

## INFORMATION DIGEST

No. 30

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For the Use of the WRA Staff Only - Not for Publication

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A NOTE FROM THE OFFICE OF REPORTS ---

With this issue, the summary of information which the Office of Reports has been preparing nearly every week since last May takes on a new name and new scope. We've always felt that many of the items (such as project newspapers and weekly project reports) which have been circulated in the past could be made much more effective if digested and included in this weekly journal. So hereafter there'll be much less material from this Office passing over your desks. But we hope you'll find the Information Digest more useful than ever. If you need to consult full texts of project newspaper stories or other items, the Library will be glad to help you out.

MANZANAR QUIET --

The situation at Manzanar was unchanged at the last report, although seven of the twenty-two evacuees who had been arrested have been released. The remaining fifteen are being held in the jails at Lone Pine and Independence.

A GCC camp at Moab, Utah, will be utilized as a temporary segregation camp for evacuees removed from any relocation center. Equipment is now being trucked in. Raymond R. Best, formerly Transportation and Supply Officer at Minidoka, will be in charge of the camp.

As reported last week, a Board of Review consisting of Messrs. Rowalt, Provinse, and Glick, has been appointed to pass upon the records of the individuals who have been arrested and to make recommendations to the Director on the action which should be taken in each case. The names of these evacuees have been submitted to the FBI and Naval Intelligence for additional information.

ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT REORGANIZED --

Progress is reported in the reorganization of the Administrative Management Division under Leland Barrows, Executive Officer, with the establishment of three sections: Finance, headed by John Clear; Personnel, headed by Edward McMenamin; and Supply. Mr. Barrows will act as head of the latter section until a permanent appointment is made.



Finance will include the Field Accounting and Audits Unit, Accounting and Examination, and Cost Accounting and Property Control. Seymour Cahn will head the first unit. Personnel will consist of four units: Training and Placement, Classification and Organization Planning, Safety and Compensation, and Office Services, of which Helen Collins will have charge. The three units in Supply are Procurement, (headed by Hall Stenz), Transportation Operations, and Mess Operations. Frank Harding, formerly Chief Steward at Gila River, will head the latter unit.

OFFICE SPACE ADDED --

The increase in the size of the Washington staff has necessitated the taking over of additional office space in the Barr Building. The entire fifth floor will soon be occupied by the Community Services, Reports, and Employment divisions. Office Services is now occupying a large room on the first floor.

Present space will be retained. The eighth floor will continue to be occupied by the Director's office, offices of the deputy directors, the Relocation Planning Division, and the Agriculture and Engineering Division. On the seventh floor will be the Solicitor's office and a small part of the Employment Division. Administrative Management will be on the sixth.

MORE COLLEGES APPROVED --

Sixty more colleges and universities have been cleared by both the Army and Navy for student relocation. The list includes American University, Bryn Mawr, Boston University, Detroit University, Fordham, Holy Cross, the New School for Social Research, and the Rochdale Institute. A new list of twenty names has been submitted to the War Department.

Forty-five students have been cleared since December 15, enabling them to enroll for second semesters. Of this number, thirty-four have been cleared since Christmas. Others have been given leave clearance, but cannot be released until their records are received from the West Coast Committee of the National Student Relocation Council.

The Office of Education has been approached regarding possible sources of government funds to assist students either at colleges or schools outside the relocation centers or for training within the projects. The question has also been raised as to the eligibility of evacuees for student war loans to complete certain types of professional training. Pharmacy, dentistry, medicine, engineering, chemistry, and physics are the fields in which these loans are given.



CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM SUBMITTED --

The overall construction program for the relocation centers was submitted to the Governmental Requirements Branch of the War Production Board on December 30. This unit will review it and prepare it for further consideration by the Facilities Review Committee of WPB. The Committee will consult with members of the WRA staff on any parts of the program that may be questioned. The Supply Section expects that it will take from two weeks to a month for a decision.

The program, which will cost between five and six million dollars, was prepared by the Agricultural and Engineering Division. The engineering staff supplies the technical details and justification of the plans and will meet with the WPB committee. After a general approval of the program has been given, PD-200's will have to be prepared for individual parts and submitted to WPB, but this procedure will be more or less routine. In many cases these PD-200's were prepared before WPB asked to have plans for the entire program submitted in advance.

The program covers additional warehouses, bakeries, stores, slaughterhouses, facilities for the production of poultry and hogs at all the centers, beef cattle at Central Utah, Granada, and Gila River, and dairy herds at Gila River and Colorado River. Plans are also included for a church at each center, jails, repair shops and garages, equipment for clearing and leveling of land, construction of irrigation ditches and laterals, drainage systems, and roads.

