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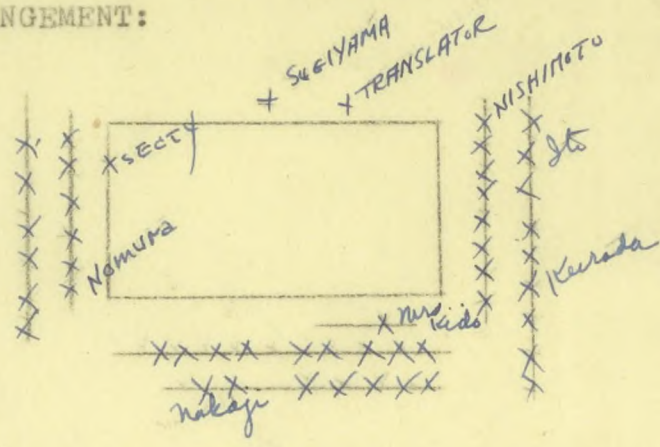
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3-27-43

POLITICS  
 T.C.C. \*\* I.A.B. JOINT MEETING  
 NEW CONSTITUTION; AND CLASSIFICATION OF WORKERS BY THE MANPOWER  
 COMMISSION; HOSPITAL  
 ADULT EDUCATION OFFICE - REC. HALL 36--9:45 A.M.  
 SUGIYAMA, KURUDA, NOMURA, NISHIMOTO, Mrs. Kido, Nakaji

SEATING ARRANGEMENT:



Before the meeting many Isseis gathered inside the room and there seemed to be much talk about the bones. The I.A.B. secretary was passing out the constitution which was written in Japanese and as he handed them out he asked each one to sign their names in Japanese on a piece of paper. Sugiyama arrived about 9:40 A.M. and without calling the meeting to order the I.A.B. secretary started to take the roll call at 9:45 A.M. adding "san" to their names and it seemed that most of the Isseis were present. This was followed by the girl secretary of the Nisei Council calling out the names of the Nisei Councilmen, but only about one-third responded. There were altogether about fifty persons present at the commencement of the meeting.

SUGIYAMA: Mr. Fukuda, will you please give the report on

the recommendations of the Manpower Commission which was decided yesterday?

FUKUDA: Yes, I will be glad to. (All during this time the members are all having conversation among themselves and not paying too much attention on what is going on the floor.) (Addressing this to Sugiyama--Shall I make the recommendations in the form of a motion?)

SUGIYAMA: Yes, I think it would be better to make it in a form of a motion. Probably will save much time. How about the recommendations of the \$19 first?

FUKUDA: (Who is standing in the back of the room and turns back and is writing on a piece of paper what he is going to say to the group. It seems that he feels safer to have it down in writing the exact wording he is going to use.)

SUGIYAMA: While we are waiting for Mr. Fukuda .....  
.....  
Camp 2 and 3 are not ready as yet. (There's so much loud talking going on the observer couldn't jot down what was being said in the front of the room.) When is the election going to be held?

\_\_\_\_\_ : Well, it must be ratified by Mr. Head. It has to have his signature.

SUGIYAMA: Mr. Head will be back Sunday or Monday so we can get his signature then, the sooner the better.

NOMURA: (Stands up and faces the others and says--) Well, the ballots and everything are mimeographed and are

ready and if the election is not done as soon as possible we will lose all our rights and powers. You know like that No. 81 and No. 85 Administrative Orders which took away the Judicial power of the Council and if we don't ratify our constitution and get it in action soon we will not get very far.

SUGIYAMA: Well, about that Judicial power. You didn't seem to want it.

NOMURA: (talks inaudibly).....

.....  
and they take you to jail in Parker or Yuma. Mr. Head has given the okay and so has Mr. Gelvin.

SUGIYAMA: Well, let's get the thing rolling in order to have the election ready by Friday. There will be a need for a block meeting to get the interest of the residents.

NOMURA: We were going to ask the secretary to put on a Japanese interpretation on the ballots, but it seems like it was already stencilled so there was nothing we could do about it. We don't want to have the same trouble we had during the camouflage voting -- mistaking yes for no and no for yes and twisting everything around. (3 more Councilmen enter the room and sit in the back.)

Interpreter: (Speaks in Japanese. Explaining to the Issei what went on in English preceding this and asked in his final question --Is there any objection to holding the ratification of the constitution on Friday of next week?)

SUGIYAMA: It is for the acceptance or rejection of the new constitution.

\_\_\_\_\_ : When is the election to be?

\_\_\_\_\_ : It is on April 12. General election.

\_\_\_\_\_ : (Says it in Japanese) Will the situation be so explained in the blockmeeting so that there will be no mix up like that in the camouflage voting? (Much Japanese conversation going on in the back.)

\_\_\_\_\_ : Well, its very simple. (IN Japare se). If it's yes you mean all right. (loud laughter) If you say no you mean no. (Some more laughter)

NOMURA: (In Japanese) Put a cross on the ballot. Sansei then put a cross before yes. Fusansei put a cross before no. (He goes on to talk of a need of a permanent government here in Poston and says that it should be done immediately. He talks very softly and very inaudibly to half of the audience.)

CHAIRMAN\*SUGIYAMA: Are there any objections to voting now? We are going to vote now on the accept ance of the rejection whether to have the rejection of the constitution on Friday April 2. The time and date of the blockmeet- to discuss the constitution ing/will be left to the individual blockmanagers.

SECRETARY OF THE ISSEI COUNCIL: .....

Mr. Haas is in the hospital.

INTERPRETER: (Translates what Mr. Sugiyama said in Japanese asking if there would be any objection to hold voting on Friday.)

SUGIYAMA: All those in favor of April 2 raise your right hand. (The majority raised their right hand.) Thank

you. Well, then I will send notices out to each blockmanager about the voting and the blockmanager and the block councilmen can each talk it over and decide on the convenient time on when to have the blockmeeting.

JIMMIE ITO: The election is on Friday isn't it?

CHAIRMAN: Yes. The meeting of the block will be left to when it is convenient. Some blocks may go to a show while others may not and will depend on whether they are having anything going on that time or not. There should be a discussion carried on in each of the blocks so that people will know something about it before they vote. (There's much conversation going on all over the room. Sugiyama is explaining to the interpreter.)

INTERPRETER: (In Japanese) The Issei and the Nisei block-councilmen should be sure to assist the blockmanager and decide on a convenient time and then explain the constitution thoroughly. Okay?

\_\_\_\_\_ : How about bringing this in when the block-managers have a meeting on Tuesday?

\_\_\_\_\_ : (in Japanese) Ha yai ho ga ii. (The earlier the better.)

INTERPRETER: (Talks in Japanese) Did all the Isseis get the constitution? I wish those who haven't got the constitution would come up to the front of the room and get theirs. (Then 4-5 go to receive the constitution written in Japanese; each signing their name to a piece of paper which is to help the Issei secretary know who has the constitution in their hands.)

ISSEI SECRETARY: (Speaks in Japanese) There has been some changes that has been made. Will you please turn to page eight on the 7th line? Will you change this to read tei shoku suru hoki wa kore .....  
....."this is the better wording". (Many in the audience repeat the wording as stated by the Issei Secretary as they change the wording in their respective constitution.)

SECRETARY OF ISSEI COUNCIL: (In Japanese) The meaning is the same, but we thought the wording was not very good. We will get this sentence mimeographed on a piece of paper later and you can paste it over the original one.

\_\_\_\_\_ : (Speaks in Japanese) (He raises his hand about three times before Sugiyama calls on him because of the distraction going on in the room and finally Sugiyama sees his hand and recognizes him.) Block 17 has no Nisei Councilman here today. I asked the substitute Nisei Councilman to come with me today, but he didn't want to come. Is there any English version which I can take back to the block?

CHAIRMAN: (Turns to a person sitting in the back and asks-) Where is the English constitution?

NOMURA: Oh, it's at the legal department.

CHAIRMAN SUGIYAMA: (speaks in Japanese) On Monday this will be passed to all the blocks.

NOMURA: Articles 5, 6, 7 all together are out.

CHAIRMAN SUGIYAMA: What?

NOMURA: Well, the article 5 which concerns the Administra-

tion, Article 6, the referendum, Article 7, the re-call have been taken out because it is too cumbersome and too long.

It has all been put into Article 5 in four paragraphs.

(Japanese translation given)

INTERPRETER: / (Speaks in Japanese) Certain part of this

Article 5, 6, and 7 are left blank. What are you going to do about that?

NOMURA: That's what we are going to decide today. I want the group to consider it.

INTERPRETER: (In Japanese) On page 10 it says blank portion of the residents is necessary. This must be filled in before it can be voted on.

NOMURA: (talks inaudibly) Procedure .....

.....after the general election the C.C. will decide the following articles.

That is the formal procedure. (He reads paragraphs, mumbles to himself rather <sup>than</sup> talking distinctly to the group.)

Article 6 has also the blank number of electors. This we ought to settle today. Recall the same thing. When the block feels that they are not adequately represented then the blockmembers may then remove their C.C. member by petition by 25% of the qualified voters of the block.

This was suggested by Mr. Featherman from Washington who thought that changes should be made. For one thing it makes it much shorter. We should adopt this constitution right away or Washington will go ahead and do everything the way they want to.

\_\_\_\_\_ : .....  
NOMURA: Registration of the qualified voters will take place

in the blockmanager's office. This is for the voting to be held on April 12.

\_\_\_\_\_ : Isn't it all over 17 years old -- those who can vote? That's the old way.

NOMURA: But it's over 18 now. It was changed last year. October. By the W.R.A. There are about 8,000 to 9,000 voters in the camp.

CHAIRMAN: Why don't you make it 25% of the registered voters who fill in the blank. In those articles. We've got to have this constitution as near to completion as possible. Make it 25% of the registered voters.

INTERPRETER: What about the first article? How about that one? Is it 15%?

NOMURA: The first one is 15%.

SUGIYAMA: Well, make it 25% of the registered voters so that it would be sort of uniform. Will someone please put this in the form of a motion?

NOMURA: I make a motion that Article 5, Section 1 and 2 concerning the Administration to be petitioned by 25% of the registered voters.

SUGIYAMA: Any seconds? (About 5 persons second it.)

NOMURA: The same 25% for the other parts.

INTERPRETER: (Translates this into Japanese for the benefit of the Isseis.) (Practically everyone is looking at his Japanese constitution.)

SUGIYAMA: All those in favor signify by saying aye. (Majority respond.) Contrary? (No one says anything.)

NOMURA: From April 7 to 12 should be the registration of the voters in the blockmanager's office. They can't



be under 18 years old and at the election only those registered should be allowed to vote. We don't want anyone stuffing the ballots. (Quite a bit of laughter. This starts much conversation among the Councilmen. The interpreter and Sugiyama are busily talking between themselves.)

NOMURA: The Isseis should have election at same time, too. We should have them ready. According to the W.R.A. ruling, they must be appointed by the Nisei Council. I make a motion that the general election include the Issei Advisory Council.

SUGIYAMA: Any seconds? Questions? All those in favor signify by saying aye. (Mild response) Contrary? (No response.) (Sugiyama explained this in Japanese to the Isseis.) Fukuda, are you ready? (Fukuda who has until now been jotting down what he was going to say on a small piece of paper in the back of the room--he stands at the back of the audience and talks facing Mr. Sugiyama.)

FUKUDA: We have sent out questionnaires to all the departments to request that they give the Manpower Commission information concerning what positions are absolutely essential to the life, health, and security of the community. From these answers the Manpower Commission feel that they could classify the positions. They were carefully considered. The Manpower Commission decided that those positions which are vital and essential should get \$19. A vote was taken and it was passed unanimously. This is to go <sup>to</sup> Mr. Head. These vital

positions, all is to get \$19 and then we felt that the camouflage distribution should be made as soon as possible. I want to put this in a motion. The Council should take immediate step to distribute the camouflage fund and accept our classification of vital workers who will receive \$19.

ITO: Why don't you make two separate motions out of that? It sounds all mixed up.

FUKUDA: All right. First I move that the funds derived from the camouflage be distributed as soon as possible. Next motion. I ask that the Council accept the Manpower Commission classifications of jobs and to be paid \$19.

\_\_\_\_\_ : (in Japanese) Is the \$19 from the fund or is that just the salary?

SUGIYAMA: That's from the W.R.A. regular wages. I wish to make clearer the classifications of the vital jobs. By vital it includes the whole department which is considered to be essential. It includes everyone in the department and these are the departments fire department, police department, health and sanitation; the nurses aides, they are not considered as essential here because they are apprentices.

FUKUDA: Well, now they need only one month of apprenticeship and then they can get \$19 a month. Before it used to be three months, but we asked and it has been lowered from three months time to that of one month.

\_\_\_\_\_ : These departments which are considered essential, do they include everyone right down to the mess-

enger boy?

SUGIYAMA: Right down to the janitor. (Sugiyama rather angrily and very loudly says looking across the room-) May I have your attention please? You people always seem to be having conversation between yourselves. Please pay more attention. <sup>(Pause)</sup> All warehouses are included, all transportation, chief cook and assistant cook which I think are already included in the \$19 bracket, the fiscal procurement and the mail employees in Mr. Empie's office, the utility department which includes water, electric, pump, sewage, refrigerator, light, dispensary, and stove and cooler mechanics. The irrigation department, road maintenance department, machine shop, building maintenance which includes all the carpenters, agricultural which includes the hog, farm, poultry, truck crops, and vegetable nursery, of the garbage, the maintenance of the agriculture division and those connected with marketing. This includes all office workers of the agriculture department except the messenger. Blockmanager supervisors, assistant blockmanager supervisors, two janitors in each block who cleans the latrines. <sup>Janitors</sup> ~~They~~ will receive \$19 only if they keep up a 90% rating; if not they get \$16. (loud laughter)

NISHIMOTO: That's too hard. That's too much to expect. Why don't you make it an average of all. For example, this month the average was 85%. It's pretty hard to keep it at a high percentage because W.R.A. doesn't furnish the necessary materials. It's hard to get the

95% rating unless you do like Block 45 whose janitor spends all the time cleaning up the latrine. (Sugiyama makes a remark which brings on a loud laughter, but observer unable to jot it down because of much confusion going around the room. The back group where the observer is sitting is especially loud. They talk in Japanese.)

MRS. KIDO: The rating should be kept high because after all they are paid to work 8 hours a day. This they certainly don't. It should be made more stringent. I believe so. (Someone in the back in Japanese says, "Make it a 100%.) (laughter)

SUGIYAMA: (Talking more directly to Nishimoto who is a latrine inspector) Why don't you lower your standard inspector? (laughter)

NISHIMOTO: We can't. We have certain standards against which we have to measure up the condition of the latrine. We have to tell W.R.A. what is wrong. If we should lower the standards and give each latrine 90-95% rating then the W.R.A. is going to be satisfied and will neglect our recommendations in getting material and equipments.

MRS. KIDO: Well, have you made any recommendations at all?

NISHIMOTO: Well, we've got fly spray .....  
.....(he lists other items, but observer cannot hear.) The W.R.A. is vitally interested in sanitation.



among the crowd.) Then the original rating stands as is as far as I can see. Well, getting back to the \$19 job recommendations--all secretaries working in all departments mentioned, that is, fire, agriculture, police, and etc. will get \$19. All secretaries directly under the administrative head, branch chief, assistant chiefs, secretary of the Council, secretary of the Labor Relations Board, Secretary of the Social Relations Board, the Manpower Commission and the Issei Advisory Board. All members of the clothing allowance, the shoe rationing certificate department, life savers, and all those connected with the schools from the teachers to the janitors. Members of the leave office, project employment office, these persons in these departments the commission recommends that they be paid the \$19 wage. Part of these workers are already receiving \$19. They are not affected. Also those getting \$19 <sup>already</sup> but are not included in these category are not affected either.

KURADA: Are the watchmen included, too?

SUGIYAMA: Yes, if included in the departments just mentioned.

\_\_\_\_\_ : (talks in Japanese) What about the food production of the industries department?

SUGIYAMA: Oh, yes, the moyashi, noodle, and tofu our included.

\_\_\_\_\_ : What about the Census Department?

SUGIYAMA: No.

FUKUDA: Well, we were talking about the Census department at the meeting, but the meeting of the Manpower Commission was adjourned before we had a chance to discuss it.

We will probably talk about it next Tuesday.

\_\_\_\_\_ : Will you repeat the cooks once more? Do they include the kitchen workers?

SUGIYAMA: Cook and chief cook are the only ones.

\_\_\_\_\_ : The assistant helper needs \$19, too. There are about 4 or 5 in each mess hall. They do very much the same work as those who already receive \$19. (Much talk follows about the kitchen helper and placing different jobs into \$19 or \$16 jobs. Much of the conversation of the floor is ignored. Groups in different parts of the room are conversing in their own group.)

SUGIYAMA: Yesterday we were not able to complete the list because of the vital workers of ~~XXXXX~~ of the time element. There are probably others who should be added. At the next meeting Tuesday afternoon we will work out more complete lists.

KURATA: Does the fire department also include the fire inspectors?

SUGIYAMA: Yes, all of the fire department.

KURATA: Well, including the fire inspectors is not fair. They don't work very hard. In my block there are two fire inspectors. They wake about 8:30 every morning and they don't do much of anything and yet <sup>it is</sup> they plan to give them \$19. It is a shame. (Discussion follows inaudibly because room is very noisy. Someone in the back shouts, "Everybody should get \$19." Which is followed by even greater conversation for several minutes.)

ITO: I move ..... *(Interrupted)* .....

\_\_\_\_\_ : (speaks in Japanese) I want to interrupt and ask to clarify the positions of the cooks.

\_\_\_\_\_ : (In Japanese) The kitchen workers should all be paid the same. If \$19, then all should get \$19. Each mess hall needs at least 10 people. (This leads to much talk which lasts for 5-10 minutes. Sugiyama raps on the table to call the meeting to attention.)

SUGIYAMA: Let us vote on the approval on the recommendations all except the clause about the cook and the helpers.

FUKUDA: (in Japanese) The entire recommendation as yet is not finished. But what we have already done we should like to have your support so that we may not delay in presenting it to the administration. Quick action is desirable. May I please ask for your full cooperation? We can discuss the kitchen matter later. (Somebody in the back shouts, "Sansei, sansei, okay, okay".)

ITO: It's already been moved and seconded so let's vote on it.

\_\_\_\_\_ : (in Japanese) What of the helpers in the kitchen? Aren't we going to decide about that?

FUKUDA: (in Japanese) Let's vote on the thing as much as has been worked on so far so that a few workers will not hamper or stop the benefits for all the other workers. (He starts to talk in English.) This body can make recommendations to the Manpower Commission



to include the kitchen helpers if it so desires. Let us not make an ammendment to the original recommendation. Put a new motion on kitchen helpers. One can be made and presented to the Manpower Commission for them to work on. Let us first approve what we have already undertaken and done.

ITO: Let us approve the recommendations so that it may be presented to the Project Director.

INTERPRETER: Translates in Japanese.

\_\_\_\_\_ : (in Japanese) What about the dish washers?

SHIGIYAMA: We can discuss that later on.

\_\_\_\_\_ : (A man in the back stands up and talks in Japanese.) May I please take time out to discuss about the kitchen? There seems to be some misunderstanding to the category of workers in the mess halls.

INTERPRETER: Will you please make it very short and brief?

\_\_\_\_\_ : Well, the cook who receives \$19 are the chief and the cook's helper. This is not to be mixed up with the kitchen helpers. (He goes on to describe the category of the kitchen workers which is very confusing to understand. Some member speaks out loud and says that he himself is confused. The man realizing of his misconceptions sits down.)

\_\_\_\_\_ : (Speaks in Japanese) Let us talk about the kitchen helpers later. That can be kept separate from the recommendations. Let us first vote on the Manpower Commission's draft.

SUGIYAMA: All those in favor of the recommendations say  
aye. (Majority mumble aye. No opposition.)

\_\_\_\_\_ : (speaks in Japanese) They should keep about  
20-25 persons in each kitchen.

\_\_\_\_\_ : (Another Issei) The limit is the thing that  
hinders the work of the kitchen. It should be taken  
off.

\_\_\_\_\_ : We should talk this over with the kitchen com-  
mittee. Who set the limit of the number of workers in  
the kitchen?

\_\_\_\_\_ : (In Japanese) I believe Snelson decided the  
limit or else the W.R.A.

SUGIYAMA: Are there any motion concerning the kitchen help-  
er?

NISHIMOTO: I want to make a motion whereby .....  
\$19.....uh, uh, (He seems to have some  
difficulty in choosing the right words. The rest of  
the Councilmembers are not listening at all but talking  
with their neighbors or group.)

NISHIMOTO: I move that the kitchen size be from 15 to 20  
persons according to the size of the block and that  
they be paid the \$19 wage.

SUGIYAMA: Questions? All in favor of Mr. Nishimoto's motion  
signify by saying aye. (Most utter their assent)

SUGIYAMA: I have here a letter from Mr. Tsuchiye. I don't  
quite understand clearly the contents of the letter,  
but it includes first a request for a universal cloth-  
ing allowance; and second that the older person be given

the first chance for repatriation. They asked that this be recommended to the W.R.A. by the Council. (This causes mumbling among the audience and Sugiyama converses with the interpreter. He then raps on the table to call the meeting to order.) I think we should call Unit 2 and 3 into this discussion and work on the same basis.

\_\_\_\_\_ : (Speaks in Japanese) The toseibus head is here today. I wonder if it is possible for him to give the reasons. (He turns around and looking at an elderly looking gentleman in the back says, "Will you please, Mr. Nagai?"

NAGAI: (In Japanese) I don't want to commit myself or the toseibus to any firm statements. I'd rather have you yourselves discuss it and make recommendations. However, yesterday a person came down from Camp 2 and gave me some of their grievances. The clothing is issued to only those persons who are working. None are given to those who are not working. It seems, however, that some persons who have not been working have gotten some clothing. Also others who wanted jobs at that time, but no jobs were available have hence not gotten any clothing. There seems to be some dissatisfaction over the set-up. He asked me to convey this to you. Food, shelter, and clothing should be the first considerations. All 3 units should all make recommendations to the W.R.A. (The audience is very attentive while Mr. Nagai makes his speech.)

SUGIYAMA: Thank you. In view of the facts you have given

us we shall try to get a joint committee with Camps 2 and 3. The Assei Advisory Council I understand has already chosen three of its members. I want the Social Welfare Committee to represent us. I take it upon myself to send notices to Camp 2 and 3. We shall meet about April 12, I think. (Chairman asks Mrs. Kido if it is agreeable with her and asks the other members of the Social Welfare Committee who all assent.)

SUGIYAMA: Here's another matter to be taken up by the Council. There passed away very lately a very old man who wrote in his will that he will not be cremated. Are there any more details, Doctor? (Interpreter and Sugiyama converse among themselves.)

SUGIYAMA: We should put in a recommendation that choice of burial or cremation should be left up<sup>to</sup> the families or relatives of the deceased persons.

JOE NAKAI: Well, don't they bury them here in Poston? We went on a surveying excursion the other day and saw some burial grounds.

INTERPRETER: (in Japanese) There was a burial ground at one time, but they were taken out and cremated. (light laughter)

CHAIRMAN SUGIYAMA: We should decide whether burial or cremation should be left to the discretion of the family or the relatives.

\_\_\_\_\_ : Is it going to be at W.R.A. expense?

ITO: I make a recommendation that the cremation or the burial be left to the family.

SUGIYAMA: (quickly adds)..at the W.R.A. expense.

NISHIMOTO: Do you mean to say that if I died, I can have  
mybody sent to my home burial plot?

SUGIYAMA: No. It would be here in Poston. We would have  
a burial plot here. Any further discussion? (An elderly  
Issei speaks in Japanese which is not very clear.)  
Sugiyama re-explains the proposal in Japanese. Several  
of the Councilmen leave the room as it is now  
11:30, close to dinner time. This Issei man tells  
how one of the residents went to Miss Findley to ask  
if it was possible for a burial and when asked how  
the funds would be available that the evacuee was told  
to file for relief. There being no<sup>r</sup> further comments  
Sugiyama calls for a vote. The motion is carried.)

SUGIYAMA: Any further business?

MRS. KIDO: Well, what about the linoleum and cooler for  
the kitchen? Don't you think we are entitled to them?  
Do you know when they are coming in?

SUGIYAMA: Didn't Miss Findley mention anything to you in  
the monthly conferences? (addressing Mrs. Kido--who  
answers in the negative.)

SUGIYAMA: Well, next Monday bring it up and we will discuss  
it at the next Council meeting.

MRS. KIDO: The blockmanagers have been working on it, but  
nothing seems to happen so that they want the backing  
of the C.C.

NISHIMOTO: The motors and fans were delivered. The only

trouble is the lumber. One cooler to each kitchen.

MRS. KIDO: Yes, but they are very small. (She holds her hands to approximate size.)

NAKAI: No, they are pretty big. They have to be made within the block. It is up to them.

MRS. KIDO: Well, the sanitation department tells us to be careful and keep out the flies. To do that we need much more screens.

NISHIMOTO: I have noticed that each block has fly traps. That is a good thing. We of the Sanitation Department can only recommend. It is up to the Procurement Department. It's their responsibility to supply the necessary material.

MRS. KIDO: Yes, but nobody knows how to get the material. We should be furnished screens for each individual doors in all the apartments. They gave us screens for the windows, but what good is it if the door is not screened?

NISHIMOTO: Well, then what about the crack on the floor?

MRS. KIDO: Well, we can fold newspapers into the cracks. It is highly essential that each apartment be furnished with screens.

CHAIRMAN: Bring it up with Miss Findley. Then we can attack the situation more intelligently.

MRS. KIDO: In other words I have stuck my foot into it.

KURATA: I wish to talk about the fish license. It is proposed that the rate be ~~xxx~~ one dollar and seventy-five cents for the license. It is five dollars for the outside r, say, in Parker. I want this body to



Mr. Empie to get some results. Either you get for us these vitally needed materials or we will have to get it ourselves. They even took the size of their uniform desired, the color they wanted and yet nothing has come out of it. We dispatched a man to Phoenix the other day to get the needed materials. We told him not to come back without it even if it takes weeks. (Very forcefully) This should meet with the immediate action in a joint meeting with Camps 1, 2, and 3. The condition in the hospital are such that those persons who are ill, but capable of walking are serving those who can't. If you do not believe this go to the hospital and see for yourselves. (silence) These people in the hospital are not strangers. They are your friends, or your friends' friends. We should consider this right now and work on it immediately.

SUGIYAMA: We have already notified Camps 2 and 3. Let us first consider the motion on the fishing license.

\_\_\_\_\_ : (in Japanese) Will that include fishes in the canal as well?

KURATA: Yes. Everywhere. We asked the officials whether they are going to put in frys or fishes which are capable of being fished out of the water. (laughter)

ITO: It is pretty far to the restricted lake here.

KURATA: They will furnish the transportation.

MRS. KIDO: The ruling should <sup>not</sup> apply to the camp.

ITO: Well, it's controlled both by the State of Arizona and



the Indian Service and so long as we are not an Indian it applies. (some laughter)

MRS. KIDO: I look more like an Indian than they do. (loud laughter.)

NISHIMOTO: What about the children who are fishing?

KURATA: Nothing. Whatever the minors do are not regarded. They are not under the ruling.

ITO: We get hooked, if we don't catch any fish. (laughter)

MRS. KIDO: Well, if you don't catch any fish get the license money back again.

SUGIYAMA: (playfully) Try to get it back. (loud laughter) Fishing is a luxury so they should be willing to pay for it.

KURADA: At the beginning we said that 50 cents was okay. That was a day's wages here in Poston so it should be enough. But the legislature decided that \$1.75 was the minimum; that includes 60 miles surrounding the camp.

SUGIYAMA: Questions? All those in favor signify by saying aye. (Only Nomura answers. No one answers in the negative.)

SUGIYAMA: One to nothing. (laughter) (This is followed by a brief discussion of the jail being here or on the outside which could not be heard due to the noise.)

SUGIYAMA: The next meeting will be held next week, same day, at 9:30 A.M.

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 A.M.

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COMMUNITY GOVERNMENT--TCC--114

4-3-43

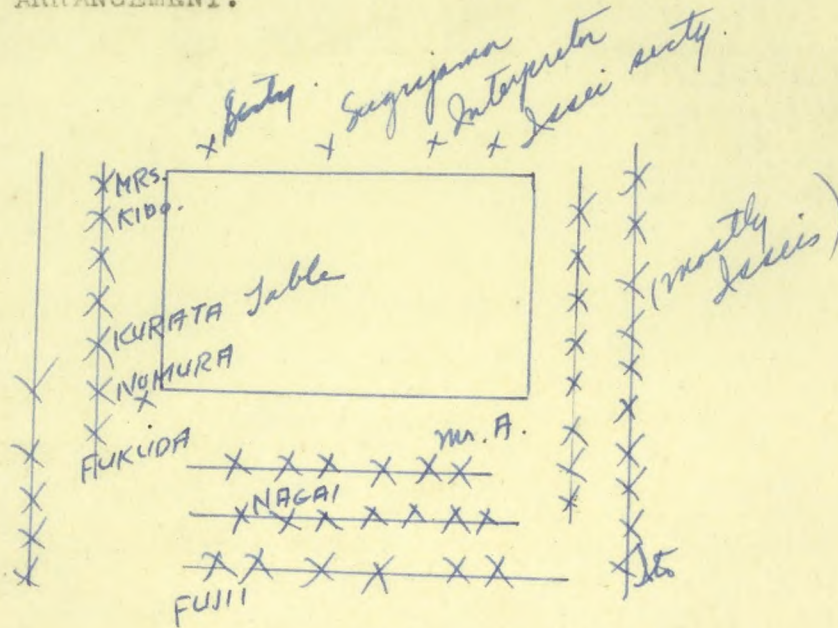
MEETING--joint meeting of TCC and IAB

ADULT EDUCATION OFFICE-Rec. Hall 36-9:30 A.M.

PRINC. ACTORS -- SUGIYAMA, NOMURA, KURATA, MRS. KIDO, NAGAI, FUJII,  
FUKUDA, INTERPRETER.

SUBJECT: Food situation, nurses, block disputes, Junior Red Cross,  
Bazaar, Clothing allowance, relocation funds, manpower.

SEATING ARRANGEMENT:



The door of the Recreation Hall where the Council meeting was to be held was locked and no one had the key. All the Councilmen gathered by the doorstep and were conversing over topics of interest. The door was not opened until 10:08 A.M. It was supposed to start at 9:30 A.M. The observer mingled with some of the Isseis who were talking about the prevalence of gambling in the camp. One Issei Councilman was quoting that certain persons

who came into camp with only a few dollars in his pocket had now more than \$5,000, through gambling. While others who had several thousand dollars to their credit were now penniless. They were of the opinion that something should be done about this gambling. Another Issei said that the gambling influence was being carried over to the younger Nisei which he thought was very detrimental to their welfare. Another Issei Councilman brought up the fact that <sup>in the</sup> Lamarr Relocation Center they have prison terms plus a fine, ~~and~~ <sup>he</sup> thought that there should be a term sentence as well as a fine for if only the fine is used as a punishable measure many persons are not too careful about their gambling as they figure that a few dollars in fine is compensated by the total amount that they win. A good stringent jail sentence would be the thing to drive home that gambling will not be tolerated. Another topic was that there would be another camp located in Arizona. The loyal Japanese will be kept here in Poston while the disloyal will be segregated and placed into this concentration camp. One Issei wondered how they were going to separate the loyal and the disloyal. It was this fact that the army finally decided to evacuate everybody. Finally one of the Councilmen went to the blockmanager office and got a ring which contained about 250 different keys and this Councilman started to fit each one to see if it would fit the lock on the door. One finally did and the members poured into the room. Mr. Sugiyama, the chairman, has not yet arrived. When the Issei members were seated in the room the Issei secretary read out the names of the Issei Councilmen. A good majority of them

were present. The Issei Councilman from Block 36 introduced to the members the new Nisei Councilman from Block 36. By this time the members total number present is about 60. Chairman Sugiyama has now arrived. The Nisei roll call is taken by the secretary. However, there seems to be no quorum of the Nisei Councilmen.

Chairman: I understand that Block 36 is going to have an Appreciation Party and we'll have to have someone from the Council to be our official representative. Judge, (pointing to Nomura) will you be our official representative of the C.C.? (Nomura laughingly nods his head) Is Mr. Kasuga here? No? Mr. Kurada? May we have the report on the food here?

KURADA: (Stands up and talks. He holds a white piece of paper in his hands.) It maybe funny that the Public Relations should take up this food <sup>situation</sup> ~~here~~. It just so happened that I was walking across the street when I was pulled in to the meeting as a <sup>neutral</sup> ~~mutual~~ party. I was to listen to the views of both sides. It seems that Mahiro and Mr. Sugimoto formed a committee where there was a representative from each kitchen, to question Mr. Snelson's position. They were questioning Snelson for the deficiency of the food. (All members are facing towards Mr. Kurada listening to him.) We discussed the matter thoroughly and went through the condition of the food situation. I think Mr. Snelson had the right attitude. He was willing to adjust the situation as best as he could, and willing to do what the committee and the

people decided. Food is scarce now and 90 priority orders placed with the army. Doesn't mean that it will be fulfilled to the detail. The army telegraphed that it is impossible and that it is unable to furnish the meat. This is not Mr. Snelson's fault. It is just one of those things. However, Yahiro says that Snelson is inefficient and, therefore, should be kicked out of his position. Also he said that the secretary would not let persons go to see Snelson to complain about the food situation. She would stop them if they tried to enter his office. Snelson replied that this was not the case. That he was always glad to meet any resident and listen to their grievances. I asked those who were present at the meeting to relinquish to the C.C. so that the C.C. can discuss and adjust the situation. However, Yahiro refused my proposal flatly and made the comment that the C.C. can't do anything--has never done anything. I was quite disappointed. Mr. Mahiro deliberately ignored the Council. Such practice if tolerated is not good. The C.C. should be the group to handle these affairs. The residents should not take it into their own hands. Why did they take it into their own hands? You give them the okay? Mr. Yahiro and Mr. Sugimoto took the matter into their own hands. Three of the food committee and three from the C.C. need to study for improvement and to secure more food. There seems to be rice acuteness in Poston. We all know that rice is a staple food of the Japanese. The army serves about 15 pounds per hundred person.

20 pounds per hundred persons are made available to the other persons in the other relocation centers. We, of Poston get 25 pounds per hundre persons. Snelson says that it is possible to get those all out, but questions, "What if later stocks don't come in?" I asked Mr. Yahiro and Mr. Sugimoto to think it over and to select three from their committee which would investigate the situation. I asked them to withdraw their complaint ~~and~~ to discharge Snelson which I thought was prejudiced. However, Mr. Yahiro wanted the complaint to stand while the investigation was going on. Mr. Snelson said that that was all right, but that he might put that in a complaint charge against Mr. Yahiro and have that be on a 50-50 ba sis. (laughter) The C.C. was over-righted. I asked them to present a full report to the C.C. This is a report of the other food.....

SUGIYAMA: (Addressing the interpreter) Where is the Issei representative on food?

INTERPRETER: Karakane, \_\_\_\_\_ are not here.

KURADA: May I speak this in Japanese? (He is ignored by the chairman.)

INTERPRETER: (Stands up and translates what Mr. Kurada had said in Japanese. He concludes his speech by saying, "I was there at the beginning, but I noticed that the two Issei Councilmen were not present. There were 3 from the Food Committee and 3 from the kitchen." He plays with his eyeglass and talks very rapidly.)

NAKAI: Correction. There's 6 from the kitchen crew.

GEORGE FUJII: Mr. Yashiro demanded that they have 6 so they took it upon themselves to get 6 members.

INTERPRETER: (Explains this in Japanese.)

CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Have you anything else to add?

\_\_\_\_\_ : No. Everything has been covered.

SUGIYAMA: Mr. Kurada, you said that the C.C. was considered to be inadequate at that meeting. Was that said in the heat of the discussion or was that purposely stated?

KURADA: Yes. It was stated in plain words by Mr. Sugimoto when I asked that they submit the problem to the C.C. He retorted that the Council never did and have done anything. My view is quite the contrary for I think the people of Poston don't agree with Mr. Sugimoto's statement.

(Smoot Kato enters and goes to the Issei interpreter, whispers something into his ear and both go outside. When they get to the steps they seem to be discussing some matter quite forcefully.)

Now they have 6 members on the committee from the kitchen crew against our three members.

SUGIYAMA: I don't care to make an issue out of this.

But since you gentlemen promised to cooperate I couldn't help remarking, "Why in the heck do they even bother with us at all then? Why don't they ignore us completely?"

Well, ~~xxxx~~ we'll have to wait and see what happens.

KURADA: May I give this report?

SUGIYAMA: On what?

KURADA: The nurses' aide material are now all here. Shall I read it? (Reads) The dire need of uniforms for the doctors, nurses, orderlies, nurses' aides .....  
.....(Goes on to read. This is similar to the speech he made at the last meeting telling of the need of the materials for the hospital staff. It is interjected with many "I's". I did this and I did that. Few <sup>of the</sup> Isseis are nodding their heads in approval of his actions.)

All the materials have now come. That is, all except the women's shoes. Materials to make the uniforms--these are nearly complete. Trousers, coats and shoes for men. The shoes for the women were not available and we sent a telegram to Los Angeles to see what we can get. (pause)

Now, about the nurses' aides. (very forcefully) Not one has shown up in Unit 1, 2, and 3. The hospital is about 70 short. Two were sent from the Red Cross to Unit 1 hospital. These had Japanese training. You Councilmen should make this the strongest issue you have ever placed at your block meeting. If no women volunteers, then get some men. You must get results. We need a little more volunteers from each block.

About the high school adobe construction--it's going along splendidly. It's good. Wonderful. The volunteers who are working on the project have pushed it through. I wish some of you would go out there and see the wonderful work they have done. Some of the buildings now need only a roof to make it complete.

I have here one motion that I wish to pass. You



know that we have block disputes and rejection of individuals by the block and I think it is important that the blocks vote on such matters and it should be decided by 3/4 of the total block resident voters. I ask that the new committee called the Social Adjustment Committee be formed. We should settle disputes in the block sphere instead of allowing it to spread to the other blocks in the camp. Most block meetings very few attend on the total residents. It is usually composed of a few persons who are against the issue and a few more persons who are in favor of the issue. The majority of the others stay away. The Social Adjustment Committee could settle it within the block and no news could be spread out to the other blocks.

INTERPRETER: (In Japanese) translates all this)

SUGIYAMA: We have got enough committees already. If you let the blocks take over the authority then it will infringe upon the Social Relation Committee powers. If you ask the Judge (Nomura), I am sure he would rather quit and would drop the Social Relations Committee and let the blocks decide for themselves. (laughter)

NOMURA: The minority are dangerous. If the majority of the block voted in favor of a thing and a few persons are not in favor of it they are the ones who causes trouble. The leader of the majority group has a noose around his neck. These 15 or so persons ~~xx~~ who make up the minority group can ~~xx~~ put a rope around the opposition leader. (He makes a motion with his hands around his neck as

as if to hang.)

SUGIYAMA: Well, that's one of the reasons we are here isn't it? A small minute group of public opinion thought evacuation was the answer so here we are.

NOMURA: In these block disputes where they want to kick out a block resident, 75% of the block vote is needed.

SUGIYAMA: But that's very dangerous.

\_\_\_\_\_ : (Issei) (Speaking in Japanese) There seems to be much talk on kicking a person out of a block. But after you kick a person out of the block where would you place such a person? If a person is really detrimental to the welfare of the block it may not be well to kick him out. But who is to decide which is right and which is wrong? We Japanese living in a certain community should all try to get along together. That is the Japanese way. You talk of kicking people out of blocks, but think and think hard on where you would place such a person.

INTERPRETER: (In Japanese) The Social Welfare Committee should try to work out some solution whereby a resident will not be forced to leave his block.

MR. A: (Issei talks in very formal Japanese. He stands and rather sarcastically attacks the toseibu in the face of Mr. Nagai who is sitting behind him. This sarcasm is hidden under the very formal way he talks.)

NAGAI: (In answer to the fore-going Issei's charge against the toseibu stands up and begins to talk also in very formal Japanese.) I will try to explain some of the

things the preceding speaker has asked. The toseibu has been a target of much unfavorable comments. However, we have been always and always try to be as neutral as possible. Here in Poston all our needs are taken care of. We get cloth, food, shelter and therefore all our desires should be fulfilled. However, as human beings it is a shame the way we bicker among ourselves. All seems to be centered in our self-interest. When it comes to the welfare of Poston as a community as a whole few people are interested. It is a matter of self-egotism. When one man sees another man in high prestige of the community they immediately try to tear him down. Poston way of life should be like a straight street. Yet it is made crooked with many unnecessary paths by the fact that there's so much bickering among ourselves. Of course, all human beings make errors. That is to be expected. There should be better cooperation and live together in closer harmony.

MR. A: (In Japanese) Mr. Nagai, (very formally) we are not here to listen to a sermon. You say that all our basic needs are taken care of by the administration and therefore no trouble should be started. It is the same everywhere. This war between the United States and Japan is the same thing. Evacuation is the same. But you say that since we get enough to eat, have a place to sleep we should be very happy. But this I don't agree.  
.....

INTERPRETER: (speaks in Japanese) If it has nothing to

do with the Council let us cut it short.

MR. A: (In Japanese very angrily) Are you talking to me?

INTERPRETER: (Quickly says in Japanese) Not to you. Since time is so short all persons should have a time limit so that we can get to other business.

SUGIYAMA: If it pertains to the Community Council you may go ahead and speak.

MR. A: (In Japanese) In our block 46 gambling is very prevalent. Young people are dragged into gambling games by the older men and this is very bad. This problem should be thoroughly discussed in the C.C.

