

ROHWER RELOCATOR

November 9, 1945
Vol. 1, NO. 28

Rohwer Relocation Center
McGehee, Arkansas

TO ALL ROHWER RESIDENTS:

In a very short time now Rohwer Relocation Center will be only a memory to all of us. There will be good memories along with the bad memories, but there can be no doubt that the closing of the Center is a good thing. It is not natural or right for people to live in communities such as this, and it is extremely important that everyone--especially the children--get back to normal living as soon as possible.

The whole evacuation program has been heart-breaking and has caused much personal inconvenience and hardship to those evacuated, but I hope that the residents of this Center can leave here with a feeling that the War Relocation Authority and its staff members have made a sincere effort to operate this Center as fairly and as efficiently as possible.

I wish it were possible to say good-bye to each person individually but since this can hardly be done, I wish to take this means of wishing each of you good luck and much future happiness.

Ray D. Johnston
Project Director

CENTER RESIDENTS TO BE GONE BY NOVEMBER 30.

It was announced today by Ray D. Johnston, Project Director, that present plans call for the departure of all evacuee residents by November 30. Mr. Johnston said "We have been advised that it will be practically impossible to obtain special railroad equipment after the first of December because of troop movements and increased holiday travel. We are now assured that at least temporary housing will be available at all relocation points and the advantages of special transportation facilities more than offset the disadvantages of a slightly earlier departure for a few who might wish to remain here during the first part of next month."

Another special train will leave here for the West Coast on November 16. A coach or two will be provided for the week of November 19 and the last special train will leave on November 30.

CHANGE IN PICK-UP TIME

Trucks will leave the motor pool at 3:30 p.m. today to pick up passengers for the special train and not at 4 p.m. as previously stated in Tuesday's edition of the Japanese section. Loading of the train will start at 4 p.m.

LAST ISSUE OF JAPANESE SECTION

This is the last regular issue of the "Jiho", the Japanese section of the Outpost. The editor, Mr. Kingo Tasugi, leaves today for California. Mr. Ryoza Ogura and Mr. Tom Furuya leave for St. Louis next Tuesday. Mr. Shigetaro Togo is the only remaining employee on the Japanese section.

In expressing appreciation for the work of the staff, Project Director Johnston said, "The Japanese section made available to our Japanese reading residents, information that was highly important to the successful operation of the project. For the assistance and cooperation of the staff who made this possible, I am truly thankful."

This is also the last regular edition of the relocation bulletin but special issues in English and Japanese, is possible, if the occasion demands.

EASTERN COACH BILLS UP

Registration by Mr. Marita's group for the special east bound coach on the 14th is increasing every day. Approximately 50 people have already signed up in this group and 37 others will leave with them for St. Louis and Chicago. Registrations for other passengers will still be accepted and another coach will be requested if it is needed.

THIS WEEK SETS RELOCATION RECORD

The largest group of relocatees ever to leave the center at one time will depart today at 5 p.m. for return to the West Coast. The train will consist of 8 day coaches, 3 pullman cars and 3 baggage cars, and will have 575 passengers aboard. About 80% of these are going to Los Angeles or the immediate vicinity. The train will go by way of Pine Bluff, and Texarkana, Arkansas, Ft. Worth and El Paso, Texas, Tucson, Arizona, and will arrive in Los Angeles at 8 A. M. Monday.

TOPAZ CLOSES

The Topaz Center closed on schedule, November 11, with Project Director, L. T. Hoffman, "closing the gate" behind the last departing evacuee residents at 1 p.m. The final departure group consisted of 32 persons mostly from Hawaii who will be quartered in Los Angeles until sailing time. 4,000 residents of the center have relocated since August 15, when the first special train left for the West Coast. Only 44% of the relocatees from Topaz returned to the West Coast, 43% returned to California, and 1% to Oregon and Washington.

ROHWER RESIDENT RETURNS FROM INDIA

Arthur Yahiro, former Rohwer resident now employed in New York City by an exclusive leather goods studio, has already traveled more miles in his 28 years than most people travel in a lifetime. A native of Hawaii, he lived in Los Angeles, Rohwer, Chicago and India before coming to New York where he now lives at 535 West 124th Street. He went to India on a Government job.

NEWS OF ROHWER RELOCATEES

St. Louis, Mo. - On October 24, 1945, Mr. Tomokichi Sakaguchi of Rohwer and Lemoore, California, joined his daughter, Sachiko, of 533 Hamilton Avenue in St. Louis. They had not seen each other for three years. Sachiko had previously joined her brother, George, in St. Louis on October 8, 1944. Shortly afterward, George was inducted into the Army and was recently accepted by Officer's Candidate School.

