

## W E E K L Y P R E S S R E V I E W

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## SUMMARY

Press interest in Nisei military service has tapered off. While such editorial opinion as was evidenced continued favorable to the plan, news stories reported hostility in some places. Legislation to prohibit induction of Japanese-Americans has been introduced in the Oregon legislature; the California American Legion, the Native Sons of the Golden West and other California citizen groups have come out against military service by Japanese-Americans.

The Senate investigation of WRA for the first time recently was not a source of news last week.

An organized campaign against student relocation seems to be in full swing. The Arizona legislature which memorialized Congress some time ago to pass legislation prohibiting higher education of Nisei while other American citizens are serving in the armed forces, called on other State legislatures to take similar action. Last week the press reported actions in accord by the Rhode Island, Arkansas, and Idaho legislatures. A similar resolution passed by a West Virginia Legion Post was introduced in the House of Representatives by Congressman Schiffler.

West Coast newspapers devoted considerable space to the hearings before the United States District Court of Appeals on the curfew and exclusion orders.

Chief object of editorial invective against Granada in local newspapers seems to have shifted from school construction to the aborted agricultural program.

Considerable nation-wide interest in the resettlement program still exists, judging from the volume of clippings received. A few groups look on resettlement as a plan to restore the right to work to loyal American citizens; the majority, however, seem to consider evacuees as a potential supply of cheap farm labor to be utilized only because of the exigencies of the war manpower situation.

Feature articles on relocation centers were more numerous than in the weeks immediately preceding.

The movement in California and the Pacific North West for strengthening anti-Japanese legislation and for post-war deportation of Japanese was pushed by California State Senator Ward, the Commander of the California American Legion, U.S. District Attorney Carl C. Donough, and the McClatchy newspaper chain.

MILITARY SERVICE--

Editorial Comment:

The Waterloo, Iowa, Courier (2/16/43) considered Hawaiian response to the opportunity for military service as "a hint as to the true loyalty of the Nisei".

The Los Angeles Times (2/23/43), discussing the formation of a segregated unit, pointed out and approved the reason given by the Army.

The Pasadena Post (2/15/43) approved the Army plan as a "chance (for Nisei) to show their loyalty to the United States".

Registration:

The Inyo Independent (2/19/43) reported that "registration of Japanese for Army at half-way mark" at Manzanar, and gave as the reason for the delay, "all men signing up for combat duty must be interviewed personally by the Army board, and the oral interview takes considerable time".

The enlistment of three brothers at Minidoka was the subject of an AP dispatch (2/20/43). The Jerome North Side News carried an article (2/18/43) which described the start of registration.

Objections to Army Team:

Sacramento Parlor, No. 3, Native Sons of the Golden West, adopted a resolution against the formation of a combat unit. Sacramento Bee, 2/16/43.

Representative Allen's speech questioning the advisability of accepting second-generation Japanese into the Army was the subject of a special article to the Los Angeles Times (2/21/43).

"The East Los Angeles Breakfast Club today supported a resolution introduced by Fay Strawn Campbell, editor of the Belvedere Citizen to the effect that the enrollment of a United States Army unit of Japanese would be a menace to California and the nation. A minority group emphatically opposed the resolution." Los Angeles Times, 2/19/43.

Miscellaneous:

An illustrated feature article in the Los Angeles Daily News (2/13/43) described Army registration as the first step "toward returning full citizenship rights to the Nisei". Article was very favorable.

A picture of two Nisei—"two citizens with vengeance in their hearts"—signing up for the draft in Omaha was carried with a favorable story by the Omaha World Herald (2/21/43).

Friendly correspondence between a Nisei soldier stationed in South Carolina and his former officer, Major Oscar Everett of Birmingham, Alabama, was the subject of a news story in the News-Age-Herald (2/14/43). Major Everett described the Nisei soldier in highly favorable terms.

Sketches of three Nisei soldiers in the armed forces appeared in the Washington Times-Herald (2/21/43). Highly favorable to the three young men involved, the article commented, "as long as their loyalty is unquestioned, Army and Navy officials are glad to have them on our side".