NOMURA: We have a penal code, therefore, it is the work of the police department, not ours. (Nomura avoids any assignment by the C.C. to his committee--the judicial committee.) (laughter) (Few of the members leave.)

SUGIYAMA: Let us talk about this gambling business at the next meeting, then we'll have thought about it more. For the present let us table it. (pause) I have here a letter from the Junior Red Cross to ask for our permission to hold the Junior Red Cross Bazaar. (He begins to read the letter which states that the Junior Red Cross of the elementary and the high school would like to hold a benefit bazaar in Camp I on April 30, May 1, and 2nd Three days. With the fund that is raised they plan to get school first aid kits, books, material, gifts for the needy and the hospitalized, also entertainment for the hospitalized. The plan is to raise about \$100 net. The bazaar will include the sales of useful arti-

cles made by the children. The entertainment is in the form of a drama, "Postonese" and also musical numbers will be presented.

INTERPRETER: (Translates this into Japanese)

ISSEI: (Speaks in Japanese) They plan to raise \$100. Why not use what they have in the Senior Red Cross to which all of us have donated already and if used up then hold a bazaar to make additional funds instead of ~~wringing~~ of Poston the residents/dry.

\_\_\_\_\_ : ( A young representative of the Red Cross stands up and speaks in Japanese) There seems to be some misunderstanding. The Junior Red Cross and the Senior Red Cross is separate. The Junior Red Cross is asked not to use the Senior Red Cross fund, but that is beside the point. The \$100 is not a set goal. At first we asked that pies be made by the kitchens and articles donated by the adults, but this has been called off. The bazaar will include only what the children make at school. About \$55 were spent in all the three camps, therefore, Camp I's basic cost cost of material is very low. This bazaar is more in the form of a service to the community. The same as the service of the canteen. If you can use articles we will be glad to have you buy it. If not, no one is forced to buy anything. Another thing the chairman and the interpreter omitted which is important, that the bazaar is in conjunction with the school exhibit to be held. It is not the intent, by any means, to

drain the pockets of the Poston residents. The adult Red Cross is primarily to give service. The Junior Red Cross to do work for service, but education is the primary aim. We hope to instill seishin so that they may become better world citizens. The policy of the Junior Red Cross is decided by the Senior Red Cross, the school officials and the student representatives; they decide the activity.

INTERPRETER: (Speaks in Japanese) It is my fault for the misinterpretation. I dropped out the fact that the bazaar is not being held by itself, but more or less a part, a small part of the school exhibit to be held in the spring. I dropped this out of the letter. Please excuse me. (Facing the Isseis who question the aims of the bazaar he asks, "I hope you understand. Please excuse me.") (Issei nods that he does.)

ITO: (Starts out) I move.....(when Sugiyama interrupts and says, "Any second to the motion?" When Ito barely got the motion out of his mouth. (laughter)

SUGIYAMA: All those in favor of the Junior Red Cross bazaar say "aye". (Everyone replies in the affirmative.) All those opposed say "aye". (silence) (pause) Next may we have a report on the meeting by Mr. Hatta?

HATTA: The Welfare Committee ~~met~~ from Camps 1, 2, and 3 met with Mr. Empie, Miss Findley, Mr. Shepherd, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ to speed up the clothing allowance. The two stumbling factors were that the clothing allowance was being paid in cash and secondly the lack of accountants and clerks

in Mr. Empie's office. So it was decided that the clothing allowance will be <sup>made in</sup> checked. Empie said that he needs 4 more accountants. Camp I has furnished enough. So we should get the others from Camp 2 and 3. They could send us two each. The November-December will be paid not later than May in cash because the vouchers have already been made. Then from January it will be paid by check. Mr. Sheppard mentioned about the cashing of the checks. It might be a problem. We were going to discuss this with the Community Enterprise. The next question that was discussed was why everybody was not getting clothing allowance regardless of whether they worked or not. Miss Findley answered that it was a W.R.A. ruling only those who are working will receive clothing allowance. Also those who are receiving unemployment compensation will receive clothing. The others who are not working can receive their clothing if they will ask for public assistance. The trouble here seems to be that the Japanese hate the word "assistance" and so they don't claim their clothing allowance by this method. I checked the public assistance for March and found that there has only been 40 cases of public assistance and 11 transportation charges. This is small to the proportion of people who ~~really~~ really need clothing allowance. More people should apply for these and therefore not be deprived of the clothing allowance.

SUGIYAMA: May I add another point? In case of death of a member of a family there is a form in Mr. Empie's office

whereby the head of the family can get the family allowance of the deceased.

INTERPRETER: (Speaks in Japanese) Mr. Matsumoto, will you report on the clothing?

MATSUMOTO: (Speaks in Japanese) (Explains the same thing stated by Mr. Hatta in Japanese.)

SUGIYAMA: There's a need for four more helpers in the Accounting department.

MATSUMOTO: (In Japanese) We need four more workers if it is possible. We asked even if the residents are not working that they be allowed clothing allowances. We wish to push this through. After the meeting it was decided to write a letter to Washington D.C. concerning this, but 2 and 3 had to go back home due to the transportation schedule so we were unable to write this letter. Are there any questions?

INTERPRETER: (In Japanese) There seemed to be some discussion about this four additional workers in the accounting department from camp 2 and 3 and also some discontent to the amount of small pay.

MR. HATTA: Our chairman backed up Mr. Empie for four more workers if the clothing allowance is to be paid by May 15. And preferably that they come from Camp 2 and 3. However, the Camp 2 and 3 representatives put up all sorts of excuses as transportation problems and saying they couldn't commit themselves to send four more additional workers.

INTERPRETER: (In Japanese) Why not turn this over to the toseibu? (All look towards Mr. Nagai and laugh.)



NAKAI: To "hell" with 2 and 3. If they don't want to send any workers why bother with them. Just give the clothing allowance to those in Camp I.

SUGIYAMA: (In Japanese) Mr. Nagai, will you take it upon yourself to arrange to go to Camps 2 and 3 and talk it over with the representatives of Camps 2 and 3?

NAGAI: (In Japanese) (Rather hesistently) I will go down and discuss it with them.

\_\_\_\_\_ : Miss Finley also needs help.

INTERPRETER: (In Japanese) The need of Miss Findley should be told to Mr. Nagai so that he won't have to go to Camp 2 and 3 more than once. He can settle it all at once.

HATTA: It is Camp 2 and 3 who hold it all up.

NAKAI AND ITO: Forget about 2 and 3. Just pass it around to Camp I.

SUGIYAMA: I am sure that Camp 2 and 3 will cooperate when they understand the situation.

INTERPRETER: (In Japanese) The warehouse workers do the most work. The warehouse workers in Camp 2 and 3 work very hard. The CC and the IAB don't seem to have much prestige among the residents. The warehouse workers seem to have all the grievances directly to Mr. Crawford instead of referring them to the CC.

NAGAI: (In Japanese) Well, more work for me, but I don't want to go down to Camp 2 and 3 from Camp 1 and force or push the issue upon them. I'd rather go as a resident of Camp 1 and just talk it over with them. If

I go as a representative of the CC there might be some resentment, but I will go. The CC should work on transportation.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you. This is not Germany so we don't dictate.

NAGAI: (In Japanese) You know there is a need for having an Isseis 1, 2, and 3 committee to meet and discuss problems such as those that come up from time to time.

SUGIYAMA: You re-call that over a month ago the CC sent a letter to the WRA Directors concerning the transportation expenses for relocation? I don't believe that the letter itself brought about this change that we should receive all the credit as others ~~have~~ have been working for it too, but we have just received this revised instruction 45. It has not been announced in public yet, but it will be within a day or two. (He reads the instructions the just of which is that assistance will be given to those who need it who leave on an indefinite pass for employment anywhere in the United States except the military zone. However, this is only for the first time. It will not be offered to residents who return and want to go out the second time. This includes the wage earner and his family. The total amount of the trainfare will be paid, from Boston to the destination and \$3 per person per day for ~~day~~ meals; \$50 additional money for the head and \$25 for each dependent.

INTERPRETER: (Starts to speak in Japanese, but mixes up

the amount and so Sugiyama has to re-explain so that the interpreter can understand what he is talking about.)

SUGIYAMA: Before one can receive this they must make a statement that they are short on funds, but this seems to be a mere formality. It is just on the word of the evacuee so the administration is ready to hand it out to anybody who wants it. (Much discussion goes on among the group.)

INTERPRETER: (Speaks in Japanese) It sounds too good. There must be a catch in it some place. (kimochi ga warui.) (Few of the Isseis nod.)

ISSEI: Is the wife to be considered a dependent?

SUGIYAMA: Yes. Another thing the leave clearance is being changed now so that you can have your clearance all through and cleared up within 48 hours.

ISSEI: (In Japanese) What if you get ill when you reach your destination? Is there any instructions on that?

INTERPRETER: No detail on that as yet. This revised Instruction 45 is just broadh statements no terms are included in it.

ISSEI: (In Japanese) When some of the boys went out-- those harvest workers, they didn't receive any clothing allowance. How come?

INTERPRETER: Well, did they work?

ISSEI: No, they weren't working.

INTERPRETER: Well, of course, if they were not working no clothing allowance was given to them.

SUGIYAMA: Mr. Fukuda tells me that we have received the approval this morning by Mr. Head which starts the Man-

power Commission's recommendations rolling. Mr. Head approved the Utility and Maintenance--light, water, street--69 workers; the road maintenance, building maintenance which includes the carpenters--185 workers; from April 1 they will all receive \$19. This is the first step in carrying out the Manpower Commission's recommendations to the Administration.

INTERPRETER: (Translates into Japanese)

FUKUDA: Mr. Head had time only to okay Mr. Rupkey's Division. The other divisions have not yet set the number of workers that it needs. At the next meeting this will be decided. It is just a matter of time before the others will be approved, too.

NOMURA: Concerning this nurses' aides. (pause) Three high school girls from my block wanttttojoin the nurses' aids class. They already have enough credit to graduate high school. That is, they have over 160 units. We need only Dr. Cary's and Mr. Harris's approval that the girls can go into nurses' aide class. They want to be sure that they will receive their diplomas. They don't need the additional credits as they already have 160 units.

SUGIYAMA: Well, ask the school committee to take care of that.

INTERPRETER: (In Japanese) In my block we held a meeting with the woman residents of the block and the block-councilmen who made a strong appeal for nurses' aides. There was a good response. Three of the girls wanted to help out, but they were of school age.

ISSEI: (In Japanese) Last night we, too, held a women's meeting in our block. Most of the ladies seemed to feel that since only English speaking persons were wanted by the hospital as nurses' aides what was the use to volunteer their services if they couldn't speak English. Why do they have an age limit?

SUGIYAMA: Well, they can't be under a certain age because the young adolescents will contact the diseases easily.

ISSEI: (In Japanese) What about the older persons?

CHAIRMAN: There is no upper age limit.

ISSEI: (In Japanese) We had a meeting in our block concerning nurses' aides, but there was no response. This is primarily because of the fact that the applicant has to have some knowledge of English. Why is this prerequisite necessary when most of the patients in the hospital are Japanese? (Quite a discussion going on among two or three different groups.)

GEORGE FUJII: (Stands up and is recognized by the Chairman. He speaks in Japanese.) There will be a 50 cents charge to each member for the sobetsukai. And concerning this nurses' aides I felt that I didn't want to push it too much in our Block 28 because, that is, young girls should not be kept in Poston when they have chances to go outside for relocation. If some sort of higher wage or uniforms, restroom in the afternoon and disinfectant were available then I might feel that it would be right to ask the musume-san to join in the nurses' aides.

SUGIYAMA: (retorts) Well, that's all well and good, but we are passed the stage now where we can talk in that sense. What are we going to do about the present?

ISSEI: (In Japanese) How can the girls come back when they work at night?

SUGIYAMA: Well, they have ambulances which serve as buses to take the girls home.

ISSEI: (In Japanese) Yes, but the buses are very slow. The girls have to wait a long time on the street corner. This might be dangerous. We need a room where girls can wait.

KURADA: They do have a very large room in the hospital for these girls to wait in. Maybe the trouble is that it is too big.

ITO: What about the coolers and the screens?

MRS. KIDO: I went to see Mr. Gelvin and he says that he is working on it. He asked Mr. Popkins to make a survey so they would know how much screen they will need and how soon they can get it. Then I saw Mr. Popkins who said we don't have enough screens to pass out to everybody. Also there seems to be a hinge shortage for making additional screen doors. Mr. Popkin said he had an idea whereby he thought a part of the door could be cut away and screens could be attached and then when it got cool again the screen could be taken away and boards be replaced agains.

ITO: I heard that there's one hundred and forty-four coolers that have arrived in Boston. How is that going to

be distributed?

SUGIYAMA: Do you have any proof of the fact that the coolers have arrived? I think it is just rumors. There's no source is there?

NISHIMOTO: I want to make a statement concerning the public health. It has been now made possible that the tuberculosis patients will be sent to Phoenix to a sanitarium there. The project will pay the entire expenses, but the hospital is still in dire need of help. Dr. Wakatake and Dr. Aushi get sick from time to time. They are all being overworked. We should keep these doctors healthy, because if doctors are sick the whole hospital will be in a mess.

SUGIYAMA: Didn't Dr. Iwata have the measles? (laughter)  
Next meeting will be held one week from Saturday at 9:30 A.M.

ITO: (Rather to Sugiyama the time of the meeting reiterates, "What time?")

The meeting is adjourned and they file out. Several of the members pay George Fujii the 50 cents charge for the party and Mr. Nomura handed out the revised portion of the constitution. The meeting adjourned at 11:15 A.M.

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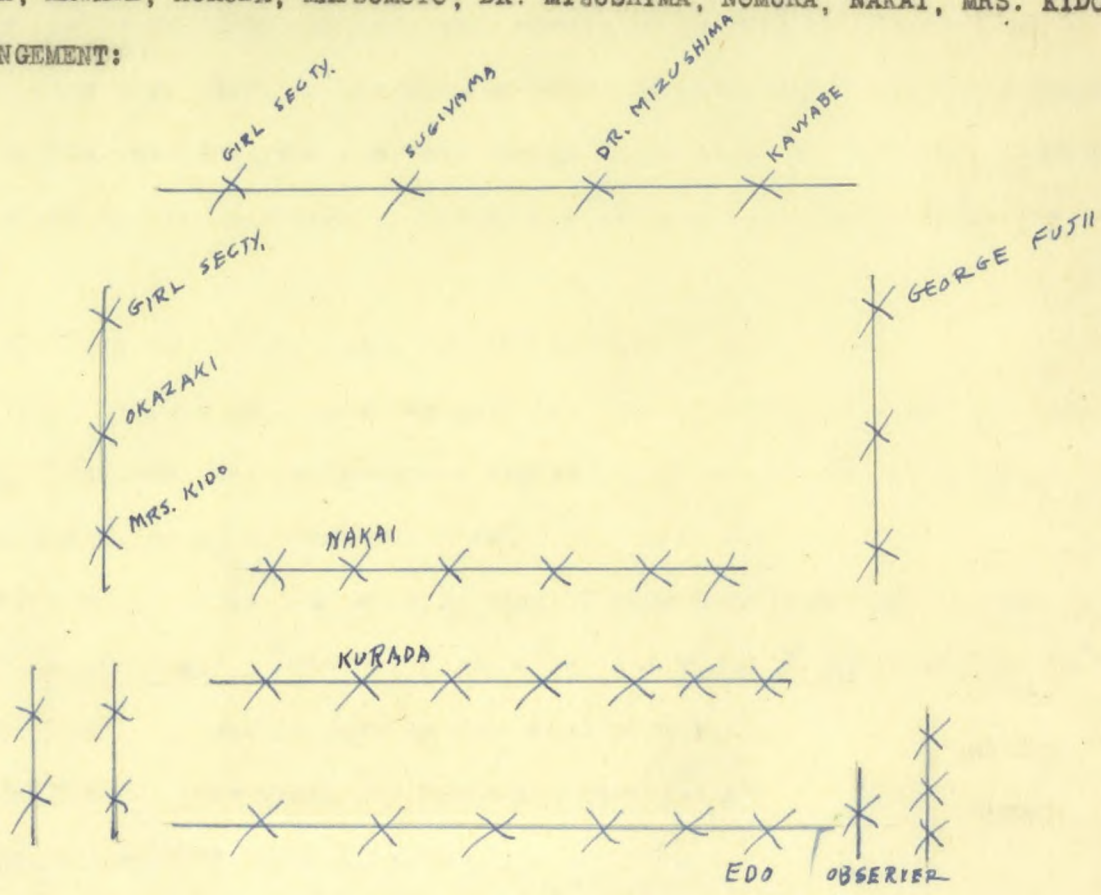
JOINT MEETING OF IAB AND TCC

BLOCK 5 REC. HALL -- 9:55 A.M.

HOSPITAL, TCC-BLOCK COUNCIL CONFERENCE, BURIAL, STONE POLISHING, GAMBLING, FUNERAL EXPENSES, MORAL PROBLEM.

SUGIYAMA, KAWABE, KURUDA, MATSUMOTO, DR. MIZUSHIMA, NOMURA, NAKAI, MRS. KIDO

SEATING ARRANGEMENT:



Due to the fact that the new auxilliary library is to be located in the 36 Recreation Hall the TCC regular meeting was held at the Block 5 Recreation Hall. The room was evidently a nursery class as there were many posters and pictures on the wall. There were also very small chairs lined in the front for seats. Prior to the meeting Isseis were grouped in one end of the room discussing fast and furious the pros and cons of the stone polishing problem. The Niseis were at the other end talking to the TCC secretary. Dr. Mizushima opened the meeting at 9:55 A.M. as Chairman Sugiyama has not yet arrived. He asked the members not to sit on the table in the back, but to come sit in the baby chairs in the front. Kawabe take the



roll calling "san". There are about 35 members present. Most of these are Issei Advisory members and the dominant part of the meeting is spoken in Japanese. While the Nisei secretary takes the roll call Kawabe is passing out maps of the camp which is to be used later in conjunction with the planning of the Block Council Conference. As Chairman Sugiyama is absent George Fujii comes to the front commenting that there are no quorum present. One of the members says to post-poning the meeting.

JOE NAKAI: George, did you send out the notices?

FUJII: Yes. I have here some resignations from a couple of Nisei Councilmen. (He reads two resignations handed in by respective Councilmen.)

What are we going to do about them?

NISHIMOTO: Well, since they already elected others to take their places it will be all right. (One resignation is from Block 21 while another is from Block \_\_\_\_ who is leaving for outside work.)

NISEI SECRETARY: (She reads the following memorandum:

To Mr. D. S. Myers, WRA Director,

The WRA has hired a few evacuees in various cities. After becoming acquainted with the evacuees, many months have elapsed. Within this period, certain tests to qualify the workers must have been passed to prove the fitness for their positions. The WRA has approached other Government offices with proposals to use their evacuee friends. For this missionary work, the evacuees feel grateful. It might a more practical method for the WRA to encourage others by hiring more evacuees where needed in their own organization. Thus, by setting the example first, by making an open display of their trust, by exhibiting genuine confidence in the evacuees, other Government officials might quickly follow the WRA precedent and accept more readily evacuee help.

The professional men and women within the evacuee ranks have

given their best efforts without stint; working long hours under trying conditions. They have never complained about their remuneration.

Under the present accelerated indefinite leave program, it is quite possible for this category of evacuee personnel to avail themselves to any sort of outside opportunity. In fact, all of our registered nurses here have applied for clearance a long time ago. The WRA would grant their request as promptly as anyone less essential to the community welfare.

After discussing the matter with Mr. W. W. Head, director, Miss Findley, community service chief, Mr. A. W. Empie, administrative chief, and Dr. Pressman, hospital superintendent, I have been told that if a member of the evacuee professional staff should leave, and no other evacuee is available, he or she would be replaced by a Caucasian appointee.

The situation in the local hospital is aggravating. The evacuee residents feel that the medical help available from the outside is definitely below the standard of the evacuee physicians and surgeons now in the hospital. They have unlimited confidence and faith in the present hospital staff. The evacuee shudder at the thought of being treated by inferior medicos imported at this time because they believe that all of the ranking doctors are in the armed forces and only the culls and low grade physicians are left outside.

Thus, it would seem that if the Caucasian doctors will have to be hired to replace the evacuees, then, in order to retain competent medical service at all times, it would seem sensible to have these evacuee doctors and pay them comparable to what they would receive in their posts after accepting indefinite leave. Retaining the evacuee physicians and surgeons, who understand the language and the Japanese psychology, will become in-

creasingly important if the relocation progresses to the point that only the elder evacuees are remaining in the centers.

It is imperative that these evacuee doctors remain on the job. Civil Service would be the most appropriate answer to the problem.

The double standard of wages might easily be avoided by demanding that the evacuee doctors live outside of the centers like any other person who has obtained indefinite leave.

We are hopeful that the WRA will set an example by treating the persons of Japanese ancestry upon the same basis as other Americans are treated, and by refusing to indulge in presumptions that discriminate against persons of Japanese ancestry as a class.

This plan has been discussed in the Council meetings and it carries the approval of that body. Will you kindly give it your immediate attention and favor us with an early reply?

Very truly yours,

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Chairman, TCC 1

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Chairman, TCC 2

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Chairman, TCC 3

(Chairman Sugiyama has arrived and is conversing quietly in the back. )

DR. MIZUSHIMA: Is that all?

(Sugiyama goes to the front of the room.)

CHAIRMAN: (Sugiyama) Mr. Myer will be here soon and we will like to present this to him at that time. (pause) Will the Public Health Committee make a report on the hospital, please?

MRS. KIDO: Mr. Nomura, Mr. Kawasaki, Mr. Okazaki and I met with the hospi-

tal staff. We asked Dr. Pressman about the hospital situation as pointed out in the last Council meeting. Dr. Pressman says that the standard of the hospital must be maintained. It is necessary for public health and morale. I feel that there is some need of some inducement to get nurses' aides to come out and help. These Nisei nurses are necessary. Dr. Pressman would like to maintain this high standard of nurses' aides which is as high as the outside work and to do this it is necessary to get English speaking who will understand the lectures and, therefore, the Isseis are not used because they cannot understand. Issei nurses' aides will probably be used only in non-technical jobs. 28 nurses' aides have already gone to camouflage. 74 nurses' aides are necessary. Now, there are only 43. 9 more orderlies are desired, whereas only 2 are now working. Two new aides were added from the Red Cross. Several would like to come from Camps 2 and 3 if the housing arrangement could be managed somehow. I want to emphasize to the block councilmen to go back to their respective blocks and urge the women to come out as nurses' aides and do <sup>good</sup> to the community. Mr. Okazaki feels that we should have more publicity on the hospital as that of issuing of uniforms to the nurses. The more glamorous the more it will attract. As you know we are now being quarantined here in Poston. If we are not careful, some of these days we will break out with an epidemic. Mr. Tanaka who was formerly with the Employment Office is now the business manager, more or less to do with public relations whereby he is trying to devise some means of recruiting nurses' aides to write articles for the newspaper.

CHAIRMAN: Didn't you inquire about the point that Mr. Kawasaki brought in the last meeting?

MRS. KIDO: Yes, they can use some Issei women, but they will probably be of use only when the Red Cross can make use of them or in non-technical

jobs in the hospital as hospital sweeping, more or less, as a janitor. Mr. Okazaki will make the report. (pause)

MR. OKAZAKI: (Speaks in Japanese translating what Mrs. Kido has already said and adds--) We were wondering if it is possible to get bachelor quarters near the hospital so that we can get people from other camps to live here. In times of war, sickness and various illness such as infantile paralysis is breded. It is not only true of Poston, but in other cities as Chicago, Parker, or Phoenix. We should make the nurses' aide job sound more glamorous instead of trying to tear it down instead of telling what a dirty work it is. It might be a good idea to borrow block 4 stage and have a band playing while Mr. Head offers each nurse their new white new uniform. (laughter) We need showmanship to build up the glamorous side of the hospital work. I think Mr. Nomura has a good suggestion.

NOMURA: (Speaks in Japanese) There is a need for community spirit. Most persons like to go on the easier work. I know that many of the girls, in fact, too much are going to the sewing school where they can learn and work at the same time. All they do is "cha-cha" and talk. I wonder if the Manpower Commission could lower their status. In my opinion the camouflage fund should be all given over to the hospital so that funds can be distributed there in forms of additional compensation. This would surely attract more people to nurses' aide job.

CHAIRMAN: Any further comments?

MR. EDO: Seems in Unit I many are leaving for the outside. Why are there not more room? We could help the hospital out by making apartments available for persons who would like to work in the hospital from Camps 2 and 3. They should be able to bring their whole families if they so desire.

MR. OKAZAKI: (speaking in Japanese) Well, like your Block 12 for example is one of the uncooperative blocks. If there are any room in your block you should report that to Dr. Pressman.

CHAIRMAN: (in Japanese) Hasn't the Housing Department frozen moving from one place to another?

NAKAI: Yes, they have frozen it for 10 days, to help out in the nurses' aide problem.

CHAIRMAN: Changing to another subject, we are not getting quorums at our meetings, therefore, our information is not going out to the general public. One of the members of the board suggested that we hold a public informing conference which would include the Community Council, SEB, LRB, the Manpower Commission, Social Relation Board who would talk things over with the community. They will meet with the Block Councils as there are on the average 14 block Councilmen to each block and 36 blocks in all. It is impossible to meet at one time in one place, so we decided to hold three or four meetings at night. Certain sections will be invited and we want to get their suggestions.

INTERPRETER: (Translates into Japanese and adds--) Each block has its own problem. I think it will be wise for the Council to hear these and see what we can do to help them out. (He reads a sample of the mimeographed invitation.)

CHAIRMAN: The only thing now is that we have no quorum to decide. I don't know what we can do. Are there any comments good or bad in favor or not in favor?

NAKAI: I think it is a good idea. There should be more mutual cooperation. Shall I make your suggestion into a form of a motion?

CHAIRMAN: We can't vote on it because there is no quorum.

NISHIMOTO: We should start fixing things by starting with ourselves. For the last five or six meetings we haven't had a Nisei quorum, not even one. And then members present at each meeting are getting smaller and smaller. We, ourselves, should spruce up before trying to interest others.

CHAIRMAN: We sent out notices and memorandums, but there just doesn't seem to be any response.

MIZUSHIMA: Why can't we get the Issei Councilmen who are present here to drag the Nisei Councilmen to the meeting?

NAKAI: The Block Council should be told about the lack of interest on the part of certain Councilmen to show up at the regular meeting and these Block Councils should be made to feel responsible to see that they should send representatives to each meeting. They should try their best to send representatives.

\_\_\_\_\_ : I've got the same idea. There should be pressure put on by the Block Council.

CHAIRMAN: Maybe I have gone beyond my powers, but since we have no quorum to vote one way or another on this Block Council Conference with the TCC that I have taken on the responsibility and got the thing moving. We have appointed committees to work on it and go ahead with the plan. In fact the Japanese invitations are already mimeographed. (laughter) (He explains to the translator in Japanese whereby Dr. Mizushima stands up and translates into Japanese. After the translator finishes the majority are nodding their heads some exclaiming that it is a very good idea.)

DR. MIZUSHIMA: Mr. Matsumoto, is there any judicial opposition to our going ahead with the plan?

MATSUMOTO: (In Japanese) This Block Council Conference is all right so long

as it is not to become permanent.

DR. MIZUSHIMA: If it works out good maybe we will make it a permanent plan of the TCC, but you know even the CC is not permanent yet.

SUGIYAMA: We had a staff meeting whereby we outlined the general plan of the conference. We have gone ahead and written invitations. The only thing lacking is to state the time.

SECOND INTERPRETER: (speaking in Japanese) This will be a good opportunity to discuss the critical situation in camp such as the fire department, subsistence, hospital, manpower shortage of all sorts with the Block Councils and to see if they have any ideas about it.

ISSEI COUNCILMAN: (In Japanese) Is it to be three nights continuous? Is it necessary that we Councilmen show up every night?

DR. MIZUSHIMA: Yes. I think it will be a good idea if everyone of the Councilmen did show up every night. (In Japanese)

NOMURA: I think it is only necessary to show up when your quad is invited to the conference.

DR. MIZUSHIMA: (In Japanese) It will be a good idea, however, to show up to all the meetings even if your quad is not represented. We would like to have as many Councilmen present as possible.

\_\_\_\_\_ : (In Japanese) Won't there be too many persons then?

DR. MIZUSHIMA: There are approximately 404 Block Councilmen, therefore, we have divided them into three groups.

NAKAI: There will be about 150 persons each night.

NAKAJI: (In Japanese) The Blockcouncilmen of each block should have one spokesman. Unless this is done then everyone will try to talk at once. Certain blocks may monopolize all the time and we may not get much done.

\_\_\_\_\_ : Our block has only one Councilman. I guess I will have to talk for us.



Dr. MIZUSHIMA: The average Councilman in each block numbers about 14. One from each barrack. (much loud talking going on) (In Japanese calls out each block to find out how many blockcouncilmen there are actually in each block)

|                |                            |  |
|----------------|----------------------------|--|
| Block 2?       | (Response from Councilman) | 14   |
| Block 3?       | " " "                      | 10   |
| " 4?           | " " "                      | 14   |
| " 5?           | " " "                      | 14   |
| " 6?           | " " "                      | 14   |
| " 11?          | " " "                      | 10   |
| " 12?          | " " "                      | 8  |
| " 13?          | " " "                      | 10   |
| " 14?          | " " "                      | 14   |
| " 15?          | " " "                      | 14   |
| " 16?          | " " "                      | Maybe 2 (loud laughter)  |
| " 17?          | " " "                      | 2 we don't have any gota gota " trouble.   |
| " 18?          | " " "                      | 14   |
| " 19?          | " " "                      | 14   |
| " 21?          | " " "                      | 14   |
| " 22?          | " " "                      | 13   |
| " 26?          | " " "                      | We had 14, but it's broken down and we have only 5.  |
| " 27?          | " " "                      | 8 or 10. We haven't had a meeting for so long we don't know how many there are.  |
| " 28?          | " " "                      | 20   |
| " 30?          | " " "                      | Our Councilmen consists of all the heads of the family in our block so there are quite a number. (laughter) approx. 60 |
| " 31?          | " " "                      | 5  |
| " 39?          | " " "                      | 5  |
| " 37?          | " " "                      |  |
| " 36?          | " " "                      | 13, but now we have 14   |
| " 35? (absent) | " " "                      |  |
| " 42?          | " " "                      | 14   |
| " 43?          | " " "                      | 14   |
| " 44?          | " " "                      | 12   |
| " 45?          | " " "                      | 14   |
| " 46?          | " " "                      | 10   |
| " 53? (absent) | " " "                      |  |
| " 54?          | " " "                      | 14   |
| " 59?          | " " "                      | We include the seinen kai and the fujinkai so we have about 20.  |
| " 60? (absent) | " " "                      |  |

NAKAI: To send out the invitations we should get the names from the block-managers.

CHAIRMAN: We will hold it Wednesday evening, Thursday and Friday at Mess 32.

I think instead of sending the invitations to each Blockcouncilmen we might as well send it to the Blockmanager who could distribute it to the Block Council.

NAKAI: We are already getting the names now.

CHAIRMAN: Well, as many of the TCC Councilmen will show up during the conference.

SECOND INTERPRETER: (In Japanese) Please decide at the blockcouncil beforehand what the Council as a whole wants to talk about so we won't waste time.

CHAIRMAN: In regard to the funeral expenses to be paid by the WRA. Taking the case that occurred at Block 44, Mr. Head informs me in this particular case the expenses for the embalming, the casket, and funeral expenses were all paid, but Mr. Head thought according to the WRA instruction they could not pay the expense for sending out the body outside to a private cemetery.

\_\_\_\_\_ : Then we have a burial ground here?

CHAIRMAN: We had 36 funerals so far in Poston of which 35 were cremated. If the people of Poston want a cemetery then we will have one. We did have one, but rumors about the coyotes digging up the bodies and gnawing on it has created a very bad name for the cemetery. But Mr. Head is willing to set aside a burial ground for the people if they want it.

KURUDA: In Gila I understand that they pay expenses up to \$150. Why is that not the case in Poston?

CHAIRMAN: That would pay the funeral expenses, the embalming, and for the casket. The total cost was about \$180. (He takes a piece of paper and adds up some figures. ) \$175.50 to be exact. Out of this the WRA

will pay \$95 which includes the funeral expenses, the embalming, and the casket. The rest would amount to \$88.50 for expense for transferring the body to the outside which cannot be paid by the WRA.

NAKAI: If we want a burial plot here, then we can have it. Is that right?

CHAIRMAN: That's right.

INTERPRETER: (In Japanese) I don't think this is such a big problem because most of the Isspis would rather be cremated and have their ashes sent back to Japan later on than to be buried here.

EDO: (In Japanese) I have a friend here who is living in an American community and he has had no education, but his cooking experience is quite good. When he died he asked in his will to be buried in that small community. He felt that to have a tombstone in the cemetery containing a Japanese name might help the coming Japanese generation. He felt that if there was a tombstone on the grave in the community the Caucasian people would realize that there are other Japanese who had lived there and died there. He felt that this would aid the other Japanese who came to make a livelihood in the community.

CHAIRMAN: If there is a wish of the body to investigate the matter further, then we will appoint a committee.

KURUDA: I think it is necessary because there are going to be many more funerals in Poston.

CHAIRMAN: Then Mr. Kuruda and Mr. Ede will you please see Mr. Head and make a report at the next meeting? (loud laughter) (Every time a persons talks on the subject which interests him or brings it up in the Council meeting Sugiyama inevitably appoints them on the committee.)

INTERPRETER: (In Japanese) Will you please push the matter so that if it is a matter of \$95 or \$200 the WRA will stand the expense?

EDO: O.K.

CHAIRMAN: Will the committee on the stone polishing please report?

\_\_\_\_\_ : (Nisei) We haven't a full report as yet. We met with Mr. Sase, Mr. Ishii, Roy Fukura, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ and I looked into the matter. We met at Block 13 on Tuesday morning. Mr. Y. Kobayashi and Mr. Yoshikawa, we heard the story from them. There had been various complaints to the Labor Relations Board and Mr. Yoshikawa was requested to investigate the situation. (Mr. Kuruda grabs for his hat and goes outside.) Dr. Powell released wrk cards for them on Jan. 4th. They started stone polishing for the residents on January 27th. Mr. Sase had made a report to Mr. Yoshikawa of the Community Enterprises. There had been no report so Mr. Yoshikawa had requested a report. This came in to the Community Enterprises office on March 21. I have here the report which Mr. Sase handed in at that time. This is a report of the machinery and the equipment. (He reads report of the machinery bought.)

|         |                                |          |
|---------|--------------------------------|----------|
| Oct. 27 | Warner Co.                     | \$115.00 |
| Dec. 30 | Machinery paid                 | 40.83    |
| " 30    | Sears, Roebuck and Co.         | 5.70     |
| Feb. 15 | Warner Co.                     | 35.00    |
| 15      | Clements Stone                 | 10.00    |
| 16      | Nishihama stone                | 10.00    |
| 23      | Warner Co.                     | 50.00    |
| 24      | Mr. Kato                       | 6.35     |
| 23      | Parcel post                    | .70      |
| 24      | Imperial Hardware Co. stone    | 4.67     |
| Mar. 1  | Captain Holmes buys stone      | 20.00    |
| 7       | Chicago manufacturing          | 20.15    |
| 3       | Warner Co. No. of items listed | 15.00    |
|         | desk lamp                      | .60      |
|         | two hammers                    | .55      |
|         | Total expense                  | \$500.94 |

Up to March 27 the people in Poston had requested 90 stone polishing. The income to that date was \$317.75 so there debt is \$202.19. That is up to March 27. At the meeting we went to Mr. Nishiki's home to inquest.

He said that the main work wasn't for polishing stones for the residents. His main purpose was for the educational program for the children in making souvenirs of Poston. He only began to polish stones for the residents because it will be a method of paying for the expense for the machinery. Various demands began to come in so they set the price at twenty-five cents cutting for each square inch and twenty-five cents polishing for square inch which adds up to fifty cents per square inch cut and polished. The people are complaining that this is pretty expensive according to size. Mr. Kawasaki has more pertinent facts than this.

KAWASAKI: (In Japanese) He said that they had to raise the cost of polishing because they were receiving too much orders. In fact they have enough to last throughout the summer. They had started stone polishing because they enjoyed doing it; not for the purpose of making profit from the people of Poston. But since so many persons want to have their stones polished they decided to charge for the work done. Mr. S<sub>a</sub>nse has said that he will leave it up to us if the arrangement now is unsatisfactory.

INTERPRETER: (in Japanese) Don't they give periodic reports to Dr. Powell?

NOMRA: They were doing it on their own first, but the orders became so many that they decided to work under Dr. Powell.

KAWASAKI: (In Japanese) The equipment were here during the strike. They had bought their own equipment. They can only polish three stones a day and it is a hard tedious job. Another factor is that out of the 10 stones polished three of them inevitably break. So it is necessary for these men to go out and find some stone to replace the broken ones.

MIZUSHIMA: (In Japanese) It is unfair to charge \$1.10 a rock. You could probably buy the rock they are polishing in a 5-10 cent store at a very low price.

EDO: (In Japanese) There's only two ways to deal with a situation like this. One is to put them under the Community Enterprise wages and let them work as anybody else without making any profit or to confiscate their equipment.

CHAIRMAN: Any further comments?

SECOND INTERPRETER: (In Japanese) There are other problems similar to this which are coming up all the time as "sami-sen", "odori", "Shaku hachi", and so forth. I think it would be a wise idea to make a body appointed by the CC who will cope with such problems as they come up.

MIZUSHIMA: (In Japanese) Why not let the Community Enterprise Committee deal with the problem. It seems to fit under what they are supposed to do.

SECOND INTERPRETER: (In Japanese) We should make a new body. We need a much stronger body to cope with such a problem.

NAKAI: That concerns the Law and Order Committee doesn't it? (Much noise going on.)

ISSEI: I think if it is for the benefit of Poston that we should not do away with certain things, but things like sami sen, stone polishing and other luxuries are unnecessary for the benefit of the community. I move that we do away with all of these departments. It may also help out the critical manpower shortage.

<sup>Nagai</sup>  
~~MATSUMOTO~~: (Speaking in Japanese very frankly.) We are not dirt or wood. We are human beings and as human beings we need recreation. This helps in our morale. Things as sami sen, shaku hachi, utai are necessary as they help to keep the morale high among the residents. Like my father likes to go to the river and fish. Most of the time he doesn't catch any fish, but those moments when he is at the river by himself,

it gives him the air of recreation which helps him to maintain his morale. If you took away this recreation from him he would be a miserable man in camp. It is true of the other recreation in Poston. It is a necessary need of our community. We should not stop these recreation. Just always eating and sleeping would not make ambitious people who live in Poston.

MIZUSHIMA: Then let's eat the stone. (laughter)

EDO: Mr. Nomura of the Judicial Committee said that there should be no private enterprise in Poston.

CHAIRMAN: Well, let's table this until the next meeting. (laughter) No use to discuss it because we have no quorum.

NISEI: (Nisei who investigated the stone polishing.) What about having Mr. Sance come before the Council in person and asking him to clarify the situation.

CHAIRMAN: I don't think that is necessary. I have here a memorandum from the "toseibu". (He starts to read a memorandum from the toseibu which states that the CO should do something about the juvenile problem of morale and moral. The report is written in very flowery English.)

(In Japanese) Mr. Nagai, this is very good form and very good English, but I don't quite understand the meaning of it. Will you please explain?

NAGAI: We have lived here in Poston now for 10 months. With each passing month the moral problem is getting worse. The Council should do something about it. In Block 3 gambling is so prevalent that it is becoming known as "China town". I am not in favor of such goings on. These are not necessary to the community. For the older Isseis as we can't teach "old dogs" new tricks it may be all right, but for the young Niseis in Poston it is bad that they are taking the wrong step. Many parents have ~~expressed~~ ~~expressed~~ expressed their anxiety over this condition. I feel that it is

the responsibility of the CC to do what it can to stop such a situation. I have waited hoping that some Councilman would bring up this problem at the Councilmeeting, but although much talk about it goes on on the outside no one has yet brought it before the Council. There are cases where Niseis have been spending their parents money. I know already of two cases. I was very much surprised at the huge amount of money that was involved. The toseibu asks you to cope with this problem. One thousand, two thousand dollars loss in games seems prevalent. One mother told me that her son had told her that he had lost his \$15 check on the way home. The mother took the story for granted. Later she found out that he had lost the check at a "bakuchi ba" (gambling den) .

\_\_\_\_\_ : Is that what they are calling our block? Chinatown? (laughter)

MIZUSHIMA: It is known which block is considered to be gambling districts.

NAKAI: Oh, they are doing it all over the block. They move from one block to another. In fact they are doing it in my own block.

NOMURA: I know of two or three places.

CHAIRMAN: You must have been there, hey? (laughter)

EDO: (In Japanese) I think it is all right with the Isseis. They are too old to change anyway. It should not be transferred to the Niseis. If the police cannot cope with the problem then a strong body should be formed by the CC. It is O.K. for the Isseis, but not for the Niseis. We should get the promise from the Issei gamblers that they will not include the Niseis in their game. I am sorry for the Niseis. I don't think they should be included. (laughter by the older Councilmen.)

SECOND INTERPRETER: (In Japanese) In our block there is one man who gained \$2,000 by gambling. In another block there is another pathetic case. This family transferred the funds over to the son's name during the time



that the funds were being frozen. They have just discovered that this boy has spent travelling checks amounting to \$2,000. We can't just stand and watch these things going on. We should do something about it. Maybe a Police Commissioner who has strong powers will be the answer.