Plans for the construction of schools have now been approved for all centers, as have those for administrative housing, with the exception of Colorado River.

CHICAGO OFFICE TO OPEN

The Chicago office of the Employment Division will open on January 4. Elmer Shirrell, who will be head of the office, will report to Washington, however, before he goes on to Chicago. Rex Lee, formerly of the San Francisco staff, will be in Chicago on detail for a while before going to the Salt Lake City office.

Both the Denver and Salt Lake City offices are now functioning, and the Cleveland office will open about the middle of January. An office will also be established in either Kansas City or Omaha about the middle of January or shortly thereafter.



NEW SET-UP FOR AGRICULTURE ---

The Agriculture and Engineering Division has, under its new organizational setup, four sections. The first is Agriculture, Production, and Marketing and is headed by Ernest H. Reed. Irrigation and Development is under W. Alan Laflin; Construction and Maintenance, under C. H. Powers, assisted by Frank Thunberg and O. B. Wilt; Fire Patrol, under William E. Hoffman. Two draftsmen will be in the Construction and Maintenance Section.

REPATRIATION NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE ---

The United States and Japanese governments are still negotiating over the names of nationals to be repatriated. The tentative list for the next sailing of the liner Gripsholm has been submitted to Japan, but is apparently not wholly acceptable to that government. In a further attempt to work the affair out an additional 3700 names requested by the Jap government are to be canvassed for interest in repatriation. Out of about 400 replies so far received, only 7 have indicated a willingness to accept.

Mr. DeAmat, the Spanish consul at San Francisco, has now visited Gila River, Colorado River, Manzanar, and Tule Lake. The Vice Consul is expected to cover the northern group after the holidays. The Spanish consul at New Orleans will visit the Arkansas projects about January 10 in the company of a representative of the State Department.

PROCLAMATIONS AMENDED ---

Lieutenant General J. L. DeWitt has issued Public Proclamation No. 14, dated December 23, amending Proclamations 1 and 2 to the effect that prohibited zones A-2 to A-1033 are abolished and all restrictions and regulations relative to them are rescinded. These zones lay in Military Areas No. 1 and 2, but outside of the prohibited area along the coasts of Oregon, Washington, and California. The restricted zone, lying east of the prohibited zone, has now been declared a prohibited area and henceforth Military Area No. 1 will be a single prohibited zone.

Public Proclamation No. 15, dated December 24, rescinds Proclamation No. 3, in that part which established regulations for the curfew and travel restrictions affecting enemy aliens in Military Area No. 1 and other zones which had been designated earlier. The curfew hours established in Proclamation No. 6 are also rescinded. The net effect is to remove all Western Defense Command regulations applying to German aliens. Italian aliens, of course, were removed from the "enemy alien" category by Attorney General Biddle's order of October 12.



CLOTHING ALLOWANCES BEING PAID --

Seven projects have so far reported the progress made in the payment of cash clothing allowances as of December 19. At that time all family cards in those centers had been completed with a total count of 21,100 families or individuals.

Rohwer reported that no money had then been paid. At Jerome clothing orders had been written for everyone who was eligible, the vouchers had been prepared, and checks were being awaited. Twenty-two people had received cash at Granada, but all vouchers had been written. The delay was due to lack of cash on hand. At Minidoka the vouchers had been prepared, but no payments made. At both Gila River and Heart Mountain all allowances had been paid through September 6. Central Utah is paying on a cash basis, but because of the problem of a revolving fund, had not been able to make all payments.

DENVER DIRECTOR HERE --

Joseph H. Smart, who about 15 years ago was a special agent of the FBI, is in the Washington office on detail from Denver to assist in a study of internal security, project government, and related fields. At the weekly staff meeting Mr. Smart reported the current status of self-government and internal security at Minidoka and Central Utah, which he had just visited, and at Heart Mountain and Granada, which he had seen not long before.

CO-OP PURCHASING OFFICE SET UP --

Gerald Richardson and Otto Rossman, Business Specialist, are in New York to establish a central purchasing office for project consumers' enterprises. The primary function of this office will be to locate sources of materials and to facilitate purchasing by the various project co-ops by supplying them with information. Charles Beltt will be in charge of the office.

