THE TIME
1929–1945

PEOPLE TO KNOW

John Collier
Albert Einstein
Jim Emmett
General Leslie Groves
Woody Guthrie
Gordon Hirabayashi
Henry J. Kaiser
Richard Neuberger
Franklin D. Roosevelt
James D. Ross
C. Ben Ross

PLACES TO LOCATE

Germany
Italy
England
Russia
Japan
New York
Yakima Valley
Spokane
Tacoma
Longview
Hanford
U.S. 30 (Highway)

WORDS TO UNDERSTAND

adamant
affluence
censorship
conservation
destitute
dilapidated
exodus
fastidious
inferior
longshoremen
migrant
reactor
subsistence
superior
transient
warehousemen

Hard Times and

Making new sidewalks in Seattle provided jobs under the New Deal's Works Progress Administration (WPA) program.

TIMELINE

1929 New York stock market crashes. The Great Depression begins.

1932 Franklin D. Roosevelt is elected president. The New Deal begins.

1933 Construction of Bonneville and Grand Coulee Dams begins.

1933 Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) is created.

1934 Indian Reorganization Act is passed.

Chapter 9
the Home Front

1936 Roosevelt is re-elected.

1937

1938 Bonneville Dam starts producing electricity.

1939 Roosevelt gets letter from Einstein warning of a potential German atomic bomb.

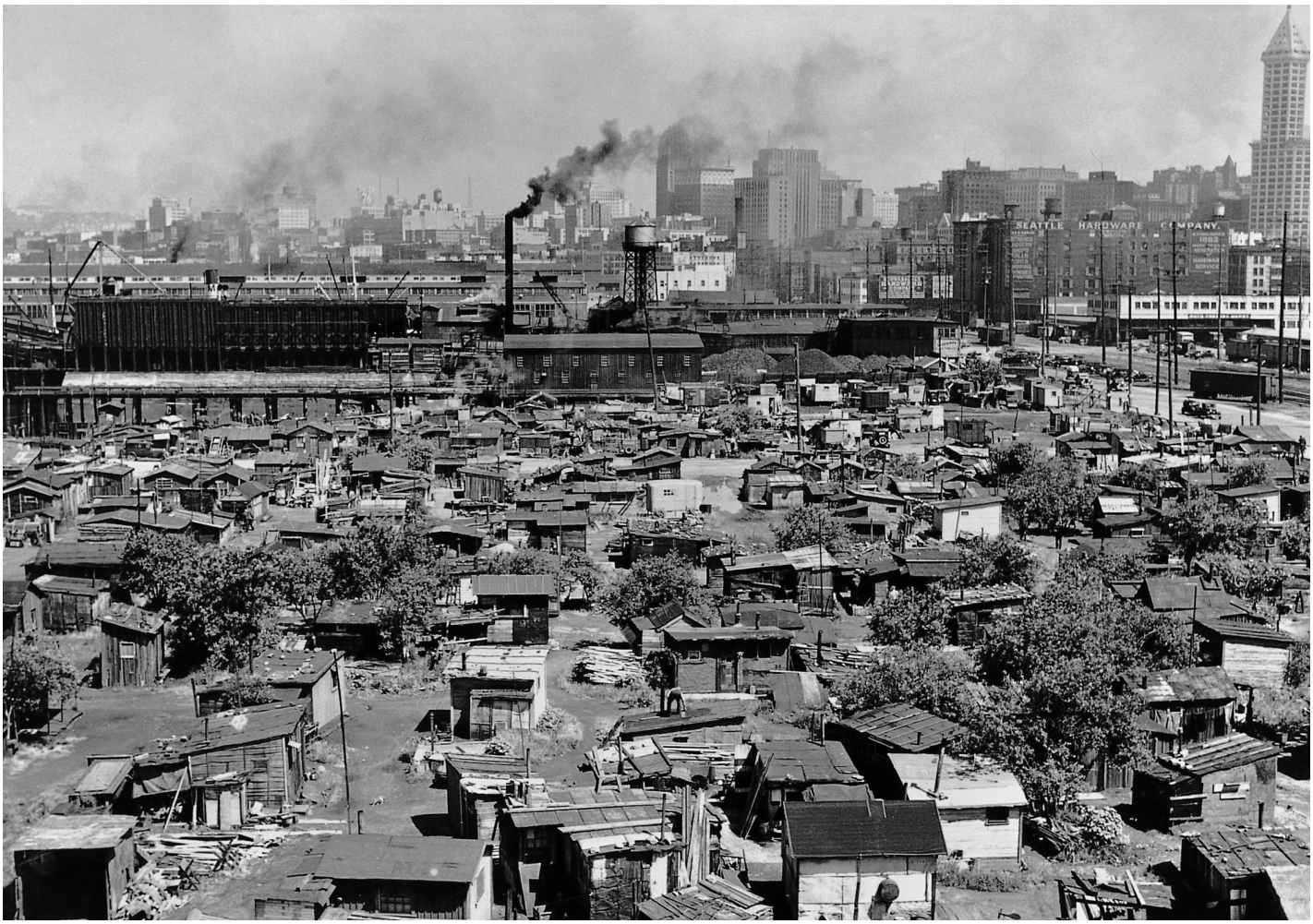
1939–**1945** World War II.

1941 Japan attacks Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on December 7. The United States enters World War II.

1941 Grand Coulee Dam is completed.

1942 Japanese Americans on the West Coast are given relocation orders.

1945 Germany surrenders May 7. Atomic bombs are dropped on Japan August 6 and 9. Japan surrenders August 14.



Every major Northwest city had communities of homeless and unemployed people living in wretched makeshift shelters often made from discarded packing boxes. "Hoovervilles," like this one on Seattle's waterfront, were pathetic examples of hard times.

The Great Depression

"With the help of 240 agencies and churches who helped with sewing, the Red Cross distributed 2800 shirts."

– Spokesman-Review, January 11, 1932

The Great Depression was a worldwide economic collapse. It began with the New York stock market crash in 1929, and it lasted through the 1930s.

The banks closed first. Many banks had invested recklessly in stocks. When the stocks became worthless, the banks lost their money. People who had saved their money in the banks were now broke. Soon many factories and businesses closed because no one had money to buy anything. Thousands of workers lost their jobs.

United States President Herbert Hoover did not have a workable plan to help end the depression. Blaming him for not doing enough, homeless people built housing developments out of scrap lumber, metal, and cardboard and called them "Hoovervilles."

