

# LOCAL EDUCATION WEEK OBSERVED

## Merritt Greets Volunteers on Anniversary

SUNDAY'S PROGRAM HIT BY WINDSTORM

Greeting the volunteers similarly as it did a year ago, a sudden wind storm, Sunday, forced an indefinite postponement of the program which had been scheduled to commemorate the arrival of the volunteers to this center.

Saturday's program ran smoothly with many activities filling the entire day. At 10 a.m., an "ohaka mairi" was held at the cemetery with the block managers attending. One p.m. found the residents between firebreaks 14 and 15 viewing the Anniversary program, opened by greetings by Project Director Ralph P. Merritt and Town Hall Chairman Kiyoharu Anzai. Included in the program were entertainments both in English and Japanese by the various orchestras, soloists, and dancers of the center.

The playground between firebreaks 8 and 14 held the attention of the youngsters when a track meet and marble contest were held at 1:30 p.m. under the sponsorship of the Community Activities department. Prizes donated by the Co-op were awarded the winners.

Climaxing Saturday's activities was the Pioneer Dinner given by the community at mess hall 1 in honor of the volunteers. Music was furnished by the Manzanar Swing Orchestra and the affair was rounded out with entertainments by local talent.

Although Sunday's outdoor program was disrupted by the sudden wind and sand storm, the indoor schedule was completed. The judo tournament was held at the judo hall at block 10 and the Pioneer dance was held at mess (Continued on Page Two)

## NISEI SOLDIER ON FURLOUGH

That the people of Minneapolis are hospitable and not prejudiced against Japanese was the observation of Pfc. Yoshitaka Hino who visited relatives and friends here on furlough from Camp Savage, Minnesota.

A majority who have gone out have found jobs as domestics. Living conditions are high, housing a problem, and weather cold in winter but nice in summer and spring, he said. Not many Japanese have gone to that part of the country as yet, he added.

The United States Employment Service is working on plans to utilize Japanese in Minneapolis but details are still indefinite, he declared.

Pfc. Hino left yesterday afternoon to return to his duties.

## Exhibit Works Compare Favorably with Outside

Education Week Exhibit is the most complete shown here yet in the Visual Education Museum voiced Kiyotsugu Tsuchiya, director of the museum.

Tsuchiya believes that everyone will be benefited by visiting the museum at least once during the exhibition. He added that everyone is welcome to look through the books if handled carefully.

To give the parents of the community the opportunity to see the types of work going along in the education department the exhibit contains works of the school students here.

# MANZANAR Free Press

VOL. III, NO. 24

MANZANAR, CALIFORNIA WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 1943

## Inventory Will Be Made on Residents' Farm Equipment

FARM MACHINERY, AUTO EQUIPMENT INVENTORY WILL BEGIN TOMORROW

Beginning tomorrow, Thursday, March 25, an inventory will be made of all farm machinery and automotive equipment which is owned by residents of Manzanar, Ralph P. Merritt, Project Director, announced today. Through this inventory a record will be made of all equipment listed for sale, lease, or storage. Assistance will be given the owners by the evacuee property office in selling, leasing, or otherwise disposing of their property when it is so desired.

Rumors have been widely circulated and statements have appeared in the newspapers that there is a fantastic amount of evacuee-owned farm and tractor equipment in storage. The WRA has proven many of these reports and rumors false in specific cases. However, we do not have sufficient information to be able to present the true facts in all cases.

### OBTAIN ACCURATE FIGURES

Accordingly, one of the main purposes of the survey is to obtain more accurate figures as to the amount of idle equipment owned by you. Of course, the value of the survey will depend upon its accuracy and the number of you who report. Another purpose of the survey is to encourage equipment owners to sell or lease idle equipment and to get them in touch with the Evacuee Property Office for assistance in obtaining satisfactory buyers and leases.

The question has been asked if listing of farm equipment is the forerunner of requisitioning by the Government. Attached hereto is a copy of a memorandum recently received which is self-explanatory and should answer this important question.

The inventory will start Thursday (Continued on Page Two)

## LATE TELEGRAM

PROJECT DIRECTOR RALPH P. MERRITT,

UNDERSTAND THAT MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS FOR INDUCTION WILL BE GIVEN AT MANZANAR ALL AT ONE TIME PROBABLY AROUND THE FIRST OF APRIL. VOLUNTEERS WILL BE INDUCTED AFTER THESE MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS WITH AN OPPORTUNITY FOR SEVEN DAYS LEAVE BETWEEN MEDICAL EXAMINATION AND INDUCTION IF SO DESIRED.

D. S. MYER, DIRECTOR WASHINGTON, D.C.

## Question 28 Still Open for Change

Any person not a citizen who wants to change his answer from "No" to "Yes," or "Yes with qualification" on question No. 28 can still do so by calling at the office of Mrs. Adams in the Administration Bldg. and any citizens desiring to change their answer on this question may do so on request at the office of Mrs. Adams. Changes of answers of citizens eligible for service in the armed forces will be sent on to Washington for consideration by the War Department.

