

WEEKLY PRESS REVIEW

No. 14

Week ending April 20, 1943.

For the Use of the WRA Staff Only - Not for Publication.

SUMMARY

Given major attention were the arrival in Washington, D.C. of six evacuees from Poston to work for Secretary Ickes and Sam Rice, former outfielder of the Washington Senators; and Lieut. Gen. DeWitt's testimony about Japanese-Americans before a House naval affairs subcommittee.

While considerable publicity surrounded Secretary Ickes' employment of Japanese-Americans and some items contained minor errors in fact, such as calling the individuals "internees" and "parolees", Washington papers were sympathetic. The Times-Herald used the incident as a pretext for attacking Secretary Ickes personally; even here, however, the attitude toward the evacuees themselves was friendly. Papers reported that, as a result of publicity given the affair, WRA has been "swamped" with job offers from the Washington area.

General DeWitt's statements, "A Jap's a Jap", and that even citizen Japanese would endanger West Coast defenses were carried by both wire services. UP, in the Washington Daily News, reported that DeWitt's stand had "snarled" a WRA-sponsored plan to return Japanese-Americans to the West Coast after they had been cleared by an inter-departmental loyalty board.

Senator Chandler's latest characterization of the work of the WRA, as reported in the papers, is that it "has been a complete bust." In one UP dispatch, the Senator was quoted as referring to evacuees as "prisoners." Articles by Ray Richard, special Hearst correspondent, evidently based on Senate Investigating Subcommittee sources, left the definite impression that many dangerous Japanese are loose in the country because of WRA negligence in keeping track of them.

Fears of labor shortages expressed by Western beet growers seem to be diminishing, but several areas still seem to be depending upon evacuees to fill at least part of their labor needs.

Announcement that WRA is to open a field employment office in Detroit was treated factually by the local press. No citizen reactions have yet appeared.

Employment of evacuees as scrap handlers in Milwaukee is being opposed by the A.F. of L. union there.

West Coast newspapers continued to stress the evacuee property situation. Governor Warren announced at a press conference that he was backing proposed legislation "to bring out of storage enough farm equipment 'to work many,

many thousand acres of land", and the Deputy Attorney General of California announced that the state had authority to seize Japanese-owned equipment under the right of "eminent domain."

The California legislature Tenney committee, frequently called the "Little Dies" committee, delivered its final report. From the papers, it appears that the committee directed major attention to alleged Communist activities in California, although several recommendations would affect Japanese-Americans.

Arrival of 2500 Hawaiian Japanese for military training was announced officially by the War Department on April 10. A number of papers had items on this, including an AP story from Camp Shelby. All papers reporting were friendly.

The Colorado State Liquor Department is investigating the sale of intoxicating liquor to residents of Granada, with the cooperation of WRA authorities, according to local papers.

Five of the eight editorials appearing this week promoted farm labor employment of evacuees, all from the growers' point of view. One of these advocated forced labor for "every lousy Tojo follower" and another criticized WRA's decision to prohibit daily commutation to and from centers for seasonal farm employment. Disagreeing with General DeWitt's classification of all Japanese-Americans as possible danger spots, the Washington Post again suggested their return to the West Coast.

The Colorado state civil service commission has resisted pressure to remove a recently-appointed Japanese-American. Final decision in the controversy will be made by the Governor.

At a conference in Salt Lake City, Governors of three western states indicated that public opinion in their states would be hostile to the return of Japanese there after the war.

CONGRESSIONAL RELATIONS--

"Reduction of Japanese relocation centers from ten to two at an annual saving of above \$50,000,000 and with a 50,000 increase in the nation's farm workers will be proposed to a Senate committee tomorrow by Senator Albert Chandler, Kentucky, Democrat...He (Chandler) characterized the Army's recent effort to recruit military-age Japanese...a 'complete failure' because of unwillingness of the young Japanese to volunteer...He repeated an earlier suggestion that farm organizations and individual farmers be prepared to make application for Japanese families... 'I already have assurances of support for a Senate resolution for quick action', he said." Los Angeles Examiner, 4/1/43, written by Ray Richards.

Senator Chandler was reported to have called the present system of operating relocation centers "a complete bust...The cost was more than \$700 per prisoner and no work was exacted from the prisoners..." Sacramento Bee, Las Vegas Review-Journal, UP, 4/7/43.

"Senator A. B. Chandler asserted tonight that all disloyal Japanese should be put in internment camps and that loyal Japanese male citizens should be drafted into the army at the earliest possible date...Half the citizens of Manzanar are disloyal to this country, while only 2 percent are disloyal at Minidoka Camp in Idaho." Rocky Mountain News, Salt Lake Tribune, Arizona Republic, Idaho Daily Statesman, Cleveland Plain Dealer, El Paso Times, UP, 4/9/43.

"Senator Albert B. Chandler Friday proposed separation of the sheep from the goats in Japanese concentration centers...'Those who aren't loyal should not be allowed to mingle with the Japanese who are, because they irritate them', Chandler added." Lincoln, Nebraska, Journal; Billings, Montana, Gazette; Toledo Blade, UP, 4/9/43.

