

Toshiko Morishige  
U.S. Cont.  
Sept. 21, 1942

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### New Crafts

About a week after we came here they dumped a truck load of pine barks. I saw our neighbor bringing them home. I was curious because we did not have a stove(s) in our houses that time. They couldn't use it for kindling. A week later I thought I would visit their place to see what they were making out of it. They had a sign put up with their name carved in the pine bark. It was beautifully done. When I entered the house they had more clever things done. Some of them were necklaces made of watermelon and mushmelon seeds. Rings made of peach and plum seeds and many other jeweleries. Other new crafts I have seen in different places were different shapes of baskets <sup>woven</sup> weaved of tule weed. With the scraps from <sup>planed</sup> plained board they have these scraps pasted on a piece of paper. They are pasted in different ways to make them look like flowers. They are painted and shellaked. These make very nice wall hangings.

Some of them are things that nobody (else) could think (up) of making. They are so clever.

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American Life  
September 21, 1942  
Miyamoto, Hatsuye

### First Day at Tule Lake High

Clang went the temporary ~~bell~~ (There was no bell. Be careful in writing history.) of Tule Lake High School at eight A.M. Monday morning. (September 14) Over a thousand students formed a line in back of the Principal Office to get there schedule(s). As they came out, they compared their schedules with their friends(•) to see what periods were alike. Many students were not satisfied.

Many of the unsatisfied students went to the end of the line which was formed in front of the Principal Office, to have there various questions answered. Many students waited two hours or more to get their simple questions answered or fixed. Still many students (who) were unsatisfied had to wait till the next day to get there classes added or changed.

(This is not different from many other schools. I wanted information on special Tule Lake beginnings.)

## How Thing Is At First

Just coming in this camp looking from the train, I didn't know the camp was so large. All the barracks look alike. The first day I arrived, it was windy and cold. I was afraid of getting lost. So I stay home a couple of days. Even going into another block I was sure to get lost. The only way I can tell was I live live is near the ditch; third barrack from the end. I made a mistake going into the wrong apartment. After that I look before going in. Now I use of the camp.

Now going to school early in the morning at eight o'clock till five o'clock P.M. It takes about ten minutes to walking to school, but it seem a very long way.

Friday was so dusty and windy. I drop a paper; it sure flew in no time. I combed my hair and the combed was dirty. My sweater was dusty; one shake didnt take all the dust off. Sometime the sand will go into your eye and mouth. So I hope the dust won't come here again.

9/22/42

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[Tanimoto, Geo.]

#### HOW THE PEOPLE LIVE AND A MAJOR PROBLEM

The people in this community have all come from various parts of California, Oregon, Washington and a few other states.

On the various days that the people came off the train and into the camp there were many solemn faces as they glanced towards the camp buildings in which they would all have to stay the duration of the war. This was true too most all of the older people and some of the younger people.

The first week was about the worst for everybody. The dogs, other pets, and many other pets, and many other things which they all had to leave behind kept coming to many a mind.

The houses assigned to the families and bachelors were all better than expected. Although the insides of the barracks were bare except for four or five beds and mattresses inside. Slowly the people brought or bought tables, benches, and chairs into the rooms till the room began to look a little like home.