Since people with little or no income could not pay their taxes, there was not enough tax money in government funds to help people. Washington counties maintained twenty-four shelters, or "poor farms," for homeless people but turned away many of the homeless.

How Hard Were the Hard Times?

Looking back from our time of relative ***affluence*** today, it is difficult to imagine how much suffering people endured. Hunger, misery, fear, and anger were found in every community.

Four-year-old Angeline D'Ambrose died after eating poisonous weeds in her backyard. Her father, a Seattle shoemaker, had been out of work for a year. "I guess my baby was hungry, " he sobbed. "We haven't had anything in the house to eat for two days."

In later years, people wrote what they remembered about their family's struggle during the depression:

"We wore clothes made out of material from old clothes. We put cardboard in our shoes, and when they wore out we wore any shoes that we could get our feet into. They hardly ever fit."

"We shared an egg for breakfast, with bread."

"We ate potatoes three times a day—fried for breakfast, mashed at noon, and in potato salad for dinner. My mother even learned how to make potato fudge."

Bargains Galore

One person's hardship could be another person's opportunity. There were bargains for those with ready cash. A long-time resident of Cheney remembers an entire block of twelve lots selling for $38. Farms, homes, and businesses sold for a fraction of their true value.

Drought and the Dust Bowl

One of the most severe droughts in the nation's history came to the Great Plains states in 1928 and lasted in some areas for twelve years. Strong winds turned dry farming regions into a gigantic "dust bowl."

The drought also reached the Pacific Northwest. Billowing clouds of topsoil from the Columbia Basin were visible to ships hundreds of miles off the Washington coast. Dust storms plagued the basin for years. One lady with a reputation for ***fastidious*** housekeeping decided she could not keep up with the dust. "She just opened her front door and opened her back door and let the dust blow right through," reported a neighbor.

The dry hot winds turned forests into a fire waiting to happen. In 1936, with drought conditions at their worst, the Forest Service reported that 450,000 acres of national forest in the Northwest had been destroyed by fire.

Fires for Jobs

A tragic measure of those desperate years was the fact that some of the fires were deliberately set by the unemployed in an effort to get jobs as fire fighters. During the summer of 1931, Idaho's Governor Ben Ross ordered the National Guard to prevent people from entering the forests.

Agriculture Disintegrates

Agricultural distress took many forms. Crops rotted in the fields because the cost of harvesting and shipping them to market would be greater than their sale price. In Oregon, thousands of sheep were slaughtered and fed to the buzzards and coyotes because the money farmers could get for the meat and wool was too low to make a profit. In Washington, some farmers burned fruit trees for fuel.

Migrants by the Thousands

"We loaded up our jalopies [old run-down cars] and rattled down the highway never to come back again," said the words of a Woody Guthrie song.

With such grim conditions, it was a shock to people in the Northwest that their region was regarded as a land of opportunity by people from the Great Plains. Most ***migrants*** traveled Highway 66 that went all

During the 1930s, companies that made home canning jars were one of the few businesses that made money. People wanted to make sure they had food on their shelves.

Within a 100 mile radius of Spokane, 18 million jars of fruit and vegetables were canned by women.

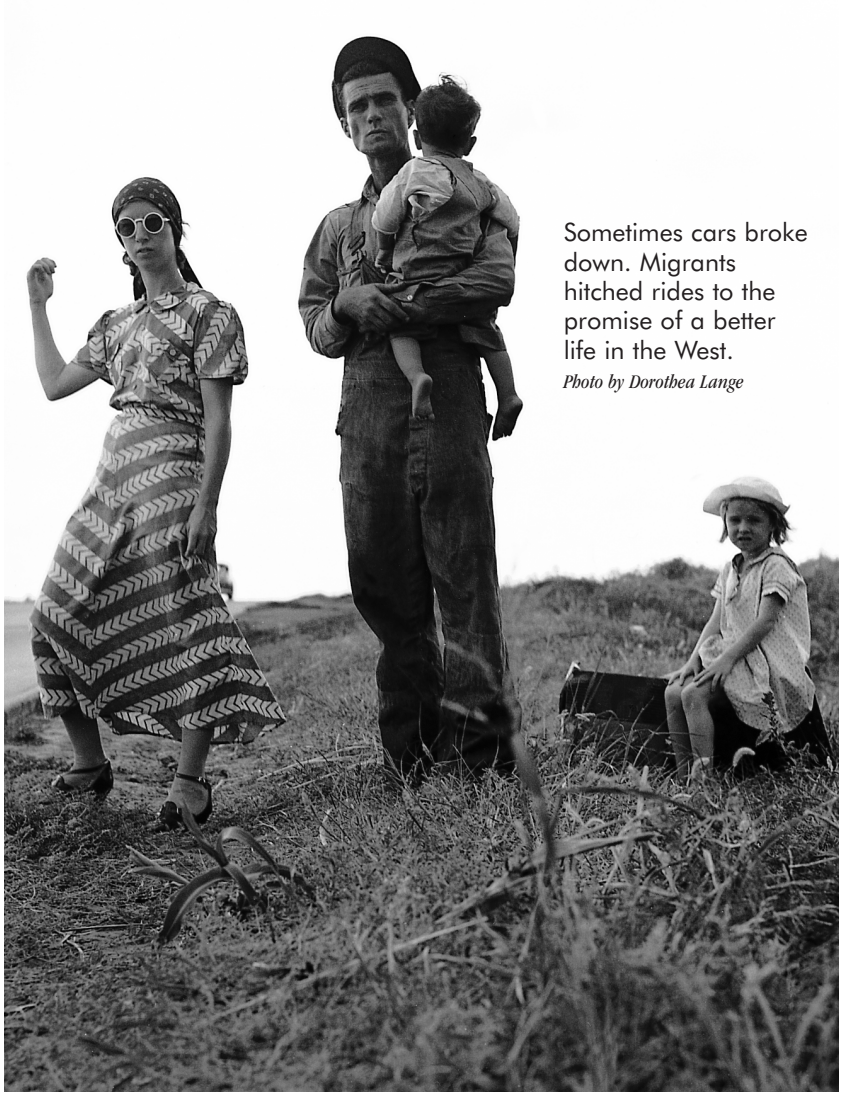
A young girl in Seattle with no money for Christmas shopping spent weeks making gift necklaces of paper clips. She wrapped each clip in colored tape.

the way across the country to California, but many others "rattled down" Highway 30 to Oregon and Washington.

