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Need Farm or Factory Help? Thousands of Workers In Japanese Relocation Camps Waiting to Be Hired

Nearly Every Trade Found Among Loyal Japanese-Americans

Farmers and factory owners who are looking anxiously about for help have available an almost untapped supply of intelligent and industrious workers. These people are the 90,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry who are now in the ten relocation camps in the West and Southwest.

The War Relocation Authority has found employment for 16,000, and is seeking to place 25,000 more by the first of the year. More than one-third of these American-Japanese are farmers or have done some agricultural work. Others are skilled mechanics, and many are in professions. Occupations, in fact, range from doctors to ditchdiggers. Most of these people are American born and are considered loyal to the United States.

These workers may be hired permanently or seasonally by any farmer or other employer anywhere in the country, except in the military zone, a strip running along the Pacific coast.

Procedure whereby American-Japanese and loyal aliens are brought out of the camps and placed in jobs is a simple one. A relocation office in each area has a staff of officers who look for jobs in different kinds of employment: farming, dairying, poultry raising, nursery, domestic, restaurant and hotel work, skilled and unskilled labor, factory work, various trades and professions such as dentistry, medicine, engineering, industrial designing.

Job offers received are screened as to suitability of wage and working standards. If legitimate, the offer is sent to any or all of the 10 relocation centers which are in the states of California, Arizona, Idaho, Utah, Wyoming, Colorado and Arkansas.

In the camp, job offers are catalogued, posted in mess halls and administrative buildings, and printed in the camp newspaper. Each evacuee has filed his working qualifications and each camp has an employment staff to assist the proper person to get the proper job.

The evacuee is not forced to take a job. He can select one for which he thinks he is best qualified. He makes his own arrangements. He corresponds with his prospective employer and, if accepted, informs camp authorities who then place him on indefinite leave which means he is entitled to leave camp and go anywhere in the United States except the forbidden regions.

Both American citizens of Japanese ancestry and Japanese aliens are allowed to leave the relocation camps in the West once their loyalty has been assured. Each evacuee is investigated by the War Relocation Authority and males of draft age are checked upon by a joint board in Washington composed of the intelligence departments of the armed forces and WRA officials. Also, each evacuee is checked against FBI records.

On the other hand, before an American-Japanese settles in a community, it is canvassed by WRA officers who seek reasonable assurances from responsible officials and citizens that local sentiment will not be against the newcomer.

Indefinite leave usually is granted only to an evacuee who has a place to go and means of support. Each evacuee must inform WRA in Washington of any change in job or address. An evacuee must receive the standard wage rate of the community. He can not enter as "cheap

labor." WRA's motto is: "No more, no less than anyone else for the same work in the same community."

Both an American citizen of Japanese ancestry or a Japanese alien can obtain indefinite leave. An alien is checked more carefully and outside camp his movements have more restrictions.

WRA procedure to move American-Japanese out of the camps has been approved by the department of justice, the U. S. army and endorsed by the War Manpower commission as a contribution to national security and manpower needs.

WRA's program of relocating American-Japanese began in the spring of 1942 when, for military reasons, some 106,000 Japanese were taken from California, the southern third of Arizona, the western half of Oregon and Washington and placed in 10 relocation centers in the West. WRA officials point out that the centers are definitely not internment camps or places of confinement. They were established by the United States government for two chief purposes: to provide self-sustaining communities where evacuees can contribute to their own support pending gradual reabsorption



WELDER—Many Japanese-Americans, like George Y. Nakamura are excellent tradesmen. He is working in Chicago at a farm implement factory, whence he came from the Minidoka Relocation center, Ore., where he was maintenance machinist.

into a normal American life; and to serve as wartime homes for those who are unable or unfit to relocate in ordinary American communities.

Beginning January of this year, WRA initiated a program of steady depopulation of the centers by encouraging residents with good records of behavior to re-enter private employment in agriculture or industry.

Relocation offices were set up in Chicago, Cleveland, New York, Kansas City, Little Rock, Salt Lake City and Denver to seek jobs for American-Japanese.

Each relocation area has sub-offices. The Chicago area, for example, covers Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota and the eastern half of North Dakota. Elmer L. Shirrell is supervisor of the area. Sub-offices are located at Indianapolis, Peoria, Rockford, Milwaukee, Madison, Minneapolis and Fargo. Relocation officers there carry on the same kind of employment and placement service given in the area headquarters.

Model Communities. Life in an evacuation center is no picnic. American-Japanese were abruptly moved from their own homes and placed in barracks, which though adequately constructed, were bare of furniture, had no running water, toilets or any conveniences we accept as normal.