NAKAI: (In Japanese) Even if we did crush the gambling dens it would be of no use. It's just human nature to gamble. We must have the backing of the people. We should have the people of Poston choose the Police Commissioner instead of Mr. Head. In that way we will get the backing of the people and the Police Commissioner would not be afraid to persecute the guilty ones.

CHAIRMAN: Changing to another subject I have just learned that the indefinite leaves may come back to Poston upon these conditions. First, if they lose their position through no fault of their own and is unable to fit into any other job. Second, if he is incapacitated by illness. Third, if he can economically support himself or his dependents. Fourth, if the local changing sentiment makes it desirable that he return to camp.

MIYUSHIMA: (Translates)

ISSEI: (In Japanese) We have just been paid in our quad a couple of days ago which has caused quite a problem in our messhall. There are 14 part time workers in our mess hall. In their January pay some were paid \$8, some \$7 and some \$6. And then again for the February pay some received \$4, some \$2, and some \$5. They young boys have threatened to stop work in our mess hall. They blame it upon the Japanese timekeeper. In fact that have threatened to beat him up, but they couldn't carry out the promise because of the timekeeper has left camp.

NAKAI: Will you hold the boys down the best you can and send them around to the Labor Relations Board. We will try to iron out the wage problem.

ISSEI: Is it possible to get Mr. Snelson to put these part time workers

to the status of full time during the summer vacation?

NAKAI: The Manpower Commission is working on it.

EDO: (In Japanese) There seems to be some misunderstanding what age you can leave high school. It was 16 on the outside, but it seems 18 years here in Boston. Some of the fellows feel that this semester is unstable and, therefore, would like to go out now and work during the summer and come back and start the new term fresh, but the principal would not let them leave school because they are under 18 years of age. I think clearing this matter up will help them.

OKAZAKI: (In Japanese) But those type of boys who would rather go on the outside than go to school will be a poor representative of the people. They may do a great harm in the public relations. It is better to keep them in school.

MIZUSHIMA: Well if they are under 18 years of age it is necessary to get the consent of the parents and the teachers. Even if the parents do consent, if the school principal thinks it is better for them to remain in school they will not be permitted to leave school. It is up to the record of each student.

CHAIRMAN: We will have this investigated.

NAKAJIMA: (In Japanese) Well, Labor Relations Board is feeling the manpower shortage, too. Reverend Mitani due to the church work has dropped out of the Labor Relations Board. Of course he has not dropped out completely, but he will not take an active part. Mr. Joe Naksi will be our temporary executive secretary until a good man is found.

KAWASAKI: When will they pay the camouflage fund? (laughter)

CHAIRMAN: Units I, II, and III are holding a meeting now to decide whether or not to make it an over-all trust fund. One and three have accepted,

but two has not yet consented to the plan. We are going over tomorrow and will push their opinion then somehow.

NAKAI: How much is in the camouflage fund?

CHAIRMAN: We will know that at the next meeting.

INTERPRETER: (In Japanese) Will the Issei Council try to have the Nisei Councilmen from their respective blocks show up at the next meeting? We would like to have a quorum.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:00

(YM)

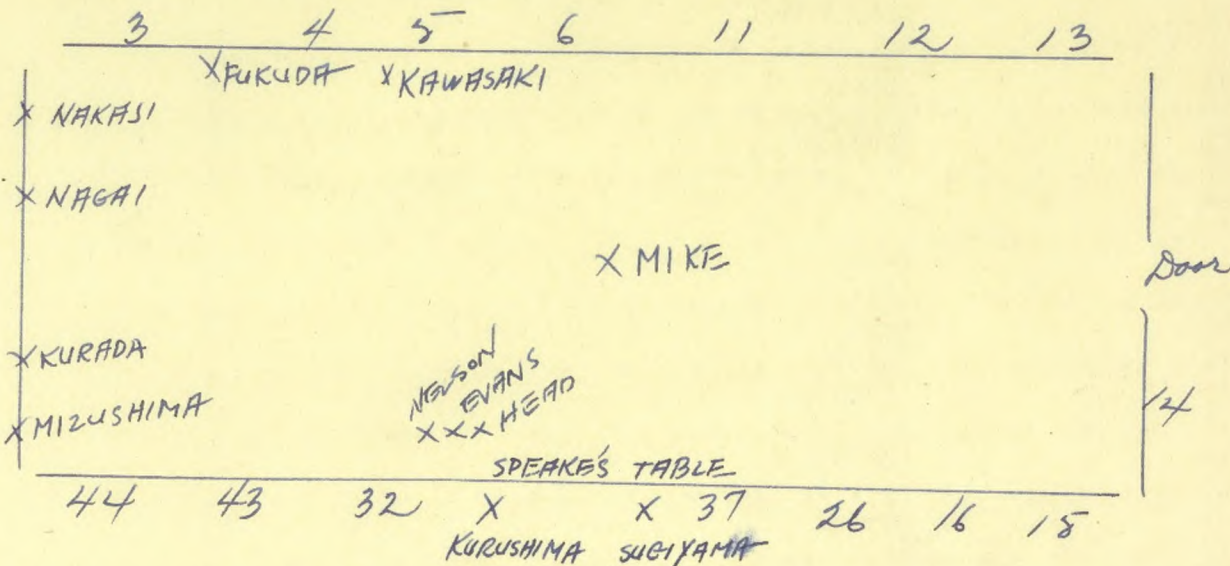
110-COMMUNITY GOVERNMENT\*\*

4-21-43

BLOCK COUNCIL CONFERENCE with the TCC, IAB, Toseibu, LRB, and the Man-  
power Commission.

MESS HALL 32--8:00 P.M.

SEATING ARRANGEMENT:



Although it is 8:00 o'clock very few Councilmen have shown up as yet. Sugiyama is conversing with Mr. Head at one of the corner of the room. Sugiyama seems to be doing all the talking with Mr. Head occasionally nodding. Mr. Frank Fukuda is talking to Mr. Nelson. Mr. Matsumoto of the Toseibu realizes the need for a microphone so that everybody may hear the speeches ~~going on~~ rushes ~~on~~ to the Block 4 stage to borrow the amplifier and microphone. He comes back 15 minutes later with a young radio man who rigs up the microphone. The amplifiers are placed at the two opposite parts of the room. One microphone is set at the speaker's table which is in the middle of the room and one is set in the center of the floor of the Mess Hall.

The people slowly accumulate and the meeting actually gets under way at 8:50 P.M.  
(THE CONVERSATION AND SPEECHES ARE ENTIRELY IN JAPANESE EXCEPT THOSE NOTED  
AS HAVING SPOKEN ENGLISH.)

KURUSHIMA: (Vice-chairman of the IAB) I am sorry that we are so late to get started, but I want you to know my appreciation for your being here tonight. As stated in the letter of invitation we would like to know more about the block problems, accomplishments, and failures. This would not only help us, but help other blocks. There are many, many problems right now, but the main problem seems to be the manpower shortage. Tonight we would like to discuss that. Others are the hospital problem, the warehouse problem, the fire department problems, the subsistence problem, and so forth. These problems should be of interest to you and we need your cooperation to solve these. I want this meeting to be as informal as possible. However, if everyone discusses at once we will get nowhere. We would like to ask the block to choose one representative to be their spokesman. If there are too many speaking at the same time it would cause confusion and we would get nowhere. (In English) First, I would like to introduce tonight Mr. Nelson. He is our new Unit I Administrator succeeding Mr. Evans. (Mr. Nelson who is sitting near the speaker's table stands up and bows. The audience applauds.) Next, I have the honor and the pleasure of presenting to you our Project Director, Mr. Head. (Applause as Mr. Head stands and goes to the microphone in the center of the room.)

MR. HEAD: Mr. Chairman, Executive Committee, Labor Relations Board, Councilmen and friends. It is a pleasure to come before you this evening. It is good to see all of you here to meet your problems. We always will and always have had problems. We have found solutions to some -- to other problems we have not. This group, the Council and other committees should

solve your problems by working together and do things that should be done. It should be done by all of <sup>you</sup> us and by all of us. Since coming here I faced many disappointments. On the 11th of this month I will have been in Poston for one year. I have never had so much disappointments in so short a time in my life. I had many, many ideas for the people of Poston. Some we have made an actuality. Some we can never do. When we came a year ago, we had many dreams. Many of these have disappeared. Many personnel administrators have quit their jobs. We try to do for the people as much as we could although sometimes we could not get close enough to them. In spite of this we know that people in Poston can be happier if they work together. Let's not say administration and the evacuee. The word "evacuee" makes me sick. Let us all work as one. Some of us, I am one of them, have had many dreams. We may not be here long, but we hope that people who are left behind will do a good job. Problems on food, hospital, and so forth, the administration cannot solve. The people themselves must solve them. Also the question to what's going to happen to Poston in the coming month. A number of young people are leaving. But I think that the biggest majority will live here for the duration of the war. Maybe I should not say this, but I say to you that you will all be happier if you stayed in camp for the duration. There are rumors now that we are paving the streets for the army. There's no truth in such rumors. One of the first promises of mine when I came into camp was to have the streets paved. This promise is finally becoming a reality. Poston will not be abandoned, you may be ~~sure~~ assured. I thank you ladies and gentlemen. It is good to see representatives from every block meeting together to solve their mutual problems. Thank you.

(applause)

KURUSHIMA: (Translates Mr. Head's speech into Japanese. Sugiyama stands from his speaker's table and converses with Mr. Head and he interrupts Kurushima who is translating Mr. Head's speech saying that Mr. Head would like to add another comment.)

MR. HEAD: A few nights ago we had the first fire that was really a hazard. We might actually have lost lives. This is one of our most serious problems. If there had been a high wind there certainly might be possibilities that we might have lost people's lives. It is important that all people in all the blocks take active interest and work out some sort of fire protection. We saw that night how quickly <sup>a</sup> mess hall can burn down. I have noticed that each of the blocks have ramadas. These can be quickly burned. It was just lucky that ramada in Block 44 did not catch on fire due to the lack of wind. After all human lives must be protected. I believe that in every block one man should be appointed to inspect the block for fire hazards. Possibly there could be another man to sleep in the mess hall. It frightens me to think what might have happened if the fire had happened at two or three o'clock in the morning. This is one of the problems which ~~must~~ must be solved. Thank you.

(applause)

KURUSHIMA: (Restates Mr. Head's remark on the fire) Next I would like to present the Chairman of the CC, Mr. Sugiyama. (applause)

SUGIYAMA: (In English) Friends, tonight I see some ladies present. It is good to see girls tonight. Perhaps you noticed that I am wearing my glasses tonight. This is ~~not~~ for self-protection. What has the Council done? What good are we? First the Labor Relations Board has straightened out problems between the evacuees and employers. The Executive Board is the administrative branch of the Council. They act as a sort of policeman to carry out plans of the CC. We have a streamlined organi-

zation to cope with the manpower shortage. This new policy making body is the Manpower Commission. No other center has an organization, whereby the administrator and the evacuee sit side by side to discuss their problems. The Social Relations Board is another committee under the Community Council. Judge Nomura is in charge. He even solves sweetheart troubles. We have finally rented jail space in Parker and Yuma for bad people. We have done our share in getting the WRA to grant expenses under the new administrative order issuing \$50 to family heads, \$25 to dependents, \$3 a day on the train and train fare. Turning to what the CC is doing now. In Parker you noticed that they have discriminatory signs. Either we quit going there altogether or better our relations to such an extent that we may go there anytime we please. We are now working to better the relationship between Poston and Parker. Soon we will have a dinner with the people from Parker here in Poston. Later some of us will be invited to a dinner at Parker. This, we hope, will be the start of better relationship between these two communities. Granada is a good example of what is a good example of what is possible. On April 8 it was stated that the people in the nearby town of Granada were disappointed that not enough people came out into the near by town to spend their money. About staffing the hospital with adequate workers. I expect to hold a conference with Mr. Myer to formulate a policy. Also we would like to know definitely with the people leaving what is going to happen to the rest of us who remain in camp. Within a week or maybe two weeks the election of the CC will be held. We have finally received the constitution back from Washington. What are we going to do in the future? We will discuss this later in the meeting. For example, how should we distribute the camouflage fund? It needs your support. I am sorry to say that



for the last 4 or 5 meetings we have had no quorum. It is your duty to see that the representatives are present at the CC meetings. Thank you. (applause) (Kurushima argues with Sugiyama to translate his speech himself into Japanese. Sugiyama says no so there is no translation of Sugiyama's speech.)

KURUSHIMA: Next, I would like to present to you Dr. Mizushima of the IAB.

MIZUSHIMA: (applause) I am a member and the chairman of the IAB. You noticed that I, too, am wearing glasses more or less as a safety measure. The young people are running the government of Poston, but no matter how old they grow they are yet our children so, as parents, should be close by to give them advice when they need it. And it is in that capacity that the IAB exists. At times, as in the family, there is much argument between the Nisei Council and the Issei Council, but now everything is amiable. We hold the same meeting together at joint meetings. The young people of Poston may ask what have we done? But these young people are not used to the ways of the world and they need from time to time the wisdom of our older minds. Tonight we are here to meet with the Block Council. We have waited long for our constitution to return from Washington and it has returned to us recently. We will hold an election soon. We would like to have each block come back to the 14 block councilmen basis. We would like to have you cooperate more with us. (Observer looks about and notices that the audience is mostly middle-aged and older male Isseis. There are a small proportion of Niseis present. More likely they are kibeis. There are four or five ladies present.) Each block should talk over their problem with the CC and we in turn would like to take it up with the Project head, Mr. Head. We asked that only one representative from each block speak as the spokesman. This would eliminate confusion. It looks as if we are not doing anything. But we

are doing all that we can. There are many problems--in fact 38 problems to be discussed: clothing, WRA wages, hospital, subsistence, insurance, education, newspaper articles as DeWitt's "Japs are Japs", and so forth. We hope that some of these will be discussed tonight. Please feel free to join in the discussion. We hope that there are more discussions than speeches by the members of the various community organizations. Thank you. (applause.)

KURUSHIMA: Next, we shall have Mr. Nagai of the toseibu or GEB.

NAGAI: Block councilmen, good evening. I am glad to see you here tonight.

We hope that we shall have an opportunity to hear your opinions and problems. As Mr. Sugiyama and Dr. Mizushima have stated before we have all a great job to do, but we alone cannot do it. We must have the backing of the community. We will be servants of the people. Police, schools, education, and so forth are our special interest. It would take time to explain all of these, but we do need your cooperation. For example, in moral problems. There is talk of kicking people out of the block. Young Niseis are more and more induced into the gambling and other problems. This is nothing new in the way of human nature, but we must work to do away with these situations. Gambling may be all right for the elder Isseis, but we need to think of the welfare of the young people so they can become better persons, better equipped to face life instead of tearing them down. Here we need your complete cooperation. Now a Social Relations Board has been formed. This board tries to cope with the problem before it becomes too big of a problem. We would like to crush it before it bursts into a big flame. Housing problems seem acute in some of the blocks. These problems we would like to discuss with you. At any time feel free to come and talk to us. The young "seimens" are your responsibility. I ask this especially of you as a "toseibu" head.

(applause)

KURUSHIMA: Next, we will have Mr. Nakaji of the Labor Relations Board.

NAKAGI: I know you are all tired tonight, but I am glad to see you here.

I would like to have your indulgence for a moment. First, the "romp" problem. We need these older persons to transfer to essential jobs. All of us should work together. Mr. Fukuda, will later I know add more to this statement. Second, is the future planning necessary in Poston. In Unit I there were 9,500 persons. 500 left. Of the 500 most of them were youngpeople and as time goes on more and more youngpeople will leave for relocation. Approximately two thousand to three thousand will have left Poston by the end of this year. (Looking at a piece of paper in front of him) Of the 9,500 in Unit I 4,800 are working. 4,241 are not working. These would include the old people, the smaller children and the invalids--the sick. 135 persons is the total number who are now unemployed who are able to work. Therefore, most of the persons able to work are working. It is a matter of transferring from non-essential jobs to the essential jobs. We need your cooperation to solve this immense problem. Thank you. (bows and applause)

KURISHIMA: Thank you. Next we will Mr. Fukuda of the Manpower Commission.

FUKUDA: I have never been to Japan so my Japanese is not very good. So please bear with me. (Mr. Fukuda from physical appearance looks as a grey-haired Issai. As he speaks in Japanese he become tongue-tied unable to find the correct word. He uses English words every so often during his speak.) The camouflage, the relocation program, and the army volunteers have taken many of our young people all at once, so it has affected our camp labor supply. The hog farm had six persons working. There's only two left now. In the police department most have transferred to the camouflage and others are making plans to leave

for the outside. The fire department originally had 36 members. Now, only 6 remain. The subsistence warehouse is now working with just half of the necessary personnel. To cope with this problem Chairman Sugiyama, as you may recall, called the manpower conference. This included the department heads, the division heads and the Japanese evacuee heads. Out of this was created the Manpower Commission which includes Mr. Empie, Mr. Rupkey, Miss Findley, Mr. Mathiesen, Mr. Kennedy, (Mr. Zimmerman is taking his place) and the Unit I administrator Mr. Evans. On the evacuees side there is one from the Council, one from the IAB, one from the CMB, one from the LRB, and one from the camouflage making a total of 12 members on the commission. (Fukuda is having a hard time giving his speech. He pauses and stutters frequently.) What positions are vitally essential to the project? These positions (pause) vital to the project (pause) (Fukuda is stuck--there is a minute of silent pause.) In our discussion with Mr. Head we found that we cannot get more than \$19, but the Project Director can elevate persons receiving \$16 to that status of \$19. We have done this with over 1800 persons. This is the first time that we had the joint planning with the Caucasian personnel. I think it is the first time in any project. (abruptly halts his speech and sits down.) (applause)

KURUSHIMA: Next. (In English) Next, I would like to present Mr. Evans.

MR. EVANS: (In English) I wasn't going to say anything tonight before this body as I don't like to say goodbye to my friends. Tomorrow Mr. Nelson will officially take my place. I want to thank you sincerely for your support. I know I have fallen short in many ways the mark set for myself. You can be assured that I will do anything in ~~my power~~ in any way that I can be of service to you. I know that Mr. Nelson would do a good job. He knows every aspect about the project. His long experience

equips him to do a better job than I. Lots of luck and success to you.  
(applause)

KURUSHIMA: (translates Mr. Evans' speech followed by clapping by some of the Isseis) This finishes the announcements and speeches. We would now like to have each block representative speak to you of their problems, accomplishments, and their failures. We shall start off with Block 3.

BLOCK 3: (comes to the microphone set in the center of the room. As he comes to the microphone there is applause. This is true as each spokesman comes before the microphone.) I am glad to have the opportunity to speak before you tonight. I can't say this and that concerning different problems. I have been the blockmanager of my block and we have had much success and also lots of failures. I cannot speak English and neither am I good in Japanese, but I do with all my power to make my block as harmonious as possible. We have no trouble now. The young and the old gather after mess and ~~it~~ it does my heart good to hear them laugh together. We are one big happy family. I am not doing this blockmanager job as a matter of prestige, but more for the welfare of the community. I think that the blockmanagers can do a lot to improve conditions in the camp. I would like to ask the toseibu and the CG to order us blockmanagers to more work for the welfare of the block and in turn for the welfare of the whole camp. (applause)

KURUSHIMA: Thank you. Next may we hear from Block 4? (applause as a young kibeï comes to the microphone.)

BLOCK 4: I am glad to have the opportunity to ~~say~~ speak before this group tonight. All the main problems seems to have been discussed already by others. However, I would like to bring up one thing and that is the

problem of internee families. They have many problems due to the fact that families are broken up. I would like to see more things done for their welfare. Thank you. (applause.)

KURUSHIMA: Thank you. No. 5?

BLOCK 5: ( Old Issei. applause) Tonight we are here to discuss many problems. I have been selected as the Block 5 representative to speak before you. I am skinny and very old, but I am doing all I can to help out in the manpower shortage. I would like this manpower shortage solved as soon as possible. In my block all the young persons and all the old Isseis are all working. The Council asks for volunteers, to the Fire Department and to the adobe construction project. This we cannot comply because of the fact that everyone is working and we lack people who are idle. I would like to persuade people in our block to transfer to more essential jobs, but it's a difficult thing to do. Maybe the Labor Relations Board could go from block to block to stress the need to transfer to more essential jobs. Thank You. (applause)

KURUSHIMA: Block 6?

BLOCK 6: (Young kibe) I cannot speak flowery Japanese and neither can I speak good English. Most of our young people are working in the administration offices. The old people and the fujins are the only ones left doing our kitchen and block work. Those unemployed and able to work number only one or two so it is impossible to add in the manpower shortage! The Nisei do not come to the block council meetings although we ask them to. Our block Niseis are not as cooperative as we would like them to be. To Block 44 May I express my block's sympathy for their fire. I was struck by the fact that the roads were crowded with residents that the fire engine couldn't pass through. Also in the neighboring block persons were taking showers. We should watch these things as water and fire trucks

are needed during the fire. I have said enough. (applause)

KURUSHIMA: Thank you. Next, may we hear from Block 11?

BLOCK 11; (an old Issei) I am not prepared to give any speech tonight.

I am the blockmanager of my block. I am the temporary blockmanager. I understand that the people hate me, but I have never found who hates me. It is only because of the manpower shortage that I am helping out as a manager. I don't know what to do though. I am new to the job. When orders come in from the Council to have volunteers for this job or that job no person seems to volunteer. As for asking volunteers to slaughter pigs here, probably, I'll have to go. That's the way it is. It's my suggestion that those unessential jobs should be brought to an end and get these persons to transfer into essential jobs. This is all. (applause)

KURUSHIMA: Thank you. Block 12? (laughter coming from Block 12 group.)

(applause)

BLOCK 12: (Edo) Tonight there is one fujin and myself here as representatives.

I don't wish to be the spokesman of our block, but to express my personnel sentiments. One thing I would like to stress is the fact that when we do have kitchen strikes and other kitchen trouble it should be arbitrated among the Japanese themselves without calling in a neutral party in the form of Caucasian personnel. Let us not bring in the Caucasian, but remedy it among ourselves. (applause)

KURUSHIMA: Thank you. May we have Block 13's representative?

BLOCK 13: I am Kawasaki of Block 13. On May 15th it will be one year since our arrival into Peston. Our block is composed of Riverside, Delano, and Bakersfield people. Myself and another Los Angeles family were the last to go into the block. I hardly took interest in politics of the block as all my friends lived in Blocks 2 and 32. In fact I was mostly spending

my time in my friend's place. It was during the strike that I decided that I would like to be of some use to the community. I would like to serve the community to the best of my ability. I have become the Issei Advisory member. My block so far has had no trouble. We have 300 residents in Block 13 and all are of one heart. I appreciate this fact about our block. The manpower shortage is difficult to remedy because most of our young men are all working. At the beginning our mess hall had one chief cook and the rest were all Niseis. Now our entire kitchen is composed of Isseis. The kibeis-niseis have left our mess hall to help other blocks who are in dire need of kitchen helpers. I, myself, am now the chief steward. I really don't think that there is a shortage of labor, but it is more of the fact that we are not doing enough work. In the family--husband and wife and even children are working. One problem I had is the fact that when I asked a lady in my block to work at essential jobs they would inevitably say that they had to go to sewing school or to the flower arrangement class. I think by making these into night classes would be one solution to help out ~~in the~~ in the manpower shortage problem. Then they could work during the day and attend classes at night instead of gossiping all day long.

KURUSHIMA: Thank you. May we have Block 14? (applause)

BLOCK 14: I am from Block 14. I have just returned from Layton, Utah where I have been working. (a rather distinguished/looking fellow) You may all think that I am a good speaker, but don't let my mustache fool you. I am not an orator. (laughter) (He says, "Please don't laugh at me.") To stand here, I should not be, but I would like to say as the toseibu already said, that since the young are going out there is the need of the Isseis to take their places and I think if the wages are kept at ~~\$\$\$~~ \$16 we are



only going to do \$16 worth of work. Accordingly as we raise the wage then each one of us will do the work of that and I think this is the solution of the problem. And, therefore, I think the Council should work to have our wages increased. If it could be done tomorrow it would be okay with me. There is nothing more to say. (laughter) (applause)

KURUSHIMA: Thank you. May we have block 15 next?

BLOCK 15: I am Takemori of Block 15. Only two or three are here tonight representing the block council. Our block is composed 95% of the people living formerly in Arizona. Our block council is composed of 14 persons. Seven Niseis six of whom are girls and seven Isseis. With next month our residence in the block will be a one year anniversary. Our kitchen has never had any trouble. In view of the fire in 36 and 44 I think that there is a need for a mess hall night watchman. We have a block watchman who watches from 8 o'clock to 12 o'clock in the evening. Concerning manpower, as you know most of our homes are now in the free zone as Phoenix and Mesa. Many of the young persons have left for the outside leaving their families here in Poston. Our block has a woman block manager. Our block is short on manpower, too. We have no carpenters so it is necessary to have the block council to fix the roof. I formerly used to be an Issei Advisory member, but feeling that I can be of more use as the block manager I am now the block's messenger boy. (applause)

KURUSHIMA: Thank you. Block 16?

BLOCK 16: We have only one block councilman. I understand that Mr. Myer will be here soon so I would like to have him clear up this point. When we first came here, there were no chairs or tables; only straw mattresses and beds. The WRA promised us that chairs and tables and more essential furnitures would be supplied to us. This promise they have not kept.

One student told me that his school teacher said that the Japanese are a bunch of "dorebos" and I think it is a darn shame that these say such things to our students. We took those materials only because it was necessary. If the Caucasians are told, we too, are cold. When they are hot, we are hot, too, and it is only by "borrowing" lumber that we can make the mere essential furnitures. We are not going to take these out when we leave. The fault lies in the fact that the project has not supplied us with any furniture stuff. Will you see what Mr. Myer has to say about this point? Now concerning the manpower shortage. Take for example the warehouse. The shortage seems to be in the subsistence warehouse. Why is it not possible to have 20 or 30 take care of all the warehouses? I know that in other warehouses many are working and they don't work all day long. This will help to solve the problem. (loud applause)

KURUSHIMA: May we hear from Block 26?

BLOCK 26: (Stands up where he has been sitting, not using the microphone and says--) I have been blockmanager for only two days, so I don't know the problems of our block and have no speech prepared today. Thank you.

KURUSHIMA: Thank you. May we have Block 37 then?

BLOCK 37: I am not good in Japanese. (Starts to speak in English.) I am the blockmanager of Block 37. It gives me a good inner feeling to see everyone here tonight cooperating together and discussing their mutual problems. We have the difficult job to see that the physical needs of the people are fulfilled. As manager of my block it is my privilege to fight for my block. All persons are working in my block except one young man who has just had a serious operation. All the Isseis are employed. We can't ask persons to do things that they don't like to do. For example, we have lots of young people working as truck drivers and it's pretty hard

to ask them to transfer to more essential jobs. There is a need for higher incentive for them to transfer to more essential jobs. If the incentive is to take place in the form of higher wages let's fight for higher wages. There seems to be lots of misunderstanding about the volunteers from our block. We feel that instead of sending one or two persons to the school project on volunteer basis that a fulltime worker would be much better. They would know what the score is and therefore accomplish much more than volunteers who work one or two days. We have seven or eight such workers. Concerning the hospital we were fortunate in obtaining one Issei nurse. We are a good block. (applause)

KURUSHIMA: Thank you. May we have next Block 39? (No response) Block 42?

BLOCK 42: (a young Nisei) Before coming to Poston I never did use much Japanese so will you please bear with me in my speech. Concerning manpower \$250 residents in our Block 42 are all working. We get orders from the Council to have volunteers for the hospital, for this and the other things, but there never was any response except when I called in volunteers for slaughtering chickens. No volunteers ~~and~~ no chickens and in two minutes five volunteers. This manpower shortage/<sup>problem</sup> will become more and more acute as time goes by. Is it not possible to cut down the non-essential departments? If this is not done, more and more volunteers will be asked. (Observer is interrupted by Kurushima who asked if Blocks 38 and 39 are present.) Concerning infantile paralysis this seems to go back to the common house fly. There are many flies, but how can we dispose of them when we have no fly spray or guns. I put in a plea for these equipment. I will make a comment on this because everyone present here is interested. I am sure that Poston future is not as bad as it may seem. Thank you.

KURUSHIMA: Block 38, please will you speak? (no response) Block 43?

BLOCK 43: (Issei) The blockmanager is not here so I shall speak in his behalf. I have not much to say. What I would have like to say, you have already said. Well, Block 43 was just in back of Block 44 which had such a disastrous fire. We were all busy wetting the roofs. All of our young people went out to see the fire and only the old men and women were left in the block. We are not as young as we used to be. It is difficult for us old people to climb to the top of the barracks. Therefore, I think there is a need for ladders and hoses. Two night watchmen for the mess hall from after dinner to 12 o'clock seems desirable. Also a telephone system whereby in case of a fire we could reach the fire department immediately. As for the manpower question I think there is no shortage. It is just the matter that people are working in the wrong places. Also when the Council representatives meet with Mr. Myer please inquire why our food is not up to the 45 cents standard. Now we are only getting 20 or 25 cents worth of food. We are all getting very thin on such food. At this rate in five or six years we will all die. (laughter) There is a need for good food. I was very interested in the speech by Mr. Nagai and believe that it is something to think about. Let us talk it over together. (applause.)

KURUSHIMA: Thank you. Let us now have the last speaker who will be from block 44.

BLOCK 44: Tonight the blockmanager is sick so I am here in turn to address the group. I was in Phoenix and just returned. Therefore, I was absent during the fire in our block. I wish to extend the block's sincere appreciation for your sympathies during the fire. When you return to your respective blocks please thank your block residents. I have not

much to say, but one item on the water pipe. I think there is a need for 100 feet rubber hose in each block. If we had these, than the fire probably would not be as bad as it was. Thank you.

(Observer calculates about 200 persons in ~~that~~ group.)

KURUSHIMA: Thank you all. Your talk has been very helpful and interesting.

Are there any discussions on any of the subjects or topics? (pause)

KAWASAKI: Concerning the camouflage fund of \$18,838.68, please distribute this fund as soon as possible.

KURUSHIMA: We are working on that now and classifying the jobs into A, B, and C classifications. The essential are placed into A category and the next into B. These are the three categories and the fund will be distributed as soon as we have worked out given classifications so please be patient. Mr. Matsumoto, have you anything to say? (Matsumoto comes up ~~to~~ to the Speaker's table and converses quietly with Sugiyama. He is connected with the toseibu.) We will have the toseibu explain to us.

MATSUMOTO: About the camouflage fund, let me explain. It is not as simple as putting it into A, B, and C category. The Manpower Commission is now in the planning stage. Here tonight the Councilmen and the block representatives are present, so I would like to have some suggestions. I just wanted to make a brief statement. (light applause)

\_\_\_\_\_ : I would like to ask about the cotton picking fund. What about that fund? Is that part of the camouflage fund or is that kept separate? (Dr. Mizushima goes to the speaker's table and converses with Sugiyama quietly. Kurushima repeats the conversation over the microphone for those who couldn't hear at the other end of the room and asks if anyone knew the answer.)

SUGIYAMA: It is kept separate from the camouflage fund. There's \$50. It is in the hands of the Executive Secretary of the CC. George Fujii.

EDO: I read in the Chronicle that the camouflage fund of 1, 2, and 3 is going to be an over-all-fund. Why put it all together? (there's a pause here as Mr. Kurushima and Chairman Sugiyama discuss it between them.)

KURUSHIMA: At the next meeting of the CC this will be announced. Are there any other questions or discussion? (Sugiyama leaves the speaker's table and goes to the next table where Nelson is sitting alone. Both Head and Evans have left during the meeting. Sugiyama seems to be asking Nelson if he wanted to say something. Evidently not.)

NOMURA: The camouflage factories will close this Friday so this will certainly help some of the manpower problem.

EDO: Why can't we spend some of this camouflage fund to buy coolers for the mess hall?

KURUSHIMA: We will discuss that at the Community Council meeting next Saturday. If there are no other discussion than we shall call it a day. I know it has been long and thank you very much for your kind attention. Goodnight. (loud applause)

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:10 P.M.

(YM)

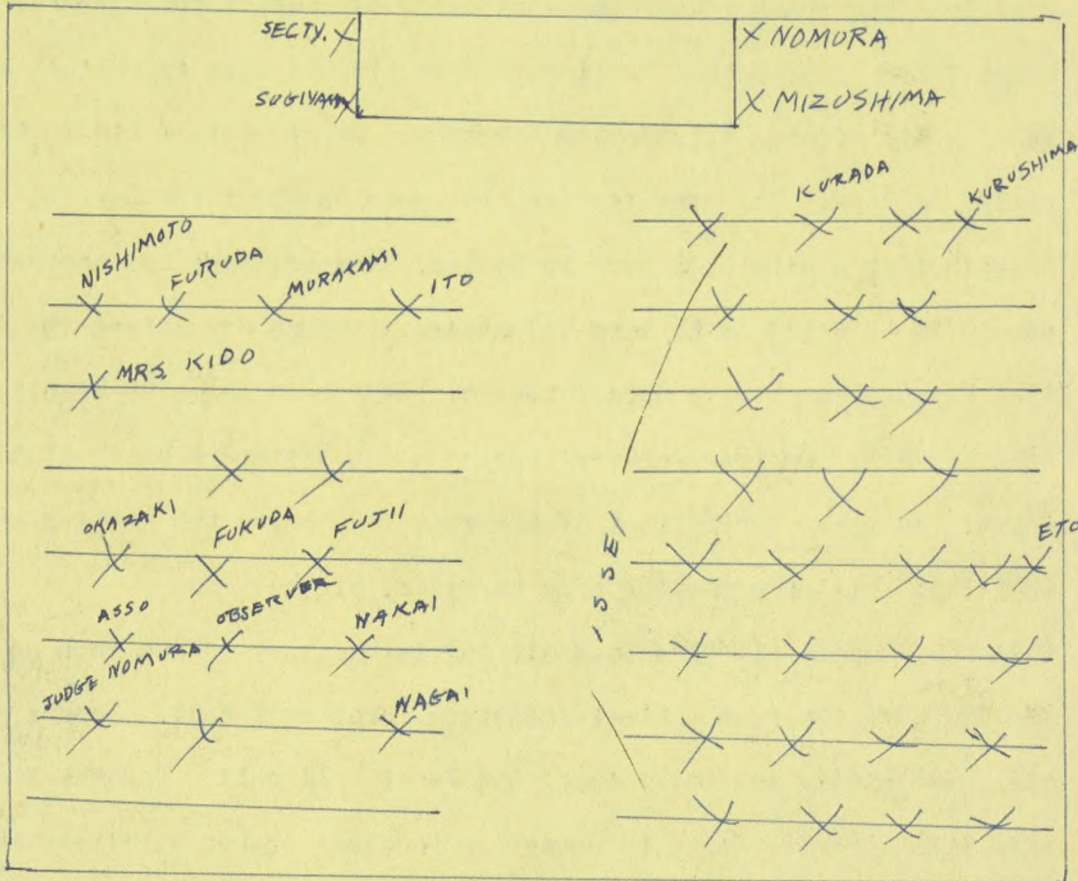
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5-15-43

Joint meeting of the TCC and IAB - (Rec. Hall 5 - 9:40 A.M.)  
 Camouflage fund - p. 2, Health and sewer - p. 15, Community Acti-  
 vities and stone polishing - p. 6, Resignation of Sugiyama - p. 12,  
 Sugiyama - p. 13, Mr. Head's plan to leave - p. 19. From p. 15. New charter  
 Prin. Actors: Sugiyama, Nakai, Nishimoto, Mizushima, Nagai, Eto, p. 10.  
 Ito, Judge Nomura, Fukuda, Kurata.

OR: IAB + subjects above.

Seating Arrangement:



Observer arrives into Rec. Hall 5 about 9:00 o'clock which is the time announced for the commencement of the meeting. There are only four other members present. One is from Block 44, one from 54 and another Issei and Dick Nishimoto of the Public Health Department. They are talking about the fact that the water is oozing out from the latrines in Block 44 as well as Block 54 and there has been talk that the motor will be set in. Meanwhile Joe Nakai and George Fujii enter the room. These two young men (kibeis) seem very close in their friendship. Others

are arriving. Nakai is talking about the surveying class which he is attending with Murakami who is also a surveyor student. Then he goes on to tell of the huge success of the block party commemorating the anniversary since coming to Poston a year ago. Joe wondered whether it was supposed to be a happy occasion or a sad occasion. Fujii has some raw eggs in a bag which arouses the curiosity of some of the Councilmen. Nakai jokingly says that Fujii must have his raw eggs to maintain his strength for his wedding this coming Saturday. Other members kid Fujii on his coming wedding. The conversation then goes on about the possibility of constructing a city hall here in Poston. The argument was whether they should be paid \$19 or to have volunteers. Fukuda dramatized the fact that Japanese were very uncooperative. Meanwhile about 45 Councilmen have arrived. Sugiyama enters wearing a new white and black plaid shirt. He goes to the front of the room and starts the meeting at 9:40.

SUGIYAMA: Will the meeting come to order, please?

(All the members who have been sitting in the back of the room go toward the front of the room. Nisei secretary takes roll call. Nomura who is the new advisory secretary takes the Issei roll call. For the first time since observer began to cover the meetings Sugiyama follows the procedure of meetings and has the secretary read the minutes of the last meeting.)

SUGIYAMA: Are there any corrections to the minutes? Any comments? If not it stands as approved.

#### CAMOUFLAGE FUND

Next thing we have here the results of the election of the camouflage fund which is as follows:

Plan I had 1,487 votes  
Plan II had 481 votes  
Plan III had 258 votes  
Plan IV had 248 votes



which makes a total of 2,471 total votes. Therefore, Plan I has been passed by popular vote. Block 28 and Block 21 didn't vote. From Block 12 there were only 3 votes. The most votes was cast by Block 59.

MIZUSHIMA: Translates.

BLOCK 21: Neither I nor the Issai Advisor was here at the last meeting and therefore we knew nothing about the election.

SUGIYAMA: That's your own fault for not coming to the meeting. Plan I necessitates bookkeeping. How shall we do that? According to the plan \$5,000 will go the hospital, \$20 to the school teachers, and \$50 to each respective block. The balance will be divided among the work corp. The problem is how shall we do this?

FUKUDA: Why don't we simply get the blockmanager to cooperate and give him the sum of money which he could distribute to the individual workers.

SUGIYAMA: True, but what if they make mistakes.

FUKUDA: That's up to the blockmanager.

MIZUSHIMA: But they don't have an accurate record of who worked or not.

NISHIMOTO: I used to be a blockmanager and I know that they have to keep accurate records of persons who work each month. This is made necessary because of the clothing allowance calculations.

CHAIRMAN: Will somebody make that into a motion?

FUKUDA: I make a motion that we distribute to the workers to be based on figures maintained by the blockmanager and that the blockmanager be responsible for distribution and to make it final and without recourse.

NISHIMOTO: It might be wise to incorporate that the workers in the hos-

pitals and schools are not included because they are taken up by the two other sections in Plan I.

CHAIRMAN: Second?

ITO: I second it.

CHAIRMAN: Any comments?

NAKAI: Last week I slipped on this one point. The nursery school teachers are included among the public school teachers.

CHAIRMAN: What about this 111 school teachers listed here. Where did you get this from?

FUKUDA: That was made by the Manpower Commission and it includes all teachers.

FUJII: Let's hear objections from the Issais.

MIZUSHIMA: (Explains and adds-- ) I wonder if the blockmanager would not make mistakes.

FUJII: Everyone makes mistakes. Even timekeepers.

NISHIMOTO: But the blockmanager is more apt to make less mistakes than anybody else because they are familiar with the members of their own block who have been working.

(Issai begins to talk about camouflage distribution which is entire off the subject. It takes a few minutes for Dr. Mizushima to explain to this Issai that he is off the subject. Observer notes that many times Issais bring up topics which in no way involves the subject being discussed at the moment. It can be either due to the lack of understanding of the conversation going on or absent-mindedness. Observer is inclined to think that absent-mindedness is the cause.)

ANOTHER ISSAI: Is there any way we can check up the list?

CHAIRMAN: The blockmanager already have kept a pretty good record so

checking over these lists would just duplicate their work. All those in favor of the proposition say, "aye". (All respond.) Contrary? (No response) Thank you.

HEALTH AND SEWER

Ah, let us have the report on the flies and mosquitoes, Mr. BABA.

BABA: Mr. Nishimoto, will you explain?

NISHIMOTO: We had a meeting last Tuesday afternoon in which the various department heads met with Mr. Baba, I and Mr. Fujii. Quite a discussion on the increase of flies and mosquitoes. The sewage/lagoon is becoming too large to handle so the blocks have been asked to cut down their water consumption. Poston is way out of proportion with the outside world to the amount of water used per capita. We attribute this to the various fish ponds. The flies are breeding in the sewage ponds. The blurt of all this is felt at Block 59, 54, and 60. We have no permanent crew for mosquito control. We have only one man who is working on it and he has to depend on volunteers for additional help. Another thing is of course this block 54 who has put in complaints about the sewage blowup. We discussed the matter with Mr. Rupkey and he promised that an auxiliary gas pump would be installed and when the electricity goes off then the motor will be substituted by the gas pump. Also we are planning to do away with the sewage lake. We will have six or nine ponds made by the subjugation crew and we plan to rotate the sewage in each pond and to dry up a filled pond with sewage every week so as to combat the mosquitoes, an answer to Block 54 who has put in complaints. The men and women's latrines and the laundry will be raised 1' 6". For the fly control in 53 there are very few flies. But on this

side of the camp there are many flies so it is not the fault of the Public Health Department and the sewage. The fault lies with the kitchen. They should do more to control the flies by spraying the mess halls. We have some available screens, but these have all been sent to Quad 9 for they are more in need of them. However, later when additional screens are received, they will be given out to everybody.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

DR. MIZUSHIMA: Mr. Baba, please explain in Japanese.

