

How and Where Will Nisei Come Back?

Niches Found Eastward by Japanese Americans
by JOSEPHINE RIPLEY
Staff Correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor

WASHINGTON. — This country, as well as Europe, has its "displaced persons" to be relocated after the war.

Will there be a mass emigration back to the Pacific Coast? Many are asking. The WRA is inclined to think not.

Thousands have found new occupations and acquired new skills since they left the "Little Tokyos" of the West Coast.

They have found, too, that there is less prejudice against them in the cosmopolitan areas of the Midwest and East than there was along the Pacific Coast.

All this has been a new experience for many of the Nisei. While the mass evacuation from the tightly packed Japanese-populated towns on the Pacific Coast was a harsh measure, as such a procedure is bound to be, it is thought that it will more than make up for the experience for many of the younger generation.

Before the war, the Nisei still were under the domination of their elders and bound to the Japanese communities by strong ties. However, efforts which they made to break loose from tradition often were frustrated by lack of employment opportunities in their fields.

According to a study of Japanese Americans in peace and war, prepared by Carey McWilliams for the American Council on Education, the Nisei have undergone has shattered some of their illusions, at the same time it has given to many a new sense of value of the meaning of "liberty" and "freedom" and the American way.

Not all of the evacuees, however, have been able to make the adjustment so philosophically. Some are filled with bitterness and resentment over their experience.

Many of these are the elderly persons who have found no new ties or occupations to replace

the old and have suffered financial losses and physical discomforts.

On the West Coast, however, where many communities felt themselves well rid of an unwanted minority, there is stiffening resistance to the evacuees' return.

Whatever the economic and social problems raised by this and other minorities, clear-thinking citizens agree that the solution does not lie in measures which are prompted by race hatred or which take the form of lawlessness and violence.

"It may be healthy," states the Public Affairs Committee report, "that the Japanese problem, which has echoed on the West Coast for nearly 50 years, has now ceased to be a local and has become a national problem. It is a problem definitely related to the problem of other racial minorities. This is important, since it is evident that we shall never solve any of these problems until we have solved all of them."

What's Doing in the Churches

Buddhist Church

1942 Market Street
Young People's Meeting

Sunday, Sept. 2, 1945
10:30 A.M. - Sunday School
8:00 P.M. - Young People's Service.

Rev. Tsunoda will deliver the sermon.

Immediately following the service a sing-along will be held.

Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

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LOS ANGELES. — WRA provides experienced legal service

Nisei, Backed by Mayor Lapham, Returns to Job; Workers Confer

SAN FRANCISCO. — Backed by Mayor Lapham and the WRA, Takeo Miyama, a 37-year-old Japanese American ignition expert, returned to his job Tuesday morning at the Municipal Railway bus repair shops in the face of a threatened walkout by 100 AFL mechanics over his hiring.

Mr. Miyama came quietly to the shop about 8:10 a.m. and announced he was ready to work if he was immediately allowed to pair a bus standing in the yard outside the shops.

It was some time before the other workers realized he was there. When they heard he had returned, they ceased work in small groups to discuss the matter, but there was no formal work stoppage immediately.

While Mr. Miyama was occupied with the bus, he was approached by a San Francisco hero of the aircraft carrier Franklin, Chief Radio Technician Harold Stone, who told Mr. Miyama:

"Good luck and I hope you get your chance to work here. I think you have the right to it."

Through John S. Meaney, Area Attorney in the Los Angeles office here, he is prepared to advise Nisei and Issei on any and all legal matters. Mr. Meaney formerly was in the San Francisco office, and for a while acted as project attorney at Granada.

Also, the Lawyers Guild of Los Angeles has 11 attorneys who volunteer to act gratis for Japanese Americans. Mr. Meaney's address is 229 N. Broadway, Los Angeles, phone Michigan 2641. Morris Cohn is chairman.

For some time the American Civil Liberties Union, 257 So. Spring St., Los Angeles, phone Michigan 9708, has had an offer of free legal representation on behalf of Japanese Americans. Now they add that they are especially interested in cases of discrimination in securing sales tax licenses.

The Legal Aid Foundation, 100 W. Third St., Los Angeles, phone Mutual 9126, offers its services without fee to people of all races, including of course those of Japanese descent.

The sailor holds the Silver Star for gallantry in action against the Japanese.

Mr. Miyama and he was told by Fred Ross, WRA field representative, that it was his duty to his people to return to work, and that he was a coward if he stayed away.

Mayor Lapham told the Nisei, "I'll back you up in any decision you take."

Police and plainclothesmen were standing around the repair shop yards in case any trouble should break out.

