of charge, McLaughlin said.

"In these kind of cases the Veterans Administration, being a permanent organization, is better equipped to aid the veterans rather than WRA, which is more or less on a temporary basis," McLaughlin said.

Donation to Fund Expected To Exceed 1943 Total Despite Declining Population

BLK. 29 CONTRIBUTES \$40.60

Returns for the Community Chest-War Fund drive which began last Thursday average about \$35.00 per block, among the residents, Shigeru Osawa, chairman for the Drive, declared this week. The first block to turn in their contribution was Blk. 29, with a total of \$40.60. This block was considered rather doubtful by committeemen due to the fact that the block Commissioner had resigned recently. Kiichi Kahshihara acted as chairman for Blk. 29.

Repatriates Go To Manchukuo

Monitors of the Federal Communications Commission picked up a broadcast by Radio Tokyo in English to the Western United States on October 14, according to reports received here.

The broadcast follows: "Former residents returned to the United States who returned to Japan aboard the steamship Teia Maru will one word missing a village in Manchukuo. The government authorities in Manchukuo are making preparations to accord courtesy to the new settlers."

Appointed personnel donations now total around \$500. Morris Roth, chairman for the A. P., announced this week. All personnel members have not yet turned in their contributions, however, it is estimated that the total average of money donated to the Fund drive will equal or exceed that of last year.

"The evacuee contribution is expected to exceed last year's total despite the diminishing population, Osawa said.

"Despite the many handicaps that we have had to work under, the results are very good insofar as the response by the residents has exceeded the hopes of the Community Chest-War Fund drive is concerned," Osawa declared.

Forty per cent of the collected fund will remain on the project for local use by the various organizations. The USO will benefit by this drive. Sixty per cent of the total will be sent to the national war fund. Organizations benefiting from this War Fund include United China Relief, War Prisoners Aid, United Seamen's Service and the USO.

Community Activities Suspended October 31

New Set-Up Based on Residents Needs Will Begin Operation Nov. 15; Inventory to Be Taken ABOLISHMENT TEMPORARY BASIS

In accordance with the announced policy resulting from the Denver conference that certain WRA activities should be eliminated, consolidated or specifically emphasized, Project Director H. L. Stafford announced this week that the Community Activities program would be temporarily suspended pending reorganization. This reorganization will take place in line with the expressed wishes of center residents.

Finish of Gym Requires Six Months Work

Though much effort has been made to finish the gymnasium by Thanksgiving, K. Ishimitsu, foreman, stated that due to the manpower shortage the gym will not be finished until about April.

The gymnasium will be equipped with a stage, boy's and girl's showers and locker rooms, a health unit, storage rooms, basketball floor, a movie projection room, equipment rooms and other smaller rooms. It is planned to be painted white with light green trimmings.

Assistance was rendered by Build-That-Gym-week last September 25-30. Personnel members and evacuees alike helped in the construction of the gymnasium.

The gym which will have a ship-lap exterior, will be 142 feet wide, 30 feet high and 144 long.

At a meeting attended by the entire 26 members of C. A. staff on Tuesday afternoon at the central office, Stafford emphasized the need for a complete shakeup in the current recreation set-up and for careful planning of an over-all community activities program. He stated that from now till the end of the month, the C. A. staff should be concerned primarily with the inventory of all property. Then, from November 1 to 15, community sentiment will be canvassed to investigate the desires of the residents in the type of community recreational program they wish. He added, however, that both the evacuees and appointed personnel staff, alike, should probe and discuss community needs in terms of a declining population.

4-Year-Old Girls Lost for 5 1/2 Hours

Missing since 11 a. m. Wednesday morning, two four-year-old girls, Chiyoiko Numoto and Jeanette Fukuda, were the object of a camp-wide search which ended five and a half hours later when they were found wandering along the canal about four miles southeast of Blk. 44.

The girls' disappearance was discovered when they failed to show up for lunch. Frantic search around the neighboring blocks were made without luck, so a call was made for volunteers to help in the search.

About 4:30 p. m., a searching party found Chiyoiko and Jeanette walking along the canal toward Eden, four and a half miles off Blk. 44. It was learned that when the girls were found they were still walking, non-chalantly, unaware that they were lost.

Although lost for five and a half hours without lunch, the girls showed no signs of tiredness or hunger, it was revealed.

Both live in Blk. 40.

Stafford specially mentioned that the Relocation division and the Evacuee Property section would be emphasized in the future planning and the Hunt center. He urged the C. A. personnel who are to be terminated at the end of the month to turn their efforts, if possible, to those divisions.

