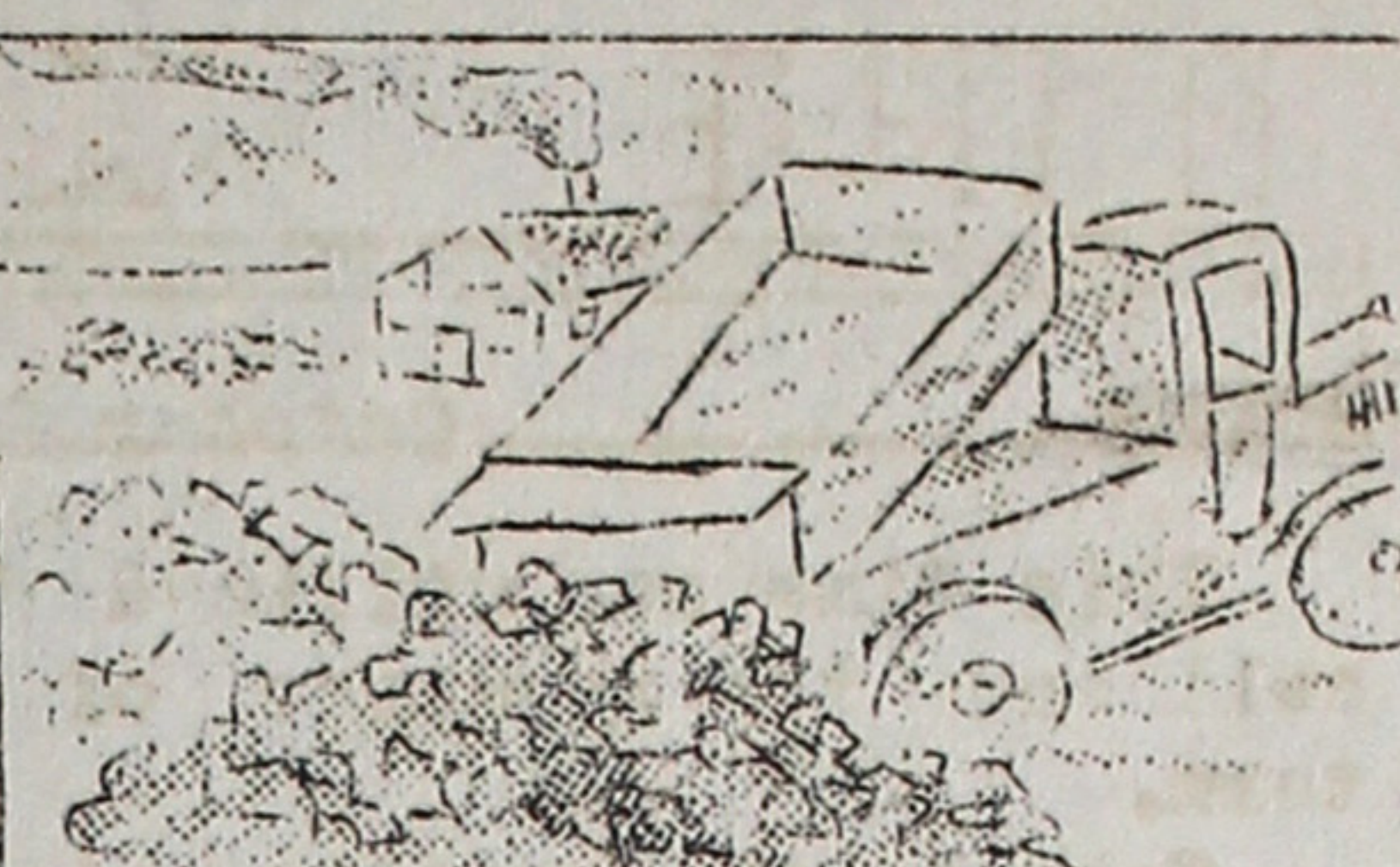


Vol. 1, No. 1 TOPAZ TIMES October 27, 1942



Bed Times

THE CITY: COAL SUPPLY .. ASSURED FOR PRESENT

EMERGENCY

CARLOADS

ARRIVE

With one carload of coal trucked into Topaz Monday morning, another in Delta, and 3 more carloads on their way to Delta, residents of the City were assured of sufficient coal for the present, according to Gilbert L. Niesse, chief of the Administrative Division.

