

FLORIN CHAPTER OF
JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE
FLORIN, CALIF.

BULLETIN NO. 8

FIRST WITH THE LATEST NEWS

MAY 16, 1942

E D I T O R I A L

As each new day brings new orders for some communities to evacuate, there comes to our minds, the realization that soon we will find ourselves in the midst of an order. Fortunately, the busy strawberry season has helped us keep our heads. We had work to do, and each new day meant the reaping of profits that all the hard work of months and months past was to bring. We could not afford to remain idle, or in a panic, throw our hands up in despair. Thanks to the calmness and dignity that a farmer cultivates in the years and years of partnership with nature and with God, he has been spared a great deal more than perhaps those who were employed in the city, or those who had idle hours to worry and fret over the coming evacuation. Even now as the evacuation day approaches, we find busy workers picking ripe red berries for strawberry short cakes to be enjoyed in hundreds of American homes. Quietly they are packing away their precious possessions they have accumulated in the 20 to 50 years they have been in this beautiful community. In a business-like manner, their ranch and their properties are being put to order and turned over to trust-worthy hands. Mothers are busily sewing and packing clothing for their families. At night, after a hard day out in the strawberry patches or in the green grape vineyards, the entire family is busy crating necessities, and packing suit cases and trunks.

We have come thus far with calm dignity--and when the order reaches us, we will continue to work in our patches as long as we can. For as the height of the season approaches, even a half a day's work will mean so much to all of us. When the order comes, the Control Center will be set up. Then only one responsible person of each family (the American way of classifying families) need come to register. Then he will have two days to tag his possessions and to make arrangements to store them. Let us plan exactly what we would do that final few days --and remember to take care of every detail that would be detrimental should we forget to tend to them.

This evacuation is a experience we can not avoid. If we must evacuate, let us do everything possible to make it pleasant and orderly. If we must face this, let us do so with a brave smile that will always be a credit to ourselves and our friends.

I was amazed when I visited Miss Thayer last Friday at the auditorium and saw the hundreds of Sacramento Japanese evacuate. Everything was perfectly timed and well organized. It seemed rather out of place to see so much order--quiet dignity as I walked with Miss Thayer through the crowd and saw little children running around in joy at the prospect of new adventure.

There is nothing to fear or dread. We are in good hands, the Army of the U. S. Let us, with high hope, prepare ourselves for this new adventure and with courage meet this Evacuation.

-----Mary Tsukamoto

WORD FROM ASSEMBLY CENTERS

We have been anxious for news from the assembly camps and have been reading the papers eagerly for suggestions and hints on what we might take--and whatever might expect at those centers.

Since last week, many from our community have gone into Walerga and Marysville. The words we have received from them are quite reassuring and cheerful. They enjoy this new place and are greatly surprised at the food and comfort provided them. This is good news.

Dr. Ito sends his regards to the people of Florin.

James Fukuhara wrote a nice long letter to our office--and says he enjoys the food and fun and is working hard. He reminds those who have portable phonographs to bring phonograph needles. (everyone seem to have forgotten.

Roy Miura wrote and was surprised that the camp was 100% better than he had expected. Mrs. Miura is enjoying the leisure of no more cooking and washing dishes! (girls please note).

The JAACL will send a few copies of this Bulletin to these camps so they will know how we are getting along in Florin.

HUMANE SOCIETY FOR YOUR PETS

Out of the interest and love of pet animals, ~~Mr.~~ and Mrs. Martenstein are devoting their life to the work of protecting and finding new homes for them.

Sacramento is undertaking a tremendous job as thousands of Japanese are leaving their pets behind them. Most everyone has a dog or two and a few cats on their farm. When there are more than 450 families, we can imagine what our community alone would be asking of the Humane Society. But, kindly, Mr. Martenstein has assured us that somehow, he will and must take care of their pets.

Mr. Martenstein was good enough to come to Florin this week just to discuss this problem carefully.

We have decided that it would be kindest and safest to let everyone keep their pets and watch dogs, as long as possible. Although it would mean a great deal of work for Mr. Martenstein, he has consented to come down to Florin to get the pets--probably a day or two before we actually leave Florin. We will designate a large shed, where the dogs can be tied. Because there will be millions of things that must be done in the last few days, he suggests we tie the dogs up, and leave them there. Someone will be there to watch them. We must leave a tag on the dogs, stating clearly--his name, age, whether he is accustomed to children, whether he is a house dog, whether he is a watch-dog or just a pet, whether he bites, and whether he was usually tied or not.

All this information will help Mr. Martenstein more easily to find the right new master for the pets. The JACL will arrange to have a large truck to be used to help move the hundreds of pets in one day. Our cats can be brought in a sack and left with the dogs at the shed.

Mr. and Mrs. Martenstein will feed the dogs, and give it care, and make every effort to give these pets to people, who will provide good homes for them. And all of this is being done from the charitable heart of these two fine people, out of their own expense. They are not asking for any fee for the handling of these pets, but we can all understand what a tremendous service, they are rendering us, and perhaps for those who can afford it, even little donation would be quite in order to compensate in a small way, their kindness for our pets.