"More than 7,000 West Coast Japanese have left the war relocation centers and the War Relocation Authority is not sure where they are, a subcommittee of the Senate military affairs committee disclosed today. ..Additionally, the subcommittee revealed that approximately 23,000 Far Western Japanese never entered the centers, but scattered over the country when last spring's war emergency evacuation to the camps began." Others have gone out on various types of leave and never reported back. There is no trace of others who traveled East before the "round up" began, "although it is probable they joined Eastern Japanese who were never rounded up." "It is quite obvious", said Senator Mon C. Wallgren, Washington Democrat, a member of the subcommittee, 'that enough Japs are at large in this country already to make rather ridiculous the penning up of other Japanese who might be doing some helpful work for us". Seattle Post Intelligencer, 4/9/43, written by Ray Richards.

EDUCATION--

Appointment of H. O. Bjerg as supervisor of industrial arts at Gila River was announced in a short news item in the Arizona Republic, 4/11/43.

Low income of Arkansas teachers was given as the reason for the high turnover in the state by Ralph Jones, state commissioner of education before the Senate education and labor committee. Jones compared the salaries of teachers on the state payroll with those on the relocation center payroll. Minimum pay at the latter, according to the newspaper report of his testimony, is \$1200, while the average of state-paid teachers is \$678. Arkansas Democrat, 4/8/43.

EMPLOYMENT --

Employment of farm workers by Secretary Ickes:

Washington Evening Star

"The arrival tomorrow of seven American-born Japanese from a relocation camp in Arizona will help solve the agricultural labor problem for Secretary of the Interior Ickes A neighbor, Sam Rice, former Washington outfielder, also will be aided." The Secretary made the following statement to the press: "I interested myself for two reasons in the location of seven United States citizens who are of Japanese ancestry .. The first reason is that I believe we should do all that we can to ease the burden that the war has placed upon

this particular group of our fellow citizens. I do not like the idea of loyal citizens, no matter of what race or color, being kept in relocation centers any longer than need be. The second reason is that these citizens have a background of farming in California and we need competent farm help badly.A spokesman for the Authority said there is nothing new about locating evacuees in the Capital area. There are several of them here working as stenographers in Government agencies, he said, and at least two housemaids and some farm workers nearby ... He emphasized they were not parolees, but American citizens, free to work where they pleased except in the West coast area closed to them." 4/15/43.

"Delayed en route from Arizona because of congested railroad passenger facilities, seven American-born Japanese who will help relieve the labor problems on the farms of Secretary of the Interior Ickes.. are expected to arrive here tomorrow." 4/16/43.

"... a group of American-born Japanese were surprised and relieved at the warm welcome they received yesterday on their arrival here to work on the poultry farms of Secretary of Interior Ickes and Sam Rice, former Washington outfielder...The action of Mrs. Ickes and Mr. Rice in securing badly needed agricultural help from a relocation camp may mean an influx of hundreds of American-born Japanese to relieve the critical farm manpower situation..A spokesman for the War Relocation Authority...said the problem has not been to secure jobs for them but to assure the Japanese they would be safe in new communities." 4/18/43.

Washington Daily News

"Secretary of Interior Ickes and his neighbor Sam Rice...have effected release from internment and hired seven American-born Japs...Secretary Ickes said he has interested himself in the evacuees because he felt everything should be done to ease the burden of war upon them and because it is right that they be employed to ease the shortage of farm labor." 4/15/43

"Seven neatly dressed and shy Japs arrived here today to join America's food front war, and were taken immediately to the Olney, Md., chicken ranches of Interior Secretary Ickes and Sam Rice....Some hundred other evacuees have been permitted to take jobs in the East, and about 3500 others have jobs in the Middle West, authorities said...Those who are counting on the 100,000 Japanese in relocation centers as a quick and cheap source of labor, however, are doomed to disappointment." Prevailing wages are called for. 4/17/43.

The arrival of seven evacuees bound for jobs on Montgomery county farms was delayed. "Publicity attendant on their employment in this eastern war zone area, because of the prominence of their employers, is understood to have prompted a travel schedule change." 4/16/43.

Washington Times Herald

"Secretary of Interior Harold L. Ickes has solved his young wife's hired help problem by obtaining prisoners from a Japanese internment camp in Arizona to work on his chicken farm in Montgomery County....On parole, the Japanese Americans...are on route to Washington." The WRA refused to disclose whether the wives will be employed as maids or what the salaries will be, and "Secretary Ickes has acquired a reputation as a careful man with nickel..." 4/14/43.

"Prodded by indignant wives who wanted to know why their servant problems could not be solved as easily as Secretary of Interior Ickes solved those of Mrs. Ickes, Washington husbands yesterday began to investigate the Japanese situation...WRA officials insisted that Secretary Ickes had not been given special consideration...The fact that the seven Japanese who will arrive today were held in a relocation camp on an Indian reservation, which is operated by officials of the Indian Service who work for Mr. Ickes, had no bearing on the case, WRA spokesman said....Thomas Holland, chief of the employment division of the WRA, said a number of requests for domestic servants have been received from the Washington area and he is doubtful if all of them can be filled." 4/16/43.