A camp is laid out in blocks like a city. Each block contains two rows of barracks housing 12 living units. Each block has its mess hall, lavatories, showers and meeting hall. No family cooks for itself, but must eat with the other inhabitants of the block in mess halls which are staffed by full time American-Japanese cooks and attendants. Food for evacuees at camp is received from army quartermaster corps and cost must not exceed 45 cents per day per evacuee.

Each camp has schools, churches, playgrounds, recreation halls, YMCA units and sometimes a boy and girl scout troop. Each camp has a police force, a fire department and each block is represented in the camp council which meets regularly with WRA officials to determine camp administration and other problems which come up.

Each family is housed, fed and, if one member of the family is working, the government gives a small monthly allotment from \$2 to \$3.50 to each member for clothing.

Any able-bodied American-Japanese can work at the camp, and generally can do the same job he did on

the outside. American-Japanese serve as doctors, dentists, nurses, optometrists, watchmakers, clerks, civil engineers, carpenters, masons, farmers and in many other trades. Each one who works receives from WRA a monthly salary from \$12 to \$19 depending on his job. Since the WRA staff at each camp is very small, a huge amount of the administrative work is done by the evacuees who work as stenographers, bookkeepers, typists, clerks, interviewers, translators, switchboard operators, etc.

Each camp has co-operative food and clothing stores, a canteen, notion counters, magazine racks and even a post office. Most camps have large agricultural tracts and become largely self sustaining.

American-Japanese and Japanese aliens sometimes are known as Issei, Nisei and Kibei. Issei are Japanese born in Japan but who came here to live. Nisei are second generation Japanese, born in the United States and citizens of this country. Kibei are American born Japanese who have gone back to Japan for education and then returned to America. WRA investigates Kibeis very closely, watches them carefully and is reticent about giving them freedom.

Mostly 'Nisei.'

The great bulk of the 135,000 Japanese in this country at the outbreak of the war, including the 110,000 along the West coast, are Nisei. They are the young boys and girls, the men and women who have lived here all their lives and are just as American as we are.

They have broken away from Japanese customs. Their thought is American thought. They prefer American food and our way of doing things. They like to jitterbug, go to movies, have coke dates and parties like any normal American. Surveys have proven that the Nisei have a greater percentage of members with a college or university education than any racial group in the United States.

It is the belief of the WRA that the spreading of the American-Japanese throughout the nation instead of concentrated in groups along the coast will be a good thing both for all Americans and for American-Japanese.

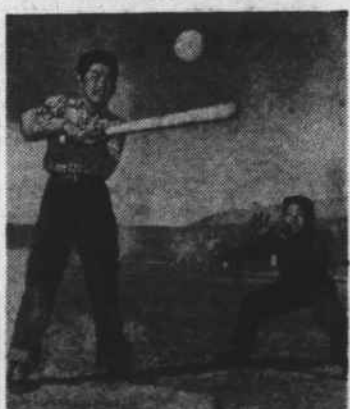
Approximately 8,000 American-Japanese are in the United States armed forces. After Pearl Harbor they were given the opportunity to volunteer and thousands of boys enlisted from the relocation camps.

Two large units at Camp Savage, Minn., and Camp Shelby, Miss., contain most of the American-Japanese combat fighters. From Hawaii alone came a specially picked combat team of 2,500 American-Japanese boys. At Camp Savage many are training to be interpreters and language teachers.

Wherever they have been stationed, American-Japanese soldiers have won high praise from their commanding officers. They are training with extraordinary zeal even spending their free time in military study and voluntary drills. Instructors have to be keen and alert to avoid being tripped up by questions. It is a saying among these Japanese-American soldiers that "We have a year and three minutes to live," meaning a year of hard training, and three minutes in the thickest of the fighting, for they expect to go to the front.

WRA officials have found that adequate jobs can be found for the evacuees, but that housing is a serious problem. This is especially true in large cities where booming war plants have caused a heavy influx of war workers.

In the smaller communities this condition is less severe. WRA believes that a large measure of its success will depend upon how well the American-Japanese relocate in small towns and agricultural areas.



OVER THE PLATE—Strictly in the American tradition, these Japanese-American sixth grade boys play softball at recess, at the Manzanar Relocation center in California.

Who's News This Week

By Delos Wheeler Lovelace

Consolidated Features.—WNU Release.

NEW YORK—In that new world which lies, maybe, just beyond today's battle smoke, women will need to fight for their rights or Mary Anderson learned nothing in the years she has been fighting for such rights as they now hold. "They will probably all be pushed back into clerical jobs."