There are 50 tons to each carload. These shipments are part of the 1450-ton emergency purchase made pending the contractors' action in delivering the 25,000 tons of coal as scheduled.

Niesse said there was more than ample coal in Utah to care for the needs of the state. Lack of coal in the City was attributed to transportation difficulties.

NORTH FENCE COMPLETED

James F. Hughes, assistant project director, today revealed that the fence marking the City's northern boundaries is now up, with the balance of the fence work expected to be completed by the Army engineers in a week to 10 days' time.

According to Hughes, when all the City's boundaries are completely marked, between the hours of sunrise and sunset the residents may go out to the outer boundaries without a pass, providing they pass through the gates constructed in the inner fence for this purpose.

Six gates will be built. The main gate will be adjacent to the administrative area; 2 gates will be situated in the military police area; and service gates for supply trucks will be located in the southwest and southeast corners of the City proper.

Residents were requested to use these gates for all egress and ingress and warned that passing through the fence in other ways may result in arrest. When completed, the fence will enclose the City proper (Section 20 of the Project area).

NEW RULING

No more non-citizen Japanese will be allowed within a one-mile radius of the outside boundaries of Topaz, according to the order received today from the offices of the Western Defense Command.

Those who, by mistake, enter the Project the first time will be cautioned. However, second violation will subject the person to arrest.

SCHOOL OPENS

NO STOVES

The Topaz secondary school was opened Monday morning, but because there were no stoves installed in any of the class room buildings in Block 32, 972 freezing students were dismissed after a quarter-hour period.

A flurry of last minute news always seems to appear just when the paper is being put to bed; that is, just when it is being readied for the printers. And when it is a mimeographed paper, with the stencils all cut, there is little that can be done about it.

For instance, in the Oct. 21st issue of the Times, an item went in to the effect that Kikue Kubota, Fred Hoshiyama, Theresa Teshima and Kiyoko Tsuchida were leaving Topaz to continue their college schooling. Then, later, it developed that Fred Hoshiyama and Kiyoko Tsuchida weren't going to leave; but George Ishida was going to attend the University of Utah in Salt Lake City. As you know, the paper went to press without being able to make these changes.

Then, in the last issue, there was a mix-up regarding the basic clothing story. The story said that scrip would be issued to the residents for this purpose; but Emil Sekerak, assistant supervisor of Community Enterprises, declared that it would be preferable to term it certificate, rather than scrip. Also, Project Director Ernst thought that some changes might be forthcoming in the amounts to be issued. But, again, the paper went through without these notations attached.

So, with hope-intent of coping with some of these last minute notations, this column is being started here. How successful the attempt will be, it's hard to say.

The column will also deal with all sorts of things relating to the style and content of the paper.

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This time was utilized by the instructors for roll call and the issuance of class assignments for the term.

School will continue in the afternoons during the remainder of the week, according to Le Grande Noble, principal.

For the same reason, the elementary schools in Blocks 41 and 8 have been held only in the afternoons, from 1:15 to 4 PM.

REGISTRATION



At the end of the registration period last Friday, 1651 students were enrolled in the elementary and secondary schools of Topaz, according to the Education Division.

Le Grande Noble, principal of the secondary school, indicated that the department expects the enrollment to mount to the anticipated 2400 by the end of this week. He pointed out that a number of students were still working on Project assignments.

Of the total of 1651, the elementary school claimed 677; the secondary, 972. Distribution between the 2 elementary schools was about equal, with the total class enrollments being as follows:

Kindergarten, 91; first grade, 92; second, 85; third, 104; fourth, 97; fifth, 100; sixth, 108.

Class enrollments for the secondary school were: seventh, 141; eighth 138; ninth, 151; tenth, 167; eleventh, 189; twelfth, 180.

