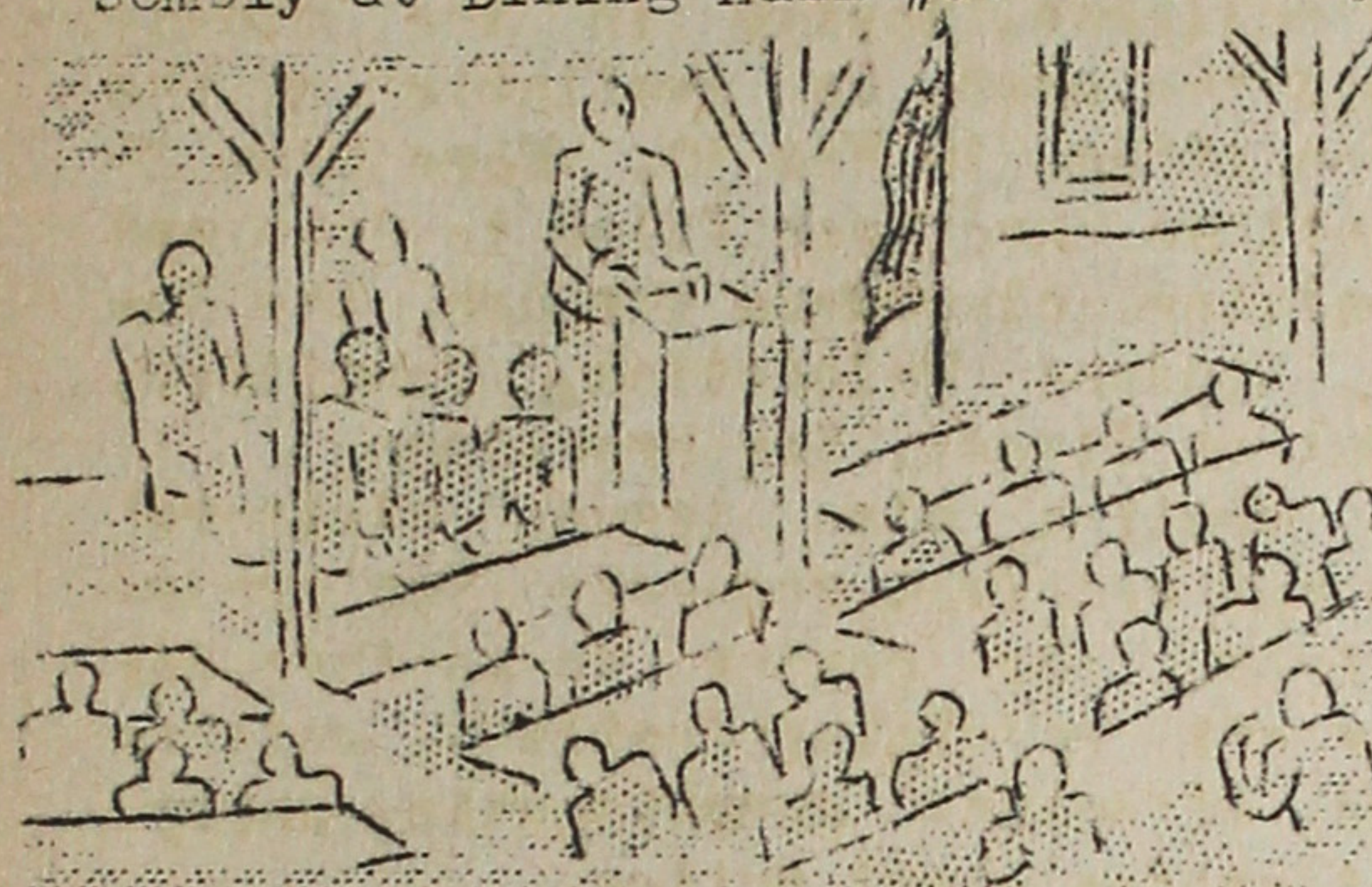


# Topaz Times

Pre-issue No. 5 Topaz, Utah October 7, 1942

## MYER VOICES HOPE THAT RESIDENTS WILL RELOCATE BEFORE ARMISTICE

"Our first concern is not the post-war period but the problem of relocating Topaz residents outside the center before the war is over," stated Dillon S. Myer, National Director of the WRA, before an informal assembly at Dining Hall #10 on Sunday afternoon. He addressed:



"The WRA pledges itself to the task of bringing to the public-at-large the realization that the majority of you now in Topaz expect to continue to live in this country and that you are citizens."