#### CONGRESSIONAL RELATIONS--

A Los Angeles Times news story (2/20/43) left the impression that Congress was sharply critical of WRA's plans to release evacuees for employment. "Representative J. Leroy Johnson of Stockton protested against allowing any Japanese to return to California during the war."

Representative Henry M. Jackson (D) of Washington plans to introduce a House resolution for the appointment of a standing Congressional committee on Japan, the first task of which will be "to review the intricate web of subversive activity which Japan wove over this country by means of 'business' representatives." San Francisco Examiner, 2/9/43.

#### Items from the Congressional Record:

Representative Will Rogers included a resolution of the Santa Monica Bay Parlor, No. 267 of the Native Sons of the Golden West, against the formation of a Japanese combat team in the "Extension of Remarks" section. 2/18/43.

Representative Allen of Louisiana spoke against formation of a Japanese-American combat team because he doubted that the "perfidious" and "treacherous" traits of the Japanese could be removed by one generation's residence in America. 2/19/43.

Representative Schiffler of West Virginia presented a petition from the Wheeling Post of the American Legion "urging that our legislature forbid and prevent the attendance of Japanese in our colleges and universities and particularly those of the State of West Virginia". Referred to the Committee on Education. 2/19/43.

The Vice President presented a memorial of the Arizona legislature which would require evacuee youth "to serve the war effort in ways in which their racial extraction will prove no impediment" instead of securing "educational advantages" denied to other young male citizens. Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs. 2/15/43.

LEGAL--

Three cases involving the legality of the curfew and exclusion orders were consolidated for a hearing before the United States Circuit Court of Appeals sitting en banc in San Francisco on February 19 and 20. Another case, brought by the Native Sons of the Golden West, challenged the right of Japanese citizens to vote. The court took the first three cases under advisement, and in the latter case upheld a lower court's decision that American citizens of Japanese descent evacuated from California cannot be denied their right to vote. West Coast newspapers covered the hearings and decisions fully; each of the three major wire services sent out several dispatches which, however, were published in only a few papers outside the Pacific Coast area; and the New York Times and Chicago Tribune carried special articles. Treatment was entirely from the legal angle. No editorial comment appeared.

Deportation of all persons of Japanese blood and barring all such persons from serving in the armed forces was advocated by the Oregon legislature. "Both memorials now go to the House of Representatives". Baltimore Sun, AP, 2/25/43.

According to a report in the Tucson Star (2/14/43) the Arizona legislature has received "replies from other states' legislative bodies anent Arizona's memorial to congress protesting the withdrawal of Japanese youths from relocation centers to send them to colleges. Most states approved Arizona's action, but promised none on their part".

Memorial to congress asking that steps be taken to prevent Japanese-American students from leaving relocation centers to attend colleges was introduced in the Idaho legislature on February 19. Idaho Daily Statesman, 2/20/43.

A resolution of the Arkansas legislature, introduced by Representatives James R. Campbell and Arch Tipton, would return all relocated students to the centers and prohibit further release of Nisei youth for higher education. "The resolution passed by a voice vote" on February 18. Commercial Appeal, 2/19/43.

A resolution calling for action identical to the above, introduced by Democratic Floor Leader James H. Kiernan, passed the Rhode Island legislature on February 18. Providence Journal, 2/19/43.

EVACUEE PROPERTY--

An AP dispatch--apparently from WRA sources--reporting that a WRA survey had disclosed only about 150 pieces of stored heavy equipment ran in several West Coast newspapers, including the Los Angeles Times, Seattle Times, Sacramento Union, Herald and News, 2/16/43.

A committee of the California legislature appointed to investigate subversive elements among evacuated Japanese plans to include in its scope an examination of the stored property situation. According to an AP dispatch

of February 15, a series of hearings throughout the state is forthcoming. This dispatch was distinctly distorted against the evacuees, saying "a great number of Japanese-owned cars and tires" are involved, the release of which will "hinge" upon the committee's efforts. Los Angeles Times, 2/16/43.

#### MESS OPERATIONS

A letter to Time magazine (2/15/43) from an evacuee at Heart Mountain complained that evacuees have been served vitamin-deficient meals since last May.

