

424 Wheeler Hall
20 July 1949

Executive Secretary, Western Growers Association
606 South Hill Street
Los Angeles, California

Dear Sir:

In a recently published book, "Americans Betrayed", by one Morton Grodzins, published by the University of Chicago Press, the motive force behind the evacuation of the Japanese from the west coast is described as the work of various "pressure groups", acting for "selfish economic motives." Your Association is mentioned on pages 22 to 25 of this book.

In going over the evidence assembled throughout the book a colleague and I felt that a distorted picture of the evacuation and the character of the public sentiment in its favor had been presented. We are, therefore, re-examining the evidence in the expectation of publishing a book pointing out the errors and distortions of this one.

In re-assessing the evidence, we were wondering, in regard to your Association, whether the letters written by "Mr. McNabb" (the fictitious name used by Grodzins for some official in your organization) to Governor Warren on January 3 and to Congressman Anderson on January 22 (both mentioned on page 25) expressed the sentiment of the members of the Association or just the personal opinion of the writer. Had there been a meeting of the Board of Directors during January confirming the sentiment of these letters?

I note that on February 8 the Board of Directors did pass a resolution favoring evacuation. I am curious to know whether they did so earlier or whether the opinions in the letters mentioned above were simply personal. It seems to us to be very important to discriminate between a personal expression and one truly representative of the membership.

Underlying Grodzins' treatment of course is the implied thesis that your Association was anxious to remove the Japanese since they were competitors. He points out on page 22 that some Japanese were in direct competition with some of your members. Any evidence that you might have to show the nature of this competition or to indicate the distortion of his account could be put to good use.

Sincerely

Edward N. Barnhart
Assistant professor

5. Bd. of Directors resolution -

6. Paper did not indicate Assoc.
as whole took official stand

→ Very little competition, (p. 5)
85% of req. shipped east

→ Defense angle

Asb = did Board of

424 Wheeler Hall
20 July 1949

Executive Secretary
Grower-Shipper Vegetable Association
Salinas National Bank Bldg.
Salinas, California

Dear Sir:

In a recently published book, "Americans Betrayed", by one Morton Grodzins, published by the University of Chicago Press, the motive force behind the evacuation of the Japanese from the west coast is described as the work of various "pressure groups" acting for "selfish economic motives." Your Association is mentioned on pages 25 to 30.

In going over the evidence assembled throughout the book, a colleague and I felt that a distorted picture of the evacuation and the character of the public sentiment in its favor had been presented. We are, therefore re-examining the evidence in the expectation of publishing a book pointing out the errors and distortions of this one.

In re-assessing the evidence, we were wondering, whether the letter mentioned (page 28) as having been written by a "Mr. Scott" (the fictitious name used by Grodzins for some official in your organization) to the Filipino Labor Supply Association on January 15 expressed the sentiment of the writer only or the sentiments of the members of the Association. Had there been a meeting of the Board of Directors during January confirming the sentiment of this letter? It seems to us to be very important to discriminate between a personal expression of opinion and one truly representative of membership of a group.

Underlying Grodzins' treatment of course, is the implied thesis that your Association was anxious to remove the Japanese since they were competitors. He points out (page 26) that the Japanese were strong competitors. Any evidence you might have to show distortion in his picture or charges here would be great interest and value to us.

Sincerely

Edward M. Barnhart
Assistant Professor

Labor Unions

Grodz

66

18 locals and councils - most AFL

67

1 CIO affiliate against Evac

Los Angeles Indust. Union Council for evac.

Seattle fishermen

(Mar 11)

FICE

Portland textile

(Feb 19)

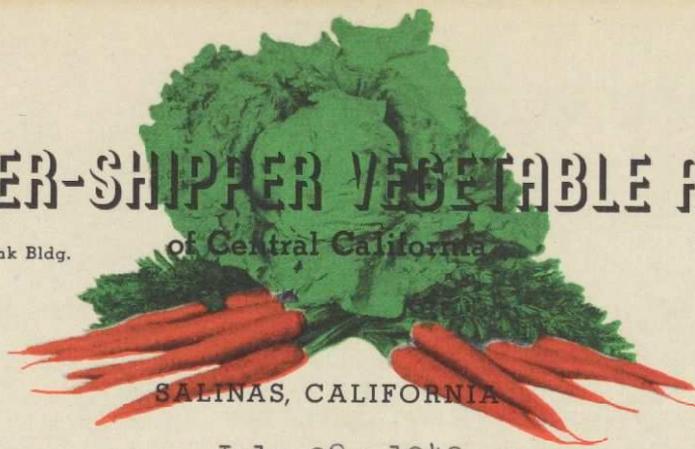
FICE

GROWER-SHIPPER VEGETABLE ASSN.

Room 407
Salinas National Bank Bldg.

of Central California

Telephone 3941



OFFICERS
BUD ANTLE, *President*
K. R. NUTTING, *Vice-President*
JACK E. BIAS, *Secretary-Manager*

JACK E. BIAS
Secretary-Manager

July 28, 1949

Mr. Edward N. Barnhart, Asst. Professor
Department of Speech, University of California
424 Wheeler Hall
Berkeley 4, California

Dear Mr. Barnhart:

I sincerely appreciate receiving your letter of July 20, 1949, relative to our Association's position and activities behind the evacuation of Japanese from the West Coast.

Mr. Austin Anson, who was Secretary-Manager of the Association from 1939 until December, 1942, had a son in the National Guard Tank Corps from Salinas, which was sent to the Philippines in August of 1941. Mr. Anson was naturally interested and concerned for the welfare of his son and American armed forces in the Philippines and was quite active in raising funds for the Red Cross to send medicines after the fall of Bataan. Unfortunately, his son was taken prisoner and died in a prison camp under sordid circumstances.

As you may know, it was the Army under the direction then of General DeWitt who immediately took steps to evacuate Japanese from the West Coast almost immediately after Pearl Harbor. I was in Salinas during this period and am sure that the Grower-Shipper Vegetable Association of Central California and its membership did not take any official or unofficial action in the evacuation or maneuvers to obtain the evacuation. Any actions or representations credited to the Association were done by individuals as individuals.

Unfortunately, there are those whose sympathies run to social welfare who have discredited this Association and citizens of this area, basing their opinions on false information. I believe that there are some people who overlook or have forgotten the patriotic motives of practically all citizens of the Pacific Slope after Pearl Harbor.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BUD ANTLE

K. R. NUTTING

JOHN MAHONEY

CHARLES CALDWELL

ART SBRANA

JACK BAILLIE

BRUCE CHURCH

I personally do not know of any actions taken or attempts to put the Japanese evacuees at a disadvantage. It is generally believed that the Army's action to evacuate the Japanese was taken for national security purposes only. Whether this action was needed, of course, is a debatable question, and only the files of the F.B.I. and the intelligence branches of the armed services can reveal the true facts surrounding the necessity for the evacuation. The citizenry of this area was not prone to question the reasons for the Army's action.

A great deal has been said about the attempts of vested interests and growers and landowners to take over Japanese holdings and to obtain Japanese equipment without adequate compensation. I am sure that a fair investigation will prove that most of these accusations are truly unfounded.

There are unquestionably many fine Japanese of unquestionable loyalty, and it was truly unfortunate that many of these people were unnecessarily or necessarily evacuated. However, under the circumstances of Pearl Harbor it was difficult to ascertain the loyalty of such a large group of people immediately, and since time was of the essence, under the circumstances, criticism should be minimized rather than stressed and inflated. If there were any imprudent or impulsive statements or actions made by individuals in December of '41 and the spring of '42, I sincerely believe they were influenced by patriotism and the national welfare.

I have not had the liberty to read Mr. Grodzins' "Americans Betrayed" and therefore am not familiar with the passages referred to in your letter. However, we are reviewing the minutes of the Association for 1941 and subsequent years to ascertain if there was any action taken at all relative to the Japanese question. If we find anything relative to this subject at all we will be very happy to give you the information, and we will be pleased to be of whatever assistance possible in helping you to obtain the true facts and circumstances pertinent to your inquiry.

Sincerely yours,

GROWER-SHIPPER VEGETABLE ASSOCIATION

Jack Elias
Secretary-Manager

JEB: jm

424 Wheeler Hall
12 August 1949

Mr. Floyd Oles
Copenhagen, Denmark

Dear Mr. Oles:

A few weeks ago a book was published by the University of Chicago Press, entitled "Americans Betrayed", by one Morton Grodzins. Dealing with the evacuation of the Japanese-Americans from the west coast in the months after Pearl Harbor, it presented the thesis that evacuation was brought about primarily because public opinion demanded it, and that public opinion was favorable to evacuation because of the agitation of "pressure groups" acting for "economically selfish motives." The author attempts to show that farm and business organizations, aided by politicians, stirred up the public into demanding evacuation.