"Ickes' Japanese workers" yielded "to the war effort" and gave up their places on the train" to passengers traveling on more urgent business it was said." 4/17/43.

"There were warm words of greeting for three young American-born Japs in contrast to some snappy expressions of distrust concerning the good intentions of visiting reporters and photographers as Mrs. Harold L. Ickes yesterday realized her hopes of solving the help problem on the Ickes farm...Shy and obviously nervous after their long journey from an Arizona internment camp, the Japanese four young men, two of them accompanied by their attractive wives, arrived at the Silver Spring station.... Attired in collegiate fashion, the six young people courteously avoided interviews...They said they had no trouble on the trip---Most farmers and housewives seeking to solve their employee problems in the same manner as Squire Ickes are doomed for disappointment, a Government spokesman said. Less than 10 percent of the 100,000 Japanese...are domestic workers." 4/18/43.

Washington Post

"Interior Secretary Harold Ickes...will take custody of two interned Jap farmers through an arrangement with the War Relocation Authority. WRA retains supervision and fixes pay rates for the Japs." Jerry Klutz, in his column, "Federal Diary," 4/15/43.

"Seven American-born Japanese are on their way here from Arizona to work on the farms of Secretary Harold L. Ickes...The Japanese are on parole at Poston, Arizona...The transaction was made through the War Relocation Authority but efforts to contact it last night were unavailing." 4/15/43.

"Fifteen applications for the release of about 25 American-born Japanese to work as domestics or farm hands in the Washington area are before the WRA, it was learned yesterday following disclosure that Secretary of Interior Harold L. Ickes and a neighbor have already hired seven such war internees." Ickes' reasons for employing evacuees were quoted. 4/16/43.

"Free after a year and a half, six Americans of Japanese parentage began 'anew life' -- on parole---yesterday...This was their first trip east of the Rockies and the first time since Pearl Harbor they have been free of the detention imposed on all Japanese, because there was no quick sure way to cull loyal citizens from Fifth Columnists." 4/18/43

Reports Outside the Washington Area

"Harold L. Ickes, Secretary of the Interior, has arranged the release of seven American-born Japanese for work on his and a neighboring farm, it was disclosed today, and the news immediately aroused fears in the War Relocation Authority that it would be swamped with requests from others who have similar problems...The hiring of the Nisei...was indorsed today by Senator Albert B. Chandler, Democrat, of Kentucky, who said, "If more people would follow the Secretary's plan, the need for relocation camps would disappear." New York Herald Tribune, 4/16/43.

"Secretary of Interior Ickes said today that he has negotiated the release of three American-born Japanese internees to work on his farm...because he wants to help ease their lot and because "we need competent farm help badly. New York City Sun, New York Evening Post, Philadelphia Inquirer AP, 4/16/43.

"Plans of the War Relocation Authority to facilitate transfer of American-born Japanese from western relocation centers to eastern farms, homes, and industry were disclosed today. Seven Japanese already are en route here to work for Secretary of Interior Harold L. Ickes and Sam Rice..." Philadelphia Record, UP, 4/16/43.

"Seven American-born Japanese...will...relieve the labor shortage created on the home farm...of Secretary Ickes and that of Sam Rice." The remainder of the article quoted Secretary Ickes' reasons for employing evacuees, said the plan has been endorsed by Senator Chandler, and suggested that persons wishing to hire evacuees write to WRA, "stating work, wage and housing details." New York Times, 4/16/43.

Expressions of local attitudes:

"The State of Colorado has no objections to employment of Japanese-Americans as Santa Fe Railroad section crews, Governor Vivian declared late yesterday." Pueblo Star Journal, AP, 4/8/43. Similar item in Denver News, 4/8/43.

The State Commander of the Michigan American Legion protested "press reports that Japanese laborers are to be brought into Michigan." Detroit Times, 4/17/43.

The scrap handlers' union will fight "any attempt to employ Japanese Americans in the scrap yards of Wisconsin..George Kiebler, (regional Director of the AFL United Automobile Workers) said that the union feeling is that the nisei are entitled to a chance to earn a living, but that they should be relocated in less populous areas." Milwaukee Journal, 4/6/43. The Wisconsin Scrap Iron Dealers Association "voted" to study "The possibility of bringing Japanese-Americans to work in scrap yards." Victor Tabaka, WRA representative "announced WRA has decided to conduct a program of education on employment of Japanese-Americans in Wisconsin..." Milwaukee Sentinel, 4/6/43.

Establishment of Montana offices:

"Governor Sam C. Ford announced he has been advised the War Relocation Authority will open three branch offices in Montana to aid sugar bean growers and other farm employers who wish to obtain evacuee labor...The offices will

be located at Havre, Billings and Helena." Requirements "to safeguard the procedure for obtaining evacuees" were listed. Billings Gazette, 4/10/43.