SURVEY



To impart to the residents the motives for directing an individual record survey in Topaz, an informal conference was held Friday evening at Dining Hall 12. Present were members of the Com-

munity Council, Inter-faith Ministerial Association, block managers, resident faculty and staffs of the Community Welfare and Activities Divisions.

Charles F. Ernst, project director, in speaking of the survey, said it was being conducted to understand the skills, ambitions and desires of the residents that these attributes might best be utilized within the area.

"Not to superimpose certain kinds of skills, but to promote industries in which most of the residents are best fitted is the aim of the survey," Ernst added.

Claude Cornwall, whose Employment Division is responsible for the program, outlined the methods by which the survey would be conducted.

INTERVIEWS: The Employment Division and the resident directors of the survey met Monday morning to plan for the interviews.

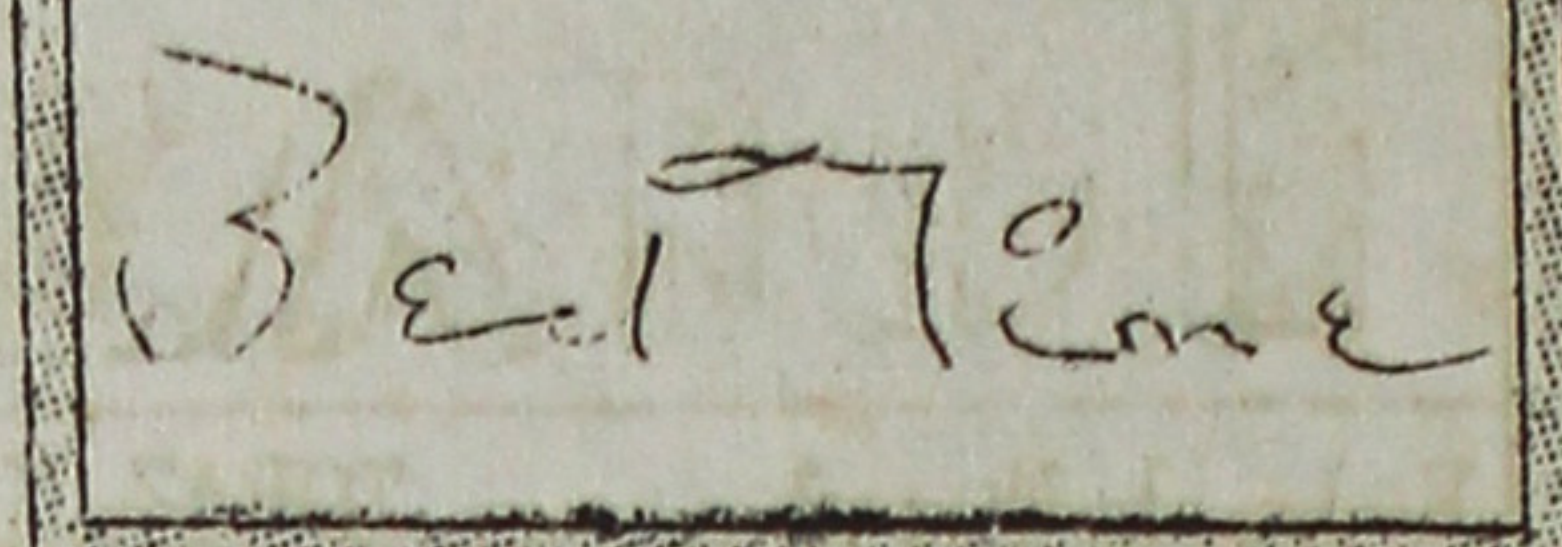
It was decided that the interviewing will begin Wednesday morning with designated blocks to be announced later. James Nishimura, former head of the Tanforen master file section, will act as the coordinator of the interviewing department with the following group leaders working with him: Gary Sugawara, Aki Moriwaki, Guy Uyama and Kaytaro Tsukamoto.

Also included in the organization will be 48 interviewers with 2 alternates, 4 assignment clerks, 4 file clerks, 14 workers as coders and verifiers, 20 typists, and 4 messengers.

