



ROHWER RELOCATORY



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Rohwer Relocation Center
McGehee, Arkansas

Record Number To Leave Sept. 7

As of Wednesday night, a total of 448 persons were scheduled to leave on the special train of September 7. This many had not only signed up but had completed all arrangements for leaving. It is the greatest number that has ever been scheduled to leave this center at one time for relocation.

As was the case with the first train, seven day coaches have been allotted by the Army and Office of Defense Transportation, but if many others sign up it will be necessary to ask for another coach. This has been promised if it is needed.

The original pullman car has been filled, and another has been requested. A registered nurse and a WRA representative will accompany the train. It has not yet been decided who the WRA train representative will be. Relocation officials stated that the office would be closed Monday, Labor Day, and that Tuesday morning was the deadline for signing up for this train.

Good progress is being made in obtaining registrants for the special "Seabrook Coach". Only fifteen more passengers are needed to justify a request for the coach.

ALLISON REPORTS ON SECOND TRAIN

Said Mr. Allison, "The trip from Rohwer to Los Angeles on the second special train was much better than the first train. Dining service was good, and everybody on the trip had good meals. Railroad equipment was also better. All cars had lights. Confusion on arrival at unloading points was held to a minimum, as Relocation Officers boarded the train approximately a hundred miles before arriving at their destination. Relocation Officers became acquainted with all persons getting off at their respective towns and were familiar with the problems that would need special attention at each detraining point. Car sickness was held to a minimum. The attitude of Railroad Officials, as well as that of the general public is definitely improving."

HOLIDAY AND CHANGE IN WORK HOURS

Labor Day, Monday, September 3, has been declared a legal holiday and will be observed here by the appointed staff and evacuee workers. All project offices will be closed.

Effective September 10, the 40-hour work week has been established for this and all other projects. Five 8-hour days will be the work schedule. Some project offices will probably stay open on Saturday, but the details of this arrangement have not yet been worked out. Definite information on this will be available not later than September 8. The reduced work schedule applies to evacuees as well as appointed personnel. The new schedule applies not only to the WRA but to the whole Department of the Interior and practically all other Government agencies.

BRING PINK BOOKS TO RELOCATION OFFICE

Relocation workers have requested that center residents be reminded that Japanese citizens must bring their "pink books" with them when they apply for any kind of leave.

RELOCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Little Rock District - There has been a great deal of interest in the Little Rock District lately. Several families are already relocated in that area. More offers are coming to this office. In the near future the Area Office in New Orleans will emphasize the fine possibilities around Little Rock. Several families are relocating on Wilson Plantation. We will give the people of this center the same opportunities that people of other centers out West are getting. Many prominent men in Little Rock, who own farms in that vicinity, are asking for good farmers to operate the land for them. Those interested in that Area should contact the Relocation Office as soon as possible.

Memphis, Tennessee - As you know, Memphis is in the Southern territory. Several people have made requests for combinations consisting of man and wife, some with children, who could cultivate from seven to fifteen acres of land on a basis which would be profitable to the relocatee. It is suggested that those who may be interested in settling in Memphis or in the suburban area contact the prospective employers and take a short-term to look the situation over and talk with them.

Livingston, California - The Gallo Wineries are offering jobs to 125 workers to pick grapes at prevailing wages on piece work basis, probably about 20¢ per box. The job will last into December. This offers a fine opportunity for those who want a well paying job for a short time until they can get into something more permanent. There is housing for singles and families. They have twelve cabins 16x20 furnished except for bedding. There is a large mess hall which can be operated by the workers, or if the owner operates it, he will charge \$1.50 a day for meals. The camp is equipped with showers, toilets, etc. For those who do not get cabins, there will be forty or fifty tents for housing, and they can use any number of families. Work starts early in September. There is other work such as harvesting grapes and pruning at Keys for 75 single men. This is nearly a year-round job. Ask the receptionist, 42-2-E to refer you to an Adviser who will have this information.

Washington, D. C. - A man in Washington, D. C. has a six room furnished house available to a family with children. The wage is \$30.00 per week with practically all food furnished. If the employee is able to do good general repair work, such as painting and carpentry, the employer will pay him the prevailing hourly contractor's wage for this work over and above the \$30.00 a week. Those interested should see Charles B. Price, Relocation Officer, 42-2-E.

Grand Junction, Colorado - Mr. Roy Kitano offers to help people relocate who formerly lived around Gardena, Calif. He, himself, is a former resident there. He suggested that anyone interested should write to him personally, Route 2, Grand Junction, Colorado.

Seabrook, New Jersey - More and more people are signing up for Seabrook Farms. We have over half enough to fill a special car, so please come to the Leave Office and apply for a reservation.

WARNING - Keep Bills of Lading

There have been some instances where people from this center have attempted to claim their freight in California without presenting a Bill of Lading. A Bill of Lading is given each shipper before he leaves the center and it is very important that he not lose it and that he have it available when he claims his freight because delivery will not be made by the railroad company without it.

NEWS OF ROHWER RELOCATEES

Pittsburgh - Mr. Robert Shigeru Ishimoto has accepted a position in charge of the produce department of the Wilkinsburg Cooperative in Pittsburgh. This position has promise for development and future advancement. Mr. Ishimoto and his family are living at the Pittsburgh Hostel.

Chicago - The first Nisei-owned barber shop in Chicago was opened at 911 E. 43rd St., by Richard Yanagidate, formerly of Rohwer and Stockton, Cal. several weeks ago. Yanagidate first relocated to Michigan a year ago and then came to Chicago less than a month ago where he took the state examination for barbers in order to open up his business. Mrs. Yanagidate, mother, who is still in Rohwer, plans to join her son soon to help with the shop.