Rapid Valley, South Dakota, growers were assured at a meeting on March 30 that "prospects of Japanese, Indian, and Mexican labor are good" and that South Dakota "is better off than some neighboring states as far as wages are concerned." Rapid City Journal, 4/1/43

"Improvement in the local sugar beet labor situation was reported here today... the vanguard of workers from the Japanese relocation centers is arriving in the Milk river valley. 'The only possible obstacle now', according to a field man for the Utah-Idaho Sugar., 'is that in a few cases farmers have not yet provided adequate labor houses." Great Falls, Montana, Tribune 4/7/43.

No labor shortage is expected in Pawnee County, Kansas, according to a field representative for the Garden City sugar company, as reported by the Hutchinson News-Herald (4/10/43). He said, "The Japanese question has not been settled definitely. But reports that Japanese labor would not be used in Kansas beet fields because of inadequate housing facilities are not true. The sugar company offers better housing facilities than are provided at the government camp..."

Other farm labor news:

The labor committee auxiliary of the Provo, Utah, USDA War Board "agreed that Japanese labor would be the most feasible for the camp at Provo, and the director of the USES at Provo said his agency would begin immediately to recruit Japanese workers from the Topaz Relocation Camp." Salt Lake Desert News, 4/2/43.

"Thousands of Japanese internees will be removed from government camps within the next few months and relocated on midwestern farms to ease the critical labor shortage, the Herald-American learned today." This story was apparently based on an interview with Elmer Shirrell and gave the regulations under which evacuees might be employed as well as a synopsis of the relocation plan. Chicago Herald and American, 4/6/43.

"Japanese internees who are experienced harvest hands and dairy farm workers will be released from Government camps to ease the Midwest agricultural labor shortage, it was learned today." San Francisco Examiner, INS from Chicago, 4/7/43.

An item in the Boise, Idaho, Statesman, (4/7/43) announced that any farmer interested in hiring year-round farm workers or 125 Japanese laborers living at an FSA camp should contact the USES office.

An announcement by the FSA regional director of in-migrant farm labor available included a report that "fifty Japanese farm workers, recruited at the Tule Lake war relocation center, leave April 9 for Walla Walla, Wash., to work in seed and truck crops. Portland Oregonian, 4/9/43.

Establishment of Detroit office:

Opening of a relocation office in Detroit on April 15 was announced in the April 9 edition of the Detroit Free Press, Detroit Times, and South Bend, Indiana, Tribune (UP). All items quoted extensively from Harold Fistere's statements on the purpose of the relocation program and pointed out that the number of evacuees brought in would depend upon the demand from employers.

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"About 50 percent of the more than 100,000 Japanese evacuees now living in relocation centers will be resettled in non-defense zones, Leroy Bennett, director of the Rivers, Ariz. camp said in a luncheon club address here." (Phoenix). Seattle Post Intelligencer, San Antonio Express, AP, 4/11/43. A more complete report of Mr. Bennett's speech was contained in the Arizona Republic, 4/10/43.

EVACUEE PROPERTY--

"Governor Warren and Attorney General Robert W. Kenny plan to present urgency legislation this week to permit state condemnation of idle and warehoused farm equipment, mostly that of interned Japanese, which is needed by California agriculture for wartime food production. The scheme contemplates sale or lease of the machinery by the state to farmers who are faced with equipment shortages." Sacramento Bee, 4/4/43.

"Governor Warren announced today his intention to ask for the passage of urgency legislation giving the state the right to condemn and purchase idle farm machinery of Japanese or any person who has it in storage...Such a law, the governor told his press conference, would bring out of warehouses or storage enough farm equipment to work many, many thousand acres of land which now is unfarmed in California for the lack of machinery...It would not apply to machinery in the custody of the federal government..." Fresno Bee, 4/4/43.

"Encouraged by official reports from Office of War Information that Japanese-owned farm tools will be released..., local, state and federal authorities were this week taking steps to release large quantities of Japanese-owned tractors and other farm equipment, stored in California... Each day brought information of additional caches..." Until recently, "Washington has consistently turned a deaf ear" to requests for the release of equipment. Arizona Republic, 4/11/43.

"Western Washington farms from which the Japanese were evacuated last year, far from being permitted to lie idle, are expected to produce bigger crops than ever before, Edward M. Joyce, district supervisor of the evacuee property division of the WRA revealed yesterday...He gave Filipinos much of this credit..." Seattle Post Intelligencer, 4/4/43.

"Disclosure that the Federal government had requisitioned a number of automobiles left by Japanese evacuees for the use of the Army yesterday spurred officials in their efforts to acquire Japanese-owned farm equipment for the use of California farmers in the 1943 battle of farm production..."

Deputy Attorney General Bowers announced that the state had the right under "eminent domain" to "condemn the property, seize control of it, and reimburse the Japanese owners through the War Relocation Authority." Los Angeles Times, 4/6/43.

