

# Welcome TO ROHWER

I want to welcome each of you as residents of the Rohwer relocation center. We all realize that there are still lots to be done before the houses and facilities are complete; and I appreciate the fine spirit and attitude shown toward these temporary inconveniences.

I hope that each of you will work through your block leaders in helping to make this one of the best relocation centers in the nation.

Ray D. Johnston,  
Project Director

The Activities section not only extends a cordial welcome to the citizens of the Rohwer center, but also welcomes the opportunity to be of service to you.

We are sincere in our aims to stimulate wholesome activity for young and old, the result of which should be the most pleasurable and the most profitable experience for all.

C. B. Price, Director  
of Community Activities  
(More on Page 2)

## SCHOOLS: TRICE EXPLAINS DELAY IN OPENING OF CLASSES

Registration and classification of nursery, kindergarten, elementary and Junior and Senior high schools are tentatively scheduled for Monday, Nov. 9, J. A. Trice, superintendent of Education made known today.

The delay in the opening of school has been caused by lack of buildings for classes, housing facilities for teachers and shortage of equipment. Classes will be conducted in barracks until permanent schools can be constructed.

Although we will begin school with a minimum of school equipment, we feel that the boys and girls of

(More on Page 2)

## Dance Tonight

"The Gang's all here!"  
That's the theme for tonight's dance for stage and stagelets.  
Place: Mess hall 28.  
Time: 8 to 10 p.m.

# THE ROHWER Outpost

Vol. I, No. 1

Rohwer, Arkansas

Oct. 24, 1942

## ACTIVITIES CHARTED

### COMMUNITY PROGRAM INCLUDES CLUBS, ENTERTAINMENT, ARTS & CRAFTS

Indicating the vast scope of community activities, plans for an extensive program to meet center needs are being carried out, C. B. Price, chief of the Community Activities division, reported today.

Under Irene Young, the Clubs and Organizations department is working energetically to establish YMCA and Girl scout affiliates within the Center.

The national organizations have already been con-

tacted, and instructors are expected to arrive soon to train leaders. Miss Young revealed. In the meantime, various clubs are rapidly springing into existence.

In the Arts and Crafts department, under Miss Adeline Lee, night classes in weaving will be in progress. Twenty looms are now on hand, with a shipment of 100 more expected.

Movies, talent shows and other entertainment to supplement the current program of weekly dances and community sing are future possibilities in the Social Activities department.

Until recreation districts (six tentatively set now) are definitely established, all entertainment will be held at local convenient for everyone, it was learned.

## WANT TO VOTE? THIS IS HOW

Properly registered California voters who wish to vote by absentee ballots should contact William Y. Minbu immediately for applications at the new Administration building in Block 48. It was learned yesterday.

Applications must be in the registrar's office of the county of the voter by October 29, Minbu stated. His office is in the Legal Aid department.

## YOURS AND OURS OUTPOST MAKES APPEARANCE

Volume one, number one,

With this issue the Rohwer OUTPOST makes its bow and takes its place among the exclusive circle of relocation center newspapers.

The editors hope that you, the readers, will read it, find it acceptable, support it.

The function of a good newspaper is to report the news fairly, accurately, simply.

In these respects the OUTPOST will be a good newspaper.

A readable newspaper carries interesting features, straightforward editorials, unusual happenings.

In these respects, too, the OUTPOST will be a readable newspaper.

The embryonic publication is staffed by an able body of nine newspapermen fresh from the assembly center papers.

The OUTPOST will be issued each Wednesday and Saturday and distributed without charge to each apartment through the block manager's office.

## FACTS, FIGURES ON YOUR DURATION HOME

Lying farthest east of all WRA centers is the Rohwer relocation community, which comprises 10,000 gross acres, 9000 of which are considered suitable for agricultural development.

The area is located in a region of abundant rainfall on land leased from FSA-sponsored (Farm Security Administration) cooperatives.

Chief agricultural prob-

lem will be land drainage, as rainfall averages 52 inches a year. The immediate task will be to clear the land of dense brush, second-growth timber and stumps left from logging operations.