(Baba who was also present at the committee meeting gets up reluctantly and gives all the highlights.)

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES- Stone polishing

FUKUDA: I wonder if the Community Activities committee who are making the investigation now mind if I give a brief report.

MURAKAMI: All right. Go ahead.

CHAIRMAN: I have here a memorandum that Dr. Powell has sent to me.

I'll just read the outline. The members working under the various departments under the Community Activities are on the regular payroll, therefore, they are <sup>not</sup> entitled to any additional compensation. The tools and equipment are the property of the department and does not belong to the private individual. These are the points that Dr. Powell has issued in his memorandum:

- I. Each department shall keep a concise record and make monthly statements.
- II. Funds received should be deposited with the Community Enterprise Department at the Valley National Bank at Phoenix.
- III. Money can be withdrawn only with the consent of the

responsible person in charge of withdrawing funds.

IV. Receipts obtained when payments are made should be kept as a part of the permanent record.

V. Summaries of their activities should be handed in into the Communities Activities and Community Council.

VI. The CC and CA may make inspections of the various production departments and investigate justification of expenditures.

Murakami, Have you got anything to add?

MURAKAMI: I have here a recommendation to the Community Activities Department from us of the Community Activities Committee of the CC. We recommend: (1) to set a price on the commodities of production. A committee of the CC and the coordinators of the Community Activities should work together. (2) To have exacting bookkeeping set up in the Community Activities Department. (3) To handle commodities to be sold at a central location. (4) When the expense for tools and equipment go above \$50 then it should be necessary to obtain the sanction of the CC.

MITSUSHIMA: Translates.

CHAIRMAN: And that is as far as the committee has progressed. Concerning this particular stone polishing problem Dr. Powell has sent to me, to Mr. Sase and to Mr. Niiseki a letter. First the equipment was paid by the fee collected by polishing stones, therefore, the property belongs to the department. Secondly, as the present staff in the stone polishing department has not given full cooperation to the Community Activities and the CC from the date of Saturday, May 15 they are released from the Community Activities Department.

People's money which they take must be handled in the interest of the people. The equipments will remain with the Community Activities and third, the CC is asked to carry out these statements so I went ahead yesterday and I filed a complaint with the police so Mr. Sase and Mr. Niiseki are now under <sup>technical</sup> arrest and we have locked up their stone polishing equipment and there will be a court hearing on Monday. (laughter)

(Comments of--"Fast work, Sugiyama.")

MIZUSHIMA: Translates.

(Sugiyama adds this comment in Japanese--"In regard to this trial we have to have some witnesses. Say, Judge, have you received the notice yet? )

JUDGE NOMURA: No.

CHAIRMAN: When will you hold the court trial?

JUDGE NOMURA: If the defendants want it immediately, then we will hold it on Monday.

CHAIRMAN: Who will be the prosecutor?

JUDGE NOMURA: Masuda.

MURAKAMI: Our committee has been working on this and we didn't want to take such drastic step as you did. Don't you think you went too soon when we are not ready? We were not even consulted about this file charged against these two men.

CHAIRMAN: It's been filed too long. Something had to be done about it so I went ahead and did it.

MIZUSHIMA: What about the witness?

ETO: We have lots of witnesses. Why don't you call on Mr. Takahashi? He is the most important witness. He was in the original partnership, but due to some trouble he has withdrawn. He would make a good witness.

TAKAHASHI: I am already in between Dr. Powell and Mr. Niiseki and I don't ~~recommend~~ <sup>like</sup> this job as a witness. Could you turn that to someone else?

FUKUDA: Mr. Eto has started this business of stone polishing so he, himself should be the witness. Why should he pass the "buck" to Mr. Takahashi.

CHAIRMAN: Mr. Eto, have you ever had any business dealing with these men?

ETO: No. I have never had any money transaction with them. I certainly think Mr. Takahashi is better qualified to be a witness than anybody else.

MIZUSHIMA: It is for the committee to decide who is important as the witness and the judge can subpoena them.

ETO: What you have to do is look upon the list of the names submitted by Mr. Sase and note some discrepancy of the amount listed and the amount actually paid for stone polishing.

SUGIYAMA: I think only <sup>one</sup> ~~the~~ witness should be necessary.

MIZUSHIMA: We have come this far in prosecuting them so let's not back out and to the entire way so that other troubles like these ~~may~~ not come up in the future.

ETO: I would certainly like to be a witness, but I have not had any dealings with Mr. Niiseki. I think you would get more out of it if you will have Mr. Takahashi as your witness.

CHAIRMAN: I don't think it is necessary to have Mr. Takahashi. There are other names on the list.

JOE NAKAI: You have the wrong conception. The witness doesn't have to testify whether the sum is listed at a below par sum than that of one that is actually received. It is not the matter of how much money has been actually paid, but the fact that the people have paid money to Mr. Sase and Mr. Niiseki.

CHAIRMAN: We can subpoena any one of these people for that purpose.

ORGANIZATION OF NEW CC

CHAIRMAN: In this new constitution what is the exact status of the IAB? Are we going to have an IAB or not? The new charter doesn't state whether it is yes or no. With the announcement that Isseis may become Councilmen this fact should be made clear because of future interpretation.

JUDGE NOMURA: We didn't say anything about that because since the Isseis are going to become Councilmen so there was no need to bother about that.

CHAIRMAN: But they have figures. The Organization committee should be making a strong yes or no on the formation of such an advisory group.

JUDGE NOMURA: We didn't think that it was necessary.

MIZUSHIMA: Translates.

SUGIYAMA: (Suggests and adds---) The trouble might be that the coming CC might be mostly composed of Isseis.

NAKAI: Then we can have a Nisei Advisory and a Issei CC. (laughter)  
(There is much talking in the front of the room between Sugiyama, Matsumoto, Kurata, and Mizushima.)

MIZUSHIMA: Let's hear what the others have to say in the bank of the room.

ETO: I feel that it is not necessary to decide one way or another. Let the CC which comes into office decide if it is necessary. I don't think it is for us to decide.

HANE: I certainly would like to see that the Nisei take the office of CC. Most of the important jobs are being done by the Nisei anyway. I am afraid that future CC are going to be scarcer in Nisei members. I wonder of the plan of having Nisei in the CC and the Issei in the Advisory Board as it is now.



ETO: But now that there is only to be one member either a Nisei or an Issei from each block it would be up to the block vote.

ISSEI: I agree with Mr. Eto.

ANOTHER ISSEI: I also agree with Mr. Eto. I don't think it is up to us to decide. Let the new CC decide.

JUDGE NOMURA: Mr. Chairman, the old charter was so fixed that the Council can appoint committees and boards. It was under this ~~board~~ <sup>board</sup> classification that the Isseis were allowed to participate in Community Government. But now that the Isseis can become Councilmen, I think that the future Advisory Board should be left to the discretion of the new council.

CHAIRMAN: Will you make that into a motion?

JUDGE NOMURA: I move that the matter of the Advisory Board should be left to the consideration of the <sup>new</sup> Community Council.

(Seconded and Mizushima translates.)

CHAIRMAN: All those in favor signify by saying "aye". (all respond)  
Opposed? (no response) Mr. Fujii will you read the <sup>financial</sup> report?

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE CC

FUJII: The CC, we have \$200. We have a donation of \$9 from the Councilmen for the volunteers party. Office supplies was \$10.15. Telegram to Mr. Ruppey was .90. \_\_\_\_\_ \$27.17. Total of \$37.25.

(Observer unable to get further details due to loud talking.)

CHAIRMAN: How much have we in the trust fund of the cotton picking?

FUJIE: We are two cents short on that. It is supposed to be \$71.50 and we spent \$71.48 during the disturbance. We have now a balance of \$171.

CHAIRMAN: Oh, did we spend the cotton picking trust fund already? Any comments?

FUJII: Should I put this balance together with the left over from the

camouflage fund?

CHAIRMAN: That will be up to you. Whichever is more simpler for you or for your new wife. (Laughter)

RESIGNATION OF SUGIYAMA

I wish at this time to tender my resignation. (Nakai and Judge Nomura both stand up and cry out, "Wait a minute".)

SUGIYAMA: I still have the floor and I want to say my piece. I had a wonderful speech all made out to make you all cry, but I forgot it now. I plan to leave Boston Tuesday. I am going to Utah and be a rich man. No more \$19 job for me. My plans are made. I want to thank everyone for their help and assistance which has made my work easy and enjoyable. I feel that we have accomplished something during the of our office and made it easier for the next CC. Judge Nomura, you are the Vice-Chairman so will you please occupy my place and go on with the meeting? (Sugiyama seems set on leaving the meeting although the meeting is not adjourned.)

JUDGE NOMURA: As Vice-Chairman of the CC I wish to thank you for your aid. We have all enjoyed working with you.

(Sugiyama leaves his chair in front of the room and goes toward the door. Mizushima shouts out that must be Boston style. (laughter) Sugiyama says, "No, that's Sugiyama style." (laughter) Sugiyama leaves the hall.)

ETO: (Leaves his place in the middle of the room and goes to the back of the room and stands and says--) I want to tender my resignation. The Agriculture Department has begged for ~~my~~ me to return to their department.

MIZUSHIMA: But we have only one more meeting. (laughter)

ETO: Of course I enjoy working in the CC because it is for the welfare

of Poston, but the agriculture department needs me much more. / in the working  
Agriculture department is also for Poston's welfare. I have 40 years  
of experience in agriculture which qualified me better for that de-  
partment than working in the CC, therefore, I wish to resign.

MIZUSHIMA: Well, you better make some appetizing neppa. If you don't,  
then your speech has been in vain. (laughter)

(Eto leaves the room.)

FIRE

NAKAI: I have here a report of a request from the fire department. We  
had a meeting with the IAD representative and we went down to the  
fire department. We talked to Mr. Jien and Mr. Woodhouse. They  
showed us the construction between barracks. It seems that it is  
not so bad yet in Camp 1, but in Camp 3 between constructions between  
barracks is very dangerous. We went back to the fire department and had  
a meeting and we decided that it would be a good thing to stop construc-  
tions between the barracks before it becomes any worse in Poston I.  
It was suggested that a law be passed by the Council to stop this  
construction between barracks. After this meeting we went to see Mr.  
Yamamoto of the Law Division and he has written up an ordinance con-  
cerning the fire hazards. I have it here. The ordinance has 16 sec-  
tions which includes everything from doing away with arrow weed and  
bread card board boxes and other inflammable material. They also  
want a Bureau of Fire Prevention within the fire department.

(Judge Nomura who is now seated in the front of the room in place of Sugi-  
yama says -----)

JUDGE NOMURA: Mr. Baba, will you make the announcement in Japanese?

BABA: Mr. Nakai, will you do that please?

(Nakai re-explains the entire situation in Japanese.)

ISSHI: What are you going to do with the sheds and shades which have already been put up?

NAKAI: Take them all down if they are between the barracks. The only exception will be on the ends of the barracks. But these cannot be over 8 feet in extension.

FUJII: What about canvas covering?

NAKAI: Worse yet.

(Much loud talk going on now in groups.)

NAKAI: Will you have this passed right away? It is an emergency bill.

JUDGE NOMURA: Let's have the opinion of some of the Councilmen.

FUJII: There's nothing to discuss. We should give up shades and sheds which are fire hazards for the safety of Poston.

JUDGE NOMURA: What about the kitchen sheds? First they tell them that it is all right to use arrowweeds for roof materials and now they have to tear it down.

NAKAI: We talked about that at the committee meeting and of course arrow wood is dangerous, but there was a plan suggested whereby we would clamp down on the usage of trucks and let each block be permitted to use trucks so that they can go down to the river and get heavy trees with which to make roofs.

SASEKI: What about the wooden rice cooker we have between our barracks?

NAKAI: It is okay. I talked to the block kitchen crew and they will take it out. There is a possibility that we can put it on the other side next to the street.

NAKAI: I move that we pass the fire ordinance as a whole.

FUKUDA: I second the motion.

ISSEI: It is darn hot in the summer time and for some illness coolers are not the best thing. They have to have some shade or some shed so that they can keep cool. Are there any chance of getting fans from the WRA?

NAKAI: Hot or not we must have nothing between the barracks. It is too much of a fire hazard. (loud talking)

JUDGE NOMURA: All those in favor will please respond by saying "aye".  
(all respond) All opposed? (no response)

FOOD

JUDGE NOMURA: Will the food committee who have been investigating the Block 3 complaint please make a report?

KURATA: We checked with the steward's office and found nothing out of the ordinary. In fact last month Block 3 received more than their share of their food, but of course there was no complaint on that score. But in <sup>view</sup> of the other blocks Block 3 received their proportion so they have no kick back.

(Re-explains in Japanese)

FUKUDA: Then there is a mistake there. The trouble is that the stewards' office has failed to compute on the basis of A, B, C kitchen. In the A group they have five kitchens instead of two so the other three kitchens should be in Class B. But the food from the two kitchens are distributed in proportion to the other three so it is the fault of the steward.

ISSEI: The trouble is that there is not much cooperation with the Kitchen Committee. You, (Kurata), only go to Mr. Snelson and get information from him and don't know the real condition of the kitchen. You need to have the opinion of the kitchen crews. Therefore, I think the Kitchen committees should be recognized and work together on

this situation.

KURATA: Of course, I have no objections to such a plan.

FUKUDA: We are on a point basis now so it should be much easier to equally divide the food. Until now prices have been used in figuring out proportions so that if they made a mistake they could jiggle the prices of \$5 to \$7.

ISSEI: Well, the government is supposed to have a 90-day priority so it should come in. The fault lies in the distribution of the food. Mr. Snelson is not properly distributing them.

JUDGE NOMURA: The next meeting will be the last. Will each committee have prepared a final report for the next meeting so we will not take too much time?

NISHIMOTO: The Public Health department would like to make a recommendation concerning the janitor rating which was recommended by the Manpower Commission. It said that they would have to maintain 90% or better to afford \$19. This is not workable. It is very difficult to keep the latrines under these conditions to such a high standard. Also it gets the timekeepers all muddled up.

FUKUDA: It is no use of us discussing that because Mr. Head has rejected this point you are recommending. He felt that the janitor's job lasted only one hour or half an hour or so so they should receive only \$16. Since Mr. Head has rejected \$19 I think it is hopeless to discuss the rating at this meeting.

NISHIMOTO: Well, I had 8 complaints from the janitors this week so I would appreciate the fact if you would announce that they will go on receiving only \$16 regardless of rating.

ISSEI: What of garbage collectors? They get \$19.

FUKUDA: Well, the ultimate acceptance or rejections rests with Mr. Head. The Manpower Commission can only recommend. It is up to Mr. Head whether he will pass it or not.

MIZUSHIMA: But I thought that 90% rating was decided, therefore, I told our block janitor if he kept above the 90% he would receive \$19 and now you tell me no matter what rating he receives he will get only \$16.

FUKUDA: No. We never said that it was passed. We only recommended. Mr. Head, however, rejected the plan. If a person believes that he is qualified for \$19 then he must get the consent of the department head or division head. It is no use to come to the Community Council. Once they have got the recommendation of the division heads then they can bring it to the Manpower Commission and then it would be taken up with Mr. Head. There is no use in discussing this matter in the Community Council.

NAGAI: I wish to speak as a toseibu representative. With the next meeting all of us will of course automatically hand in their resignation. However, until the election is held and the new members for the Toseibu, LRB, and etc. are chosen, we, the present members and staff of these organizations will keep the office open. We will carry on until the new body<sup>is</sup>/chosen to replace us. I just want to make this announcement so that there will not be a misunderstanding of the status of our offices.

ISSEI: Which teachers are to receive \$19 and when?

FUKUDA: All teachers will receive \$19 beginning April 1st.

ISSEIS: Does that include the teachers in the nursery classes?

FUKUDA: It includes all the teachers.

MIZUSHIMA: Yes. All the teachers in the public schools, but not those

of shaku-hachi, go, or utai teachers. (laughter)

MIZUSHIMA: Then the Issai Committee men also have their report ready for the next meeting to close the affairs of business of the Community Council? Please make it short and brief.

ISSEI: Concerning this constitution that we are going to vote on the 15th. What if it is rejected?

MIZUSHIMA: We can't do anything. Let's not worry about it until it happens.

FOOD - rumor

MRS. KIDO: There is a person who is disseminating opinions and says in our neighbor block that the WRA is going to change its regulations about food and that by June and July we will receive no more vegetables. Therefore, this man is coaxing all to go out and work on gardens so that we may have adequate green vegetables. He has caused rumors to fly about and the people are scared. Can you say something definite about this so I might take it back to our block?

JUDGE NOMURA: Do you remember when Mr. Myers was here and gave a speech that You know as well as I, what he said. You might take back to the block. We have to watch out for rumors all the time and try to clear them up.

SUGIYAMA

NAKAI: Since Mr. Sugiyama, our Council Chairman is leaving us I think it would be a nice gesture on our part if we had a farewell party. Let us have a decision and work on it immediately.

MRS. KIDO: Good idea.

JUDGE NOMURA: Shall we leave it up <sup>to</sup> ~~the~~ the Public Relations Committee?

KURATA: Why not have a committee composed of all the chairmen of all the various committees?

(Judge Nomura reads off the names of the various chairmen and asks them to



get together with the Public Relations Committee)

KURATA: Shall we meet sometime this afternoon at 3:00 o'clock in the Executive Council room in the Unit I administration building?

NAKAI: What about 2:00 o'clock?

JUDGE NOMURA: You say you have collected \$9 on the volunteers party. Why don't we use that?

NISEI: Why don't we ask for a touch from the Caucasian personnel to chip in to the party?

MR. HEAD'S PLAN TO LEAVE

JUDGE NOMURA: I was wondering if the EB, CC, LRB would all get together and write a letter of appreciation to Mr. Head who is planning to leave Boston. I want to have this done because we may not be here after the election.

FUKUDA: We were thinking of the TCC drawing up a petition to try to keep Mr. Head here with us, also to have an appreciation document from Units 1, 2, and 3 showing our true sentiment to Mr. Head. I think it would be a very ~~kind~~ good gesture on our part if you would show some sort of appreciation.

(Observer inquired of Joe Nakai who said that Mr. Head is leaving for Washington.)

KURATA: When is Mr. Head leaving anyway? Is it true?

JUDGE NOMURA: Mr. Head will leave in two or three weeks.

KURATA: Yesterday, I had a heart to heart talk with Mr. Head. Mr. Head thought that his program was not up to expectation and he felt that he had not done enough for the people so there seems to be a wish on his part to get someone better. I said to him that no one else could have done a better job handling the evacuee Japanese evacuees than

he. If there had been a strong dominant man as a project director then there would have been no cooperation. Mr. Head has a good method. I feel that it would be almost disastrous for him to leave. His service is exactly the kind the people want. Mr. Head said that if the people really wanted him to stay he might be persuaded to stay on in Boston, but according to Washington they think that he is too soft-hearted and that Boston needs a strong-fisted man in office. I agree with the plan that we should have some sort of petition to retain Mr. Head. I am sure that we cannot get another man who is as much a humanitarian as is Mr. Head. I think it will be a good idea if we send a letter of argument along with the petitions.

ITO: Let the Judicial Commission formulate the petition and get it started.

FUKUDA: The Toseibu and the LRB has already been formulating a petition. You might say that the idea of this whole thing was born there. We deliberated that if we could get the unanimous signature of 15,000 people in Boston then the evacuees' voice might be heard in Washington.

KURATA: This is confidential.. . . . .(interrupted)

MATSUMOTO: Will you explain that in Japanese?

KURATA: (Explains his English discourse into Japanese and continues)

I think Mr. Head feels that he could do more for the Japanese as a private individual not connected with any governmental agency. He wants to do his part to clarify the Japanese stand. He has a desire to work for the sake of the Japanese and he has told me that he has enough material on hand to fight for the cause of the Japanese-Americans. We do have a good man so you see even if he does leave Por

he still plans to work for our cause.

NAGAI: I have never talked privately with Mr. Head. *He* felt that being seen going in and out of Mr. Head's office might not create a healthy, harmonious, atmosphere between the toseibu and the community. But as time goes by and I listen to Mr. Head in some of his speeches and ideas I feel that Mr. Head is a very capable man. I don't have to repeat, but as you must surmise Poston is one of the most peaceful of the relocation centers and I think that Mr. Head is greatly responsible for that. He understands the Japanese. (There's a silence in the room as everyone seems to be interested in Mr. Head's plan to have Poston and the desire to do something about it.) In Gila the evacuees are pushed down on their heads. Also you may have noticed that the project director has changed an innumerable time, but here we have always had Mr. Head as the project director so I agree with Mr. Fukuda. We should all try to maintain Mr. Head in Poston. Also I think if we would petition and present ~~to~~ Mr. Head with letters of appreciation that it will help Mr. Head's reputation with the Caucasians. Washington and WRA officers then might understand how much Mr. Head means to the community of Poston.

ISSEI: Let's vote on the petition.

JUDGE NOMURA: Will somebody make that into a motion?

FUKUDA: I make a motion that we have a petition to request Mr. Head to remain as the Project Director of Poston; that some plan be worked out so that Unit I, II, and III can all be included and copies should be sent to the WRA, Department of Interior and maybe a copy should be sent to the President of the United States and to any other necessary persons or committees. I think we can leave it up to the committee to send it to the appropriate persons.

ITO: I second the motion.

(Dinner bell being heard and persons getting anxious to leave.)

JUDGE: All those in favor say "aye". (loud response) Then will the Public Relations Committee and the EB contact Camps 2 and 3 and work out the plan for this petition and letter of appreciation? Let's do it before our term expires.

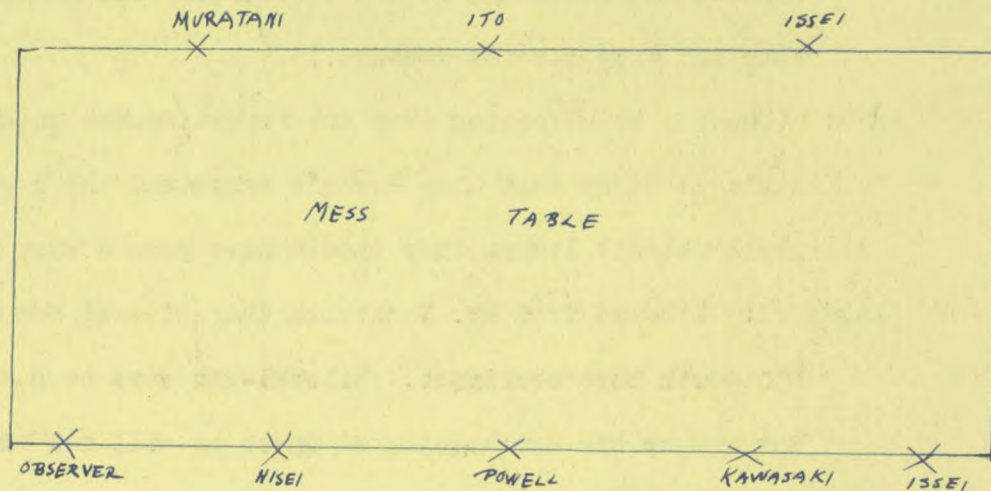
(Without adjournment of the meeting members all get up and leave.)

ADJOURNMENT 12:00

(EM)

Committee meeting of the Council Community Activities  
 Mess Hall 13 -- 7:30 P.M.  
 Investigating committee into stone polishing (Private Enterprise)  
 Purpose: Note procedure in working of committee  
 Cross Ref.: Community Activities, Private Enterprise

## SEATING ARRANGEMENT:



The Community Activities committee is composed of two Niseis and one Issei; Mr. Muratani, another Nisei, and Mr. Kawasaki, the Issei. This committee met with the Co-op committee which was also composed of two Niseis and one Issei. One was Jimmy Ito and the others were \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_. The meeting was scheduled at 7:30 P.M., but all do not gather until about 8:00 P.M. They gather rather informally as one by one appear for the meeting. They join in the conversation which concerns the center of interest in camp such as camouflage. Finally, Mr. Muratani says:

MURAKAMI: Tonight I asked Dr. Powell to appear before us and he is supposed to be here about a half hour from now. I think we should decide now what we should ask Dr. Powell. We should ask Dr. Powell exactly what should be done with Mr. Niiseki's

equipment. I think Mr. Niiseki started the stone polishing under the school as an educational feature. (Mr. Kawasaki has come into the kitchen and obtained some coffee in which he put some ice. He has been stirring this for about fifteen minutes and now comes to the table with cups and starts to pour out this for the members.)

WTO: (Who has been looking over the report handed in by Mr. Niiseki.)

Isn't it funny that they haven't described the expenses to any great extent? I think they should have earned some money by now.

KAWASAKI: I heard from Mr. Yoshikawa that Niiseki has even bought \$50 worth more equipment. Niiseki-san says he has enough work for one or two months stacked up so he will not take any more. In fact he said that he wants to quit his work. I think it awfully strange that Mr. Niiseki should want to quit work just as we start to investigate.

WTO: Yes. Something is funny.

KAWASAKI: He must have earned some money because he has changed nothing under one dollar. We were planning to investigate him more thoroughly, but it seems that some of the members who attended are meeting at the regular council meeting has informed Mr. Niiseki about our activities, therefore, Mr. Niiseki is very cautious on what he says or does.

(All agree that it is necessary to get actual bills and statements to back up the written report handed in by Mr. Niiseki to the Community Activities Department.)

MURAKAMI: I think the only reason Mr. Niiseki could buy these equipment was due to the fact that it was under Adult Education. Other-

wise I don't see how he could have gotten a priority rating.

ITO: Maybe it might be wise to take away his property which consists of machinery and tools. After all he was supposed to have bought it and paid it out of the fees that he charged for polishing stones for the residents. I think it is necessary that we first investigate his invoices and statements.

KAWASAKI: We should only pay him in reimbursement for his machinery only if he shows the bills. If he has figures which are not backed up by any bills or invoices then we should not pay him for this. (The members go through a list of the names and persons for whom stones were polished which were submitted in by Mr. Niiseki. There is a comment that Mr. Niiseki probably had twice as many customers which he has not listed.)

MR. B.: Well, that man polished his own stone and charges the expense.

MURATANI: We went to him, but he is not too anxious to show us his invoices.

ISSEI: That man probably is fixing up his own version of the invoices.

ITO: (looking through the figures) Say, I thought the average charge was a dollar. There is no dollar here. Almost of them are \$2, \$3, \$5.

ISSEI: Well, that might be explaining the fact that two or three stones were polished for that one person. He just shows the charge made to the customer and not the list of stones he may have polished. I don't know why but Mr. Niiseki seems to be afraid to show us anything that is written. I think he feels that he might be held for it later.

ITO: He seems to clearly write up his expenses, but he has no clear

documentation on the intakes.

MURAKAMI: Tonight let's not bother too much about what he took in and what he has spent, but I think the purpose of the meeting tonight is that we should have some sort of plan or solution for the problem of stone polishing. We should set up a precedence so that other enterprises might be handled in the same way.

KAWASAKI: I think the best way is to take away the machinery from him and turn it over to the school children to be used for educational purposes. Let the children learn how to polish stones. I think this is the best way.

ITO: There is no complete inventory because the customers bring their own stones. And, therefore, if he gets two or three dollars for the work he can conveniently forget to list them on the work sheet and put the money in his pocket. (Observer has difficult time in putting down all the comments as the Isseis talk together and the Niseis converse among themselves and then they enter into inter-discourse. No one seems to be the chairman although Muratani and Ito lead the discussion.)

GENE: I think maybe we could get to the bottom of this thing if we get the block councilmen to go back to their blocks and investigating by going to persons to find out who has actually brought in stones to be polished by Mr. Niiseki and Mr. Sase.

MR. B: I have at least one actual proof with a case. I know that this man paid \$2.25 for having a stone polished, but Mr. Niiseki has put it down on the work sheet as being charged \$1.25.

ITO: Then there must be a possibility that he has written down \$6 to \$6 and he may have lowered it to \$6 or \$3.



MURATANI: I wonder if we should make a thorough study of the blocks to find out exactly how much has been paid by the different customers. (Dr. Powell enters the mess hall.)

ITO: Come over here. Sit over here. How was the trip? (*Middleton*)

POWELL: Good. Only I nearly got killed.

KAWASAKI: (In Japanese) (Stands up and offers his place to Dr. Powell.)  
Sit here in the center.

ITO: Well, Dr. Powell, are you ready to have questions fired at you? (Ito takes time to introduce each member to Dr. Powell. Dr. Powell smiles, nods his head to each person present.)

KAWASAKI: (Pours iced coffee and hands it to Dr. Powell who exclaims, "Thank you. This is just what I need.")

MURATANI: I wonder if it is all right with the Isseis if we talk English.

ITO: I think it is all right if they don't understand I will translate it for them.

POWELL: Well, I might as well start from the beginning. Last Summer and fall the Activities Department had a number of groups doing productive work. It was rather informal. We were trying to obtain material, but no material were available, therefore, the groups bought their own materials and charged fees to cover the original cost. This is what has lead to the various problems of deciding whether a department belongs to the Industries, Activities, or Enterprise. The Community Enterprise if it pays cash advances such as sewing and the toymaking department, the machinery actually becomes the part of the enterprise. The Community Activities buy their own material and charge to

cover cost and the Industries department is more or less in the sense of ..... materials made here. The CA's various departments are the following, the toy factory, Christmas card and several others. They have a business manager and a coordinator, for example, Kurushima a \$100 of his own money invested in the machinery and the problem is to whom it belongs. First, they might keep it as their own for they have bought it from part of their own funds. Then second, like Kurushima, Ken Kono and others, machinery and materials were bought with school funds upon the promise that they would teach students. Third, where the member buys with his own fund and later covers it by charging fees to which does it belong? It does not belong to the WRA and yet it doesn't belong to these people. It seems to belong to non-existent legal entity which the department itself might be the ..... It might be the toy department, sewing, and even the activities department. We had a meeting to discuss over this, but nothing was decided. The government auditor might say that since cash advances was being paid to these workers that it was government property, but if they ever got it into their hands then it would take an act of Congress to get it out again so we don't want either the government to have it nor do we want private enterprise. We have it financed at the present time which consists of the pull earnings of all the departments. It also includes the budget. This gem polishing came much later in the picture.

MURATANI: I think it began on January 7.

POWELL: They were all there on the first and then they came in

to ask for work cards later and they were put under the section known as the service and production department. This includes the printers, the sewing, the red Cross, Kurushima, Ken Kono, and others. When the gem polisher came up later to get his work card I thought that they would be on the same basis. They had put in a request for \$200 or \$300 to buy machinery then I heard that they had their own machinery later on. I have never talked to neither Mr. Niiseki and Mr. Sase except when they came in to get their work card. Our theory is that they were on the same basis. I have later found out from Mr. Yoshikawa that Mr. Niiseki and Mr. Sase that they were inclined to be a little too independent by themselves. Yoshikawa felt that they were charging too steep a price and therefore Yoshikawa wanted to do something about it, but he met with resistance. I hear that they have even more machinery. They are not on the same basis exactly as the toy making, sewing, and wood work and are not on the same basis as those who teach students. They might be classified as a manufacturing enterprise and Community Service. Of course I don't know how to *imp. it to* community, but it seems to be very handy.

Ito: Is there any chance of taking it over immediately? Each month they seem to have a larger expense.

Powell: It is pretty much the same in other departments. Kurushima is still \$15 short of being reimbursed, but of course Mr. Niiseki's investment has a much wider gap. We would like to take over the machinery, but there was no way to pay the

deficit. And even if we did pay the deficit we don't know in what manner we would reimburse ourselves.

ITO: Then there was no record connected with it <sup>at</sup> all?

POWELL: That's right.

ITO: If so many customers have gone to have their stones polished why was there not a better record kept?

POWELL: Yes, I think that's one of our faults. We have a too easy bookkeeping. Looking back now, I think we should have established a full time bookkeeper, but we never realized it at that time and, therefore, we have left each group on the promise that they would let us go through their books at anytime.

(Kawasaki asks for translation of what has transpired. Ite complies.

The mess hall keeper is spraying the windows with a spray gun and many flies come buzzing by.)

MURATANI: Dr. Powell we would like to have some plan on a policy concerning these sort of things. We want it down on record so that something always comes up similar to this then we can refer to it.

POWELL: The department has no written agreement with the various groups. It was only verbal. I think it might be a good idea if we kept standard books if accounts were available.

ITO: Or someone to go around to check. During March Mr. Niseki had a deficit of \$349. In April he still had \$253 even after all the work he had done.

POWELL: Maybe we need someone to appraise the equipments.

ITO: The community would like to inspect all books and invoices. I think when Mr. Niseki would not show his invoices something is very funny.

POWELL: If he says he has no invoices then what?

MURATANI: Then he will be responsible.

ITO: Then from now I think that a record should be kept of all the enterprises. We want to show the community that there is no private enterprise in Boston;

POWELL: I think you should talk to Mr. Yoshikawa. He seems to have met some resistance with Mr. Niiseki.

ITO: Mr. Kawagaki says at first when they were quizzed they threw up their hands and said that if we paid them the money they would give us the machinery. However, the attitude has now changed. They want to quit.

POWELL: I am not at all very familiar with this gem polishing. Mr. Yoshikawa is much more familiar with this. He sets such things as the sewing prices, but he has met some resistance when he tried to interfere with prices charged by Mr. Niiseki.

MURATANI: I talked to Mr. Yoshikawa, but he said that at first they were not under his department. He told me to go see the LRB.

POWELL: I think Miss Laughton knows something about the situation. She found them a place for them to work. She probably knows the worth of the equipment too. It might be wise to talk to her. We would like to have this thing cleared up so there will be no heat on recreation later. I think some easy system should be devised and keeping track of records before everybody gets mad.

POWELL: Miss Laughton is familiar with this situation.

ITO: In order to approach these persons may we have a written statement from you?

POWELL: All right. But I think instead of directing it against stone polishing why not have it for all the production department and ask them to submit a profit and loss statement their invoices accompanying their statement. Tell them that the auditor will then come around to check. I think if it is done evenly for all it would take the heat off.

ITO: Could this be done as soon as possible please so we can begin to investigate immediately? (There is some talk among the three Issai. One of them says that the purpose of the investigation is not for persecution, but rather to clarify certain points. All agree not to hit stone polishing alone, but to include all production departments.

POWELL: I will include the basic policy which they might have forgotten. That is, when they are paid cash advances and after they have been repaid by the fact that they have charged the equipment. It belongs to the department and not to the WEA and not to the private individual, but to the department.

MURATANI: If the department is dissolved or is absent, what then?

POWELL: Oh, we have a piano repair shop in Camp II, but its tools can be turned over to be used at wood working or furniture making so you see these tools can always be used by persons for other purposes. However, we would try first to get others to continue with the work and if this is impossible, then we would turn over the tools to other utilities.

MURATANI: These jobs are more or less non-essential and what if the Manpower Commission should ask them to quit. What then?

POWELL: I think if these persons are asked to quit they will not

take on new jobs, but will keep on doing what they are doing privately. They are doing the work presently because they have enthusiasm. They will probably do it on and on if necessary. I have just gone through the revised budget for the ten relocation projects and find that the project labor has been reduced. There is not as much budget as this fiscal year.

ITO: Could that be attributed to relocation?

POWELL: The cut in the budget is not that heavy. Just a little. But of course we will have to make our departments smaller. Of course with fewer workers the problem becomes tougher. There is a possibility if no wages can be paid then these persons can keep \$16 out of the fees that they charge, but of course that is a problem in the future so let us not worry about it until we come to it. This is also true of the music teachers under the Community Activities. They will probably start charging fees as they are not under WRA pay. The Community Activities have been working for the benefit of the community of which the cancellation of the postal inspection and the delivery by the Express office of parcel post are examples. We have been trying to work on many things. We thought we had a new room in the express office so we put in our chairs and tables there and then we found out that the whole section had been turned over to the Employment office. So we have to move again. This is the 7th time we are going to move in the last few months.

ITO: Mr. Powell, how soon can you draft a letter?

POWELL: Well, I can probably draft it by Friday. I would like to go over it with a couple of you. I have a meeting at 3:00

o'clock so let's make it Friday 1:30 .

MURATANI: I wonder if you have to get the consent of the Council to distribute these letters.

ITO: I don't think so. Dr. Powell's department will be responsible for passing out these memos.

ITO: (Explains in Japanese the proposal of Dr. Powell. All agree that they would meet on Friday at 1:30.)

MURATANI: Well, like the time we went to investigate Niiseki He sort of hinted that we were not empowered to investigate then so such a letter by your department will certainly aid our investigation.

ITO: Well, thank you Dr. Powell for coming here tonight.

(Dr. Powell shakes hands with the members and the meeting is adjourned at 9:30.)

(YM)



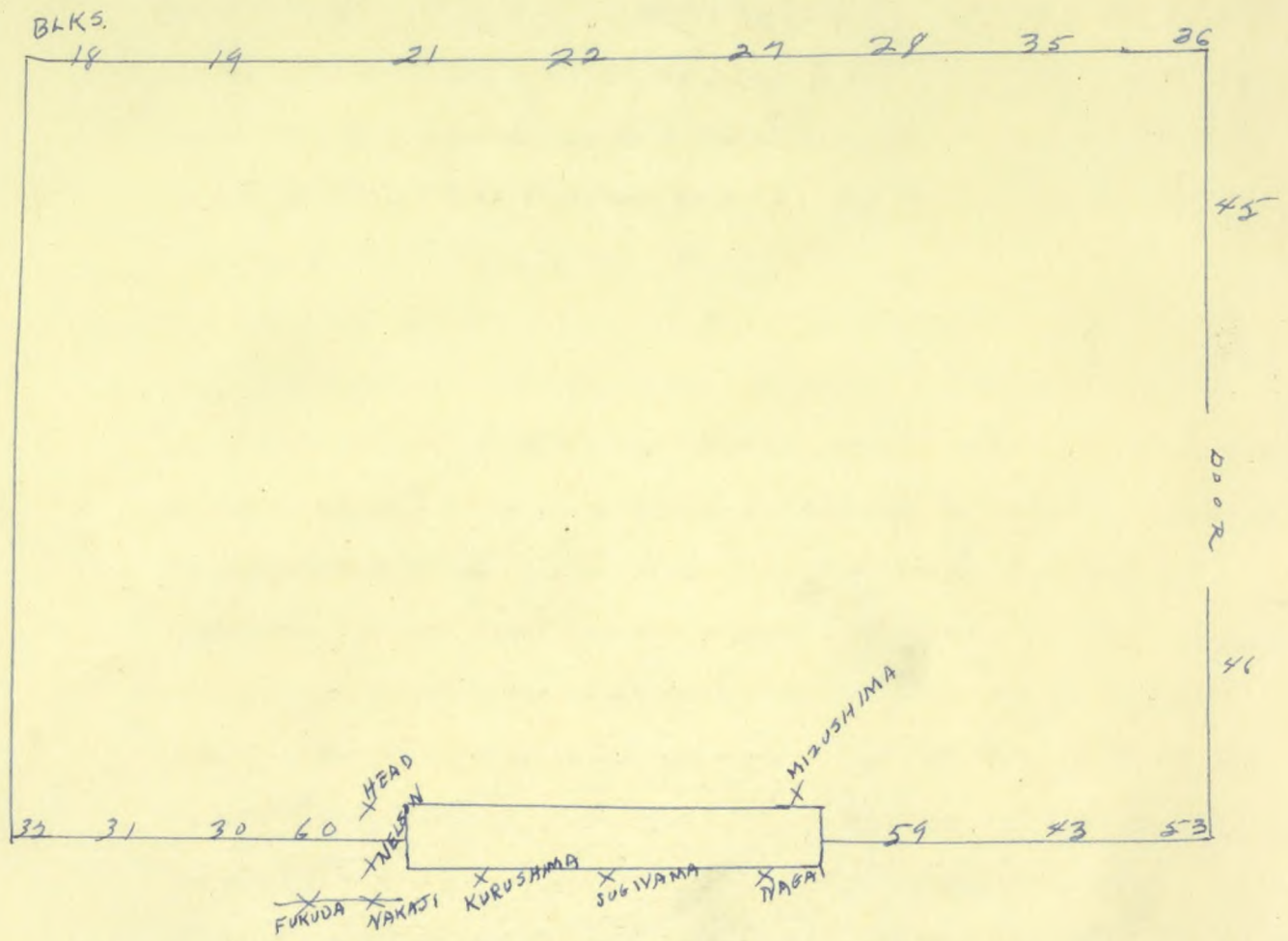
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COMMUNITY GOVERNMENT  
BLOCK COUNCIL CONFERENCE with TCC, IAB, LRB, EB, Manpower Commission  
Mess 32 - 8:30 P.M.

4-22-43

SEATING ARRANGEMENT: *Discourse in Jpn.*



KURUSHIMA: I know this evening is rather warm, but I am glad to see you here tonight inspite of the stuffiness. As announced in the instructions we appreciate your efforts in your respective blocks. This session will bring forward your accomplishments, your problems, and your failures. The manpower shortage is a big problem. We need each block's whole-hearted support before it can be remedied. As more and more people will leave this problem will increase in intensity. One of the main reasons for this conference is to get your interest in the subject. Gambling is another problem which requires your aid and cooperation.