HAWAII--

More than 90 percent of Hawaiian Japanese are loyal, according to Dr. W. Norwood Brigrance, former professor at the University of Hawaii, who spoke to members of the Daguerre Club of Indiana. Dr. Brigrance attributed their loyalty to the following factors: difficulty of learning Japanese after learning English; comparatively high wages in Hawaii, and privileges enjoyed by women in Hawaii in contrast to those in Japan. Indianapolis News, 4/6/43.

INTERNAL SECURITY--

"Investigation of reported illegal sale of intoxicating liquor to residents of the Japanese relocation center at Amache will be started immediately, Myron Donald, director of the State Liquor Department said yesterday." Denver News, 4/10/43. Mr. Donald will "lead a party of department officers this weekend into the Granada, Colo., area to investigate the reported illegal sale of intoxicants to residents of the Japanese relocation center at Amache...Civilian police at the relocation center will work with the state party, Donald said." Denver Post, 4/9/43.

"Fukuo Urata, 53, a resident of the Japanese relocation center at Topaz, was fined \$50 by Judge Tillman D. Johnson when he pleaded guilty... to an indictment charging failure to register on April 6, 1942." Salt Lake City Tribune, 4/9/43.

"James Hatsuki Wakasa, 62-year old Japanese, was shot and killed by military police last night while attempting to flee the relocation center at Topaz, the Office of War Information reported today." Washington Star, Baltimore Sun, AP, 4/12/43.

LEGAL--

The California state Senate was reported to have voted down 15 to 9 a bill "providing that all foreign language newspapers printed in the country should print English translations in parallel columns", in spite of reported American Legion pressure for the measure. Sacramento Bee, 4/6/43.

Resolution urging Congress "to eliminate for all time the possibility of Japanese or others holding dual citizenship...was adopted "by the California Senate, April 10. The resolution also asks that the identity of persons now in this country who hold dual citizenship be determined so that their United States citizenship may be revoked. San Francisco Examiner, 4/11/43.

"A motion asking for the dismissal of the injunction suit brought by Henry L. Beach against the wartime civil control administration was filed in the federal district court Monday by the chief assistant United States attorney." Points made were that the district court does not have jurisdiction; that the action was premature; and that Beach "would have a speedy and adequate remedy at law (habeas corpus proceeding) if any act affecting his substantial rights were undertaken." Portland Oregonian, 4/6/43.

The Supreme Court agreed today to review litigation to test the constitutionality of a curfew imposed on West Coast enemy aliens..." San Francisco Chronicle; Portland Oregonian; Twin Falls, Idaho, Times News, AP, 4/6/43.

Final report of the California legislative committee on un-American activities:

"Pro-Nazi activity in Los Angeles, pro-Fascist activity in San Francisco, Communists on the state's payroll and an extensive network of Japanese language schools were among startling findings...The committee estimated that prior to the outbreak of war there were more than 240 Japanese language schools in California with an attendance of 19,000 and that Tokyo contributed nearly \$400,000 for the Japanese educational program in 1941. Recommendations of the committee included: Congressional action to revoke American citizenship of persons subject to dual citizenship, a status attributed to many Japanese; prohibition of commercial fishing by aliens..., banning aliens from elective or appointive offices in labor unions; and state control of foreign language schools." Seattle Post Intelligencer, AP, 4/10/43.

The Los Angeles Times (4/10/43) played up the Communist angle of the Tenney committee report, mentioning Japanese activities only in paragraphs on the language schools and on the committee recommendations. Recommendations included, in addition to those reported in the Post Intelligencer, "separation of pro-Axis Japanese from loyal Japanese in concentration camps and placing control of Japanese in the hands of the Army for the duration..."

MAGAZINES--

The Christian Century, 4/14/43, "Correspondence from Northern Ohio".

Reporting the election of a Nisei student as student president of Oberlin college, the writer says "The incident has proved a wholesome example for this city, which has just begun to face seriously its responsibility for providing employment for Americans of Japanese descent."

The Christian Century, 4/7/43, "Justice for Asiatics", editorial.

It is encouraging that a movement is now under-way in Washington to substitute the quota system for racial discrimination in immigration and naturalization laws. Congressman Judd (R.) from Minnesota "is about to offer a bill which would lift all discriminatory enactments against all Asiatics...The Asiatic color bar has been maintained to this day largely as a football of Pacific coast politics...Various C.I.O. unions have gone

on record in favor of dropping racial bars, and Philip Murray, president of the C.I.O. is understood to be ready to support such a bill if it comes before Congress. If two or three A.F. of L. leaders on the Pacific Coast can be persuaded to change their position, the chances for amendment of the immigration and naturalization laws would be greatly enhanced." Most public agitation which has supported bills such as Congressman Judd's have done so because they feel it will "win the enthusiastic support of the 'billion potential allies' of Asia...But The Christian Century advocated this change in American policy...as a matter of justice---justice to the Asiatics and justice to the claim of our own Declaration of Independence that we hold all men created equal."

The Nation, "Jap Crow Experiment", by John Larison, April 10, 1943.

