

RELOCATION PROSPECTS - NEW YORK, NEW JERSEY, PENNSYLVANIA

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New York, the nation's metropolis, is the one large city where there has not been an influx of war workers and consequently there is no great shortage of housing facilities. It is also the nation's center of art, music, and the theater.

The pressure of employment needs in New York City is lower than most other places. Building trades workers, teachers, or social workers should not come to New York because there is a surplus of these workers.

While in comparison with the centers of war industry New York wages generally are lower, there are better opportunities to relocate permanently than probably in any other large city. This is particularly true for people who have had experience in the export and import trade and in the distribution of goods through domestic markets. These occupations centered in New York in the pre-war period and at present there is a lull.

While the cost of living cannot be termed low in New York, it is favorable in many respects. The city-owned rapid transit system makes it possible to have a five-cent subway fare, and the general level of rents for both single persons and families is lower than most cities. Clothing is also cheaper.

Stenographers and clerical workers who will command about \$25 a week in New York are not advised to come to the city unless they are in groups of two or more so they can live together. Two or more persons can live more cheaply in New York than two persons can live separately.

The city offers exceptional opportunities for people who want to get specialized training in such lines as interior decoration, clothes designing, home economics, business administration, accounting, etc., because of the many specialized schools for both day and night pupils.

There are good prospects for the establishment of a hostel, if need for one is shown.

Much the same conditions prevail in Philadelphia as in New York City with housing reasonably easy to obtain. In both cities more than one breadwinner is common in the family unit.

Because there has been delay in getting individuals approved for employment in the Eastern Defense Command area, we have no back-log of job opportunities. Now that some eight thousand people have been approved to come into the Atlantic coast area, we are developing jobs for individuals who are approved and want to relocate in this section. There is a demand for accountants and people with experience in income tax work. There are excellent opportunities for couples in domestic work and gardening, where very satisfactory housing is provided and good wages are paid. There are a few offers

with separate housing to accommodate families with children.

In some of the other larger cities of the area served by the New York office, industrial employment opportunities are available at higher wages, but the higher the wage, the more difficult the housing problem. This is true around the Albany district, Rochester and Buffalo, New York; Hartford, New Haven, and Bridgeport, Connecticut, with an especially acute housing situation in the Connecticut cities.

In the rural sections there are year-around employment opportunities, particularly in the dairy sections. We hope later to develop excellent relocation opportunities in the farm districts of the East.

In the truck growing sections of Long Island and New Jersey, there is a shortage of labor and, doubtless, we could place as many experienced truck farmers as want to come here, but the wages are low compared to the wages paid for the same kind of work on the West Coast.

Many of the people at the relocation centers seem to have some mistaken ideas about the farm lands of the East. I happen to have a victory garden at my home and the other day remarked to my nisei stenographer that I wanted to hurry home to care for my tomato plants. She immediately said that she didn't know that tomatoes "grew so far north". Yes, there are good farms in the East, and there will be opportunities for farm workers and farm families to locate here if they want to do so.