A colleague and I, going over the evidence, felt that it was far from sound and in looking into the matter came to the conclusion that Grodzins thesis was false in stating that public opinion was formed by the agitation of farm and business organizations. We find that public opinion favored evacuation at the end of January, 1942, and that the resolutions, statements, and the like of politicians and organizations came after the tide of opinion had set in. There was no evidence to show that the so-called "pressure groups" had acted before public opinion changed; everybody came to the decision about the same time.

However, in reading your testimony before the Tolan Committee you stated that it was your belief that various farm groups or interests were working for evacuation. I regret that I do not have the Hearings at hand but as I recall it you stated that you received material in the mail from California at the time (January and February, 1942) showing that farm groups were stirring up sentiment for evacuation.

We would be very much interested in knowing about this material and hearing from you of your knowledge of this activity. It would be especially important to find out if such agitation for evacuation came in January. If it came in February, then since the tide of opinion had changed it would serve to show that these groups agreed with others; as I mentioned above, we find judging from letters to Congressmen, to the Dept. of Justice, articles and letters to the editor in newspapers, etc. that the last week of January saw a sharp rise in evacuation demands and discussion; during the first three weeks, there were very few.

Any information you can give us about this matter would be deeply appreciated, or any suggestions you might have as to where we might look for evidence or with whom we might correspond. Since I am going to be away this year, kindly address my colleague, Prof. Jacobus tenBroek, Dept. of Speech, Univ. of California, Berkeley 4, California, U.S.A.

Sincerely

Edward N. Barnhart

FLOYD OLES

DAMPFÆRGEVEJ 27, FRIHAVNEN

COPENHAGEN
DENMARK

TEL. PALÆ 9813

August 1st 1949

To:

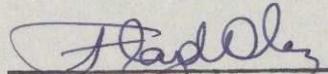
Edward N. Barnhart,
Assistant Professor,
Department of Speech, 424 Wheeler Hall,
University of California,
Berkeley 4, California, USA.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of 18 July 49, directed to the Washington Produce Shippers Assn., has been forwarded to me here.

I should be glad to hear from you, on whatever subject may have been in mind when your letter was written.

Sincerely yours,



Floyd Oles

SALINAS CALIFORNIAN

SALINAS NEWSPAPERS, INC.

MERRITT C. SPEIDEL, *President*

PAUL H. CASWELL, *Publisher*

SALINAS, CALIFORNIA

May 8, 1951

Dear Mr. Barnhart:

I will attempt to a degree to give you some of the pertinent facts regarding the Japanese matters mentioned in your recent letter.

It was at the outbreak of the Japanese war, immediately following Pearl Harbor, when all the Japanese in the Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Benito county area were brought here to Salinas and confined in hastily erected barracks for safe keeping. Several months later they were dispersed to inland states. There were approximately 6000 in the round-up. Feeling against the Japanese here was very bitter because the Salinas Tank Corp had been taken prisoner on Bataan and were among those on the terrible "death march". Naturally the feeling against the Japanese became very heated and a "Monterey Bay Council on Japanese Relations, Inc." was organized to protest return of alien Japanese.

The Monterey Bay council, which had an extensive membership, stated its purposes in various newspaper articles and advertisements. We quote:

"The general purposes of the Monterey Bay Council on Japanese Relations are:

To conduct by all proper and lawful means an educational program regarding the background, history, pre-war activities and future disposition of Japanese in the United States of America.

To Exercise All Legal Means--

(1) To discourage the return to the Pacific Coast of any person of Japanese ancestry, except those in the uniform of the Armed Services and those of unquestioned loyalty to the United States and our people.

(2) To insist upon the deportation after the war of all alien Japanese whose beliefs make impossible their loyalty to the United States and those whose past affiliation or actions have demonstrated interest inimical to the welfare of the United States.

(3) To insist upon the strict supervision and regulation by local, State and Federal Government of all Japanese schools, societies, and organizations in this country.

(4) To promote further legislation and insist upon strict enforcement of existing laws so as to completely eliminate dual citizenship.

(5) To strengthen and demand strict enforcement of existing alien land laws.

(6) To insist upon institution of escheat proceedings in all proper cases."

You will note from this statement that emphasis was placed on alien Japanese.

May we refer you, if you wish to know more about un-American activities, as they refer to "Japanese problems in California," that you secure a pamphlet of that title published by the Senate of the State of California. In 1945 this was available through J. A. Beek, secretary, State Senate, Sacramento. Likewise you will find in the state library all copies of our newspaper during the year of 1945. Therein are the advertisements mentioned above. We do not have any extra copies available here.

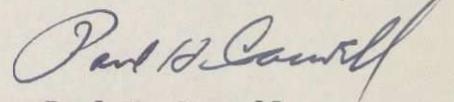
You may be interested to know that only a handful of Japanese has returned to this area out of the original 6000.

In a Salinas Californian editorial, March 9, 1945, I mentioned that, "Japanese atrocity pictures are too horrible to publish. We trust that the Japanese will not come back here for fear the law will not be able to protect them."

We must emphasize, in conclusion, that never once did the Monterey Bay Council advocate discrimination against loyal citizens, regardless of race, creed or color.

Sincerely yours,

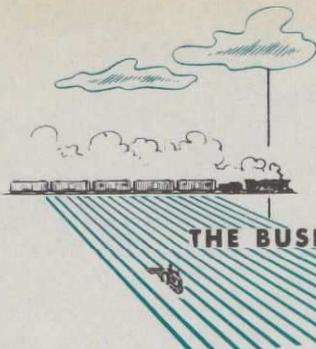
SALINAS NEWSPAPERS, INC.



Paul H. Caswell
Publisher

PHC:ww

Mr. Edward N. Barnhart
Assistant Professor, Dept. of Speech
University of California
424 Wheeler Hall
Berkeley, California



Western Grower and Shipper

606 SOUTH HILL STREET, LOS ANGELES 14, CALIFORNIA • TUCKER 1194

THE BUSINESS MAGAZINE OF THE WESTERN ROW CROP INDUSTRY

May 14, 1951

ARDEN K. LANHAM,
~~GEORGE DRAKE~~, publisher
CAY BALDWIN, circulation manager

Published by Western Grower
and Shipper Publishing Co., Inc.

Officers

A. T. ARENA, president
C. B. MOORE, 1st vice-president
MARSHALL ANDERSON, 2nd vice-president
F. W. CASTIGLIONE, secretary
RICHARD A. WALDSMITH, treasurer

Mr. Edward N. Barnhart
424 Wheeler Hall
University of California
Berkeley 4, California

Dear Mr. Barnhart:

I'm afraid there is very little help I can offer you in your study of attitudes toward the Japanese.

There has been a complete change of personnel on the staff of Western Grower & Shipper since the writing of the article you quote, and I've no way to give you more information on the "operations" or "motives" referred to so broadly.

Surely, though, you should find it not too difficult to find people living in the districts where the Japanese held lands who could readily explain the "attitudes" and "motives"! I'm sure you can understand that a man employed by any of the various associations of people who might possibly be interested in removing the Japanese from an area (to remove competition or whatever other reason they might have) would be somewhat cautious in commenting on "motives."

For more detailed information, I think you might find local newspaper editors, reporters, farm equipment people, and so on, good sources of information.

I do not know what resolution may have been passed by the Board of Directors of Western Growers Association. However, you are quite right in assuming that the Association supplies information to its members through bulletins from time to time. Our magazine keeps no file of these. Any information pertaining to the activities of the Association would have to be obtained from Mr. C.B. Moore who is Managing Director of the Association.

Very truly,
Arden K. Lanham
Arden K. Lanham

AKL:br

WESTERN GROWER and SHIPPER is the only agricultural trade magazine which completely covers the tremendous California and Arizona vegetable and melon growing, packing and shipping industry, as well as the leading receivers, brokers and wholesalers of America.

1. Agricultural trade associations

Available information indicates that in 1941-42 there were probably close to 100 food and agricultural trade associations in California.

The most recent list, the "Directory: Trade Associations and Similar Professional and Service Groups in California" (Calif. State Chamber of Commerce, December, 1949) lists 102 "agricultural organizations" composed of "commodity groups" and ~~28~~ 58

44 "cooperatives". ~~The first such directory was published in 1946.~~ Not included in these figures are farmers organizations.