(Observer notices that there are about 150 persons which is less than the preceding night.) The first thing that I would like to ask of those present here is that we desire each block to have only one spokesman so that confusion will not result by having all trying to speak at once. During the discussion we would like to have all of you feel free to speak. (Other Councilmembers enter.) Then we will have Mr. Sugiyama, Chairman of the CC talk to us. (applause)

SUGIYAMA: Friends, we have gotten together here tonight to discuss the important questions confronting the community. I shall start out by explaining the policy of the CC. Frankly, we have nothing to write home to mother about. We do, however, have a streamlined Manpower Commission to regulate labor and adjust problems arising between employees and employers. It may be of interest to note that this is the only policy making board in which the administrator and evacuees sit at the table side by side and discuss mutual problems. Also, we have the Social Relations Board which will take care of block disputes and problems arising between individuals in the block. The Judicial Commission has also been improved. We have now obtained jail space at Parker and Yuma. The CC has also done its share in obtaining the grant issued by the WRA to cover the travel expense for relocation; \$50 for family head, \$25 for dependents, \$3 a day on the train and train fare to the job destination. We have also established a Japanese language newspaper. What does the CC plan to do in the future? The first important item is to improve the status with the people in Parker. If any of you have been in Parker you have probably noticed insulting signs about the place. Either we should make relations better or we should not have associations with the Parker residents. We are going to try to better relations. In the near future

some of us will have a dinner in Parker with some of their businessmen to talk over the problem. Later we hope to invite these same persons to a dinner here in Poston. The hospital is another problem that the CG hopes to do something about in the near future. Also the constitution has finally arrived back from Washington to be translated<sup>into Japanese</sup> and to be approved by the organization committees. We have \$18,838.68 income from the Camouflage fund for the month of February and March. The first question is to solve how we should divide this.

All of us are aware that we were paid by checks during the last few days. The Community Enterprise got \$15,000 in cash from a Phoenix bank. However, this will not be enough to cash all the checks. Therefore, the Council plans to offer the camouflage check as a loan then mama can buy more articles from the Sears, Roebuck. (laughter) We need the interest of the Block Council for it is desire that they be responsible for sending a Nisei Councilman to every meeting. So far we have not had a quorum for the last five or six meetings. We really need your cooperation. Thank you. (applause)

KURUSHIMA: Next, we will have Mr. Nelson our new Unit I Administrator. (applause)

NELSON: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Head, and friends. I want to be Brief tonight.

First, I wish to express my appreciation for the reception that I have received from all of you. I know most of you. However, I would like to know all of you. As you know I am succeeding my friend, Mr. John Evans. I know that it will be a big job to follow the good work that he has done. I am going to try my best to measure up to his standard. Thank you.

(applause) (As Kurushima tries to go on to the next subject an Issei stands up and says in a rather sarcastic voice, "Why don't you translate what he said? We can't understand whether it was complimentary or whether it was insulting.)

KURUSHIMA: (Apologizes and translates Mr. Nelson's speech into Japanese)  
(Isseis applaud) Next, we shall have the IAB Chairman, Dr. Mizushima  
speak to us. (applause)

DR. MIZUSHIMA: I know it is hot this evening, but I am glad to see you all  
here tonight. It is almost one year since our arrival to Poston. We have  
had all sorts of problems. Most of them was like trying to set a square  
into a round hole. The Council as formed which was composed of all  
young Nisei men with American education as their background, so they  
have done a very good job. Maybe advisors from the Isseis is not neces-  
sary, but we, the Niseis, formed an Issei Advisory Board. You may have  
heard that we are not doing much of anything, but "oyajis" don't have  
to do anything, but to sit and watch over the Community Council. This  
is a good Japanese custom. So we are like father and child! At first  
the Niseis felt we fathers were old--old in our ideas, but now our hearts  
are together. We now hold joint meetings. Separate ones are held if  
necessary. The constitution has come back from Washington. We have  
waited sometime for it to return. Now that it has returned we will hold  
our election soon. This meeting tonight is to discuss our mutual  
problems with the Blockcouncilmen. According to the WRA instructions  
there should be 14 Blockcouncilmen in each block. One from each barrack.  
However, we find that some have only one blockcouncilman. Others have  
as many as 60. In other blocks women compose largely the Blockcouncil.  
which is good as the women are nearer their homes. I would like to sug-  
gest that each block go back to the 14 Blockcouncil status. I know that  
you are doing an all out effort for the welfare of your respective blocks.  
If there is any difficult, than we would be pleased if you could bring  
the problem before the CC to "hash" it out. We met with Mr. Myer today.

We discussed over 24 items. Some of them were dothing allowance to be distributed to all persons, raise in wages, hospital problem, manpower, subsistence, firemen, educational problems, control of newspaper articles such as DeWitt's "Jap is a Jap". These are some of the things the Council is doing and it needs your cooperation. Please inform others on what we are doing. Thank you. (applause) (As the conversations now become totally Japanese Mr. Head and Mr. Nelson shake hands with the speaker, Kurushima, and leave.)

KURUSHIMA: Next we shall have the toseibus. Mr. Nagai will speak to us.

(applause) (Tonight the microphone is not available.)

NAGAI: Good evening, friends. We have a fancy name, the toseibus, but that is not so. Some of the things we have been doing has been discussed by Chairman Sugiyama and Dr. Miaushima. Our job isto draft and plan what the CC brings before us. The toseibus gets complaints and gives advise. I have a topic today which is hard to present. This is the moral problem which is getting worse with each day in Poston. Gambling is becming a great problem. The Isseis are old so it may be all right for them to gamble away, but it is our responsibility to keep the Nisseis away from it. To do this we must have the cooperation of ~~the~~ every adult resident in Poston. We must rescue our youth from the evils of gambling. Our lives here in camp is not normal so we must watch ourselves and not deteriorate while we stay here in camp. It is of the utmost importance to help each other and to help ourselves to be better men and women. With the problem of manpower and hospital shortages, I think this problem is one of the most important. It is necessary to keep ourselves high in the level of intelligence. Isseis must keep the responsibility to the Nisseis. We must think over this very carefully. If at

this meeting you Councilmen can get this one point I feel that this conference has not been in vain. Judge Nomura is doing a good job, but he alone cannot cope with this growing problem. (Nagai is getting very dramatic now. He is very loud. He bangs his fist on the table once or twice. Uses words such as "nihon minzoku".) The blocks should not bicker among themselves. Gambling is prevalent all over camp. To my surprise I found that it is even taking place in my own block. There is one Nisei who has spent over a thousand dollars of his family's funds in gambling. Another boy who has two years college education as a background and to whom the entire family bank balance had been turned over because of the scare of the frozen funds lost over two thousand dollars gambling. His mother came to me and tearfully told me her predicament. It is important that we make these Niseis realize what they are doing. Another youth pickpocketed an old Issei who was sleeping on a bench of the sum of \$80 from his pocket. This is a great shame to the Japanese race. It is our biggest problem. Housing, bones, hospital all become small problems compared to the Nisei welfare. (bangs the table) Another problem is the boy and girl problem which is on the increase. Also these block internal conflicts should be stopped. It doesn't matter whether you are from San Diego, Sacramento, or Orange County. Other persons are making trouble for people with whom they had unpleasant business deals. It's no trouble here in Poston to sleep and eat. Maybe all this bickering is done in fun. But it is shameful. It is not the money \$16 or 19 dollars that should be of importance, but more for the welfare of the community. The Social Relations Board has been formed to cope with these sorts of problems. Some, however, say that there is no need of such a board, but I think we all realize that there is a dire need for such a Social Relations

Board. The Isseis and Niseis should clasp hands and work together to better Poston. Tonight I wish you would remember what I have said and think more along these lines. Also we ask for your full-hearted support to the toseibus. (Loud applause)

KURUSHIMA: Next, we shall have Mr. Nakaji of the Labor Relations Board.

(applause)

NAKAJI: Tonight I am glad to see so many of you here present in spite of the heat. I will make my speech as short and simple as possible giving ~~only~~ <sup>only</sup> the main high lights. As it was announced in the Poston Chronicle the Manpower Commission is now working on the classification of essential workers in terms of health, life and security of Poston. To date 500 have left of which are mostly young men and women. This will increase as the time goes by. It is expected that at least two thousand will leave by the end of this year. This is a big problem. (Mr. Nakaji gives figures that he gave the night before. See Block Council Conference of April 21, 1943.) We want everyone of you to do your part in alleviating this manpower shortage. Please do everything in your power to make the residents in your block conscious of the manpower problem.

(applause)

KURUSHIMA: We shall now have Mr. Fukuda of the Manpower Commission speak to us.

FUKUDA: § because of the trouble he had in finding the right words at the preceding meeting the night before, ~~he~~ <sup>he</sup> gives his speech in English tonight. ) Ladies and Gentlemen, good evening. Why was the manpower commission established. What is it for and what have they done? As you know due to the camouflage factory opening, the army draft and ~~so~~ <sup>so</sup> people going out for relocation serious dislocation of manpower took

place incamp. These persons who are leaving are composed of most young men and women. It is necessary that the Isseis take over their jobs.

These three things all appeared at the same time which caused an acute shortage of workers in certain departments. For instance on April 7th only 7 firemen worked in the fire house. Two men to a shift. The hog farm had 19 men and was reduced to a minimum two men staff. There is a need for 70 members, but at one time it was reduced to 35. With a serious condition in camp Chairman Sugiyama held the manpower conference inviting the department heads, division heads and the evacuee department heads. Out of this was created the so-called manpower commission. The Manpower Commission is composed of all division heads here Mr. Empie, Miss Findley, Mr. Mathiesen, Mr. Rupkey, Mr. Kennedy, (Zimmerman is now taking his place) Mr. Evans, (whom Snelson has replaced. These are the six Caucasians on the commission. The other six include the evacuees--- one from the Council, one from the IAB, ~~two~~ from the Labor Relations Board, One from the executive board and one representative from the camouflage. At first the Manpower Commission had to determine what is the more important job in the community here. What are the important things that had to be done in Poston. We decided that the life, health, and security are the important things in Poston to the evacuees. Then we had to tackle the problem of what the important jobs which is necessary to maintain the life, health, and security of Poston. After many meetings we decided on 1,863 workers that are vitally essential to the project. There is an administrative instruction whereby the Project Director can raise the wage of vital jobs from \$16 to \$19. We took advantage of this ruling and submitted to Mr. Head all the vitally essential workers and recommended that they be paid \$19. Mr. Head has approved <sup>all</sup> /of these recommendations.

*Receipt  
where  
also*



The problem, now, therefore, is to fill these essential jobs and to keep them filled to keep peace and normal life in Poston. Also I would like to mention that the janitor in the hospital should be put into the "A" category. A member in the Executive Board has been put into the "B" category. The garbage work we felt was vitally important so the crew was placed into the "A" category. However, members of the Labor Relations Board has been classed into the *B category*. Nurses' aides has been classed as essential into "A", whereas, lawyers have been placed into "B". Also the secretary to the Council as Miss Marion has been placed into the "A" category. However, the Chairman to the Council has been placed into "B" category. I also would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the rubbish and garbage workers, the hospital workers, the laundry workers at the hospital where they wash the gowns, pillows, and sheets from the patients with contagious disease. Also the electricity and linemen who risk their lives at night to keep the electric power in order. Also the unpleasant and disagreeable jobs of/nurses and cook. These should all be paid high tribute. These persons are all doing their share to lead a peaceful life for Poston. (ap-  
plause)

KURUSHIMA: Shall I translate that into Japanese Mr. Fukuda? (Fukuda stands up and explains in Japanese himself.)

FUKUDA: Please bear with me. I have never been in Japan and my Japanese is not "up to par". (He re-explains his foregoing speech into Japanese. Most of the Isseis are sitting with their heads supported by their hands with elbow on the table. Few are smoking. At one extreme end of the room Kuruda is conversing with Mr. Evans. Mr. Gelvin is sitting with them. Fukuda intersperses his Japanese speech with much English.

He abruptly ends his speech and sits down which is followed by warm applause.)

KURUSHIMA: Now, the blocks. Until now maybe it has been very tiresome so now we will turn to the more interesting part of the discussion. Block 17, may we hear from you first? (applause)

BLOCK 17: We have heard all you have to say. We are glad to have the opportunity to hear your side of the story. Block 17 I am sure has many questions to ask, but since we received the invitation only yesterday we have not had ample time to discuss it to our block council. I alone cannot decide what problems are of interest to the block, but will report later after a blockcouncil meeting. I thank you. (applause)

KURUSHIMA: May we have Block 18 next? (applause)

BLOCK 18: Our block appreciates this opportunity to hear your speeches. We are in the same predicament as Block 17 that we just received our invitation so we will discuss it some other time. Thank you. (applause)

KURUSHIMA: May we have Block 19?

BLOCK 19: Block 19 has nothing to say here, but our block arrived on the 25th of May. There has been no trouble. Why? Because last year after evacuation we were in a turmoil. We were without hope. When in the future will we ever be able to leave this center? Our feelings here were the same so we decided to make our daily life as easy as possible to help each other. I recall that this was one of the first things that the blockcouncil discussed when it was formed. Until now the block as a whole has had no trouble whatsoever. Maybe there has been some trouble between individuals, but on the whole it was very good. This is all. (applause)

KURUSHIMA: Thank you. Next, Block 21?

BLOCK 21: We have not much to say. There is a need to serve and help each other. Our kitchen has had no grievances. The block as a whole has been very peaceful. Tonight we have not much thought. Thank you.

(applause)

KURUSHIMA: Thank you. May we have Block 22 next?

BLOCK 22: I just want to say that Block 22 all came together, hence, we have had no trouble at all. Thank you.

KURUSHIMA: Block 27?

BLOCK 27: Our block is composed of rural people, Orange County and San Diego people. We are all familiar and maybe that is the reason we have all gotten along together. As a block we are very peaceful. As yet we have nothing to say on the "fuki mondai", manpower problem. We hope to discuss this later on at our block council meeting. (applause)

KURUSHIMA: Block 28?

BLOCK 28: As Mr. Nagai has said I think there is a need for more interest shown in our moral problems. I say this not as a block representative, but as my personal opinion. We all "borew" things from the government so I can't say how we can call Mexicans "dorebes". (laughter) I know my speech is terrible, but I would like to make another point. We know that the kitchen trouble has now blown over. We need more men like Mr. Yahiro to remedy such situations. Maybe he was not responsible for better food, but the fact remains we are getting much better dinners. I think we should all push such persons as Mr. Yahiro. Concerning the fire I think we should have hoses, ladders, and kitchen stove cleaners. Thank you. (applause)

(The Issei agitator who before had asked to have Mr. Nelson's speech translated now shouts out if the meeting is being recorded so

that these suggestions would not be lost. Mr. Kurushima nods his head.

KURUSHIMA: Block 35?

BLOCK 35: (There's a long pause as no one seems to want to talk. Finally Mr. Matsumoto of the toseibu stands up.) Tonight our block is having their kitchen floor fixed and also having the movie in our block. Therefore, our blockcouncil is not here tonight. I will report back this meeting back to the blockcouncil for discussion. (applause)

KURUSHIMA: Block 36?

BLOCK 36: Tonight the Block 36 blockcouncil is not here so I shall speak in their behalf. I am not speaking as a block representative, but expressing my own personal view. This speech has not been thought out before hand. Yes, I agree with Mr. Nagai that the high school young people problem should be of more interest to the parents. Not only the toseibus, but all of us must work together. The Manpower Commission needs the backing of all of us. Even if these leaders work as hard as possible they still need the backing of the community. So much for tonight. (applause)

KURUSHIMA: Thank you. Block 45?

BLOCK 45: We received the invitation only recently so we have not had time to call a blockcouncil meeting to discuss your invitation. But personally I think these sorts of meeting should be held much more oftener. Thank you. (applause)

KURUSHIMA: Block 46?

BLOCK 46: There are many big problems and many small problems in our block. Hearing speeches by block representatives telling us how harmonious ~~is~~ his block is, as Block 19, for example, I feel ashamed to have to admit that our block is not one of such blocks. Our block is composed of people who are always griping. They don't

show their true Japanese traits. Although they must realize that the cook works hard my block residents say that the rice is hard or make other complaints. Other persons who are not sick go to the hospital and get permits to obtain better food. Our block is not cooperating. Other blocks are lucky. (Only block that admits that his block is not the best.) I have tried to do my very best. I try to make the people in my block cooperate, but they are like "Nanking mushi" (bedbugs). I would like to have the block to live happier together. I hope that this sort of meeting will help to carry to attain this end. We, too, received the invitation too late so that nobody could be informed in time to show up to this meeting. Thank you.

KURUSHIMA: Thank you. May we have block 53 next?

BLOCK 53: Our residents will be in this block 11 months this month. There has always been peace in our block I am glad to say. I hear that some of the blocks have had trouble trying to get someone to clean the latrines, but in our block everyone helps. Concerning the fire in Block 44 I personally think that it was <sup>a</sup> lucky thing that we had no wind, but if we did have a wind there would have been a great tragedy. One or two fire engines are not enough. I hate to think what would have happened if Unit 2's truck had not come. I think the Council should work to try to get more fire engines. Also the school is not progressing very well. It is getting hotter as the months become warmer, and it is difficult to ask children to stay at home when the parents themselves cannot sit and write letters. All blocks should help in building the adobe school houses. Thank you. (applause.)

KURUSHIMA: Block 43?

BLOCK 43: Our block is composed mostly of Imperial Valley persons. We have about 60 single bachelors. We have not had any trouble.

Maybe once or twice, but never any big trouble. I think the cause of the fires are the kitchen stoves. I think we should buy better stoves for the mess halls. Don't you think it would be cheaper to buy a new stove than burning down a mess hall? (laughter) In my block it takes three hours to boil coffee in the morning. I feel sorry for our cooks. In our own mess hall a fire started five times but they occurred during the day time so they were stopped. Today the stove is out of order so the cooks cannot cook hot meal so they have threatened to quit. We are now getting by on nothing but sandwiches. We talked to Nelson for a new stove and warned him that if ~~they~~<sup>he</sup> did not get us one the kitchen crew would quit. Mr. Nelson has promised us a stove in a couple of days. Concerning this manpower shortage. Some people work as hard as if they were on the outside. Other persons, however, work as if they were on a WRA project. I, for one, was working as a carpenter and was told that I was crazy to work so hard. Maybe it is all right for the Americans to develop such traits, but we must not forget that we are Japanese. If we can fill the wheelbarrow full of sand by ourselves, then let us do so without help of others. This is a Japanese spirit. Some of the evacuees are of the opinion ~~of~~<sup>let</sup> the "ketos" do the work. This is wrong. We should try to overlook and work as hard as possible. The Japanese are known by the world as hard working nation. When we leave Poston I want it said that the Japanese here worked hard. The other day I went to the mountain with an axe with a crew. Some of the men sat in the shade and rested and said that I was crazy to work so hard. I told him in reply that I was not working for Americans sake, but working for the people in the camp. There

should be absolutely no trouble in camp as there is a place to sleep and plenty to eat. Let us all work a little harder and will surely alleviate some of the manpower shortage. It is human nature to hold an easier job. After all of us eat in the mess hall even our dishes are washed by others. A block should not be considered as a block but should be ~~work/family~~ in a sense of a big family all in one dining place. If you cannot understand this then you are no good. Not only the CC, the EB and others, but all of us work, must work for the benefit of Poston and let us do a good job. I am sorry to have spoken so long. Thank you. (applause)

KURUSHIMA: Thank you very much. Block 59?

block 59: I am glad that I am here tonight to compare my block with others in Poston. Our block is composed of half Boyle Heights and half Brawley residents. The Council is composed of members from each barrack, two from the "fujin kai", and two from the Boy's club. We hold a meeting twice a month. I think we should all cooperate more with the CC, the toseibu and others. (applause)

KURUSHIMA: Block 60?

BLOCK 60: We are the last number of blocks, but we <sup>too</sup> have tried our best. Our blockmanager is a women. I think we should use more women in jobs for I think it will help the manpower shortage. The invitation was not clear to all of us, that is why I am sorry I couldn't bring more Councilmen here tonight. I agree with Mr. Nagai on his moral problem. I learned a lot tonight and appreciate it very much. In our block it was decided that <sup>the</sup> gifts should be exchanged during holidays or during illness. We all true Japanese with bright hearts. Next, I have a snelly story. You know in Blocks 60, 59, 53, and 54

in these 4 blocks it is very inconvenient to have visitors in the Mess Hall; as they are eating we inevitably get that sewer smell. I wonder if the Public Health Department couldn't move that four or five miles away from us. (Block 54 shouts out, "We agree.") I think others will agree. I knew that there is a war going on so I wouldn't ask anything which is unnecessary, but gee whiz we can't stand the sewer smell. We are all getting tired by being kidded by everybody else in camp. (laughter) I know it sounds like a joke, but I wish something could be done to fix the situation. Our block has been very peaceful up to now. I wish to take time out now to express my appreciation and ask you to continue your good work. Thank you. (applause)

KURUSHIMA: Block 30?

BLOCK 30: We received the invitation yesterday. We have not had an opportunity to hold a block meeting. 5 Issei members are in this block council. Last night the family heads met to discuss some of the problems confronting us, but on the whole I have this to report--that our block has been very peaceful. I am the blockmanager. Two months ago we had lots of complaints. In fact in one night I got 32 complaints. However, these last few months very few complaints have come in. During those trying days I took some of those complaints to the Block Supervisor, but that was no good. I went to see Mr. Evans, but that was no good. So I had to decide what to do on my own and I am glad to say I have done right. I think the blockmanagers all have a great responsibility. Our block has only one unemployed able-bodied person who is not working, but he is not working of his health. May the CG and the EB do your job well. Our block is a happy block. (applause)

KURUSHIMA: Block 31?

BLOCK 31: We, too, are a peaceful block having had no trouble whatsoever.



Tonight we have no problems to offer. I would like to ask the toseibu, the CC, and the LRB to work harder to get better food for Poston residents. Also ample uniforms for hospital nurses. Also we should like to ask you to get coolers for our mess halls. Better latrines should also be worked for. Concerning the motion pictures we have now. Most of the residents feel that it is too temptatious. It is not too good. Our residents feel that a good educational picture would be much better. Also I understand that Japanese motion pictures are being shown in other centers. If they could be brought into this camp, too, we would appreciate it very much. The garbage near the mess halls always attract many flies. Is it not possible to spray so that sickness will not spread? (loud applause)

KURUSHIMA: Block 32?

BLOCK 32: Our Block councilmen are composed of three Isseis, three Niseis, and the block manager. However, this they have never met yet. Most of our residents are from Watsonville, Monterey, etc. and knew each other before they came into camp. Therefore, we have not had any trouble. We have nothing to offer tonight. Thank you. (applause)

KURUSHIMA: Thank you immensely. All the blocks have finished now. Are there any discussions? You don't have to be a block spokesman to speak at this time. Are there any discussion?

BLOCK 31: I dropped out one point that I would like to offer. I wonder if it is possible to form a fire auxilliary crew to help barracks which are in danger of catching on fire to remove the household goods and to guard such goods during the fire.

ISSEI: Concerning the "fuki mondai" of Mr. Nagai. I would like to know

if there has been any program that has actually been proposed. I would also like to hear from the Labor Relations Board.

MR. NAGAI: I think it should be each one's duty to watch carefully for gambling, persons of immorality cases and to warn cautiously the guilty persons. In Boston a jail should not be necessary for we are all Japanese. I know of one young man who has spent \$1,200 in gambling. After he was arrested he was released after 12 hours. I think the older persons are the guilty ones. The young person looks on the gambling and is attracted. One boy lost his \$16 check in gambling. His mother has come to me tearfully and asked why we couldn't do something about it. Gambling whether we win or lose is no good. (applause)

NAKAJI: The first job of the Labor Relations Board is to get essential workers from the non-essential jobs. Secondly, we should drop some of the non-essential jobs. Third, we are trying to have the \$3 as an incentive for changing jobs. By these three methods we hope to take workers. Many over 60 are working. Many of the persons under 17 years of age are working as part time workers. We would also like to have women to take on jobs to relieve men to carry on heavier work.

ISSEI: If everyone would do his 8 hours work within the four hours it might be possible to cut down on the number of workers on each job and relieve half of the men on such crews. Please inquire about the situation.

ETO: Concerning this "fuki mondai" it is not possible to be an informer as we are all American-Japanese. We should have loyalty to our own group. A Japanese cannot kick out another Japanese. It is not the job of the towaibu. It should not be the responsibility of the Issei Advisory Board. I am not in favor of having a Japanese prosecute

another Japanese.

BLOCK 18: We received our checks, but I was wondering on how they would be cashed. The canteens say they will not cash them. I want to ask you how to make our checks good.

SUGIYAMA: (IN Japanese) The canteen has borrowed \$15,000 from the Phoenix office. They will pay the check. However, the sum is not enough so the CC is lending \$18,000 or so from the camouflage fund.

BLOCK 21: Mr. Myers was here. I understand that you have talked with him. Is it possible to have a report now, please?

KURUSHIMA: (After conversing with Dr. Mizushima.) There are so many items that it will be announced in the newspaper. It will take too much time right at this moment.

ISSEI: (27 Blockmanager) According to the WRA ruling is the budget for the evacuee and the personnel the same? Is it one budget?

SUGIYAMA: To my knowledge/<sup>it is</sup>the same.

Block 27: Then how is the budget administered? Does the administration get the first choice and then the evacuees get the left over?

SUGIYAMA: I don't know how they work it, but I do know they have a ten million dollar appropriation. From this were paid the cash advances, clothing, Caucasian workers wages, etc.

BLOCK 27: The reason I asked is that the Caucasians all seem to have plasterboards and coolers. My desire is to look after the comfort of the people in my block. That's is why I asked about the budget. You say that the budget is one. I recall that Mr. Evans said that it was two

entirely different budgets at a blockmanager meeting at Block 5.

DR. MIZUSHIMA: It seems to me to be the same. Mr. Evans may have said that. I don't know. I have heard rumors that he was reprimanded for making that statement. I don't know how true that is though.

BLOCK 27: We blockmanagers asked why it was not possible to obtain linoleum, screen faster than <sup>we</sup> were getting them. Evans told us that it came from a different source. (Matsumoto of the toseibu comes to speak to Sugiyama.)

SUGIYAMA: The budget problem should be spoken to Mr. Empie. So please feel free to see him at any time.

BLOCK 36: I don't know how to say this, but according to Mr. Fukuda of the Manpower Commission they are being placed into the "B" category. I know how hard the CC, Eb, LRB, and the Manpower Commission are all working. I want them to feel free to move themselves up to the classification of "A". (Chairman Kurushima interrupts saying that they are holding discussions and to wait for such suggestions later.)

ISSEI: There seems to be many workers on the "go", "sami sen", "shaku hachi", in Poston. I don't think back in Los Angeles a person could have done that thing and earned a livelihood. But here they can. This also includes the shibai. They all have work cards! Isn't it possible to do away with some of these unnecessary recreations?

NAKAJI: The recreation is not the concern of the Labor Relations Board. It would probably be wise to speak on that to Mr. Kobayashi and Mr. Yoshikawa in Dr. Powell's department. Please bring these sort of problems to them. As for my opinion we eat three times a day. We have coffee in the morning, fish at noon and meat during the evening. If we work all the time, it is not good for our morale. If it wasn't

for recreation we would all become hard persons. We should look toward these manpower only if there are an actual serious acute manpower shortage, but the problem now is to transfer persons in non-essential jobs such as making rock gardens to the more essential jobs. But as I said before, I think it would be wiser to talk to Dr. Powell.

MATSUMOTO: The "A" classification of the manpower class is as yet not complete. The Recreation Department has already decreased their number greatly. We are trying to do what you want us to do. We all need your backing. When we make an announcement in the Chronicle and you feel that it is not correct, feel free to correct us.

GEORGE FUJII: Is it possible to raise the wages above \$19?

FUKUDA: We cannot raise the wage above \$19, not even 50¢ more.

FUJII: What about the camouflage fund? Could you take some wage out of that?

FUKUDA: That would be for the Council to decide.

KURUSHIMA: Time is short. Are there any more questions?

ISSEI: After hearing Mr. Nagai speak I now understand the work of the toseibu and I heartily approve of their work. I heard of one Issei gambling. I was called by some of the residents to go there. I got the policeman to stop it, but found that the policeman had joined in the game. They went off to the jail and were gambling together. (laughter) I think that we should clean up the police staff first. If it is necessary we should throw out the whole police force. We have a police force and yet we don't have a police staff. The camp needs to be cleaned up. The police staff needs to be cleaned up. We can't sweep out gambling all at once, but I think a better police force could do the job much quicker. Also when we were evacuated it

said that we were loyal to come into a concentration camp. Now they say it is disloyal to stay in camp. I cannot understand this. Which way are we to turn? The government is hazy in its policy. The Caucasians here have girls working as maids or house girls. We need these workers. Why should they work for the Caucasians? Another department is the recreation. Of course they are necessary, but not necessary to the extent of having teachers or instructors because they will play anyway. It is hard to say this, but I don't think that the gardeners in the administration should <sup>not</sup> do the type of work that they are doing. It is not for our welfare. Our wages are always two months behind. Is it not possible to have this wage paid regularly? Maybe even one month ahead. I know I am asking a lot. Will you please do as much as possible?

KURUSHIMA: Thank you. (Crowd becomes restless. Issei yells out, "Call it a day.")

BLOCK 181: The fujinkai in my block asked me if it was not possible to obtain a room to study for the children and to have attached to this room even a small cooler. Also could you please ask for the coolers in the mess hall? Maybe we will not get <sup>it</sup> this summer, but now would be a good time to put in a request for next year. We have heard rumors that 6,000 coolers have come in from Phoenix. I also noticed that the Caucasian barracks <sup>and</sup> are having coolers, in fact two coolers in front and in back ~~of~~ the administration houses are having coolers put in the roofs. When mothers see these they wonder. Even if they are aliens why some concession can not be made for their children who are citizens.

FUJII: If for the welfare of Poston than it is not a matter of \$16. It

is not in terms of monetary figures. It should be all for the benefit of the community.

KURUSHIMA: It is now getting late and I know you are tired after so long a discussion. I hope all of you have benefited by these discussions. We hope to be able to secure your cooperation and backing in the future. Thank you.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:35 P.M.

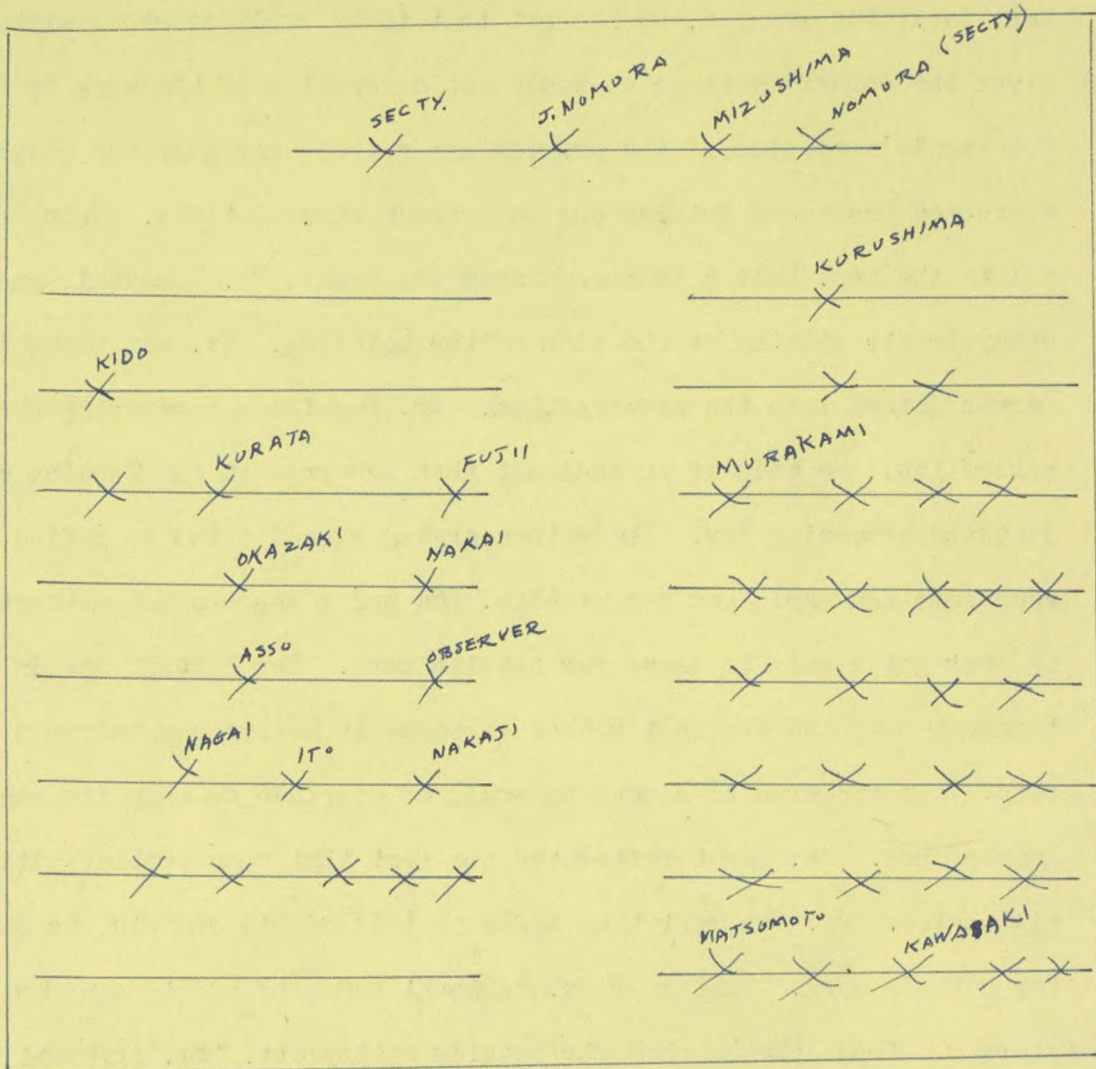
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FINAL

Joint meeting of TCC and IAB- Rec. Hall 5 - 9:25 A.M.  
 Charter-Community Government - p. 4, Relocation - p. 5, Food - p. 5, 12,  
 High school youth - p. 6, Adobe construction - p. 7, 9, Volunteers - p. 8.  
 Community Activities - p. 9. *Stored property p. 15.*  
 Prin. Actors-Judge Nomura, Mizushima, Kurushima, Murakami, Nakai,  
 Tsurida.

CR: IAB + above subjects.

Seating Arrangement:



On the way to Block 5 I met Mr. Matsumoto of Block 36 who is the Councilman for that block. He inquired as to the precise work of the Research Department and seemed very interested in it. He told me that he is a real estate man in Los Angeles and had attended USC and Southwestern University. His English is rather accented, but seemed to appreciate the comment made by the observer that his English



is better than average. He came back to the subject, that of the Research Department and asked for more detailed explanation of some of the work. The observer gave him the work project he himself was doing. Mr. Matsumoto became even more interested and wondered if he could become a research worker, too. For example, he thought that if he could go along with me to cover the Council meetings we would get conception of the work by having two people's opinion of the proceedings rather than just one person. He expressed desire of joining our department several times. Upon our arrival to the Rec. Hall 5 we encountered Mr. Nagai, Mr. Kawasaki, and two other Issei sitting at the side of the building. Mr. Matsumoto and observer joined into the conversation. Mr. Nagai was conversing about the relocation. He told of an incident that occurred at the Toseibu office just the preceding day. The mother crying rushed into the office and between sobs she explained her problem. She had a son who had without talking it over got a pass to leave for outside work. Her husband was in an internment camp and she felt rather insecure in having her only son leave camp. She wondered if something would be possible to stop the son from leaving her. Mr. Nagai reiterated the fact that many problems like these will arise. Mr. Kawasaki then began to tell of his own son who had also left for outside work. Last year Mr. Kawasaki had stopped his son who is 26 years old from leaving camp for outside employment. Mr. Kawasaki, the father argued with his son on the principal that he was unmarried. The parents wanted their son to take a wife in Boston before he left camp. Mr. Kawasaki and his wife worried that since their son is footloose and fancy free that it was improbable that he may get involved "with some Caucasian woman". Mr. Kawasaki thought such a situation was of great shame to the Japanese. They felt that if their son had taken a wife they

would not have any anxiety over such a situation arising. Mr. Nagai then went on to talk about a family they knew in Camp 2. The son had volunteered into the army. The father felt rather displeased with the enlisting. However, the father was wise enough to know that although he was a Japanese alien his son was an American citizen. Therefore, when the boy was inside the house their relation was that of father and son, but on the outside the son was considered just as any other American. Mr. Nagai then went on to tell about his friend who had visited Gila. The youth had been inducted into the army and was now a technical sergeant. He had come to visit his friends in Gila to bid them farewell and he was embarking off to Africa. His father and mother had left for Japan just prior to the outbreak of the war. This youth had refused to teach Japanese, but he was willing to do any job that even the Caucasian would fail. For example, he thought of nothing of going up to fix the short circuit of the electricity wires and now the youth had asked to be put into active duty in Africa. He had come to visit Gila to bid his friends farewell for it may be the last time. Mr. Nagai felt struck by the resoluteness of the youth. Mr. Nagai said that one type of person that he cannot stand is a person hovering between two ideals in this case that of American and the Japanese principals. He said it was like a person walking at dawn, that is, between night and day. If you look from one side of the person, you would think that he would be as dark. By viewing him from another side he would seem very light. Such persons cannot be trusted Mr. Nagai reiterated. Mr. Nagai expressed the opinion that a person who adheres to one principal rather than being mushy and opposite in their ideas were the type of characters needed much more by the Niseis. He felt that the Japanese Government would not hold it against the Nisei for volunteering

in the army or fighting for the land of their birth. In fact he thought the Japanese government would rather respect such a person. One of the Issei men then brought up the fact that just prior to the outbreak of the war a broadcast from Japan clearly stated that they wanted the Nisei to do their duty for the land in which they were born and reared. The Isseis all agreed, and commented that they wish more Niseis had the backbone to follow this through.

The meeting seems to be getting underway so the group joins others inside the recreation hall. Nomura, the Issei Secretary starts off with the roll call. There were about 25 Isseis present. The Nisei secretary takes the roll call. Only 8 are present. To the majority of the names there are no response.

JUDGE NOMURA: We have here a letter from Washington from Dillon Myer.

He says that he enjoyed very much being with the OG and members of the community. <sup>during his visit.</sup> He was very pleased with progress of Poston and saw no reason why further progress could not be made as time goes by. It is signed by Dillon S. Myer, Director.

MIZUSHIMA: Translates.

JUDGE NOMURA: We received a telegram from Sugiyama. It says---

Just arrived here. It is very nice. Thanks for the party. Having a hard time locating a place to stay. Please extend regards to all. Franklyn Sugiyama.

MIZUSHIMA: Translates.

CHARTER--COMMUNITY GOVERNMENT

JUDGE NOMURA: As for the result on the voting on the charter as you probably know it's been passed. The results from Unit 1 you already know. For Unit 2 -- 1,175 yes. 75 no. Making a total of 1246 votes

in Unit 2. In Unit 3 353 voted yes. However, it was out-voted by the "no" which numbered 579. There were five votes which were void making a total of 955 votes cast. For all three camps "yes" numbered 3687. "No" 918. Void 8 making a total of 4613 votes cast. The charter has been carried.

RELOCATION

MIZUSHIMA: Translates.

JUDGE NOMURA: I have here a letter from the Heart Mountain, Wyoming block-managers. This letter is addressed to the blockmanagers of Poston. The WRA is on a relocating policy as we all know and it asked that we all cooperate and approach Washington for a right to have a larger amount when transferring to the outside. Also that funds be applicable to everyone and not limited to those without no funds whatsoever. We want all to be eligible for the grant. It says that they think it would be advisable to write a letter to Washington from each and all the centers.

MIZUSHIMA: Translates.

JUDGE NOMURA: I think we already took that step in April.

MIZUSHIMA: (in Japanese) Sugiyama already sent a letter in April and the answer that came back was "no".

JUDGE NOMURA: (in Japanese) That wasn't it. We never did get an answer back to the letter that GC sent to Washington, but they did at that time fix it at \$50 and so we took that as to be an answer to our letter to have funds available to relocate.

FOOD

JUDGE NOMURA: A policy of the food in relocation centers has been sent from Washington. This is in recognition of widespread rumors

and interest by the general population on the outside. It is in reply to the many editorials and comments in the newspapers saying that food in the camp is exceptionally good. First it explains the nature of the evacuee residents, 17,000; other than 2000 Hawaiians all the residents are from California, Oregon, Washington and Arizona. 2/3 of the population are citizens. Well over 1/3 are of school age. Concerning the food in the mess halls the WRA policy states that good subsistence are served in the mess hall, but on the same basis as those served on the outside. It is purchased by the regular army buyers. Ration which is applicable to citizens on the outside also includes the residents here at camp. Food, therefore, is restricted by rationing. Fresh milk is now only available to children and to pregnant mothers and to invalids who need milk. The food cost is 45 cents per day.

MRS. KIRO: Did you say thirty-five or forty-five?

JUDGE NOMURA: Forty-five cents. Of course, that doesn't mean that it is always forty-five cents but it does mean that it cannot be over forty-five cents. Another policy is to grow vegetables in the centers during the winter and ship them out to the other centers. In the spring Boston may receive vegetables from other relocation centers. Dairies if necessary to campaign the shortage of fresh milk will be established if necessary. (mumbles to himself. Difficult to understand.)

MIYUSHIMA: (Translates adding---) This was prepared in Washington for the Community Food Committee so that they will know the policy of the WRA.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

JUDGE NOMURA: I have here something for the high school committee. They

have about 15 hogs for a high school/<sup>work</sup>project, but it seems that certain mischievous boys cut the wire and the pigs wandered from their pen to Block 42. The wires of the fences have beencut sever-  
al times and hogs have goneout and several have been seen in the blocks on that side of the camp.