With crops ruined and fearing his children were coming down with dust pneumonia, Jim Emmett joined the ***exodus***. His grandfather had started for the Northwest over the Oregon Trail in 1849, but he had stayed in the Dakotas instead. Richard Neuberger, a prominent author of the time, observed a number of these Dust Bowl pilgrims. His description of the Emmett family is a touching word picture of hard times:

Jim headed the radiator cap of the automobile into the West. A thin roll of ten-dollar bills was tucked in his purse—the proceeds of the sale of his livestock. Martha sat at Jim's side in the front seat, holding the youngest child on her lap. The other three children shared the **dilapidated** *[back seat] with pillows, books, pots, dishes, jars of preserves and pickles, irons, baskets and other articles of household equipment. From a trailer jolting along behind protruded bedsprings, chairs, tables, lamps.*

Families from the Dust Bowl states of the Great Plains packed up and drove to California, Oregon, and Washington to work on farms and in cities. *Photo by Dorothea Lange*



Sometimes cars broke down. Migrants hitched rides to the promise of a better life in the West. *Photo by Dorothea Lange*

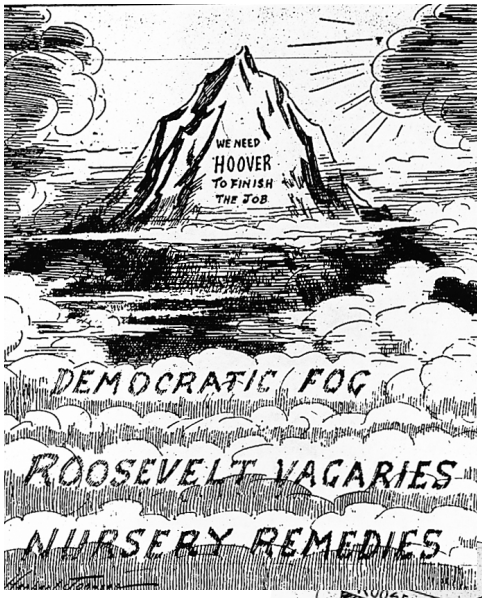
By 1940, more than 400,000 migrants had followed Jim Emmett to the Northwest. But not every migrant found the Promised Land. Many were able to make only a bare ***subsistence*** living by working as fruit and vegetable pickers.

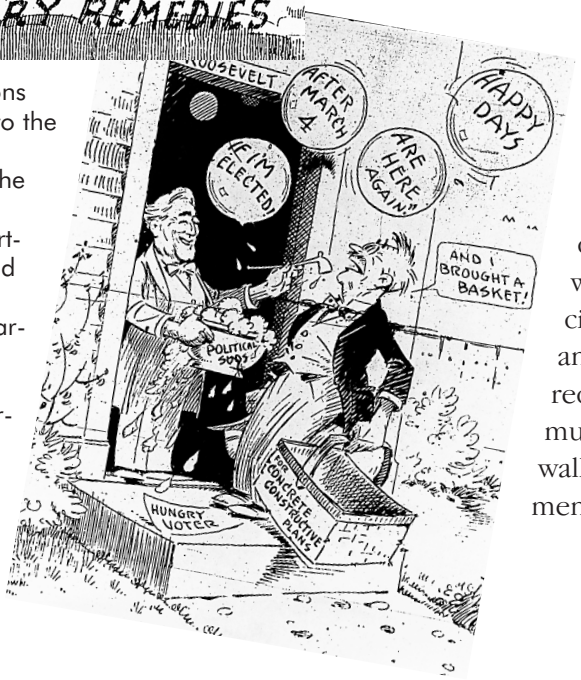
This army of ***transient*** workers moved into the Yakima, Willamette, and Snake River Valleys during the harvest seasons. Living in crowded, unsanitary shack camps, these people received little attention until 1939. That year, a federal government program provided housing and medical clinics for migrant workers in the Northwest.

Roosevelt's New Deal

The depression got worse in 1932. It was a presidential election year and the Democrats chose Franklin D. Roosevelt, governor of New York, as their candidate. Northwesterners were unsure of Roosevelt's views, but they were anxious for a change. F.D.R., as he was called, won the election. He pledged himself and his party to a "New Deal" for the American people.

President Roosevelt viewed the Pacific Northwest, with its small population and abundant natural resources, as a "last frontier" of undeveloped places. He wanted people to use forests and rivers wisely. He was also willing to use federal money to help them.





Political cartoons give insight into the past. The one above shows the viewpoint of Hoover supporters who wanted him to be re-elected. The cartoon on the right depicts a Republican version of what FDR promised if he were elected.

Civilian Conservation Corps

FDR and Congress created New Deal programs to put people back to work. The most popular New Deal ***conservation*** effort was the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). Young men from every part of the nation were stationed in more than 200 camps throughout the Northwest. They earned from $30 to $45 a month, and received good food, education, and discipline—the CCC camps were commanded by army officers.

The creation of Olympic National Park in 1938 was a major New Deal project.

Young men worked on soil conservation projects, provided labor at fish hatcheries and wildlife refuges, and planted millions of trees on public lands. They also fought forest fires.

An Indian division of the CCC, with headquarters in Spokane, worked on Indian reservations. They built trails, roads, and forest fire lookout towers.