#### AGRICULTURAL AND ENGINEERING

On February 17, the Denver Post seized the opportunity afforded by President Roosevelt's statement to the press that he was the real watchdog of the country's pocketbooks to take another editorial dig at Granada. "An example of Roosevelt's 'saving'" was the purchase of "ten times as much" farm land "as was needed or can possibly be used". On February 18, the Pueblo Chieftain asked editorially if it were "fair" for officers and nurses at the Pueblo air base to have to raise funds for household furnishings when "the federal government is spending millions of dollars to make seven or eight thousand Japs and their children comfortable at Granada" and is expending "upwards of \$400,000 for farm land, over 3,000 acres of it, of which it now develops, only about 600 acres can be cultivated this year".

#### EMPLOYMENT

##### Farm Labor:

The oft-heard farmer complaint that evacuee workers demand too many conveniences was aired through news stories in the Washington Post (2/23/43) and the New York Times (2/23/43). Testifying before a Senate subcommittee investigating the food supply situation, E. S. Harper of Twin Falls, Idaho, a grower and marketing agent, said: "We had to guarantee these Japanese a bath every night...And if we didn't have sufficient facilities we had to take them into town to a barber shop each night."

Cautioning the Michigan legislature not to be too hasty in opposing the entrance of evacuees, the Grand Rapid Press argued editorially (2/15/43) that first "the frank opinion of the potential employers of the American-Japanese" should be learned. For example, the sugar beet industry might be eager to relieve its labor shortage. Moreover, "there is small likelihood that any American-Japanese who might be relocated in Michigan would endanger war industries".

Growers in the State of Washington were assured by federal, state, and county officials that their labor needs will be met this year, although it may be necessary to bring in "eleven thousand imported farm

workers—including Japanese who are now interned." Seattle Times, 2/20/43.

A news story in the Helena Independent (2/18/43) stated that Senator B. K. Wheeler had taken up with the "federal war relocation authority, which allocates interned labor for use in agriculture" a request of the state agriculture commissioner for Italian prisoners of war.

Two speakers on a Michigan farm labor forum broadcast over WJR and reported in the Detroit Free Press (2/15/43) agreed that Michigan farmers were divided 50-50 on the proposal to bring in Japanese labor, although "most farm organizations are against" the plan.

On February 19 UP sent out a dispatch from Washington. Acceleration of the indefinite leave clearance program was the subject. According to this, 40,000 workers will be released by the end of the year to meet the manpower shortage; by the middle of next year "authorities estimate that only about 10%—the disloyal group—will remain in custody".

"Half a dozen" residents of the Hartford, Connecticut, area have expressed interest in employing domestics or farm workers "since it was made known that evacuees would be permitted to leave the inland relocation centers". The Rev. Dr. Robbins W. Barstow is handling local requests through the "New York Employment office conducted under auspices of the Federal Council of Churches. Hartford Courant, 2/20/43.

#### STUDENT RELOCATION—

Meeting of the Board of Directors of Mason City Junior College at which admission of two Nisei students was debated was reported in the Mason City, Iowa, Globe Gazette, 2/16/43. No action was taken at the board meeting, according to the newspaper report.

The Springfield News (2/12/43) had an item about three students at Springfield college which stated, "Springfield college is planning to accept several more Japanese students from the relocation centers if the public will accept them as citizens of this country, which they are, rather than regarding them as enemy aliens, officials said."

#### INTERNAL SECURITY—

Recent arrests in connection with registration at Manzanar and Tule Lake were picked up by the UP and AP on February 20, and the Arizona Republic (2/17/43) had an item on Gila River arrests. Brought out in most stories were the number of persons involved and the fact that those arrested were part of a minority group.

PUBLIC ATTITUDES--

Feature articles on Relocation Centers:

The approach of an illustrated article on Heart Mountain in the Billings Gazette (1/31/43) is neither favorable nor unfavorable to evacuees. The author seems to be trying to make the point that the United States is treating its Japanese population with full regard for the democratic process. The factual material on Heart Mountain itself—leisure time activities of residents, rationing restrictions, evacuees' contributions to the war through war bond purchases and model airplane construction for the armed forces—would probably make for a sympathetic public reaction. This is offset, however, by describing the internment procedure and relocation centers without a clear differentiation between the two and by quoting the U. S. Attorney for Montana to the effect that many relocated Japanese have applied for expatriation as sure proof that evacuation was an essential military measure.