Harvested timber will be processed on the project as railroad ties, staves, heading blocks, fence posts and rough lumber.

Rich alluvial soil, a comparatively frost-free growing season and mild winters make alfalfa, small grains, fruits and truck crops, primary agricultural possibilities. Crops will be produced for relocation kitchens and the war effort.

Temperatures have ranged in the past few seasons from six degrees below zero to 112 degrees above.

### TEACHERS NEEDED

An urgent call for instructors to teach typing, shorthand and general shop classes in the Center high school was made today by Dr. Mildred Silver.

Although college graduates with degrees are preferred, those interested were asked to contact the Education office at 27-1-B.

## MAIL DELIVERY: POST ALL LETTERS BY 10 A.M. AND 4 P.M.

"All letters should be mailed by 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. in time for the mail truck that leaves for McGehee," advised B. W. Spears, superintendent of the Center post office.

### TRICE EXPLAINS DELAY IN OPENING

(Continued from Page 1) this community can profit a great deal by contact and association with our faculty and with each other," stated Trice.

"Our feelings toward the boys and girls are one of friendship. It is our hope that the first year of school in this new community will be one of definite achievement for all concerned."

Mail delivery in the Center once a day at pres-

### Correct return address:

Blk., Bar., Apt.,  
Relocation Branch,  
McGehee, Arkansas

ent will probably not be increased, in Spears' opinion, due to the fixed train schedule from McGehee.

Spears also requested residents to claim a considerable number of letters being held at the post office.

## EXPECT IRONING FACILITIES TO BE READY IN NEXT FEW DAYS - ELLEN CARE ASKED IN USE OF APPLIANCES

"Ironing facilities in the laundries will be ready within the next few days," announced R. C. Ellen, superintendent of Maintenance. Until they are installed, residents are advised to keep ironing and use of electrical appliances down to a minimum.

"Use an extension cord socket instead of the central socket to ease the load going to the fuse and this will help prevent fuse blow-outs and dangers from fire," Ellen suggested adding that power will be out off on certain days when electricians set up the lighting system in the new blocks.

## SURVEY CENTER'S CLOTHING NEEDS

A comprehensive survey on clothing needs of residents is being conducted through the Community Service division and the block managers, Dr. J. B. Hunter announced today.

Plans for distribution of issue clothing will be made pending arrival Monday of Austin Smith, who will serve as Dr. Hunter's assistant.

Needy people, particularly the elderly without families, will receive first consideration, Dr. Hunter stated. The elderly with families will be cared for next in order.

Clothes which were to be issued in the assembly centers are being shipped to Rohwer and will be distributed as soon as they arrive.

## 25 Welcomes

(Continued from Page 1)

The Education section extends cordial greetings to all the school children and parents.

Although our work is of necessity slow in beginning, it is our aim to provide as creditable a secondary and elementary school program for all the boys and girls here as could be had anywhere.

J. A. Trice,  
Supt. of Education  
o o o

The housing of new arrivals, the registering of applicants for employment and the placement of persons in positions have been major activities during recent weeks. The permanent registration for the Work Corps is more than half completed and will be finished within the next two weeks.

The Employment and Housing division appreciates the splendid cooperation that has been received.

E. B. Moulton, Head  
of Employment and Housing

## LIBRARY LOCATED AT RECREATION HALL #19

The Center public library will be located tentatively at Recreation hall 19 when it is completed, Ken Hasogawa, temporary librarian, stated today.



## CASH CHECKS: POST OFFICE & CANTEN TO OFFER SERVICES

Center residents may have their checks cashed at the Center post office or at the Canteen, stated Post Director Ray D. Johnston this week.

B. W. Spears, superintendent of the post office here, said that only government checks will be cashed at his office.

"And in the afternoons only," he smilingly added.

Canteen Manager Tak Wakimoto stated that the Canteen will cash small checks when and if there is sufficient money on hand for that purpose.

Some sort of banking facilities for local residents are being contemplated by the administration, said Director Johnston.

