

FARMERS TO BE AIDED BY WRA OFFICES

Western farmers and other employers who wish to avail themselves of workers of Japanese ancestry are being served by a new WRA employment office in Salt Lake City, it was announced by Claude C. Cornwall, chief of the Employment Division.

The purpose of the new relocation agency will be to facilitate employment negotiations in an area embracing all of Utah, Nevada, and Idaho, the western tier of counties in Wyoming, all of Montana except the southeastern corner, and all of Arizona and the coastal states not included in the zones barred to wartime evacuees by the Western Defense Command. Arrangements are under way to open, as soon as possible, nine branch offices in other cities strategically situated in this area.

Offers of employment coming to the employment office at Topaz will hereafter be referred to the Salt Lake City or other relocation agencies which are responsible for investigating the community acceptance of Japanese people.

Four other principal area relocation offices have recently been established in Denver, Kansas City, Chicago, and Cleveland, each having jurisdiction over the relocation program in several states. They will all have a two-fold purpose: first, to co-operate with employers in relieving manpower shortages in agriculture and other critical industries over a wide range of the country; and secondly, to help residents of the relocation centers in finding the types of employment for which they are best fitted by training and experience.

3 GIRLS ATTEND YWCA CONCLAVE

Three representatives of the Topaz YWCA left the Center yesterday morning to attend a regional leaders' conference which is being held March 23-25 at Pocatello, Idaho. Misses Toshi Koba and Yoshi Moriooka will represent the business girls while Miss Nobu Kumekawa is a delegate for the local student groups.

It was stated that the purpose of the meeting, at which executive secretaries of the national board of the YWCA in New York will be present, is to discuss new ideas for the organization's future activities.

NEWS BRIEFS

VOLUNTEERS: A meeting of the Topaz volunteers will be held tonight from 7:30 o'clock at Rec 4. As matters of importance will be discussed, all volunteers are asked to attend.

HANA-MATSURI: To prepare for the Hana-Matsuri program, a meeting will be held on Thursday night from 8 o'clock at Rec 28, Buddhist Church. All members of the board of directors, YBA cabinet, Seijin board of officers, Seijin representatives, women's board of officers, women's association, Sunday School board of officers and teachers and Hana-Matsuri program committee are asked to attend.

WANTED: Seven cooks, 8 waitresses, 6 kitchen help and 3 coalmen for Dining Hall 1. Apply at Placement office, Rec 4.

CO-OP: Gerald Richardson, chief of Community Enterprises of WRA in Washington, D.C. will be the main speaker at the meeting of the Topaz Consumer Enterprises to be held tonight from 8 o'clock at Dining Hall 32.

Other speakers on the

TOPAZ ALL-STAR CAGERS TO PLAY IN TOURNAMENT

Eleven all-star basketball players left the City at 1:30 PM today for the Intermountain tournament which is slated to take place March 25 through 27 at the Westminster gymnasium in Salt Lake City. Sponsored by the Salt Lake City JACL, the 3 day invitational tournament will bring together 8 outstanding teams. Ogden, Idaho Falls and Topaz quintets in addition to the top teams of the Salt Lake league will compete for the cage title.

Those making the trip are Hachio Tominaga, Sus Ota and Johnny Oshida, formerly of Berkeley Ohtani; Jack Mizono and Effie Kawahara of the S.F. Proto; Keichi Kawamoto and George Yonekura, former Berkeley YMBA stars; Mas Tatsuno of the S.F. YMCA; Ky Nomura, Berkeley Nissei; Jun Honda, ex-Richmond Kongo; and Moto Takahashi, formerly of the San Mateo Ryusei. Accompanying the team will be James E. Lamb, chaperon; Kimbo Yoshitomi, manager; George Kakehi, coach; and Kim Obata.

Tom Tsuji's band will leave tomorrow noon to play for the basketball victory dance March 27.

program will be Sulo Laakso, fieldman for the Community Enterprises of WRA in Washington, D.C. and E. Rector, auditor of Northwest Co-operative Auditing and Service Association.

