

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

San Francisco Regional Office

Information Division

Vol. V. No. 24

DAILY PRESS REVIEW

October 9, 1942

(This issue of the DAILY PRESS REVIEW includes a digest of the most important news items, articles and editorials appearing in newspapers and periodicals reaching the San Francisco Regional Office in the last 24 hours. If you wish to refer to any clippings, please telephone Miss Elinor Bauman, Head of the Documents Section, Branch 500, Room 362.)

Governor Inspects Heart Mountain Relocation Project

Cody--Feature story with 3 column picture showing Gov. Nels H. Smith conferring with Guy Robertson, assistant director of the center, and Mr. Hartman, in charge of the agricultural program. Governor Smith inspected the center on September 24. "...I am very happy to have had the opportunity to inspect the camp and talk with the officials in charge," he said, pointing out that as governor of the state he had a good deal to do with the Japanese importation and labor situation. "I think we have things worked out satisfactorily now," he asserted, referring to the labor needs in the state as well as the necessity of keeping the colonists under federal supervision and not allowing them to become wards of Wyoming. "My stand," he said, "is that while it is alright for them to work in the fields or other places where labor is needed, there must be a date when they are to return to the camp. After that date, if they are needed again, I will be glad to negotiate a new contract. I simply feel they should be kept as federal wards and not released upon Wyoming without supervision and protection."...--Cody Enterprise, September 30, p.1.

Wyo.

#1716

"Activities of Heart Mountain Wyoming" -- By Bill Hosokawa

Heart Mountain--Whole of article devoted to refuting a rumor outside of the project that "the colonists had refused to work and that there was labor trouble." Writer explained that the 10,000 population at the center did not mean "as people in this neighborhood seemed to think that 10,000 workers would be available to help with local harvests." Some statistics on population as to sex, age and those employed on the project itself presented. "More than 700 men work in the Wyoming and Montana sugar beet harvest...more workers are signing up every day."--Cody Enterprise, September 30, p.2.

Wyo.

#1717

"Japanese 'Student' Seized By The FBI"

New York--"A Japanese 'student' who has been in this country since 1930 and was currently engaged in reading Hitler's "Mein Kampf" was among nineteen persons rounded up by the FBI on Tuesday, it was announced yesterday...The second Japanese was found to have in his possession maps and books belonging to a countryman who was picked up earlier." All have been taken to Ellis Island for internment as alien enemies of dangerous potentialities. -- New York Times, October 1, p. 6. #1718

Items From Minidoka Relocation Center

Jerome--Between 150 and 200 Japanese evacuees are leaving the center daily to work in the harvest fields. New procedure for securing evacuee labor outlined.

Barber shop opened. It will be operated by Community Enterprises, a co-operative organization working on a non-profit basis. Three community stores already are operating.

The one group of evacuees at the center "who do not fear the arrival of winter in Idaho" are the Alaskan evacuees. They are of Japanese-Eskimo and Japanese-Indian ancestry, and their homes were in northern Alaska.

School for 2,200 young evacuees will open "next week." Richard A. Pomeroy, president of the Idaho Education Association and formerly principal of Boise Junior High School, will head the staff of 57.--North Side News, October 1, pp. 3, 4. #1719

"College Proxy Defends Jap Student Evacuees"

Richmond (AP)--"President William C. Dennis of Earlham college defended tonight the action of the Quaker school in accepting as students 6 Ind. American-born Japanese. The Richmond chapter of the Junior Order of American Mechanics had adopted a resolution objecting to their presence in the community. 'The coming of these Japanese students...was in accordance with the ideals for which we are fighting,' Dr. Dennis said in a statement..." --Spokesman-Review, October 2, p.5. #1720

"Liked America Better"

Boise--Editorial. "The story is told of a Japanese youngster at the relocation center near Eden who became very tired of the drab surroundings and humble accommodations and addressed her mother as follows: 'I don't like it here in Japan. Let's go back to America.' This is an expression of wistfulness. It would be a hard heart indeed that does not feel a pang of pity. It is evidence, too, of a future in which America

may be confident of the loyalty of thousands who are now under suspicion as potential enemies. The words would also be of some value repeated in the hearing of Emperor Hirohito.--Idaho Daily Statesman, October 1, p. 4. #1721

"Charges Filed Against Jap"

Mont. Butte--"Tito U. Okomoto, a 25-year-old Japanese, who left the Phillips county beet fields last July to hitch-hike to Illinois, was charged with a violation of the civilian restrictive order in a complaint filed against him in U.S. district court here Monday. Okomoto was brought to Butte from Illinois to answer the charge by a representative of the U.S. marshal. He is being held in the county jail.--Montana Standard, September 30, p. 3. #1722

"War Plant Is Established At Jap Center"

Wyo. Cody--"Work has commenced on the construction of a \$100,000 war industry plant at the Heart Mountain relocation center, for the manufacturing of lenses and precision instruments for the armed forces. The plant, to be operated by the Polarizing Instrument company of New York City, with Albert Shuman in charge, was established thru the cooperation of the WRA and will employ about 150 highly trained Japanese-Americans under supervision of specialists brought in for the job..." Some details of plans for factory given.--Wyoming State Tribune (Cheyenne), October 1, p. 12. #1723

"Milk Shortage Lessened Here"

Wyo. Cheyenne--The milk shortage in Cheyenne has 'slightly improved' while remaining about the same in other parts of the state, Ralph H. McFarland, acting state commissioner of agriculture, reported Wednesday... In the Big Horn Basin, where the needs of Japanese evacuees at the Heart Mountain Relocation Project precipitated a milk shortage the situation is about the same, McFarland reported..."--Wyoming State Tribune, October 1, p. 1. #1724

"500 Japanese To Aid Harvest"

Mont. Helena (AP) -- "Part of Montana's sugar beet labor problem has been answered by the arrival of more than 500 Japanese but more help is needed than is now indicated as available, the federal bureau of agricultural economics and the weather bureau reported Wednesday..."--Billings Gazette, October 1, p. 12. #1725