

# FRESNO Grapevine

VOL. 1, No. 2

Fresno Assembly Center, California

May 27, 1942

## 500 WORKERS EMPLOYED IN THE CENTER

Five hundred evacuated workers are now carrying out all maintenance and improvement work at this Center, according to Jack D. Chipman, Personal Record Section Officer.

"Most of the jobs are completely filled except for a few in the Works Department. The workers take care of food, shelter, maintenance and improvements and everything is functioning smoothly," points out Chipman.

More warehouse laborers are needed and the Works Department still has some vacancies open for skilled and unskilled men. Twenty gardeners and common laborers are still wanted. A few helpers in mess halls, especially cooks, are needed.

Anyone not working at the present time but still having work buttons should turn them in at the office.

## HAIL!



### IT'S A BOY!

Mrs. Utaka Shitanishi, formerly of Madera, gave birth to the 1st Center child. The baby was named Katsuhiko, and tipped the scales at six and a half pounds.

The stork made the delivery at 11:38 Saturday morning at the Fresno County Hospital. Both the child and the mother are doing nicely.

## REPRESENTATIVES ELECTED AT MEET

Block representatives met on Monday night to form a governing committee. The group will confer with Ellis P. Pulliam, the center manager, and formulate the governmental policies of the center.

### HERE'S THE ELECTION RESULTS

The two representatives and the alternate elected at the meetings in the various sections are as follows: Block A, J. Takahashi, Tsuruda, and T. Nakano; Block B, A. Fujii, G. Takata, and S. Honmi; Block C, Major Imai, T. Fujita, and F. Inada; Block D, C. Kaku, P. Yoshikawa, and M. Noguchi; Block E, Dr. Yatabe, Rev. Hashimoto, and K. Kamikawa; Block F, T. Hoshiko, Mrs. K. Fujinaga, and T. Arase; Block H, T. Kumagai, K. Kamikawa, and M. Nagata; and Block I, J. Kebo, G. Miyamoto, and Bill Ishida.

Block residents should acquaint themselves with their respective representatives and refer all constructive criticisms and helpful suggestions to them.

## It's The Grapevine

From now on it's the Grapevine!

Fresno's newest newspaper was given this name after a careful study of the 46 suggestions received.

The entry was submitted anonymously.

Members of the staff wish to thank you for your interest and cooperation in this community project.

### FINAL WARNING!

C. H. Merrill announces that fires of any kind definitely will not be permitted within the Center.

The trash will be disposed of.

Although the committee is entitled to five members, only four were chosen as blocks J and K are not completely occupied and have not elected their representatives. Those elected were Dr. T. T. Yatabe, chairman, Johnson Kebo, secretary, C. Kaku and Rev. Hashimoto.

Under the center's democratic policy of self-government, elections for block representatives were held this week in each mess hall. Each block is entitled to two representatives and one alternate.

## SCOUT HEADS TO CONVENE

The district committee meeting of the Boy Scouts will be held tonight at 8:00 P. M. in Recreation Hall #2 and the regular meeting of the Boy Scouts will be held Friday at 7:30 P. M. in the same building.

"The Boy and Girl Scout movement has been underway before coming into the center, in order that recognition by the National Headquarters and the local councils of the Boy Scouts of America and the Girl Scouts will be given us," Dr. Joseph D. Sasaki, sustaining member of the Sequoia Council, declared today.

"Dr. James E. West, the chief scout executive of the B. S. A., approved of our program, while the national executive secretary of the Girl Scouts, Mrs. Paul Rittenhouse, recognized the responsibility for American Girl Scouts of Japanese ancestry in Assembly Centers. Both heads of the scout organization have already taken steps with the governmental agencies.

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# FOR CENTER HARMONY



## OPPORTUNITY FOR EDUCATION

From time immemorial, when any group of individuals congregated by accident or otherwise, it immediately discovered that an establishment of some kind of government was a necessary institution to cope with the problems that were bound to arise from such group living.