Those who are intending to ask the Humane Society's care for their pets, please register with the JACL, so that we will know approximately how many pets we must expect on that busy day.

OUR SOLDIER BOYS

For a long time, we have been thinking of our boys in the United States Army. They must be terribly concerned about home. Never have they heard of such a mass evacuation. Articles in the papers, and news over the radio are so brief and so often erroneous that they must be quite worried about their farms and their folks.

Bulletins will be sent to each camp so that somehow they may be informed with some of the details, we may have omitted in our letters. The JACL is writing a letter to every soldier that we know of from our JACL community. We have a few of the addresses, but we would like to request those who have brothers and sons in the army, to please give our office their latest addresses this week. The letters and bulletins are ready to be mailed and will be sent out as soon as we learn their address. Please cooperate with us in doing this little bit for our boys. It isn't very much but it is better than no word of encouragement from home at this time. If we should move and lose track of our boys in the camp, the National JACL office at Salt Lake City will serve as a clearing house. Let us write to the National JACL, Beason Building, 25 East Second South Street, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Luckily for a few of our friends, visits home were possible, and after a few days of happy reunion, there was the inevitable sad parting--Bill Kashiwagi; Sid Yamaguchi, Kazu Yoshihata, Ted Miyata, David Kato, Shige Okimoto, and Sam Sugimoto have been the pride of our community.

INNOCULATION CERTIFICATES

There are still some people who haven't come for their diphtheria and vaccination certificates. Please call for yours, if you haven't done so, as yet.

BANK SERVICE

Now that Sacramento has evacuated from this day, May 16th, 12:00 A.M., no Japanese will be permitted within the city limits. We are in the midst of a very busy season, and because of the impending evacuation, the company are giving out statements weekly, and consequently, there will be more checks issued and must be cashed or deposited more frequently, more than any other year.

Last week through the Federal Reserve, contacts were made with the Bank of America and an attempt was made to secure the services of the Elk Grove Bank, but we were unsuccessful at that time. However, Mr. Reid would not take "no" for an answer. Mr. Reid and his members at the Federal Reserve Bank are more than ever anxious to make arrangements through other firms to provide a banking service for our now isolated community. They feel that it is only just that we be given this privilege, especially now that we are in midst of our season. If it is at all possible, they will not leave any stone unturned in an effort to help us in our predicament.

FARM SECURITY OFFICE

Since Monday May 11, the Farm Security office of Florin has made themselves quite at home in the YBA kitchen with a telephone installed by the sink. Mr. Jack Fairbain and Mr. Booth are busy meeting prospective tenants, and thanks to their untiring efforts, many farms are finally being taken care of. Miss Mary Burbank and Mrs. King make up the personnel at this busy office.

This service at Florin is deeply appreciated by the busy farmers. We know that we owe the Farm Security Administration for the splendid cooperation we have been receiving all along--and to have them moved into Florin was something we had not anticipated. We are certain that the entire community is being better served during this busy season, and because of Mr. Fairbain, Mr. Phelps and Mr. Booth, they would evacuate with a great deal of satisfaction and peace of mind.

FLASH !

Word has come from Mr. Donnelly, the coordinator of the Sacramento W.C.C.A. that a team office will be opened in Florin Monday, May 18th at the YBA Hall. They will be made up of the Federal Reserve Bank; Farm Security, and Social Security offices. Until the order comes, the offices will render help and advice to the people in our community and the rural districts of the Sacramento W.C.C.A. jurisdiction, that have not yet evacuated. Some one from Miss Thayer's office and Mr. Reid's Federal Reserve Bank will come to join the Farm Security and the JAC offices. We know that we can count ourselves quite fortunate that Mr. Donnelly has taken the trouble to move these valuable advisers into Florin now that Sacramento is closed to us.

LAST MINUTE MUSTS

The final "E" day that we all have been waiting with dread anticipation has rapidly become a near reality. We have been so busily occupied with packing, harvesting, settling the affairs of our ranches, and a thousand other things, that we may have overlooked a lot of things that at the last moment we may forget. Following are some of the things we should remember to do:

- (1) Turn off the electric switch.
- (2) Bar the windows.
- (3) Fill the water tanks.
- (4) Hoe weeds around the house.
- (5) Find homes for your pets.
- (6) Repair fences around your property and across entrance roadway.
- (7) Clean house of combustible articles.
- (8) Return gasoline and stove gas tanks.
- (9) Pay all bills--PGE, grocer's, gas bill, etc.

HINTS TO EVACUEES

Time has made it possible for the people in Florin to learn a great deal about the assembly camps. As the Army send thousands to the assembly centers, new hints and suggestions have come to us that makes for more comfort for all of us.

Let us remember for the sake of the Army, who are handling our moving and for ourselves not to take too much baggage, so that as we move to different centers, we would not be over bundled with too many things. But we are happy to give out the following hints:

THE NECESSITIES:

- Plenty of bedding and linen (no mattress)
- Toilet articles
- Extra clothing
- Personal effects

A few days ago the army informed us that eating utensils will be provided. It must be quite a shock for those who scoured the stores in search of tin plates and cups. But let us take a few of these utensils. They will come in handy at times, when we would like to enjoy a midnight snack in our own rooms.