"If we fail to secure this understanding, we have lost the war. What will happen after the war depends on you, but I hope you will not be in Topaz for the duration."

"I cannot promise that you can stay here after the war; I do not think you should. I hope you will scatter out to every community in the U.S. so we can learn to understand you. I hope you don't gather in large

(Continued on Page 4)

## FORMATION MEETING OF COOP SET FOR TODAY AT DINING HALL 4

With the hope of serving all needs of every resident, the Topaz Co-operative will get under actual operation when the Co-operative Congress holds its first formation meeting today at 1:30 PM in Dining Hall 4.

As yet, only 12 blocks have elected representatives to the Congress, but the other blocks are expected to name theirs within this week. The Congress is composed of 2 representatives from each block.

George Matsumoto, chairman of the steering committee, explained the machinery of the Co-operative as follows: "Every building should hold a house meeting and elect 2 delegates. The 24 delegates in each block form the Block Assembly, and they should elect 2 representatives to the Congress, which in turn will select an Executive Board to do most of the administrative duties. Congress, however, will have the final veto power."

All persons 16 years of age or over are eligible for membership in the Co-operative, and tentative plans are that a person may buy only one share and have but one vote, and that each share is to be sold for \$1.

In its initial stages, the Co-operative will deal only in consumer's merchandise, but it eventually will undertake to operate various services like the barber-shop, shoe repair, beauty parlor, laundry, and cleaners, etc. It may even go into the production line. An example is the manufacture of soda water, face creams and other drug commodities.

## THE CITY

### HOUSING

Replacing the Family Adjustment Bureau and Single Men's Adjustment Bureau, a new Housing Adjustment Committee office was established this week in Dining Hall 38 to handle exclusively cases of families inducted between Sept. 28 and Oct. 3. All future complaints and requests will be registered through this agency, it was reported.

Members of the committee are Ernest Iiyama, Sashima Itow, Kozen Suzuki, Shig Kosakura and Sanaye Akashi. Their recommendations, based on the requests of families desiring changes of living quarters, will be passed to an assignment committee for final disposition.

"Families arriving prior to Sept. 28 are requested to wait until the immediate housing problems of the latest arrivals are solved," Arthur Eaton, Housing Section head, announced.

Already about 100 cases of families inducted during the first series of arrivals have been settled by the committee.

The Adjustment Committee, which maintains its former office in Dining Hall 11 to supplement the one in Block 38, is taking applications from 10 AM to 4 PM.



At least 60 workers departed yesterday for Franklin County, Idaho to work for the Franklin County Sugar Co, and 20 for Bingham County, Idaho, to work for the Utah-Idaho Sugar Co.

Because of unexpected difficulty with transportation, the second contingent of sugar beet workers did not leave on Monday as previously scheduled.

According to Vernon W. Baker, in charge of the beet workers' office, more

(Continued on Page 4)



# DIVISIONS

## SCHOOLS



Le Grand Noble, principal of the Topaz High School division, announced this week that the high school program is being planned to include the following basic courses: English, social science, mathematics, sciences, foreign languages, commercial, shops, physical education, music and probably art.

Glasses are scheduled to begin Oct. 19; registration, Oct. 12 in Block 26. No definite building assignments have been made.

**FACULTY:** The high school will have some 35 teachers (20 per cent of whom will be nisei), with about equal representation of men and women. Most of the Caucasian teachers are from Utah, California, Idaho and Oregon, and their appointments will be completed next week. Prior to the 19th, a 2-week training institute will be held.

