

## WEEKLY PRESS REVIEW

No. 30

Week ending August 8, 1943

## SUMMARY

From Western sources came the major news items reviewed this week. Director Dillon S. Myer, after leaving the Denver conference of WRA officials, visited Granada Relocation Center at Amache on July 28, and addressed a large gathering of evacuees and personnel. On arriving in Los Angeles, he conferred with WRA officials in charge of handling evacuee property. The California press carried supplementary statements on segregation, remarks by Myer on WRA problems and the coming segregation move.

The San Francisco Commonwealth Club heard Director Myer speak on "The Truth About Relocation" on August 6. The Director replied to recent charges by WRA critics, and stated that a predominantly hostile public attitude discourages evacuees from attempting to leave the centers and relocate. Headlines read: "Japs 'Not Anxious'....'In No Hurry'...to Leave Camps." The N.Y. TIMES reported that at a luncheon sponsored by the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play, Myer said of those Japanese whose repatriation has been requested by Japan that a careful check shows only 10 per cent want to return. The Denver POST reported that Director Myer will visit Heart Mountain center from August 11-15.

The Executive Council of the Wisconsin State Dental Society took a definite stand against the relocation there of Japanese-Americans in that profession. An editorial in the Milwaukee Journal titled "Dentists Favor Prejudice" caustically scored the council for its action, questioned in particular its generous statement that "individual members of the society will not be subject to disciplinary action if they do hire Japanese-Americans"!

The Hotel and Restaurant Employees International Alliance and the Bartenders International League of America, A.F.L., issued a warning in Boston that they would quit their jobs if announced WRA relocation plans were carried out, placing Americans of Japanese ancestry in hotel and restaurant service. A spokesman for the unions stated that Boston hotels and restaurants "will not stand for any attempt to foster these Japs on their industry."

The California assembly interim committee (I) voted in favor of a strongly worded resolution urging the detention of all American Japanese for the duration,

NOTE: The press coverage of the Review continues to be limited to approximately 30 papers clipped in the WRA Reports Division and clippings sent in by employees and representatives in the field. The latter are invaluable in building a more comprehensive Review.



(2) considered investigating Buddhist and Shinto church properties in the state,  
(3) heard Leo V. Youngworth, attorney and former Native Sons potentate, tell his fear of Oriental domination in this country, announce he is sponsoring an amendment to Article 14 of the Constitution which would exclude from this country anyone holding dual citizenship before Pearl Harbor.

### CONGRESSIONAL RELATIONS

Rep. Leroy Johnson, Cal., outlines before Sacramento Lions Club his recommendation that all alien Japanese be returned to Japan and that Japanese-American citizens found disloyal be deported. States Easterners oppose such a program, but that South is sympathetic. Sacramento BEE, 8/5/43

### EMPLOYMENT

Minneapolis paper shows a half page of pictures of smiling Japanese-American relocated in nurses' aid, stenographer, seamstress, and rug store jobs, states that "following the war they probably will be returned to their former homes where they will resume normal life." Minneapolis SUNDAY TRIBUNE, 7/25/43

Miss Florence Walne, director of U. of Colorado navy Japanese language school speaks before Denver Kiwanis Club, states that ninety percent of the instructors are Nisei, "doing a fine job." ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS, 7/29/43

Announcement is made by Roger F. Clapp, relocation supervisor at Boston that loyal Japanese-Americans are being relocated in New England, finding places as farmers, domestics, clerical workers and students. BOSTON POST, 7/31/43

Northern Pacific superintendent denies reports that the railroad has hired more Japanese laborers, says it has moved the same ones from place to place. Spokane SPOKESMAN REVIEW, 8/1/43

Japanese laborers employed by the Milwaukee railroad are moved from Shoshone County, Idaho because of "long-standing opposition in this area to Oriental labor." SPOKESMAN REVIEW, 8/4/43

### LEGAL

Five Japanese, born in this country or one-time residents, are included in the list of eleven Japanese propagandists indicted for treason. OWI memorandum turned over to Department of Justice for investigation. Washington POST, 8/5/43

### MILITARY

Four Sakura boys, training at Camp Shelby, are typical of the earnest, thoroughgoing Nisei soldier, working with zeal in the army combat team to prove loyalty to the United States. ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS, 7/25/43. (Written by Major Oland D. Russell, public relations officer of the combat team.)

