

I N F O R M A T I O N D I G E S T

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For the Use of the WRA Staff

ASSISTANCE GRANTS POLICY REVISED

With greater emphasis being placed on relocation, WRA procedures for granting funds to evacuees planning to relocate have been further liberalized to the benefit of larger family groups. The new policy has been set forth in Handbook Section No. 60.13, superseding Administrative Instruction No. 45.

Under the new plan, the grant for transportation remains the same; evacuees will be given coach tickets to point of destination and \$3 per family member per day for subsistence en route. The cash grant for subsistence after arrival, however, has been revised, and now provides a standard grant for each family member.

Under the old procedure, evacuee families were entitled to a cash grant of \$50 for the first family member and \$25 for each of the next two members; a limit of \$100 per family was set as the maximum. The new regulation, however, provides for a flat cash grant of \$25 per family member, regardless of the size of the family relocating.

All families are eligible to receive full grants, provided that cash resources do not exceed \$100 per family member. Previously, any cash resources which a family had were deducted from the total grant given.

The above regulations will not apply to those leaving the centers on student leave.

DIRECTOR TO ADDRESS AMERICAN LEGION GROUP

Director Iyer will address a meeting of state commanders, state adjutants, and national officers of the American Legion to be held in Indianapolis on November 16. In speaking to the veterans group, the Director will outline some of the problems faced by WRA and will describe the procedures followed both in relocation and in administration of the centers.

DEADLINE FOR LEAVE CLEARANCE HEARINGS SET

In order to effect the final disposition of all leave clearance hearings and the ultimate transfer to Tule Lake of those not eligible for leave clearance, a new procedure has been devised and placed into effect whereby all leave clearance hearings at the projects can be completed by the end of 1943.

Project Directors have all been assigned weekly quotas of the number of hearings which should be completed and returned to Washington during each week. Quotas will be flexible and will vary in accordance with current conditions at each center, but will be designed in each case to reach the goal.

NEW RELOCATION OFFICE OPENED

William Kir-Stimon has been named Relocation Officer in charge of the new office at Grand Rapids, Michigan. Exceptionally good acceptance of relocated evacuees in Michigan has created considerable evacuee interest in relocation in that area. The new office, located in Room 309 Keeler Building, will concentrate on relocation in the industrial and agricultural communities in and around Grand Rapids.

RELOCATION IN FLORIDA EXPLORED FURTHER

E. B. Whitaker of the Little Rock office has recently completed another trip to Florida to discuss relocation with industrial and agricultural leaders there. Charles B. Price, Relocation Officer at Little Rock, is now working with fruit and vegetable growers in Florida in the development of plans for relocation in that state.

CENTRAL BUYING AGENCY ESTABLISHED BY CO-OPS

Future purchases of merchandise for resale in community business enterprises will be made through a central purchasing agency, according to the plan established by representatives of the various co-ops at a meeting held in Chicago September 28 through 30.

A Federation of Business Enterprises of Relocation Centers has been organized to coordinate buying for all co-ops. Each center participating in the plan will be required to post \$500 in advance on purchase accounts and \$100 to cover the first two months' operating expenses. Monthly dues will be \$50 per project, with any deficit being prorated in accordance with each center's purchases and the volume of service rendered.

The Federation will employ three salaried evacuee buyers with headquarters in New York, while WRA will supply funds for travelling expenses to nearby points. Centers not joining the Federation may use this service, but in such cases, they will be charged 5 percent of their total purchase amount for handling charges.

It is expected that this new plan will result in considerable savings for many centers which have heretofore spent hundreds of dollars in sending buyers on purchasing trips.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

Miss Inez F. Mercer, formerly Associate Relocation Officer in Chicago, has been appointed Placement Officer in the Personnel Management Section in Washington.

Dr. Jack Sleath, formerly Project Medical Officer at Gila, has been transferred to Washington as Assistant Chief Medical Officer of WRA.

Edwin E. Ferguson and Robert A. Leflar have been named Assistant Solicitors of WRA, replacing Lewis A. Sigler and James A. McLaughlin. Mr. Sigler is now awaiting induction into the armed forces. Mr. McLaughlin left

to accept a position with the Maritime Commission.

Horace Zed Gant, also of the Legal Division, has been commissioned an Ensign in the U. S. Navy.

Virginia Seay of the Personnel Management Section has been transferred to the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs.

Jack Nichols, of Central Utah Relocation Center, has been named head of the Accounting and Examination Unit of the Finance Section in Washington.

REPORTS OFFICERS APPOINTED

Appointment of the following Reports Officers in the field were announced in Washington this week:

E. B. Joyce, San Francisco; Harry Weiss, Cleveland; Edward Sargent, Kansas City; and Harry Tarvin, Denver. Raymond Grow has been occupying a similar position in the Chicago office for several months.