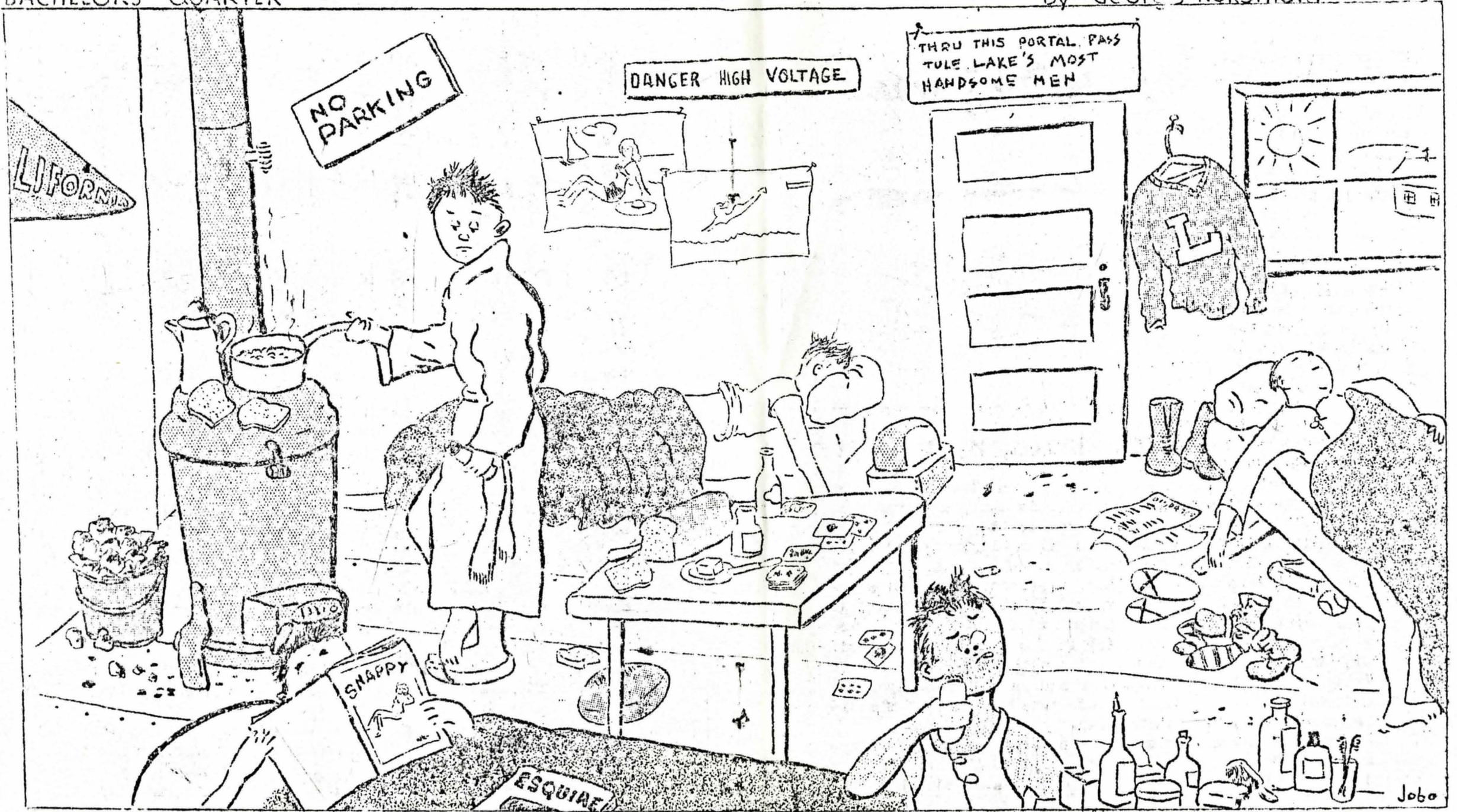
Many who had come early had already begun to build porches and a small garden. The ones who came in towards the last could not build porches, benches, shelves etc, because there was not enough lumber. All the good waste lumber had been taken up. Lumber shortage set in so as to cause the stopping of lumber giving.

Even though Japanese wardens were posted at the lumber piles, it was impossible to stop the takers. A Japanese warden would not or could not stop the takers because of several reasons. First because they (Japanese) were all in the camp for the same reason. Second because all the people in the community knew that lumber was needed; and if the wardens or anyone tried to stop the taking of lumber, they would probably

Coming to Tule Lake and Working in the Hospital

Coming to Tule Lake and seeing many buildings in the rows I could not imagine how many persons are going to be living in this camp. As I got off the train May 27, 1942 there were many passenger cars waiting "Beautiful Cars!" We passed the building in which we thought was our new home, but was the warehouses. We came to 413 building and stopped. We went inside and waited until our turn came. Finally our turn came to get our apartment. Then we followed a man who showed us our apartment. When we went inside we found the steel cots with mattresses we certainly was surprised, after sleeping on the straw mattresses for five weeks. Before we knew it was lunch time so we went to Mess Hall to eat. We were certainly surprised to see what we had for lunch, it was the best meal since we left home. That they went by so soon.