## Y.P. FELLOWSHIP MEETS TOMORROW

Slated for tomorrow evening is the first in a series of Sunday night Young People's Fellowship meetings at 7 p.m. in Recreation hall 27.

Informal singing, games and "getting acquainted" will occupy the evening.

Stated the Rev. Harper Sakurai: "All young people are cordially invited."

## WORK SURVEY NEARS FINISH

Employment records of all eligible workers will be completed within the next ten days, announced S. B. Moulton, chief of Employment and Housing.

Work on the permanent personnel files will begin under Registrar J. S. Coleman and four assistants as

soon as the present survey is completed. Nine more blocks remain to be covered.

"Those employed outside of their blocks and unable to register during the day will be given an opportunity for interviews at night in the near future," Moulton said.

## TO SELECT POLICE BY EXAMS

Five men will be selected from each block as candidates for the Center Police Force soon, Lindsay Hatchett, Chief of the Internal Security Police department, stated today.

Final selections of personnel and officers will be determined through per-

sonal interviews and competitive examinations, Hatchett said, in assuring candidates that a true merit system will prevail.

The police station and detention room will be located in the far northeast section of the Center, it was announced.

## NEWLY WEDS

Wedding reception for Mr. and Mrs. Frank Nakashima, nee Mari Taniguchi, was held at the Block 16 mess hall this week. Chairman for the affair was Kenji Sakurai, block manager.

John Ty Saito congratulated the newlyweds, second in the center, and presented a gift from the block residents. The couple was married by Dr. Joseph B. Hunter at Arkansas City.

## HAWTHORNE JR'S.

The Hawthorne 'Y' Jr's., a YMCA affiliate, elected Tosh Fujimura president of the first boys' organization in Rohwer this week.

Other officers are Min Fujita, vice-president; Setsu Hasegawa, secretary; Don Tanabe, treasurer; Asaka Tamura, athletic manager; Mits Yamasaki, song leader; and George Tachi and Toji Chino, quartermasters.

## No Runs One Hit

Block 14's Chief Steward K. Matsuzawa figured that the many cases of diarrhea in his block were due to the people eating from dishes, cups and utensils that were covered with a thin film of soap caused by the peculiarity of the water.

So he experimented, grabbed a handful of ordinary table salt, dissolved it in the rinsing water.

The salt acted as a perfect cutting ingredient, and the thin slippery film instantly washed off. Steward Matsuzawa wasted no time in putting his discovery into use.

Result: residents of Block 14 once more are living a normal life.

## NEIGHBOR: HERE'S DATA ON JEROME

Jerome relocation community, the other half of Arkansas' war WRA project, is situated in Chicot and Drew counties near Jerome, an old logging town of the Mississippi delta.

Nearly the same size as Rohwer (9500 gross acres), Jerome will have the same population (10,000) and roughly the same acreage for agricultural development (8500). Land is leased from PSA-sponsored cooperatives.

The Jerome area has somewhat less timber than Rohwer and will yield a lighter harvest of wood products. Otherwise, work and propping possibilities are virtually identical.

## SODA POP, PASTRY TO BE SOLD SOON

Soft drinks and pastry will be sold at the Canteen as soon as contracts can be completed according to Manager Tak Wakimoto.

The present incomplete stock is attributed to the absence of dealers and firms in the vicinity from whom various commodities and supplies could be contracted.

Employing five clerks at present, the center store is temporarily directed by R. B. Brewster.

## Sunday Church Services

Sunday, October 25	Time	Place
Protestant Sunday school	9:00 a.m.	Juniors, Mess #15
Buddhist service	9:15 a.m.	Seniors, Mess #27
Protestant Nisei service	10:30 a.m.	Rec. hall #27
Protestant Issei service	2:00 p.m.	Rec. hall #27
Y.P. Fellowship		
"Get Acquainted"	7:00 p.m.	Rec. hall #27

# FROM TIMBERLAND TO MODEL COMMUNITY

timberland, some very  
arid, some fertile.  
Sharecroppers, miles,  
more.