WRA OVER-SUBSCRIBES WAR BOND DRIVE

The quotas set for WRA during the Third War Loan Drive were over-subscribed by both the Washington office and the field. WRA personnel purchased \$149,170 worth of bonds during the month of September, which was far in excess of the goal of 30 percent of the gross salaries.

Washington office personnel exceeded their quota by 20 percent, with total purchases of \$23,255 in bonds. In the field, a total of \$149,170 in bonds were subscribed, representing 106 percent of the quota. At Rohwer, appointed personnel purchased \$18,180 worth of bonds, reaching 168 percent of their quota.

The drive was undertaken at the request of the Treasury Department and was handled by Miss Sonia Katz and Ray Miller. For their successful campaign, Miss Katz and Mr. Miller have been awarded Certificates of Distinguished Service, signed by Secretary Morgenthau.

WRA BLOOD DONORS

Since July 13, 1942, a total of 81 employees of the Washington office have given their blood to the District of Columbia Red Cross Blood Bank. In some cases, individual donors have contributed as much as four times during this period.

SEPTEMBER AT THE PROJECTS

JEROME

Sawmill produced 23,360 board feet of lumber valued at \$934.00...all-star baseball team defeated 442nd Infantry team from Camp Shelby---60 students received high school diplomas September 11---Evacuee Property Office established...best weather for vegetable production experienced during month since farming operations began...131 indefinite leaves granted...925 copies of high school year book sold.

GRANADA

Silk screen project started work on new contracts for Navy posters... 119 indefinite leaves granted... 700 residents of surrounding communities visited Agricultural Fair... business at co-op increased more than 2,000 over previous month... all meetings and gatherings postponed after hospitalization of two patients stricken with poliomyelitis... approximately 5,000 in patronage savings distributed by co-op... feed crop harvest three-fourths completed--1,000 tons of corn placed in silos for storage.

CENTRAL UTAH

Project visited by author Carey McWilliams... 160 indefinite leaves granted... harvesting of barley and spinach completed... TOPAZ TIMES issued three special editions on incoming group from Tule and outgoing segregants... total of 1,647 enrolled in adult education classes... schools opened--high school enrollment expected to reach 1,100 after segregation is completed... Information Consultant Committee established to aid segregants.

MINIDOKA

Segregation brought 1,529 evacuees from Tule Lake, while 255 Minidoka residents were transferred to Tule... first industry on project (tofu) produced \$300 worth of cakes... absence of killing frost lengthened harvest period on all crops... MINIDOKA INFLIGHTER issued 10-page supplement to welcome former Tule Lake residents... elementary school officially started... enrollment expected to reach 850... advent of harvest season in nearby farming valley and acceptance of seasonal harvest work by evacuees created problem in maintaining efficient operation of project activities... Community Activities established trust as means of financing recreational programs... work started on 120-page souvenir annual.

GILA RIVER

Ship Model Shop delivered another 35 models to Navy... Community Council held first meetings... extraordinary amount of rainfall during month benefited crops... segregation drained evacuee employees in many departments, particularly dairy farm and hospital... 3,000 residents witness Variety Show... 2,000 baby chicks purchased in addition to dairy and beef cattle... dehydration unit averaged one-half ton or more per day during the processing of vegetables... Project visited by Senator Carl Hayden.

FOHNER

Segregation of 433 to Tule Lake accomplished... 102 evacuees granted indefinite leave... over \$18,000 worth of bonds sold during Third War Loan Drive... planting of fall crops nearly completed... only one arrest made during month--for violation of pass regulations... Senior High School outfitted a "Relocation Room" for the use of both students and non-students... all directors of Co-op re-elected... all-star baseball team played Caucasian team from neighboring town of Gould.

HEART MOUNTAIN

Total of 112 indefinite leave applications granted...medical social worker added to hospital staff...swimming pool closed due to lack of life guards...community carnival brought net profit of \$2,334.98...as part of vocational training, high school students helped install electrical, plumbing, and other fixtures in the school...co-op buyers attended Market Week in Denver...fish market added to new enterprises...killing two-day frost resulted in some crop losses...new potato cellar completed...Fire Prevention Committee organized...cabinet shop completed production of furniture for high school laboratory and library.

MANZANAR

Garment factory produced \$24,000 worth of clothing and uniforms for use at project and for sale at project co-ops...tofu production exceeded all expectations, with 9,842 cakes produced...only 69 indefinite leave applications granted...good weather aided agricultural production with harvesting continuing throughout the month...7,000 chickens on hand, with one to two thousand being delivered weekly...Autumn Fair sponsored by Community Activities Division...project visited by Dr. Galen Fisher of the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play...fifteen births and no deaths during month.

TULE LAKE

Over \$3500 worth of furniture produced by furniture factory...two shifts working on production of crating needed by outgoing segregants... personnel needs of all departments hit by segregation...85 percent of Business Enterprises staff lost to segregation...nearly all community activities at a standstill because of segregation and arrival of new residents.