But for those who have been unsuccessful in purchasing these eating utensils, do not worry about them because these things will be provided at the camps.

Here is a list of things that are optional, that will mean a comfort and help to give a little atmosphere of home:

- Coffee percolator
- Mosquito net
- Small electric burner
- Bathrobes
- Small electric fans
- Portable radio
- Portable typewriter
- Portable musical instruments
- Shower caps and shoes (for women)
- Curtain material for windows and partitions
- Electric extension cords
- Plain wire
- Small washtubs and washboards
- Small buckets and wash basins
- Small rugs
- Folding card tables
- Small folding chairs
- Baby cribs (Unassembled)
- Mattress for baby crib
- Hammer, saw, nails
- Padlocks and padlock hasps
- Children's toilet bucket

Now that shopping cannot be done at Sacramento, the JACL contacted the Perkins Merchandise Store and Elk Grove Haynes Store in an effort to help those who still wish to buy a few necessary things.

Mrs. Perkins talked to the Army Outfitting Company and has discovered that the canvas duffle bags can be made, if we order them. The largest size 18x40 costs about \$2.50. There are about three other sizes, ranging from about \$1.65, \$1.85, \$1.95 to \$2.50. If we wish to order them, we can call Mrs. Perkins at her store immediately. It may take a few days to have these bags made. Ropes are hard to get, but heavy twines are available. Mrs. Perkins is trying to get canvasses for sale at her store. We have sent them a list of things that the evacuees would need; and they will try to keep these articles in stock to accommodate all of us.

There has been suggestions offered by the WCCA officials that a few shoppers might be found that might go into Sacramento, for those who can not get their things at Elk Grove and Perkins. We cannot give this as a definite plan yet, but we will endeavor to work this out for everyone.

WORK OF THE NATIONAL JACL GOES ON

The National JACL office at Salt Lake City is busy working to help everyone in this crisis.

A survey of west coast evacuees resettling in the inter-mountain states is being conducted.

National Headquarter advises chapters to welcome evacuee JACL members into the chapter activity without payment of additional fees, if they have already paid all dues to their former chapter.

National officers lead by field secretary, Mike Masaoka, are devoting all their time, in attending conferences promoting goodwill and speaking in behalf of the Japanese American Citizens. They are planning to visit New York, Philadelphia, Washington to see government officials; and as we are about to face evacuation, we do so with a hope and prayer sent to our National JACL leaders, who will work night and day, to pave new paths of freedom and justice for the thousands of Japanese American and their parents. We are proud of our National organization and our local chapter becomes significant only because we are a part of a great National Mother Organization. We are grateful and we send our best wishes and hope to our National JACL.

A new Pacific Citizen will be issued shortly from Salt Lake City. Because of this great evacuation, all of us will be more than anxious to know what the National JACL will do, and we will be more than ever concerned for the welfare of the Japanese Americans in this crisis. We must keep the Pacific Citizen alive and active to serve as our spokesman and to help win more friends for our cause. Let us subscribe for the Pacific Citizen. Probably it will be the only publication to continue during the war. The yearly subscription is only \$5.00 for JACL members and \$2.50 per year for non-members. Let us subscribe now at the Florin JACL office .

TO THOSE WHO WISH TO SELL

Federal Reserve Bank has reported changes in regards to the selling of goods after the evacuation order. We may still sell anything even until after the order is issued. If you wish to sell things, JACL may be able to help you find prospective buyers. There are requests for bicycles, trucks, or pick-ups, bed-room sets, and outboard motor. Please inform the JACL office.

VOTERS ATTENTION!

There was a mistaken article in the paper yesterday about absentee voters, but the JACL checked it up and according to the latest information from the County Clerk's office, all those who are registered voters will be able to vote through absentee ballot. To acquire absentee ballots, you must write to County Clerk not earlier than August 5th, and not later than 20th.

Those who have not as yet registered, it may be possible for you to register after you get to the Camp. However, everything is very indefinite, as yet.

VERIFICATION PAPERS

The JACL office has made a form to be used by those who storing, renting, or lending their furnitures to their Caucasian friends. This is for your protection as well as for your friends, because none of us can foresee what will come to pass in the years ahead of us. If you wish to have copies of these forms, please call for them at our office.

OUR NEW ADDRESS

When we evacuate to our camp, let us remember to get our new residence address cards, which will be available then, and notify our post-master and post-mistress of our new residence address. The Post Office will forward all first-class mails to us.

Those who have registered with the selective service draft board must notify your local board; also with your new address.

CONTRIBUTIONS

The JACL is grateful for the continued special donations that is keeping our work going. Because of their generosity, we are better able to serve the community in this emergency.

Mr. Takahashi.	\$10.00	Yabumoto(Mills).	\$5.00
Kenso Inouye.	\$3.00	T. Koshiba.	\$1.00
K. Ono.	\$3.00	Brick Orwell.	\$100.00