

*Please deliver to:
John Bigelow*

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.

FRYER AT MANZANAR

Deputy Director Fryer is now at Manzanar to assist in reinaugurating civil administration as soon as possible. The military authorities continue in control. Both the War Department and WRA, in a joint statement to the press, declared that they are of the opinion "that this disturbance was caused by a relatively small group of evacuees and that the great majority of residents of Manzanar and other relocation centers are loyal to the United States and completely in favor of orderly processes of government." Arrangements have been made to transfer temporarily about 160 loyal evacuees whose lives have been threatened to a CCC camp in Death Valley.

SHIRRELL TO LEAVE TULE LAKE

Project Director Elmer Shirrell announced to his staff at Tule Lake last week that he plans to leave the project about the end of this month. He will go into another responsible position with the Authority. His successor at the project has not yet been announced.

REORGANIZATION
TAKES FORM

At the most recent count thirty-two of the regional staff had been assigned to positions in Washington and at least half a dozen have already left. Others have taken positions on the projects or at other field offices.

In the Supply Division, Jack Gilbert, Priorities Officer, is enroute to Washington. Hall Stenz, Procurement Officer, has also left. Others in this division scheduled for Washington are George Dorman, Hugh Alexander, and Alice Jensen. Office Services will send Helen Collins, Geraldine Eggesbro, Sadieruth Deaver, Kathleen Cox, and Opal Shepherd. In the Agricultural and Engineering Division, Allen Laflin, C. H. Powers, F. W. Thunberg, Orel B. Wilt, and W. E. Hoffman will be located in Washington. Dr. G. D. C. Thompson, Joy Stuart, and Robert P. Lowe will go from the Health Section of the Community Management Division; Lucy Adams and R. E. Gibson from Education; Solon T. Kimball from Community Organization; Lawrence Collins from Community Enterprise.

(Information Roundup - 12/11/42)

The Employment Division will include Robert Petrie, Charlotte Dixon, Margaret Biddle, Helen Hanson, and Davis McEntire. In the Reports Division, Edwin Bates will be in Washington on a short detail. Leatrice Jacobson and Catherine Scott will be in the Documentation and Public Information Sections respectively.

Definite assignments to projects include that of O. A. Ashby to Tule Lake; Clarence E. Zimmer to the same project; Leroy H. Bennett as Project Director of Gila River; Erminia Salberg to Central Utah; Margaret Ann Ost to Gila River. Natalie Gordon will report to the Evacuee Property office in Los Angeles.

Proposals have been made for a change in the location of the San Francisco field office, but for the time being, it is probable that offices will be retained in the Whitcomb Hotel in the central corridor and the annex on the third floor.

SCHOOL BUDGET BEING PREPARED

The Education Section is working out a budget for the Tule Lake and Manzanar schools to present to the California State Board of Education in the event that these schools become a part of the state school system. A bill will be submitted to the State Legislature when it meets in January.

The budgets being worked out are for the remainder of this year and for next year and will show what part of the expense the state will have to finance and for what part of the federal government will be responsible. The federal government will have to assume the part usually the responsibility of the local governments.

EVACUEE PROPERTY ADDS TO STAFF

The Evacuee Property Division, which will remain in San Francisco, will have additional members on its staff. Adon Poli, Land Economist, will act as economic analyst for the division. He will assemble factual material concerning evacuee property problems, analyze it, and make recommendations for the guidance of the division in improving its service. He will establish an inventory of properties for which the Authority is responsible and catalogue them in order to expedite the handling of cases. He will make studies of areas where there are large concentrations of evacuee farms in distress to determine whether a change of utilization will effect a greater contribution to the national war effort and a greater possibility of maintaining the equity of the owner.

J. W. Holbert has also been appointed to the staff. He has been with the U. S. Engineers in the land acquisition department in Santa Fe and prior to that was with the Farm Security Administration. He has also had considerable private experience in rural and urban real estate.

(Information Roundup - 12/11/42)

Mr. Robinson, Chief of the division, will make the rounds of the projects to hold consultations with property owners and to explain to them more fully what services are available to them and to acquaint them with current conditions.

The Information Division has prepared a report on the Placer County, California, fruit farms formerly operated by evacuees to show the effect of wartime conditions on these properties. The report also deals with the geographic and historical background of this district, farm census figures, climate and rainfall, irrigation, transportation, community services, farm organization, and practices, commercial operation, efforts to find family operators, and the results of the search for tenants.