"It is no secret that ten months' experience with the relocation centers has not been a happy one either for the administrators or for the citizens and aliens taken into 'protective custody'. Lack of home life, limited recreational and educational facilities, and a "bad" economic condition have all made the experiment an unhappy one for the evacuees. There are three reasons for the present economic conditions within the centers: (1) the large demand for labor outside during the 1942 harvest season; (2) the wage scale, which is regarded by citizens "as unfairly discriminatory"; and (3) "too much bossing and management by unnecessarily large administrative staffs...If they (evacuees) had been given free rein, they could have done a far better job than they have been able to do in bureaucratic leading strings."

WRA's shift in policy to helping evacuees find outside employment "might be one step toward a final solution" if handled "wisely, skillfully, and gradually...Merely to encourage or to use pressure on the Japanese to leave the centers...is not a complete solution. Many of them can and should go out, but many of them have been disqualified by 'war-shock' from going out and starting life anew without considerable support and advance preparation. A careful family survey, by qualified social workers, would determine which are qualified to go out and which had better stay in the centers until a permanent resettlement plan is devised...As to permanent resettlement, the government should by all means begin to lay down the broad lines now, lest at the end of the war the whole question be approached on the basis of emotional politics and racial prejudice. Many of the evacuees can doubtless shift for themselves and regain a worth-while place in the American community. But many others, probably the majority, if left to themselves would sink to the status of migratory workers." A permanent agricultural-resettlement program is needed, and "the government must ally itself with liberal community and religious leaders and groups to assure fair play and non-violence."

Our Book - Good Will Magazine (Negro magazine published in Cleveland).

"Relocating a People", by Harold Fistore, March, 1943.

A WRA staff written article, prepared at the request of this magazine, tells the reasons for evacuation, describes the relocation communities and the resettlement program.

MILITARY SERVICE--

"More than 3,600 Japanese-Americans have volunteered for service in an all-Nisei combat unit in the United States Army and induction will start April 10...WRA officials said the alien evacuees who serve in the United States Army will be eligible for naturalization as American citizens, under the terms of the 2nd War Power Act." San Francisco Examiner, El Paso Times, INS, 4/6/43.

Japanese-American army unit at Camp Funston, Kansas, was featured by the New York Mirror (4/11/43) in a short illustrated article, "Japs in the Army." This unit "is well advanced in its training, equipped and ready for overseas duty which, it is intended, shall be that of fighter-interpreter in the van of our onslaught on Tokyo--fighter until the victory is won, interpreter and expounder of democracy when the work of pacification ensues. Needless to say, recruiting is limited to citizens."

Arrival of Hawaiian Army contingent:

"The arrival of 2500 Japanese-American soldiers from Hawaii was announced Saturday night by the War Department...The contingent immediately boarded special trains for Mississippi...Many of the officers will be Japanese-Americans." Memphis Commercial Appeal, Los Angeles Times, Portland Oregonian, AP, 4/11/43.

"Twenty-five hundred Hawaiian-born Japanese are on their way to Mississippi...All members of the group are volunteers, carefully chosen from among more than 10,000 applicants." Denver Post, New York Herald Tribune, AP, 4/11/43.

"A contingent of approximately 2,500 Japanese-American soldiers from Hawaii has arrived here...Some of the soldiers were doctors, lawyers, and teachers in Hawaii, and 180 others were students in the University of Hawaii. All were born on American soil." Chicago Sun, UP, 4/11/43.

"The War Department announced last night that 2,500 Japanese-American soldiers from Hawaii have arrived in San Francisco en route to Mississippi... The newly-organized team is part of the program announced by the War Department on January 28, when Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson said that all loyal U. S. persons of Japanese ancestry should be allowed full opportunity to perform their duties as citizens..." Washington Times Herald, 4/10/43.

"Some 2,500 Japanese-American soldiers from Hawaii began arriving here today to join approximately the same number from the United States mainland...The motto, "Go for Broke", a Japanese way of saying "shoot the works" as adopted by those loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry...Col. Charles W. Pence, commander of the new organization, said no other group of men ever traveled 4,000 miles to train to fight for their country." Baltimore Evening Sun, New York Herald Tribune, AP, 4/15/43. (From Camp Shelby).

Representative Rankin of Mississippi scored Army training for Hawaiian-born Japanese. "Instead of training these Japanese who aided in the fifth

column work before the attack on Pearl Harbor, they should be put into labor battalions', Rankin said." Washington Times-Herald, 4/16/43.

MISCELLANEOUS--

General DeWitt's Statement:

"The far west 'contains too many vital defense installations, essential to the defense of the country, to allow any Japanese on this coast' and 'I don't want any of them here,' Lieutenant General John D. DeWitt told a house naval subcommittee Tuesday." He told the committee he is opposing "with every means at my disposal" the sentiment developing to get the Japanese back to the coast. "'They are a dangerous element, whether loyal or not. It makes no difference whether he is an American citizen theoretically, he is still a Japanese and you can't change him.'" Billings, Montana, Gazette, AP, 4/14/43.