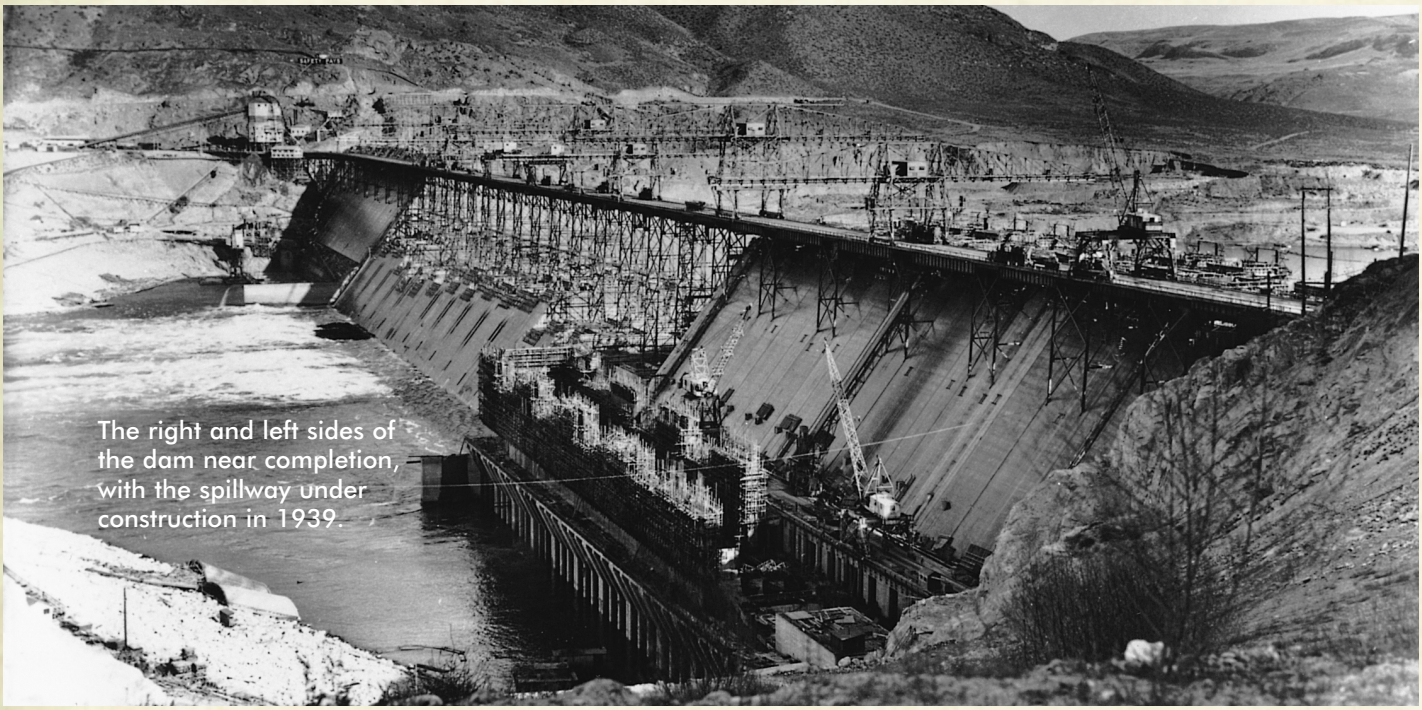
Young men in the CCC worked to help support their families back home. They wore uniforms and lived and ate in army tents.

Work for Everyone

In addition to conservation projects, there were hundreds of smaller construction jobs funded by the New Deal. These provided much needed employment. Workers built highways, bridges, school buildings, libraries, post offices, parks, and sewer and water systems.

Another New Deal program was the Works Progress Administration (WPA). The WPA hired musicians, writers, historians, and artists. Old newspaper articles were catalogued and old diaries were published. Histories of cities and states were written and published. Public buildings received a facelift. New art murals were painted on the walls of libraries and government buildings.

A NEW DAM ON THE



The right and left sides of the dam near completion, with the spillway under construction in 1939.

The Pacific Northwest soon found itself on the receiving end of a lot of New Deal money to develop the region's waterpower. President Roosevelt thought large-scale public works projects such as Grand Coulee Dam would provide immediate jobs for many of the ***destitute*** Dust Bowl migrants.

In 1942, journalists described the dam:

- "It will contain enough concrete to build a highway from Philadelphia to Seattle and back."
- "Enough water will flow through the dam each year to provide New York City's drinking water for a hundred years."
- "A surprising feature is the number of young men employed at Grand Coulee. I noticed dozens of tall lads wearing football sweaters from nearby universities."
- "The work is dangerous and scarcely a day passes without someone's being injured. 54 men have already been killed."

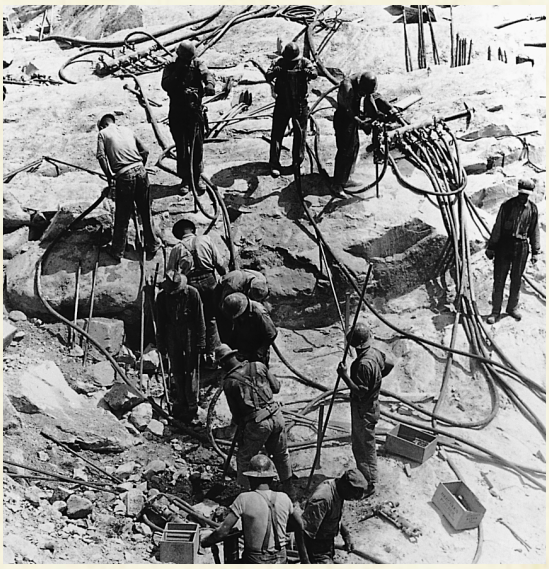
When construction on the dam began, the town of Grand Coulee sprang up from the desert.

The boomtown of Grand Coulee was described by journalist Richard Neuberger:

Grand Coulee sprawls over the uplands above the great dam like a torn and ragged carpet. . . . Shacks and cabins dot the hills as unevenly as marbles rolled on a rug. . . . Over the desert plateau a veritable caravan rolled in. From trucks, wagons, and trailers protruded barber chairs and hand-printing presses. Cooks dreamed of making fortunes out of hamburgers and custard pie and beer. Real-estate agents envisioned lucrative returns on the sale of lots. Ministers thought of men to reform spiritually and morally. . . . "

– from *Our Promised Land*

COLUMBIA RIVER



Seven thousand men from all over the Pacific Northwest found jobs on the giant construction project.

President Roosevelt and his wife Eleanor (in the car) toured the site of the Grand Coulee Dam. He addressed a crowd of 25,000 people.

Songs Promote Electricity

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), under the direction of James D. Ross, made low-cost power available to public utility districts and encouraged the districts to take over private companies.

The BPA began a vigorous advertising campaign to promote a wider use of electricity. Famed folk singer Woody Guthrie was hired for one month. His job was to compose the music for a promotional film about the Columbia River projects. "Roll on, Columbia" became popular. It was made Washington's official folk song in 1987. Guthrie also wrote the well-known song "This Land is Your Land."

At the dam site, a metal sculpture of Woody Guthrie and two young friends shows Woody singing one of his Columbia River ballads.
Photo by Mike Green

Roll On, Columbia

Roll on, Columbia, roll on,
Roll on, Columbia, roll on.
Your power is turning the darkness to dawn,
Roll on, Columbia, roll on.
And far up the river is Grand Coulee Dam,
The mightiest thing ever built by man,
To run the great factories and water the land,
It's roll on, Columbia, roll on.