Miss Anderson has been fighting for a quarter century in the neat office provided by the labor department in Washington for the director of its women's bureau. Before that she fought for almost as long as union organizer. But she remains quiet and unassuming, though big enough either this way or that, to be strident and forward. Women of this country might not have Miss Anderson on their side if she had started from Sweden when quotas narrowed the immigrant gate between the two worlds. But the gate was wide open then, even to a 16-year-old girl from unheard of Lidköping. Jobs were plentiful, too. When the girl fretted in housework she could hop to a shoe factory, after she had learned English.

From shoes the girl of Lidköping hopped into a union and then into various projects favoring women. She has been director of the Women's bureau since 1919. In her spare time she plays rummy, listens to the symphony, takes pictures. She used to have more spare time. Now she has to keep close tab on the vast wartime labor displacement and plan against the confusion she foresees when ex-soldiers begin looking for time-cards and paychecks.

When the men of Holland free their homeland they will not wait long before they call upon the Nazis to account for Jonkheer Willem Roell.

Hitler Will Have to Give an Account of This Dutch Officer You will have to be content with the faulty spelling of the last name, because no American lingo provides the umlaut which should stand over the "E."

Roell is 70 years old now if he is alive. Before the Germans invaded Holland he was one of its great men of war, commander in chief of the Fortress Holland. He was a lieutenant general and governor, too, of the Royal Residence at The Hague, and Queen Wilhelmina held him highly. Two years before the invasion he retired and was pensioned. He was 64 then. At 64 a man has a lot of hard work in his system, but the lieutenant general had done a lot, had climbed from a second lieutenant of artillery to the top.

After the Nazis came, he was too prominent to be let alone, and they interned him. A little while ago word came out of Holland that he had been sentenced to death after a secret trial. Now, after more than a month, no one is sure whether the sentence has been carried out. But the men of Holland say the time will come when the Nazis will have to tell.

The French, under Davout, least touted of Napoleon's marshals, trimmed the Prussians at Austerlitz by deploying faster. They got there first with the most because they extended into battle front at 150 paces a minute while the duke of Brunswick was content with 75. It was simple old fashioned business, but Maj. Gen. Guy Simonds may have recalled it as he raced his vanguard through the Sicilian surf to open Canada's share of the big drive now ended.

Certainly Simonds knew all about Davout. He knows all about all the great captains from long-ago Gideon onward. At 46, youngest Canadian divisional commander in this war, he has studied them so profitably that he has topped most post-graduate quizzes since he left the Royal Military college.

Simonds is Canada's soldier sky-rocket. He was only a major three years back. English-born, he was moving along with a quiet thoroughness when the first Canadian contingent went across. He went, too, took over a tough Commando assignment; for that he was made a commander of the British empire, and the major generality followed quickly.

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Allied Bombers Concentrate Attacks On Enemy Airfields, Communications; Japs Continue Retreat in New Guinea; Civilians to Get 75% of Food Supply

(EDITOR'S NOTE: When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of Western Newspaper Union's news analysts and not necessarily of this newspaper.) Released by Western Newspaper Union.



Killed in action against the Japanese, an American soldier is being borne back from the front lines by these New Guinea natives. Chaplain Owen Monahan of the 41st division follows the body. Natives are serving U. S. forces as stretcher bearers and supply carriers.

EUROPE: Hell on High

As Allied troops poised for the leap into southern Europe, waves of American and British bombers whirled over the foot of the Italian boot, smashing at enemy airfields and communication lines in the effort to paralyze Axis troop movements to invasion points.

Principal concentration has been on Foggia, 80 miles northeast of the once-colorful, now heavily bombed, Neapolitan port of Naples. Besides the main airdrome at Foggia, 10 smaller auxiliary airfields were the targets for low level bombing and machine gunning attacks spearheaded by fast, U. S. Lockheed Lightnings.

Throughout the Foggia area, railroads, over which trains were carrying enemy troops, were shot up.

As a result of heavy, concentrated RAF raids on Berlin, it was reported that 12,000 people might have been killed, 50,000 wounded, and 500,000 made homeless.

LEND-LEASE: 'Repaid With Victory'

"Victory and a secure peace are the only coin in which we can be repaid" for lend-lease assistance thus far amounting to 14 billion dollars, President Roosevelt reported to congress.