Evidence at hand shows that of these organizations, 2 expressed ^{themselves} ~~publically~~ on the Japanese problem and the officials of another worked for Japanese exclusion. *Western Grower Assoc. Assoc. Dist. Dealers & Probers.*

The Western Grower Association (prior to January, 1943, the Western Growers Protective Association), which describes itself on its letter-head as representing "The vegetable and melon industry of California and Arizona" came out publically in favor of the exclusion of all Japanese from the coast, and its president was active in writing various public officials urging this action.

On January 3 Mr. S.J. Christerson, president, wrote to the chairman of the Monterey County Defense Committee, in answer to his request "for a statement regarding the importance of Japanese vegetable growers in the vegetable production outlook for 1942." Christerson held that "the danger of possible food (vegetable) shortage by reason of elimination of Japanese growers has been unduly magnified...I do not believe that any serious dislocation will occur if these alien Japanese growers are promptly eliminated." (Letter to L.W. Wing, January 3, 1942)

On January 3, Christierson sent a copy of this letter to Attorney General Warren with the comment

We know that you have interested yourself in this Japanese situation both from a patriotic standpoint and from the point of view of enforcing the long dormant Alien Land Law. We trust that your office will make a sincere effort to eliminate as many of these undesirable aliens from the lands of California as is possible at this time. Let me assure you that our entire Organization, ~~comprised of those who are behind you~~ ~~is behind you~~ ...is behind you squarely in any action you see fit to take in this matter, looking toward the elimination of these alien enemies in our midst. (3)

(3) S.J.Christierson to Earl Warren, January 3, 1942.

The subject of concern here is the Japanese alien. ^{and the Alien Land Law} There is no indication at all that the evacuation of "all Japanese" is in the writer's mind.

On January 10 Christierson wrote to William Cecil, Director of the State Department of Agriculture complaining that in a ^{official} statement he had said that 40% of the vegetables grown in California were produce by Japanese. He said that he hoped Cecil had been ~~misquoting~~ misquoted

because a statement of that sort coming from the State Department of Agriculture would be rather unfortunate for the vegetable industry of California, particularly as the vegetable industry ever since December 7 has joined in every movement to eliminate Japanese growers from the vegetable picture and to move them at least 300 miles East from the Pacific coastline or preferably, in my opinion, 300 miles due West.

He ~~continues~~ goes on to point out that

everyone is fearful of the reaction that just such a statement as yours would produce in Eastern markets. As you well know, propaganda is being disseminated throughout the east to the effect that the vegetable business of California is Japanese controlled and for that reason should be boycotted...it is entirely possible that your statement may produce a boycott of California vegetables in Eastern markets (4)

(4) S.V.Christierson to William Cecil, January 10, 1942

On January 22 Mr. Christierson wrote to Congressman John Z. Anderson. After commenting on Congressman ^{Southaley} Ford's statement that he would "urge government officials to move all Japanese, native born and alien, to concentration camps" and claiming that "it is not beyond the realm of possibility that at least 25,000 ~~by~~ ^{by exchanging civilian clothing for uniforms} are of these Japanese... ~~members~~ ^{full fledged} members of the Japanese armed forces"

he urges the following program:

1. That all Japanese, whether national or native born, be required to register, producing American birth certificates, and all those who cannot produce American birth certificates, immediately be placed in concentration camps at least 300 miles west ^(sic) of the Pacific Coast line.
2. That all American born Japanese be required to report to local police authorities at least once a week.
3. That no Japanese be permitted to leave the community where residing without a police permit and no Japanese be permitted to work in defense industries.
4. That all Japanese be requested to move inland at least 300 miles and no Japanese be permitted within 300 miles of the Pacific Coast line under death penalty.

Two other points called for the prohibition of firearms to Japanese and the placing of their funds and properties in the hands of the alien custodian.

On January 30 Christierson wrote to Warren answering a letter from him inquiring about the location of ^{alien land holdings} Japanese in various areas in California. He sent a map "showing the location of various Japanese controlled areas in the vicinity of Salinas".

On Feb. 8 the Board of Directors adopted a resolution favoring the exclusion of all Japanese. Holding that "no individual alien Japanese or...no individual American citizen of Japanese parentage can be judged as to his loyalty solely by past experience" the resolution affirmed that

pr gr 3

a good proportion of both alien Japanese and American citizens are loyal to the United States of America, yet...some percentage of both aliens and citizens of Japanese parentage may be more loyal to Japan. Consequently...the association petitions that all alien Japanese and American citizens of Japanese parentage be removed to a point where...there may be no possibility of such disloyal action affecting the security of the United States. (3)

(3) Toland Hearings, p. 11005

The Western Grower and Shipper, the monthly publication of the association, did not publish this resolution nor did it express any stand on evacuation in its editorials in the issues of early 1942. In its issue of February, 1942, the editorial criticized "commercial interests" for interjecting themselves into the argument for or against evacuation for "selfish reasons." It claimed that the removals of enemy aliens carried out by the Justice Department were the result of federal investigation "with certain cooperating but vocally silent civilian help," and were "not the result of the pressure of civilian groups."

On February 8 the Board of Directors passed the resolution we noted above. On February 17, several days after General DeWitt had made his recommendation for evacuation and the day on which Justice and War Departments concurred in the decision Christierson
 wrote to Congressman Anderson urging that energetic action be taken to promote mass evacuation. Criticizes Downey

for his statement that most enemy aliens are harmless.

He wrote to Ford on
 the same day: Congressman Island

I think our repres. in Wash. are doing a splendid job but with the sit. in the Pa last morning so rapidly and so unfavorably... the evac of all Jap should be accomplished at the earliest moment."

This record of activity scarcely justifies the charge by Grodzins that the organization "bent every effort to foster the evacuation of all Japanese from the state". The character of the activities for which there is evidence shows no great determination or concentrated effort. The pro-evacuation resolution was not adopted until February 8, two months after the Pearl Harbor assault. The resolution was not even printed in the associations's house-organ. There was not even an editorial in the magazine urging mass evacuation; unless other means of contacting the members was taken this shows no great interest in rousing them to support the measure. Further, ~~President Christerson~~ the evidence does not show that President Christerson advocated mass evacuation before January 22. His activities before that date were writing letters, one of which urged the enforcement of the Alien Land Law and the other two dealt with Japanese agricultural production and sought to minimize it. His concern here was explicitly motivated by a desire to avoid a boycott of California vegetables; if it was advanced as a ground for evacuation it is notable that such a policy was not mentioned in the letters. There is no evidence of any publically released statements by Christerson or other company officials nor meeting^s with military officers in urging the policy.

10

It is true that in his letter of January, Christerson said to Cecil that "the vegetable industry ever since December 7 has jointed in every movement to eliminate Japanese growers from the vegetable picture and to move them at least 300 miles East from the Pacific coastline.

There is no evidence at ~~all~~ to show what these "movements" might be.

In the letter

H.A. Harris, Secy-Mgr of

The Associated Produce Dealers and Broekrs of Los Angeles
wrote to Warren on February 18 in answer to a request from him
for information about "what might be expected to happen in the
Los Angeles market with respect fo feeding themmetropolitan area
if all Japanese were removed from the producing, wholesaling and
retailing of fresh vegetables." Harris continued

Indicentally, might I say this is now an academic
question, because if the proper authorities do not
take prompt steps to remove all Japanese, whether
alien or citizens, from the coastal areas of this
state, it seems inevitable that they will be removed
in the near future b the public at large either through
violence or insistent popular demand. I say this because
the general public are much more apprehensive of the
continued presence of Japanese running at large, with the
most nominal supervision, than the people in this
industry, who know the Japnese characteristics and
traits much more than the general public and on the
basis of this information should be more apprehensive
than the general public.

The Souterhn California Floral Association released a
mimeographed paper, undated, complaining about Japanese competition
in this industry but making no recommendation for exclusion or
internment.

The second org. which Grodzin deals with at length in his analysis of wartime groups is the Grower-Shipper Veg. Assoc. of central California. He points to the closeness of this org. with the West. Growers Assoc. in aims, ~~and~~ membership (p. 25)
 (revised)

~~What does the evidence indicate this association did to promote mass evacuation?~~

On December 23, 1941, President E.M. Seifert, Jr. wrote to Congressman Anderson urging that some action be taken with regard to the Japanese, stating that

It is far better to make the mistake of putting all Japanese under strict and rigid ~~and~~ government control and supervision than it would be to have made the mistake of not having done it and too late find it should have been done. (1)

(1) Seifert to Anderson, December 23, 1941

Austin Lusk, mag. secy.