The End of the Great Depression

By 1939, the worst of the Great Depression was over. Slowly, businesses opened up again. People were working and starting to buy goods. Unemployment was still high, but many people were working. They could afford to buy more meat and other food so farmers made more money. Industry and trade in the Pacific Northwest spread to new U.S. and global markets.

ACTIVITY

What Did It Cost?

Compare these costs to costs today. To find today's food costs, take a trip to the grocery store. For the cost of houses, look at newspaper ads. (The classified ads from your local newspaper are probably on the Internet.) Write your answers on a separate sheet of paper.

Remember that today's workers earn a lot more money than workers during the Great Depression. A standard wage then was less than 50 cents an hour for labor.

Costs in Spokane During the 1930s

Admission to the Empress Theater	$ .10
Bread, loaf	.10
Beef roast, per pound	.15
Prime rib, per pound	.35
Shampoo	.20
Toilet paper, 6 rolls	5.00
Lady's dress	20.00
House for rent, 4 bedrooms, per month	1,475.00
House for sale, 4 bedrooms	

Native Americans Get a New Deal

Indian populations reached their lowest level in the early 1900s. Poor diets and poor living conditions contributed to high death rates, especially among children. A new wave of diseases—tuberculosis, pneumonia, and influenza—ravaged the reservations. Alcoholism was also a big problem.

A Columbia University anthropologist, John Collier, was appointed to lead the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Collier believed the whole concept of the Dawes Act—giving land to individual Indian people—had been a mistake. He said that tribal organization was the only form of society Indians understood and that it should have been preserved. The tribe upheld the social, moral, and spiritual values of the group.

The Indian Reorganization Act repealed the Dawes Act and encouraged the formation of tribal governments. Tribes would again have common land and would promote Indian languages, arts, crafts, and ceremonies.

Union Quarrels

Once again, workers wanted more. For the first time, federal laws were passed that gave workers the right to organize unions and bargain. Both the American Federation of Labor (AFL) and a new rival, the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO), fought management and each other in a series of bitter strikes. Thousands of workers in Washington joined unions and started getting better wages and working conditions.

The AFL Teamster's Union fought repeated battles with the CIO's ***longshoremen*** and ***warehousemen*** unions over who should represent workers.

Longshoreman loaded and unloaded ships. It was hard work and the men worked long hours. Warehousemen worked

in huge warehouses where goods were stored until they could be transported to other places. The warehouses were freezing cold in winter and very hot in summer.

Strikes paralyzed industries. "Goon Squads"—groups of paid thugs—were on both sides of the AFL-CIO dispute. Baseball bats and cargo hooks were often used as weapons when the two groups met at dockside warehouses.

Lumber mills, breweries, and warehouses were centers of conflict. Newspaper articles took sides. Washington became one of the most unionized states in the nation.

Another World War

The American economy was improving and the worst of the Great Depression was over, but there was trouble in other parts of the world. Adolf Hitler, dictator of Germany, believed that the Germans were a ***superior*** race. Hitler set out to conquer Europe and to cleanse it of what he called ***inferior*** peoples—especially Jewish people.

Hitler sent millions of Jews to concentration camps, where over six million were put to death in the gas chambers or died from starvation. This mass murder of the Jews is called the Holocaust.

When Hitler's army and air force conquered Poland, England and France declared war. They were called the Allied Powers, or the Allies. Later, Russia was attacked by Germany and joined the Allies. Italy and Japan joined Germany. A second World War had begun.

Once again, Americans were ***adamant*** that the United States stay out of the European war. President Roosevelt sent ships and supplies to help the Allies, and he warned Americans that someday they might have to fight Hitler.

Surprise Attack on Pearl Harbor

Sunday morning, December 7, 1941, was a beautiful one at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. The morning sun shone over the many U.S.

Washington men fought in Europe and in islands of the Pacific.

Navy ships tied up at the docks. Suddenly the skies darkened as wave after wave of Japanese fighter planes dropped bombs on U.S. ships.

The next day, President Roosevelt asked Congress to declare war on Japan. The United States joined the Allies and entered World War II.

Through the Eyes of Children

What was it like to be a child during the Second World War? There were air raid drills, newsreels, recycling of metal and rubber, and restrictions on food. Children had fun playing soldier or playing nurse. They also felt fear. Washington children lived with the widespread belief that the Japanese, who had bombed Pearl Harbor, would soon bomb west coast cities.

The death of a father or older brother was the most devastating event for children. But the loss of a friend's father or brother, marked by a gold star in a front window, affected the entire neighborhood.

Schoolyards, vacant lots, and backyards echoed with the sounds of children fighting the war in their own way. One Spokane resident remembers his wartime childhood:

We played war games constantly. We built dugout forts in vacant lots and covered them with boards and dirt. They became command centers from which we launched attacks on similar forts in other neighborhoods. The object was to destroy the enemy's fort when the other children had been called in for dinner or something. . . . We got the younger kids or girls to be the enemy or prisoners of war. Sometimes girls played nurses.

Even though we didn't have television we were totally absorbed by the war. As soon as school was out, we raced home to listen to our favorite radio programs. Superman, The Shadow, *and* The Green Hornet *all had patriotic wartime themes.* Captain Midnight *was always chasing Nazi spies. [In the* Captain Midnight *oath, the children pledged, "to save my country from the dire peril it faces or perish in the attempt."]*

Popular war songs were also on the radio and we sang them at school. We sang "Remember Pearl Harbor," "Coming in on a Wing and a Prayer," "Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition," and "White Cliffs of Dover."

I was only ten when the war ended, so my memory of rationing and shortages is a bit fuzzy, though I do remember that bubble gum became impossible to find.

In 1942, these children collected junk for the war effort. Rubber and metal were needed to make planes, ships, and tanks.

World War II and an Economic Boom

World War II ended what was left of the Great Depression. War brought horror; it also brought economic prosperity. Suddenly, there were war-related jobs for everyone.

Because the Northwest was located close to the Pacific war zone, the region became a center for the shipment of military personnel and equipment. The ocean shoreline meant the region could once again become a large ship-building center.

Hydroelectric power from Bonneville and Grand Coulee Dams on the Columbia River played a vital role in wartime production. The great amount of cheap power produced from the dams boosted industrial development.