"'A Jap's a Jap' and 'it makes no difference whether he is an American citizen or not', Lieut. Gen. John L. DeWitt said yesterday. DeWitt was quoted as saying, regarding those who are American citizens, "'You can't change him (a Japanese) by giving him a piece of paper', and 'we will be worried about (the Japs) all the time until they are wiped off the face of the map.'" Washington Star, Philadelphia Bulletin, Baltimore Sun, Philadelphia Inquirer, AP, 4/14/43.

"The attitude of Lieut. Gen. John L. DeWitt that a 'Jap is a Jap' has upset for the present an Administration plan to return to useful work on the Pacific Coast a majority of the 110,000 Japanese evacuees in relocation camps, it was learned today...Responsible sources said that the War Department had agreed to the plan to return them to the Pacific Coast and that the War Relocation Authority was about to act when Gen. DeWitt" made his statement. The plan had provided for an inter-departmental loyalty board. "Officials said that the attitude of DeWitt was expressed at a time when it appeared the program was ready to be launched." Washington Daily News, UP, 4/16/43.

Other Press items:

"The state personnel board is awaiting a ruling from the attorney general on the status of citizens of Japanese ancestry who were discharged from the state service last year." Sacramento Bee, 4/7/43. Los Angeles Times, AP, 4/7/43.

"Racial problems--Negro and Japanese--played a prominent role in the annual meeting of the Ohio-West Virginia Area Council of the YMCA" at Columbus. "YMCA officials said here this morning that the Chicago YMCA had added 12 of these Japanese to its staff, without encountering any difficulty, and the possibility of YMCA units in this area likewise taking the lead will be discussed." Columbus, Ohio, Citizen, 4/10/43.

PUBLIC ATTITUDES--

Editorials:

The Missoula, Montana, Missoulian (4/6/43) notes "with satisfaction

that the people of Bitter Root have decided to avail themselves of Japanese labor during the coming farm season...Naturally, there is prejudice against the Japs, especially since Pearl Harbor, but the Bitter Rooters have decided to disregard this feeling...It is to be noted that Hitler has no scruples against using enemy labor..."

The Detroit Free Press (4/7/43) is glad that relocation in Michigan is "progressing favorably on an intelligently handled basis...The original hysteria was foolish and unworthy of the groups who furthered it..."

Because "every possible idea should be utilized to get men into the fields to produce food, the Great Falls, Montana, Tribune (4/9/43) would not object to recruiting Japanese from relocation centers. "In a large percentage of cases these workers are American citizens and if asked to sign a statement affirming their loyalty and desire to contribute to the service of their country by producing food during the war, their morale might be strengthened and the communities receiving them assured."

Agreeing with an address made by the Rev. Henry Bovenkirk, a former missionary to Japan, the Saginaw, Michigan, News (4/10/43) says, "The accident of Japanese ancestry does not necessarily make a person an enemy of this republic or of the free way of life...Rev. Mr. Bovenkirk believes, frankly, that most of the 104,000 first and second generation Japanese now in resettlement camps in America deserve better than they have received in treatment."

The Seattle Post Intelligencer (4/10/43) proclaiming, "Make Use of the Japanese", argues that although "the proportion of American-born Japanese anxious for combat service is appallingly low and "it is also true that army authorities are extremely reluctant to put many Japanese in uniform" the army should not "hesitate to give such Japanese brooms, shovels, or other working equipment."

The Washington Post (4/15/43) disagrees with General DeWitt that "A Jap's a Jap" and suggests that he be told that "American democracy and the Constitution of the United States are too vital to be ignored and flouted by any military zealot...The panic of Pearl Harbor is now past... Whatever excuse there once was for evacuating and holding them (Japanese-Americans) indiscriminately no longer exists."

The Granada, Colorado, Journal (4/8/43) criticizes WRA policy which prohibits daily commuting for seasonal employment. The editors feel that by commuting evacuees will gradually accustom outsiders to themselves, thus starting the job of breaking down prejudices before they will be accepted in communities on a permanent basis and will learn agricultural conditions in the mountain states before starting independent agricultural operations. This paper also considers "a very illogical analysis of the situation" a statement attributed to Director Myer that "commuting tended to subsidize the nearby employer at the expense of the one of greater distance from the Center." They argue, "Everybody is in the production line. Why should laborers lie idle in the camp because they won't or can't go up the valley to permanent positions, and yet not be allowed to commute to fields near the camp where they will be greatly needed" and that "WRA has evicted our

reservoir of laborers from the Koen Ranch." WRA is also "reminded" that "building materials are very difficult to obtain...Why should the farmer who is trying to produce under the most arduous conditions not be allowed to house his Japanese laborers in the place that has been built for them?"

Referring to Senator Chandler's statements, the Meridian, Mississippi, Star (4/7/43) violently attacks WRA treatment of evacuees. It advocates: "Cut off this \$70,000,000 annual "pap for Jap" monstrosity. Dismiss all our political pot-bellies from the needless job of chambermaids to filthy enemies or traitors from the 'Asiatic sphere of influence'. Put every 'lousy' Tojo follower to work--Sixteen hours per day--neither straight time--nor overtime nor any other sort of time. Unlike Hitler--we can't shoot the buzzards down."

