

Memo. for Inspector M. E. Gurnea -3-

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boys, who stole wallets, have been arrested. MR. BARBER is of the opinion that these boys should be tried in secret court to avoid any stigma. He stated that these boys are not bad boys.

MR. BARBER also related that there have been thefts of lumber and food and that it is his opinion that these thefts result from improper administration. He related that the stolen lumber was left unguarded and no fence was placed around the piles of lumber. He stated that food has been taken from the warehouse on several occasions but that no complaints have been formally made and that knowledge of such thefts is a result of rumors.

He advised that liquor does come into the project but it has not created any problems. He said that one man was caught making liquor (wine) and that the quantity of liquor made consisted of two gallons of wine.

MR. BARBER stated with regard to thefts of government property the defendants or persons responsible for such thefts will not be charged in the indictment as having stolen government property but as having stolen state property from the people of the community.

MR. BARBER further advised that there have been instances of hoarding in kitchens. He related that the food supply at the present time is good.

He stated that only recently has gambling reared "its ugly head." He informed that beet sugar workers are responsible for this, inasmuch as they have made considerable money during the beet harvest and can afford to gamble. He stated that evidence, which indicates that gambling is going on at the camp, is very hard to obtain and that no arrests have been made. MR. BARBER related that there have been rumors that one man, an evacuee, lost \$600.00 last week.

He further advised that there are undoubtedly certain persons at the camp who are strongly pro-Axis but that these persons always work through provokers. He further stated that complaints have been made against certain Japanese known as the Hawaiian Group and that the complainants state this group is rough and composed of terrible persons. He said there has been one instance of commercialized prostitution but that this case was "nipped in the bud" and that the girl who committed the prostitution was cautioned. He advised that the camp has had no further trouble with this girl.



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He further advised that there have been a few "triangle cases" and that there have been four or five cases of illegitimate births. He advised that he does not know what the venereal disease rate is at the camp and that this data will have to be obtained from the hospital authorities.

At the project laundry MR. BARBER advised that the only clothes that are laundered are those used at the project hospital and by members of the U.S.O. Organization. It was pointed out at the laundry that the sorting room is much too small at the present time.

During the survey of this camp MR. BARBER related that the disposal of garbage is a big problem and that thus far the community has been unable to obtain garbage cans or containers.

On the project is a large building, which was supposed to have been occupied by an optical concern, but, according to MR. BARBER, it was ascertained that there was misrepresentation on the part of the optical company and this misrepresentation resulted in the cancellation of the contract. He stated that this building is now being used as an office building.

He further related that the grade and high schools are presently under construction and that classes are being held in some of the barracks.

MR. BARBER stated that dental work is also a problem inasmuch as materials for indentures are only available for private work. He stated that the Procurement Office has been unable to obtain materials for this type of work and that there have been indications that some dental work is being paid for by patients.

MR. BARBER advised that there is a temporary joint setup in the government at the community, which has been recommended by all factions at the center. He stated the temporary council of block chairmen is composed of Issei, while the block managers, who are elected, are all Nisei and that their duties are administrative. He stated that town hall meetings are held every Monday evening and that at all important meetings representatives of Issei and Nisei get together and arrive at the solution of their problems.

MR. BARBER stated that recently Secretary of War STIMSON ruled that Japanese of American birth could be recruited in the United States Army



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on hand a thirty-day surplus of basic foods.

MR. GUY ROBERTSON, Project Director, on February 6, 1943, stated the total population at the relocation center is 10,692. He was unable to relate the exact number of Niseis, Isseis and Kebeis together with the number of each of these classes who are eighteen years of age and above and who are seventeen years of age and below. He was also unable to relate the total number of school children at the project. However, he advised he would have this data available the following day (February 7, 1943).

MR. ROBERTSON advised that the total number of Japanese who have been permanently located is 189.

He was asked for a description of the project, the size of the camp and the acreage available for cultivation for 1943. He advised that he would have this data available the following day. In this connection Special Agent [REDACTED] of the Denver Field Office advised that 1200 acres will be available for cultivation this year. b7c

MR. ROBERTSON was also requested to furnish a list of names of Japanese wardens at the project together with their city of last residence and their rank. This he promised he would do.

MR. ROBERTSON stated he was Assistant Director of the project until he became Director. He advised that prior to becoming associated with this project, he was employed by the McNeil Construction Company and that subsequent to this employment he was employed by the Basic Magnesium Company at Arizona, where he worked in the purchasing department. He informed that in this capacity he made recommendations on the purchases of materials. He related that prior to this employment he was a dude rancher in Wyoming and that he operated some tourist camps near Jackson, Wyoming. He said that he came to the project in August, 1942, and that the first Japanese arrived at this project on August 14, 1942.

MR. ROBERTSON stated that DOUGLAS M. TODD, Assistant Project Director, was formerly a banker in Utah and that MR. TODD was also President of the Mormon Stake at Denver. He stated that MR. TODD followed mining engineering at Denver and that he came to the project in July, 1942.

MR. ROBERTSON stated that MR. P. W. BARBER, Head of the Community Service Division, was with the theater group under WPA at New York City prior to his employment at the project and that MR. BARBER was one of the earliest officials employed at the project.



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He stated that DR. C. E. IRWIN, Chief of the Health Division, was in private practice for a long time and that DR. IRWIN operated a sanitarium for mental cases in Iowa; that subsequent to the operation of this sanitarium he went back to private practice.

He stated that MR. VAUGHN MECHEAU, Chief of Information and Reports Division, was formerly employed by two newspapers at Denver, Colorado, and that MR. MECHEAU also operated his own newspaper plant.