MINIDOKA PROJECT REPORTS

- No. 12: Miscellaneous item, including family groups census.
- No. 13: A report of the employment situation, both outside and on the project. It shows why the outside farm labor campaign was so successful, describes the resulting labor shortage in the center, and mentions other aspects of employment and placement, such as the Fair Labor Practices Board, outside labor conditions, etc.
- No. 14: Miscellaneous items: start of school stops juvenile delinquencies; large dormitories prove unsatisfactory; evacuee girl named Girl Reserve official; evacuee band plays for dances; electrified fence causes brief furor; and young evacuees visit school.
- No. 15: A report on a public forum sponsored by the Federated Church Youth Fellowship on the topic "Should Evacuees Marry?"
- No. 16: Miscellaneous items: what evacuees are reading; Oregon governor thanks Japanese workers; evacuee quits job after warning; farm workers' survey planned.
- No. 17: A description of the first case of a Mindoka evacuee being tried and sentenced in an outside court for a crime committed inside the center.
- No. 18: Evacuee Loses Life. The search for choice pieces of greasewood for artistic purposes caused the death from exposure of Jakaji Edward Abe, 55, on December 2. Abe and a friend started out together but became separated, and the friend returned to the center. When Abe failed to return that evening, a searching party of about thirty set out to look for him on the snowcovered desert where he had last been seen. The next day the volunteers increased to 500, and the project director piloted a plane over the area, but Abe was not found until the following morning when about 1200 took up the search.
- Lost in the sagebrush and exhausted from a ten or twelve mile walk over the rough countryside, Abe had apparently lain down and fallen asleep, then slipped into a coma during which time the effects to the subfreezing cold, wind, and snow had proved fatal.

(Information Roundup - 12/11/42)

The 68,000-acre tract of the Minidoka project area, about 100 square miles, is characterized by outcroppings of lava and many hills and gullies. Evacuees frequently range over it to obtain greasewood and sagebrush for the making of artistic articles in which there is much lively competition.

Monthly Report for November: High spots of the month included the jump in the number of evacuee property problems handled; establishment of a new office of the Social Services Division to handle clothing grants and completion of the Basic Family Unit cards; installation of a dry sprinkler system in the hospital wings housing patients; remodelling of two recreation halls for movie houses. At the end of the month the number employed outside the project was 1299. School enrollment was 762 for the elementary school and 1295 for the high school. Gross receipts of the Consumer Enterprises rose from \$33,558.84 in October to \$40,727.39.

NOVEMBER REPORT
FROM MANZANAR

During November 2698 nets were produced at the camouflage net factory, 6713 pounds of bean sprouts were finished, and 1440 gallons of shoyu (soy sauce). The garment factory opened on November 23, and by the end of the month 163 policemen's uniforms were in process and 104 coats for females in the net factory. About 800 returned from outside employment during the month, leaving 228 still out. The Agricultural Department reported that 11,887 lbs. of carrots had been produced for Manzanar mess halls, 60,512 lbs. of nappa, 9,005 lbs. of tomatoes, 40,690 lbs. of turnips, 600 lbs. of green onions, and 450 lbs. of lettuce. The crop summary for 1942 showed that 21 varieties of crops had been planted on 120 acres and 1,354,958 lbs. harvested. The market value of the crops was \$44,017.56.

CENTRAL UTAH: NOVEMBER 27

By November 27 all resident apartments, school classrooms, recreation halls, and mess halls had been winterized. Diversion gates on the canals were being installed, but fall irrigation did not seem to be feasible. Progress was made on the installation of telephone equipment for fire alarms, and terra cotta chimneys were installed where not originally provided. A Harvest Festival was held over the Thanksgiving holiday. Supplies for the elementary school are arriving, but very few of the departments of the high school have adequate supplies or materials for a satisfactory program. Inclement weather hampered farm operations, but work on the temporary hog plant was progressing satisfactorily, and feed racks around the hay stack for cattle had been completed, the corral repaired, and a water trough installed. An inventory and coal delivery by block is to be maintained to determine comparative coal consumption. Coal stock pile consisted of 200 tons and 440 on hand in the blocks.

(Information Roundup - 12/11/42)

GILA CROPS INCREASE

Vegetable harvest at Gila River is increasing, although a shortage of crating supplies necessitated the discing under of 12 acres of spinach and 75% of an 8-acre field of lettuce. This shortage of crates has now been relieved. During November 323 tons of vegetables were produced with daikon heading the list at 97 tons and turnips second at 84 tons. The value placed on the crops was \$11,660.

POSTON RESIDENTS
TO DECIDE ON NET WORK

Residents of the Colorado River project will decide on whether or not to accept work in the camouflage net factory, and the three proposals for payment of wages advanced by the contractors will be referred to the people in each block. A committee is to be set up which will study thoroughly the various problems involved in the work. The Community Council and the block managers were asked to bring the proposals to the residents before December 10.

"THE LAST ROUNDUP"

With this issue, the "Information Roundup" will complete its purpose of informing the administrative staff of the activities of the San Francisco office and at the projects in this region. Since its inauguration on May 6 as a daily information bulletin for very limited circulation, it has developed into a more general news summary for wider consumption, although still confined to administrative personnel. The first issue reports on the proposed second camp at Tule Lake, the site at Beardsley, Arizona, still "looked good", and the contract for Unit I at Gila River had been awarded.

Volume I consisted of 43 issues; Volume II, which began on July 1, had 27 issues. Beginning with Volume III on August 3, the "Roundup" advanced from a typewritten sheet to mimeographed, and was issued tri-weekly until the middle of September, when it became a semi-weekly. By the beginning of November it was decided that its function would be served if issued weekly only. Volume IV began on October 1 and concludes with this issue.