**ARRIVALS:** Among a group of 12 teachers arriving here Sept. 30 were Mr. and Mrs. Leon A. Westover of Gunnison, the first of some 12 married couples coming here. They said: "There are real possibilities here, and if we work on the principle that Rome wasn't built in a day, we're going to gain a great deal in work and knowledge."

Westover, coming from a teaching position in Monroe, Utah, will teach mathematics and chemistry; Mrs. Westover will be in the elementary school. Both are graduates of the Brigham Young University. They have one baby son, Kyle Jay.

Asked for her general reaction to Topaz City, Mrs. Laverne O. Bane, of the elementary department, declared this was a refreshingly new experience and that she expected a great deal of accomplishments from both teachers and students. She received her degree from the University of Iowa and formerly taught in Texas schools. The wife of Dr. Bane, head of the adult education program, she has two daughters, Margaret Marie and Helen Louise, who are attending school in Delta. HK

**PRE-SCHOOL:** Though hampered by a temporary lack of equipment, 2 pre-school nursery centers opened Monday, Oct. 5, when Recreation Halls 9 and 13 were utilized for classrooms from 9 to 11:30 AM for children between the ages of 2 to 5 years old.

Teaching Rec 9's center is Tomi Takahashi, U C graduate and education major. Iyo Yamashita, another Cal graduate, is the instructor at the Rec 13 center. Each has a staff of 5 assistant teachers.

Present plans of the Education Department indicate that 4 nursery centers will be established ultimately--enough to care for most of the young children

of Topaz.

According to a recent survey, 287 out of Tanforan's 372 children within the 2 to 5 age bracket attended pre-school nurseries at the WCCA assembly center. DO

## WELFARE



The youth counseling division of the Community Welfare section, handling applications for student relocation, announced this week that a list of 111 approved colleges, mostly in the middle west and the east, is available at the division office in Rec 30. More than 25 applications have been filed to date and are awaiting clearance through the National Student Relocation Committee, 1830 Sutter Street, San Francisco.

The section also issues visitors' passes and receives requests for transfers from one center to another, for reasons of: rejoining families, getting married, effecting guardianship, carrying out professional duties.

## HOSPITAL



The following schedule has been announced for the Topaz Infirmary (Laundry 4):

General medical clinics. 9-11 AM, 1-3 PM on weekdays; 9-11 AM Saturdays. Emergency cases occurring after these hours will be treated at the newly completed Adult Wing of the main hospital buildings located north of Block 5.

Dental clinics. 9-11 AM, 1-3 PM on weekdays; 9-11 AM Saturdays.

Hours will be announced later for the special clinics, such as prenatal, postnatal, well-baby and diabetes.

**DOCTORS:** Members of the medical staff asked that all requests for home-calls be directed to the Infirmary. And they added: "Calls for doctors should not be made verbally to doctors who are enroute to other calls, or during a call. Since the doctors are working day and night, the staff requests that the residents refrain from asking for home calls unless the patient is really ill."

**BABY FORMULA KITCHEN:** The Baby Formula Kitchen was moved recently from Dining Hall 4 to the Infirmary. All mothers being served by the kitchen are asked to bring the baby's bottles, (in containers labeled with the name of the person and the dining hall number) to their dining halls by 8 AM; the filled bottles will be returned to the same hall by noon.

**WATER AND SALT:** Dr. Eugenia Fujita, of the staff, advised: "Residents should drink at least 2 quarts of water daily and use a liberal amount of salt on their food at mealtimes."

(Continued on Page 3)



# PEOPLE

## BEET WORKERS



Topaz's first contingent of sugar beet workers, numbering 56 men, left last Friday for the beet fields of Cache County, Utah.

Oldest member of the group was Jiro Iizuma, 12-10-B, 61 years of age, who wanted to earn some money for his family during the next 6 weeks. He was confident he could top 7 or 8 tons a day. Until 3 years ago, he employed as many as 40 to 50 men on his own sugar beet farm in Stockton, California.

With Iizuma was Hisaichi Tsugawa, 10-1-E, 42 years old, who had never worked in any kind of field work. Iizuma and Tsugawa said they volunteered because even at their advanced age, they could do the work and thus encourage the younger ones to volunteer for this vital work.

