

book worms found

THE CENTER LIBRARY

Plans for a library at the Fresno Assembly Center were made prior to the evacuation, when the American Loyalty League, the Fresno chapter of the JACL, sponsored a drive to collect reading matter. The drive, headed by Robert Kimura, head librarian of the Center library, resulted in several hundred magazines, 500 books, and many toys and games.

The purpose of the library was to give residents a place where they might spend their leisure time profitably.

Among the donors of reading material were Dean Marv C. Baker, Margaret Cosgrave, and Dr. John B. Mason of the Fresno State College; Fowler High School; Hanford High School; Corcoran Union High School; Roosevelt and the Fresno Technical High Schools of Fresno.

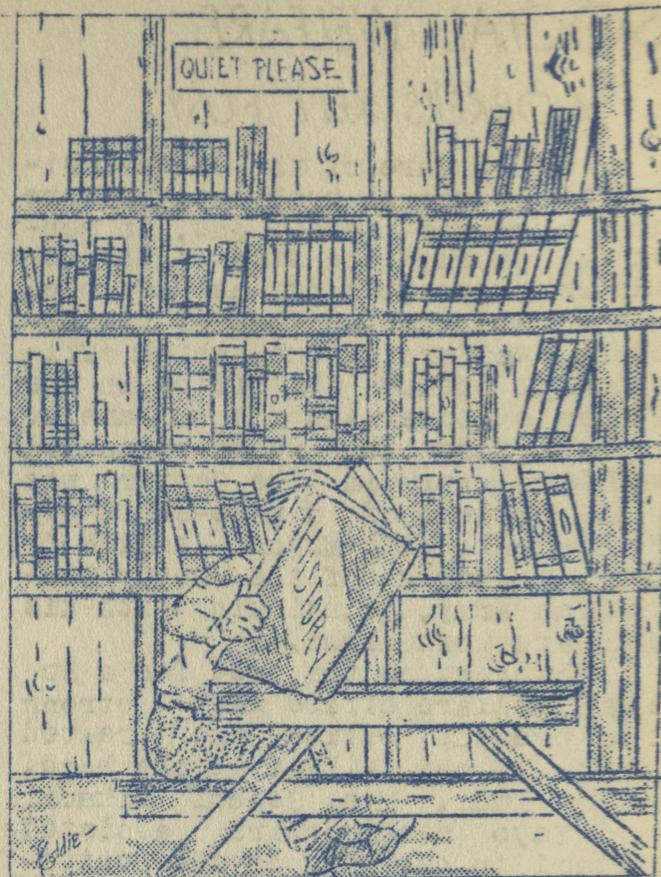
A branch library was opened on June 15 at I-20-5 to accommodate residents living south of Butler Avenue. Available here were magazines, books, and comic books. Mitsue Kamikawa and Tsuyuko Abo were in charge.

A study hall at E-1 was later maintained to encourage studying with a maximum of privacy. Thomas Tanabe headed this project until his departure to Utah, whereupon the work was carried on by Ikuva Kawai.

A toy library was also instituted. Issuance of toys to children were made at Recreation Hall 2 by Sumiko Kamikawa and Yoshiko Tsutsui.

A fine of 3¢ a day was collected for all books and magazines overdue. With the fund accumulated in this way, toys for the toy library were purchased, two daily papers were subscribed to, and children's reading material were bought.

