



Bridges Raps Union For Discrimination Against Nisei

SAN FRANCISCO, — Harry Bridges Friday guaranteed Japanese-American workers in industrial organizations warehousemen in Stockton "full protection" against any possible discrimination by fellow workers and promised official punishment to members violating the union's policy of fair play.

Two unidentified warehousemen said in Stockton Thursday that if the union insists on inclusion of returned Nisei it would "only create trouble and friction."

Violates Union Law

Bridges warned, however, that refusal to work with Nisei "constitutes a violation of our policies and union constitution."

The CIO leader further emphasized:

"The union will not retreat in any way or relax for a moment in its determination to meet and deal with any individual within the union or local who seeks to project and support Hitler-like policies."

"Japanese Americans, particularly veterans of our nation's armed forces, will be welcomed back and helped to find jobs by our union and they will receive full financial and support of the ILWU."

Reiterates Statement

He reiterated his statement of December 18th after the army lifted the Nisei exclusion order that "our union has never believed that the test of loyalty should be the color of a man's skin."

The Nisei, he said Friday, "enjoy the respect and support of the ILWU."

San Francisco and The Darker Races

Dr. W. E. DuBois, distinguished Negro scholar, editor and representative of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will speak on "San Francisco and the Darker Races" Monday, May 28, at Temple Emmanuel, 1935 Park St. at 8 p.m. Dr. DuBois has degrees from Harvard, Fish, Atlanta, and Howard Universities, and was for many years editor of the Crisis and head of the Sociology Department of Atlanta University.

The meeting will be sponsored by the Denver City Council, Denver Colored Civic Association, Social Science Foundation, Adult Education Council Committee by Minorities, National Conference of Christians and Jews, Interracial Commission of the Denver Council of Churches, Anti-Discrimination League, Denver Council for a Permanent Peace, a Cosmopolitan Club, and Committee of Racial Equality.

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SOLDIER IN PACIFIC DEMANDS RESPECT FOR NISEI

NEW YORK, — Under the heading "Respect for Nisei," the newspaper *PM* featured on May 15 a letter to the editor from a United States soldier stationed in the Pacific Theater. Daniel Bagatelle, in which he declared that "the Nisei is as American as the Statue of Liberty itself." The soldier also declared that "all of us who have served in this war with American Nisei feel very strongly about the discrimination that has been directed against Japanese Americans."

"The Japanese Americans do not want pity nor do they want people to 'tolerate' them," he wrote, "for these are the grossest insults that can be paid to persons with self-respect. All they want is the respect entitled to them as brother Americans which they so rightfully deserve."

Following is the soldier's letter in full as published by *PM*:

"Dear Editor:

"The cause for the 'Hood River Incident,' or any racial discrimination for that matter, is ignorance. People who do not have the highest conception of what a Japanese American is draw conclusions from the Hollywood representation of the enemy soldier. To them it seems to follow naturally that anyone of Japanese descent must bear all the characteristics with which they are familiar. The Nisei is as American as the Statue of Liberty itself. If that weren't the case, would the 100th Infantry composed of Nisei be fighting as gloriously as they are? Approximately 200 out of 1000 have been decorated with the Order of the Purple Heart. The veil of ignorance that menaces the post-war lives of these soldiers and their families must be lifted by such organs as the newspapers."

"At the outbreak of the war with Japan, the War Relocation Authority was formed and the families of Japanese origin along the West Coast were placed in relocation centers. Sons, who were soldiers in our Army, felt deeply what their parents were

ted last week.

All but six are Nisei. Many plan to stay in Baltimore.

Would Ban Japanese

KAMLOOPS, B. C. — Ian MacKenzie, Minister of Veterans Affairs, said last week that persons of Japanese ancestry should "never again be permitted to reside in British Columbia."

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WRA Will Free Japanese Despite Coast Violence

WASHINGTON, — Dillon S. Myer, WRA Director, declared last week interned Japanese will be released from relocation centers as planned regardless of anti-Japanese violence on the West Coast.