The young people in this Center will soon have an opportunity to use their free time more profitably as summer school sessions and evening classes get underway.

## OUR COMMUNITY

In our Center, self-government is progressing very successfully to a gratifying degree.

Various activities have been planned for our benefit with vim and enthusiasm.

A newspaper has been established. Religious and mental facilities have been provided for the people here.

A library and educational programs are being organized for our leisure moments.

In order to have an efficient and smooth functioning community, it is necessary to discuss our problems in the spirit of mutual cooperation. Furthermore, with the help of proper authorities, solutions may be worked out. Consequently, the community will be harmoniously coordinated, and thereby, self-government will have served its purpose.

--Seekie Kawai

It is clear that a great majority of the people in the Center see an immediate necessity for an organization of a self-governing body. This is evidenced, by the fact that many persons including issei and nisei actively participated at the recent nomination and election.

Definite plans for various interesting courses are being planned by capable instructors among the Center nisei.

It is encouraging to know that education even inside the Center is not being neglected, for it is our wish that this abrupt change of living brought about by the war will not retard the learning of the younger generation.

These youngsters will be able to retain the love of their country and be in constant contact with the better things of life which will go far in re-establishing their lives after the war.

It is fortunate that we have among our midst a goodly representation of learned nisei and accredited instructors who can put their education to use at times such as this. We hope all mothers will take advantage of this offer and see that their children are registered this week. Older nisei and adults are also invited to the classes.

## ON SCOUTING

"On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country, and to obey the scout laws, to help other people at all times, to keep myself physically strong; mentally awake and morally straight."

This is the scout oath, which is a very good standard for all boys to go by, not only scouts but all persons. The scout movement in this Center is just reaching its first step on the ladder.

All parents should give some consideration to the future of their boys whose job it will be to face the outside world with determination and courage brought out by the scout movement.

--Geo. S. Hochizuki

It is a funny thing about life--if you refuse to accept anything but the best you very often get it.

--Somerset Maugham

An immediate question that must be considered in organizing such government would be the kind of representative institution suitable to adapt itself to the circumstances under which we are living. One essential point that must be borne in mind constantly is the fact that the Center Council should represent adequately the respective interests of both the Issei and the Nisei.

When the new Center Council is created there should be no reason why the Issei or the Nisei should be considered as a separate representative within the same council.

In considering the persons for the Center Council of five, the two representatives who were selected from each barrack must see to it that they are unselfish, capable, prudent, and able. If this is pursued, it will be beyond any doubt that the unity of the various activities will be achieved successfully. The object of our Center government is to make our entire community a happy one.

People who spread false rumor  
Have twisted sense of humor.  
SO SHUT UP!



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## PEOPLE

There are three kinds of people in the world, the wills, the won'ts, and the can'ts.

The first accomplish everything, the second oppose everything, and the third fail in everything.

# BOOK DRIVE IS STARTED BY LIBRARIAN

The Center library, which will announce its opening date in the near future, is promoting a drive for donations of books, magazines and newspapers. Starting Thursday, May 28, the drive will continue through Saturday afternoon, May 30.

All persons wishing to make contributions are requested to leave them at the Service Department, building 20, Information Halls E-11-1 and 1-20-5.

The donations will be added to the collection already contributed to the Center by outside welfare organizations and Caucasian individuals.

Books may be donated to the library voluntarily. The reading materials donated to the library are for within library use only. Comic magazines for the children's department are scarce and are needed, says Robert Kimura, the librarian.



### OF OSCAR

Since coming to this Center two weeks ago, I've acquainted myself with a lot of pineknots around the place. It is the first time in my life that I have seen so many or associated with them. At nights when I have insomnia (or maybe it's nostalgia), I speak with Oscar. Oscar is the pineknot with big, brown eyes. He either puts me to sleep or gives me an inspiration, and that's just what he did when this column was born. So help me!