NAKAI: Just the other day I saw 10 hogs eating carrots between Block 54 and Block \_\_\_\_\_. We have a memorandum from the high school asking that children be warnednt to play near the pig pen.

MIZUSHIMA: Translates.

ADOBE CONSTRUCTION

JUDGE NOMURA: Will a member of the LRB explain the school construction program?

NAKAI: We made stenciled copies in both English and Japanese which asks block residents to volunteer inconstructing the school buildings. Each block will volunteer for a day and it will be rotated from block to block. We are now making a schedule. Block 3 has taken the initiative and will start. Block 3 is verycooperative and it has Mr. Nagai who is the Chairman of the Toseibu. We also plan to have a huge blackboard put up at the canteen. On it we will show the numbers of the block and how many has come out to help in the school construction program. We want to make this as an incen-  
tive for people to come out and work. If they don't come out to cooperate this fact will be plainly shown on the blackboard. But I am sure that most of the blocks will cooperate and I want the blockcouncilmen to go back and discuss this at a mass meeting.

(Begins the speech in Japanese) This will starton Monday. Block 19 will follow 3. Also we will put the block and the number of workers

who showed up for work from the respective blocks in the newspapers. We want the residents to become conscious of the adobe building. We want to have the building finished before the next school term and also before it becomes too hot to work on it.

KURATA: (In Japanese). The school needs the cooperation of all the blocks. Concerning the hospital Camps 2 and 3 will also help out in the fund dividend to the hospital. Camp 2 has \$945 for the use of clinic, doctors, nurses, dentists, etc. which has been set up. Camp 3 will also help in the fund. I think \$2,000 has been set aside.

#### VOLUNTEERS

Also I want to talk about the enlistees send-off to be held for the volunteers. Last time we held it in Camp 1 so the next program will be held in Camp 2 and then we will take it down to Camp 3. This next send off will be held Monday evening at 7:30 in Camp 2. We want as many of the residents of Camp 1 as possible to make an effort to meet before the Administration Building at 6:30. The trucks will be available there. The larger the crowd the better. At the last program we had too many men on the program so this coming program will be turned entirely to the women. The speeches will be made by teachers in Camp 2 and also by Senior high school girls. There will be three entertainers from each camp. Also the Sosnowski girl ensemble will also play so we think the young volunteers will enjoy an all young ladies program. I feel we have ignored the ladies of this camp too long. They have initiative and do a darn good job with whatever they undertake. Reverend Morikawa will give the invocation and leis will be presented to the

volunteers individually by young ladies. Speaker will be Mr. Crawford of Unit 2. At the last send-off Unit 2 and 3 had many representatives. They had about 10 truck loads of people here. There was a very good crowd so let's all go down to Camp 2 to give the boys a good send-off. I think that's all for today.

*Adobe*  
NAKAI: Concerning the volunteers for the adobe project I wonder if it would be possible to meet early in the morning so that they can work in the cool of the morning. Say from 6 to 11 or shall we leave it up to each block as to what time.

KURATA: It is good to start to work early, I admit. It is no use to go early this month because there is no supervisor there. Mr. Popkins has asked that the project be kept on the same time as throughout the month and to change the time to a earlier start beginning with next month when it will begin to get hotter. It would be of no use to go at 6 in the morning and stand idle for two or three hours because new workers will not know what to do without a supervisor. (Translates this into Japanese himself.)

JUDGE NOMURA: Shall we have some of the reports? We want an outline of some of the things that we have done. Not the details. This is so that the new Council will know what the Council has been working on. Community activity?

#### COMMUNITY ACTIVITY

MURAKAMI: Before I give the report I would like to have the Council approve this recommendation. At the last meeting I had this recommendation for the Council to form a committee composed of the Community Activity Committee and the coordinator of the Community Activities Department to set prices on articles to be sold.



Second, that the executive bookkeeping system be set up in the CA staff. Third, to handle and sell all articles in a central place. And to record all materials sold and to have the names of the purchaser. Fourth, for the purchase of equipments over \$25 it is necessary to consult the department head and to get the approval of the local council.

JUDGE NOMURA: Is that revised?

MURAKAMI: Yes. No. 4 has been changed from \$50 to \$25 and the approval of the local Council instead of the community council.

MI ZUSHIMA: Translates.

NISEI: (First attendance in a long time.) Stone polishing. Isn't that under the coop?

JUDGE NOMURA: No, that's under the Community Activities Department.

NISEI: It's sort of confusing. These men have got work cards from the department, but that's about all.

ISSSEI: They're supposed to work for the Adult Education, but they have no instructors so that's out.

ITO: They bought a lot of equipment with the consent of the department so we have the records that any machinery costing over \$25 will have to have the approval of the Council.

NISEI: But that doesn't settle anything.

JUDGE NOMURA: It is already settled. We have had a thorough investigation by the committee of Community Activities and Powell has sent out memos to all the departments. Will somebody make a motion to accept Mr. Murakami's motion?

ITO: I move that we give approval.

NAKAI: I second the motion.

JUDGE NOMURA: All those in favor say "aye". (small response) Opposed?

(No response) Well, the recommendation has already been sent to

Dr. Powell. (laughter)

MIZUSHIMA: We have already sent a recommendation because we thought we had decided upon it at the last meeting.

MURAKAMI: No, we just discussed it.

MIZUSHIMA: Oh, I thought it was understood that we accepted it. Then we can send a revised part to Dr. Powell. I found out that the stone polishing by the Regal Company in Pasadena is polishing stones at 90 cents a piece if it is mailed to them. 12 stones are polished for \$9 and they know how to do the business right. They are experts at it.

FUJII: Do you get commission Dr. Mizushima? (laughter)

MIZUSHIMA: No. I heard from Dr. \_\_\_\_\_ that this company was doing the same type of work but of a better quality for a less price. In fact they only charge five cents per square inch to cut up a stone.

MATSUMOTO: Dr. Mizushima says that the stone polishing is a private enterprise and it is unreasonable in that its price is ten times higher than that of the outside. But I think we have attacked the problem from the wrong angle by treating the stone polishers as criminals. I wonder which way would be the better way to attack the problem.

MIZUSHIMA: We are just investigating this stone polishing and not for the purpose of prosecution, but for the welfare of the community. If prosecution is necessary, then it should be carried out.

MURAKAMI: Let's postpone this discussion.

JUDGE NOMURA: At 9:00 o'clock Monday morning will the Issei and Nisei Food Committee members meet with the noodle factory members? They want to discuss some matter over with us.

TSURIDA: The Food Committee should have the help of the Kitchen Committee in transacting any business between Snelson and the Food department. The Kitchen Workers would be much better the condition that exists rather than a committee chosen from the Council.

KURATA: But they have no recognition by either the administration of the Council.

TSURIDA: Well, then, why don't we give it the approval and recognition.

KURATA: The Kitchen Committee should come before the Community Council if they want recognition. That's the right way to work it.

ISSEI: Then shall we leave it to the new Council then?

(Lots of private conversation going on all other subjects. Nakai converses with Nakaji. Nakaji then converses with Kurata. Others are also absorbed in other things.)

MRS. KIDO: I want to add that Camp 2 representatives said that they have reached a decision to render \$2,500 to the hospital on the same basis as Camp 3.

JUDGE NOMURA: The fund <sup>from</sup> ~~for~~ the camouflage is coming in for April. I need somebody else besides myself to sign for it. I am taking Sugiyama's place, but I need somebody else to replace me. The camouflage plans to move out Tuesday so we need the signatures and get the money. This will be occurring during the election so we want somebody definitely to sign for it.

MURAKAMI: Sugiyama appointed the trustees at the last meeting so let them sign for it.

JUDGE NOMURA: We need some definite person to sign for it. Any motion to have an appointment?

NAKAI: I second it.

JUDGE NOMURA: All those in favor say, "aye". (response) Well, then I appoint one from the committee Ben Yabuno or Teruo Kasuga or somebody. The Legal Department here received a letter from Gila which inquired about the camouflage work here. It seems that Gila camouflage workers have not paid the subsistence for April, for they handed in the check for the fund there. We don't want to get into the same predicament so we have to get the money before the camouflage moves out on Tuesday. At the next meeting we decided how to divide the ..... The names of the workers have been turned in by the blockmanagers and I need the committee to work on this right away. We can dispose of the fund. It is our job. I don't think we should hand it on to the New Council. Also I don't want this to drag out like the clothing allowance. The thing we have to do is check the names of the list and accept the list as is. We have to check it against the timekeepers' office.

NAKAI: I make a motion that you have two Nisei Councilmen and two from the IAB and they can have the help of the LRB and the EB to help them out in the work. They can also use the office space.

JUDGE NOMURA: What about the committee which made up the plan for distribution? I meaning Nakai, Kurata, \_\_\_\_\_, & \_\_\_\_\_.

NAKAI: Tsurida, Hane, Mizushima, too; Mrs. Kido, too.

JUDGE NOMURA: They have to be able to read English because they have to check the list. Nakai, Kurata, Mrs. Kido, how about you? Mrs. Kido you have nothing to do. Assistant Blockmanagers hasn't anything to do.

KURATA: Well, if we need help, we can always get them can't we?

JUDGE NOMURA: Any other business?

NAKAI: Marion, our secretary, is going to resign after this Council-meeting and she's been working hard so we would like to show our appreciation to her. She's Marion Masui. George Fujii and the committee who worked on the Sugiyama party have taken it upon themselves to send for a token of appreciation. We have ordered something special for her. It was supposed to come yesterday afternoon so she will receive it when it gets here.

KURATA: You must be *her* new boyfriend, eh?

(Marion stands up and says thank you. ) (applause)

TSURIDA: What about recognizing the Kitchen Committee.

(Everyone is puzzled at what he is saying.)

JUDGE NOMURA: What are you saying?

TSURIDA: I said why don't we recognize the Kitchen Committee.

JUDGE NOMURA: Let's leave that one to the next council. Even if we did recognize them the new council must approve anyway. The needle factory meeting is just a discussion and nothing can be voted on and they have not closed the needle factory as yet.

TSURIDA: Well, can they close it?

JUDGE NOMURA: That's not our business. We can only recommend. If the people in Poston wants it then the Council can make these recommendations. I want to make this clear so as not to make a misstatement. The Council has no authority to close the factory. If Snelson thinks that the needle factory is not economical then he can close it up. We can do nothing about it., but if the people in Poston want it then we can recommend for its re-opening. I want this understood.

FUJII: But won't it be nice if the Kitchen Committee could be recognized?

JUDGE NOMURA: We don't want any "lame duck" like they have in Congress.

We die in a couple of days, you know. (laughter)

STORED PROPERTY

MATSUMOTO: There seems to be some fear on the part of many residents that the WRA is being unfair about our stored property. We stored our property with the army in good faith. Now they are trying to take away our equipment. These goods are in danger. I have here a notice from the WRA requesting that if you have equipment in the warehouse of Unit 1, 2, and 3 that they will give you ten days to clear it out and if not then they will sell it and give the money to the owner. I think this notice has gone to all the blocks. In my block it has come to several persons. I wonder if Mr. Nagai can investigate this matter.

JUDGE NOMURA: ~~THESE~~ should look into it.

NAKAI: I second it.

JUDGE NOMURA: It is the same with me. In Camp 2 my belongings are put into an empty barrack and there we are leaving it for the duration or until we leave camp. These are the things that I don't understand.

KURATA: I wonder if Mr. Matsumoto has mistaken the warehouse here and the warehouse outside back in California.

(Matsumoto reads the notice.)

NAKAI: See there. The property in the warehouse in the camp is safe.

FUJII: It only pertains to the property on the outside. If <sup>it</sup> is in camp there is no worry.

JUDGE NOMURA: Mr. Matsumoto, you must be mistaken then.

MATSUMOTO: But these notices were sent to people with property in the

warehouse in Boston.

NAKAI: It's no use discussing it here so let's refer it to the EB to study it.

MATSUMOTO: All right. (Hands the notice to Nagai while some good-natured laughter goes around.)

JUDGE NOMURA: Any more business?

MIZUSHIMA: No more.

MRS. KIDO: Well, since this is our final meeting. Isn't there going to be a party for us?

MIZUSHIMA: Well, the community is always ready to bring a complaint to us, but I don't think they want to compliment us with any party.

KURATA: Don't you think it would be nice to thank the community for their cooperation and interest in the Council and for their attendance to the blockmeetings.

JUDGE NOMURA: Well, will you take that up and put such a statement in the newspaper?

MIZUSHIMA: TOC, Banzai! (Laughter and much clapping goes on. Several of the Is-eis begin to sweep the floor as the majority of the group leave.)

ADJOURNMENT 11:05

(YM)

114 TCC

5-8-43

Joint meeting of the IAB and TCC

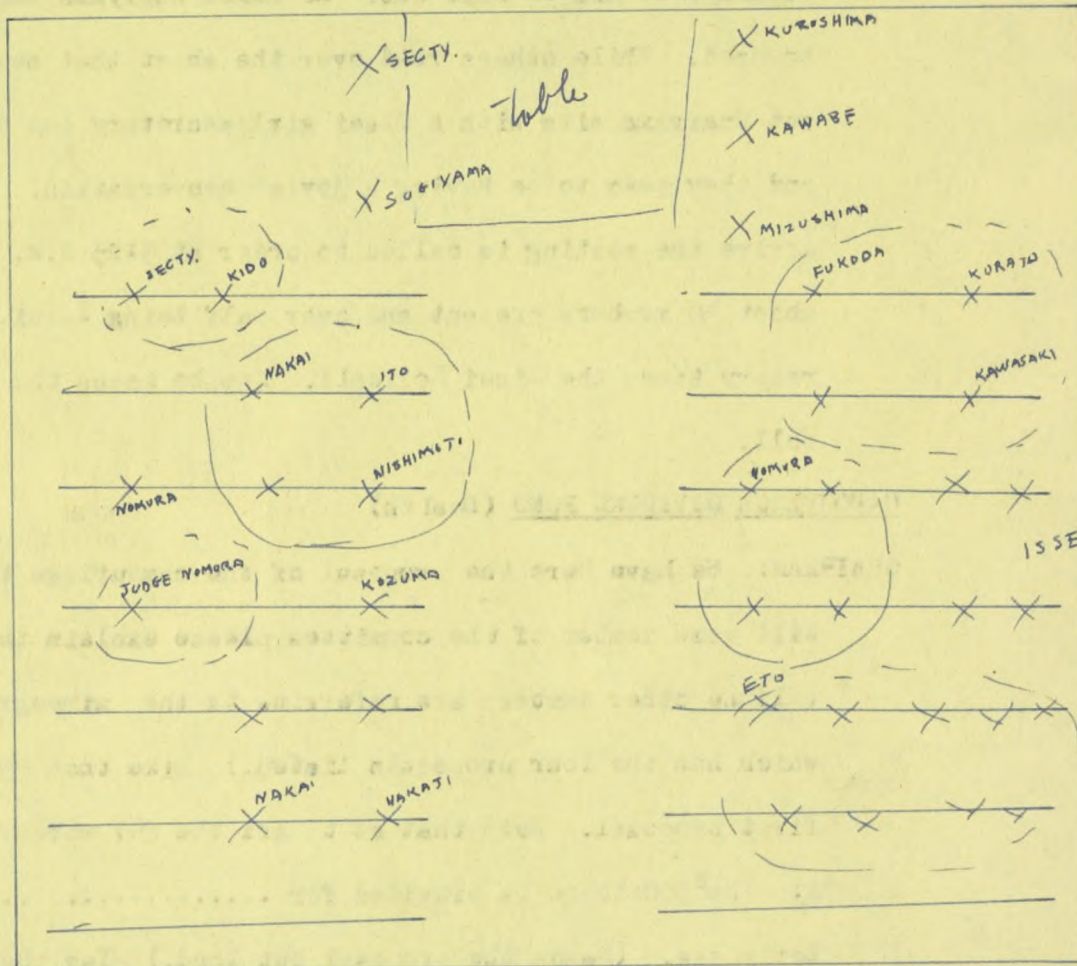
Rec. Hall 5 - 9:30 A.M.

Sub.: Camouflage dividend fund<sup>p.2</sup>, health<sup>p.2</sup>, food<sup>p.13</sup>, stone polishing<sup>p.14</sup>,  
volunteers<sup>p.14</sup>, hospital-nurses' aides<sup>p.5</sup>, health-sewer-block  
fish ponds.<sup>p.18</sup>

Pr. Actors: Sugiyama, Mizushima, Nakai, Judge Nomura, Nomura,  
Eto, Fukuda, Kurata

C.R.: IAB

SEATING ARRANGEMENT:



Today there is a strong wind with a very high velocity causing waves of nauseating and obnoxious dust. A few members who are present in the Recreation Hall are wondering if the others will show up with such a disfavorable wind. Some of the members are sitting around on the tables talking over the food situation. One man tells that there is not enough food for Sunday if deliveries are not made today. Another brought out the fact that Snelson is very "smart"



as he held a party for the "chefs". One of the men complained that the food out of their consumption had been used at the party. Sugiyama passes out to the members present the mimeographed sheets concerning the proposals of the distribution of the camouflage fund. One of the Councilmen jokes with Sugiyama over his GI hair cut. He asked Sugiyama what size bowl he used. While others read over the sheet that he has passed out Sugiyama sits with a Nisei girl secretary and Mrs. Kido and they seem to be having a jovial conversation. As many more arrive the meeting is called to order at 9:25 A.M. There are about 40 members present and over half being Issei. The secretary takes the Nisei Rollcall. Kawabe takes the Issei roll call.

CAMOUFLAGE DIVIDEND FUND (Health)

*See next page*

CHAIRMAN: We have here the proposal of the camouflage trust fund. Will some member of the committee please explain these proposals? (All the other members are referring to the mimeographed sheet which has the four proposals listed.) Like that \$5,000 in the first proposal. Does that go to all the 247 workers?

KURATA: The \$500 there is provided for .....  
Let's see. (Reads the proposal but loud.) Yes that is given to the 247 workers and then on top of this sum \$20 is given to each school teacher and the sum above this 50 dollars is to be given to each block.

CHAIRMAN: the \$50 to each block. It is up to them how they want to spend it.

KURATA: That's right.

CHAIRMAN: Is part "D", does that include all the workers or does

## Reference

Proposition for the distribution of camouflage funds amounting to \$17863.68 as follows:

- I. A. \$5000 to be presented to Hospital workers by Mr. Tanaka and committee members composed of Hospital staff as it deems equitably and fair. 247 workers are listed as Hospital workers.
  - B. Evacuee school teachers of Poston #1 numbering 110 persons be presented with \$20 each for their considerate services.
  - C. Every Block be given \$50.00 for their block distribution ~~as it seems most appropriate.~~
  - D. Balance of remainder to be distributed equally to all evacuee workers of Poston #1.
  - E. Future distribution of similar funds to be undertaken in same manner.
- II. A. \$5000 to be presented to Hospital workers by Mr. Tanaka, acting coordinator of hospital matters, together with staff members or representative members as it deems equitable and fair to 247 workers listed as Hospital workers.
  - B. "A" classified workers, 1600 workers to be presented with \$5 each ~~in recognition of particular services rendered this community.~~
  - C. Each Block to be presented with \$100 for their block distribution ~~in whatever seems most appropriate.~~
  - D. Balance of remainder to be presented to camouflage net workers equally. Such workers to contribute in turn to their respective blocks in full disposal as such blocks deems necessary.
- III. A. <sup>If work Feb + Mar. 15 days each mo. or over.</sup> \$6000 as Hospital working fund to facilitate and make expeditious services other than allocated WRA services to make purchases required in many particular cases when time is the essence and delay means jeopardy.

B. \$2000 to be presented to the public schools for their disposal.

C. Balance of funds to be distributed equally among all workers.

IV. Divide funds equally among the evacuee workers.

it includes all the workers excepting the camouflage workers?

KURATA: I think it includes everyone including the camouflage.

CHAIRMAN: II A is the same as IA.

KURATA: Right.

CHAIRMAN: In II B it says 1600 workers are to be presented \$5 each. I thought there were over 1800 workers classified into the "A" group.

NOMURA (Issei): The 247 of the hospital staff are not included, therefore, it reduces the 1800 down to 1600 workers.

CHAIRMAN: What's this item III B?

KURATA: That's more or less a \$2,000 working fund for the schools.

CHAIRMAN: Don't they have all sorts of working fund anyway?

KURATA: If they do then we should find out about it, but I think that they can use it in any way as they see fit.

CHAIRMAN: I don't think they need any money. Giving them an out-right cash grant isn't too good.

KURATA: Well, the committee feels that some concession should be given to the teachers so we put them on the same basis as the workers working in the hospital.

MRS. KIDO: That phrase there "public schools". I think that's not very definite. Don't you think that the stipulation should be definitely stated?

CHAIRMAN: Let's have the report in Japanese.

(Dr. Mizushima refers to Mr. Nomura, Issei member of the committee. Mr. Nomura reads the portion of the mimeographed paper which is written in Japanese. He explains it more fully as he goes along. A student is practicing on the piano in the next room. This bothers Sugiyana so the block manager of Block 5 leaves the hall upon the request of Sugiyana to stop the music.)

CHAIRMAN: May I introduce the new delegate from Block 46, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_? (applause) Concerning No. 3. Maybe there is a possibility of using the \$2,000 fund to be presented to the public schools for obtaining materials or equipment not covered by the WRA. It might be used on the same basis as "A".

ETO: (Mr. Eto is an Issei about 60 years of age. He is of average height, about 5'4", weighing 125 lbs. He is rather dark in complexion, dark eyebrows, and seems always to be unshaved. Although Mr. Eto speaks his piece ~~but~~ very often at the meetings he is definitely not the spokesman for the Isseis. He doesn't seem to be too well-liked by the other Councilmen, but neither is he disrespected. He reminds one of a withered farmer. He listens to the conversation and jots down item by item in his little note book. Then he gets up on the floor and discusses the topic giving his opinion one item after another.) I want to make an amendment to some of these proposals. May I do so?

CHAIRMAN: The committee has been working on these proposals for a long time so I don't think that we should amend and tear these proposals to pieces. Let it go as it is.

(Eto still seems to want to say something and remains standing, but is ignored by other Councilmen as others begin to talk.)

NOMURA: May I clear up one point in Proposal No. I? The camouflage workers will be included in the distribution made equally to all, but this is with an understanding that they will donate whatever they receive to their respective blocks.

NAKAI: (Referring to the Japanese section) In plan No. II fourth section the translation is wrong. (Eto reluctantly sits down.)

KAWASAKI: Maybe it's a misprint. (Much group talking goes on over plan II Part IV. Sugiyama asks Mizushima to correct it. Mizushima tells the members to strike out "hitsuyo nareba" (if it is of importance).)

JUDGE NOMURA: What about that word "genzai"? It is not now that is of matter but February and March. Those working presently should not be included. Therefore, let's strike off that word "genzai".

CHAIRMAN: Any more questions?

ISSEI: Well, some members in my block have worked in the camouflage for one or two days. Will they, too, also be eligible for dividends? (Is referring to Plan II Part D.)

CHAIRMAN: I think a good way to solve that would be that if a person has not worked more than 15 days then he will not receive any. Let's put it on the same basis as the WRA ruling which says that no clothing allowance will be issued if the person has not worked over 15 days. (Dr. Mizushima explains in Japanese.)

BLOCK 5 REPRESENTATIVE: Then does that mean that if a person worked 15 days or more will receive it, but other blocks who don't qualify by not having workers who have worked 15 days or not will not receive any? What about those blocks that don't even have any camouflage workers?

MIZUSHIMA: Are there any such blocks?

NISHIMOTO: Block 16 has no camouflage workers.

JUDGE NOMURA: It should only include those who have worked in February and March.

ISSEI: (Amends Plan II Part D) (In Japanese) Let us make it 15 days in each month and not have it for the 15 days with February and March combined.

JIMMO ITO: What happens in case of a worker who has worked 10 days and then developed rash?

NAKAI: Ah! Gee, whizz! If we fool around with every exception that comes up you will never get anywhere.

CHAIRMAN: We have to draw the line somewhere and 15 days seems to be a good place to draw the line.

ETO: You told me that you would not like to hear any amendments. You say to me, "no". But what have we been discussing the last fifteen minutes? We have all been amending and adding to these proposals your opinions. How come? I think it is unfair. (laughter)

ISSEI: I think we should have the opportunity to add new proposals.

CHAIRMAN: That would take too much time.

ETO: You're not fair. (laughter)

MIZUSHIMA: We can't change the entire plan since the committee has been working on it, but don't you think it would be all right to alter phrases and wordings to make it more clear and definite? (Many of the persons express their assent. Others nod their heads.)

CHAIRMAN: Who brought up No. 2 point 2?

NAKAI: The translation isn't quite right. (He goes on to explain his opinion. There seems to be some confusion in translating the English into Japanese.)

KOZUMA: Well, this 2B, the thing to do will be to strike off the phrase "in recognition of the particular services rendered this community."

CHAIRMAN: Then it would read "A" classified workers 1600 workers would be presented with \$5 each period.

KOZUMA: Right. For 2 C why don't we end the sentence with the word "distribution".

JUDGE NOMURA: Cross out the word distribution and let it read "each block would be presented with \$100 for their block."

KOZUMA: Okay.

CHAIRMAN: Well, let's have the alteration of Plan 2 Section 2 in Japanese.

(Silence as Kozuma thinks.)

KOZUMA: Well, for Plan 2 Section D as Judge Nomura has just suggested to me another change I think should be the fact that if it is laid down as 15 days than a person working 15 days in the month of February might also receive the full distribution for the month of March, too. February distribution should be for February workers only. That is only right. I wish to make that correction.

(Kozuma silently works out the wording for his amendment. Sugiyama and Mizushima are conversing.)

CHAIRMAN: Are you ready Mr. Kozuma?

KOZUMA: Not yet. I can't put in the correct words.

FUKUDA: To Section 2D I don't think it wise to distribute to the net workers equally. Why don't we turn it over to the samouflage workers as a whole and let them decide how to divide it.

CHAIRMAN: We can't do that because we have an agreement way back.

ITO: Concerning Plan 2 there seems to be much argument. If we take it back to the block and we get into an argument over these articles then what are we to do?

CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ito, will you wait a moment while Mr. Kozuma gives his amendment?

KOZUMA: (Reads his amendment where he emphasizes that if the worker has worked over 15 days for each month of February and March then to receive the dividend in February and March in conjunction to



figure out the 15 days.

JUDGE NOMURA: Let's cross the word "honin" out. (means individual)

I think it was an understanding that the individuals would not handle this money, but that this fund would be turned over to the camouflage committee.

CHAIRMAN: Will you read your amendment with this correction?

KOZUMA: (Re-reads the amendment. This concerns the Plan 2 Section 4 of the Japanese portion.)

ETO: May I ask a question? If a person works 15 days or more than it is all right, but if he has worked 15 days or less where does this money go? Why not make February and March together to figure out the 15 days that a worker works.

KOZUMA: That would be unfair. That's the reason why we changed it. We want to make this on the same basis as the clothing allowance.

CHAIRMAN: I have another suggestion. Plan I Part C let's cross out, "If it seems more appropriate". Any more questions? If no then let's go back to Mr. Eto's point on how the thing should be worked. How shall we take it back to the block? Should we discuss it first and bring it back to the Council or should we have a blockmeeting and later vote on it?

MIZUSHIMA: (Translates)

KURATA: Hold a blockmeeting and then vote on it the next day. That would get results sooner.

ETO: I agree with Mr. Kurata. Let's vote on these four propositions and have no alternatives.

ETO: Then we are going to vote for either Propositions I, II, III, or IV and not by these separate articles under these four proposals.

We have to decide on the entire merits of each of the four plans.

NAKAI: I think we should vote and see if No. 1 gets a hundred votes and if two hundred votes. Bring back the results here and then all the votes from all the blocks will be tabulated and the plan which has the greatest number of votes will be the accepted one.

CHAIRMAN: Will somebody put that into a motion?

KURATA: I motion that plan.

CHAIRMAN: On what day shall we vote?

KURATA: Monday.

CHAIRMAN: That's too early. Let's make it any day before Thursday.

ITO: Will you please read again the corrections so that we may fix our mimeographed sheets of paper?

CHAIRMAN: Will you wait until we have disposed of this motion?

ITO: I am not clear on the system of voting. Is it to be based on the whole number of votes cast for each plan or is it going to be decided by the majority of the vote in favor of which plan?

KOZUMA: The plan which gets the majority of the vote of the block should be the plan adopted by that block and that results should be brought back to the Council. We don't want all the votes cast to be brought and then these to be added.

NAKAI: Then we are arguing about whether a majority vote will carry a plan in the block or whether the total vote of all the residents will be calculated to figure which received the highest total vote and not decide which plan received the majority vote in each block.

CHAIRMAN: What about in case of ties?

ITO: They probably won't have any tie.

CHAIRMAN: Might be.

NOMURA: In case of tie then I think the Council can decide.

CHAIRMAN: I am inclined to favor Joe Nakai's plan of tabulating the entire votes cast in each block as a whole.

ISSEI: Then you want us to bring all the results. How much each proposal gets.

CHAIRMAN: Well, let me second this motion. Let us say that anyday before Thursday you will have a vote and on Friday we will have a complete count of the votes and the plan which receives the highest amount of votes will be the plan which will be the choice of the people.

ITO: When should we turn in our votes?

CHAIRMAN: Let's make it before Friday noon.

NOMURA: In case of a tie let's make it so that the Council present at the next Saturday meeting can decide one way or another even if there is no quorum.

(Ito seconds the motion.)

CHAIRMAN: Wait a minute. Let's vote on choice plan first. All in favor signify by saying "aye". (loud response) Contrary? (no response) Okay, Judge Nomura, what did you say?

(Judge re-states his statement and a vote is taken and is passed.)

ITO: Are we going to have a standard size paper in which to vote?

NAKAI: Use your own paper and just submit in the results.

CHAIRMAN: Let's go back now to Mr. Ito's point on explaining more fully the revisions that we made on the four proposals.

(Dr. Mizushima re-reads the entire Japanese section amending the ones which were altered.)

MRS. KIDO: I think that 3B should be more exactly stated. That proposal might even include the Caucasian teachers.

JUDGE: Well, the title is called the evacuee trust fund so I don't think it will make any difference.

MRS. KIDO: But that phrase "public school" is very vague.

(By now much group talking is going on. On the floor there seems to be talk of allocating part of the fund to the Japanese school, but there is too much talk going on to note what is being said. Sugiyama is called outside by a person and the crowd becomes even noisier. Dr. Mizushima calls out, "kuikai" (intermission and sits down.)

NAKAI: What about Section II 4--the Japanese wording is wrong.

DR. MIZUSHIMA: Isn't it just for February and March and not April?

NAKAI: What of people who were here in February and March who worked as project workers and are now outside?

(Much talk going on. This seems to indicate that Sugiyama is a strong dominating factor in keeping the meeting in order. This confused discussion goes on for about 10 minutes. Sugiyama returns and says, "Will the meeting come to order? I understand that we are stuck on II B. The cause seems to be that the Manpower Commission was organized recently and doesn't go back as far as February and March. (laughter) I think we can solve this by saying that if this plan is accepted then we can make the manpower regulation retro-active to February 1st.

MIZUSHIMA: Translate into Japanese.

ITO: I second it.

CHAIRMAN: Let's have somebody first make the motion. I can't make it.

ISSEI: What does the "A" category include?

CHAIRMAN: Mr. Fukuda could you explain that and also could you explain it

in Japanese so that the Isseis can understand it and we won't waste time.

FUKUDA: (In Japanese) As you recall the Manpower Commission was formed and it decided which jobs was essential to the life, health, and security of Poston. (Goes on further and explains the different classifications.)

ISSEI: Does that include the kitchen workers, too?

FUKUDA: Yes. About 200 of the chief kitchen workers are included in the "A" category.

ANOTHER ISSEI: What about the latrine cleaners? Are they under the health category?

FUKUDA: If they get above the 90% rating then they will receive \$19. However if they don't keep this up they will automatically drop down to \$16.

ISSEI: Who will decide the rating percentages?

FUKUDA: The Public Health will.

CHAIRMAN: Will somebody make a motion of my suggestion about making the it retroactive until February 1st?

(Ito makes the motion and Nakai seconds it.)

CHAIRMAN: All those in favor say, "aye". (loud response) Contrary? (no response). For this 15 day proposition why don't we make that a part or Proposal 3 and 4 too?

JUDGE NOMURA: Chairman, I make a motion which will be effective to all four plans where the worker at the present time has left the project and are entitled to share in the dividend fund that such money should be given over to the block so that we will not have to chase around looking for these persons who have gone on the outside.

KOZUMA: Seconds the motion.

MRS. KIDO: Aren't we talking about giving the hospital as much as possible? It seems that our original idea to aid the hospital has petered out in favor of the block.

ITO: Camp 2 and 3 are also going to contribute to the hospital fund so I think it would be all right to give to the block, too.

MIZUSHIMA: Explains Judge Nomura's motion.

ISSEI: Why don't we make it that instead of to the block if a person has gone out but his wife or his parents or his children are in camp then it should go to his family before it is turned over to the block.

CHAIRMAN: I suppose it is all right for the families, but then we will have cousins and uncles asking for their share, too.

ISSEI: Let's just make it "oyako" (parents) and wife.

MIZUSHIMA: Let's just make it parents and wife.

CHAIRMAN: All those in favor of this suggestion say, "aye". (response)

Opposed? (no response) I guess this finishes this business.

(Jimmy Ito, Sugiyama, and Fukuda are passing out the instruction for the coming election mimeographed both in English and Japanese. Judge Nomura is passing out the new revised constitution which has been returned from Wabbing. Observer not able to get a copy as only a limited amount has been mimeographed.)

CHAIRMAN: Will the meeting please come to order?

(five or six are still handing out sheets of paper and pamphlets. Much discussion going on. Others are reading and looking at the materials received.)

#### FOOD

CHAIRMAN: Will the meeting please come to order? I have a request here from the block steward of Block 3. This has to do with the food situa-

tion. During March they had 2,--- points short. Will the food committee take this over and investigate? (Sugiyama asks the individual members of the committee who assent.)

STONE POLISHING

SUGIYAMA: May we have a report from the stone polishing investigating committee?

MURAKAMI: We have not worked out any definite plan as yet. We met Wednesday night. The Community Activities Committee met with the Co-op Enterprise Committee. Dr. Powell was also there. He explained the situation from the beginning. At the conclusion of the meeting Dr. Powell said that he will make a definite plan so that we can look into the invoices of the production of all the departments. Dr. Powell thought that in fairness to all, all departments should be investigated instead of picking out the stone polishing. We are waiting for the memo which Dr. Powell will issue to the various departments then we will go ahead with our investigation.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Mr. Kawasaki, will you report?

KAWASAKI: Ito, will you explain in Japanese?

(Ito translates into Japanese. He adds--"that the inventories and the purchase of each equipment in each department will be asked to be stated clearly in the memorandum which will be issued by Dr. Powell.)

VOLUNTEERS

CHAIRMAN: Thank you. To go on to the next topic. On Monday evening at 9:00 o'clock 36 volunteers will leave for the army. 17 from Unit 3. 9 from Unit 2 and 10 from Unit 1 making a total of 36. The tentative plan is to have a send-off at Stage 4. We are planning to have from 8:00 to 9:00 a program. Since these boys are going to be away from

Peeton we felt that some send-off should be given to these boys. A preliminary meeting was held in Mr. Head's office. The three units were represented. Each volunteer will have a truck so that he may bring his family and friends over to Block 4. We plan to have various entertainments and representatives will make speeches limited to two minutes. There will be Japanese speeches. Also Mr. Head or Mr. Gelvin may talk. The Activities Department is now making leis and this will cost a small amount of money. We still have some of the money from the volunteer dance and we will use this fund, but besides we may need two or three dollars more. Are there any objections?

DR. MIZUSHIMA: (translates into Japanese. Many say "waisei".

HOSPITAL--NURSES' AIDES

CHAIRMAN: I have here a proposal from the hospital to glamorize the nurses' aides graduation which will be held sometime before the 25th of this month. That is, the proposal whereby the two highest nurses will receive recognition, \$50 for the highest in scholarship and \$25 for the next in cash. They felt that this will be an incentive for other nurses in the hospital. The hospital wants each of the units to donate \$25. May I have your approval?

DR. MIZUSHIMA: Translates.

KURATA: I imagine that this will be all right, but I think there are about 12 girls graduating. What of the remaining 10. They probably worked just as hard. Why not give <sup>an even \$5</sup> \$25 to all? Choosing one or two might lead to problems later on.

CHAIRMAN: But \$5 may not be much of an inducement.

NISHIMOTO: Well, the hospital wanted to offer this \$50 and \$25 as an



incentive to others who are enrolling as nurses' aides to study harder. Other schools do this, too. They offer the highest scholar some sort of recognition. Since we can't offer scholarship we thought that if a cash advance might not be the thing.

CHAIRMAN: Well, let's have a motion to decide whether we want to give each nurse remuneration equally or whether we want to have it only for the two highest.

MIZUSHIMA: (translates into Japanese.)

CHAIRMAN: All in favor of Kurata's motion please raise your hands.

(Kawabe counts 33 hands.)

CHAIRMAN: No. There's not that much hands. Will all those in favor please stand up. (Re-count shows that there are 22.) All those in favor of a first and second prize please stand up. (13 stand up) Then I will make the ~~recommendation~~ recommendation to the hospital of our suggestion. Also I think it will be necessary to discuss with Unit 2 and 3.

#### FIRE

I have here a letter from the fire Department. (He reads the letter which states the fire hazard of the tent shades, shades which are built in between the barracks.)

CHAIRMAN: The space between the barracks are supposed to be a fire break and, therefore, they should be kept free. The ramadas are okay in the center of the block, but their roofing should be replaced with less combustible covering. If it is 1½ thickness it will be all right, but it cannot be any longer than 8 feet.

MIZUSHIMA: Translates and adds --Are there any suggestions? I per-

sobally think that if we brought this up we'd have a lot of trouble in the block.

ISSEI: Last year when we came here it was terrifically hot and many fainted so now they are building these shades in anticipation of keeping cool. This is especially true of people without coolers. If you ask these people to tear down their shades after all the work they have done I am positive it would lead to an argument. Is it not possible to make it so that from now on no one can build any more shades.

MEUSHIMA: Also these shades should not have card boards for their roofs. They would make it very combustible.

ETO: Why don't we turn this over to the blockmanager meeting? I think I think they could handle the job more than the CC or the IAB.

ITO: Is it true that at either end of the barrack you can have shade, but not on the sides in between the barracks?

NAKAI: I talked to Mr. Fien and he was of the opinion that there should be nothing between the barracks. You recall that in Block 44 there were no shades, but yet the fire caught on the <sup>have</sup> to the next floor. I wonder what would/happened if there was a little wind and there were combustible shades. It would have been tragic. We can't help it if we hurt some of the people's feeling. It is for the good of the community.

ISSEI: The discussion on this is becoming interesting. I am a blockmanager of this block 5 and also a member of the Community Council and I feel that the fire department should make the plan and enforce it not the blockmanager. I, as blockmanager, ask one of my residents

to stop digging a cellar underneath the barrack because it tilted the boards, but this resident responded, "What of other blocks?" and they go right ahead digging the hole.

NAKAI: That's why we need a law. A definite law and if they don't comply with it then the police can come up and chop up the shades and if they are very uncooperative then we can have them jailed.

CHAIRMAN: Let's have a committee to work on this. Who's got a lot of time? Judge? (laughter) You get one helper and go ahead.

JUDGE NOMURA: What about Nakai? And also I would like to have some Issei members. What about the Law and Order Committee?

MIZUSHIMA: (Reads off the name of the Issei members of the Law and Order Committee, but find that two are absent, one asked to be excused and the remaining one finally assents to join Nomura and Nakai.

Mizushima laughingly comments, "Manpower shortage".)

HEALTH--SEWER (Block Fish ponds)

CHAIRMAN: Next we go on to the block ponds. I have a letter here from the Sanitation Department. They say that the sewage is overflowing and the workers covering the mosquito sewage lagoon is being over-taxed. They learned that the average consumption of water is about 300 gallons per capita for Peston. This far exceeds the 50 and 100 gallons which is the normal case in any community. Normally on the outside water is used extensively during the morning, noon, and night, but in ~~between~~ between times it is not used very much. However, in Peston the rate of use is constant and they think that it is due to the excessive use of water in the fish pond. It is estimated that in one of the ponds in one block they use about 15 gallons per minute. They rate the water flow constantly. This causes confusion and gets the sewer pipe stuck. For example, Block 54

latrines all the water shoots back up again and they feel that it is the fault of the ponds.

BLOCK 54: This is quite true. We have had this happen off and on. It is terrible to have all the dirty and filthy material come gorging out of the latrines. At times we can't even enter the latrines as the floors are all covered with this filthy water. Some of the people seem to think that the fault lies in the fact that Block 54 is at a low level with the pipe in comparison with the other blocks. Therefore, the water shoots back up again. Sometimes we can't even take showers. So dirty it is. For example, when the lights went off and the water was shut off like Sunday our latrines were in an awful mess. Some of us couldn't even sleep that night on account of the smell. I personally was awakened all of a sudden in the middle of the night because of the sewer smell. It is trying to eat food in the mess hall with so obnoxious a smell.

NISHIMOTO: It is true that your district is lots lower in level, but the fact remains that the main sewer pipe is a small pipe according to the engineering department so putting on a bigger motor would not solve the problem although we are working on it. What we need to do is to cut down on the flow of water. These pipes can only hold so much water and if more than it can hold are disposed through these pipes from the fish ponds then the water has to ooze out of somewhere and just so happens to be block 54. The volunteer crew is now working to suppress the sewer lagoon, but we are also having difficulty in getting manpower. (Nishimoto works in the Public Health Department.)