On December 31 ~~another association official~~ wrote to the congressman again informing him of a joint meeting in Salinas of the association, the chamber of commerce, and the Salinas Citizens Association at which a resolution had been adopted calling for....

(2) Grodzin's claims ~~that~~ that this resolution indorsed the "recommendation of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce calling for the mass internment of Japanese Americans." (p. 28)

This cannot be the case since, as Grodzins himself points out (p. 34) it was not until February that the Chamber as a whole went on record favoring evacuation. Grodzins may have been thinking of the recommendation of the Agricultural Committee but this did not favor mass evacuation, only the placing of "Japanese nationals" "under absolute federal control." (p. 34)

On January 10 President Seifert wrote to William Cecil protesting the latter's quoted statement to the effect that the Japanese were large producers of California vegetables. ~~That fact~~
~~is an important consideration~~ Seifert feared that such information "would very easily result in a boycott all over the United States on the part of housewives as well as retailers and wholesalers of California vegetables". He requested Cecil to "release statements which will be accurate and which will avoid any possibility of boycotting or misleading the army restraining its important action against enemy aliens for which we could very well at a later date be extremely sorry." (3)

(3) Letter, Seifert to Cecil, January 10, 1942

On January 15, President Seifert wrote to Mr. F.B. Sun, Secretary of the Filipino Labor Supply Association of Los Angeles, shortly before that organization's convention, and indicated his sympathy with Filipino sentiment ~~that~~ in holding that

All true Americans feel just like you do...we want the Japanese taken out of our midst as completely as possible.

In answering the question how this is to be done, Seifert wrote that

In any action that we contemplate, we must take into consideration the laws of our country. These laws must be complied with, but let us not forget that they can be changed, and during emergencies many times are completely abrogated.

After mentioning various actions taken against the Japanese,

such as refusing to buy from them or work with them, he says that "all of which action apparently is justified, but does not accomplish what we are after." which is that

for the protection of the loyal Japanese and for the protection of American citizens, especially those on the Pacific Coast, all Japanese, regardless of nationality should be placed somewhere in the interior of the United States, either interned or/equally effective supervision (under?)

so that they would be powerless to take any action against American lives or property.

Seifert then suggests that the convention frame resolutions along the lines indicated and send them to the President, to ^{federal and state} congressmen, and to General DeWitt. He closes in suggesting again "that you

do not take any action which might be in violation of our laws. (4)

(4) Letter, Seifert to Cecil, January 15

On January 16, Seifert wrote to Congressman Anderson enclosing his letter to Sun, remarking that it is almost self-explanatory but does not "show the real reason for (it), which is to stop, if possible, a general boycott, which we do not feel would be productive of good and might defeat our immediate objective, which is the complete removal of Japanese from California.

~~He~~ He knows that the congressman "is going to take the necessary action to make California safe for Americans" and continues

Believe me, when I say that this letter and the letter to the Filipinos...is not prompted in any way with the thought of using the present emergency as a means of eliminating Japanese competition. We believe, however, for the protection of future generations of Californians and Americans, no Japanese even though he be born in America, should be permitted to own land. Why? Because who is there to tell which if any Japanese are at all loyal to the United States, but who instead are undoubtedly loyal to Japan.

If the Japanese can own land, they will eventually outnumber the

Some whites; they cannot be assimilated. ~~was~~ Filipinos in the Imperial Valley were known to have drawn lots to kill individual Japanese but were stopped in time. ~~When~~ When casualty lists and reports of atrocities come in, it will be surprising if such actions do not increase sharply.

To avoid that thing, ~~xxxxxx~~ as well as for definite safety measures as outlined in our letter to the Filipinos, all Japanese should be empounded or interned, restricted, confined...that will make them powerless and take them out of the reach of those who might seek to destroy them for revenge.

Feeling against the Japanese is running "higher and higher".

I am fully aware that the American born Japanese has as much rights under the Constitution as I have or you have, but certainly something can be done to remove the threat that hangs over our heads and also, to protect the same Japanese who has American citizens' rights.(5)

(5) Letter, Seifert to Cecil, January 16

Seifert

~~spokesman~~

On January 26 and 27 ~~President Seifert~~ again wrote to Congressman Anderson urging action, and again on February 13 this time taking the stand that

We must rid our country of them, take from them all rights and privileges of citizens and when the war is over, send them back to Japan...We must not have any Japanese in our country and I enlist your support to bring this about and assure you that this feeling is rapidly becoming popular in the minds of our citizens. (6) gr 30

7
 I am Feb 26 sends copy of house organ of the cause. which shows that Japs are not needed in Calif. agriculture &

On May 12 Seibert wrote to
Congressman Anderson

You and I and thousands of other Californians know that if the Japs are permitted to own or lease land (when I say Japs I mean American born as well as aliens) it will only be a question of time when they will own all of the best farming land on the Pacific Coast... I am thinking of the generations of Americans to come who altho they are not yet here, are looking to us to protect them and keep our beloved country in our hands and not give it away to the Japs.

JA 175
(note 114)

() associated with, January 1950.

California under military administration. ()

reported elsewhere in 1945 in name of California, believed

association. In 1945, FBI, San Francisco, California

appears to have XXXXXXXX little attention to the subject of
being

...associated with, in California.

associated with.

? Salinas meeting

There is no evidence that this association undertook any public action. It did not pass a resolution by its board of directors according to its Secretary-Manager, who "was in Salinas during this period and ^(who was) am sure that the...Association...and its membership did not take any official or unofficial action in the evacuation or maneuvers to obtain the evacuation. Any actions or representations credited to the Association were done by individuals as individuals." (7)

(7) Letter, Jack E. Bias, Secretary Manager, July 28, 1949

Frank J. Taylor (SatEvePost May 9, 1942) wrote of the activities of the Association:

From white vegetable growers I heard the other side of the story. The Salinas Vegetable Grower-Shipper Association had just published a brochure entitled NO JAPS NEEDED to counteract a widespread impression that Californiaians would go hungry if the Japanese truck gardeners were removed..."Only four and a half per cent of all the vegetables grown in the United States are produced by California Japanese, or under Japanese influence in California", the Grower-Shipper Association concluded."If all vegetable acreage produced, controlled or influenced by Japanese were completely eliminated, the loss in available food supply to the United States and Canada would be insignificant."

The dislike of the militant Grower-Shipper Association for the valley's Japanese farmers is an old and bitter one. The association is composed of a few score large-scale white growers who lease lands, produce lettuce, carrots and other fresh vegetables the year round in the Salinas, Imperial and Salt River valleys for the Eastern markets...

At one time the lettuce growers, like the sugar-beet growers, depended upon Japanese for field labor. As the Japanese, one by one, became farmers in their own right, and competitors, their places in the field were taken by Mexican and Filipino labor. White men and women, largely Oklahomans, handled the trimming, icing and crating in the packing plants, but they were never able to endure the back-breaking stoop work in the field. Only the short-legged Japs could take that.

Shortly after December seventh the association dispatched its managing secretary, Austin E. Anson, to Washington

Grodzins (27) claims that

The Grower-Shippers managing secretary, Austin Anson, was reported to be in Washington shortly after Pearl Harbor pressing home to federal authorities the necessity of removing all Japanese from the vicinity of the Salinas fields, which he argued were an especially dangerous area since the Valley sloped into Monterey Bay.

~~quote of article in Sat Eve Post "selfish reasons"~~

to urge the Federal authorities to ~~remove~~ remove all Japanese from the area. Anson pointed out to the War and Navy departments, the Attorney General, to every congressman who would listen to him, how the Salinas Valley sloped off into Monterey Bay, a most inviting landing place for an invading army; how the valley Japanese, if they chose to do so, might blow up bridges, disrupt traffic and sabotage defense.

"We're charged with wanting to get rid of the Japs for selfish reasons," Anson told me. "We might as well be honest. We do. It's a question of whether the white man lives on the Pacific Coast or the brown men. They came into this valley to work, and they stayed to take over. They offer higher prices and higher rents than the white man can pay for land. They undersell the white man in the markets. They can do this because they raise their own labor. They work their women and children while the white farmer has to pay wages for his help. If all the Japs were removed tomorrow, we'd never miss them in two weeks, because the white farmers can take over and produce everything the Jap grows. And we don't want them back when the war ends, either."

Wash State Feder of
Comm. Sec
to Gray's Harbor C of C
 Aberdeen, Wash.

- ✓ (1) - asked for return of
- agric. trade union
- farmer assoc.

(2) - did feder. pass any
resol on Jap E.