Citizens eligible for the armed service and desirous of volunteering may make application at the office of the Project Attorney, Robert Throckmorton, and the information will be forwarded by telegraph to the War Department.

## 36 TRUCKS HEADED FOR CAMP HAAN

An Army order from Fort Douglas, Utah, requesting the transmission of all Army vehicles from this project to Camp Haan, Riverside, was received here Thursday, according to James L. Macnair, superintendent of equipment and maintenance.

In releasing this information, Macnair stated that 18 vehicles from the number of 36 have already left this center for their destination and that the rest will probably be sent out during the next day or two. He added that the center necessarily will have less cars so only absolutely essential requests for usage will be honored.

## Cooperative Basis May be Planned For Activities

After April 1, 1943, Community Activities will no longer have any WRA funds for materials and supplies or equipment to be used in community activities classes. The little that has been made available this past year has been "borrowed" from the budgets of other departments. This announcement was made to the Community Activities department by Mrs. Lucy Adams. The WRA will continue to maintain a staff of instructors and supervisors and provide space in the "15" buildings.

If enthusiastic interest is shown in continuing the various activities of the department (arts and crafts, athletics, music, social clubs, victory gardens, sewing classes, etc.) and if the participants in these activities are willing to lend financial support to the activities, then it will be possible to continue Community Activities—by organizing the membership of the classes (exclusive of instructors and supervisors on WRA payroll) into a series of cooperative groups. These cooperative organizations will finance the necessary class materials and supplies budget for each activity.

This suggested solution for the problem was presented to the (Continued on Page Two)

## For Quick Rebates Turn in Receipts

To facilitate smooth and faster distribution of rebates, George Shinno, chairman of the membership committee, requested that all receipts be turned in under individual family names by the 7th of each month. All receipts turned in after that date become void.

## Low Water Pressure Here Prevents Use of Hydrants

Use of the fire hydrants for victory gardens and irrigation purposes was frowned on by Frank E. Hon, fire department head. He asks the cooperation of all residents to abide with the law which forbids the public use of fire hydrants.

"While we have notified Washington of the low water pressure for this center, there is nothing the people here can do about it. They can, however, help by giving the fire department all the water pressure available by not using fire hydrants," he said.

He illustrated his point by stating that the recently constructed sprinkling system at the hospital will not function prop-

## Pageant Attracts Many Residents

Proud parents and friends thronged to mess hall 15 Monday evening to witness the first presentation of the pageant given by Manzanar school students highlighting the local observance of Education Week.

The pageant, "From Many Lands and Peoples" depicted in songs and dances the ancestral customs of the varied groups of people composing the heterogeneous mass which is America. Ranging from a Negro top dance to a Japanese-American original danced to the rhythms of "Yankee Doodle" by Mrs. Kincaid's 5th grade class, the program included contributions from nursery to Jaycee students. Other outstanding skits were the Dutch dance "Wooden Shoes" done with "getas" and a Japanese Fan Dance.

Almost every country in the world is represented in each presentation from the 1st to the 6th grade.

Speakers for the evening were Margaret Ichino and Joe Itano.

Music was furnished by the Manzanar Community Band and Orchestra. Louis Frizzell's A Cappella Choir sang "Finiculi Funicula." The program concluded with "America the Beautiful" while Cecilia Hiraga and Kathleen Yoshizawa twirled batons.

The pageant will be presented again tonight and Friday night. The program begins at 6:30 p.m.

The program: Prelude, Manzanar Community Band; speeches by Joe Itano and Miss Margaret Ichino; pageant "From Many Lands and Peoples" presented by Manzanar school children, accompanied by the Manzanar Community Orchestra.

Danish "Dance of Greeting," Mrs. Atwood, 2nd grade group, 31-15; Spanish song "Lightly Row," Miss Dales, 5th grade 5-15; English song "John Peel," Miss Lewis, 6th grade, 5-15; Negro tap dance, Junko Yoshimoto, Tillie Kageyama, Florence Kuwata, Cecilia Hiraga, Kathleen Yoshizawa. (Continued on Page Two)

## NEW CANTEN MGR. OLD-TIMER

Although goods are very hard to get, J. Yoshii, new canteen manager, states that he is trying to get everything permissible to handle at the store.

The first request he made of the residents as the new manager was that they return all empty soda water bottles. Those with empties at home are asked to bring them to their respective block offices where they will be collected by the canteen truck. Yoshii revealed that almost \$500 worth of funds were tied up in the unreturned bottles.

Formerly owner of the T. Y. Produce Co. of Los Angeles, Yoshii is an old-timer in the selling game. He has lived in Los Angeles for more than 24 years and was owner of five stores.

erly with the low pressure which prevails during irrigation.

Officer Hon said that halting of the usage of fire hydrants for victory garden irrigation may involve a little difficulty to some people, but he felt that the welfare of approximately 10,000 people warranted strict regulations.

"The average water pressure here at this center," Fire Chief Robert Kubota added, "is 30 to 60 pounds, and that is not sufficient in case of a major fire. The cooperation of all departments will be appreciated not only by the fire department but by every man, woman, and child at Manzanar."