The third of the Denver Post series of articles (2/16/43) on Granada (first two reviewed last week) was even more critical of WRA management. It conveyed the impression that the WRA staff is composed of wasteful New Deal bureaucrats unable to face practicalities. Carberry classifies all center residents as belonging to one of three distinct groups: Nisei, who have caused most of the hostile local sentiment because they are dominated by "self-pity"; Issei, who keep quiet because they will be in a favored position no matter who wins the war; and Kibei, whose loyalty is the most to be suspected. Labor at the camp "is regulated by the mess" hours, and there is insufficient time between messes to get much farm work done. Japanese hold back from working on the "garden patches" because they feel that the government will provide for them anyhow. This sense of security "has much to do with the reluctance of many in the camp to accept outside employment when offered."

Fourth in the series of Carberry's Denver Post articles (2/17/43) dealt with evacuee employment and the liquor question. It was extremely unfavorable. On the matter of evacuees' willingness to work, Carberry stated: "My investigation did not bear out" statements by WRA authorities that "their charges 'liked to work'." As proof, he cited the recent delay in coal car unloading at the project. He went on, "I was told one reason it is possible to get anyone to haul this coal is the opportunity it affords to bring forbidden wine into the camp". In the remainder of the discussion of the liquor problem, the impression is conveyed that evacuees are heavy drinkers—the sale of fortified wine in Granada is "heavy", and the town of Lamar had to pass an ordinance forbidding the sale of alcoholic beverages to persons of Japanese ancestry.

Fifth Carberry article covered the threadbare topic of school construction. Plug was for conversion of recreation halls to school rooms by day. According to Carberry, Japanese is the language of Granada even among school children. "I never heard a single conversation among camp residents in English."

SixthPost article (2/19/43) was concerned with mess operations, community enterprises, and medical care. On food consumption, a very fair picture was given. Carberry held that there was in the past a germ of truth to the rumors about food mishandling; now center residents are fed "amply" but not wastefully or luxuriously. Difficulties of complying with the diverse food tastes of the Nisei and Issei are described.

The cooperative store system was handled somewhat unsympathetically, with a sarcastic implication that "Uncle Sam" was underwriting all the bills. Hospital facilities and medical staffs described factually.

The final two of Mel Arnold's articles on Minidoka, "The Wrong Ancestors", appeared in the Portland Oregonian on February 7 and 14. According to Arnold, young Japanese-Americans want Japan to lose the war-- "The youngsters, all American citizens, are still complaining loudly about being given the same draft rating as enemy aliens." They feel that they should be allowed to fight in the Asiatic theater against the "Japanese war lords". Evacuees are well behaved; there has been practically no crime. Members of the WRA staff are amazed at the complete "westernization" of the colonists. Chief problem confronting the government in its resettlement program is "blind prejudice", but many friendly church and social groups are paving the way for the evacuees.

Hearst papers recently carried a series of two features on the War Relocation Program, written by Lee Carson. Although inaccurate in some aspects, such as calling residents "internees" and emphasizing some of the less propitious sides of center life, they were not altogether hostile. Miss Carson stated that the U. S. government was "forced to remove the Japs bodily after a voluntary evacuation program budgeted only 8,000.... 'incidents' and 'demonstrations' have exploded into riots at several of the centers." On the other hand, she answered congressional charges that evacuees are being "pampered" with "a set of facts" which described accurately the spare living facilities provided by the government. While inferring that the centers are seething with submerged turmoil, the article gave a pretty generous appraisal of the reasons therefor; i. e., forced evacuation, loss of property and civil rights, accentuation of the second-generation problem, agitation by Axis trouble-makers who have played upon discontents generated by evacuation. On the outside employment program, Miss Carson asserted, "A rather large number of the thousand-off Japanese who were allowed to work and live outside the camps...have straggled forlornly back...The outside world was not only hostile...but in a persecuting frame of mind to any Jap--American citizen or not." As a result, "WRA fully expects to have to keep the Japanese within the camps for the duration." The question "of whether Uncle Sam...should slap on steel-pointed military control has not yet been answered", and Miss Carson did not venture to answer it.