Wrote Gray

o in Oregon

✓ asked Portland C of C
87 SW 5th Ave
P 4

Wrote Gray

Do

HD 9220
U63C28

1. ~~Western Group & Shoppers~~

Feb - check in Editorial
get page

write to Edit. -
what groups
or persons
in mind

~~what is title? the or not.~~

March issue - advised E was
remembered as? first

~~and~~

2.

Smith claims W & S

not in
1942

- attacked for working as family
units

- promised housewives would
not suffer

Dec charging die high wages

justified by editorial?

NO

3. ~~Woods Assoc in Wash?~~

~~A State C of C?~~

~~Seattle C of C~~

~~W 1020~~

~~American Ave~~

~~Arden Lamborn, Pres & Ed.
W & S
606 S. Hill St Lx 14.~~

~~Portland C of C~~

~~SW 5th Ave
824 P.F.~~

ore

According to the
 there were approximately . . . food and agricultural organizations
 in Oregon during 1941-1942.

There is no evidence that any of these groups expressed them-
 selves publically on the desirability for evacuation.

wash

According to the...
 there were approximately . . . food and agricultural organizations
 in Washington in 1941-42.

~~There is no evidence that any of these associations
 expressed themselves publically in favor of evacuation.~~

Three
~~Four~~ organizations in this category expressed themselves with
 regard to the Japanese matter. One ^{was} ~~was~~ in favor of excluding
 Japanese aliens while two were ~~was~~ opposed. The Eastern Washington Beet
 Growers Association wired Governor Langlie on February 4 urging
 that he "use his" influence with the Attorney General in having the
 enemy aliens of this valley removed from the
 designated war zone. On a number of occasions
 we have had race troubles in this valley and as
 many of our boys are on the Japanese battle front,
 the feeling here is getting to be very tense. If the
 Japanese were to bomb some of our coast cities it
 would surely lead to a race war in this district.

Floyd Oles, manager of
 Two associations opposed exclusion. The Washington Produce
 Shippers Association of Seattle, testifying at the Tolman hearings
 on Feb. 28 (Tolan 11422) expressed confidence in the work of the
 FBI and approved a plan of setting up defense zones and licensing
 loyal and essential persons to work within it.

Pres. Obs. Floyd - Manago, Wash. Prod Shippers Assoc

[Exp. group engaged in marketing
of fresh prod. in east. mar.] Seattle

State - about Jap agric. prod. (11432 - 11432)

"These aliens, supervised as they are by
the Fed. B. d. --- are certainly no
detriment to the public security when
they are digging in the soil. --- wholesale
evac. --- would be in the words of the
Biddle "an ee. waste & a stupid error."

"of 9 or 10 shipping days --- is are Jap. agr. (11425)
- 3/4 of farmers are Japanese (11425)

Favored evac. of all aliens about whom
there is the slightest question, of all
citizens about whom the F. B. d.
has the slightest doubt, from any
area close to def. plants or def.
installations." (11429)

Does not "concern in the sec. of a cross evac." (11430)

matrices

From "Directory; Trade Associations and Simllar Professional and Service Groups in California." (California State Chamber of Commerce, November, 1947)

(Available in Soc.Sciences Ref.Service Reading Room, General Library) Case 103/ Box 2b)

Agricultural organizations (Page 1)

- A. General
- B. Commodity Groups
- C. Cooperatives

4
45
41

126

*Assoc. Farmers
Farm Bureau
grange
Agric Council*

Manufacturing Organizations (Page 11)

- A. General
- B. Food and beverages (page 13)

4
35

129

Dec 1949

B. Commod. groups
C. Cooperatives

58
44

102

(1)

Food &
Agricultural Trade Associations and Organizations

Grodzins mentions various "agricultural" groups as being among the "most active proponents of mass evacuation." (page 21; book); he deals at length with Western Growers Association (pages 22-25; book); with Grower-Shipper Vegetable Association (pages 25-30; book);

(3)
He also mentions a number/ of other organizations (footnote 43; page 34; book) describing them as having "membership in competition with Japanese Americans." These were: "active in fostering the evacuation."

(C) Feb 26 Southern California Floral Association → complaint of Jap. competition **FA.1**

March 2
Seattle Retail Florists Association Tolan 11610 **FA.2**
→ compl. of compet.; Jap. not loyal.

Feb 28 Valley Protective Association (Auburn, Washington) Tolan 11520 **FA.3**

Feb 18 Assoc. Produce Dealers & Brokers → Remove all Japs **FA.8**
(G 27, note 11) Tolan 11066

Page 56 he mentions an "employers & businessmen group" **FA.9**
Eastern Washington Beet Growers Assoc. letter to justice

in Grodzins MSS or book
I do not find mention/ of the following which are reported in the Tolan Hearings:

(C) Feb 27 Salinas Valley Vegetable Exchange - want to retain Jap. farmers, laborers, etc. Tolan 11284 **FA.4**
a company

(W) Feb 28 Washington Produce Shippers Assoc - keep Jap; evae. a waste and an error Tolan 11422 **FA.5**

(W) n.d. Olympia Oyster Growers Assoc. - Japs are good workers and law-abiding. Tolan 11283 **FA.6**

Grodzins mentions testimony of H.L. Strobel before Tolan Committee (11087). Strobel said he was "speaking for vegetable interests of Monterey County" rather than as representative of Associated Farmers, of which he had been an executive committee member for many years. Summary **FA.7**

mentioned by Grodzins Eastern Washington Beet Growers Assoc. FA.9

Grower-Shipper Vegetable Assoc.

December

23 - Seifert to Anderson
(Scott)

(no copy in files)

[On Bd of Dir of W.B. Assoc]
(gr 28-)
put all up
under file
not central

31 - Anson to Anderson
(S.P. Brown)

(no copy in files)

(gr 28)

[doubtful date]

January

10 - Seifert to Cecil

COPY GS.1

Japs not kept in office

15 - Seifert to Sun (Filipino Assoc.)

COPY GS. 2

{ we want Japs removed }

16 - Seifert to J.Z. Anderson

COPY GS.3

{ make Calif. safe for American }

26-27 Seifert to Anderson (gr 30)
" " " " (gr 30)

(not in files)

Feb

~~Seifert to Anderson (gr 30)~~

13 - Seifert to Anderson (gr 30) (not in files)

20 - Anson to Olney (date on Jap. neg. raising total 11000)

Anderson's statement in Sat Eve Post - (gr 27)

May 16 - Seifert - Anderson

Western Growers Assoc.

January

- 3 - Letter with data from Christierson to Monterey Defense Council
(COPY WG.1) *no desire of food*
- 3 - Christierson to Warren (COPY WG.2) *at its request* "elim. under" "aliens"
- 10 - Christierson to Cecil (COPY WG.3)
- 22 - Christierson to J.Z.Anderson (COPY WG.4) *all laws register, etc.*
- 27 - Christierson to Warren (COPY WG.5) *map of Jap loc.*

Feb.

- "Western Grower and Shipper" Editorial: *crit. commercial interests in pro & con of evac. argument,* Japs not imp. in Calif. vegetable production
- 8 - Recommendation of Board of Directors (COPY WG. 6 Tolan 11005)
- 17 - Christierson to J.A.Anderson (no copy)
(See Grodzin's account)
- 18 - *Copy of Res. sent to Warren (COPY WG.7)*



THE PEOPLE NOBODY WANTS

An on-the-spot observer tells what happened in the lives of more than 100,000 Japanese when they were ordered out of the Pacific Coast Combat Zone.

By FRANK J. TAYLOR

ON THE fateful day that Lt. Gen. John L. De Witt, chief of the Western Defense Command, ordered the removal of all persons of Japanese blood from the Pacific Coast Combat Zone, chunky little Takeo Yuchi, largest Japanese farmer in "the Salad Bowl of the Nation," California's Salinas Valley, was wrangling over the telephone with a produce buyer in San Francisco.

"That fellow purchases for the Navy," he said, slamming down the phone. "He wants me to grow more Australian brown onions because the Navy needs them. The Army tells us to evacuate our farms right now. Just where do we stand, anyway?"

In a dozen areas, from San Diego to Seattle, set apart on Pacific Coast defense maps as "Japanese islands," thousands of American citizens of Nipponese extraction were faced with similar dilemmas. The Nisei, or second-generation Japanese, had long anticipated that the Issei, or Japan-born aliens, would be ordered from the coast defense zone. But not that American citizens might go with them. Like Takeo Yuchi, they were stunned.

The evacuation order from the Army was an unquestioned military necessity. Too many mysterious

messages between unidentified ships at sea and secret radio stations on the shore had been intercepted to leave any doubt about the presence of Nipponese undercover agents on the Pacific Coast. Coincidences between ship departures and submarine attacks outside Pacific ports added up to the same thing.