MIZUSHIMA: I wonder if it is possible to have our mess halls sprayed.

NISHIMOTO: I think it can be done, but I am warning you that if it is sprayed the smell would be even worse and annoying.

(The dinner bell of Block 5 can be heard and everyone becomes restless.)

CHAIRMAN: Let's leave this as unfinished business and bring it up at the next meeting to be held Tuesday at 1:00 o'clock with the Mosquito and Fly Committee. It will meet in the office next to Mr. Evans. I would like to have a representative from Block 54 be there.

NAKAI: Shouldn't we include 60, \_\_\_\_\_? \_\_\_\_\_? (interrupted)

NISHIMOTO: The trouble of the oozing water pertains only to Block 54.

It doesn't occur any where else. (Some of the members get up to leave. Kurata stands up and says:

KURATA: I want to thank you for the help that you have all given to me in the hospital situation. I am glad of your cooperative response. I will tell more about it in the next meeting exactly what we can do. But the first thing that we should think about is to improve doctor's house.

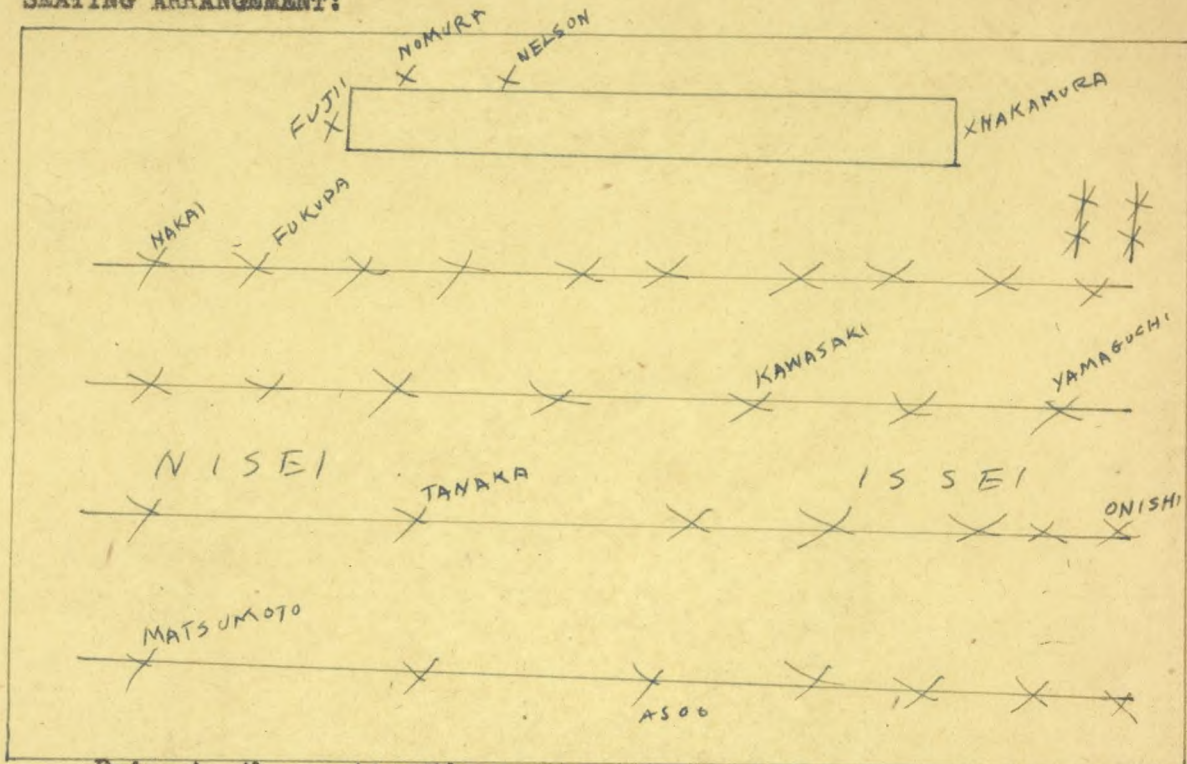
(All the members stand up and are going toward the door when Sugiyama shouts out, "May we have two fellows to sweep out the floor?" An Issei member is standing by the door with five or six brooms and observer along with the others rush pass through the door and hurries toward home.)

ADJOURNMENT 12:10

(YM)

Unit I Council Meeting - Adm. Bldg. Conference Room - 10:00 A.M.  
 Installation of new Councilmen and election of officers and committee  
 men. Prin. Actors-Nakai, Kawasaki, Hane, Matsumoto, Fujii, Nomura,  
 CR: City Council Fukuda.

## SEATING ARRANGEMENT:



Prior to the meeting there were present about 7 persons. One of the Niseis from Block 42 is telling the others how he was railroaded into the job of Councilman. Block 42 originally had four nominations for the office of Councilman, but one by one withdrew, therefore, he was left holding the bag. The Councilman from Block 4 says the same thing. Some of the Issei members enter into the room who are wearing suits. One of the younger members comment that these older Isseis must take their new job as Councilman very seriously to wear a suit and tie. One of the Isseis laughingly replied that they had just returned from the funeral of boy who drowned in the swimming pool. At 10:20 Judge Nomura, Nelson, Fujii, Fukuda and Nosoff enter and sit down.

JUDGE NOMURA: Will the meeting please come to order?

(Fujii noticing that the girl secretary is not here goes out and calls her.)

JUDGE NOMURA: Will you take the roll call?

FUJII: (He takes roll call. There are about 30 persons present. The Niseis answer "here" or with a "yes". When George Fujii calls out Takeshi Asoo, Mr. Asoo stands up and says that there has been a mistake. He explains that he had resigned from the job and Mr. Matsumoto had been elected the Councilman. He then introduces Mr. Matsumoto.)

JUDGE NOMURA: I have here Mr. Nelson, the Unit I Administrator, who will administer the "oath of office" to the new Councilmen. Will you all rise and raise your right hand? (All rise and follow Judge's orders. Mr. Nelson swears them in and as he pauses after each phrase the whole body repeats after him.)

NELSON: I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully do my duty of the Local Council of Unit I and act in the best interest of its residents. I will preserve and obey the constitution and the laws of the United States and the regulations passed by the Local Council of Unit I and of the City Council of Poston. (The members sit down.) Thank you. You have just taken the oath of office as duly elected officers of Unit I. Now you are the representatives of the people of Poston. The Temporary Community Council has done an excellent job under long hours and handicaps and they deserve a great deal of credit. You members have two responsibilities. First, you are responsible to the people who have chosen you as a representative. You must keep in mind their wishes, desires, and their hopes. These must be of paramount importance. Secondly, it must be upon yourselves. You must take the initiative to lead the Poston Community. We are living under abnormal conditions, but you must look into the future and

work hard. There are many hidden problems which will need solutions. Mr. Myer hit it on the head when he said that most of us are afraid of the unseen, but we must solve these problems. Rapid stride in Poston has been made by your predecessors and they must be followed. It will take sweat and toil in planning and deliberation. There will be blank walls which will be unsurmountable. By working together we must come out on top. There are many problems in Poston, but I would like to stress at this time the subject of food. As most of you know we have to "gear" our machinery to grow food for Poston. With greater rationing taking place there is a dire need for greater quantities which will have to be grown in camp. You know the director's policy. The administration is here to help you. It is our utmost desire to be of help to you. I want you to feel free to contact me any time you so desire. Congratulations again. You are an excellent body. I hope that we will work together. (applause)

JUDGE: Mr. Masuda, will you please introduce your guest?

MASUDA: (He is the Assistant Project Attorney.) I have here with us today a man from Washington. He is Mr. Solon Kimball. Mr. Kimball was in Poston during the early stages in May. He left here on May 25th. He is now studying the community organizations and activities. He has found it very interesting here in Poston and tells me that his great interest in the organization has prompted him to stay here with us a few days. I take great pleasure in introducing Mr. Solon Kimball who is connected with the Community Organization in Washington D.C.



KIMBALL: I had many pleasures and privileges out of Poston. I was here during the first days when some of the first people arrived here. I came back here on July 1st at that time when the TCC was the first step in unifying the community and now here I am again when the first permanent community council of Unit I is to take over its functions. During the past year there has been tremendous changes in Poston. To you they may seem natural. You were responsible for that, but to persons who have been away and returning these changes are startling. Trees, plants, gardens, barracks all fixed up and such community spirit. Also it is interesting and heartening to see here in Poston the development of the type of government including the Council, the Boards set up such as the LRB, EB, and the various committees under the Council solving community problems. These are all tied in with the hopes and aspirations of the people of Poston. With the manifestation of the people from all places it is very encouraging to see them working hand in hand to solve community problems. The representatives of this Community Council, as representatives of the people of the Council are to be congratulated for the administration change which has shaped Poston in the short course of a year. (applause)

JUDGE: May we have Mr. Masuda of the Attorney's office say a few words?

MASUDA: Oh, I don't want to say anything. Keep quiet. (laughter)

JUDGE: Well then <sup>let's</sup> go on with the meeting. First, let's have the appointment of the chairman. Nominations are now open.

NISEI: I nominate Mr. Nomura. (Someone seconds it.)

NAKAMURA: (In Japanese) Wait. Before we get into these nominations for various offices wouldn't it be wise since most of us do not know each other. (Fujii reads the names of each Councilman. The Councilmen

stand and for each name there is a light applause. The Isseis stand and bow very formally and sit down. The Nisei stand and sit.)

JUDGE: I decline the nomination for Chairman. As you know I took over the chairmanship of the first Temporary Council after Sugiyama left and I have to carry on the work and there are still some work that has to be done which was left from the TCC.

ISSEI: Before we start voting let's have an intermission for 10 minutes to get acquainted.

JUDGE: What about that? That would be a good idea to get acquainted. We need a chairman, a vice-chairman, 9 representatives to the City Council and four judicial commissioners. (Many say "okay". There is some talk in small groups, but the room being so small and crowded it is impossible to move around. Members sit where they are and converse with adjoining Councilmen.)

MASUDA: Why don't you appoint the chairman, only, for today and then you can decide later on all the other appointive and elective offices.

NAKAI: We don't know many of the people here present so give us a chance to get acquainted.

MASUDA: But we do have to have the 9 City Councilmen from Unit I City Council meets here. We have to elect them and have them ready. This local council will exist until the first Monday in October then it will be on a yearly basis. (During the 10 minute intermission the Isseis are discussing the need for English and Japanese Speaking Chairman so as to make the meeting understandable to both Isseis and Niseis. This discussion is being lead by Mr. Kawasaki at one side of the Council room. The small crowd of Niseis at the opposite end of the room are selecting potential chairmen such as Fukuda.

NAKAI: The ten minutes are up. Let's get started.

FUKUDA: I make a motion that we have a Nisei Chairman and the vice-chairman be an Issei. In that way it will be much better because there will be many issues in which both interpretation will be necessary. Let's appoint them today.

ONO: I second the motion.

JUDGE: All in favor say "aye". (response) All opposed? (no response)

The nomination is now open.

ONO: I want to nominate Judge Nomura:

FUKUDA: ( quickly) I second the motion. (laughter)

JUDGE: Any others?

NAKAI: I move that the nomination be closed.

\_\_\_\_\_ : I second the motion.

JUDGE: Hey! Wait a minute. You can't railroad me into that job. I don't want that job.

ONO: We made a motion and we closed the nomination so let's go on with the meeting.

JUDGE: Let's have some more nomination for the chairman. I am only a temporary chairman so I am not going to recognize your motion to close the nomination. In fact I refuse to close the nomination. (Silence as no one adds additional nominees.)

FUKUDA: Let's go on with the business. In absence of further nominations it looks like your it.

NAKAI: Your capable of the job.

NOMURAA (reluctantly) All those in favor of closing the nominations say "aye". (very loud response) Opposed? (none) (loud laughter)  
THE TCC has a Sargeant of Arms. Do you think it is necessary to have

one for this <sup>new</sup> body, too?

NAKAI: Let's disregard it.

JUDGE NOMURA: Shall we vote as we go along for each office or shall we first nominate and then vote the names?

ONO: Let's include the Sergeant of Arms.

JUDGE: All right. An Issei can be a Sergeant of Arms, too. Then we are going to vote for the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, and the Sergeant of Arms. We also have to have a new secretary. Our old one left us.

ONO: I move that we leave finding a new secretary to the Chairman. (laughter)

JUDGE: Let's go on to the election of the vice-chairman.

NAKAI: I nominate Iwatate of Block 22.

FUKUDA: Seconds the motion.

IWATATE: I wish to refuse the nomination.

ONO: On what grounds do you refuse the nomination.

IWATATE: On the grounds that I am not an Issei. Remember we made a motion that the vice-chairman will be an Issei. In turn I would like to nominate Mr. Hane.

KAWASAKI: I wish to nominate Mr. Nakamura.

JUDGE: All right.

MASUDA: I want to clear this one point. An officer of the Local Council can also be a member of the City Council. I just want you to remember that.

IWATATE: I make a motion for Mr. Hane of Block 16.

NAKAI: I second the motion.

JUDGE: Any more nominations?

ONO: I move that the nomination be closed.

JUDGE: Wait a minute. Let's have some more time to give some of the Iss-  
seis a chance.

ISSEI: I nominate Mr. Okamoto of Block 30.

\_\_\_\_\_: I second it.

ONO: I move that the nomination be closed.

MATSUMOTO: I second the motion.

JUDGE: All those in favor say "aye". (response) No. (no response)

JUDGE: (Reads off the names while George Fujii, the Executive Secretary  
of the CC passes out the ballot. As Judge reads the names of the  
nominees they rise and bow. They are Mr. Nakamura of Block 17, Mr.  
Hane of Block 16, Mr. Okamoto of Block 30. The members put their  
ballots in a hat which is passed around. Judge appoints two to tab-  
ulate the count. Fukuda and Matsumoto. Mr. Matsumoto declines be-  
cause he has no glasses and he cannot see. Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ takes  
over Matsumoto's place. Fukuda reads aloud each vote as the votes  
are tabulated. This takes about 5 minutes.

JUDGE: Mr. Okamoto has been elected by 14 votes. (loud applause) Next  
we will the Sergeant of Arms. It is now open for nomination.

\_\_\_\_\_: I nominate Tom Sakai.

NAKAI: I second the motion.

\_\_\_\_\_: I nominate Mr. Yoshioka of Block 21.

MATSUMOTO: I nominate Mr. Sakai. (seconded)

\_\_\_\_\_: I nominate Mr. Kawasaki. (laughter upon selection of an old  
Issai for Sergeant of Arms.)

JUDGE: He is going to have a tough time rounding up some of these guys  
later on to attend meetings.

FUKUDA: I move that the nomination be closed.

JUDGE: All those in favor say "aye". (response and carried.)

FUJII: (Reads off the names of the nominees who stand up and bow. Ballots are passed out.) (Fukuda, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ tabulate the votes.)

JUDGE: Mr. Joe Nakai has been elected as Sergeant of Arms. I think it is possible to finish up before noon.

NAKAI: Concerning this Executive Secretary job. Let us appoint one. I don't think he has to be a member of the Council. Since we don't seem to have much time shall we adjourn and have a recess until this afternoon?

JUDGE: Let us finish this business today and meet this afternoon at 1:30 sharp and not 2:30. We still have the Judicial Commission and the City Council members to elect.

(Translation by Okamoto who is now sitting at the desk in front of the room.)

JUDGE: Also we have to nominate committees. Will you distribute the mimeographed form now? (Addressing Fujii who distributes the form. See attached copy of form.)

FUJII: This is typed in English so the the Niseis will understand it, but I don't think the Isseis do. (He goes on to explain all the sentences in Japanese concerning the form.)

JUDGE: At the end will you check one in which you would like to serve as a committee man such as the Law and Order, Health and Sanitation, and so on. Check only one. Well, we shall adjourn until 1:30 this afternoon.

*reference*

INFORMATION FOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Present Address: Block \_\_\_\_\_ Barrack \_\_\_\_\_ Apartment \_\_\_\_\_

Former Address: City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Educational Background: (Enter number of years attendance)

High School \_\_\_\_\_

University \_\_\_\_\_

Degrees \_\_\_\_\_

Japanese Education \_\_\_\_\_

Public Service \_\_\_\_\_

(Former participation in clubs, organizations and

offices held)

Former Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Present Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

What is your interpretation of a Community Council and its functions? (State your reasons!)

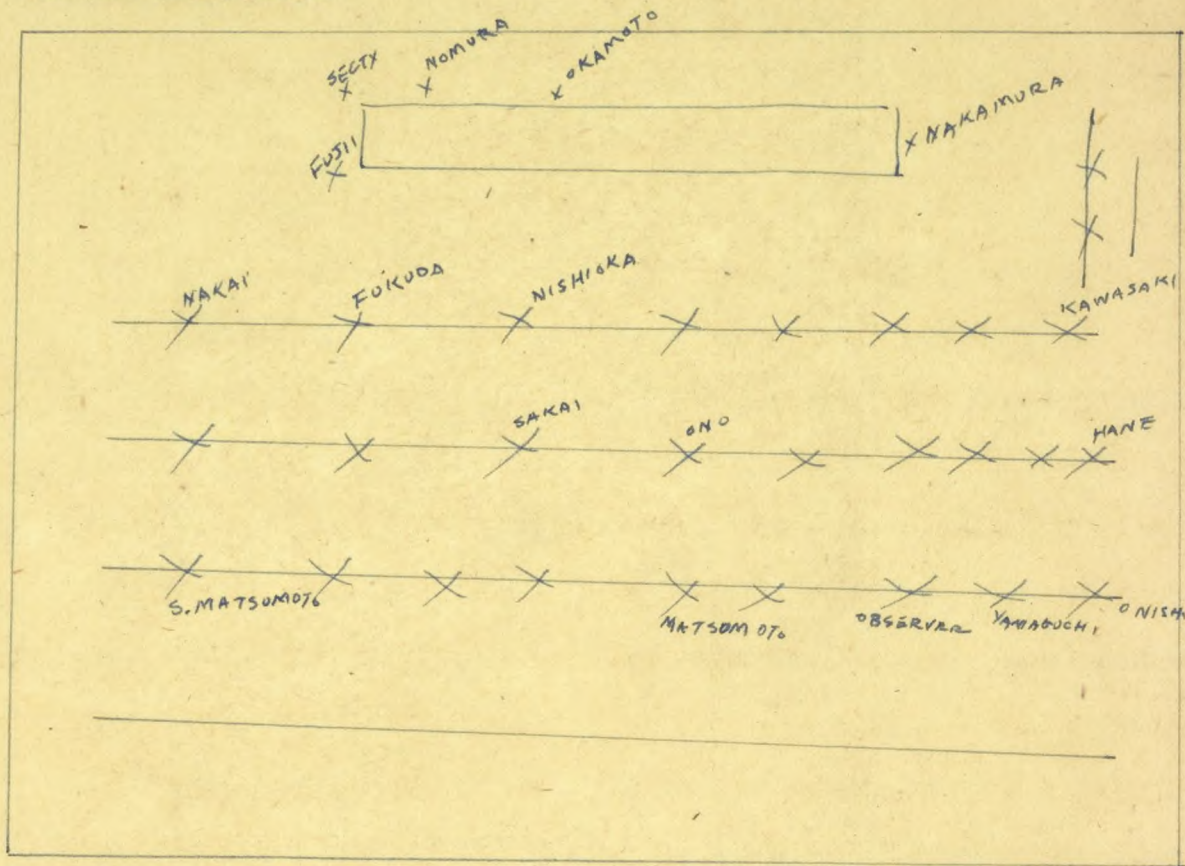
What do you think should be the relationship of the Community Council to the people and the Project? (State your reasons!)

Interests you may have in Council Committees: ( Check first, second and third preference)

- |                                  |                                |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Law and Order. . . . .( )     | 6. Education. . . . .( )       |
| 2. Public Relations . . . . .( ) | 7. Social Welfare . . . . .( ) |
| 3. Agriculture. . . . .( )       | 8. Enterprises. . . . .( )     |
| 4. Sanitation . . . . .( )       | 9. Food. . . . .( )            |
| 5. Labor Relations. . . . .( )   | 10. Housing . . . . .( )       |

AFTERNOON SESSION - 1:30 P.M.

SEATING ARRANGEMENT:



Upon arrival of the observer there are about 8 or 9 persons present although it is 1:30. Observer goes and sits by Mr. Yamaguchi (GY's father). Beside him is sitting Mr. Onishi whom the observer knew back in Fresno. Mr. Matsumoto of Block 36 enters the room and sits besides the observer. There is much discussion among the group of how many Isseis and Niseis are in the Council. Certain members seem difficult to classify either as Issei or a Nisei. Mr. Matsumoto to the embarrassment of the observer starts to heckle the observer. He laughingly jests and loudly tells the other Councilmen present that they had better be careful because an observer from the Sociological Department is here to study their personality. He tells them to watch out that if they talk too much they may be



classified as a dunce. He tells the members present that the Sociological Department is very interested in what the Council does so that they should try to do their best if only to impress the Sociological Department. There is quite a hearty laughter from all present. Very embarrassing. Mr. Okamoto who has been figuring out the proportion of the Isseis and the Niseis in the Council finally says:

OKAMOTO: There are 11 Niseis and 16 Isseis in the Council. Blocks 11, 14, 39, 43, and 53 have not yet reported. We have not their return. Block 2's Mr. Yamada has not yet reported to the Council. Also Mr. Kawabe has declined his election.

NAKAI: Mr. Kawabe is not here in the Council because he is connected with the Community Enterprise.

NAKAMURA: Only the key position in the Community Enterprise were asked not to run for office because of the fact that their full time was needed for their job. I think Mr. Kawabe is going to be a buyer. (As members have been trickling in, in the meanwhile Judge Nomura calls the meeting to order at 1:45 P.M. Fujii takes the roll call.)

JUDGE: First, let's work on the election of the City Council. Shall we divide it into the proportion of Isseis and how many Niseis? This Council has 11 Niseis and the rest are Isseis. Do you think that the City Council representative from Unit I should be so proportioned? Let's have some discussion on this.

OKAMOTO: Translates.

NAKAMURA: (Mr. Nakamura represents an interesting character to watch. Although he holds no official capacity in the Council he takes it upon himself to sit at the desk used by the Chairman and the vice-chairman. He has an air of authority. He is a man about 45 - 50 years

of age. Rather slender, very well dressed with a notable mustache. (He is rather tall for a Japanese and slender.) I don't think the segregation of the Isseis and the Niseis would be a very good thing. But since we do have a proportion of division among the Isseis and the Nisei representatives and the need for harmony between these two groups, therefore, I suggest five Isseis and 4 Niseis.

MATSUMOTO: I second the motion.

JUDGE: I don't think the chairman should be included.

ISSEI: You mean to say that the chairman cannot be a member of the City Council?

JUDGE: No, but I've got too much to do. The idea is to select 9 representatives from this body.

HANE: Chairman, you should be one of them.

JUDGE: I've got too much work. I've got to finish the TCC's unfinished business.

HANE: Well, that's your opinion.

NAKAI: I think we should disregard the Nisei and the Issei classification. What we need is a really strong body to combat with Camps 2 and 3. If we don't have representatives there with backbone and who can speak their minds Camps 2 and 3 will dominate over Camp 1.

JUDGE: In Camp 2 there are 8 Isseis and 7 Niseis for Councilmen. In Camp 3 only 2 Isseis are Councilmen and the rest are all Niseis.

NAKAI: You should be in the representative group.

SAKAI: You should be on the City Council. If you were a member of the City Council then it would be much advisable and much faster to accomplish the work because it would be necessary to report to the Council Chairman. You've got to be in the City Council.

(Mr. Nosoff enters and talks to the Judge.)

JUDGE: The Employment Office is having a housewarming party in the back of the Express office and we are all invited. (As Nosoff is leaving Nakai asks, "Any refreshments?" Nosoff replies, "Come and find out." He leaves the room.)

JUDGE: I don't want to be in the City Council. I have an agreement with the block if I get into the permanent City Council then I am going to quit. I don't want to be a big shot. Too much trouble running around from camp to camp. We have a motion that there be no distinction between the Issei representatives and the Niseis. But the fact remains that we do have more Issei representatives so should there be an Issei majority in the CC representatives.

OKAMOTO: Let's have a ten minute recess so that we can discuss it among ourselves.

JUDGE: Okay. 10 minutes intermission and you discuss it among yourselves.  
(discussion.)

NAKAI: We have discussed it long enough. Let's take a vote.

OKAMOTO: Are we going to vote for all 9 at one vote?

JUDGE: I think it would be wise to nominate about 15 members and then from that vote 9.

ISSEI: But what if you can't remember all the names?

NAKAI: I will go get a blackboard. (Leaves the room to go get a blackboard.) and the vice chairman

MATSUMOTO: Isn't it all right to automatically put the chairman/into the City Council?

JUDGE: I am warning you I'll quit the Unit I Council if they put me into

Permanent City Council. I have an agreement with the block. Besides we need some new members to become active in the works of the Council. I've got too much work to do as it is in the Local Council and don't forget that there is lots of work to finish up for the TCC.

OKAMOTO: Let's decide that after the vote.

FUKUDA: Please don't nominate me either because I am too busy with the work in the Manpower Commission and the LRB.

JUDGE: We are all busy. That's no reason. Shall we nominate or shall we just put down each name individually.

NAKAI: I think it would be better to nominate because then we will get to know who's who. I nominate Ray Ono, Nisei.

TANAKA: I nominate Joe Nakai, Nisei.

NAKAI: I nominate Iwatate, Nisei.

\_\_\_\_\_ : Mr. Frank Fukuda, Nisei.

\_\_\_\_\_ : Mr. Nakamura, Issei.

FUKUDA: Mr. Susumu Matsumoto, Issei.

NAKAI: I nominate Mr. Tom Sakai, Nisei.

JUDGE: Let's have some of the Issei members.

OKAMOTO: (Translates)

ISSEI: I nominate Mr. Okamoto, Issei.

ISSEI: I nominate Mr. Nomura.

JUDGE: Ah, ah, no good. We are now nominating only the Isseis. We closed the nomination for Niseis. Your nomination is no good. (The nomination becomes very fast and observer is unable to jot down each separately. But the following have now been nominated:

Nakamura  
Okamoto  
Yoshioka  
Hane

Sato  
Onishi  
Kawasaki  
Matsumoto

Yamaguchi

(The list is put on the blackboard.)

JOE NAKAI: Let's vote 9 out of this list that we have. (Fujii is passing out the ballot.)

SATO: I have to do too much for my family so will you please cross my name out?

JUDGE: Ah, let's leave it up there. (All are busy jotting down<sup>9</sup> names on the ballot. Nelson enters and sits by the door. Sakai and Nakai go up to the desk after the votes have been collected to tabulate, but Judge says that they cannot count the votes because they are candidates so Mr. Nishioka and \_\_\_\_\_ tabulate. This tabulation takes about 20 minutes. The observer notices that the composition of the Council seems to be composed of second rate men. Not one seems to be particularly dynamic nor conspicuous because of his personality. They seem to represent a mediocre group of men. All the capable men seem to have either left camp or else refrain from entering into politics. The composition of the Council cannot be divided on the basis of Issei and Nisei. The true Nisei, that is, a person who speaks fluent English without any Japanese education as his background are few in total percentage. The composition really seems to be classified into 20% Nisei and 40% what might be classified as in between the Isseis and the Niseis. You could include in the group such as Nakai, who is a kibe<sup>8</sup> and Mr. Nishioka, who is classified as an Issei, but who speaks fluent English. In other words he may be said to be an Old Nisei. The remaining 40% are the true Isseis.

FUJII: 4 Isseis and 5 Niseis have been elected.

JUDGE: Here they are. I will read the list as they are on the blackboard.

Ray Ono  
Joe Nakai  
Iwatate  
Fukuda  
Sakai  
Nakamura  
Okamoto  
Hane  
Kawasaki

Well, now we have elected the Unit I representatives to the City Council. You will meet at 2:00 in the Mess Hall of Block 22 on June 1st. Be sure to be there. Also all the rest of the members of the Council have been invited to their first meeting. So all of you try to go if you can. Mr. Nelson?

NELSON: The Leave Office of the Employment Department have their new department in the Express Office. Mr. Nosoff has asked me to tell you that they will have a housewarming party and that all of you have been invited. It will be this afternoon at 4:00.

(Several Councilmen utter out, "Thank you". Nelson leaves.)

JUDGE: Next, let us vote for the Judicial Commission. At the last Council we had three members, but I wonder if it is necessary for four. We always have to go around chasing for one more Judge for the trials and we used to waste about 2 hours waiting. If we had 4 then one can always act as an alternate. And oh, yes, members on this Commission need not have to be a member of the Council. He can be an outsider.

NAKAMURA: Why don't you explain that in Japanese, Okamoto?

(Okamoto has been busy jotting down notes in his notebook and looks up and says, "What?" Then Nakamura takes it upon himself to explain to the Isseis himself in Japanese.)

NAKAI: Do we have to vote for the Judicial Commission right away today? Why don't you let us have more time to get acquainted with the members?

JUDGE: Oh, we have to elect them today. This commission will have to hold their own meeting and they will have to meet with the other 2 camps.

OKAMOTO: Are there the same numbers of representatives from all the three camps on the commission?

NAKAMURA: The constitution says three from each of the three camps.

NAKAI: Who was in the Judicial Commission of the TCG?

JUDGE: Well, Mr. Yamamoto of Block 30, the lawyer, and Mr. Taniyoshi and I.

NAKAI: May I nominate Elmer Yamamoto of Block 30?

(Okamoto writes the name on the board.)

MATSUMOTO: I would like to nominate Mr. Okuno of Block 14.

(Mr. T. Matsumoto of Block 36 and Mr. S. Nomura of 45 are also nominated.)

JUDGE: Does Mr. Okuno understand English?

MATSUMOTO: I don't know. I don't think--not very much.

JUDGE: Well, I want to remind the members that the Judicial Commission work is carried on mostly in English.

MR. \_\_\_\_\_ : I would like to nominate Dick Se of block 27.

YAMAGUCHI: I would like to nominate Mr. Chihiro Sugi of Block 5. He has attended college and has some knowledge of law.

NAKAI: I make a motion to close the nomination.

FUKUDA: I would like all the Councilmen to vote for Elmer Yamamoto. I would like to have Mr. Yamamoto be voted into the Judicial Commission since he is a lawyer and there is a dire need that he be on the board.

NAKAI: If those selected should decline to become a member of the Judicial Commission then I suppose the next highest will take his place. Is that right?

JUDGE: Yes. (Observer asked by Mr. Yamaguchi to write the names for him on the ballot. Nakai and Sakai are tabulating the votes. George Fujii adds up the counts.)

JUDGE: Mr. Yamamoto, myself, and Mr. Sugi have been appointed with Mr. Matsumoto as the alternate. If anyone of these three should decline, then we should start from the highest and work down. I have here a letter from Mr. Galvin dated May 26, 1943. The resume of the letter is as follows. The TCC has laid a good foundation for self-government in Peaton. This permanent Council is another mile-stone in Peaton. The letter asked that until Mr. Head returns that the Social Relations Board, EB, LRB, Manpower Commission, the hospital and the police commission be left alone. Mr. Galvin wanted them to exist until Mr. Head returned from Washington. They are to be left alone and to remain.

FUKUDA: Will you explain that in Japanese so that the Isseis can understand?

OKAMOTO: Translates.

JUDGE: There will be a graduation of the nurses' aides on June 8th at 8 P.M. The hospital wants a representative from the local Council to make a speech.

NAKAI: Nomura, you are the chairman so you make the speech. (laughter)

JUDGE: Not me. I am too busy. They are having another occasion on June 12 when the PTA is sponsoring a party. They want members from the Council to be present. I think the Education Committee can represent us and I don't see why the Hospital Commission cannot represent the



Council at the nurses' aides graduation. They will have to present the gifts to the nurses' aides. Mr. Kawasaki, will you represent the Council there?

KAWASAKI: All right.

JUDGE: I am not going to make any more personal appearances. I am going to make all my speeches by proxy. (laughter)

JUDGE: Let's decide on the best time to meet for the regular meeting. We don't want to have it on Saturday morning as we had before. We used to barely get through before lunch.

OKAMOTO: What about the blockmanager meeting?

JUDGE: They hold it here on Tuesday.

HANE: What about Saturday afternoon.

(loud "nos" by several members of the Council)

OKAMOTO: What about Wednesday morning?

HAKAI: We all have lots of work to do in the mornings so don't you think it should be on noon?

HANE: May I explain the working of the Camouflage Committee so that the new members will understand our status?

JUDGE: Okay.

HANE: The old TCC has not finished distributing the Camouflage Fund. Therefore, this committee is still in existence until this fund is distributed according to plan No. I which you all voted for. Certain members in the committee are not now in the Local Council, but we are going ahead with the work of the distribution until it is done.

JUDGE: We will be getting the April Camouflage fund soon so we will have to work on that, too.

KAWASAKI: When are you going to get it? Don't you think we had better get it before they run away from us?

JUDGE: We will probably get it next Monday or Tuesday.

NAKAI: Let's meet at one o'clock on Wednesday afternoon.

(Several members call out, "Too early".)

NAKAI: Then let's make it 1:30 P.M.

JUDGE: Well, then the next meeting will be held here at 1:30. Will you all please hand in the mimeographed form that was handed out this morning and be sure to check one committee on which you would like to serve.

NAKAI: At the last TCC we were always troubled by not having quorums.

Let's have a rule whereby quorums will be present at each meeting.

JUDGE: We can decide that later.

NAKAI: Let's have something like charging 50 cents penalty for not showing up at a meeting.

FUKUDA: Better still if the member is present at the meeting then why not give him a dollar or two dollars. (laughter)

OKAMOTO: Let's buy some whiskey with the money.

FUKUDA: Maybe the money can be set aside from the camouflage fund. (laughter)

JUDGE: Well, the meeting is adjourned. (Several Issei members clap their hands.)

ADJOURNMENT 3:45 P.M.

(YM)

K

No. 116B Title C-1 Date 6-16-43

Source Reg. meeting covered by Y.M.

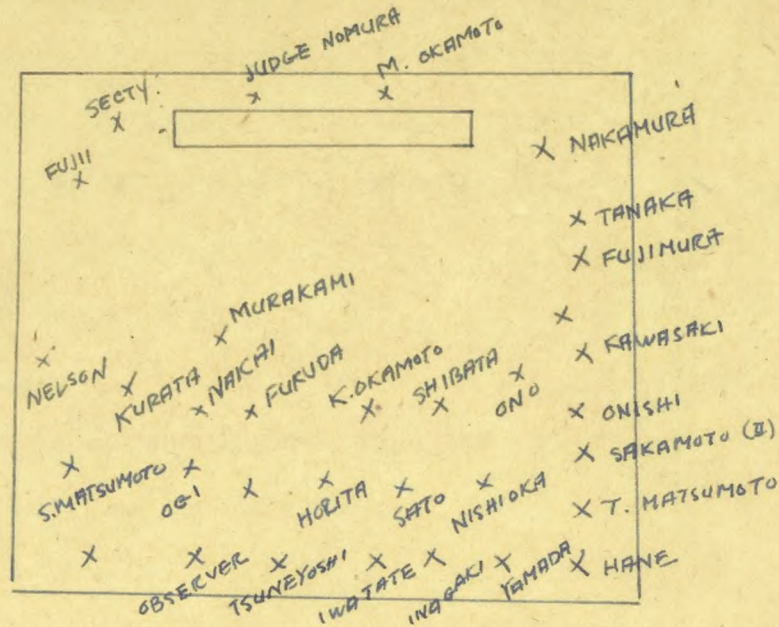
Subject Hoop. Ag. Fishing licenses,  
City Council, Private Ent, Com. Ent.  
Food - ~~man~~ noodle. EB + LRB.

CR. Hoop. Ag CC  
private Ent, Com. Ent.  
Food, EB, LRB

Unit I Ad. Conf. Room--1:30 P.M.

Subj: Hospital-p. 2, Agriculture-p. 7, fishing license-p. 9,  
 CC-p. 10, Private Enterprise-p. 11, community enterprise-p. 12  
 Food-noodle factory-p. 18, Politics-EB, LRB-p. 21.

## SEATING ARRANGEMENT:



George Fujii, K. Okamoto, and Nakai are at the desk stapling together the mimeographed sheets to be handed out to the Council. 7 persons are present when the observer arrives. Joe Nakai tells observer that he enjoyed talking with Dr. Lerner and Dr. Spicer the other day. He said that it lasted from 9 to 12 o'clock and it was very interesting. He said that he was awaiting a message from Dr. Lerner through Dr. Spicer. By 1:40 90% of the members are present. Most of them are smoking cigars or pipes. Fujii asks Nakai to pass out the letter from Mr. Wade Head to the Council. Before the meeting begins Kawasaki goes up to the Judge and asks him if the meeting cannot be conducted wholly in Japanese since most

of the members are Isseis. Judge, however, refers Kawasaki to Instruction 34, supplement two, and reads the article which says that records are to be kept in English. (Judge has the habit of always referring to charters or instructions for reference.) He says, however, that he will see that there is adequate translation so that the Isseis will fully understand the proceedings of the meeting. Another point was that they had just borrowed the secretary who had come to record the meeting and they felt that conducting the meeting in Japanese would only add to her work of translating it back into English. There is some suggestion by the Isseis to pick a member from the body itself as Mr. Iwatate, Mr. Yamada, and Mr. Nishioka to be secretary.

CHAIRMAN\*(Judge Nomura): Well, for today let's go on as usual. We can decide this matter later. (Fujii takes roll call. All are present except two or three members.)

#### HOSPITAL

CHAIRMAN: The first business for today we have George Kurata who will give us a report on the hospital.

KURATA: Friends and fellow Councilmen. I am glad to be in front of you today. I have been in the previous Council's Hospital Committee and I am now working for the hospital of Unit I, II, and III and particularly the hospital here. We have here now 12 doctors in the three units. One is planning to leave so that leaves us 11 doctors. We have five optometrists, but one, Dr. Ishimaru is out. We have 11 dentists, but four are planning to leave and, therefore, we have 7 left. This is counting the three camps as a whole. The Hospital Commission was appointed to carry out its work so that the hospital staff and the people may mutually understand their

problem. Mr. Sakai, Mr. Kawasaki, and I represent Unit I. There are the same amount of representatives from two and three. Previously we had recommended that that doctors be accorded better privileges such as the use of beds in the store room and the mattresses too. These are for the personnel use. Now, it has been granted to us. We also recommended the remodeling of barracks for doctors in the last TCC meeting. We have started now. We feel that the doctors need to rest during the day as well as during the night. We have put in sheep rock to deaden the noise of the neighbors. They need adequate rest. We have the support of the administration behind us. Now the important thing is that we have doctors. We have dentists and optometrists, but we have hardly any registered nurses. In fact we have none in Camp I. All that we have are nurses' aides and we must encourage more girls to want to become nurses' aides. It is a school just like the cooking school.

(Onishi and Murakami enter the room.)

We put in a call for 72 nurses aides, but so far we have only 12 girls signed up. It is of tremendous advantage to the people as well as to the community. Here nurses' aides training requires no expense on the part of the girls and in fact a stipulated wage is paid, the first month at \$16 with \$19 beginning the next month. They get free education at the same time they are preserving the health of the community. They are taught free and at the end of the course they are entitled to a certificate from the Indian Service. It is creditable to her and to the community. It is an honorable service. Will you councilmen encourage other girls to join for we need 72. We have 15 now and we need at least 35 girls.

We want you to try to encourage them to choose this profession. For persons who are interested we will plan to get a dormitory and they have the best of our respect. In fact we have made arrangements to get dormitories in Block 32 right now. This is to accommodate persons from Camp 2 and 3 and persons who are living on the far end of the camp. We will have a matron to supervise the building. We need their services and we are going to make it easy to stay with us and to make the barracks close to the hospital so that they will not have to walk far. We are now working on the camouflage fund presented from 1, 2, and 3 to the personnel and doctors. After we decide on an adequate and fair division of the money we plan to make a report to you in detail. You must recall that the TCC had a tremendous task, but now we know the condition and it will be much easier for you to tackle the problem. Finally we are making the school feasible. We are executing very nicely our school building. The result of this is that we have the high school buildings progressing very rapidly. Two are completed only for the roofing. They even have the rafter up. All that is needed is the roofs. Five are already completed with the roofing. Another is going up. (Reads on figures of the status of the school construction.) It shows that we people in Poston can share our responsibility. We had drafted a measure that the entire block volunteer to help in the school construction and it turned out very successfully. Each block is cooperating splendidly. There have been rumors that the school buildings will be used for a hospital and pig stables, but we know that they are false. You folks, I know, can over-rule these rumors. Many are now ready for occupancy. You can see

for yourselves as some of you have already done. This is all the business that I have to present. (To Judge) Shall I go on with the proposition that I have for 1, 2, and 3? I want to take this up also and present a proposition for you to take up. You know that Dies Committee is on the verge of coming in to investigate the camp.

FUKUDA:(3): They are here, now, already.

KURATA: You know their work. You know the type of work that they have been doing. We have service men from each block--people who are serving in the armed forces. I want to propose that we put service stars on a blue background and have this posed in Mr. Head's office to show exactly how many men are serving in the United States army from Boston. Also I think each block should have a blue board placed above reach in a conspicuous place so that everyone can see. On the board will be painted the stars--each to represent a service man. I want to leave this proposition with you today.