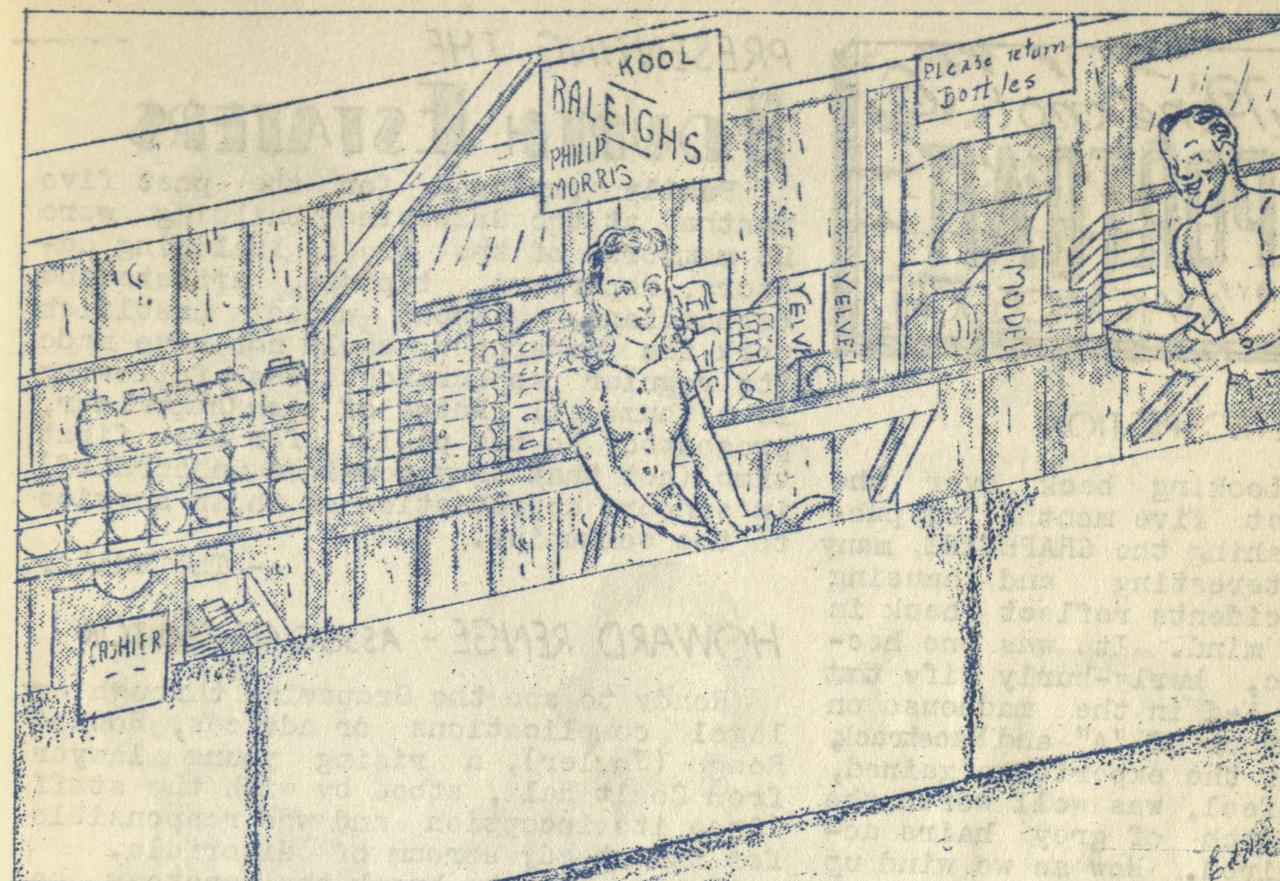
The libraries were opened daily except Sundays.



INFORMATION, PLEASE!

On May 10 the Information Desks at E and I were opened to aid Center residents with their problems encountered since their arrival here. Mrs. Lillie Inouye and Taro Matsui were in charge since the inception of the community service project. Others later added to the staff were Ume Mayewaki, Frances Funahashi, Juichi Kamikawa, Keichi Noda, and two messengers, Harry Miva and Harry Masai.

The duties of the office were of a general nature, which included handling perishable matter sent by express, taking all complaints, issuing visitors' permits, maintaining a lost and found department for awhile, and making out applications for visits to the County Hospital.



CENTER STORE HAS HEAVY TRADE

"During the period the store has been in operation there has been a fine spirit of cooperation between the customers and the store personnel," stated Charles A. Wheeler, general manager. He further explained, "It has been the disposition of the management and the clerks to render service to all customers alike on the basis of what they might reasonably expect in transacting business as in any store in the City of Fresno. The price at which merchandises have been sold has been at the level of prices at outside stores or very often lower, in the interest of giving our residents maximum value for their money."

Charles A. Wheeler was formerly a manager of Wheeler-Perry Co., a wholesale grocery and produce firm in Tucson, Arizona.

Ranging from the sale of \$13,000 in the first month to over \$15,000 during the last few months the sale of merchandises

and refreshments has been above all expectations. Approximately \$75,000 worth of goods were sold in the first five months.

Several of the more important merchandises sold were hats, socks, shirts, over-alls, ladies' cosmetics, toilet articles, newspapers (Fresno Bee, Chronicle and the Examiner), confectioneries and fruits.

Working industriously to serve the community were the following hardworking employees: Fujiyo Jitsumyo, able secretary to Mr. Wheeler; Frank Nobayashi, Esamu Muranaka, Seihiro Nishi and Henry Katsuki who were the stockmen, taking care of all materials in addition to seeing that the frigidairo was working. The store clerks were Yukiyo Mori, Mary Tsuchiura, Margio Fujii, May Ichinaga, Sadako Izumi, Yoshiko Hoshiko, Fumiko Sumida, Chiyo Oota, Fumiko Suda, Jane Nitta, Hanako Takooka and Sally Yamamoto.