Too many times glassy-smooth seas, making the take-off of planes from submarines possible, coincided with detection of unidentified planes over West Coast cities. The shelling of oil tanks by submarines off the Southern California shore synchronized suspiciously with intercepted messages about Army movements. The complete absence of sabotage on the Pacific Coast merely convinced military authorities of one thing: that saboteurs were being held under wraps by Japanese agents until the order came from Tokyo to strike. There was only one sure way to remove this hazard, and General De Witt took it.

His order arbitrarily transplanted 112,905 of the 127,000 people of Japanese ancestry who live in the country. At least half of them were rooted in the soil; the rest were fishermen, merchants, hotelkeep-

ers, nurserymen, gardeners or in domestic service. It temporarily deprived 71,896 American citizens of their constitutional rights. It launched in its course the greatest hurry-up mass hegira this country has seen—one that will change the economics of the Western United States permanently in some respects, as was evident in microcosm from the effect of the order on the life of Takeo Yuchi and the men and women, both white and Japanese, with whom he did business.

"Tak's going to leave a hole here when he pulls out," a professional man who went to school with Yuchi told me the day De Witt's order came through. "I've known him ever since he was the best sprinter in Salinas High."

Deposing an Onion King

LAST year Yuchi and the 125 Japanese who work on his farms raised 70,000 bags of onions. The Navy bought the entire crop because the Australian browns in which he specializes have tough, hard skins and they keep well on long voyages. Yuchi's farms also grew 2700 carloads of lettuce—about one tenth of the Salinas Valley output—which other Japanese, young American-born men and women, packed and shipped in a modern mechanized packing plant. Yuchi likewise planted 300 acres of beets, "to sweeten the soil," as he says, but the beets also helped to relieve the sugar shortage to the extent of more than 2,000,000 pounds, refined at the near-by Spreckels factory. His 1942 onion crop was already in the ground when the evacuation order came. The crop will top 1941's if by next August his white partner, Tom Bun, can find



Too many mysterious messages between unidentified ships at sea and secret radio stations on the shore made the Jap evacuation a military necessity. Here a Jap family clings to its belongings under the watchful eye of the M.P.

workers to harvest them after the Japanese have migrated over the mountains.

Still in his thirties, Yuchi already had wrested a fortune estimated at a quarter of a million dollars from the Salinas Valley soils. His father, Tsurumatsu Yuchi, left Japan in 1898, worked briefly in the Hawaiian sugar-cane fields, then joined a gang in the California beet fields of doughty Claus Spreckels, who pioneered the beet-sugar industry in this country. When the white men's backs broke thinning the beets, Spreckels used Chinese. The Chinese soon quit the fields for the cities, and Spreckels brought in Japanese to save his business. The Spreckels mill, largest beet-sugar factory in the country, has tried Hindus, Mexicans, Filipinos, Okie and Arkie migrants, both white and black. Charles L. Pioda, veteran manager of the plant, says that the Japanese were the most efficient field workers the company ever employed.

But Tsurumatsu Yuchi, like the other Nipponese who worked in the beets, had come to America to make a quick bank roll with which to return to Japan and buy a small farm or retire. They soon discovered that the riches of "Gold Mountain," as both the Chinese and Japanese called California, weren't to be won by working for the white bosses. So, loving the thick black earth that the white man farmed so prodigally, Tsurumatsu Yuchi invested his hard-earned savings in a few acres of land, then sent for a picture bride from Japan. Tsurumatsu was much older than his wife, which is true of many of the fathers of Nisei, and he passed away soon after his son, Takeo, finished high school. When Takeo took over the operations, the elder Yuchi was farming 100 acres with the aid of a small tractor.

"I still keep that old tractor," Yuchi told me with pride. "We're farming two thousand acres now with fifty tractors, eighteen trucks and six pickups. Over two hundred families make a living out of this operation. Now what are they going to do?"

Yuchi has been operating all year round, just as the white Salinas Valley grower-shippers do, by maturing lettuce crops in the Imperial Valley and Arizona's Salt River Valley in midwinter. Foreseeing the evacuation of aliens from the Pacific Coast, he advised many of his workers to head East with their families this winter, instead of returning to California when the Arizona deal ended. A number of them took his advice, but in New Mexico they were turned back by NO JAPS WANTED signs.

The Shadow on the Valley

YUCHI'S own family, consisting of his alien mother, his Salinas-born wife, his eight-year-old daughter, six-year-old son and a baby daughter, is an average California-Japanese household. His wife's brother, Hideo Abe, is in the Army. His younger brother, Masao, was called in by the local draft board for his physical examination the day I was there. Only rarely has a Japanese been turned down for physical reasons. Farm work has kept them fit. Of the 21,000 Japanese families on the Pacific Coast, one in every five has contributed a son to the Army.

"Well, are you going to go voluntarily or wait until the Army evacuates you?" I asked.

"It's a tough one to figure out," Yuchi replied. "I'm American. I speak English better than I do

Japanese. I think in English, not Japanese. Maybe the easiest way out is to forget about onions for the Navy and join the Army too."

After leaving the Yuchi household, I called on another Nisei, Dr. Harry Y. Kita, a dentist. At least a dozen Salinas people had told me, "If there's one good Jap in this town, it's Doc Kita." Prior to Pearl Harbor, Kita, a University of California graduate, enjoyed a thriving practice. Half of the patients who sat in his three chairs were whites. Since then, most of them had been from the Japanese community.

"I haven't much practice left," said Kita, with a laugh. The Japanese-Americans always laugh when they speak of their adversities since Pearl Harbor—a hearty but forced laugh. "I understand why it is," he continued. "I feel American. I think American. I talk American. My only connection with Japan is that I look Japanese."

"Could you tell a good Japanese from a bad one?" I asked him.

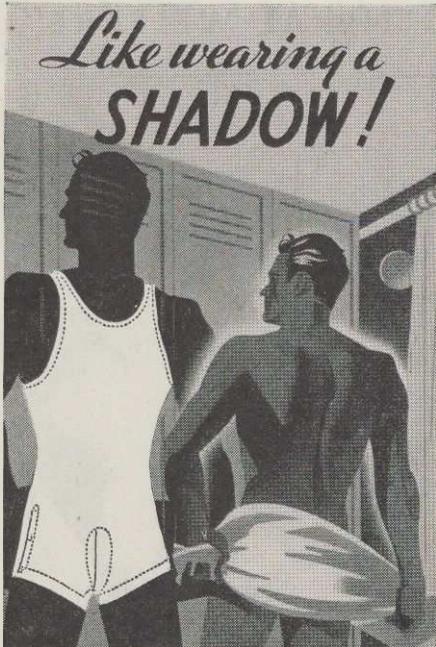
"No more than you could," he replied. "But if I knew one who was disloyal to this country, you can bet I'd turn him in."

Doctor Kita took me out to his home to show that he "lives American." The house was a low, attractive, six-room place, built in 1938 with a \$6500 FHA loan. There wasn't a Japanese touch anywhere. His vivacious young wife, Fumiko, born and raised in Watsonville, was as American in manner as any white woman in town. Mrs. Kita's brother, Joe Yamamota, was already "over the mountains." He joined the Army on January first, and was assigned to Fort Francis E. Warren in Wyoming. Five-year-old

(Continued on Page 64)

THE PEOPLE NOBODY WANTS

(Continued from Page 25)



Like wearing a **SHADOW!**

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WEBSTER'S

MICROMETRIC CARBON PAPERS

Patricia, the older daughter, romped home from school chattering about the pickup truck and trailer in which "daddy's going to take us on a long, long trip." Christina, the younger daughter, was one year old that day.

"It's pretty tough to leave your lifetime work and savings behind and pull out with what you can put in your trailer," said Kita. "Especially when you know that wherever you go, you're not wanted."

The Kita-family saga is also a typical one among the Japanese of the Salinas Valley. His father, Yosachiki Kita, came to the United States in 1894, on the Navy sloop Pensacola. His honorable discharge papers are one of the dentist's proud possessions. The elder Kita went to work in the Salinas beet fields, bought five acres of land in 1899, then sent for his wife. Harry Kita was born on the little farm in a plain house his father built. It still stands behind the new FHA house, which the doctor built after working his way through college and establishing his thriving practice.