In-service-training will be held for the staff Tuesday morning in Dining Hall 26.

Survey headquarters will be located in administration building #2, with Rec 26 as the field headquarter.

A general mass meeting was held Monday afternoon in Dining Hall 26.



To begin with, it could be said that both the style and content of the paper will be conditioned to a considerable extent by the mechanics of mimeograph (or multigraph) publication.

No attempt will be made for the present to follow any orthodox newspaper style. Instead, the City's news will be handled in a news-column (The City), the style of which will be subject to experimental changes.



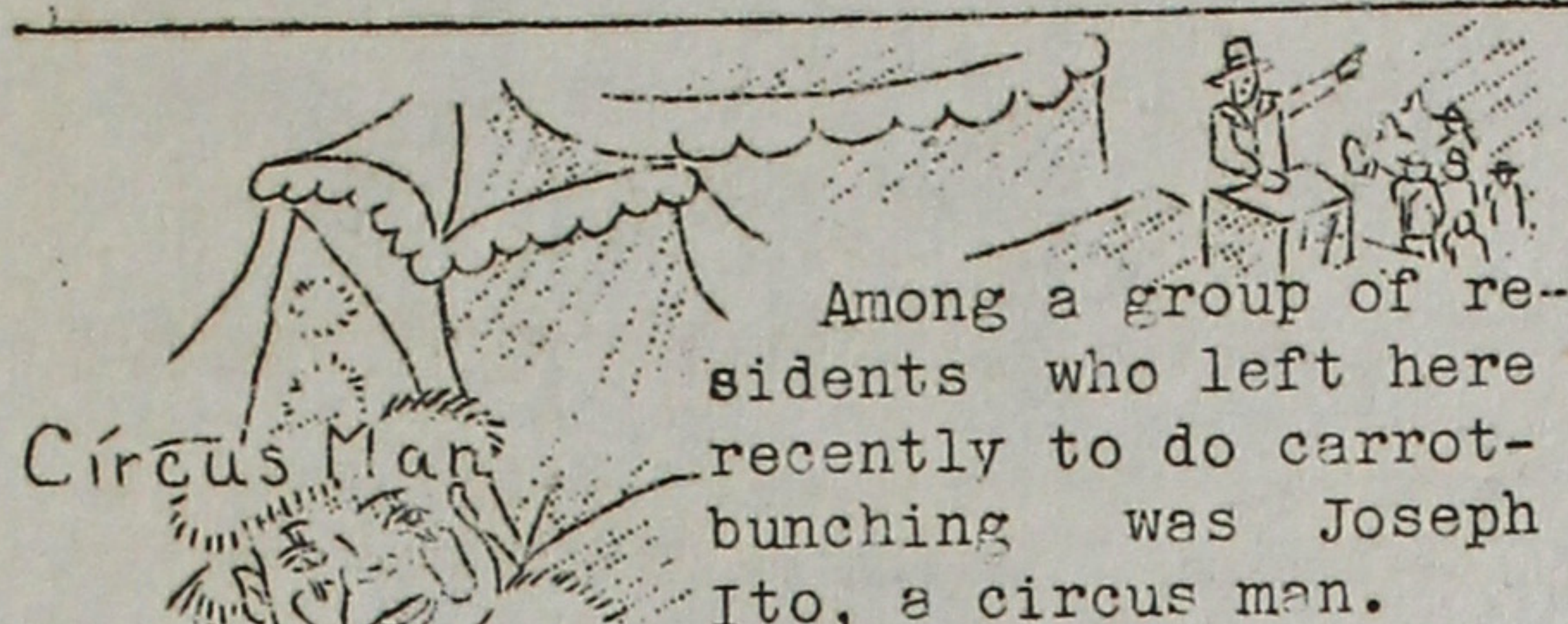
Then, in addition to this news-column, the daily Times (a weekly is also being planned) will carry information articles and various features. Editorials, which have been absent from the pre-issues, will also appear.