Of the total in armament and food distributed through lend-lease, Great Britain received 4 1/2 billion dollars; Russia, 2 1/2 billion dollars, and Africa, the Middle East and Mediterranean countries, one billion, 300 million dollars. China, India, Australia and New Zealand have obtained lend-lease also to the amount of one billion 300 million dollars.

"The congress in passing and extending the lend-lease act made it plain that the United States wants no new war debts to jeopardize the coming peace," the President said.

SOUTH PACIFIC: Smash Supplies

Using the airplane as an instrument for weakening the enemy by disrupting his supply, Gen. Douglas MacArthur sent scores of bombers along the northeastern New Guinea coast to blast at the small barges with which the Japanese have been replenishing their beleaguered forces in the Salamaua area.

As the Allied airmen swooped low to bomb and machine gun the tiny craft darting through the coastal shoals, or streaking for cover in the many coves along the shore, U. S. and Australian forces fought up to the gates of Salamaua itself. Having fallen back through the jungle under pressure of Allied infiltration tactics, the enemy girded for a last stand at his big New Guinea base.

In a Tokyo broadcast, the Japanese claimed to have sunk nine American cruisers and 11 destroyers and knocked out 836 planes since June 30. In addition, the broadcast declared, four cruisers and eight destroyers were damaged. The Japanese claims were without confirmation in Allied circles.

FIGHTING FRENCH: Made Administrators

Until the people of France are able to choose a government, the French Committee of National Liberation, operating from Algiers, North Africa, will be recognized merely as an administrative agency of those parts of the French empire over which it has succeeded in obtaining control.

This recognition was made by the United States, Great Britain and Russia. It followed months of wrangling between the factions of Gen. Charles De Gaulle, who has had strong British backing, and Gen. Henri Giraud, who represented the pro-Vichy Darlan group which arranged for American landings in North Africa with Gen. Dwight Eisenhower. Recently these factions combined, with De Gaulle securing political leadership and Giraud military direction.

The Liberation committee's administrative authority, however, will be subject to the requirements of the Allied military command in such zones of operation as North Africa and the Near East.

RUSSIA: Drive for Coal, Iron

With Kharkov, the "Pittsburgh" of Russia, again in their hands, Red forces hurried their might against the Nazis farther to the south in the Donetz basin, source of much coal and iron.

Giving way under the full weight of massed Russian artillery, tank and infantry attack, the Germans fell back slowly, in severe defensive fighting. But with the Reds driving forward frontally instead of slicing to the Nazis' rear, the Germans retained their freedom to move back and evade being surrounded.

To the north of Kharkov, Russian troops surged into Zenkov, thus passing the farthest point they reached during their winter offensive. But in front of Bryansk, stiff Nazi defenses had slowed the Russian advance to a crawl.

WORLD PROGRESS: Seen by FDR

Declaring that the war was proving what could be accomplished through the co-operative action of nations, President Roosevelt told 30,000 Canadians at Ottawa that "great councils (were) held on the free and honored soil of Canada... which... look to building a new progress for mankind."

"There is a longing in the air," the President said. "It is not a



Prime Minister Mackenzie King (left) and President Roosevelt at Ottawa.

longing to go back to what they call "the good old days"... Surely we can make strides toward a greater freedom from want than the world has yet enjoyed...

"I am everlastingly angry only at those who assert vociferously that the four freedoms and the Atlantic Charter are nonsense because they are unattainable," the President said. "... But I would rather be a builder than a wrecker, hoping always that the structure of life is growing—not dying."

ARMY RULE: Judge, General Clash

Demanding respect for the full dignity of the judicial branch of the federal government, a U. S. judge clashed with the military governor of Hawaii over the release of two naturalized citizens of German ancestry.

Picked up shortly after Pearl Harbor when army rule was established over Hawaii, the two citizens have been held without hearings. Certain court functions were restored by proclamation in March, 1942, and then the citizens attempted to obtain their release from custody by securing a writ of habeas corpus.

When the military governor, Lieut. Gen. Robert Richardson Jr., failed to produce the two citizens after Judge Delbert Metzger had issued writs for them, the judge summoned him on contempt charges and then fined him \$5,000 for ignoring the order. General Richardson countered by forbidding further habeas corpus proceedings, either by a court or applicants, on grounds of military security.

The general said the March, 1942, proclamation excluded issuance of habeas corpus writs, but Judge Metzger said that the Constitution required the full and free and not just the partial operation of the courts.



SPINACH—Miss Momayo Yamato cultivates the dark green stuff on the broad acres of the Gila River Relocation center farm. She formerly worked in Fresno, Calif. Thousands of skilled agricultural workers like Miss Yamato are looking for private employment.