" Post-War Status of Evacuees:

At the request of an unnamed California legislator, Mr. Miller Freeman, president Miller Freeman publications, Seattle, clarified his



views on a desirable status for Japanese-Americans in an article in the Seattle Post-Intelligencer (2/17/43). Mr. Freeman advocated severance "from the heart" by the Japanese themselves of any ties with Japan; renunciation of dual citizenship; exposure of "the whole web of Japan's influence, propaganda and intrigue"; abolition of Japan-controlled business enterprises in America; elimination of "unsupervised Japanese-language schools; leadership by Japanese-Americans in weeding out "Fascistic, Japan-adhering elements." In an accompanying editorial, the Post-Intelligencer seemingly agreed with Freeman's views. However, it asked "how" the United States could be sure that any Japanese had actually renounced affiliation to Tokyo. Freeman's views were also the subject of an editorial in the Spokesman-Review, (2/22/43). No definite editorial position was expressed.

"Complete removal of all Japanese from this country to United States mandated islands after the war is over was advocated by Leon Happell of Stockton, State American Legion commander, in a talk before members of Pasadena Post No. 13." Commander Happell also urged the Legion to do everything in its power to prevent military induction of Nisei and to "return" WRA centers to Army control. Pasadena Post, 2/18/43.

Deportation of all alien Japanese after the war because "they are definitely a menace to our country" was argued by U. S. District Attorney Carl C. Donough in a speech before the Kiwanis Club of Multnomah, Oregon. Oregon Journal, 2/16/43.

State legislation further curtailing the rights of Japanese was recommended by the Stanislaus County Grand Jury in its final report to the superior court. Legislation advocated "would cancel the citizenship of Japanese in the United States" and "prevent the lease or sale of land to 'ineligible aliens'" by an amendment to the Alien Land Law. Modesto Bee, 2/18/43.

"Urging that 'principles of Christianity' be the basis of treatment of American-born Japanese, a communication yesterday was sent to members of the State Legislature from officials of the Southern California Council of Churches and the Church Federation of Los Angeles." Purpose was to help prevent passage of anti-Japanese post-war legislation. Los Angeles Times, 2/21/43.

#### Miscellaneous Press Items:

Minidoka was toured by 120 "Grangers, members of the county labor committee and other farmers". Idaho Falls Times News, 2/14/43.

Late payment of its accounts with local businessmen has aroused local resentment against WRA around Tule Lake, according to Malcolm Epley's column in the Herald and News (1/22/43). But Harvey Coverly "has shown honest concern over the situation."

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution on January 25 commending Mr. William Randolph Hearst for his "patriotic

services" in continually warning "this Nation" of the "yellow peril". San Francisco Examiner, 2/22/43.

Annual report of the Federal-State Market News "revealed that because of the expulsion of the Japanese, consumers in this area paid \$20,000,000 more for 10,000 truckloads less of perishables during 1942." According to the Los Angeles Daily News (2/17/43), the report attributed this to Japanese farmers' having allowed their crops to deteriorate and having "rushed tons of immature crops to market after hostilities began."

Although evacuation was legal, "under the American constitution those who are legal citizens should have been given their freedom outside the prescribed area" was maintained by Malcolm K. Whyte, attorney, before the Milwaukee Civil Liberties union. Milwaukee Sentinel, 2/20/43.

A resolution was adopted by the Kings County, California Defense Council which protested "the release of Japanese from relocation centers for educational and agricultural purposes." Bakersfield Californian, 2/19/43

A protest against the anti-Japanese land laws recently passed in Arkansas was lodged by the Clarksville, Arkansas, branch of the American Association of University Women. Arkansas Democrat, 2/21/43.

Five Senators from Utah visited Central Utah on February 9 "to investigate current conditions in the center." Millard Chronicle, 2/18/43. An official report of the trip was expected to refute current reports that "the Japanese interned at Topaz are being given preferential treatment to the detriment of American citizens." Salt Lake City Desert News, 2/10/43.