At first there were only  
wild life and occasional  
farmers working the soil.  
There were hunters, fish-  
ers, lumberjacks.

This was virgin forest  
land.

By government proclama-  
tion certain areas were  
designated as relocation  
projects to be used for  
housing Japanese evacuated  
from assembly centers in  
the Pacific coast.

Work was started early  
this year to build a new  
city, near Rohrer, Ark.,  
capacity about 10,000.

"The soil is rich and  
exceptionally well suited  
for farming. The climate

is ideal, although the humi-  
dity is high and rain is  
frequent. Of course, the  
land must be properly  
drained. The timber must  
be cleared. This will be  
the best relocation center.  
The project isn't quite  
finished yet, but will be  
in a few weeks," said the  
WRA, WCCA and the Western  
Defense Command.

The new metropolis of  
the south, the boom town  
of Desha County.

The advance crew looked  
out into the Center and  
saw cotton plants growing  
in the empty lots. The  
engineers were still work-  
ing on the plans; carpen-  
ters were still erecting  
barracks; plumbers were  
installing showers.

Puzzled, anxious, con-

fused, the advance crew  
of it. The timberland was  
soon swarming with people.

The final movement to  
Rohrer will be completed  
today when 425 evacuees  
arrive from the Stanton  
assembly center. Housing  
Road F. E. Hiser reported  
this morning.... "The new  
arrivals will boost the  
Center population to 8061,"  
announced the bulletin.

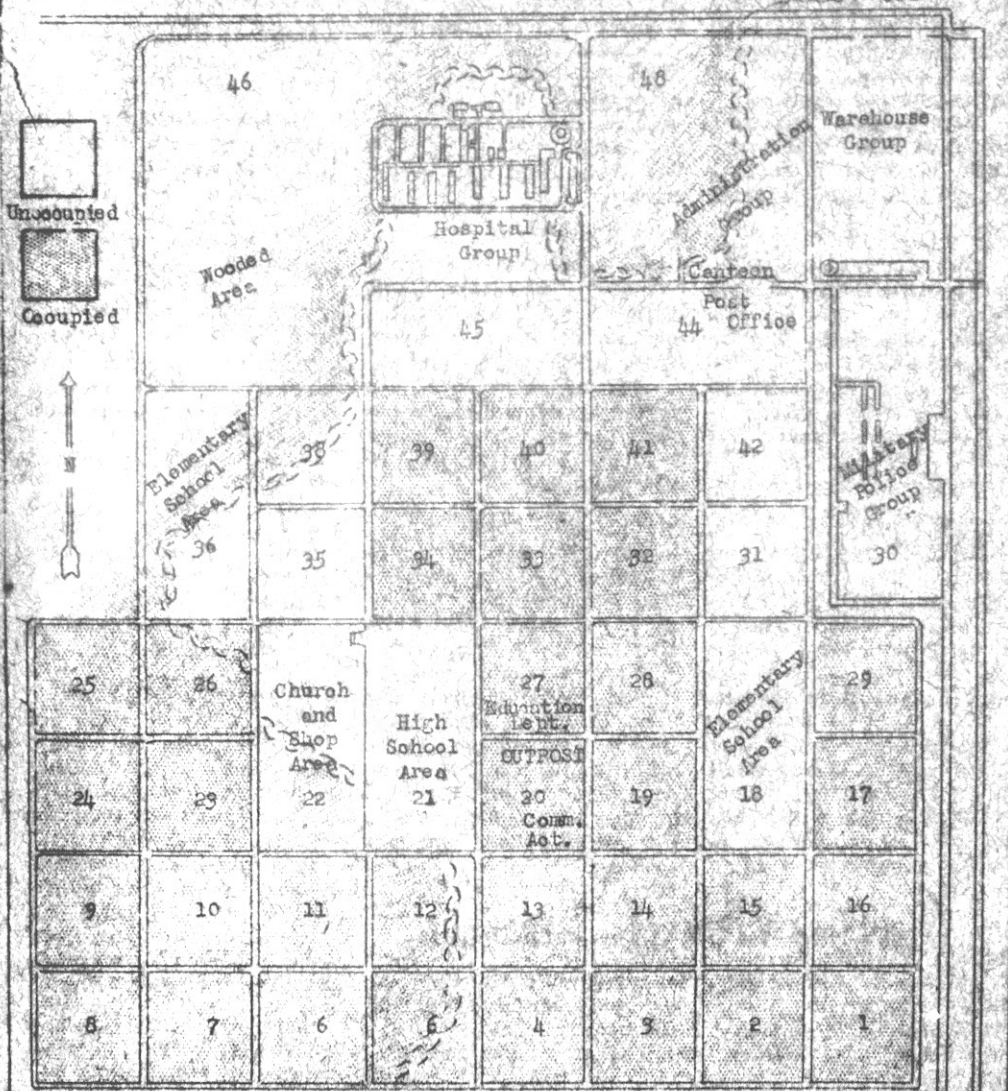
Identical barracks,  
identical shower rooms,  
identical mess halls set  
in uniform blocks.