St. Louis - It was an "old fashioned Get-Together" when three ladies, former Rohwer residents, met at the home of Tamotsu Nozawa, 1321 LeRoy, University City on August 19, 1945. Mrs. George Shimamoto and her children, formerly of Rohwer and Lodi, Mrs. Mura Kawanishi, formerly of Rohwer and Torrance, and Mrs. Shimamoto's father, Mr. Kango Mitori who is in St. Louis on a visit, were happy to greet their old friends, the Nozawa family, who joined Mr. Tamotsu Nozawa, formerly of Rohwer and Stockton, on August 7.

St. Louis - Mitsuko Edith Abe of Topaz and San Lorenzo, California arrived in St. Louis recently to join her aunts, Miss Kiyo Abe of Rohwer and Stockton and Mrs. Koto Kato of Rohwer and Stockton, at whose home she is now residing. Mitsuko is at present exploring the various school possibilities, as she is planning on entering one of the schools in the fall.

Kansas City - The Relocation Officer of Kansas City, Missouri, with the cooperation of the War Housing Center has made available a 4-room apartment to a Nisei service man's family. Mrs. Tokiko Mildred Yamashiro of Rohwer and formerly of Stockton, whose husband, Paul, is stationed near Nashville, Tennessee, will arrive in Kansas City on August 26 to prepare the apartment at 503 Olive Street for occupancy. In early September Mrs. Yamashiro's 19-month-old daughter, Michi Paula, and parents-in-law will come from Rohwer to join her.

Kansas City - Frank Merikitani, a Nisei dental technician from Stockton and the Rohwer Relocation Center, has purchased a 7-room home in Kansas City. Mrs. Merikitani, their three children, and the children's maternal and paternal grandparents will arrive in mid-September to make their new home at 2637 Agnes, Kansas City, Missouri.

Mrs. Jeanette Iwataki, 2 year old son, Dale, and Mrs. Iwataki's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Kozo Kimura, arrived in Kansas City, Missouri, from Rohwer on August 14th to join Robert Iwataki who had a 4-room apartment ready for them at 2515 E. 17th Street. Robert, better known as "Baron", works at the International Paper Company in Kansas City, Kansas.

Mt. Carmel, Conn. - Mr. and Mrs. Kenji Sakakura, former Rohwer residents who are now employed at the country home of Mrs. George Welch at Mt. Carmel, are very proud that their 16-year old son, Yoshikazu, has recently been admitted to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology at Boston. Yoshikazu came on from Rohwer in July to start his college work. Mr. and Mrs. Sakakura have two other boys who are living with them in Mt. Carmel, a village in the Connecticut River valley.

NISEI SOLDIERS LEAD PARADE

Leghorn, Italy - Some 3,000 Nisei troops were designated by Gen. Francis H. Oxx, area commander, to lead the v-J Day parade of 15,000 GI's here.

Simultaneously with Gen. Oxx's announcement, came a petition from all men in D. Company of the 168th Infantry Regiment, white, stationed here, addressed to 442nd and 100th, promising full aid to Nisei boys facing readjustment problems back in the States.

The communication said, in part that the members of the company "do hereby assert that our help may be counted upon to convince the folks back home that you are fully deserving of all the privileges with which we ourselves are bestowed."

American soldiers who fought beside Nisei in Italy are urging that Nisei troops be sent home on top priority because their readjustment problems will probably be most difficult of any of returning GI groups.

FORT SNELLING GRADUATES IN OCCUPATION FORCES

St. Paul, Minn. - Fort Snelling-trained Japanese-American soldiers of the United States Army will be the language bridge by which General MacArthur will carry out his Army of Occupation rule in the Japanese homeland.

For the first time since Pearl Harbor, the veil of secrecy over the school was lifted, and Major General Clayton Bissell said that this group will be dispatched immediately to General MacArthur's command to be used with the Army of Occupation.

JOBS ?LENTIFUL IN CHICAGO

Chicago, Ill. - According to the Chicago Daily News, August 20, 1945, William H. Spencer, Regional War Manpower Director, has announced that 36,800 jobs are available through the United States Employment Service in Cook and Du Page Counties; 20,300 of them in manufacturing industries. In Illinois, including the Chicago area, Mr. Spencer added, there are 65,100 job openings, of which 27,500 are in factories. These jobs are not being filled rapidly despite the fact that many war contracts have been cancelled and war plants are shutting down. Among plants needing permanent workers is the American Brake Shoe Co., 2503 Blue Island Avenue, where a number of Issei and Nisei are employed. This company, which makes railroad equipment, wants 100 workers ranging from laborers to skilled mechanics. Wages are from 73¢ to \$1.31 an hour.

ALIENS MAY OWN LAND IN NEW YORK

New York, N. Y. - Interesting news to Issei planning to resettle in New York is the following quotation of a New York State Statute from Chapter 272 of the Laws of 1944:

"Aliens are empowered to take, hold, transmit, and dispose of real property within this state in the same manner as native-born citizens and their heirs and devisees take in the same manner as citizens."

OLDTIMERS GREET NEWCOMERS TO NEW YORK

New York, N. Y. - The Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Albert D. Oi, Issei residents of this city for more than 20 years, are spending most of their Saturdays and other free hours in the WRA district office in the Empire State Building to greet newcomers. A chemist for the Consolidated Edison Company's photographic department here since 1923, Mr. Oi is vice president of the Resettlement Council of the Japanese-American organizations in New York City. He is also contributing editor of the New York Jiji and the Newsletter of the Japanese-American Committee for Democracy.