HOFFMAN ARRIVES --

William E. Hoffman, Fire Protection Advisor, arrived in the Washington office today after more than a month spent in visiting projects. Mr. Hoffman surveyed the fire control situation at both Arkansas projects, Granada, Central Utah, Heart Mountain, Minidoka, and Tule Lake. He also stopped at the Little Rock and Denver field offices to consult with officials there.



TYPEWRITERS AND SECRETARIES WANTED --

With the new government order forbidding the rental of typewriters after January 15, the procurement office is working with the Procurement Division of the Treasury Department to find a supply of typewriters that will meet the needs of WRA. It is hoped that 1500 typewriters will shortly be available. WRA has the authority to purchase post-1935 machines and also to continue renting pre-1935 machines until February 15, 1943.

Recruiting of stenographers and secretaries is the most urgent problem in the Personnel Section, but the lack of candidates makes the outlook far from encouraging.

NEW BOOKS IN LIBRARY --

"Kokutai," by John Paul Reed, a sociological study of the concept of patriotism and nationalism as inculcated by the school system in Japan. The author was a school teacher in Japan for many years. "Interracial Marriage in Hawaii," by Romanzo Adams is another addition.

WEEKLY PROJECT REPORTS --

(The following items are highlights of the reports received for December 19 and 26)

GILA RIVER: Net factory opening orderly.....Council passed resolution adopting modified form of Plan III wage distribution for net factory. Enrollment progressing slowly, but workers are garnishing more than quota, none are leaving, and heavy enrollment is expected on January 4.....Christmas spirit forced major community problems temporarily into the background.....Lack of materials holding up construction on administrative quarters.....Heaters for barracks being installed rapidly.

CENTRAL UTAH: Permanent telephone system completed.....All but one recreation hall completely winterized.....150 acres planted in barley and sweet clover and 100 acres ready to seed.....Christmas pageant had a cast of over 500 children and young people.....A seventy-two hour search resulted in the finding of a 30-year old man who had been lost from a group looking for Christmas decorations. The evacuee is convalescing in the hospital.....Fire caused by carelessly thrown cigarette butt damaged a Ford truck in the Motor Pool.

GRANADA: A man running a gambling game and one participant were taken before the JP Court at Lamar. The player pleaded guilty and was fined \$50, while the operator was granted a postponement to obtain counsel. The pot of about \$150 will be turned over to Community Services.....About 75 laborers are employed on the high school. Excavation and grading was almost complete and work on concrete foundations was being started. Staking and grading being done on elementary-school sites.



HEART MOUNTAIN: Final draft of city charter to be presented to Charter Commission for approval on December 29.....Curriculum objectives have been developed for the elementary, high-school and night school departments of fine arts, language arts, mathematics and science, and vocations... Recreation conference was held on December 17 and committees selected to study the major problems facing the recreation program.

ROHWER: Seventy McGehee Rotarians, wives, and guests toured the project... Temporary Board of Trustees was to take over operation of all community enterprises.....Good progress reported on construction of staff living quarters.....Christmas festivities raised evacuee morale to an all-time high.

COLORADO RIVER: Sixty cases of chicken pox reported.....Unit I Council sworn in and organized committee to consider net factory.....Protest made against low-flying airplanes.....Heating stoves arriving daily.

JEROME: Temporary council adopted, with some changes, the rules and regulations drafted by a committee of three council members and two issei selected by the center.....Labor difficulties with the wood-cutting crews, including a slowup campaign, were ironed out, and a similar problem with the warehouse crew that had resulted in demurrage charges on 20 freight cars was being cleared up..... Christmas activities were entered into enthusiastically.....Warm weather eased the fuel situation.

MINIDOKA: Celebration of Christmas overshadowed all other activities... Mud condition an emergency due to several days' thaw. Gravel was hauled from a pit a few miles away.....Steward's division making tabulations for rationing figures.

FROM PROJECT PAPERS --

Granada Pioneer, Dec. 12, 16, 19.

Residents riding to Lamar on the mail truck must now have passes... Judging of best mess hall to be based on least dish breakage, 50%, sanitary conditions, 30%, courteous conduct, 10%, and menu preparation, 10%.....First trial blackout a success with only two persons not under cover after siren sounded.....Best per capita showing of all projects in recruitment for military language school.....Three sewing machines being delivered to each block.....Two more recreation halls opened..... To permit issei a place in self-government system 14 block managers resigned with recommendation that issei block advisers be appointed instead.....900 lbs. of popcorn and tree decorations received from Arkansas Valley Japanese.....First production of Little Theater a success. Tarkington's "The Trysting Place" and Morley's "Rehearsal" were presented... Pioneer conducting a survey to determine what the residents desire in a paper.