The only family leaving was that of young Henry Adachi, who was accompanied by his wife, Masayo, and their 3 year-old boy, Wayne.

Adachi said he was going to help the country by helping himself to earn a living on the outside; that he was going to stay out as long as possible and to contract for beet work for 20 to 30 men next spring after studying the climate, soil and farming conditions. Thirteen years ago, for 6 years, he lived in Box Elder county and is acquainted with beet work.

Mrs. Adachi said she felt like a pioneer; and as such, was ready to sacrifice for others. Her time would be taken mostly, she planned, by cooking, washing, sewing and keeping house for the men.

There was also a team of 3 young men: Henry Ebihara, 7-7-C; Tsugu Endo, 14-3-B; Katsumi Nishiyama, 15-9-D. Ebihara was going to: "Replenish my empty pocket book, help the war effort, get a taste of outside freedom." TOMOYE TAKIMACHI

## LOST BOY



First living "item" recorded in the files of the Lost and Found Department is 6-year old Yoshikazu Uyeno. Lost after leaving a friend's home about 6 PM, Sept. 26, the boy wandered about the northern part of Topaz for an hour in a vain attempt to locate his apartment. Near Dining Hall 5 he was found crying by an unidentified woman who called the attention of Sumio Yoshii, assistant manager of the same block.

With the child, Yoshii roamed the city for over 1 1/2 hours.

"The kid didn't know his address, but he pointed toward Block 14," Yoshii ex-

plained, "so I went there only to find that his directions were wrong. After a while it became obvious that Yoshikazu didn't have the slightest idea where he lived."

Yoshii finally took him to the Lost and Found Department of the Public Safety Division, where Lt. Roy Akiyoshi recognized the boy as the son of his next-door neighbor, Charley Y. Uyeno, 26-3-D.

The boy was taken to the address, where Uyeno happily received his son. DO

## TANFORAN LETTER



"It is very quiet here; we had couple of talent shows, 2 movies and a farewell dance -- all very quiet. All of the section around the Hollywood Bowl is emptied, as well as around the churches.

"We walked around last night for a last look at the camp -- mostly empty barracks, a few remaining lights.

"We hear that a host of familiar things will follow us to Utah; all the beds, mattresses, dishes, pans, soaps and everything in the warehouse, plus what has been gathered up from the empty stalls, will be sent on.

"As to the scorpion story, I happen to know this guy Koji Urabe, and wondered if the rumor hadn't come in wrong. I thought maybe the scorpion bit him, and it died, not Koji. Counteracted the rumor with stories of my own, such as Koji seeing a spider and thinking it was scorpion, fainted; and as he fell, hit his leg on a box, cutting it; and when the people saw him, they thought he had been bitten and had died."

## MORE ON HOSPITAL

Dr. Fujita pointed out that many cases brought to the attention of the doctors were due mainly to insufficient consumption of water and salt. She added: "The salt content of the water is higher in some places and the water may taste different, but it is not harmful. Altitude, climate and other changes may cause some distress until the residents become acclimated, but there should be no unnecessary alarm."

**NURSES:** Joy Stewart, RN, regional head nurse, was a recent visitor here. The coordinator of the nurses' section of the various WRA centers, Miss Stewart said she was impressed by the work of the Topaz medical staff.

Gertrude Wetzel, RN, left here last week for Manzanar, to become the head nurse there. Charles F. Ernst, project director, complimented Miss Wetzel's work for Topaz, saying: "Her services here were very much appreciated by all. Miss Wetzel made a distinct contribution to standards of work and training."

ALEX N. YORICHI



# THE CITY

applications can be handled, but the office is expected to close within a week or 10 days.

Visiting Topaz Monday was David W. Evans, representing Gov. Maw's Farm Labor Committee, Utah Farmers and various sugar beet growers and companies.