Next morning so I got up. I did not know what kind of work I should do. I had many choices. My first was to work in



C H A P T E R I V

"HOW WE CREATED A HOME."

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Toyama, Helen  
U.S. Const. Per 7  
Dec. 7, 1942

### Housing Conditions of Tulelake

A dark, cold morning when the wind was blowing mildly, a long train-load of Japanese evacuees from Camp Walerga descended the trainsteps to the sandy soil of Tulelake.

Everyone calmly boarded the army trucks and we were brought into the Relocation Center. Then in one of the unoccupied mess halls every family received instructions, and guides then showed them to their apartments.

Walking through the sandy soil, looking at the rooms of quiet barracks, you wonder. You ask yourself what kind of a home you will find in Tulelake. The apartments looked bare and cold.

Taking walks along the first filled section of Tulelake, people who came later, noticed the porches that were made by the families that came here earlier. Then they started making furniture and porches.

Later when the apartments were plastered, the women of Tulelake really went to work and embroidered, bought all kinds of heavy material for curtains and draperies. The men were also busy at work. They became creative and made all kinds of household furniture. There were furniture exhibits and contests which women also took part in it. Then most of the household units were completed.

Some people's apartments have cozy little kitchens. Usually the beds are put to one side of the room and partitioned so that friends entering their home may just see the part which is made into the living room.

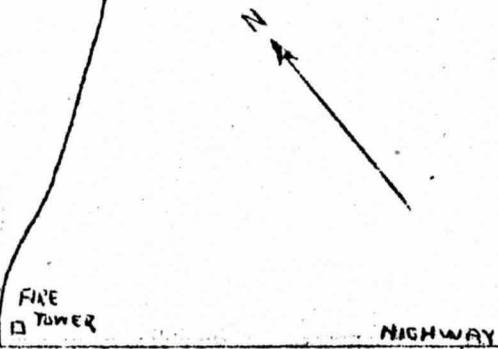
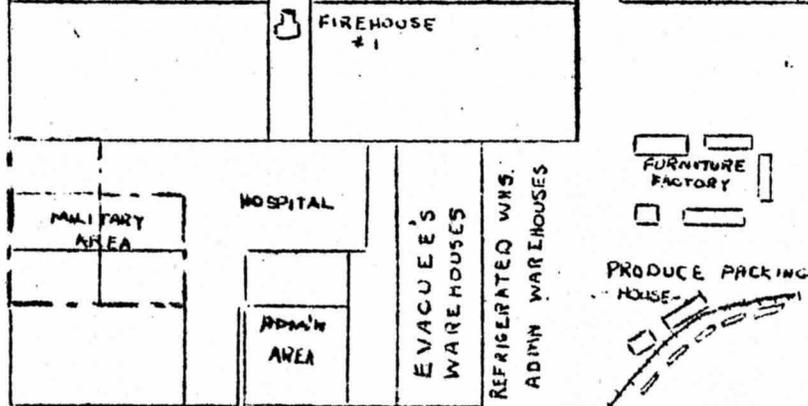
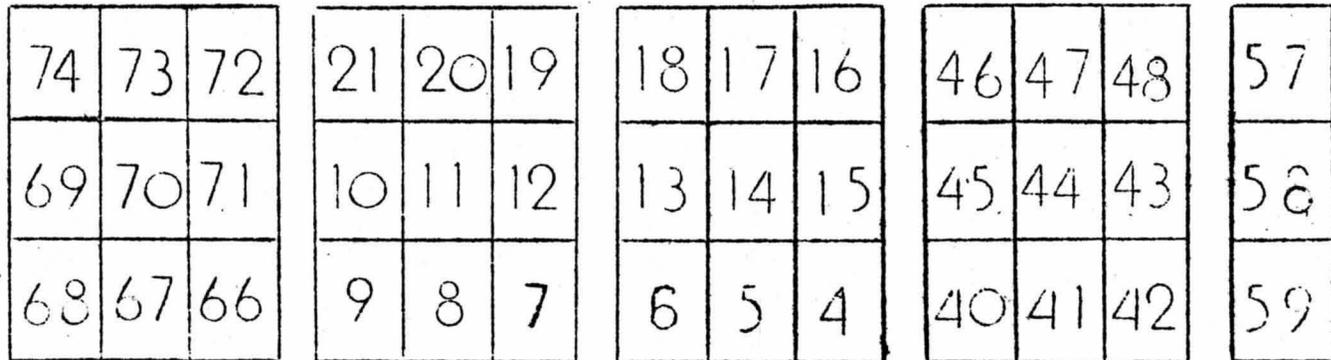
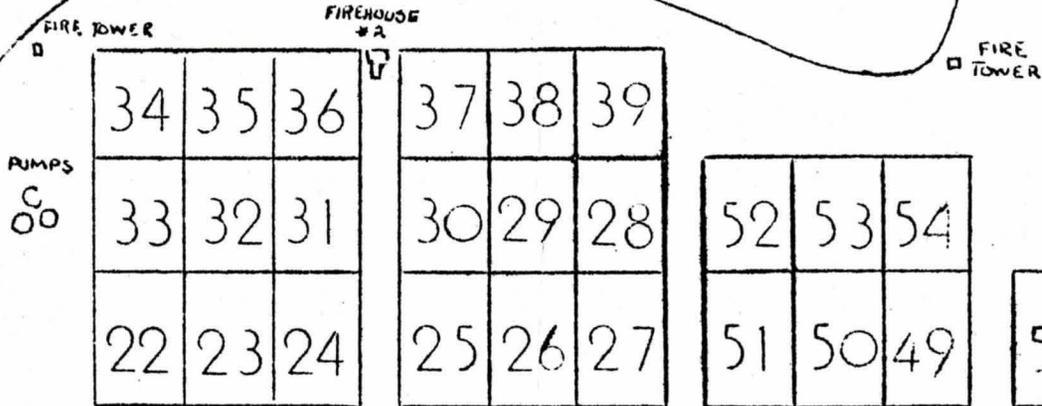
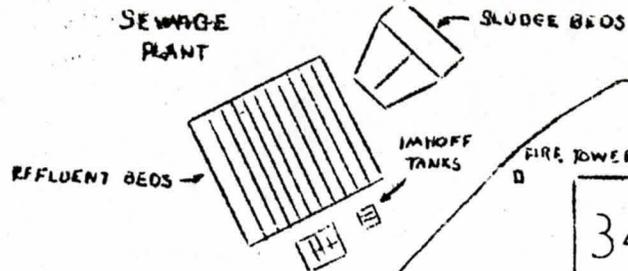
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The closets were made to put away suit cases, trunks and all their clothes. The men made shoe cases, book shelves and other useful furniture of all kinds and patterns. They were all put into places which seemed the most convenient place.

