

October 8, 1942

INFORMATION ROUNDUP

War Relocation Authority

San Francisco Regional Office

NOTE: This summary is for the CONFIDENTIAL use of the administrative personnel in the Washington and regional offices and at the projects; it is not a medium for official announcements or instructions. . .

BOUNDARIES DESIGNATED

New Civilian Restrictive Orders have been issued by Lieutenant General J. L. DeWitt designating and describing in particular the boundaries of relocation projects. Order No. 18 concerns Gila River; No. 19, Colorado River; No. 20, Central Utah; and No. 21, Tule Lake. These orders were published under date of September 23.

SCHOOLS OPEN

All the schools in this region with the exception of Central Utah are now open. The latter are expected to open on October 19. Practically all the secondary-school staffs are complete except for some shortage of teachers in the vocational education field and physical education for boys. There is, however, a serious shortage of elementary-school teachers.

The school furniture situation is still serious. The factory at Tule Lake is now making chairs, but the schedule of production which had been planned has not been maintained. Gila River is making its own furniture. At Manzanar, surplus NYA equipment has been brought in to be used temporarily.

Textbooks and supplies are arriving at the projects. Classes now have blackboards. Supplementary books and library books are being requested as donations. The Education Division hopes that textbooks used by the children in California schools before evacuation will be sent to the projects located in California.

Quarters for teachers continue to be a problem. For the most part, teachers are living in barracks which had to be vacated by evacuees.

Registration has shown that students number approximately one-third of the entire project population.

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MOTOR TRANSPORTATION
SURVEY COMPLETED

A survey of motor transportation needs and conditions has been made by the Service of Supply Division at all the projects in the Pacific region with the exception of Central Utah. A summary of the findings together with recommendations have been forwarded to the Director in Washington.

The basic needs of each division have been studied with full consideration of the problems peculiar to each project. In addition to estimates of the number and kinds of vehicles essential to the functioning of the project, specific recommendations are made for the more efficient use of those now in operation and for methods of achieving greater cooperation and coordination among the divisions. Emphasis is placed on the absolute necessity for care in the operation and maintenance of vehicles in order to get the longest possible service from them.

PRESENT STATUS
OF INDUSTRIES

A survey of industries for projects in this region discloses that only two are actually in operation, but several more are on the point of opening. Specifically:

Manzanar: The camouflage net factory, employing 600 on a 44-hour week, is operating. The garment factory, which is about to open, will employ 100 in the temporary building and 300 when the permanent building is completed. Work clothes, uniforms, dresses, etc. will be manufactured. The shoyu factory was scheduled to open this week using equipment purchased from evacuees. Ten men will be employed and the capacity will be 4000 gals. per month. The bean sprout factory was likewise expected to open this week, also using equipment purchased from evacuees. Six men will operate it.

A ceramic plant has been authorized. The plans call for a modern kiln, with manufacture of equipment for projects and small ceramic figures for sale to outside distributors. The equipment is at Manzanar, but the building is not ready. Twenty men and women will be employed. It will be organized as a cooperative.

Requisitions have been placed for the bakery. The equipment ordered will be sufficient to make 90,000 lbs. of bread per month. Twenty persons will be employed.

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Tule Lake: The furniture factory employs 40 men in the temporary plant manufacturing desks, chairs, and tables for schools at all the projects. The permanent factory, a building 60x300 ft., is under construction, and it will be able to use 100 workers. Wood items will be made for the centers, the Army, and Navy.

The temporary tent factory will open in about two weeks and will employ about 300 citizens to manufacture tents for the Army. When in full operation it will be one of the largest tent factories in the country. Classes in vocational training will be opened when the temporary factory gets under way. Actually, two canvas goods plants will be in operation - one for the production of tents and the other for duffle bags, Navy hammocks, and other canvas items for the Army and Navy.

Requisitions have been placed for baker equipment to make 160,000 lbs. of bread per month. Thirty will be employed.

Gila River: New modern buildings for the camouflage net factory are under construction and are expected to be ready for operation on October 15. The plant will be able to employ about 1000 citizens, both men and women.

The woodworking factory is making school furniture, but it is not equipped to supply more than the Gila River center.

Central Utah: A broom factory employing 30 to 40 persons is planned, and requisitions have been prepared to buy good used equipment to make brooms for all the projects.

Colorado River: A camouflage net factory is under construction which will employ about 900 citizens. There will be three units, one at each camp.

Minidoka: No plans for industries have yet been announced. Recruiting of harvesters and the opening of schools have slowed down operations in the factories as well as in other divisions at the projects.

AROUND THE PROJECTS

Tule Lake:

Harvest festival is scheduled for October 31.....Colonists have been cautioned against snaring and interfering with wildlife, since lands in the Tule Lake area are subject to wildlife regulations..... 1000 pairs of shoes and 1750 uniforms for mess hall waitresses are being shipped from San Francisco.....Construction of a jail will be begun immediately.....

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Thirty-eight students have completed the Home Nursing course sponsored by the hospital.....21 classes in beginning, intermediate, and advanced English have been scheduled by the Adult Education Department.

Manzanar:

More than 500 X-rays have been taken - mostly chest and bone injuries. Manzanar has an increase of heart trouble above the normal due to the high altitude. Appendicitis frequency has reached the upper maximum of normalcy. Tuberculosis is low.....

Arrival of 18 stoves assured the opening of the remaining mess halls provided enough kitchen workers could be found to replace those on furloughs.....Most camp projects have been stripped to the minimum manpower, and a general re-shuffling of the project personnel is needed to adjust the employment situation.....

The Army has ordered construction of an additional watchtower to the west to prevent unauthorized excursions into the Sierra Crest region.....The garment project has made canteen aprons and uniforms for the beauty shop operators as well as percale, muslin-lined oversleeves to be used by camouflage net workers for protection against winter cold and allergy.....Patterns are being drafted for the numerous types of garments to be manufactured.

Colorado River:

Schools were to open on October 5.....Unit II will have a squab-raising project. About 400 birds will be brought in from California. Dining hall for administrative personnel has been opened.....A beauty queen will be chosen to preside over the County Fair..... A factory for making charcoal from mesquite trees is being considered, since experimental samples have proved satisfactory.....Shoe repair equipment and supplies to repair 10,000 pairs of shoes was expected this week.

Gila River:

Two retail stores now operating have a high credit rating and are doing business with wholesalers and manufacturers from coast to coast. The combined sales for the two stores are currently in excess of \$1800 a day.....Census of the population of Butte Camp began on September 30.....

About 535 acres are expected to be in production by October 15. Several plantings of some vegetables will be made at intervals of ten days to two weeks to provide a continuing flow over a period of several weeks. Only seven years ago this land was raw virgin

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soil, but since then it has been in alfalfa and has been grazed by sheep and cattle with the result that it has improved considerably in vegetable matter and general fertility. The frost hazard is from November 15 to the end of January.

During the summer season when it is too hot for vegetable production, the principal crops are cotton, alfalfa, melons, and sorghums. Next year flax and castor beans, both important in meeting certain war-time needs, will be raised.

POPULATION: 67,664

Population at the six projects in this region for October 6 was as follows: Colorado River, 17,171; Manzanar, 9034; Gila River, 11,553; Tule Lake, 14,588; Central Utah, 7217; and Minidoka, 8101, or a total of 67,664; Heart Mountain reported 9826 for the same day and Rohwer, 3689.