SERVICE: The Mid-week Bible circle will meet tonight from 7:30 o'clock at 32-12-C. The speaker will be Mr. Kanehara. Those interested are invited to attend.

WEATHER REPORT

Max. (Tues. night) 57° F.
Min. (Wed. morn.) 21° F.

"VOLUNTEERING IS AFFIRMATION OF LOYALTY" ENLISTEES WRITE TO CONGRESSMEN

As part of their activity to secure civil rights for evacuees, the Topaz volunteers for the Japanese American combat team sent a letter Tuesday night to Washington, D.C., to United States Senators Elbert Thomas and Abe Murdock, and Representatives Will C. Robinson and Walter Granger, all from Utah. The letter read in part:

We, the undersigned, are residents of the War Relocation Project at Topaz, Utah, who have volunteered for the special Japanese American combat unit announced by Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, on January 28 of this year. Although we are not legally constituents of yours, we felt we might address you as less than strangers, since we do reside in the state you represent in Congress, and since by our volunteering, we are making common cause with all good Americans and their government leaders in the prosecution of the present war against this country's enemies. We are, therefore, taking this opportunity to bring to your attention certain facts about ourselves, our motives, our hopes.

First of all, as to our motives:

"We believe in democracy and dedicate ourselves to the furtherance of its principles.

"To uphold these principles, we must destroy every form of tyranny, oppression and violation of human rights.

"We place our faith in America and base our hope in the future on that faith.

"Therefore, we believe that our volunteering in the armed forces of this country is a step towards the realization of these ends and a positive manifestation of our loyalty to the United States."

The sincerity of our belief in the credo can

be gauged, we think, by the fact that we have maintained an unwavering trust in the good faith of this country and her leaders through all the trying period of our evacuation and forced confinement. We have never taken this wholesale removal and detention as an expression of America's real or final intentions toward us. Our volunteering is, therefore, no more than an affirmation in terms of positive action of the loyalty we have always held toward this country.

Such is the prime motivation behind our action. At the same time, we are aware that what we have done involves an issue beyond that of our own loyalty to America. If the government's reopening of the armed forces to us is a heartening token of our reinstatement as equal partners with all other Americans in the fight against our common enemies, we are hopeful that it is also a token of the eventual reinstatement of all loyal persons of our racial minority as useful and accepted members of the democratic commonwealth of America. For the situation of the thousands of brothers and sisters and parents of the volunteers in the various relocation centers is still a problem to be solved.

Although, for various valid reasons, they are not within the volunteer group, we feel sure that the vast majority of them are fundamentally as loyal as we are. Thousands of them now stand ready to be taken into the army through the regular channels of the selective service act. But in a time of war, it is all too easy for the superficial kinship of race between them and an enemy nation to create unjust public attitudes toward them. They are looked upon with suspicion; their loyalty is doubted; and they may find it difficult to re-estab-

lish themselves as normal components of American society.

We, who have volunteered, are deeply conscious that by our actions we may in some measure help correct that situation. We are hopeful that any public approbation accorded us as volunteer soldiers will also embrace those of our kin that we leave behind, and that their re-entry into general American life will be made easier to that extent. We know, too, that government leaders; no less than we ourselves, are hopeful that this will be the result. For a war against world fascism can be fully effective only if there is a complete consistency in democratic practice here at home.

We are volunteering, therefore, not only because that is the most direct and most irrefutable demonstration of our own loyalty to this country, but because by our action we feel we are contributing to the eventual fulfillment of American democratic tradition in its best and highest meaning.

We have written to you because we felt that you would be interested in knowing how one group of Japanese American volunteers--a group from your own state--sincerely feels. And since part of our problem, the problem of all those of Japanese blood in this country, is to create a better and wider public awareness of our situation, we also felt that you as a government leader could exercise much favorable influence in bringing that end about. We shall be grateful for anything you might be able to do to make what we have expressed here a matter of wider public and official knowledge, as well as for any effort you might be able to contribute as a member of Congress toward fair and democratic legislation for all minority groups in this country.