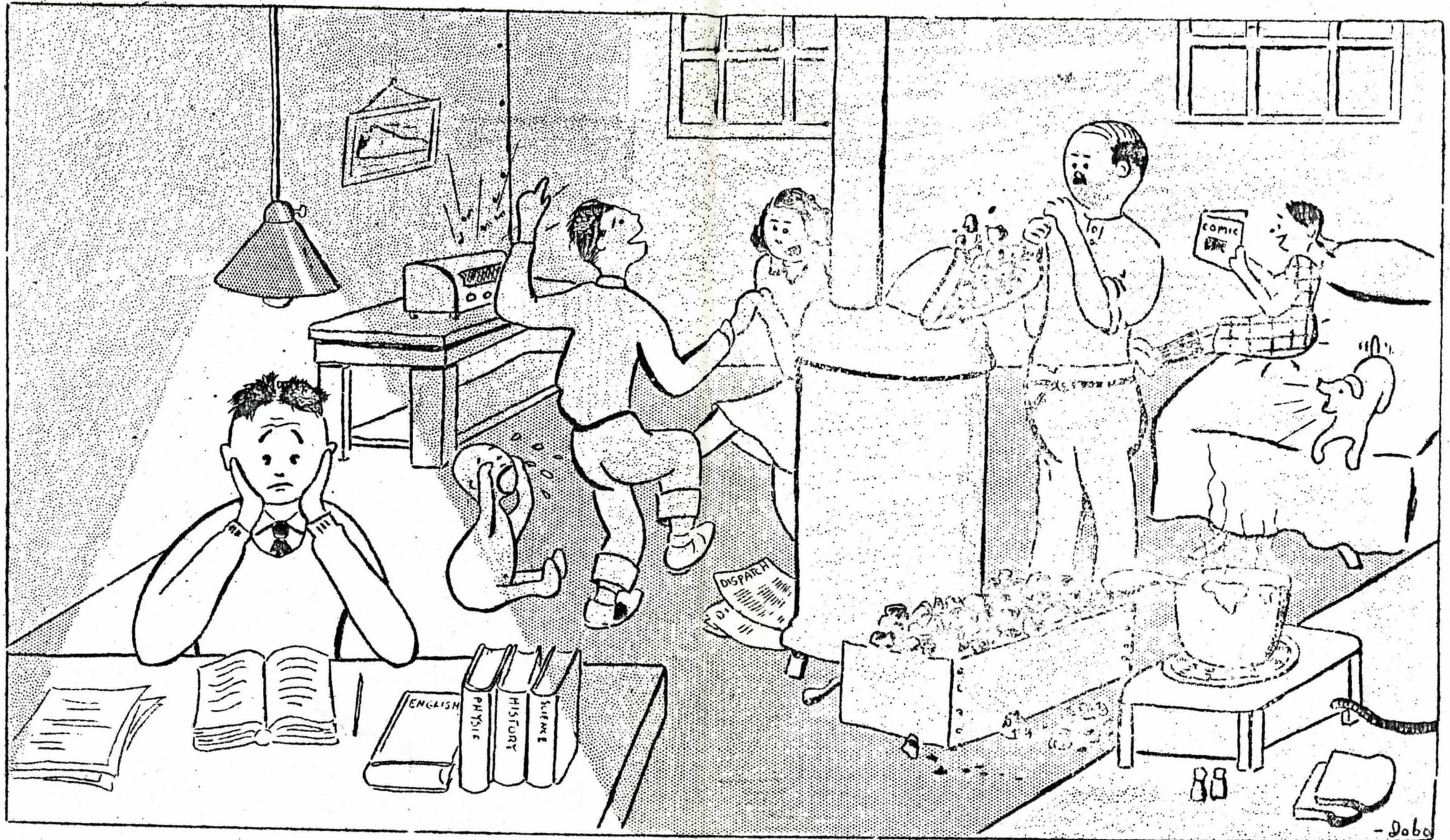
The women had opportunities to make and arrange flowers. That was about the last touch to be made in our homes.

