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All of the articles included in this group of writings are reproduced word for word as printed in Fresno Assembly Center publications. Some are from the "Grapevine", a newspaper published twice a week and delivered to the apartment of each Assembly Center resident every Wednesday and Saturday. Other items are from the "Vignette", an eighty page summary in word and hand drawn sketches, of Life in the Fresno Assembly Center. (This was the only publication of it's kind produced by the Japanese residents of any Assembly Center). It was published in October of 1942, just prior to the transfer of Fresno Center occupants to the War Relocation Center at Jerome Arkansas.

With the exception of the "Thank You, So Long and Good Luck" farewell message to the departing residents by E. P. Pulliam the Assembly Center manager, all of the writings were by interned Japanese evacuees. It was an exclusively Japanese publication staff that wrote the editorials and selected all materials to be used in the newspaper and other publications for residents.

The evidence of loyalty and cooperation you will find expressed in many of these writings will probably surprise you. You will find expressions of some of the concerns and attitudes that existed then among residents of the Center. In some cases it is difficult to believe that certain writings were products of a group of people caught in a web of wartime induced stressful and unprecedented circumstances.

Almost all of these writings were by the Nisei group which were then second generation Japanese Americans, born and educated in the United States. The Issei Japanese residents of the Centers included few that could speak, read or write English. Most had limited ability to read or express themselves in the language of their adopted Country. Because of their understanding of the English language the Nisei Japanese were able to express their feelings in print.

These articles may give you a factual insight into the attitude of the Japanese evacuees during the first few months or their internment in 1942. They were written then and there. They tell it as they experienced it and felt during the time of the experience.