A few days after my visit to his home, Doctor Kita invited me over to the Japanese-American Citizens League clubhouse in Salinas to meet a group of Nisei who were trying to solve the problem of evacuating themselves voluntarily from the valley. On receiving news of the removal order, a score of them had chipped in enough money to send two of their number, both successful farmers, to Idaho to look over a 2000-acre farm about which they had heard. The property, which was in the hands of a Federal credit agency, consisted of 600 acres of apple orchard, 400 acres of vegetable land, some pasture land, and a packing and dehydrating plant.

Facing East

"The farm was under two feet of snow, but it looked good anyway," reported Kenzo Yoshito, who had just returned from the survey. "It would take seventy thousand dollars to swing the deal, but we could farm it cooperatively and support one fourth of the Japanese now living in the Salinas Valley."

Yoshito, a handsome, clean-cut Japanese, was born in Hawaii, grew up in Alameda, worked his way through the University of California, carrying both commerce and agriculture courses. Since 1934 he has farmed near Salinas, raising lettuce, sugar beets and tomatoes—and two sons.

The group at the meeting pored over the map of Idaho and hung on Yoshito's words as he described the country beyond the Sierra Nevada Range, which few Pacific Coast Japanese have ever crossed.

"We don't know much about apples," objected Henry Tanda, president of the JAACL local, "but maybe we could get some apple growers from Watsonville."

Henry Tanda, born in Salinas, attended the University of Redlands, then started to work his way through the Stanford premedical school. While there, he met Margaret Ushida, who was working in a home near the campus. After that he couldn't keep his mind on his studies, so they were married, and Henry joined his three brothers, who worked in the lettuce sheds at Salinas. Henry, James and Charles

and their young wives recently completed three modern homes built with FHA loans.

"We'd pull up cactus and plant vegetables anywhere, if they'd tell us where to go," James Tanda said.

"Yeah, but suppose you're running a drugstore," cut in Richard Endo, the leading druggist of Salinas' Little Tokyo. "California doesn't reciprocate with Idaho in pharmacists' licenses, so I can't move my pharmacy."

Endo, a graduate of the University of California, and his partner, Tad Tomihiro, run two drugstores in Salinas. Endo owns a modern new home on the west side of town. He and his wife, Lily, have three small sons.

"A lot of us city slickers will have to switch to farming," remarked another Nisei, laughing the forced laugh. He was John Urabe, a native of Salinas who had studied engineering. A shrewd businessman, Urabe operated an automobile agency in Salinas until the war liquidated auto production. One of his enterprises is a real-estate subdivision on the east side of town. When he laid out the tract he donated a three-acre playground to the city.

From white vegetable growers I heard the other side of the story. The Salinas Vegetable Grower-Shipper Association had just published a brochure entitled NO JAPS NEEDED, to counteract a widespread impression that Californians would go hungry if the Japanese truck gardeners were removed. This idea gathered momentum after the freezing of credits of alien Japanese by the Treasury Department, the day after Pearl Harbor. When this happened, Los Angeles housewives found their markets almost emptied of

fresh vegetables and fruits. The produce appeared again only after the Treasury released the alien accounts. However, NO JAPS NEEDED cited U. S. Department of Agriculture crop-report statistics that were reassuring. Although the 40,000 Japanese agriculturists grew one fourth of all the fresh vegetables and berries produced in California last year, they dominated only a few crops. They controlled the strawberry market, growing 90 per cent of the berries. They grew three fourths of the cucumbers, onions and spinach produced in the state; half of the celery, snap beans and cauliflower; one third of the tomatoes. But in other staple crops, such as Lima beans, beets, carrots, corn, lettuce and potatoes, they grew less than 12 per cent.

Vegetable War

"Only four and a half per cent of all the vegetables grown in the United States are produced by California Japanese, or under Japanese influence in California," the Grower-Shipper Association concluded. "If all vegetable acreage produced, controlled or influenced by Japanese were completely eliminated, the loss in available fresh food supply to the United States and Canada would be insignificant."

The dislike of the militant Grower-Shipper Association for the valley's Japanese farmers is an old and bitter one. The association is composed of a few score large-scale white growers who lease lands, produce lettuce, carrots and other fresh vegetables the year round in the Salinas, Imperial and Salt River valleys for the Eastern markets.

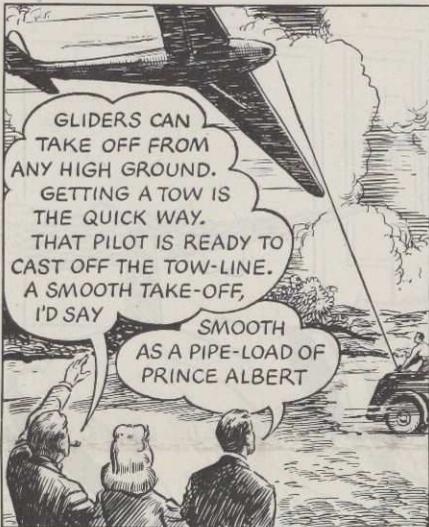
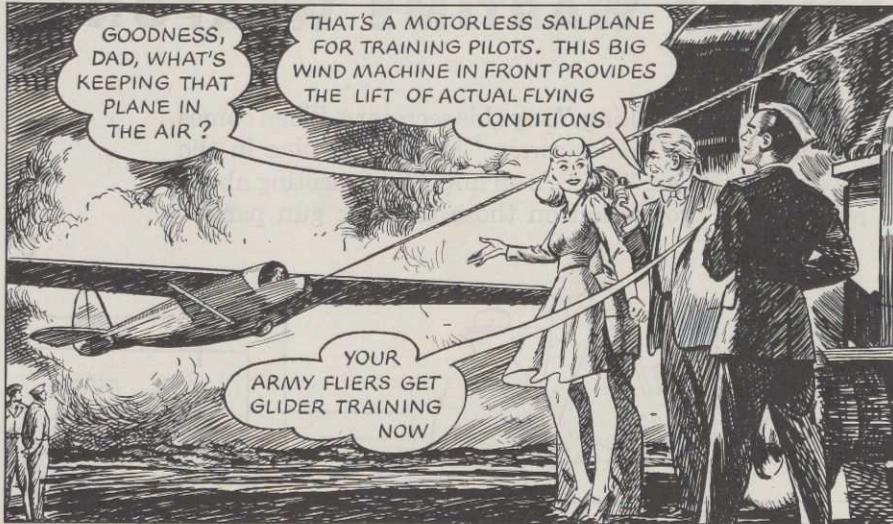
(Continued on Page 66)



"She's going to speak on what part men should be permitted to play in the war."

WONDERS OF AMERICA

Silent Warbirds



IN RECENT LABORATORY "SMOKING BOWL" TESTS, PRINCE ALBERT BURNED

86 DEGREES COOLER

THAN THE AVERAGE OF THE 30 OTHER OF THE LARGEST-SELLING BRANDS TESTED — COOLEST OF ALL!



50 PIPEFULS OF FRAGRANT TOBACCO IN EVERY HANDY POCKET CAN OF PRINCE ALBERT

R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., Winston-Salem, N. C.

PRINCE ALBERT THE NATIONAL JOY SMOKE

(Continued from Page 64)

Last year the Salinas Valley alone yielded 27,000 carloads of lettuce. There have been years when "the Salad Bowl of the Nation" grew half the head lettuce sold in the country's produce markets.

At one time the lettuce growers, like the sugar-beet growers, depended upon Japanese for field labor. As the Japanese, one by one, became farmers in their own right, and competitors, their places in the field were taken by Mexican or Filipino labor. White men and women, largely Oklahomans, handled the trimming, icing and crating in the packing plants, but they were never able to endure the back-breaking stoop work in the fields. Only the short-legged Japs could take that.

Shortly after December seventh the association dispatched its managing secretary, Austin E. Anson, to Washington to urge the Federal authorities to remove all Japanese from the area. Anson pointed out to the War and Navy departments, the Attorney General, to every congressman who would listen to him, how the Salinas Valley sloped off into Monterey Bay, a most inviting landing place for an invading army; how the valley's Japanese, if they chose to do so, might blow up bridges, disrupt traffic and sabotage defense.

"We're charged with wanting to get rid of the Japs for selfish reasons," Anson told me. "We might as well be honest. We do. It's a question of whether the white man lives on the Pacific Coast or the brown men. They came into this valley to work, and they stayed to take over. They offer higher prices and higher rents than the white man can pay for land. They undersell the white man in the markets. They can do this because they raise their own labor. They work their women and children while the white farmer has to pay wages for his help. If all the Japs were removed tomorrow, we'd never miss them in two weeks, because the white farmers can take over and produce everything the Jap grows. And we don't want them back when the war ends, either."