This is just a cursory, hurried introduction to this column and to this first regular issue of the Times. The columns to follow will attempt to keep you up with the life of the Times, as well as with last minute notations the Bed-Time wasn't able to catch the day before.

And, now, the familiar box will follow.

THE BOX: With this issue, the Topaz Times begins regular publication on a daily scheduled from Tuesday through Saturday. Distribution of the paper will be handled for the time being by the block managers.

This first regular issue was preceded by 10 pre-issues, the last of which appeared on October 24. For their aid in the publication of the pre-issues, the staff extends its sincere thanks to the administrators of the Hinckley High School.

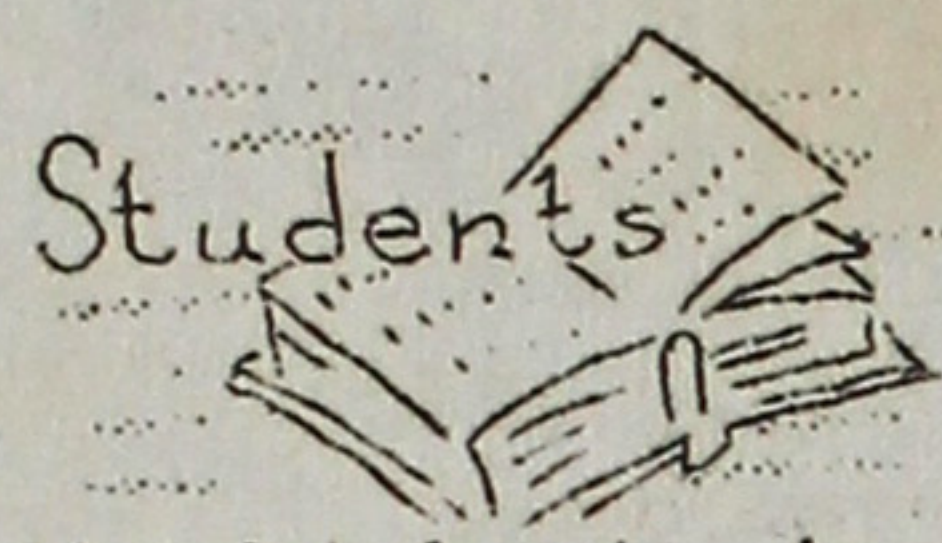


Among a group of residents who left here recently to do carrot-bunching was Joseph Ito, a circus man.

Ito, who was born in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1896, was on the road for 20 years with carnivals and circuses, covering Cuba, eastern U.S., Mexico and Canada.

Three years ago, he came to California on a vacation trip and liked it so well that he stayed on and was caught by the evacuation order, in San Francisco.

On leaving for his carrot work, Ito said: "I heard about the carrot job and so I thought it would be fun. I don't even know what a carrot looks like when it's growing, but I know I'll enjoy the work."



According to Kay Yamashita, senior counsellor in the youth division, interest in student relocation is the highest in Topaz among all of the centers.

Letters have been received by the Division from several of the students who have been relocated. From George Hirose at Huron College in Huron, South Dakota, a letter states, in part:

"I found that the city knew of our coming and had been expecting us. Most of the young college men of this city are going off to war, and I wonder how the parents feel as to our coming.

"Frankly, to be a stranger and not knowing a single student is bad. The going is rather awkward at first, and at times, embarrassing. Some of these people have never seen a Japanese, according to my guess.

"Naturally, they wonder what we're like and whether we can be trusted. I am 'good willing' them as best I can with some success already."

Cromwell Mukai at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, Nebraska, writes:

"For me, at least, it was a rather strange feeling to be among all Caucasians again.

"The people here are very nice and friendly to us. A nisei out here puts up the barrier because he does not know how the Caucasian feels about him. It is quite difficult to overcome this feeling, but we are feeling more at ease day by day and in time I think we shall get along very well.

"In all there are about 60 to 70 Japanese students. So, we are not very noticeable here, I think, in spite of the comparatively large number of us."