Aluminum

Aluminum production became the region's great new war industry. Five huge aluminum manufacturing plants were constructed. These plants were enormous consumers of electrical energy. Giant mills were built at Spokane, Longview, and Tacoma. The mills shaped aluminum into a variety of forms. Much of the metal was sent in rolled sheets to the Boeing Company in Seattle. There it was used to build airplanes.

Shipbuilding

Henry J. Kaiser, an aggressive businessman, became the world's greatest shipbuilder. Nearly 100,000 people worked in the Kaiser yards in the Portland-Vancouver region. From 1941 until the end of the war, Kaiser built fifty "baby flattop" aircraft carriers and several hundred merchant ships. Kaiser used fast, simplified methods of welding. He used steel from his own plants in California and Utah. Kaiser produced more ships than any other company in the country. Warships were built at shipyards in Seattle, Tacoma, Bremerton, and Bellingham, too.

It seemed the state's natural resource economy based on farms, fish, and lumber had changed overnight to an economy based on aluminum, airplanes, and ships.

Kaiser was the same man who had organized the companies that built Grand Coulee Dam.

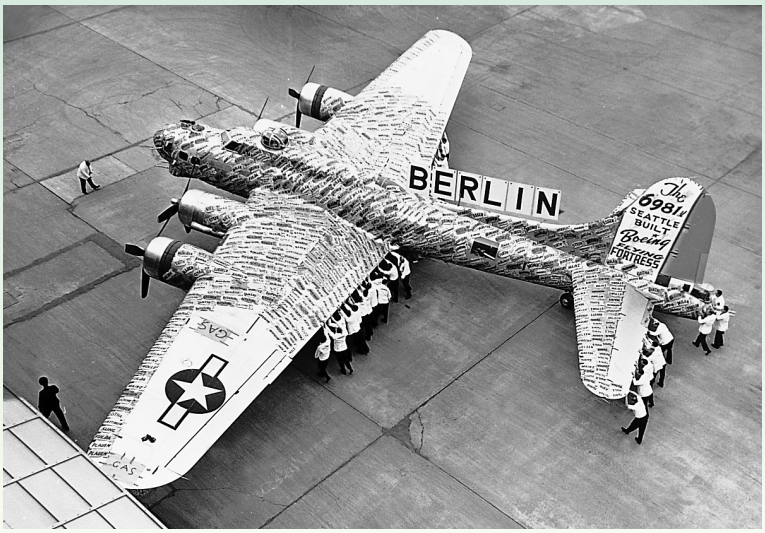
Boeing's War Planes

Just in case enemy planes flew over the area, Boeing's plant was disguised to look like a residential neighborhood. Using paint and wire, buildings were made to look like homes with trees in the yards.

At the peak of production, the Seattle plant produced sixteen B-17s every day. The B-17 was the main weapon in the air war against Germany. At its Renton plant, Boeing began work on the larger B-29. The B-29 "superfortress" was the most advanced bomber of its time. It was used in the air war against Japan. By mid-1945, six new B-29s rolled out of the plant every day.

Boeing employed 50,000 people by the end of the war. Nearly half of them were women.

By the end of the war, Boeing had built nearly seven thousand B-17s and more than one thousand B-29s. Boeing sales were ten times the income of all other Seattle industries combined.



The final Boeing B-17 was decorated with names of missions flown by other planes during the war.

Hanford and the Atom Bomb

In September 1939, President Roosevelt received a letter signed by the Jewish scientist Albert Einstein, warning him that Hitler's Germany might be the first country to make an atom bomb. Roosevelt started the secret Manhattan Project to develop the atom bomb for Americans.

Directed by General Leslie Groves, a former University of Washington student, the Manhattan Project built one of its research facilities at a place called Hanford. Located in a remote section of eastern Washington, the site had obvious advantages. Its location ensured both security and public safety from possible radiation.

Hanford produced plutonium used for bombs. The plant's ***reactors***—machines that create nuclear energy—required a huge amount of electric power and vast amounts of fresh water for cooling. The location was perfect—Grand Coulee Dam was ready to provide the power and the Columbia River had the water.

During the war, local newspapers agreed to a voluntary ***censorship*** of news about Hanford. They did not want to let the world know U.S. secrets.

A "mystery city" of houses, cafeterias, and other buildings for 51,000 men and women and train loads of equipment disappeared behind the project's fences. In nearby Richland, the tiny town was being expanded to house the administration center and a complete city for 15,000 more people. Most of the workers did not know the end product of their work.

It was not until the dropping of atomic bombs on Japan ended the war that the world discovered the secrets of Hanford. The hydroelectric power of the Columbia River had combined with science to produce the atom bomb.

Women provided a tremendous workforce after the men left for war. Iona Murphy became a welder and made parts for ships.

Social Change

The social impact of the war on the state of Washington was enormous. This was particularly true of the Puget Sound region. The war transformed Seattle into an industrial center and brought a large number of migrants from every part of the country.

Seattle's African American population, for example, increased from 3,700 in 1940 to 30,000 by the end of the war in 1945. White people resented the influx of newcomers, and racial discrimination became part of daily life for the black residents.

Members of the Women's Army Corps parade in Seattle during World War II.

Signs that said "We cater to white trade only" appeared throughout the city.

The demand for housing turned renovated chicken coops, garages, and empty service stations into apartments. Some families lived in tents. Other people lived in the backseats of cars.

Hispanics

The war was also a turning point in Hispanic migration to Washington. After men went overseas to fight, there were not enough workers on the farms. Growers in the Yakima Valley became so desperate for help that one farm advertised for 5,000 workers.

The government's answer was the Bracero Program. Braceros were Mexican men allowed to work in the United States as temporary farm laborers. Thousands were employed in the Northwest. The program encouraged the migration of another Hispanic group. Chicanos—Americans of Mexican descent—began moving into the state from the Southwest in significant numbers. Whole families made the journey from Texas and other states to work in Washington fields and orchards.

Relocation of Japanese Americans

The surprise attack on Pearl Harbor produced an irrational, almost hysterical, fear of Japanese invasion. Some people thought that Japanese Americans might give aid to Japan or secretly try to

Japanese children left friends and pets behind and went with their families to relocation camps. The people organized their own schools, clubs, and other entertainment at the camps.

destroy American companies. Without any evidence to support their decision, government leaders decided to classify anyone of Japanese ancestry as a security risk.