Traffic in Soil

In every Pacific Coast community from San Diego to Seattle there are counterparts of Anson, swelling the chorus, "We don't want them back." They are so vociferous that many of the Japanese *evacués*, looking back at their little farms as they departed for beyond the mountains, felt they could never return. Ironically, to them, at least, General De Witt asked them all to prove their loyalty to the United States by planting and cultivating, until the day of departure, the crops that they could not return to harvest.

Since the enactment of the California alien land law, no Asiatic alien has been able to buy or lease farm land legally in the state. The law applied to Chinese, Hindus, Koreans, as well as Japanese. The former accepted the discrimination philosophically, but the astute and land-hungry Japanese found ways to get around the white man's law. They owned or leased lands in the names of their American-born children, who had rights under the Constitution, or through white dummies. The white growers of the Salinas Valley charge, for instance, that Takeo Yuchi is the front man behind whom scores of aliens hold some of the valley's richest lands. So far, Anthony Brazil, the diligent district attorney, has been un-

able to find any legal flaws in the titles and contracts by which the American-born Japanese farmers own 700 acres and lease 5000 more in Monterey County.

Yuchi consistently refused to join the Salinas Vegetable Grower-Shipper Association, although Anson says he was invited to join every year. Yuchi's reason was that he would always be in the minority, hampered by rules made by his hostile competitors. Yuchi could see how that might work by glancing at the Los Angeles produce mart, where white operators were a 10 per cent minority in a market dominated by Japanese.

The Yellow Octopus

The Los Angeles produce market is unique. Over a period of years a syndicate of Japanese who grow mainly in the rich Santa Maria Valley 140 miles south of Salinas gradually gained control of the distribution of fresh vegetables and fruits in this largest metropolitan produce-distributing center west of Chicago. The syndicate's tentacles reached out into hundreds of neighborhood retail fruit and vegetable stands operated in the city's supermarkets. It controlled other retailers by refusing them such Japanese-monopolized merchandise as strawberries, celery, cucumbers and fresh tomatoes, unless the white merchant bought all his produce through Japanese distributors. When an outside grower-shipper tried to sell in Los Angeles, the syndicate froze him out by depressing prices until he quit.

The astute and industrious Japanese have been formidable competitors in other fields than fresh vegetable marketing. In Los Angeles harbor they monopolized the fish industry until the Navy froze their fishing fleet and took over Terminal Island, on which it was based. In Monterey they monopolized the abalone-fishing business, which calls for skillful diving to pry the huge mollusks loose from underwater rocks. In Seattle, Japanese operated more than half of the city's hotels. In Portland they controlled a third of the hotels. In San Francisco, Japanese merchants at the gateway to Chinatown were well on the way toward capturing the best of the bazaar trade until the Treasury padlocked their stores. Seattle, Tacoma, Yakima, Portland, Sacramento, Fresno, San Francisco, Salinas, Monterey, Los Angeles, San Diego and El Centro supported Little Tokyos from which Japanese commercial interests radiated, controlling properties that were estimated to be worth from \$55,000,000 to \$75,000,000.

The Western Defense Command was too busy strengthening the defense of the Pacific Coast from Panama to Alaska to be concerned with this heated interracial commercial strife. But it was vitally interested in the fact that one of Takeo Yuchi's farms in the Salinas Valley was adjacent to a key defense airport. Also in the fact that his fifty tractors and twenty-four trucks and pickups were parked each night just outside his packing plant, which is on the main north-south coastal highway. Granting that Yuchi is a loyal American, the Army men argued, what about the aliens in his employ who drive the tractors and trucks? What would keep them from leaving equipment on the highway at a crucial moment and blocking it? On the neighboring Spiegl ranch, FBI men took into custody one Shunso Matsuda, an alien known as the

"Emperor of Chualar," and suspected of being Tokyo's key man in the valley. At the Shinto Temple in Salinas' Little Tokyo, they picked up three priests, all arrivals in this country within the year, one of them identified as a former Japanese police officer.

Few of the Nisei of the Salinas Valley ever attended this Shinto Temple; they had their own Presbyterian church on the opposite side of town. Nor did they belong to the mysterious Black Dragon Society, whose entire local membership was rounded up and hustled off to internment camps in Montana about the time the FBI discovered an alien in near-by Santa Cruz in an oceanside house packed with cases of fireworks and ideally situated for setting off signaling flares for enemy naval craft.

Without waiting for the Army to move them bodily, the Nisei launched their own Go East, Young Japanese movement as soon as General De Witt announced, on March second, that within sixty days every person of Japanese blood must be outside the prohibited zone. This removal was encouraged by the authorities by allowing the voluntary *evacués* to choose their own destinations and to keep their automobiles and any other possessions they cared to take or ship to their new homes. Those who waited for the Army to do the job had to go wherever shelter was assigned them and to leave behind their cars and personal property.

The main stumbling block to the migration was the unwillingness of the Rocky Mountain and Prairie states to accept the Japanese in any large numbers. Of all the governors asked to help find resettlement lands, only Colorado's executive offered to cooperate. Whereupon General De Witt, backed by the President's proclama-

tion of semimartial law for the eight Western states, set up a Wartime Civilian Control Authority, with power to move anybody anywhere, regardless of race, creed or color. To protect the crops and property left behind by the *evacués*, the WCCA enlisted the Federal Reserve Bank as custodian. To help them find new land, it brought in the Farm Security Administration. To build shelters in a hurry, it called in the Army engineers. To help groups evacuating voluntarily to new homes of their own choosing, it provided financing.

"The Japanese were never Americans in California," Dr. C. L. Dedrick, sociologist and the Census Bureau's expert on the WCCA staff, said recently. "Now, when they are dispersed, they may ultimately become absorbed in American life, not by intermarriage, but through losing their concentrated identity. This may be their great chance to become Americans."

Doctor Dedrick's hopeful forecast may or may not turn out to be sound. One thing, however, is certain—the Japanese-American loyalty creed, to which all Nisei publicly subscribe, is about to get its first real test, particularly these portions of it: ". . . I am firm in my belief that American sportsmanship and attitude of fair play will judge citizenship and patriotism on the basis of action and achievement, and not on the basis of physical characteristics. . . . Although some individuals may discriminate against me, I shall never become bitter or lose faith, for I know that such persons are not representative of the majority of the American people. . . ." In such a test the tolerance of the new host states will also feel the fire which has been ignited by the obvious requirements of a stern military emergency.

WHAT HITLER WANTS YOU TO THINK

(Continued from Page 15)

designed to keep them in a constant state of terror. By means of periodic war scares, carefully planned and rehearsed, he gradually produced a set of national jitters that left these nations weakened and demoralized.

A typical war scare was engineered in Belgium in January, 1940, when an obscure Nazi paper reported heavy German troop concentrations along the Belgian borders. Belgian papers fell into the trap by widely reprinting the item. Blood pressure rose all over Belgium. A day later a German plane carrying two German officers became "lost" over Belgian territory and was forced to land inside the frontier. Oddly enough, the officers had in their pockets German General Staff "plans" for an invasion of Belgium. Simultaneously, the German Foreign Minister, von Ribbentrop, summoned the Belgian ambassador to his office in Berlin, picked a fight over some minor economic demand, and finally threw the ambassador out of his office, shouting, "You want war! Well, you'll get it!"

Belgian officials immediately sent a hurry call to General Gamelin, chief of the French forces, warning that Belgium momentarily expected a German attack. Defeatist rumors inside Belgium added to the terror. German agents launched whispering campaigns that Belgian defenses were obsolete and would crumble like paper before the German onslaught. Swastikas ap-

peared mysteriously on curbstones, on the walls of buildings and in the mails, while Nazi agents distributed Belgian flags bearing swastikas. "Keep this flag," they warned. "When the Germans arrive sew it onto your coat. Then you will surely be well treated." But the Germans did not arrive for five months—months of hideous suspense.¹⁶

The Or-Else Technique

Hitler's terror was often less than subtle. The night before the invasion of Norway, the German ambassador invited many prominent Norwegians to his home and showed them *Baptism by Fire*, a movie taken during the invasion of Poland. Bombed cities, raging fires and crushed bodies were pictured in harrowing detail. Later, over champagne and a midnight supper, the German ambassador quietly observed that the Poles could have been spared this tragedy had they granted Hitler's demands. Other nations, he suggested, would do well to remember Poland's fate.¹⁷

For years the Nazis bloodlessly invaded the Balkans, sending countless German agents armed with brief cases and impeccable manners to cultivate the friendship of business and professional men. Countless German commercial travelers abroad were Nazi agents. From 1933 the Germans

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