Letters to newspapers:

The editors of Asia magazine write (4/8/43) to congratulate the San Francisco Chronicle for supporting the repeal of China exclusion.

Lans Leneve of Bandon, Oregon, writes the Portland Oregonian (4/11/43) that he is "mighty thankful for an all-out honest-to-goodness newspaper" "has the guts to express the opinion (i.e., hatred) of true Americans" toward the "Japs". (As a matter of fact, the Oregonian has been quite tolerant toward Japanese Americans).

Clarke H. Kawakami writes the Washington Star (4/17/43) censuring General DeWitt's statement, "A Jap's a Jap." He says, "It is particularly untimely and unfortunate that Gen. DeWitt has seen fit to make a statement at odds with the policy adopted by the War Department and the Government."

Commentators, columns, etc.

"To prevent 'exploitation of evacuee labor', Japanese-Americans released from northern Wyoming internment camps are organizing an independent union.." "Labor News and Comment", pro-labor column by Victor Riesel, New York Evening Post (4/9/43).

"Quit Pampering U.S. Japs, Korean Patriot Urges--Agrees with Chandler Conclusion that 40 Percent are Disloyal"--headline in "Washington Background", Philadelphia Inquirer, 4/12/43. Kilso Haan, "agent of the Korean National Front Federation, has asked the Department of Justice to "call a moratorium on helping the Japs for the duration...To support, clothe, educate and house these interned Japanese the taxpayers are spending about \$80,000,000 a year. Already 1300 Japanese students have been given university scholarships."

Picture of Corp. Narihiko Yamanaka was included among those of three local soldiers in the April 9 edition of the Rocky Mountain News column, "Colorado Men in the War." No mention of his ancestry was made in the legend which stated Corp. Yamanaka is with Army intelligence in Australia.

Miscellaneous:

Resolution urging "that Japanese, either alien or native born, forever be prohibited from becoming United States citizens and that they be forbidden

to own or farm agricultural land or hold other real property" was adopted by the Oroville, California, county supervisors. Sacramento Bee, 4/7/43.

A controversy over the state civil service appointment of a "native Coloradan of Japanese ancestry" is reported by the Denver Post (4/9/43). The executive secretary of the state health department has asked the civil service commission "to remove him (the Japanese appointee) and appoint another 'who would be more acceptable to the public', but the commission chairman "saw no reason the appointment should not stand"...He was quoted as saying, "Harada was the eligible man, and as a civil service employee he is entitled to the same constitutional rights accorded all others... The only way we can remove him is by a hearing and conviction on formal charges and there have been no charges of any kind." The Governor is reported to be still undecided on what he should do and to have said, "It is a difficult question. Here we have a man, who, under the constitution, is entitled to every right as a citizen and civil service employee. Yet, can it be denied that many persons would see in this appointment a cause for criticism of state officials?"

The post-war position of American Japanese was discussed by 6 governors and other representatives of 9 western states at a post-war planning conference in Salt Lake City on April 10. Governor Warren of California asked whether evacuated Japanese "had been of value as laborers in other states...Governor Sidney Osborn of Arizona said they had been of little value in his state; added they were welcome to remain during the war, but insisted they be removed at its conclusion." He explained that antipathy toward Japanese has existed in Arizona for ten or more years. "Warren said that California would prefer to have the Japanese scattered throughout the west rather than be returned to his state, but he expressed belief thousands would return to California. He predicted" more rigid enforcement of alien land laws. "P. Hetherton, representing Gov. Arthur B. Langlie of Washington, suggested the solution might be the deportation of Japanese loyal to their native land and the abolishment of the Japanese language schools..." Greeley, Colorado, Daily, 4/10/43.

"Belief that American citizens of Japanese birth should be kept separate from alien Japanese, in contrast to the present plan...was expressed by the Rev. Gordon K. Chapman..., executive secretary for the Protestant church commission to Japanese relocation centers." Billings, Montana, Gazette, 4/14/43.

REPORTS

Bill Hosokawa has been hired as a reporter by the Fairmount Station, Missouri, Intercity News.

An article in the Intercity News (3/21/43) by Mr. Hosokawa told about the attitude held by loyal nisei toward the United States. On the same day the News explained in an editorial why they had employed Mr. Hosokawa--to take the place of a reporter who had been called to the army. When a subscriber called to verify the report that they had "a Jap working" there, the editors replied, "We have an American citizen whose parents happened to be born in Japan."

STUDENT RELOCATION---

"Ed Ota, relocated Japanese-American student at Guilford College, spoke at Campbell College Thursday under the auspices of the International Relations Club...Ota discussed the problems of evacuation of foreigners from the West Coast. He expressed his own gratitude to the U. S. government and the war relocation board for the privilege of staying in college..." Raleigh, North Carolina, News & Observer, 4/6/43.