

# EVERGREEN HOSTEL

A HOSTEL FOR RETURNING  
JAPANESE AMERICANS



506 North Evergreen Avenue  
Los Angeles 33, California  
Telephone ANgelus 5373

Sponsored by American Friends Service Committee  
and The Presbyterian Church in U. S. A.

## EVERGREEN HOSTEL

Evergreen Hostel was opened March 1, 1945, to provide temporarily a quiet and inexpensive place where persons of Japanese ancestry may stay while seeking jobs and housing, or while studying the changed conditions in Southern California.

The large building, property of the Presbyterian Church, was formerly a boarding school for Mexican girls, and has been redecorated and equipped by the American Friends Service Committee to accommodate sixty to seventy-five guests. There are four large dormitories for men and two for women, as well as a few smaller rooms for couples and families.

The work of the Hostel is done cooperatively. Each guest is expected to share in the work by taking care of his own bed and room and by sharing in the cleaning of the common rooms, washing dishes, helping with the preparation of meals, laundry and work about the yard. Others may be asked to help in the office or act as pages, calling guests to the phone. It is estimated that if each guest will spend an average of thirty to forty minutes a day, the work of the Hostel can be carried without undue hardship on any individual.

**COST** for those who are not working is \$1.00 a day for room and board for the first ten days, or until a job is found. For those who have jobs or who wish to stay longer than ten days, the charge is \$1.50. For children under ten years, the charge is half.

Each guest is asked to bring his own sheets, pillow cases and towels. A charge of 25c is made for those who find it impossible to bring their own sheets.

**RATION POINTS** will be collected in proportion to the number of days a guest stays at the Hostel. Be sure to bring ration books.

**RESERVATIONS** must be made well in advance so that they may be confirmed before they are considered valid.

**LOCATION** The Evergreen Hostel is easily reached from the Union Station and Main Street by the B car, which comes to Brooklyn and Evergreen. The Hostel is located one block north of Brooklyn.

**STAFF** Rev. Sohei Kowta and Miss Esther B. Rhoads act as Directors, with Miss Martha Langston and Mrs. Helen Sawa assisting in the office, and Mr. and Mrs. Amano assisting with household management. Mr. Newell Steward, of the American Friends Service Committee, gives part of his time helping especially with job and house hunting.

**PROGRAM** The Directors are available for consultation in regard to persons to approach for jobs, housing and community contacts, etc. The office posts job offers, notices of social events and religious services of interest to returnees. Maps, timetables, college catalogues and other pertinent information are available. The office is open from 8 a. m. to 10 p. m.

Religious services in Japanese are held on Sunday morning at 9 a. m. and on Thursday evening at 7:30 p. m. The Sunday morning service is planned so that it will not interfere with the attendance of guests at regular church services throughout the city. Other special programs, educational and social, are arranged from time to time, to which the guests and their friends are cordially invited.

Groups of college students and church people come from time to time to take part in social and religious programs. These visitors are deeply interested in returnees and their problems and enjoy meeting our guests.

Social rooms are provided where guests can spend their leisure time and entertain their friends. Ash trays are provided in the hall and reading room, and it is suggested that guests refrain from smoking in other parts of the building.

DAILY SCHEDULE	Daily	Sunday	
Breakfast .....	7:15 A.M.	Breakfast .....	7:30 A.M.
Lunch .....	12:00 Noon	Dinner .....	1:00 P.M.
Dinner .....	6:00 P.M.	Tea .....	6:00 P.M.

**LIGHTS** At 10 o'clock the office is closed. Lights in the halls and social rooms are lowered, with the exception of the living room, which may always be used for visiting. Guests returning later than 10:30 are asked not to turn on lights in the dormitories, but to use locker and wash rooms in preparing to retire. Guests moving about the building before 7 a. m. are asked to maintain quiet.

## WAYS IN WHICH INTERESTED PERSONS CAN HELP

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**CASH CONTRIBUTIONS** \$12,000 is the budget for the Japanese work of the Southern California Branch of the American Friends Service Committee, which is responsible for the administration of the Evergreen Hostel, a smaller hostel in Pasadena, and general work for returning Japanese.

Checks should be made payable to the American Friends Service Committee, Box 966, Zone 20, Pasadena, California, and marked for Japanese Hostels.

**EQUIPMENT** Among things still needed are the following:

Tables	Bureaus	Potted plants	Cooking utensils
Chairs	Sheets	Garden tools	Dishes
Rugs	Bedding	Garden hose	Silver

**FOOD CONTRIBUTIONS** are also welcome. We will be glad to receive gifts of canned or dehydrated fruits and vegetables, dried beans, peas, etc., as well as home canned and preserved foods.

**HOUSING** is a primary need of most of the returning families. Information in regard to houses and apartments soon to be vacated, or in regard to rooms temporarily available, will be most welcome, and will be shared by the hostel with the War Relocation Authority and other agencies.

**JOBS** Certain Fields of work in which persons of Japanese ancestry were formerly prominent, such as wholesale produce, have been so completely taken over by other groups that for the present many cannot return to their former employment. Younger persons will find it comparatively easy to obtain jobs through U.S.E.S., but older men, formerly owners or managers of business firms, will need special assistance in becoming reestablished. Contacts and suggestions for business and professional men are especially desired.

**SOCIAL ACTIVITIES** As many will be settling in new neighborhoods, invitations to church activities, clubs and homes, and friendly calls from neighbors will greatly assist integration into community life. It is also hoped that groups from colleges and churches will continue to visit the Hostel, assisting with the work and participating in the educational and recreational programs at the Hostel. Those interested should contact one of the directors.