#### Letters to Newspapers:

Three letters to the Arkansas Gazette were hostile. One proposed an American slogan of "Japan for the Japanese".

Seattle papers printed four letters. One proposed repeal of the exclusion acts so that "in 1965" we will not be "embarking on World War III with the Oriental two-thirds of the world's population"; one considered further discussion of the internal Japanese problem pointless for "fortunately we have them all under lock and key"; and the fourth expressed the thought that "God created all men equal". A Japanese from Twin Falls wrote proposing the immediate release of all evacuees so that the federal funds being spent to maintain camps "could be diverted to war use".

Thirty-nine letters to California newspapers were published. 24 were sympathetic; 15 hostile to Japanese-Americans. The hostile letters showed distrust of the Japanese character, advocated deportation, strengthening of alien land laws, fear of bloc voting, anger at the student relocation program, and favored seizure of Japanese-owned tires. Sympathetic letters covered the religious, deportation, dual citizenship, loyalty angles and one commented on John Embree's pamphlet, "The Japanese", recently issued by the Smithsonian Institute.

Editorial opinion:

The Times Delta (2/13/43) is in full accord "with the attitude of leading citizens in Hanford in opposing return of Japanese residents from concentration camps in interior locations", at least until after the war is over.

The Mankato, Minnesota, Free Press (2/11/43) noticed that second-generation Japanese "seem larger and more robust than their parents were and wonders whether the change in stature may not be attributed to "abundant and nutritious food" and the "celebrated California climate."

The Detroit Free Press (2/16/43) wonders whether it would not be logical for the Arkansas legislature to pass laws against land ownership by "citizens with blue eyes" now that it has prohibited citizens of Japanese descent from owning land.

In an editorial on water rights, the Arizona Republic (2/17/43) mentions that "Mexico has all the Japanese in that country under far more rigid control than we do in this nation".

The Pueblo Star Journal (2/21/43) refers to Jack Carberry's Denver Post articles as confirmation of its own feeling about the school building situation and adds: "The plain fact of the matter is that no person with an atom of business judgment would have authorized the expenditure of one thin dime if they had an opportunity to show those in control at the camp HOW THEY COULD MAKE USE OF PRESENT VACANT BUILDINGS FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES."

REPORTS--

In favoring a Congressional investigation of relocation centers, the Phoenix Gazette contended editorially (1/18/43) that unrest at both Arizona camps was serious enough to "have hit the headlines despite the rigid censorship of news coming from them".

MISCELLANEOUS--

A group of students from Colorado River is studying social analysis under Drs. A. H. and Dorothy C. Leighton at Window Rock, Arizona. Arizona Republic, 2/17/43.

A woman who claimed before Detroit luncheon and church groups that she was a returned missionary who had been tortured by Japanese was discovered to be a hoax. San Francisco Chronicle, 2/18/43.

The University of California has inaugurated an elementary course in the Japanese language. Los Angeles Times, 2/15/43.

216 Japanese still remain in Los Angeles County—in health institutions. Inyo Independent, 2/5/43.

A Hawaiian-born Japanese in Chicago tried to kill his Caucasian roommate with a bow and arrow because the latter "was trying to put a hex on him", according to an item in the Gary Post-Tribune, INS, 2/15/43.

A feature article in the Milwaukee Journal (2/5/43) describes the "Spartan war work" being done by "white women" at relocation centers. This article stressed the Americanization of evacuees.

#### MAGAZINES--

The Arkansas Churchman (official organ of the Episcopal diocese of Arkansas), "Our Japanese Visitors", editorial from "The Bishop's Page", November, 1942.

The government is treating Japanese relocated in Arkansas with utmost consideration, but "As Christians we should go beyond that in Christian brotherly care."

"A Visit to Jerome", editorial from "The Bishop's Page", January, 1943.

A recent visit to Jerome was inspirational. "Young men and women who speak the language and spirit and idealism of American youth, ardent lovers of this their native land" conceive of evacuation as their "war work".

The Saturday Evening Post, "City in Prison". By Joseph Alsop. Two articles, January 9 and January 16, 1943.