In speaking of the gym construction, Stafford said that if the auditorium could not be completed for use by the local high school during this term, and that if sufficient community enthusiasm could not be aroused, through the Community Council and the center residents at large, to finish the construction, he declared that it would be necessary to "board it up."

In closing, he mentioned the need for all departments and personnel to keep their accounts, tabulations, etc., current with the camp and avoid being caught behind.

Marshall Stalley of the Washington office in charge of community activities, declared that the discontinuing of the Community Activities is not permanent. It is merely a step toward constructing a new program whereby residents may be able to participate more fully in community activity affairs, he added.

The period of November 1 to 15 will be devoted to the planning of a prospective program. Edward Huberman, assistant project director in charge of Community Management, said. A series of meetings will be held following November 15 for the purpose of developing a new program based upon project-wide participation and benefit, Huberman declared.

"Under this new program, there should be opportunity for all residents, for children and adults alike, to participate in all types of activities," Huberman said.

Supreme Court Reviews Endo, Korematsu Cases

WASHINGTON—The supreme court took to its conference room last Thursday for decision one of the most complicated legal problems faced by the government—the constitutionality of evacuating and confining citizens of Japanese ancestry, according to Associated Press.

Fred T. Korematsu asked the high tribunal to rule on validity of evacuation orders which resulted in his being placed in a War Relocation Authority center at Topaz, Utah. Miss Mitsue Endo demands freedom from the same center and a court declaration that she has the right to go wherever she pleases.

The justices listened through five hours of argument and fired pointed questions frequently at attorneys as they developed unique legal points involved in appeals of Korematsu and Miss Endo.

New WPB Ruling Freezes Circulation Of Pacific Citizen

Affected by the new amendment issued by the War Production Board for all newspapers using 25 tons or less newsprint paper each quarter, the circulation of the Pacific Citizen will be frozen, JACL headquarters in Salt Lake City, announced this week.

Saburo Kido, national JACL president, carried a special appeal to Washington to increase the Pacific Citizen's allotment but he reported that there will be no exception since the policy under which the new ruling was made intended to discourage the expansion of any newspaper.

Further negotiations are to be carried on, however, if the WPB does not change its position, it will mean that no new subscriptions will be received by the Pacific Citizen. The restriction will apply also to subscriptions received from Nisei serving overseas. In order to accommodate the servicemen, the publication may have to refuse additional subscriptions, the report declared.

Folsom to Return From Washington

Leon W. Folsom, local head of the Personnel division, is expected back on the project this week, reported Dan T. Williams, acting head personnel officer. Folsom has been gone since September 17 to the Washington office of the WRA, working on leave clearances.

Cards From Japan Await Claimants

Post cards from Japan for the following people are held at the Social Welfare office at 22-9-A for claimants:

Mrs. Momoyo Tsuchiya, 321 11th Ave., Seattle, Wash.; Mr. Keizo Sumitani, P. O. Box 188, Eatonville, Wash.; Miss Martha Masako Usuda, Japanese Assembly Center, North Portland, Oregon; Mr. Saichiro Soeda, 629 S. E. Morrison St., Portland, Oregon; Mrs. Tsuchino Kakihashi, 1520 Rainier Ave., Seattle, Wash.; and Mr. Kazutsu Izizima, 1942 Weller St., Seattle, Wash.

Pt. YAMASAKI PROMOTED

Pvt. (f. c.) Irving Yamasaki was among the men who received promotion recently at Camp Shelby, Miss. He was promoted to the rank of sergeant, according to the 171st Infantry Battalion's newspaper. Sgt. Yamasaki is a former Portlander.

2 Hunt Men Dismissed By Judge Black

After three years of litigation, the case of two Seattle Japanese American exporters, Charles T. Takahashi and Edward Y. Osawa, was dismissed last Friday by United States District Judge Lloyd L. Black, on motion of J. Charles Dennis, United States attorney, according to the Seattle Times.

The conviction of the two men on charges of violation of the United States embargo on Japan, at the end of their second trial in October, 1942, was reversed last May 31 by the United States Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco.

The Circuit Court returned the case to the District Court for further trial "if the government be so advised," but since the reversal was on grounds of illegal search and seizure of personal papers from the two by United States agents, there was no evidence that could be used in a new trial.

"We have no evidence," Dennis said. "And the documents that were seized have been returned to Takahashi and Osawa."

The case was appealed last April, the reversal entered in May.