Graveled roadways, deep  
ditches, dusty grounds.

Tall slender timbers en-  
veloping the clearing em-  
phasize the baldness of  
the barracks.

This is the Rohrer re-  
location center.

## LAYOUT PLAN OF CENTER





## GIRLS' CLUB ORGANIZED

The first girls' club in the Center will be known as the Twentiettes, it was decided by twenty members who met this week. Graeco Sumida will be adviser.

Terry Yoshizaki was elected president of the YWCA-affiliated organization. Other officers are Sakuyo Nakagawa, vice-president; Helen Fukutomi, secretary; Hatsuno Okino, social chairman; and Mary Hidaka, sports.

## ROHWER FLIGHTS IN ELECTION MEET

With 14 members to date Rohwer Flights, the Center's first mixed group club, held its election meeting this week under the supervision of Susumu Nabara, adviser.

Officers elected are Fred Suzukawa, president; Frances Nakashima, vice-president; Kimiko Kanemaki, secretary; Bessie Matsuzawa, social chairman; and Tak Horikiri, sports manager.

## CHOIR WILL SING AT NISEI SERVICE

The Rev. Harper Sakae will be the speaker at the nisei Protestant service tomorrow morning in Recreation hall 27.

Special music will be presented by the choir, which made its initial appearance last Sunday morning.

At the 13301 service, 2 p.m.; in the same hall, the Rev. J. K. Fukushima will be the chairman and the Rev. K. T. Shiraiishi.

## COMBINED MEET SLATED BY BUSSEIS

A combined 13301-nisei church gathering will be held by the Buddhist group this Sunday at Recreation hall 28 from 9 to 10:15 a.m.

Opening remarks will be given by the Reverends E. Unno and S. Mizutani. Chairman will be Rose Ito.

After the service, a registration of all Bussei interested in YBA club activities will be made.

# TENTATIVE SPORTS PLANS FORMULATED

Sports, morale builder deluxe, will play a big part in Rohwer relocation center's wartime life.

An extensive athletic program covering practically every field of sports, is being organized by the Athletic department of Community Activities.

Plans for the following sports have been tentatively drawn up: basketball, football, track and field, baseball, softball, swimming, tennis, badminton, ping pong, horseshoe, volleyball, bowling, hooky, wrestling, weightlifting, gymnastics, judo and sumo.

Acting as temporary

chairman is George "Pop" Suzuki of Stockton.

Already two softball diamonds and a regulation gridiron have been laid out on the high school grounds.

A wrestling arena is being erected on the northwest corner of the elementary school area.



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## SOFTBALL: OLD TIMERS AND POOP-OUTS IN HEADLINER

Highlighting the recreational activities of the weekend will be tomorrow's softball schedule, in which the Red Yanks oppose Block 4, and the Santa Anita Old Timers cross bats with the Poop-outs from Stockton on diamonds 1 and 2, respectively, at 1:30 p.m.

All the competing teams, with the exception of the Poop-outs, have not played as a team before in league competition.