## WORK FURLOUGH

Latest available statistics revealed this week that the following have found private employment other than sugar beet work since Sept. 29:

Iwao Kawaguchi and Sunao John Iwatsu for U.S. Engineers, on Sept. 29; T. Yamagishi, N. Yayo, H. Hashimoto and Asaki Umawateri, for Mr. Moody, farmer, on Sept. 30; Roy Harano, Hiroshi Higashi, Masami Oishi, John Harano and Frank Kami as farm laborers for Mr. Shurtleff, on Oct. 2 and 3; Mr. and Mrs. Zenichi Kambara for the Southern Hotel in Delta, on Oct. 5; and Frank Hirose, William Miyamoto, Thomas Miyamoto, Noboru Hashiguchi, Koji Urabe, Don Uyeda, Frank Shine, George Urabe, Shigeo Sakada and Hikaru Hideshima, for the Delta Milling Company, on Oct. 5.

## POST OFFICE

Topaz' postoffice staff was further expanded during the week when William Willoughby, clerk in charge, and Charles G. Warnich, postal clerk, both from Delta, instituted new services and facilities for the residents.

"All sorts of stamps and envelopes as well as money orders may be bought from the PO now," stated Willoughby. "We are also taking care of incoming COD and parcel post packages as well as insured mails, but there is no facility as yet for outgoing matter as those mentioned above."

Hideo Iyeki, supervisor of resident workers, requested residents who write to friends in the

Granada Relocation Center to address correspondence to the Granada Relocation Center, Anache Branch, Lamar, Colorado.

Iyeki also emphasized that subscribers to magazines and papers should notify their publishers of a change in address. Residents who have changed apartments within the center were requested to inform the PO of their latest address.

## CANTEEN

From its former field of operation in the SE corner of Block 4, the Canteen moved lock, stock and freezing unit last week-end to its new location in Rec 19.

"There is a possibility," stated Walter Honderich, Community Enterprise Division chief, "that another branch canteen may be started in Recreation Hall 12 if enough commodities are on hand to justify another store."

Honderich plans to expand the services to include a barber shop, and later a laundry, shoe repair shop, radio shop, a rental department for vacuum cleaners and a department to handle moving pictures. Already 20 bar-

bers have applied for work.

Daily sales have passed the \$700 mark and are increasing daily.

## NEW OFFICES

New offices for the following departments were announced this week:

Community Welfare, Rec Hall 30; Community Activities, Rec Hall 33; Housing, Rec Hall 4; Cooperative Office, Dining Hall 4; Division of Public Safety, Rec Hall 11; Education, Administration Building (temporary); Topaz Times, Rec Hall 16.

## TRANSFERS

Drs. Kazuo Togasaki and Mas Hara, and Ruth Takahashi, RN, left the City Monday afternoon to report for duty in other WRA center hospitals.

The 3 were taken to Delta where Miss Takahashi took an early train south for Las Vegas enroute to Poston, Ariz.; while Drs. Togasaki and Hara took a train northward to Salt Lake City and then to Reno, Nev., where the 2 would part; the former going to Tulare, Calif., and the latter to Fresno, Calif. (Fresno AC leaves soon for Gila, Ariz.)

## MORE ON MYER'S ADDRESS

communities after the war. Then there won't be a problem."

Myer praised the excellence of the program arranged for his benefit. He declared that the purpose of his visit was to become acquainted with the center and its people. The official stated:

"I am delighted with the progress being made, particularly the setting up of the city government. The policy of the WRA is concerned with the organization of a normal government in an artificial atmosphere. The responsibility is largely yours. We wish you success in your venture. We will help you in every way we can."

The WRA director arrived at Topaz on Sunday at 10 AM from Salt Lake City and departed Monday at noon.

His tours of inspection have already covered relocation centers at Granada, Colo. and Heart Mountain, Wyo. He plans to visit 3 more.

Among outside visitors who arrived to meet Myer were Larry Tajiri, editor the Pacific Citizen, national organ of the Japanese-American Citizens League, and Teiko Ishida, a member of the National JACL headquarters at Salt Lake City. Accompanying Myer was Col. Erle M. Wilson, liaison between the military and the WRA. EVELYN KIRIMURA