### MISCELLANEOUS

WRA equipment is used to help close break in Tule Lake dam, save land south of it from flooding. Klamath Falls HERALD & NEWS, 7/29/43

Exchange of Japanese nationals and American citizens is planned; Mormugao, Portuguese India, will be site of exchange. AP, ARIZONA REPUBLIC, 8/3/43



PUBLIC ATTITUDES

Columnists:

Observer has new view on Japanese segregation colony question.(at Tule Lake.) Thinks concentration of disloyal in one spot is a good thing as it will facilitate the removal of disloyal to Japan when war is over, Malcolm Epley, Klamath Falls HERALD & NEWS, 7/30/43

Heart Mountain residents stage intensive clean-up campaign preparatory to a visit from Director Myer. Other center topics touched upon. John Kitasako, "Heart Mountain Glimpses". Powell TRIBUNE, 8/5/43

Editorials:

Resolution adopted by executive council of the Church Federation of Los Angeles opposing return of Japanese to Pacific Coast is temperate opinion of group which cannot be accused of hysteria or racial prejudice. It is "commended to the prayerful study of the excited eastern breast-beaters", up in arms over supposed western persecution of Japanese. L.A. TIMES, 7/31/43

Statement made by Dillon S. Myer that relocated Japanese should not "return to the Coast...to reestablish their former colonies," is approved. There is no reason and no place for foreign colonies in our country.. Seattle POST INTELLIGENCE 8/3/43

The President's fair employment practices committee has yet to act in the interests of Japanese-Americans, "against whom there is not even a suspicion of wrong-doing." Twin Falls, Idaho, TIMES NEWS, 8/3/43

"Dentists Favor Prejudice".(title) Sarcastic editorial scores the action taken by Wisconsin State Dental Society Executive Council against employment of Japanese-Americans, calls its action disgraceful. Milwaukee JOURNAL, 8/3/43

Letters to the Editor:

Letter referring to the case in which a union refused to work where Japanese-Americans are employed points out that they are as much citizens as anyone born here, that their status is legally and constitutionally upheld, and that they should suffer discrimination no more than German, Italian, and Finnish Americans. Boston POST, 8/5/43

In order not to let the Japanese win the peace, we should begin by ending the dual citizenship of Germans, Italians, and Japanese. Washington, D.C. POST, 8/8/43

Resolutions and Statements:

Governor John J. Dempsey of New Mexico opposes importation of Japanese labor into the state. S.F. EXAMINER, ARIZONA REPUBLIC, 8/1/43

Wisconsin State Dental Society Executive Council takes stand against relocation there of Japanese-Americans in that profession. Spokesman for the council emphasizes that "individual members would not be subject to disciplinary action if they hired Japanese Americans." Milwaukee JOURNAL, 8/2/43



E.E. Ketchpaw, relocation officer, announces that despite the action of the Wisconsin State Dental Society's Executive Council, WRA will not change its policy on relocation. Milwaukee SENTINEL, 8/3/43

California assembly interim committee (1) votes unanimously in favor of strongly worded resolution urging the detention of all Japanese for the duration, (2) considers investigating Buddhist and Shinto church properties in California, (3) hears former grand trustee of Native Sons of the Golden West announce he is sponsoring an amendment to Article 14 of the Constitution which would exclude from this country anyone holding dual citizenship before Pearl Harbor. Carl Greenberg, San Francisco EXAMINER; AP, Sacramento BEE, 8/3/43

Assembly group (Calif.) favors confinement of all Japanese; interim committee is told by Leo V. Youngworth, attorney and former Native Sons potentate, of fear of Oriental domination in this country. Cal. state senator Jack Tenney offers the cooperation of the joint legislative committee on un-American activities to the interim committee. L.A. TIMES, 8/4/43

Hotel and Restaurant Employees International Alliance and Bartenders International League of America, A.F.L., warn they will quit if Japanese are hired. Contradict opinion attributed to WRA that Japanese will be welcomed in the East. Boston POST, 8/3/43

California (1) enacts new laws restricting fishermen along coast by prohibiting them from obtaining commercial fishing licenses; (2) tightens provisions of Alien Land Act. N.E. TIMES, 8/8/43

#### SEGREGATION

Announcement by Director Myer that Tule Lake will house segregated disloyal Japanese "quiets rumors heard in Owens Valley that the Manzanar center was to become the segregation camp." Inyo, Cal., INDEPENDENT, 7/30/43

In Los Angeles to confer with WRA officials, Director Myer points out problems the War Relocation Authority has had to meet, states WRA has been working on segregation for months. Reporter states, "Myer is a man who speaks his mind." L.A. TIMES, 8/3/43

Between 15,000 and 18,000 disloyal evacuees will be segregated at Tule Lake, according to statements made by Director Myer, who is in Los Angeles conferring with WRA officials in charge of handling property of evacuated Japanese. UP, New York TIMES, 8/7/43

#### REPORTS

Dillon S. Myer speaks before a large gathering of Amache evacuees and personnel on July 28. Report states incidentally that "although no official report has been made public, it is a good guess that at least two thirds of the relocation centers will remain in service between 2 and 3 more years." Granada JOURNAL, 7/29/43