The main feature will undoubtedly be the old timers' affair. These ancient horseholders, showing flashes of their pristine abilities, have already displayed considerable skill in assembly center contests.

## LIFE BEGINS: PLUS FORTY MEN TO ROMP IN LEAGUE

Rohwer relocation center's initial postseason softball loop for horseholders over 40 years old is now in the stage of organization under the leadership of James Hamasaki of the Athletic department.

Any teams interested in joining the Rohwer softball league should contact

Hamasaki immediately at the Community Activities office in 20-12-D or report to their respective block activities leaders, it was reported.

Already entered are the Block 7 and Block 23 teams, and those two teams will open the season this afternoon on Diamond No. 1 at 1:30 o'clock.

## MIDGET GRIDDETS WILL CLASH TODAY IN SIX-MAN PIGSKIN ENCOUNTER

Kid football, six-man, touch style, will take the sport spotlight this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, when the Block 28 Airacabras tangle with Block 16 in front of the Block 27 laundry.

The inaugural juvenile gridiron tilt will be played by youngsters 12 years old and under. Directing the Airacabras is George Uyoda, while Roy Uno mentors the Block 16 team.

The Airacabras are slight favorites.

# THE ROHWER OUTPOST

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## EDITORIAL

### • NOW WE ARE ONE

The motto of the United States is "E Pluribus Unum." It means: "Out of many, one."

Something similar could well apply here. Something that would mean: "Out of two, one."

We are all Rohwerites now. Not Stocktonians or Santa Anitans, not Northern Californians or Southern Californians.

Forgotten should be sectional rivalry, petty assembly center partisanship. In its place should be a new feeling: one of unity, of solidarity.

We are all facing a new adventure, a new experience, a new life. We should face it together.

Sectional nepotism and partisanship have no place in this relocation center.

The editors of the OUTPOST believe that positive harmony and cooperation among all residents are essential to the progress and future welfare of the Center.

The OUTPOST will set the pace in its stories by avoiding any reference to the Santa Anita or Stockton assembly centers, except where it is absolutely necessary for identification purposes.

Residents will be referred to by their home towns and cities, rather than by their assembly centers. Hence, people will be identified as hailing from Norwalk, Los Angeles, Lodi or Stockton, not from the Santa Anita or Stockton centers.

We hope the people will follow the example.

But more than just that, we hope the people will extirpate all thoughts and feelings of provincialism and sectional distinctions.

Our life here at Rohwer will be what we make it, no more.

We can make it pleasant, worthwhile, enriching.

We can live, work and play together harmoniously.

For out of two, we are now one.

## FAMILIAR SIGHTS



## PASSING BY

With BEAN TAKEDA

By now the consensus seems to be that this is a pretty good center. I've been here three weeks and like the place better with each passing day.

Prior to relocation, malicious rumors bandied about had led me to believe that we were being sent to a God-forsaken country. But three weeks here have convinced me that this is God's country.

### SURPRISE

The biggest surprise to me is the weather. It's just like California, which might be tantamount to heresy, coming from a native Californian. Having lived in Los Angeles all my life, I had been led to believe that the Golden State was the only place where there was any real sunshine.

But thus far, the thermometer has hovered consistently around the 80-degree mark, which is real L.A. Chamber of Commerce stuff. NAME

The name, Rohwer, appeals to me. Liked it ever since my kid days, when one of my heroes was a fellow named Ray Rohwer, slugging rightfielder for the Sacramento Solons in the Pacific Coast League.

At the Gila center some fond parents have named their offsprings Hideko Gila and Toshiko Gila. Well, if I were married and if I had a son, I might name him Ray Rohwer Takeda . . . if I were married and had a son.

### CONFIDENTIAL

The boys in Block 5 have organized a football team. They don't know whether to call themselves the Block 5 Blockheads or the Chips, as in Chips off the old Block 5.

The Utah centerites have come out with a paper called the Topaz Times.

Taking that cue, the bunch at Jerome could name their sheet the Jerome Journal.

That's all right, boys. No charge for the nifty suggestion.