Of particular significance to WRA staff members trying to gain insight on the reasons for discord in relocation centers, these two articles show a close parallel between evacuees and American and British prisoners at a Japanese interment camp in reaction to basically similar conditions. Alsop, an American newspaper man, was interned by the Japanese after the fall of Hong Kong. In the Post articles he describes, with clarity and depth, the life of internees. Temporarily the group of prisoners was squeezed into a former Chinese brothel. Despite inadequate sanitation facilities, short rations, rats, the internees rapidly "got accustomed to the new conditions". As long as most of the common necessities of life had become unattainable luxuries for everyone, it was difficult to feel their loss too acutely over a long period. One slipped back, as it were, into the mood of the time when the things we think of as necessities did not exist...The worst of life in the brothel was the endless speculation on the future." Conditions at the permanent camp to which the internees were shortly transferred, were somewhat better. "Billeting was the first great problem...It was done at haphazard...The first three or four days were wholly given over to the effort to make the new quarters livable". To see the adjustments internees made to their new situation "was an object lesson in the mutability of human values".

With a fairly clearly defined class structure, internees were a "microcosm of society anywhere". First impulse was revolutionary, "On every side, by almost every mouth, the former leading men of the colony were bitterly denounced...Yet revolutionary leadership was lacking"; so, "the lowest did not become the highest". Persons selected as leaders were from the merchant class, the strata just below the former aristocracy. "They struck just the right note of protest against the powers that were, and as we were not to have a real revolution, they were the next best thing".

"Camp politics quickly became an obsession with many internees." Since politicking on important issues would have been futile, tremendous energy was expended on crusades for petty gains.

"At every point in the life of the camp, there was a singular substitution of values...A sweetened rice cake was a rich sandwich; a tin of baked beans became the equivalent of lunch at the Colony.. With new values, but old patterns, the life of the camp went on."

Internees became concerned about food beyond the point of obsession. The Japanese actually delivered little food, but the Wang Ching-wei supporters who had charge of the camp chiseled on even the short rations. As a result, pellagra and beriberi became rife, and the black market flourished.

"Hunger, the complete lack of privacy and the absence of a steady occupation darkly colored the community life and brought out the worst in many people...The lack of privacy was nearly as bad as the inadequate food...In the larger rooms, where families and single persons were mixed at haphazard, the most fantastic neuroses flourished".

"There was a store of books in the camp, and politics also offered an outlet, but the majority, after they had cleaned themselves and their rooms, done their best to find more food and done their camp chores, seemed not to care to exert themselves. The days passed in petty tasks, petty gossip, and the exchange of rumors, which seemed, sometimes to be the main industry in Stanley. The rumors were of all kinds, some about internal camp affairs, some about the Japanese plans for us, and most about the course of the war."

Alsop feels that "wartime evidently creates a sort of atrocity hunger--- possibly because people are not content to fight for such simple, practical reasons as self-preservation, but wish to have the additional moral justification of believing that their enemies are devils incarnate". Since returning from Hong Kong, Alsop has been repeatedly asked--with hope for an affirmative answer--"Did you see much raping and torturing?" Alsop saw no rape or torture. But he contends that the slow starvation which he did see was not sufficiently horrendous to impress his questioners.

Readers Digest, "Our 110,000 New Boarders", by J. P. McEvoy, March, 1943.

This is a condensation of the Baltimore Sun feature story reviewed last week. Sympathetic to Japanese-Americans but hostile to WRA management, McEvoy felt that evacuation was unnecessary and wasteful of the taxpayers' money.

Antioch Alumni Bulletin, "Our Japanese are Americans", by Emil Sekerak (WRA employee), February, 1943.

That Americans of Japanese ancestry required "protective custody" from "the illegal violence of other American citizens is a blot on the record of American democracy." By its resettlement program, however, WRA is treating evacuation "from the standpoint of a temporary social problem and is trying to keep it from becoming a permanent one." Already confinement in relocation centers has caused the undoing of "much Americanization". But, because of prejudices, resettlement is difficult. Antioch alumni are appealed to to seek job openings for evacuees.