MR. ROBERTSON advised that JERRY W. MOUSEL, Office of Project Attorney, was employed at Washington, D. C., for a long time and that he also was employed as an attorney at the Regional Office of the War Relocation Authority at Denver, Colorado, prior to coming to instant project.

He advised that MR. JOHN A. NELSON, Chief of the Administrative Division, was formerly employed by the United States Forest Service at Ogden, Utah. MR. NELSON was with the Forest Service practically all his working life.

He advised that MR. GLEN HARTMAN, Chief of the War Work Division, is a graduate of the University of Wyoming and was formerly with the Farm Security Organization. MR. ROBERTSON advised that MR. HARTMAN has an excellent background.

He stated that EVERETT R. LANE, Chief of the Transportation and Supply Division, came to the project from the National Youth Administration, where he was employed as a vocational instructor. He informed that MR. LANE came to the project as MR. HARTMAN'S assistant and that he has done excellent work at the project. MR. ROBERTSON stated that MR. LANE knows machinery and materials.

He stated that BEN. B. LUMMIS, Chief of the Public Works Division, has been an engineer for thirty years and that he has worked as an engineer in many capacities. He advised that MR. LUMMIS was a WPA inspection engineer in Wyoming for a long time.

He advised that MR. W. J. CARROLL, Chief of the Employment and Housing Division, was secretary to Senator SCHWARTZ, former United States Senator from the State of Wyoming.

He advised that SCOTT TAGGART, Chief of the Community Enterprises Division, formerly operated a wholesale business at Cody, Wyoming, and



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before that he operated a wholesale business in Utah. Mr. ROBERTSON stated Mr. TAGGART is experienced in cooperative work.

He advised that Mr. C. D. CARTER, Superintendent of Schools, has had considerable experience along educational lines. He stated I. VIRGIL PAYNE, head of the Welfare Division, started employment at the project in March. He stated PAYNE is very capable and that the project is fortunate in obtaining her services.

He advised Mr. MASON, Chief of Police, comes from Greeley, Colorado, where he has had varied experience in law enforcement, and that under Mr. MASON law enforcement at the project should be very much improved.

He stated Mr. BRITAIN will be employed as Chief of the Internal Security Division; that Mr. BRITAIN has been interviewed at Denver for this position and that he apparently is a very good man. He advised that Mr. GLEN HARTMAN will supervise agriculture and industry (See supra).

He advised Mr. A. S. INGRAHAM is Chief of the Agricultural Production and Processing Division, and that he has had extensive experience and his work is very satisfactory.

Mr. ROBERTSON stated with regard to the industry and manufacturing divisions, the Project has had no industry and that all efforts have been concentrated on the relocation of the evacuees presently living at the Center.

He stated that Mr. FRED HALER, Chief of the Food Division, was formerly Chief Steward for Yellowstone Park.

In answer to questions Mr. ROBERTSON stated that during December, 1942, the cost to feed one person per day was 46.6 cents; that in January, 1943, it is estimated that the cost per person per day will be 41 cents. He advised there is a fluctuation between 41 and 46 cents per person per day. He stated that these figures include milk diets for children and all foods consumed at the camp.

He stated that Mr. W. B. MacFARLAND, Chief of the Placement Section, prior to coming to the Project was employed in the WPA State Setup at Wyoming, and that he is a former government employee.

Mr. ROBERTSON was asked what the difference was between Placement



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With regard to the recruiting of Japanese, who are American citizens, for service in the United States Army, Mr. ROBERTSON stated some arguments have arisen among the Japanese. He indicated they can not understand why they should be classified 4-C, and that some American Japanese can not understand why they can not enlist in the United States Navy. He stated other American Japanese can not understand why Japanese have to serve as a unit for a battalion in the United States Army.

In answer to the question as to whether there are indications as to any subversive groups in the camp, Mr. ROBERTSON advised there are trouble makers and agitators in camp, and that most of this agitation is the result of small wages paid the Japanese employees. He stated some of the Japanese remarks are as follows: "Why should we have to work for very small wages when they (the United States government) will feed and house us in any event." He advised, however, none of this agitation is political. Mr. ROBERTSON was asked by Inspector GURNEA if it were desirable could he segregate the undesirables from the desirables, and in answer to this question Mr. ROBERTSON replied that if segregation of undesirables were desired he could not single out one individual. Mr. ROBERTSON further advised in answer to the question that he does not believe the Japanese police are telling him all they know or all that comes to their attention. He stated, however, he is satisfied they will relate any information to him which will endanger or threaten the internal security of the camp or the United States. He advised there are six undercover Japanese police officers and they report to RYOZO "ROSY" MATSUI, who is head of the Japanese police, and that MATSUI in turn reports to him, Mr. ROBERTSON.

With regard to prostitution, Mr. ROBERTSON advised that only one case of prostitution has arisen at the Project.

With regard to promiscuity, he advised that he does not believe it is anymore prevalent at the Project than it is in any outside community. He stated that it is certainly not out of bounds nor is it of a serious nature.

With regard to gambling, Mr. ROBERTSON stated some gambling has broken out during the past week or two; that the police department is investigating this matter and efforts will be made to stop it.

With regard to complaints on medical facilities, Mr. ROBERTSON advised that some complaints have been made relative to the shortage of denture materials used by the dentists. He stated efforts have and will be made to secure such materials. With regard to complaints against the hospital, Mr. ROBERTSON advised that there have been a number of crank complaints. He advised most of these complaints pertain to "too much noise in the hospital corridors", but that no complaints have been made regarding the medical treatment or the operation of the Project Hospital.