On March 2, 1942, all persons of Japanese descent living on the West Coast were given relocation orders. Many lost their property or were forced to sell at low prices. They were removed from coastal areas, including Washington. Most of the Japanese in Oregon and Washington were sent to the Minidoka Relocation Center in the Idaho desert. Minidoka was the temporary home to 10,000 people, most of whom were second and third generation Japanese American citizens of the United States. They spent the war surrounded by barbed wire and armed guards.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

America was fighting Japan, Germany, and Italy during the war. Why do you think German Americans and Italian Americans were not relocated?

ACTIVITY

Primary Source Documents

Every Japanese American family received a copy of the evacuation order like the one on the next page. Some of the text reads:

All persons of Japanese ancestry, both alien and non-alien, will be evacuated from the above area by 12 o'clock noon, Friday, May 1, 1942.

No Japanese person living in the above area will be permitted to change residence after 12 o'clock noon, Friday, April 24, 1942, without obtaining special permission from the representative of the Commanding general.

The Civil Control Station is equipped to assist the Japanese population affected by this evacuation in the following ways:

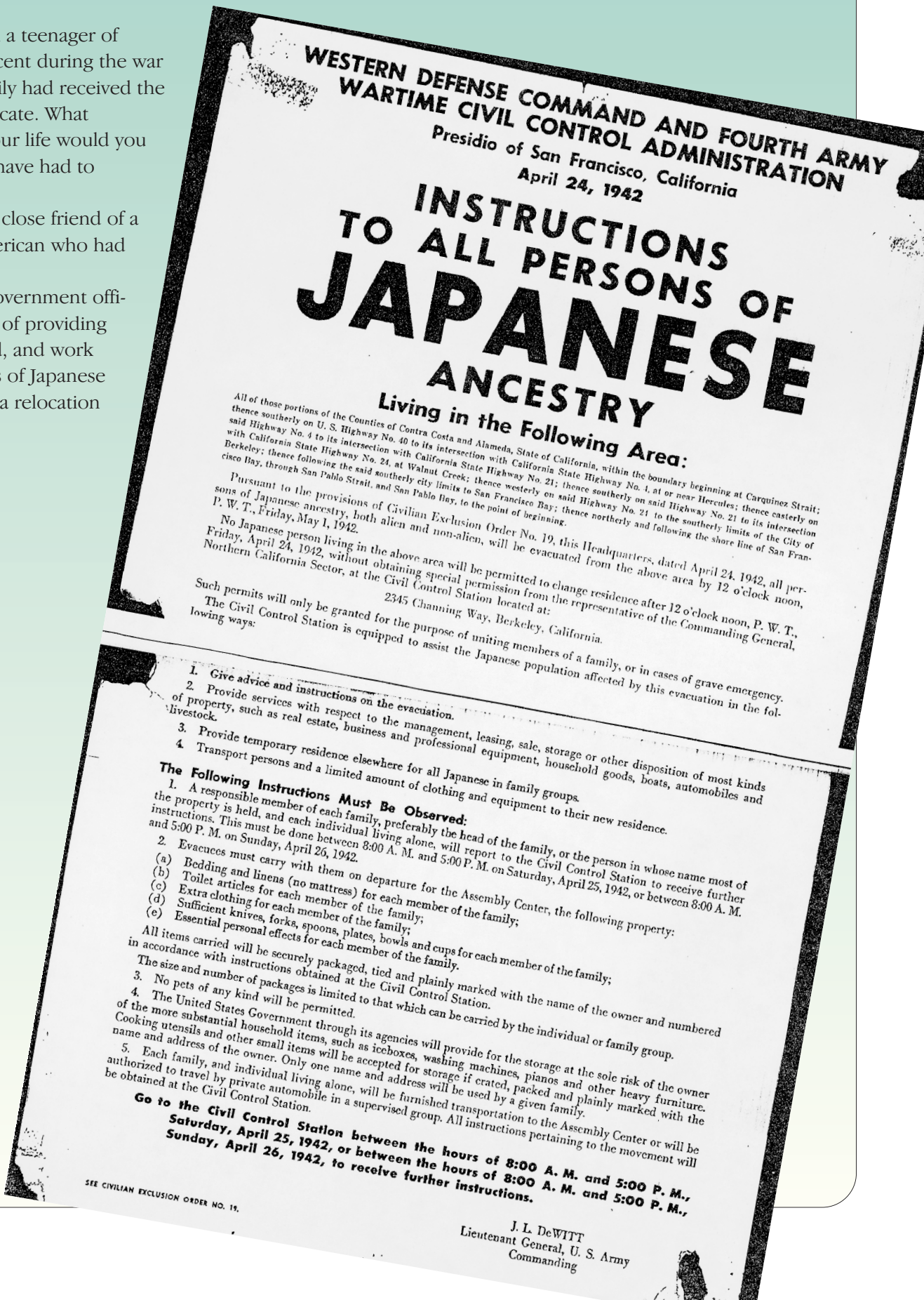
1. Give advice and instructions on the evacuation.
2. Provide services with respect to the management, leasing, sale, storage or other disposition of most kinds of property, such as real estate, business and professional equipment, household goods, boats, automobiles and livestock.
3. Provide temporary residence elsewhere for all Japanese in family groups.
4. Transport persons and a limited amount of clothing and equipment to their new residence.

Evacuees must carry with them, on departure for the Assembly Center, the following property:

a. Bedding and linens (no mattress) for each member of the family
b. Toilet articles for each member of the family
c. Extra clothing for each member of the family
d. Knives, forks, spoons, plates, bowls, and cups for each member of the family

Discuss with your class how you would have felt if:

1. You had been a teenager of Japanese descent during the war and your family had received the notice to relocate. What changes in your life would you immediately have had to make?
2. You were the close friend of a Japanese American who had to leave.
3. You were a government official in charge of providing housing, food, and work for thousands of Japanese Americans in a relocation camp.



WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FOURTH ARMY
WARTIME CIVIL CONTROL ADMINISTRATION
Presidio of San Francisco, California
April 24, 1942

INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL PERSONS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY

Living in the Following Area:

All of those portions of the Counties of Contra Costa and Alameda, State of California, within the boundary beginning at Carquinez Strait; thence southerly on U. S. Highway No. 40 to its intersection with California State Highway No. 21; thence southerly on said Highway No. 21 to its intersection with California State Highway No. 4, at or near Hercules; thence easterly on said Highway No. 4 to its intersection with California State Highway No. 24, at Walnut Creek; thence westerly on said Highway No. 21 to the southerly limits of the City of Berkeley; thence following the said southerly city limits to San Francisco Bay; thence northerly and following the shore line of San Francisco Bay, through San Pablo Strait, and San Pablo Bay, to the point of beginning.