Tulcan Dispatch, Dec. 17, 18, 19, 21, and 22.

5,140 persons joined the Co-op during first week of membership drive.....College scholarship fund committee organized to help deserving high-school graduates to continue education.....Concrete-pouring operations started on new Gym-Auditorium, which will seat 1500. A stage, projection room, shower facilities, lockers, and rest rooms will be provided.....Over 75% of high-school students' parents responded to a survey to determine their degree of satisfaction with the school program. Ninety per cent of the replies were favorable..... Publication of the Dispatch suspended from December 23-27.....Japanese language course is planned.

Minidoka Irrigator, Dec. 16, 19.

Last block now open.....Winterization of barracks nearing completion.....\$3,000 voted by Seattle chapter of JACL to be earmarked for the National JACL's share in the relocation effort.....Art exhibit of original work scheduled for January 20-23.....Preliminary work on airport site begun.....Western Union service now available for personal messages through Consumer Enterprises.....Hospital laundry expected to be in operation before end of month.....Plans made for a high-school paper.....More than 7,000 Christmas gifts donated by various organizations and individuals.

Poston Chronicle, Dec. 23, 24.

200-voice choir presented a Christmas concert in Unit III..... 12 English classes for beginners are held weekly in Unit I, 6 issei intermediate, 6 nisei intermediate, and 2 advanced.....7,000 Christmas gifts donated to Poston children.....Drama classes for high-school age students to begin after Christmas.

Heart Mountain Sentinel, Dec. 19, 24.

Painting of Heart Mountain presented to Director Rachford as a farewell gift.....Farm program to include animal husbandry.....More than 3,000 attended exhibit sponsored by Art Students League..... Windstorm on December 17 caused a 45-minute blackout.....Fire in administrative dormitory caused damage estimated at \$2500..... Bentoniting of main irrigation canal halted until spring because of cold weather.....More than 8,000 gifts and \$2600 in cash received from outside donors for Christmas.....Block representatives for the agricultural committee have been elected and will select six of their number to constitute an advisory board to assist the agricultural chief.



Jerome Communiquo, Dec. 15.

Board of Directors appointed to handle business and fiscal policies of Community Enterprises.....Federal funds made available for medical, surgical, diagnostic, and therapeutic care of crippled children by U.S. Children's Bureau working through the Arkansas State Department of Public Welfare.

Rohwer Outpost, Dec. 16, 19, 24.

Wood and not coal will be used as fuel by residents.....About 700 acres being plowed for spring planting.....Everyday accounts of life at the Arkansas centers will be a Sunday feature of the St. Louis Dispatch.....High school to publish paper.....Distribution of mackinaws was expected to be completed by Christmas.....An outdoor pageant and other festivities were scheduled for Christmas.....Blocks lacking men to cut their day's quota of five loads of wood will be taken care of by blocks able to cut a surplus.....Plans for rest home for the elderly have been abandoned.

Topaz Times, Dec. 14-19.

Health Service Committee began a survey on Dec. 14 to determine the necessity of establishing a central diet kitchen and a health residence for the elderly and chronic.....City constitution ratified by a vote of 2,591 to 843.....Coal reserve being built up steadily at the rate of 70-100 tons daily, but volunteers were needed to furnish labor for transporting the coal from Delta to the center.....Brief history of Utah is being run serially in the Times, beginning on December 19..... Membership of Co-op on December 15 was 5,132.....Milk and crackers now being distributed to kindergarten and first-grade pupils.....Over 200 adults attended a series of lectures on Americanization regularly.

CLIPPED FROM THE NATION'S PRESS --

Damon Runyon, in the New York Mirror of December 22, points out that great numbers of Japanese came to this country after 1907 when Japan agreed on her honor to keep her nationals out of the United States. He comments on the lack of any record of Japanese-Americans as a group protesting the crimes of Japan or attempting to close the Japanese-language schools.

An editorial in the Milwaukee Journal of December 14, commenting on the Manzanar "incident", takes it as evidence that evacuation was necessary and upbraids the American Civil Liberties Union and other organizations for "doing their best to break down this order." A similar editorial appears in the Pontiac Press on December 19.



A UP story dated December 22 from San Francisco describes in some detail Christmas plans for Tule Lake and other centers. (Washington Post.) The St. Paul Dispatch carries an AP story on the relocation of 200 evacuees on indefinite leave in the issue of December 18. The Salt Lake City Tribune of December 17 announces that evacuee labor is available for farm work in Utah.

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