Now anyone could see the realistic flowers arranged in vases and put on tables, shelves, and bureaus where it helps to brighten up and make the room look cheerful from all appearances.

# TULELAKE WAR RELOCATION PROJECT



CEMETERY



HOME SWEET HOME

-Dobca

### How a Woman Creates a Home in a Barrack

Creating a home in a barrack is not an easy thing--for instance at first we were all in an assembly center and there we, for the first time, received a taste of camp life, we stayed for a couple of months and had to get used to it. Of course this does not have anything to do with creating a home, but that is where a woman had to begin to build a home all over again. When we reached the center, we were all surprised finding spread beds and other things in the room. Now when we came in this relocation center a woman again had to build a home for everyone to be comfortable. Each family receives an apartment, she knows it is empty and very unhomely. When she is settled down a little, she begins to plan how to make her barerom look like a home, because she couldn't bring any of her commercial in camp. The government allowed her to bring just the necessary things, so naturally she needs help from each member of the family to do things. At first she cleans the windows, puts dainty curtains up and here is where she begins. The walls were bare at first but later fixed by the carpenters, they put plaster boards on so she began having help and putting up pictures, making shelves, bookcases, tables, chairs or benches, now mind you, she does not make these things, but a member of a family does. He also helps in making an empty apartment look like a home for him and others. Now that the furniture is made she buys small rugs and table cloths, etc.

A woman does not make a bare room look like a home in one day; it takes time because of the shortages of many things here. Soon she almost has what she wants, having curtains up, rugs on the floor, furniture made,

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different types of picture up, the bedroom that separated from the place where they entertain. A woman is soon satisfied and happy that she created a home out of an empty room.