In the last TCC I served on the Hospital Committee, the Food Committee, and the Public Relations Committee. We had a job to do and we did it. The Council was composed of 36 young and 36 old persons and all of these heads got together to tackle their mutual problems and as you know these 72 persons accomplished a lot. We never thought we could do some of the things and sometimes they were useless to do it, but the first thing that I remember was that all work of every committee is important. Each one should help other members in the Council. If one committee is overloaded with work, then all should pitch in to help. We should



not hold back because you feel that you are not a member of the committee. I know, because I have learned management from the past Council. Don't overlook duties because you are not in a certain committee. We've got to share and share alike and execute our work. We've got to get along together. If one committee is heavily loaded with work pitch in and help. You Councilmen have business piling up every day. I don't think one meeting a week is enough. Two meetings a week would be better. Probably you could spend all your time devoted to Council affairs. And then in your interest in Camp 1 affairs don't forget Camps 2 and 3. Cooperate and get along together. Benefit each other by working together. In the past we did have problems with Camp 2. That's because of the Public Relations inefficiency. Also there were leaks over food situation. You stirred up mud and dust and tried to have their own ways performed. This is wrong. It should be for the welfare of the committee. Thoroughly discuss the subject at a meeting and then be sure that it is executed. I recall in the last meeting we fought teeth and nail over a topic and then after it was over everybody forgot about it and then there was no execution of our decision. Be sure to finish it after you have decided. Don't let it fizzle down into nothing. I want to again urge you to consider this proposition of the service stars to be displayed. I want you to bring this up and recommend it. That's all for today. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN: Before going on with further business I have here several letters. One is from Mr. Masuda who left last Monday morning.  
(unable to comprehend what he is saying because Judge consistently

mumbles.) \_\_\_\_\_ George Fujii and I represented the Council and went to a party held in the Legal Department before Mr. Masuda departed. Here is the letter. It says, "I wish to thank all of you persons in Poston through the various organizations. I wish to express my heartiest appreciation. May you carry on for bigger and better Poston. Good luck and lots of success." Signed by Masuda.

AGRICULTURE

CHAIRMAN: I have here a memorandum from the Agriculture Department. It seems to me people are still helping themselves to melons which have been planted. The truck crop people have reported that people have been harvesting immature vegetables by themselves. This, of course, lowers the morale of the growers. It is not for certain individuals that the plants were grown, but for the welfare of Poston. This letter is signed by Mizusawa. I think this came up last year, too. In the Judicial Commission we passed a penal code, Section 44 on trespassing cultivated land. Under Administrative Instruction 85 the laws passed by the local Council is being enforced. You Councilmen go back to the block and educate them. I was passing by the patch this morning and I saw people taking water melons.

(Sakai of Block 18 enters.)

ONO-60: Why don't we refer this to the police and let them take care of this?

CHAIRMAN: I think the Agriculture Department has sent this memorandum to the Police Department, too.

ONO-60: What's the use if they don't enforce our penal code?

NAKAI-27: The best way is to get the names and addresses of

the people who continually swipe fruit vegetables and post their names in front of the canteen.

CHAIRMAN: They are punishable by 180 days in jail.

NAKAI-27: That's not enough. Nobody knows about it that way, but if we have it posted in front of the canteen the people can punish the offenders which is the most effective way.

ONO-60: Here's the thing. The truck crop foreman may tell the people not to swipe the melons, but the people just merely laugh at them and say that it is government property anyway and this, of course, makes the foreman very sore.

FUKUDA-3: This jail sentence maybe all right, but there's no shame connected with it. We should print their names in red letters and post them where everybody can see them.

NAKAI-27: The same way that we have been doing with the school construction with each block.

CHAIRMAN: Maybe we can have a theft column in the Chronicle so that every person will be able to read it. We can have their name and offenses. Maybe that's going a little too far. The Agriculture Department had contemplated on a large yield of cucumbers, however, because many of the persons picked green young plants they had been only been able to pick one lug box for each block. The best way is to increase our police force. Probably the Agriculture Department can hire a watchman to guard the patches.

NISEI: Another thing, maybe we could warn the people in the block surrounding the patches through the blockmanager.

FUKUDA-3: More than the people in the blocks surrounding the vegetable gardens. It is the blocks on this side of the

camp who are swiping vegetables. I won't say which block but I know a whole army of ladies went to swipe daikon.

NAKAI-27: Some fishermen returning from an unsuccessful fishing trip take vegetables and plants and hide them in their sack telling everybody on the way home that they have fishes inside the sacks.

FISHING LICENSE

CHAIRMAN: As Chairman of the Council I have here another proposition. This came before the Manpower Commission. All fishermen will be required to have State fishing license effective within two weeks. About the first of July. I will have two game wardens there and some in Unit 2 and 3 who will be deputized by the State. Anyone who wishes to fish in the lagoon or the river will have to have a State license of \$1.75.

VICE-CHAIRMAN-(M. Okamoto): \$1.75 a year?

CHAIRMAN: Yes. All those who are leaving camp, who are citizens and who are going to reside in Arizona can use this fishing license for it is good on the outside, too. However, we will have to find out if this applies to the aliens as well.

NAKAI-27: Wasn't it \$45 for the aliens?

CHAIRMAN: If anyone is caught fishing without a license it will be a misdemeanor. That will mean \$75 to \$100 fine or 90 days in jail.

VICE-CHAIRMAN: Is that a new law?

CHAIRMAN: It's been effective since Arizona became a state. The thing here is, of course, public relations. You know how bad it is now in Arizona so we don't want to add any-

thing else to it.

SHIBATA-42: Does that include everybody no matter what age or is that above 16 years.

NAKAI-27: Can't we hunt with the same license, too?

CHAIRMAN: With this fishing license you can do trapping. You can catch a fox if you want to.

INGAKI-19: Is that include any kind of fish?

CHAIRMAN: It includes all game fish.

INAGAKI:19: Does that include carp?

NAKAI-27: Carp, bass, perch, but I don't think it includes catfish.

SATO-54: Well, then can we go fishing and catch only catfish?  
(laughter)

CHAIRMAN: Well, if you catch any other fish you will have to throw it back in. But I think anyone who wants to go fishing will have to have a fishing license.

CC

CHAIRMAN: You probably read in the Chronicle already, but as according to the charter we will have to have a nomination. Mr. Nakamura, will you explain this more thoroughly?  
(Nakamura doesn't say anything.)

VICE CHAIRMAN: Well, from Unit I there are three members, Unit 2, 2 members, Unit 3, 2 members. This committee is formed so that they can handle personal trouble or trouble between the block before it is taken up in court so that as much as possible it would be advisable to settle the affair within Boston.

(Nakamura stands up, leans against the table and leisurely

re-explains this in Japanese.)

FUKUDA-3: Really have more time to think about it?

CHAIRMAN: Will the three members from the local council and three members from the CC representatives get together and discuss this. I think I shall appoint three. (He looks over the list of names saying that he didn't know any of the new Councilmen.) Mr. Roy Nishioka, Mr. Horita, and Mr. Sato, will you get together with the CC representatives and decide on the three representatives from this committee?

VICE-CHAIRMAN: Maybe you could stay after the meeting. You will also have to choose a prosecuting attorney who will work with the City Attorney.

PRIVATE ENTERPRISE

CHAIRMAN: Another thing I would like to bring up is this stone polishing. Under the ruling of the WRA it is clear that any enterprise where the project pays wages and enterprise collects a fee these funds will have to be turned over to the U. S. Treasury. Dr. Powell will have to reorganize. I presume that wherever it is feasible the department will be placed under the enterprise division. Others which are not making quite enough to keep up with the financial needs will be closed down.

VICE-CHAIRMAN: Who's doing the investigating?

CHAIRMAN: This has nothing to do with investigating. It's just instruction.

ONO-60: What about the sewing school?

CHAIRMAN: That will have to be reorganized, too.

COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE

CHAIRMAN: May we have the report from the enterprise committee?

ONO-60: (Stands in front and faces the audience.) Before I took this job on the committee I inquired as to what our powers were and I did and I got full assurance that we had full power. Mr. Yanada, my partner in this committee, due to the death of his son could not go with me so I went by myself to see Mr. Kato, the manager of the canteen to see what was going on there. Mr. Kato said it was beyond his power to show the books to me and, therefore, he referred me to the Board of Trustees. In turn, therefore, I saw Mr. Tozawa.

VICE-CHAIRMAN: Can't you speak in Japanese?

ONO-60: I am not very good, but if you want me to I will. I saw the secretary and he said it will be necessary to come to the meeting of the Board of Directors to inquire if I may have the permission to do research to find out what was going on in the canteen. Mr. Uchida, one of the trustees, was definitely against me. He seemed to be of the attitude that we, the Council, had no right to make an investigation. Therefore, I came back and talked to Mr. Fujii, our executive secretary, and asked him to send a memorandum to the Board of Directors asking for their cooperation. (Ray Ono reads the memorandum which asked for the cooperation for making a research of the canteen operations. However, it is in the name of Ono rather than in the name of the Council who desires to make the investigation.) It sounds like a command which I don't think is very good. We meant to have the Council and there is an individual name on the memorandum. I think we should watch this in the future. Well, this memorandum was sent to Mr. Mitani and we got a reply letter from him. The first

of his letter was that he referred me to the Co-op Congress and if I received the sanction of the Congress it was all right for me to go ahead. It further stated that they had hired a C.P.A. who is going through the books. In other words Mitani passed the buck again. This time to the Co-op Congress. I have sure seen some buck passing, but this takes the cake. The trouble is that they don't recognize our body. They feel that we have no right to investigate and go through their books. I want your opinion on what to do.

VICE-CHAIRMAN: Isn't the Co-op Congress consisted of representatives from each block?

MATSUMOTO-36: The people in there are now only temporary members who are running the canteen.

ONO-60: There are lots of rumors floating around about the canteen and I think we all agreed that there is a need for investigation. It seems like that not only in the canteen but in any other department if the Council wants to make an investigation we are always against a blank wall. If we are without any power, then let's quit, Judge.

HANE-16: The new charter says that we have no right to make an investigation of any department. It's only just to see what the setup is, but we can't go around making an investigation.

ONO-60: The people in the canteen/<sup>seem</sup> to act that it is their own business affair. It belongs to everyone in the camp, the canteen does. Something stinks like hell.

INAGAKI-19: (Stands up in the back of the room) I am new in this Community Council and there seems to be some misunder-



standing about the canteen members. If the Council wants to see the books, then I don't see how they can say "no". Now the CC.....(Interrupted)

ONO-60: They say that only the Congress has the right to decide who can see the books and in the end they will probably refer me to the United States Congress and then to the International Congress and then it would probably be two years before we can get around to investigating the canteen.

INAGAKI-19: (He is a member of the Board of Trustees and he goes on to describe how the canteen belongs to everybody in Boston. He is again interrupted by Mr. Ono.)

ONO-60: I not only want to look in the past books, but I would also like to look into how they are operating now. If a criminal case is involved, then let's do something about it. It's for the sake of the community that we are interested in the canteen and if some sort of prosecution is necessary, then let's prosecute and put a stop to further cases of this sort. I really got a complaint against the attitude of the canteen people.

INAGAKI-19: The Community Council represents the people. Also the canteen has peopled elected from each block and, therefore it would be only natural to get the okay from the Congress.

.....

MATSUMOTO-36: I have heard some good points so far, but tend to agree with Mr. Ono. The Community Enterprise even if it is not a coop, yet is not a private affair but a public affair. There is a need to watch over them for common benefit. There are many rumors going about now so I think we have a reasonable reason to make an investigation.

CHAIRMAN: According to our article in our charter Section I, Subdivision 2, the Council hasn't the right to interfere with management with other departments.

ONO-60: We just want to find out if they are managing it honestly and if they have nothing to hide why take such an attitude?

YAMADA-2: Mr. Ono and I went to the canteen and we were given the attitude that the CC had no right to investigate the canteen whatever. Towawa seemed to be of the same opinion. The bottleneck is that when we committee men go around for a little investigation we always get pushed around. They say, "Baka yaro" get out of here." (laughter) I would resign if such a situation is to keep up. It is not only true with our committee, but the same with the hospital investigation or seeking information in other departments. It is very shameful to the Council. I wish that you would set the amount of power that the Council has. Ono and I have suffered great humiliation. (Seems a little frustrated and angry. Other people begin talking.)

NAKAMURA-17: But the community council is not the same as Congress. We represent the people, but the Congress does not. The whole canteen is being run by the Board of Trustees.

INAGAKI-19: (Tries to interrupt and finally breaks through. The blocks have chosen the body which is the Co-op Congress. This body appointed and recommended to Mr. Head the Board of Trustees which consists of Mr. Mitani, Ouchi, Hanako, Mr. Nmano and myself. Others were elected by Unit 2 and 3 and it was approved by Mr. Head. I want you to please understand that the Board of Trustees were appointed by the CoOp Congress.

NAKAMURA-17: Who recommended?

INAGAKI-19: We were elected and appointed by the Congress and okayed by Mr. Head.

HANE-16: All right. That's all right then. However, if there's nothing "kusal" then why don't they show us their books?

INAGAKI-19: (He seems to be on the spot.) The C.P.A. is going through the books now for the purpose of clarifying the books and added investigation from the outside merely messes things up again.

YAMADA-2: We are not like the C.P.A. and we are not of the idea of causing trouble. We only want to make a better canteen for the people of Poston. However, the more we go to the canteen they have the attitude of wanting to fight or having a duel with us. (Both Yamada and Inagaki are very heated up in this discussion.)

INAGAKI-19: It seems that I am here to defend the canteen. But I would like to have you understand the feelings of the Board of Trustees. This word "investigation" has a funny connotation. The C.P.A. is working on the books and what he finds will be made public through an official announcement. How Mr. Tozawa and Mr. Mitani spoke, I don't know. (Ono interrupts)

ONO-60: The CC has the right. We are not outsiders. We are the representative of the people in Poston.

VICE-CHAIRMAN: Maybe it is because the committee has

an attitude of persecution.

FUKUDA-3: Of course we are not persecuting. You shouldn't even think of such a thing. What's the matter with you?

MATSUMOTO-36: Even if we did get to look at the books, you probably have to be an accountant to understand what's written in it.

INAGAKI-19: I think it will be all right to call members of the Board of Directors for questioning and if you will make an appointment for them to meet at a certain place and time I am sure they will.

FUJII: I think that the canteen people took a wrong view point of our investigation. They felt that we would mess up the investigation that they themselves are carrying on.

NISEI: Give Ono more power.

CHAIRMAN: Why don't you present it complete to the Board of trustees and then make an appointment to meet together.

NAKAMURA:17: If we <sup>do not</sup> have enough power to make these investigations, then why do we have a committee. Why do we have one? Answer me that.

FUJII: Of course, there is a need for a committee. It is just that we went into the investigation with a wrong attitude.

ONO-60: & NAKAMURA:17: Why have a Community Enterprise committee if we haven't the right to do what we want to do?

FUJII: Well, the \$18,000 shortage....(interrupted by Nakai)

NAKAI-27: Let's not discuss about \$18,000 shortages.

If we have the right to make inquiries, all right.

VICE CHAIRMAN: Let's leave this to the <sup>next</sup>~~last~~ meeting.

ONO-60: Can we have the secretary send out a notice so that they can meet with <sup>Don</sup>~~you~~ tomorrow afternoon or Friday afternoon?

CHAIRMAN: All right. Then in addition to you two members I would like to add Mr. Nakamura, and Mr. Matsu-moto to be there for a discussion. I want you to return and give us the result of the important meeting.

SATO-54: What we need is more power. They can't kick us around.

CHAIRMAN: Let's meet at the next meeting and you can tell us the results then and then we will decide on further steps.

ONO-60: Can we invite them here to the next meeting?

CHAIRMAN: Well, that's up to you. Well, that's settled.

NAKAI-27: Let's go on to the next business.

FOOD--NOODLE FACTORY

CHAIRMAN: Let's go on to the noodle factory business.

NAKAI-27: The noodle factory people are waiting outside, but before they come in let's take a vote on whether the people want noodles made in the camp or not.

CHAIRMAN: Let's work this down to a "no" and "yes" answer.

VICE CHAIRMAN: Whether we want to continue it or not?

CHAIRMAN: No. We have no power to open or close the factory. We have only recommendatory powers.

(George Fujii calls out each block to which the representatives answer yes or no.

- 2--yes
- 3--yes
- 4--yes
- 5--no

(There is confusion among the Isseis exactly what is being voted on and they ~~we~~ have ~~no~~ <sup>qualified</sup> ~~and yes~~ answers) but, I think....)

- 6--no
- 12--absent
- 13--no
- 14--no
- 15--yes
- 16--no
- 17--yes
- 18--no
- 19--no
- 21--yes
- 22--yes
- 26--yes
- 27--no
- 28--yes
- 30--yes
- 31--yes
- 32--yes
- 35--yes
- 36--yes
- 37--yes
- 38--no

- 39--representative here for the first time
- 42--no
- 43--yes
- 44--no
- 45--no
- 46--no
- 53--
- 54--no
- 59--yes
- 60--no

CHAIRMAN: Total of 18 yes and 13 no. What we want is less quantity and better quality.

ONO-60: Once a month is all right to have noodles, but people don't like it if they get it too often. (Much discussion as the noodle factory six representatives entered the room.)

CHAIRMAN: (addressing the noodle man) We just took the block vote whether they wanted to have noodles that were made here in camp and 18 voted yes and 13 voted no. The predominate idea seems to be that they want smaller quantities, but better quality. I want you to understand that the Council has no right to say whether you will close or open shop. We have only recommendatory powers to make to Mr. Snelson. (pause)

FIRST NOODLE REP.: If the noodle factory is re-opened, we want to do our best. We think we are making the best noodle possible under the conditions. However, we will be glad to have suggestions.

OKAMOTO-46: When I went up to see Mr. Snelson He gave me the list of type of flours they have. Maybe it will be possible for you men to use better flour.

SECOND NOODLE REP.: We have been getting compliments that we have been making better noodles from various people in the block. Since December we have not put in eggs because of the expense. Also another factor might be the poor shoyu sauce which kills the taste.

NISEI: These udon people and the food committee and Mr. Snelson should get together and talk it over.

HANE-16: Do you know that the Canton noodles came in into our mess hall?

OKAMOTO-46: They want to use up these because they think the bugs will get at them. (He goes on to explain figures of the macaroni and spaghetti in the warehouse.)

FIRST NOODLE REP.: We know that there are much food stuff in the ware-

house so about a month ago four of us went to see Mr. Snelson. We thought maybe it might be wise to close one month so that we can use up the egg noodles and the macaroni. It might be all right to close for one month, but it might be closed for three months. If that is the case the workers would be distributed into other fields and we would have difficulty to get them back to the noodle factory. So we suggested that we be permitted to make few noodles for the mess table and that we would supply six members to go out and help out in the warehouse where there seems to be a lack of labor. Snelson okayed this and promised not to close the factory and we helped for three days in the warehouse and Snelson sent us a memorandum saying that he would close down the factory. Mr. Okamoto says we have bad flour so we cannot make good noodles. However, we are making research in how to make good noodles all the time. We first tested out the noodle without egg and we found that it tasted no different from the <sup>one</sup> with the eggs so we disposed of putting eggs into the noodle and saved expense. At the beginning I know that we didn't make very good noodles, but now through experience I feel that we are making excellent noodle. If there are any questions I would like to answer them.

CHAIRMAN: Are there any questions? Will the Food Committee and you meet with Mr. Snelson as soon as possible?

OKAMOTO-46: Will you choose three members from your body?

NOODLE MAN: Yes. I'll do that and give you the names of the three persons chosen. Thank you very much. (Gives a very formal bow to the Council. The six noodle representatives leave the room.)

POLITICS-EB, LRB.

CHAIRMAN: After we were elected to this new body I read to you a letter



from Mr. Gelvin asking that the various boards be kept intact until Mr. Head's return. On May 27th the Old TCC went out of office. However, the Boards were permitted to continue. Now that Mr. Head has returned I have here a memorandum from the Toseibu asking that a new .....be chosen and it is signed by the Executive Chairman, Nagai. The EB was born from our charter Section \_\_\_\_.

Article 1.

KAWASAKI-13: Can't you speak in Japanese?

CHAIRMAN: ( translates) This body has only three more months to go.

FUKUDA-3: The EB has done good work. This new EB brought about revolutionary changes in the administration of Poston government. The EB, the LRB, and the Blockmanager Supervisor almost <sup>run</sup> the unit management entirely by themselves. I wish that they would continue to function as they are. I move that we *retain*... the chairman and let him choose the various members that he wants to work with him in the Executive Board. He then can present this list to the Council for approval.

ONO-60: Do we have the power to appoint or elect whoever we want into the toseibu?

CHAIRMAN: Yes.

ONO-60: I think we want to have more time over who we want in the Toseibu until next week.

VICE-CHAIRMAN: When the strike occurred, I was one of the Toseibus. You may not fully understand the working of the Toseibu. We made the Executive Board as Mr. Head's personal advisors, but at that time the TCC and the IAB said we had too much power. For example, we had the right to release anyone in any depart-

ment from his job. However, we met with so much resentment on the part of the CC and the IAB that we handed in our resignation and we became more or less an advisor for the Unit I Administrator which you might say lowered our status. This was the same of the IRB. Since now we have the City Council of 1, 2, and 3 combined I seem need of having a Toseibu, whatsoever.

FUKUDA AND CHAIRMAN: (rather disgustedly) No, you are wrong. There is a dire need to continue the Toseibu.

NAKAI-27: (Active member of the IRB) Since I seem to be involved in this too, I want to say my piece. During the strike an Emergency Committee was set up. The TCG took its place. Prior to this the City Planning Board was set up for the Poston community. From this the Toseibu, the IRB and the Blockmanager Supervisor were made up. Then in turn the Council was set up, but since the Boards got with the opposition from the new Council they resigned. However they were reinstated again after the Council was formed.  
(Quite angrily)

MATSUMOTO-36: I respect you gentlemen. As you know under Mr. Haas's direction the various boards were formed. They were made so as not to make trouble until the new Council was formed as the representative of the Council following the strike. However, now that Mr. Head has returned from Washington these boards seem to have no function whatsoever. I want you to know that I have no grudge whatever against the Toseibu, but I feel that they have no function so therefore they should cease to exist.

NAKAI-27: (red in the face) What do you mean? You mean that we have to do all our work all over again? You mean we have to

pass all the laws again that was passed by the TCC?

MATSUMOTO-36: In the City Charter it says, "until the successors are appointed. (interrupted)

NAKAI-27: (very dramatically) You say they have no function because the TCC has gone out of office. But you must remember that the TCC created these bodies to carry out the work of the proposition passed by the TCC.

MATSUMOTO-36: (very loudly) The Toseibu should not conflict with the legislative work of the Council. They are an executive body.

NAKAI-27: Do you mean to say that the TCC work will be washed away?

ONO-60: You are wrong. We ought to thrash it out.

MATSUMOTO-36: Of course we respect the present laws that have been passed by the TCC.

CHAIRMAN: You people are going beyond the point. The point is that they wish to resign because the charter points that they will have to be in office until the successors are named.

FUKUDA-3: (Active member of the LRB and the Manpower Commission.)  
The Board itself is there. That is the permanent fixture. The thing that has to be decided is the election of new members to the board.

ONO-60: But can we do away with it if we want to? That's what we find to find out.

FUKUDA-3: (half heartedly) Yes. By 2/3 vote of the Council the Boards can be wiped away.

ONO-60: I say that there are differences of opinion whether the Toseibu and other boards are necessary or not to the community. Therefore, let's thrash it out and get to a definite agreement.

FUKUDA-3: (trying desperately to find some good point of the Toseibu and

the LRB.) You know that the camp was always being run by Caucasians, but now the Japanese evacuees are wholly running the camp affairs. Mr. Nelson just drops in from time to time to sign some papers. The actual operation running of the camp is left in our hands. (He begins to read the purpose of the Executive Board. George Fujii passes out the mimeographed sheets pertaining to the EB.)

NAKAMURA-17: (rises) For the new members let me explain about the Toseibu. I know nothing about the LRB. We must remember that the Toseibu was created by the old Council. However, now we have three camps together consolidated into the City Council. Therefore, we should do away with the Toseibu.

CHAIRMAN: (Hastily) You must remember that the TCC formed the Toseibu as a permanent board and you must remember that the City Council has nothing to do with it. It only pertains to Unit I.

HANE-16: You must remember that whether we want to do away with the board or not is up to the local council and not the City Council.

FUKUDA-3: Yes. Yes!

NAKAMURA-17: That was my wrong interpretation. Let's think about it more, however.

FUKUDA-3: Well, until you decide one way or another let's have the present Toseibu continue.

ONISHI-32: I move that we get five to serve on a committee to make a research study of the Toseibu and report back to us.

FUKUDA-3: You must remember that we will always need somebody to execute our legislation. You may do away with the Toseibu and have another board, but ~~some act may be due to study~~, but <sup>it will be</sup> the same thing.

IWATATE-22: Since there seems to be difference of opinion here let's vote

and decide by 2/3 vote to see whether we want to continue with the Toseibu or not.

ONISHI-32: If we have no administrative body as the Toseibu, does it mean that what we pass here would be of no use or value?

FUKUDA-3: (very exasperated) Well, what good will it do if you have no one to administer what we decide? We may pass laws or resolutions and make decisions in matters, but what good is it if it is not carried out?

NAKAI-27: (jumps up and dramatically reads) We, the Temporary Community Council and the Advisory Board of Unit I in order to have harmonious, prompt, and efficient execution of recommendations made by all of you and approved by our Project Director warrants the necessity of the ~~excuse~~ administrative body to .....from the Executive Board.  
(This is read in Japanese. He reads swiftly and without pause.)

FUKUDA-3: It is the people on the board who are actually running the camp now. It is something that we have been working for. It is something to be proud of and some of you talk/<sup>as</sup> if you want to wipe away in a day what we have sweated and worked for, for so long.  
(Fuji goes out and returns with the Charter of Hila and hands it to the Judge.)

CHAIRMAN: I have been going through the constitution and charters of other relocation centers and each one of them practically has an executive board, too. We are not the only one. So you see there is a need for an EB to carry out the recommendations of the Council.

FUKUDA-3: Why not have three members chosen from this body to decide for the new chairman of the EB.

ONO-60: Make it five members.

CHAIRMAN: They have Executive Boards in all the Relocation Centers.

FUKUDA-3: I move that the EB with the present function of the constitution be kept as status quo.

CHAIRMAN: Until when?

FUKUDA-3: Until the year is up as stated on the EB constitution.

MATSUMOTO-36: It is unconstitutional. Why do they have a constitution?

FUKUDA-3: That has nothing to do with this. The constitution was formed and made by themselves as is true with other boards.

IWATATE-22: The conflict here is whether we are to do away with the board entirely and the question about the new personnel. We are arguing about two different things at the same time. No wonder you get all muddled up.

HICE-CHAIRMAN: This is a new Council so let's start everything all over again.

CHAIRMAN, FUKUDA, NAKAI: No! No!

ONO-60: Let's decide whether we want to retain the EB or not first.

FUKUDA-3: (red in the face) But we need the EB. If we don't have any, who's going to administer what we pass?

ONO-60: Every man has his own opinion, I see.

FUKUDA-3: But it is common sense that we need someone to carry out what we decide here in the Council.

ONO-60: Let's vote. (There is lots of commotion and discussion going on in smaller groups. Several shout, "Vote! Vote!")

MATSUMOTO-36: I think there was a motion before us that we have three or five research committee appointed. I wish to second that motion.

NAKAI-27: (dramatically stands up) Do you know what we voted for in the strike? It was through their effort, that we won, through the EB and

LRB and now you want to wipe that away. For what use did we sit around the fire and night after night. Is it all going to be thrown overboard in so short a time?

OKAMOTO-46: (sarcastically to Nakai) That's just the reverse isn't it? Remember the conflict of the Issei and the Nisei there? And what do you say? The Toseibu at that time made three demands and Mr. Head okayed them. However, you said we had too much power and that the Toseibu was of no use. (Nakai and Fukuda say something very loud but observer unable to record it as there is quite a commotion in the conference room.)

MATSUMOTO-36: According to the charter.....(interrupted)

MURAKAMI-44: I think that we should revise our constitution. Not so much revise the constitution, but revise the wording. We certainly have to strike out the Issei Advisory Board for that is now included in the Council since Isseis can be members of Council. (Chairman interrupts and says---)

CHAIRMAN: Not now. Let's bring that up after we decide one way or another about the present topic of the Toseibu.

NAKAI:27: Let's have a vote whether we want to vote over the Toseibu or not. This vote is <sup>not</sup> to decide whether we are to keep the Toseibu or not.

CHAIRMAN: All right. But remember that we will vote to decide whether we want a vote on the Toseibu today or not. Not whether we want to do away with the Toseibu or not. All those in favor of voting now over the toseibu existence or not say "aye".

KAWASAKI-13: Will you explain that into Japanese?

(Nakai complies and the motion is defeated.)

NAKAI-27: What about appointing a committee of five now, then?

FUKUDA-3: Let's include some old members in the group so that they will know the history of the Toseibu and the LRB.

OKAMOTO-46: They will much rather find out without any help from any member of the Toseibu or EB.

ONO-60: Let's have all new members in the committee.

NAKAI-27: Let's have all new members.

CHAIRMAN: Well, I'll appoint five members. (Reads through the roll call and names--) Mr. Iwatate, Mr. Inagaki, Mr. Yoshioka, Mr. Sato, and Mr. Onishi. I have here the same resignation slip from the LRB. I wonder if we have to go through the same thing today.

SEVERAL ISSEIS: It's five o'clock already.

ONO-60: Let's quit.

NAKAI-27: That's enough business for today.

FUKUDA-3: Let's adjourn.

ADJOURNMENT

(YM)

OBSERVER'S COMMENTS:

The situation in the Council is becoming very interesting. The entire members of the show up practically for each meeting. Each is quite active. The clique that was dominant in today's meeting was that of the old group and the new incoming group. The old group of Nomura, Fujii, Nakai, Fukuda are all fighting for the continuation of the Executive Board and the LRB. They are fighting for dear life. There may have been petty bickering between the LRB members and the Toseibu members, but the attacking force of the newly instituted members have caused a solidarity of the members of the boards. The opposition group is composed of the newly elected councilmen plus a few old members who have



always been antagonistic towards these two boards. The opposition includes M. Okamoto, the vice-chairman, Nakamura, Ray Ono, T. Matsumoto, Onishi. The reader should remember that the room is rather small for forty people at one time. It is crowded which may explain for closer active participation and interply of speeches. By the time everybody arrives, there is always a scarcity of chairs.

Chairman Nomura is still rather backwards about controlling the meeting. He usually let's the meeting run on until someone puts a stop to it. It is usually Ono or Nakai. The Vice-chairman doesn't seem to hold the respect of the Council that Dr. Mizushima had in the old TCC. He doesn't see to it that English discourses are always translated into Japanese. He usually sits and takes part in the discussion as just as any other member. Mr. Iwatate seems to be the neutral party in the group. What he says seems to be weighted by the non-participating members of the Council.

# 統政本部組織及權限

ホストノ第一ニシテ臨時市參事會並ニ一廿顧問會、自己ノ提案ニタル決議ニシテ且ツ轉住所長ノ承認ヲ經タル事項ニ關シテ遂行ヲ圓滑且ツ敏速、有効ナラシメンタメ、日系行政機關ノ必須ナル痛感ニ、是ニ統政部ヲ設置セントス。

## 組織

### 第一條

第一項 統政部ハ一廿四名、一廿四名ヨリ成レル八名ノ部員ヲ以ツテ之ヲ構成ス。

第二項 統政部部长ハ一廿顧問會ヨリ選ハレ、同副部长ハ市參事會ヨリ選ハルモトス。部長ハ三名、一廿部員ヲ任命シ、副部长ハ三名、一廿部員ヲ任命ス。尚部員全テ一廿顧問會並ニ市參事會聯合會議ニ於テ承認ヲ得ヘキトス。

第三項 統政部ノ部長タルモハ之ヲ一廿トシ、同副部长タルモハ之ヲ一廿トス。

第四項 部長或ハ副部长ノ解任ニ依リシ、缺員ヲ生シタルトキハ第一條第三項ノ定ルトコヨリ之ヲ補充ス。新ニ選ハラル部長或ハ副部长ハ聯合會議ノ承認ヲ經テ任意ニシテ全部ノ部員ヲ更迭スルコトヲ得。

第五項 部員ニシテシテ、缺員ヲ生シタルトキハ第一條第二項ノ定ルトコヨリ之ヲ補充ス。

### 第二條

第一項 統政部部員ノ任期ハ之ヲ一箇年トス。但ニ現在ノ統政部部員ノ任期ハ臨時市參事會ノ任期ト之ヲ同ウス。

第二項 統政部部員ヲ解任セントスルモトキハ一廿顧問會並ニ市參事會ハシテ、定員數ノ三分ノ二以上出席タル聯合會議ニ於テ、シテ三分ノ二ノ多數決ニヨツテ之ヲ行フコトヲ得。

第三條 任務及權限

統政部、第一三ト、行政機關ニシテ、次、如キ諸機能ヲ有ス。

第一項 統政部、轉任所長及第一三ト行政長、顧問ス、機能ヲ有ス。

第二項 統政部、日系主任、米人部長及ヒ、ゴラツマネヤード協定  
權限有真議 轉任所長並ニ、三ト行政長、承認ヲ經タル市  
參事會、決議、一部若クハ、全ク遂行スル、機能ヲ有ス。

第三項 統政部、聯合會議、轉任所長及三ト行政長、承認、下ニ重要地位ニ就ク、日系人、任命、權、或、重要地位ニ在ル日系人ニシテ、社會ニ有害ナル方針ヲトルモ、解任スル、權ヲ有ス。

第四項 統政部、轉任所長及第一三ト行政長ヨリ、隨時賦與サル、他、任務及ヒ機能ニ關シ、遂行、權ヲ有ス。

一九四三年二月四日

承認 轉任所長 三ト、三ト  
第一三ト行政長 三ト、三ト

(英文ヨリ翻譯)

26  
We, the Temporary Community Council and the Advisory Board of Poston Unit I, in order to have harmonious, prompt and efficient execution of recommendations made by ourselves and approved by the Project Director realize the necessity of evacuee administrative body do hereby form

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

#### Formation:

#### Article I

Section 1. Executive Board shall be composed of eight committee members consisting of four Issei and four Nisei.

Section 2. The Chairman shall be chosen by the Advisory Board and Vice-chairman shall be chosen by the Community Council. The Chairman shall appoint three Issei committee members and Vice-chairman shall appoint three Nisei committee members. All committee members must have the approval of joint (Advisory and Community) Councils.

Section 3. Chairman of the Board shall be Issei and Vice-chairman shall be Nisei.

Section 4. In the event of resignation of Chairman or Vice-chairman, the vacancy may be filled by Article I, Section 2, and the newly elected Chairman or Vice-chairman may at his option change any and all respective members of the committee subject to approval of joint councils.

Section 5. When vacancy happen in committee members, it shall be filled as set forth in Article I, Section 2.

#### Article II

Section 1. Term of office of Executive Board shall be for one year. Present members appointed to this board will be for the life of this Temporary Community Council.

Section 2. Any member of the Executive Committee may be recalled by the two-third majority of the joint councils consisting of not less than two-third of the total members.

#### Article III Duties and Powers

Executive Board shall be the administrative organization of Unit I and shall have the following functions:

Sec. 1. Shall act as advisory to Project Director and Unit Administrator.

Sec. 2. Shall have the power to hold consultation with evacuee and department heads and block managers, execute any and all recommendations of the Community Council that are approved by the Project Director and Unit Administrator.

Sec. 3. Shall have the power to appoint or remove persons to or from important and key evacuee positions whose policy is detrimental to the community, with the approval of joint councils, Project Administrator, and Unit Administrator.

Section 4. Shall have power to execute such other duties and functions as may be conferred upon it from time to time by the Project Director and Unit Administrator.

APPROVED BY:

/s/ W. Head

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W. Wade Head, Project Director

/s/ John G. Evans

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John G. Evans, Unit I Administrator

DATED: February 4, 1943

(1767-A)

COLORADO RIVER WAR RELOCATION PROJECT  
POSTON, ARIZONA  
June 12, 1943

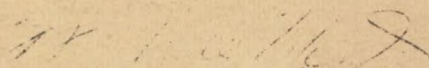
TO THE RESIDENTS OF POSTON.

I have just returned from Washington D.C. where I attended the recent project directors' conference.

Needless to say, I am very happy to be back at Poston.

I am more than pleased to find you firmly resolved to do your utmost for this community, and the intelligent manner in which you are attacking the serious problems faced by this project. I am deeply impressed and profoundly grateful for your loyalty so eloquently expressed by your petition requesting me to remain in office here. May I assure you it is my intention to remain on this project as long as possible, and until such time as duty may call me to serve in the armed forces of this nation. I know you will assist me wholeheartedly in the work which lies before us. With your cooperation, I am sure we will not fail to achieve our goal. May I express my sincere appreciation for the confidence you have clearly shown in me.

Sincerely,



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W. Wade Head, Project Director

26  
MESSAGE TO THE POSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman:

Members of the Poston Community Council:

We all regret that Mr. Head is not present to join us, for today there has come together under the new charter, a Community Council representing all of the people of Poston. Today marks another milestone in the building of a community. I extend congratulations to the residents of Poston and to you gentlemen as their chosen leaders.

The first evacuees arrived here little more than a year ago: This first group, the volunteers, found the raw conditions of a new settlement. As additional groups arrived, it was possible to think only of the essentials of food and water and a place to sleep. But even during the first few weeks people began to beautify grounds and houses. The first months were difficult, but the people of Poston responded to the need to do the things that gave greater comfort and satisfaction.

As we look around us today, truly there has been remarkable progress. Within the blocks there are trees and grass and vegetables. Schools are being built. Farmland has been cleared, the land leveled and preparations made for producing our food-stuffs in great quantity. Chickens and hogs are being raised to produce meat. Many people have found productive and satisfying employment.

The progress made so far has been in response to the needs of the community. These needs are ever changing and a progressive community is one which is never satisfied with things as they are. The coming year brings new problems. Many hundreds of people will find new homes for themselves in other parts of the United States; but there will be many who, during the coming months, will continue to live here. For these people and their children, there must be schools, hospitals, and the opportunities for the enjoyment of at least the simple pleasures and necessities of life.

Upon you, as representatives of the Community of Poston, the responsibility for a well-ordered and a productive community rests heavily. There is one problem which we must be willing to accept as a major problem during the coming year. That problem is the production of a considerable quantity of food.

The food situation in the United States has become more critical with each passing month. The demand for food for our armed forces and for shipment abroad to feed destitute and starving populations is an increasing demand. The supplies of food are not adequate to meet all the requirements. As a result, rationing has been a step to insure the equitable dis-

tribution of foodstuffs. Naturally, the people of Poston are subject to the conditions of rationing in the same way as the people of any community in this country. Rationing, however, is no guarantee that we will be able to secure even those foods to which we are entitled. Shortages have developed as demands became greater. We may expect that for periods of time the supply, especially of meat and of fresh vegetables, will be greatly limited if not entirely lacking.

In some respects, however, this community is favorably situated. We have already taken steps to provide a portion of our meat requirements. There are many hundreds of acres of farm land which, with the application of effort, can be made to supply a sizeable proportion of our requirements.

For this coming year, a total of \$11,350,000 has been requested of Congress to buy food for all relocation centers. This amounts to about 31¢ per day per person. It has been estimated that the projects will produce five million dollars worth of food which is equal to about 14¢ per day per person. If we are to produce our share, it is necessary that during the coming year we raise \$483,000 worth of vegetables, pork, poultry and eggs. This can be done but it can be done only if the community is fully aware of the necessity of cooperative effort in producing foodstuffs. It has been reported that there are some who have taken the attitude that since the government has put us here it is the responsibility of the government to feed us. Let me call to your attention that no matter what sum of money is made available for the purchase of foods, it may be impossible to secure the kind or quality that we want if these foods are not on the market, or if their use is required by the Army or in lend lease. We may also expect that we will receive foods of lower quality than we should like. The solution to this problem is largely in your hands. The Community Council can accept as its first responsibility the informing of the people of Poston of the situation, but there is need for the full realization that unless we are able to utilize water, the soil and the manpower of this community in food production, that we are going to be without some foods we would like and need.

The task of producing for ourselves is not an impossible one. There are hundreds of men who have been successful farmers in California who know what to do and how to do it. You have been credited with being the best farmers in America. The task is one of making certain that all realize their individual responsibilities. We are faced with one of the most definite problems since Poston's beginning. The solution is also one of the easiest and clearest. We know the problem, we have the skill, the manpower, and the land. It is only necessary to show the people that the problem exists and that the solution is in our hands. The previous Council has already opened the channels of cooperation by meeting with the block councils. We would be a long way toward the solution of this problem if you would hold by the end of this week another series of meetings to discuss food production with the people of the blocks.



The agricultural committees of the Community Council and of the Local Councils might, also, begin to work out the details of utilizing skills and manpower. During the past few months community problems of this kind have been met and solved by the cooperative efforts of the Council and its affiliated boards, and for these efforts we are all deeply grateful.

The problems and needs of Poston are common to all three units. In the past we have attempted to solve these by independent action. Today and in the future, however, we need to work together as a team with coordination of effort and discussion between the units. It is the challenge of this Council to merge the unit rivalries to work in unison for the benefit of all. In this effort we must respect the rights of each unit to solve its individual problems, and they will be many, but for those common problems we must pull together as a team.

The analogy might well be made of State rights and Federal rights. This Council represents the Federal or common interests of all. The Local Councils are like the States and represent local interests.

The nice adjustment of relationships in this working agreement is needed for a well organized community.

Once again, I wish to congratulate you as the members of the first Community Council of Poston.

Ralph M. Galvin

Acting Project Director