Myer said that the discharge of the Japanese will be stepped out of camps closed by January 2, 1946, as scheduled.

Interior Secretary Ickes made public several days ago west coast incidents which included shooting, dynamiting, arson, and threats to returning Japanese Americans and aliens to "clear out of town."

"I am not going to step us from completing our job which is to free Japanese for return to the west coast or wherever they may desire, and camps closed by January 2, 1946, as scheduled."

Myer added that "the number of Japanese in the west coast will be increased very greatly in the next few weeks when school is out of town."

Another WRA official explained that probably one of the nine centers—"most likely Tule Lake"—will remain open after January 2, 1946, to accommodate Japanese of all nine camps who have been detained by the War or Justice Departments as being un-American.

He said Tule Lake then "probably will come under the management of the Justice Department's Immigration and Naturalization Service."

The WRA spokesman declared he knows of few terrorist incidents occurring elsewhere than the west coast. The most recent of the few exceptions, he said, took place in Chicago when a young Negro accompanied by three others shot and wounded a Japanese street who stood on a street car island.

Quakers Erase 'No Japs' Sign

SEATTLE, — A Japanese American family told recently how seven Quakers painted out "No Japs Wanted" signs on the Nisei home. The Japanese, Shigeo Nagashi, his wife and their two daughters, were greeted by the signs when they returned from a relocation center. The Quakers also mowed the lawn for the Japanese.

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Nisei Sgt. Supports Bill On Fair Employment

SACRAMENTO, — An American Japanese in a United States army uniform told the Assembly Ways and Means Committee last week the enactment of a California fair employment practices act would be his only protection against employment prejudice when he returns to civilian life.

The soldier, Sergeant Paul Sakai, a veteran of the North Africa and Tunisia campaigns, addressed the committee during a hearing on AB 3, Hawkins, under special permission by the War Department.

The bill, which would prohibit discrimination in employment because of race, creed, nationality or ancestry, was taken under submission by the committee after two hours of testimony.

"All we ask," he said, "is a fair chance to seek an intelligent right to economic security."

Also under submission by the committee was AB 1399, Sam Collins, which would create a commission appointed by the governor to conduct a study of racial discrimination in industry and report its recommendations to the 1947 legislature.

Assemblyman Augustus Hawkins, Los Angeles County, author of AB 1399, said such a measure is necessary to prevent a repetition of racial disturbances which followed World War I.

The bill was opposed by Gil Holland of the San Francisco Employers Council and S. H. Strathmore of the Associated Farmers on the grounds the measure would "create racial difficulties and cause more trouble than it could cure."

Mervyn Barbone and Beverly Cayton of the California Council of the Congress of Industrial Organizations joined Sergeant Sakai in urging favorable consideration of the measure.

Don't Forget the Tri-Sigma (Granda Fish) Show, East Thursday, May 24th

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Gridley People Welcome Evacuees And Offer Aid

(The Times today received the following letter from Gridley, Calif., which speaks for itself on encouraging aspects of returned evacuees.)

Editor:

I represent a group of twenty-five farmers, professional and business people, who are interested in democratic living and civil liberties.

One Japanese family has returned to this vicinity and resettled on the farm which was their former home. There has been little or no difficulty in their reorientation.

This group feels that reports concerning resettlement of Japanese in this state have been misleading, that a few unfortunate accidents have been over-publicized until even loyal citizens are discouraged from returning to their homes.

We are willing, indeed anxious to help anyone who wishes to settle in the Gridley area. If there is anything we could do to aid resettlement anywhere we would be glad to help.

Marcia L. Price
Route 1, Box 161
Gridley, California

Loomis Japanese Dies In Building Collapse

NEWELL (Modoc Co.). — One man was killed and another injured at the Tule Lake War Relocation Authority Center in the collapse of a section of a building they were moving.

The dead man, crushed under the structure, was Daisiura Kawano, 60, Japanese alien formerly of Loomis, Placer County.

The injured man is Yukio Nakamura, formerly of Salinas.

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