NOTE: A complete file of college catalogues is now available at the Community Welfare Division in Recreation #30, for the purpose of aiding in student relocation.

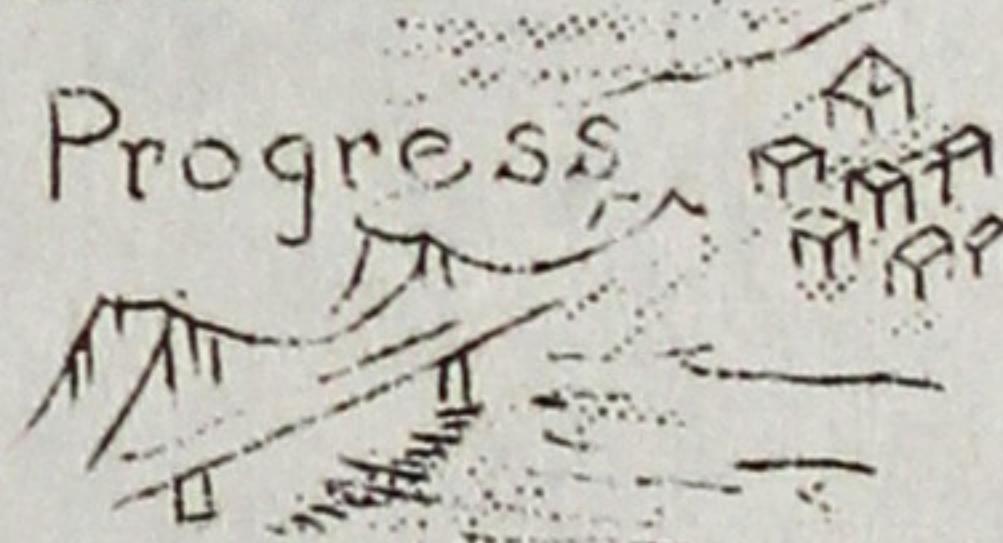


"It has seemed weeks already since leaving camp, but until now I've hardly had time to catch my breath. So many sights and occurrences so common to all of us assume such magnified significance to one who has just emerged from a confined society. Sidewalks, neon lights, blondes, redheads, not waiting in line for meals, and absence of dust all bring back sweet memories of pre-evacuation days.

"The atmosphere in Salt Lake City is very friendly, undoubtedly influenced by the Mormons. There is no evidence of hostility towards us, but contrarily, many are openly sympathetic. The absence of economic competition without a doubt aids our position no little. Labor is very scarce, and jobs are plentiful. The only difficulty one encounters upon first arriving here is that there are no housing facilities. Even the hotels are packed to the gills, and only transient rooms are available. Thank heaven for the freezing of prices, or many of us wouldn't be able to survive!

"There are quite a few Japanese in Salt Lake but the dispersion is so homogeneous that the number seems less. Practically everyone is working and enjoying life in general with the usual theatre jaunts and dances. It still seems much like California in that more than $\frac{1}{2}$ now here hailed from there originally. I haven't run across any former friends, but wouldn't be at all surprised if I did.

"I met 6 fellows who left Topaz to work in the beet fields near Salt Lake. If I acted as screwy as they did, I must have been quite a spectacle. They certainly seemed to have enjoyed a hearty dinner."



When Allen C. Blaisdell, educational consultant for the WRA, came to Topaz recently, he spoke at a rally at Dining Hall 5. Among other things, he said:

"...Periods of great progress never come in times of tranquility. Adversity grants us certain opportunities that we can never have in other periods. We can be completely discouraged, or the lessons of history can help us achieve control of our opportunities. You are turning adversity into opportunity."

"...Looking at it negatively, no appropriations have been made for education above the high school level, but we do see opportunities for simple courses in liberal arts, on a non-extension basis, to serve a small number."

Blaisdell added that Tulalake and Menzies, in establishing relationship with San Francisco, Sacramento and Los Angeles City colleges, were ready to start these experimental courses.

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"JANKEE"

★ REPORTER ★

BY BENNIE NOBORI

TOPAZ TIMES
OCT. 27, 1942