Pursuant to the provisions of Civilian Exclusion Order No. 19, this Headquarters, dated April 24, 1942, all persons of Japanese ancestry, both alien and non-alien, will be evacuated from the above area by 12 o'clock noon, P. W. T., Friday, May 1, 1942.

No Japanese person living in the above area will be permitted to change residence after 12 o'clock noon, P. W. T., Friday, April 24, 1942, without obtaining special permission from the representative of the Commanding General, Northern California Sector, at the Civil Control Station located at:

2345 Channing Way, Berkeley, California.

Such permits will only be granted for the purpose of uniting members of a family, or in cases of grave emergency.

The Civil Control Station is equipped to assist the Japanese population affected by this evacuation in the following ways:

1. **Give advice and instructions on the evacuation.**
2. Provide services with respect to the management, leasing, sale, storage or other disposition of most kinds of property, such as real estate, business and professional equipment, household goods, boats, automobiles and livestock.
3. Provide temporary residence elsewhere for all Japanese in family groups.
4. Transport persons and a limited amount of clothing and equipment to their new residence.

The Following Instructions Must Be Observed:

1. A responsible member of each family, preferably the head of the family, or the person in whose name most of the property is held, and each individual living alone, will report to the Civil Control Station to receive further instructions. This must be done between 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M. on Saturday, April 25, 1942, or between 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M. on Sunday, April 26, 1942.
2. Evacuees must carry with them on departure for the Assembly Center, the following property:
   (a) Bedding and linens (no mattress) for each member of the family;
   (b) Toilet articles for each member of the family;
   (c) Extra clothing for each member of the family;
   (d) Sufficient knives, forks, spoons, plates, bowls and cups for each member of the family;
   (e) Essential personal effects for each member of the family.

   All items carried will be securely packaged, tied and plainly marked with the name of the owner and numbered in accordance with instructions obtained at the Civil Control Station.

   The size and number of packages is limited to that which can be carried by the individual or family group.
3. No pets of any kind will be permitted.
4. The United States Government through its agencies will provide for the storage at the sole risk of the owner of the more substantial household items, such as iceboxes, washing machines, pianos and other heavy furniture. Cooking utensils and other small items will be accepted for storage if crated, packed and plainly marked with the name and address of the owner. Only one name and address will be used by a given family.
5. Each family, and individual living alone, will be furnished transportation to the Assembly Center or will be authorized to travel by private automobile in a supervised group. All instructions pertaining to the movement will be obtained at the Civil Control Station.

Go to the Civil Control Station between the hours of 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M., Saturday, April 25, 1942, or between the hours of 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M., Sunday, April 26, 1942, to receive further instructions.

SEE CIVILIAN EXCLUSION ORDER NO. 19.

J. L. DeWITT
Lieutenant General, U. S. Army
Commanding

Making Amends

Many years after the war ended and the Japanese were freed from the camps, the U.S. Court of Appeals reversed the relocation wartime order. The next year, Congress apologized and provided $20,000 compensation to every Japanese American who had been relocated.

This victory owed much to the perseverance of Gordon Hirabayashi, a University of Washington student who, in 1942, was convicted of failing to follow the relocation order. It was his appeal of that conviction that finally forced the courts and Congress to turn around one of the worst violations of civil rights in American history.

The War Ends

In April of 1945, Washington people were stunned to learn that President Roosevelt had died from a stroke. Businesses closed. Theaters emptied. Traffic slowed to a halt. For three days and nights, radio stations aired only news broadcasts and religious music.

Less than a month later, Germany surrendered, ending the war in Europe. People celebrated in the streets. Sons, brothers, and husbands were coming home. The war in the Pacific, however, was still raging. Leaders in the United States had to make a terrible decision. Should they invade Japan, which might cost a million American casualties and even more deaths to the Japanese? Or should they use their new weapon—the atomic bomb?

When the bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, Japan, it completely destroyed the city in one terrible explosion. A few days later, another bomb devastated Nagasaki. It was a terrible tragedy for the Japanese people. The war with Japan was over.

Three months after the peace treaty was signed in Europe, Japan surrendered. Once again, there was celebrating all over America and the Pacific Northwest. The war was over.

ACTIVITY

Research and Perform

Choose an event from this chapter and research it in library books, library microfilm copies of newspapers from the time period, encyclopedias, or on the Internet. Then choose one of the following ways to present what you learned:

- Write a short skit and perform it with a group of friends.
- Interview people who lived during the time. Compare experiences of those from different races and genders.
- Copy articles from microfilmed newspapers and organize them in a scrapbook.
- Gather information from and about your relatives who lived during the time period. Are there any letters, photographs or souvenirs from their lives?
- Prepare a program of World War II music for a class presentation.

CHAPTER 9 REVIEW

1. When was the Great Depression?
2. List at least three ways the Great Depression was hard on Washington residents.
3. "Hoovervilles" were named after which U.S. president, and why?
4. What caused the Dust Bowl in the Great Plains?
5. Why did Dust Bowl migrants come to Washington? What kinds of work did many of them find here?
6. Which president of the United States started the New Deal?
7. Name at least three ways the New Deal helped Washington.
8. What kinds of work did the men in the CCC do? Who paid them?
9. Building dams on the Columbia River was part of the New Deal. List at least three ways building the dams benefited people of the Pacific Northwest.
10. Why was "Roll On, Columbia" written? Who wrote it?
11. What national park in Washington was created as part of the New Deal?
12. What act of Congress again encouraged the formation and power of tribal governments?
13. What happened to cause the United States to enter World War II?
14. Which industries were boosted by the war?
15. Why was the Hanford site chosen for plutonium production? What secret weapon was eventually produced?
16. How did the war affect children?
17. What were two ways the war transformed the social structure of the Seattle region?
18. During the war, what people were forced to move to relocation camps in other states?

GEOGRAPHY TIE-IN

1. Write a paragraph about how geography shaped Washington's wartime experience.
2. On a world map, locate all of the countries involved in WWII. Which was the farthest from Washington? Which country was closest?