## CLINIC TO BE OPENED

Dr. Taira, the physician at hospital #2, announces that a clinic for medical care will be opened from 9:30 to 11:30 A.M. Special appointment cases will be taken care of between 2:00 and 4:00 P. M. The clinic will be opened every day of the week except on Sundays. Emergencies will be accepted at all times.

Visiting rules were announced as follows:

Admittance will be prohibited to the contagious disease wards at hospital #1.

At hospital #2 visitors will be admitted from 2:00 to 4:00 P. M. and from 7:00 to 8:30 P. M.

Visitors will not be allowed during the morning hours.

## VISITOR'S DAY PLANNED

Visitors' day will be opened about June 1, according to the Center management. Further details in regard to visitors' day will be published in the Center paper prior to the opening.

## Runner-up



The 2nd Center baby, a 7 1/2 pound girl, was born Sunday morning, May 24th., to Mrs. Harjo Nakamura at the Fresno County Hospital. Both mother and baby are doing well.

## DON'T CRY, YELL TROUBLESHOOTERS!

For plumbing repairs during the day, get in contact with the information offices or the Telephone Extension #19. Anything that may arise after 9:00 P. M. or Sundays see the following persons who are in charge of the repairs in their respective sections:

Sections A, B, and C—Haya-kawa, C-5-4; Section D—Fugisawa, D-1-3; Sections E and F—Jofugi Brothers, E-18-1 and Sections H, I, J and K—Tsutsui, I-11-5.

It is the special request of this department that all material whatsoever which is going to waste be placed in the containers provided and not in lavatory basins.

## THEY HELP

Many evacuees can appreciate the work done by the Federal Reserve Bank through their field representative, L. J. Allen, in charge of the Fresno assistants W. D. Townes, Jaak, and Dunton.

The bank representatives assisted the Japanese in leasing property, storing household goods and cars, and settling business affairs.

Their work extended throughout the Pacific Coast area from the time the evacuation orders were issued. The people who still have property settlements and other problems are urged to contact Allen by mail at the United States Employment Service in care of L. J. Allen at 2146 Ivy Street in Fresno.

### BESTEST

In Santa Anita they have what they claim is the most best paper in any Center. I admit the "Pace-maker" is a nifty sheet, but before long I insist we'll be right up there with the "bestest" ourselves.

Besides, the Fresno Bee devoted four lines of their precious space on the beginning of our Center paper already.

### CENTER LIFE

Strange, how we find our Center life better than what we expected. We came here with the feeling that we'd be bored stiff with the monotony of doing nothing. But, believe it or not, we've been so busy working (Yes, working! No kiddin') that we almost forget we're away from home.

Generally, we're kept so busy that we can't even think of aibis for not writing to our friends outside Center. And that's bad.

### WARNING

For the first time Sunday we went for a stroll through the Fig Garden district (We're from the up-town area y'know) and came across the patch of water-melons on the other side of Maple. In order to avoid untimely demise later, I suggest the Army put up a wall fence before it's too late. A patch of melons in torrid July is going to be just too tempting, "for kids like me". -30

May 27, 1942

# 1ST TALENT SHOW HELD

The first talent show was presented to a capacity crowd in recreational hall #2 Tuesday with two performances given from 7:30 to 8:30 and 8:30 to 9:30 P.M. Richard Itanaga acted as master of ceremonies and the community singing was led by Mary Kasai.

The evening began with a "Hawaiian War Chant" duet by Amy Sasaki and Alice Isato, and followed by "Ahi Sweet Mystery of Life" by Joseph Hosoda.

Akimi Uyooka made her appearance with a vocal and accordion selection of "My Tino". Little Jean Harada, the smallest beton twirler in this center, made her debut to the tune of Notre Dame's fight song. Yukio Kawakami, noted harmonica player, played "Deep Purple".

Little tapping feet of Boris Hata beat out to the rhythm of "Anchors Aweigh."

A violin duet was given by Akiko and Kazuko Teubouchi which was followed by "Rose Marie" sung by Joseph Hosoda.

The program was concluded by a patriotic tune "The Stars and Stripes Forever" by Kawakami.

