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Rohwer Relocation Center  
McGehee, Arkansas

MR. MARITA REPORTS ON TRIP

Mr. M. Marita, executive secretary of the Community Council, recently took an extended trip to investigate relocation opportunities in the South and East. His report on the trip follows:

My Impression on the Trip

"..... take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, What withal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Lath. 6:30-33."

At this very moment of our great need for security of life, I often repeat these words spoken by Jesus himself. Relocation, in other words, means to us seeking houses in which to live, securing jobs through which to guarantee our means, and finding the road by which to re-establish ourselves in the normal and happy life. If any one of these is lacking relocation is meaningless.

Hardship we have to expect and changes in the line of our business may be necessary, but if we have these three possibilities why do we not dare relocate ourselves? It does not have to be the Pacific coast where we should resettle.

With this feeling in my mind I took a trip in the south and east looking for an opportunity for those who have many children and find it hard to relocate. I saw and heard many people who have lived in Florida a long time. I asked many questions of the farmers who were born and raised in and are still running a farm in New Jersey. I saw many who came from Europe comparatively recently. I roughly learned climates and weather conditions of the places I visited. Investigation into labor conditions, scale of wages, housing situations, community feeling toward our people, reputation and record made by our pioneers (I mean those who relocated in earlier days) did not slip away from my mind every time I went to a new place. I greatly lack in knowledge of determining richness of soil, but Mr. Sato, who went with me, has seen the soil, has studied what kinds of vegetables are good in what area.

After this one-month trip my impression is that if I were to go to California without any prospect, I would rather go to south or east without any prospect. People are kind, climate is good, housing is almost excellent, jobs are plenty. What else should we wish? We always hear that California climate is good. I do not want to deny such a statement, but I want to add to it that there are many places in the Union where the climate is just as good as in California. As for the people's feeling toward us in the east and west it is nonsense even to try to compare. We can be happy only when the neighbors are kind. How can we settle in east when we have to be afraid that the neighbors might shoot at us any time, or they might burn us in the dark?

I am not urging anything to anybody. I am simply advising the people to consider well before deciding where to resettle. If anyone makes up his mind to return to California only because of the weather or of some kind of homesly feeling I am sorry for that person because there are many places elsewhere that wait for his coming, the localities where there is no discrimination among the races, where everybody is welcome as long as he is an honest man, and where there is no organized resistance nor legal or legislative exclusion. These are the places where I want to relocate myself, and would like to advise the center resident to relocate, especially when the families are large.

#### Mr. Johnston Comments on Mr. Narita's Report

In commenting on Mr. Narita's report, Project Director, Ray D. Johnston said; "I think Mr. Narita's report, which appears on the front page of The Relocator, is a most excellent statement of conditions now facing the residents of this Center.

We all know that the Center is closing not later than December 15, which is slightly less than two months away. We also know that there are problems facing many of the people who want to return to the West Coast, chief of which is housing. Under these conditions it seems that the only practical, sensible solution in many cases is the selection of a second choice destination in some area other than California. To offset any disadvantages of not going back to the old home community, it is definitely known that sentiment is better, more and better housing is available, and jobs, other than common labor, are more plentiful in many, many other places throughout the country. It seems to me that these and many other things are of tremendous importance in planning one's future, especially the future of the children and young people!"

#### NEW RELOCATION INFORMATION

1. The Northern California "Resettlement News" lists all hostels in that area, describes the employment and housing situation and gives an interesting description of the arrival of the second special train from Rohwer.

2. A report in Japanese on relocation opportunities in Wisconsin with special emphasis on business possibilities in Milwaukee for Issei. The report was prepared by Mr. Shotaro Kikida and it and the "Resettlement News" are available at all mess halls serving meals and at the Relocation Office, Block 42.

#### MINISTERS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE EXTEND WELCOME

Resettlers to New Hampshire will be welcomed and aided by the Baptist Ministers of the State, they indicated in a statement adopted at a meeting in New London, N. H., on September 6. The statement follows in part;....."We also wish to express our conviction that our churches will cordially receive and assist any who may choose to live among us, and we sincerely hope that many will decide to establish homes within our state."

PAINTERS UNION ACCEPTS EVACUEES

Boston, Mass. - Resettlers will be accepted in the highly unionized painters' trade in Boston, officials of the local AFL Painters Union recently informed the Boston WRA office. Jobs are now available at \$1.45 per hour, the standard rate.