Philadelphia, Pa. - Miss Grayce Kaneda, formerly of Rohwer, was recently appointed to the staff of the Philadelphia International Institute as a group worker specializing in assistance to resettlers. In her new position Miss Kaneda will plan social activities, counsel resettlers about community resources, visit newcomers in their homes, and otherwise aid Nisei and Issei in making their adjustment from a relocation center to a new city. The Philadelphia International Institute has been the meeting place for most of the activities of local resettlers.

The entire Kaneda family, including Grayce's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tsunayoshi George Kaneda, relocated more than a year ago to Philadelphia, where Mr. Kaneda is first chef at the Whittier Hotel. The Kanedas are now living at 1431 Brown Street, Philadelphia. They previously lived at 40-7-A, Rohwer, and 316 West Anderson Street, Stockton, California.

Newark, N. J. - Typical of the Issei farmers who have made successful adjustments to Eastern farming in the Newark, N. J. District, is Mr. Robert Shigeru Ishimoto of Rohwer, who is managing a poultry farm in Bergen County, N. J. With him are his wife, mother-in-law, and six children. Single men interested in working with Mr. Ishimoto are urged to write him at RFD #2, Box 542, Westwood, N. J.

Philadelphia, Pa. - Mrs. Nasuyo Tanaka and her children, Harry, Hiromatsu, and Mitsuyo, who formerly lived at 41-3-F, Rohwer, recently obtained a five-room apartment in the Tasker Homes at 3106 Mifflin Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

The Tanakas are the first family of Japanese ancestry to move into Tasker Homes. They were able to obtain an early vacancy because another one of Mr. Tanaka's children, Itsuo Roy, is in the Army at Fort Snelling.

New York, N. Y. - George Akimoto, Rohwer and Stockton, who was the artist for the Outpost and the creator of "Lil Dan'l", has started his own commercial art business in partnership with Paul Seiderman at 130 East 44th Street, New York. George relocated to New York a year and a half ago.

JAPANESE NEWSHEET PUBLISHED IN CLEVELAND

Cleveland, Ohio - The Issei in Cleveland are beginning a Newsheet of their own. The first edition is a complete address book of all the Issei in Cleveland. The subscription price will be decided at the November session of the Issei Club. The addresses are written in both Japanese and English. It will be possible to add extra names as new arrivals come.

ISSEI DISCUSSION GROUP MEETING CHICAGO

Chicago, Ill. - The Rev. G. Kubose of the Chicago Buddhist Church, 5487 S Dorchester, reports that the Issei members have started a discussion group which meets on Sunday evenings at the church to discuss timely topics and to become acquainted with available community resources. Mr. Shikai Azeka, formerly of Los Angeles, California and Heart Mountain, who has been on an exploratory trip through the Middle West and East, and Mr. Choyei Kondo, formerly of Los Angeles, Calif. and Manzanar, spoke to the group on the topic, "Whither Japan", on October 21.

NEW JERSEY FARMERS WANT EVACUEES

Camden, N. J. - Farmers of Camden County in New Jersey have been going "all out" to tell each other about the availability of evacuee farm families. The offers recently received by the Philadelphia District Office include good housing, usually with electricity, hot water, inside toilet and bath; year-round employment for the head of the family, with wages ranging from \$24 to \$30 per week for general farm workers and from \$30 to \$35 for foremen; and free fruit and vegetables, as well as substantial garden plots for the family's own cultivation. Other employable members of farm families usually will be paid at a prevailing rate of 50¢ an hour for work done from April to October.

FRIENDS COMMITTEE FINDS HOUSING IN PHILADELPHIA

Philadelphia, Pa. - The office of Mr. Robertson Fort of the American Friends Service Committee in Philadelphia, is the local clearing house for housing information for resettlers. Here newspaper ads are scanned, and resettlers and committee members turn in information. Recently, the students at two high schools in Philadelphia began turning in leads about vacancies in their neighborhoods. Many additional junior high schools are expected to cooperate in this program by immediately reporting vacancies to the central clearing house. The interest of school principals, teachers, and students in helping resettlers to solve their housing problems is indicative of the public acceptance which evacuees find in Philadelphia.

WELCOME PLANNED FOR NEW YORK HOSTEL RESIDENTS

New York - Leaders of schools, churches and settlement houses in the neighborhood of New York City's new hostel at 58 East 102nd Street are planning a reception for the newcomers. Sponsored by the Unitarian Service Committee and the Community Church of New York, the hostel will be managed by Mr. and Mrs. Giichiro, Issei for Granada and L.A. Accommodations are provided for 60 persons.