## NOTICES

Hereafter typhoid inoculations will be given only on Mondays and Tuesdays, 8:00 to 10:00 A. M.

-In the past, several facilities have moved from one section to another without full authorization. Any more of these unauthorized movements will be severely dealt with, says F. U. Bliss, department director.

-The general delivery office is posting to the bulletin board, and all conspicuous boards, names of parties who have unclaimed mail. Please refer to these if you are party concerned.

## APOLOGY

The name of Ernest A. Dunn, assistant Center Manager, was unintentionally omitted from the official personnel list published in the Saturday newspaper.

Dunn's work coordinates with that of E. P. Pulliam in the management of the Center.

WELCOME, NEW EVACUEES  
MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME!

## DON'T FORGET TO PUT OUT YOUR CIGAR

G. A. Parker, the Center fire chief says the main objective of his department is to protect personal property, buildings, and equipment in the center. "This, he says, can only be accomplished with the full help and cooperation of every occupant. We feel sure you will give us that cooperation with your usual cheerful willingness."

The fire chief asks every one to carefully observe the following rules:

1. Do not burn grass or rubbish in the assembly center. All such rubbish will be hauled away and disposed of.

2. If you blow a fuse do not use anything but a new fuse to replace it. Doctored fuses cause many bad fires.

3. Do not use the water barrels or buckets for any purpose other than putting out a fire. These buckets are to be left in place at all times and should not be misused. Remember, an emergency might occur in your own building.

4. Do not open or use fire hydrants for any other purpose than fire. Please close any of the valves in the old alfalfa water system found upon as these are to be used only in case of fire.

## CHRISTIANS SPONSOR FELLOWSHIP

"The young peoples' Christian Fellowship" held last Sunday evening in recreational hall #2 climaxed the Christian services held throughout the day.

Seichi Mikami was the chairman and the community singing was led by Mary Kasai who was accompanied by Akimi Uyooka at the piano.

Rev. Hideo Hashimoto spoke briefly on "Love your neighbor as you love yourself."

During the fellowship period, games were led by Volna Yamoto, Hiro Kusakai, Satoshi Kusakai and Haruko Kawahara.

Two hymns and a prayer completed the program.

Mrs. Ralph Mitchell, of the First Congregational Church of Fresno, donated sweet peas seen in recreational hall #2, section E and also in mess hall E.

## FOUR COUPON BOOKS A PERSON IS LIMIT

"Until further notice a person may purchase only four coupon books," quotes Charles Wheeler, Center store manager. Aside from refreshments, the daily paper may be obtained at the store.

## CALL FOR LOYAL RESERVES

The first Girls' Reserve meeting will be held this Friday morning at 9:00 in the women's shower addition in Block E. All girls who are interested should report promptly.

## CENTER GRADUATION PLANS UNDER WAY

Plans are being made for the graduation of evacuee seniors at regular commencement exercises at the Center," states W. E. Pollock, director of the Service Division.

At Monday's meeting of prospective graduates, a committee was chosen representing the different counties. Those selected were Masako Ono, Mary Kishino, George Mochizuki, Yoshimi Nakachi, Dorothy Ichinaga, Haruo Kawamoto, Yoshi Hoshiko and Sam Nakagawa.

Those who have not already signed up for the graduation exercises may do so by leaving their name, address, and the name of their school at C-5-5, according to Inez Nagai, who is assisting Pollock.

## MUSICIANS NEEDED

Plans for the formation of an orchestra at the Center are now being made. Any persons interested are asked to notify Henry Yoshikawa. Some of the players needed are as follows: saxophone, piano, trumpet and clarinet.

## THE BAND PLAYS ON

Band practice is scheduled tonight from 7:30 to 10:00 p. m. All interested persons must bring their instruments to the recreation hall #1, Section B.

## MORALE

"Morale is something like vitamins. You can't see it. You can't touch it. You can't taste it. Yet if you haven't got it, you're sunk."

By Jan Struther