CHICAGO COMPANY WANTS NISEI OR ISSEI WORKERS

Chicago - New employees reported by the 20th Century Gove Company, 2652-2656 Bolden Ave., Chicago, for the month of September are: Kameichi Harada, Gila River and Selma, Calif., Yoichi Ishii, Jerome and Hawaii; Hisaye Mizukami, Gila River and Buena Park; Helen Sugimura, Poston and Sacramento, Calif. and Tad Nishimura, Heat Mountain; Miss Blaine, Personnel Manager, stated that there are at present approximately 70 to 80 Issei and Nisei employees out of a total employment of about 300 people. The firm is planning to expand in the very near future and Miss Blaine stated that they will be able to use many more Issei and Nisei.

EVACUEE BUYS LARGE APARTMENT HOUSE IN CHICAGO

Chicago - Mr. Masachi Kanaya, 1151 N. Clark Street, formerly of Minidoka and Portland, Oregon, decided to look around for business opportunities. In March of this year, he purchased a 65-room apartment. Mr. Kanaya stated that he experienced no difficulty in obtaining a license here. In fact, he found it much easier to obtain a license in Chicago than in the State of Oregon. His boarders are mostly Caucasian and have been living there for some years; however, as vacancies occur, Mr. Kanaya will welcome Issei and Nisei.

WILSON OFFER REVISED, NO COTTON REQUIRED

Mr. Masao Sano formerly of Poston, who is now living on Wilson Plantation, is in the center with Mr. Ab Ragon, Relocation Officer in the Little Rock District, Mr. Pyland, and Mr. Lynch who are working on the Plantation.

Previously, Mr. Crain, manager of the Wilson Plantation had expected the evacuees to grow a little cotton along with the vegetables. He has now declared that if the Rohwer farmers want to come there, he will require no cotton growing.

He is putting electricity in the houses and remodeling with sheet rock, making them desirable places in which to live.

He also has made a contract which appeared in yesterday's Commercial Appeal for a half-million dollar canning plant to be operated on the plantation. He is also negotiating for contracts for quick freezing plants.

Mr. C. B. Price, Project Relocation Officer, stated that, "In my opinion, this is one of the greatest opportunities we have had for people with little money to begin immediately under desirable circumstances to resettle themselves."

Those desiring to get more information on the Wilson Plantation should come to the Relocation Office, 42-2-E, and talk the matter over with the Advisor.

NEWS OF ROHWER RELOCATEES

Cincinnati, Ohio - Pfc. Jiro Oyama from Fort Snelling, Minnesota, is spending his furlough in Cincinnati with his mother, Mrs. Chiyo Oyama (Los Angeles, Rohwer) at 3250 Harvey Avenue. Before the expiration of his furlough he plans to relocate his mother to Chicago where she will join her daughter in residence. Prior to his induction in the Army he was a student at the University of Cincinnati.

St. Louis, Mo. - Grace Toshiye Kagawa of ROHWER and Lodi, who relocated to St. Louis on September 14th has accepted a position as stenographer at Skinner & Kennedy Stationery Company, 416 North 4th Street, St. Louis. She is living with her family, Mr. and Mrs. Kumakichi Kagawa and her brother, William at 3927 McPherson.

Chicago, Ill. - Announcing their engagement recently in Chicago were Miss Grace Fumiko Nishi and the Reverend Gyodo Kono. Miss Nishi is formerly of ROHWER and Hanford, California. The Reverend Kono was connected with the Buddhist Churches at Hanford, California, and in ROHWER.

Cincinnati, Ohio - Homeward bound to California this week were Misses Fumi and Irene Yoshida (Los Angeles, Rohwer) who returned to their former home. Fumi has been employed as secretary by the 20th Century Fox-Film Corporation until her departure while her sister, Irene was employed as typist for the R. L. Polk Company.

Detroit, Michigan - Mr. Roy Fukuda, Rohwer and Hanford, left for the army October 4. Mr. Fukuda has been employed by the city of Detroit as a clerk.

St. Louis, Mo. - Shichizo Ivata of Rohwer and Stockton joined his wife and three children, Fumi, Art, and Toshiko in St. Louis on October 2nd. This brought the entire family together again in their new home at 3925a McPherson. Arthur, who has been living in St. Louis for the past two years, is employed as draftsman at the Ramsey Accessories Manufacturing Corporation, 3693 Forest Park, and Fumi is attending Washington University and Toshiko is a student at St. Louis University School of Pharmacy.

Washington, D. C. - Mrs. Emmy Ito (Los Angeles, Amache) who formerly worked for the Boy Scouts in Dayton has been employed by the Veteran's Administration in Washington, D. C. She and her husband recently joined her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Chinata Sumida (Los Angeles, Rohwer) in Washington, D. C.

Cincinnati, Ohio - Pvt. John Kubota formerly of Lonita, California and Rohwer has been visiting his sisters, Mary and Kikue Kubota for the past few days. Before his induction into the armed services he was a student at the University of Cincinnati. His parents are relocated to Decatur, Michigan and he plans to visit them the remainder of his furlough.