WRA head will discuss "The Truth about Relocation" at Commonwealth Club, San Francisco, and give "official answers to the questions raised by the Dies committee and others." S.F. CHRONICLE, 8/2/43

Director Myer scheduled to visit Heart Mountain center from Aug. 11 to 15,



will speak before mass meeting of evacuees. DENVER POST, 8/3/43

Heart Mountain center will be host to press and radio representatives August 4 and 5, when the project will be open for their inspection. WYOMING STATE TRIBUNE, 8/3/43

Disclosure is made by Dillon S. Myer, head of WRA, that a careful check of relocation centers shows that "only 10 percent of the persons whose repatriation had been requested by the Japanese Government wanted to return to Japan." Director Myer replies to critics at luncheon sponsored by the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play, San Francisco. N.Y.TIMES, 8/6/43

WRA director states Japanese evacuees are not in a hurry to leave relocation centers to face a predominantly hostile public. Tells San Francisco Commonwealth Club that WRA "bends over backwards in precautions taken" not to endanger national

by following... AP, 8/6/43

"WRA Chief Mum on Jap Coddling Charge". (head line) Myer is "non-committal" on Dies committee charges, says no Japanese will be cleared to the Western Defense Area unless approved by military authorities. San Francisco CALL BULLETIN, 8/5/43

MAGAZINES

The Intercollegian, May 1943. "'Causes' Immediate and Remote" (editorial)

The "Cause" of the Japanese-Americans brings to mind that the war is not the only cause we are serving...that our duty to democracy and Christianity is pressing.

"Remember Relocation!" (editorial)

2,600 American students were evacuated a year ago. They haven't forgotten the un-American pressure groups haven't forgotten, and the Student Christian Movement must not forget....it must be heard, in order that those students may be helped.

"Crisis on the West Coast", Marian Reith

Shocked by the Japanese evacuation, the Student Christian Association quickly organized to assist the 2,600 college students among evacuees, "followed them" to the camps, helped set up intercollegiate assoc.s, Y's, believe in democracy and Christianity.

"Relocation Log...Bits from a teacher's diary." Jean McKay

A sympathetic teacher at a relocation center watches her students, finds that though a majority of evacuees appreciate the protection and security, they find the price in loss of initiative, self-reliance and self-respect is a high one.



"A Letter to the Army"

A Student Christian Association member attends conference at Manzanar, notes that students have become more reticent, are anxious to go out, relocate at colleges. Sees from their activities and attitudes no doubt that they are "assimilated". Asks assistance in relocation.

"A Prayer for Strength", Isaka Koneshima

A prayer for strength and freedom from bitterness draws the following comment from the editor: "A Japanese student, living behind barbed wire, could pray. Could you, in like circumstance?"

"Reality in Race Relations"

U. of California YM and YW hold joint meeting. Hear reports from Ernest Besig of American Civil Liberties Union on racially discriminatory measures before the state legislature and from Mrs. Ruth Kingman on her visit to Topaz Center; Meeting given over to writing letters to Congressmen and to friends in relocation centers.

"On the News Front"...(column)

Growing out of activity of Commission for American Refugee Students, the Student Christian Association exhibits maps, pictures, graphs, and handicrafts to show conditions of the Japanese.

"Little Asilomar" conference is held at Tule Lake Relocation Center Student Christian Association.

Memorial service tribute is paid Tsuneo Noguchi, former Pasadena Junior College student.

New president of Oberlin Student Council is Kenji Okuda, formerly a student at the U. of Washington.

Sociology and Social Research: 5, 6/43; "Culture Conflicts in Relocation Centers" by Emory S. Bogardus, Univ. of Southern Calif.

Certain cultural conflicts arising between and among Issei, Nisei, Sansei, and Hansai (Issei who have lived in U.S. many years, do not desire to return to Japan), disturb life in relocation centers. Article takes favorable slant, is sympathetic to WRA management of a new and unusual sociological problem.

Sociology and Social Research; "Pacific Coast Notes"

Dr. David Henley spoke recently before U. of Southern Cal. Alpha Kappa Delta on "Second Generation Japanese".

Dr. W.W. Fisher addressed the Sociology Luncheon Club on "The Japanese Relo-



cation Centers".

"Books Received".. Rades and Culture; Behind the Japanese Mask, by Jesse F. Steiner. N.Y., Macmillan Company. Many readers will not accept the statement made in the book that even Japanese-Americans are "peculiar.... unpredictable.."to the point where "it is futile to undertake to distinguish the loyal from the disloyal."

Catholic Diggest; 7/43; "Japanese-Americans", by John Bigelow

Article, reprinted from the St. Anthony Messenger, describes Christmas mass at Hunt, life at the relocation center, and the work there of Father Tibesar.