The case came to a head Monday when Mr. Miyama reported a work and quit after the workers told him they would walk off the job if he stayed. Mayor Lapham then intervened in the Nisei's behalf.

At the meeting ended, Fred Ross WRA area official offered to show the men an eight-minute movie of Japanese American troops in action in Italy and of General Mark Clark exhorting their officers to stay to see the victory.

SPECIAL! MACHINISTS WILL WORK WITH NISEI

Word has just been received that Municipal Railway machinists voted their objection to having a work alongside Takeo Miyama.

Men of the day shift voted 41 to 18 to stay on the job. The night shift vote was to be taken later.

The day shift's vote supported a recommendation made by a committee of seven of the machinists who conferred with State Senator Jack Shafley, president of the AFL Central Labor Council.

Shafley had urged the men to "keep the racial issue out and face facts."

The committee's report said: "We regret that this situation has been misinterpreted, misunderstood and made to appear as an issue based on discrimination against Mr. T. Miyama because

San Francisco News: Mistaken Shopmen

Those Municipal Railway shopmen who refuse to work with a returned Japanese American machinist are regrettably misguided. They may feel inspired by patriotic impulses but that brand of "patriotism" will do America no good.

This country of ours, with military might born of tremendous productive power, has won a war against three aggressors whose ambition was to enslave the world. We have come out of the war the one safe haven of human liberty and we propose to remain strong enough to keep it so.

The surest way to break down individual liberty is to foster intolerance among the vast numbers of citizens. Those are the components of despotism, the instruments of dictators. When they are allowed to breed in any community that community becomes diseased and every citizen is affected.

The authority of the United States Government, to which every one of the objecting shopmen, unequivocally subscribes, is behind the right of the Japanese American citizen to return to San Francisco and seek employment. His right is the same that of every fellow citizen. Those who would deny him that right are, in effect, denying the authority of their own government. If that is patriotism, we want none of it in free America.

To bring the issue closer home, suppose the shopmen live there to the reflection their intolerance casts upon the name of their city. San Francisco, among its other distinguishing characteristics, has a firm reputation for racial and religious tolerance. The East and the West have met here and learned to live together as if Japanese descent.

"This is definitely not so. Our feeling is that these vacancies should go to veterans of this war who are San Francisco residents."

"It is our decision that we should all stay on the job and continue to do so whether Mr. Miyama comes or not."

"We do this with a protest to the Mayor, the Public Utilities Commission and the Civil Service Commission, and call upon them to devise ways and means to give these jobs to San Francisco veterans regardless of race, color or creed, and ask that this be taken up with the rehabilitation committees of the veterans' organizations and organized labor in San Francisco."

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7th War Loan Drive Brings 100% Participation from Nisei

LOS ANGELES. — "All of the Japanese Americans connected with the WRA here subscribed to the 7th War Loan," reports the L. A. Daily News of Aug. 24. "This was revealed by Wright L. Felt, regional coordinator of the War Loan Drive," as he had presented employees with the outstanding accomplishment award. The award was in the form of an inscribed photograph of Admiral Ernest J. King, "the article continued."

"Paul G. Robertson, area supervisor for WRA, who accepted the award, said his staff had over-subscribed the quota by 62 1/2%." (And won first prize among all the Federal agencies).

offer should apply immediately to the Nisei. Call CH 5990. The Center is anxious to retain a Nisei for this work.

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FOR SALE — 19-acre Botanical Nursery and Vegetable Farm; 3-bedroom residence near school; glasshouse heated by hot water; cooling house; 3 large hothouses; retail and wholesale store; corner of two main boulevards. Annual business over \$22,000. Irrigation by well, electric pump, reservoir and pipe line. This property can be had on easy terms to right party. Canby Nursery & Farm, 1313 South Orange Drive, Los Angeles 5, California.

WANTED — Experienced waitresses to work from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., \$1.00 per hour. Apply 29th St. Cafe, 1123 29th St.

WANTED — Several waitresses to work in Laramie, Wyo. Steady employment & good wages. Apply Empire Grill, 1227 Glenarm Pl., Denver.

WANTED — A good mechanic and a service engine attendant. Iwabashi, 29th & Larimer St.

FOR SALE — 7-room, 1-story house with garage, \$3500. 2015 Lawrence St. Inquire after 5 p.m.

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FOR SALE — 13-room house, furnished; 5 apt. units of 1 to 3 rooms; completely furnished; 2 baths & basement. Monthly income about \$200. Price, \$7150. See Mr. Dwyer, 4th & 1/2, 2123-26 Lafayette St.

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