

December 4, 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 . . . .

STAFF MOVE BEGINS

With Mr. Fryer's departure for Washington, yesterday, December 3, re-organization of the WRA staff took active form. Over the weekend another four or five are scheduled to leave, chiefly members of the Procurement Division. Leland Barrow, who had been in the San Francisco office working on personnel changes, left this week to return to Washington.

CONSTRUCTION  
PLANS OUTLINED

On Tuesday of this week the overall construction programs for all of the projects in this region, with the exception of Colorado River, were mailed to Washington for submission to the War Production Board. The needs for both building construction and land development have been estimated, and in every case where PD-200's have not yet either been submitted to WPB or approved by it, estimates are made of the critical materials which would have to be used. Each item is described and the need for it on the project explained.

REPORT ON HIGHER  
EDUCATION MADE

A detailed report has been submitted to Washington on vocational training and education above the secondary-school level at the projects. The findings and recommendations were the result of an investigation made by a commission headed by Allen C. Blaisdell, Educational Consultant. That some educational program for the college age group was of utmost importance was the unanimous feeling expressed at all the projects. Educational leaders consider such a program essential if leadership of a distinctly American quality is to be developed among the nisei. Definite educational opportunities must be made available in order to offset the confusion into which their thinking has been thrown by the evacuation.

At several of the projects arrangements have been made for teacher-training courses offering college credit. At Gila River credit is being given for courses offered in cooperation with the Tempe State Teachers College. A charge of five dollars is made for 16 units of study. In California, similar courses have been established at Manzanar and Tule Lake in cooperation with the Extension Division of the University of California at a higher cost of one dollar and a half per unit. Both the University of Utah and the Utah State Agricultural College are sympathetic to the development of similar arrangements.

The question of credit for vocational and liberal arts courses is somewhat more difficult, although negotiations are under way in California to establish some satisfactory procedure between the projects in this state and certain of the junior colleges for vocational courses and with the University of California Extension Division for the liberal arts courses.

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PROGRESS MADE ON  
SELF-GOVERNMENT

Although Tule Lake is the only project which has ratified its city charter and elected a permanent council, other projects are proceeding with their plans for self-government. It has already become apparent that within the limits imposed by WRA policy, each charter so far drawn up is completely individual. The attempts to solve problems through community government are worked out in different ways at each project. For example, the Minidoka charter calls for nominations by a nominating convention, while at other projects nominations are by petition.

At Minidoka the charter commission has completed drawing up the document and it is now being reviewed by Project Director Stafford preparatory to its being put to a vote by the community. The charter provides for a council of seven persons to serve for six months, a judicial commission of not less than five, and an arbitration commission to handle civil cases under the statutory procedures of the laws of Idaho.

The original charter drawn up at Manzanar is now being reviewed by a new charter commission of two representatives of each block. After it has been approved by the commission it will be submitted to the community for a vote.

At Gila River the charter has been completed and submitted to the two temporary community councils for review as well as to other groups that might advise on it. Central Utah has elected a temporary council and selected a charter commission. At Colorado River charter commissions have been selected for each of the three camps. Each will have its own charter plus certain provisions which will permit representatives from each unit to form a council for the whole project.

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BENNETT APPOINTED  
GILA RIVER DIRECTOR

LeRoy H. Bennett, formerly an industrial production manager on the regional staff, has been appointed director of the Gila River Project. Before coming to WPA Mr. Bennett had served as an executive with large distributors of automotive equipment, electrical appliances and aircraft in the San Francisco Bay district. Prior to that he had been engaged in business in the southwest. Mr. Cozzens is Acting Director at Gila River until Mr. Bennett assumes his new duties.

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VEGETABLE HARVEST  
CONTINUES AT GILA

During November, ten cars of vegetables were shipped from Gila River to other projects in this and the other regions. The crops in production were daikon, squash, beets, and turnips. Spinach has been harvested in sufficient quantities for the mess halls on the project.

At Tule Lake 25,000 sacks of potatoes are now in storage for later shipment to other projects and for the local mess halls during the winter. Harvest of rutabagas, turnips, beets, potatoes, and carrots continues. There are 100 acres of rutabagas still in the ground, but the frost will not hurt them. The remaining carrots will be used on the project. During November, 22 cars of vegetables were shipped out.

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Minidoka: Report on arts and handicrafts exhibit, the railing off of one square mile as the start of the land subjugation program, and the coal shortage.

Tule Lake: Miscellaneous items (dated November 28) including mention of the cablegrams sent to Japan through the American Red Cross and a listing of recruits leaving for Camp Savage, Minnesota.

Tule Lake: The Lighter Side. A brief report on amusing things which happen and show that the younger people have a sense of humor.

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IN THE PROJECT PAPERS

Tulean Dispatch:

An issei drama and talent show will be sponsored by the Construction Department on December 5-6 to celebrate the completion of the first factory building..... A speech clinic to aid pupils with speech defects has been established by the high school speech instructor.....

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34 recruits left the project on November 30 for the Military Intelligence Language School at Savage, Minn..... 28 councilmen were elected on November 30 with a total of 31,165 votes cast..... 2136 tons of coal were used during September. A reserve of about 20 carloads is kept on hand for emergency..... Tule Lake Cooperatives, Inc., has agreed to underwrite a City Directory.

Topaz Times:

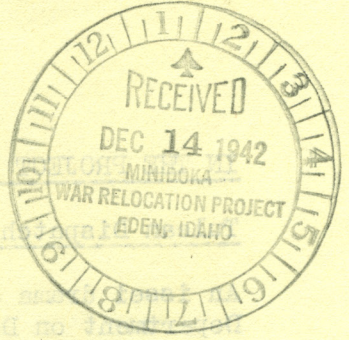
The Delta High School Band presented two concerts at the project..... Seventy-six head of Hereford steers were bought on Nov. 23..... Classes in Americanization are scheduled to begin on Dec. 7..... Full day school sessions were scheduled to begin on Nov. 30..... 243 have enrolled in the Basic English classes, and of these 185 were issei women.

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Report on site and handover's exhibit, the setting off of one square mile as the start of the land reclamation project, and the coal storage.

Tule Lake: Miscellaneous items (dated November 28) including mention of the celebration sent to Japan through the American Red Cross and a listing of recruits leaving for Camp Savage, Minnesota.

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