First Hometown Veteran Returns from Overseas Duty

Reported to be the first "home town" soldier to visit Hunt for a short period is S/Sgt. Shigeo Sumioka, a veteran of the Italian campaign and a member of the now famed 442nd Combat Team. He is the son of Sakichi Sumioka, 29-1-F. He is formerly of Seattle, Washington. He was a recent recipient of the Purple Heart Award.

Wounded in the right leg by shrapnel on July 11, Sumioka spent two and half months in a hospital in Italy. He arrived at Mitchell Field, N. Y., by plane during the latter part of September, 1944. Since his arrival in the States Sgt. Sumioka has received treatment at the Mayo General Hospital, Galesburg, Ill.

In addition to his Purple Heart ribbon, Sgt. Sumioka also has the Combat Infantryman's bar, one Battle Star and the European Theatre of Operations ribbon.

Following a month's furlough here, Sgt. Sumioka will report back to the Illinois hospital for his third operation. According to doctors, the nerve in his leg which must be grafted, will require from one to two years to heal completely.

Sgt. Sumioka was inducted into the army from Seattle, Washington, in February, 1942, a few months before evacuation. He is a 1936 graduate of Broadway High.



S/Sgt. Sumioka



Pvt. Tochiwara

Pvt. Tochiwara

Seriously wounded in action on the Italian front on July 6, 1944, Pvt. Yukio Tochiwara was awarded the Purple Heart award. Reaching the United States, he was taken to Miami, Florida, then later sent to Denver, Colorado. From Denver he was transferred to Baxter General Hospital, Spokane, Washington. According to his father, K. Tochiwara, Pvt. Tochiwara was wounded in the right arm.

A former resident of Seattle, Washington; he was a '41 graduate of Broadway High School. Volunteering for the services in June, 1943, Pvt. Tochiwara was stationed at Camp Shelby before being sent overseas.

Graham Named Reports Officer

Taking over the post of reports officer here, succeeding the late Angus Acree, is John F. Graham, who arrived last Saturday from Alpine, New Jersey.

Graham came here from a public relations post with Southern Airways at Greenville, S. C. Prior to that he had been on the editorial staffs of the New York Mirror and New York Sun and had handled public relations work for NBC, CBS, the Red Cross, the USO and the war fund.

His wife and two daughters will arrive from Alpine the first part of next year.

Allan Markley, liaison officer between project reports division and Washington office, who was here temporarily, left Thursday for Tule Lake.

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Myer Speaks Before Group

The views of Dillon S. Myer, national director of the WRA, and Corydon Garrett, a member of the executive board of the "Remember Pearl Harbor League," met head-on last week as Myer listened to a first hand account of the anti-Japanese feeling in the Puayallup and White River Valleys, according to the Seattle Times.

Myer, who is conducting a series of conferences with area supervisors, said he had not included Seattle in his itinerary expressly to deal with the organization formed to prevent the return of Japanese to this area.

COMPETITION FEARED

Myer believes the source of friction was largely economic and that competition offered by the Japanese was feared.

"Evidently this movement has been started by some misinformed and misguided people," Myer said. "They forget we have some 12,000 Japanese Americans fighting with our armies, some of them in the South Pacific.

"The Remember Pearl Harbor League does not have the intention of inciting to bloodshed and riot," Garrett told Myer, "but there is blood in the eyes of the people of this valley.

"And there will be blood in the eyes of boys who come back to find that we're fighting the war over here," replied Myer. "They're going to be particularly about what liberties are taken with our constitution. Let those who want to fight go overseas to do it."

"What we want," said Garrett, "is to save fighting the Japanese later."

FAIR ATTITUDE

Myer refused to accept that view. "I think you'll find most people are going to be fair in their attitude after the war," he said. "I'm not afraid that there is going to be bloodshed. At the most we may expect only a few isolated incidents created by hot-heads who have been drinking too much."

"We feel," persisted Garrett, "we should dispense with the Japanese now, while the problem is still in its infancy. That is the point of view of people who refuse to accept the Constitution of the United States, which guarantees equal rights to all colors and creeds," said Myer. "I understand," Myer continued, "your organization advocates taking their citizenship away from these people. When they do that they are monkeying with your citizenship and mine, and I don't care for that."

Also attending the press conference held in the WRA office, was R. B. Cozzens, assistant WRA director whose headquarters are in San Francisco.

CORRECTION

It was inadvertently stated in the October 14 issue of the IRRIGATOR that Sgt. Mike Hagiwara had returned to the United States. He has not yet returned.

