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MINUTES OF BLOCK COUNCIL MEETING

2.00

July 14, 1942

Week Weekly meeting was called to order by Chairman Gerry Wakayama at 7:00 P.M. Roll was called and four new delegates were introduced. Minutes of the previous meeting were read. Correction: The name of the Legal Representative present at last week's meeting was Mr. Throckmorton instead of Ortan.

The following guests were introduced:

Mr. Kendall Smith.....Chief of Community Enterprises  
Mr. Waller.....Recreation Department  
Mr. Ferguson.....Regional Attorney  
Mr. Kimball.....Regional Officer  
Mr. Hayes.....Assistant Project Director  
Mr. Elbersen.....Substituting for Mr. Fleming

Announcement was made to the fact that, contrary to false rumors of discouraging recreation and entertainment; for example, the Bon Odori, Sumo, etc., more entertainments should be encouraged and any suggestions benefiting to the community will be appreciated.

Mr. Kendall Smith gave a very interesting, detailed report on the community store. The first audit analysis made on June 30 for the period covering May 28 to June 30, showed a net profit of \$5,313.39 out of the net sales of \$23,152.36. Approximately, \$13,000 of the net sales were made on groceries, which incidentally, includes heverages, cigarettes, and candy. A reduction of 10% was made effective last Friday, excepting the prices on soft drinks and candies; cigarettes are being sold as a non-profit item. To facilitate the flow of necessities to all of the colonists, the stores have reduced the prices on all necessities and offsetting this by retaining the regular prices on the luxuries. It was emphasized that no expenses of the personnel staff under the community enterprises were charged to the stores.

To accommodate the people at the farther end of the project, a third community store at 4118 will be ready in several days. A shoe shop, radio repair shop are anticipated; but dry goods will not be handled.

The explanation of the two types of Sears Roebuck's merchandise were made. On all mail orders made by the colonists at the store, the store receives a 3% commission from the Klamath Falls branch. On straight order merchandise coming from the Klamath Falls, Sears Roebuck, discounts are made according to the merchandise on priority.

Pertaining to the question of sales taxes that is charged at the store, Mr. Ferguson explained that a Federal statute passed in 1940 is applicable to the Tule Lake project.

Beginning Thursday, a 14% reduction will be made on all laundry taken in at the community stores. Assurance was made by Mr. Smith that beauty shop prices and any other business undertaken by the Community Enterprises, will be reduced as much as possible and as soon as possible.

A request has been made for an appropriation for a theater project, but until such a time a temporary building will be erected.



The actual management of the community stores under a cooperative organization was assured as soon as this organization with its proper charter is formed.

The new delegates completing Ward IV, it was suggested that the two additional members of the temporary judiciary council be elected. Nominations were made for members of Ward III and IV. Nominated: Walter Tsukamoto, Sumio Miyamoto, Kiyoshi Tanaka, Harry Mayeda, Fred Ouye, bMr. Ouye, being the only nominee from Ward IV, automatically was elected. A secret vote was taken to elect the member from Ward III. Mr. Tsukamoto was elected.

Regarding the Japanese bath, a check will be made with Mr. Slatery.

Provision for winter clothes is already under consideration at the regional office.

Suggestion to have a scheduled bus pick-up for many who go to the hospital frequently was made and is taken into consideration.

Due to the disturbances from the dances at 720 mess hall, the delegate from this block suggested that the sick patients would rest easier if the dances were rotated to other mess halls. Mr. Shirrell gave the assurance that the present arrangement would only be temporary.

The wage policy which is causing much complaints is under serious consideration. Recommendation of a flat scale wage rates rather than a differentiation in classification was suggested. The result and sentiment of this matter is to be reported by the block delegates next week. The recommendation will be sent to Mr. Fryer, Regional Director, through Mr. Shirrell.

A community bakery is under consideration and efforts are being made to acquire second-hand equipment.

Complaints on the unequal distribution of food in certain mess halls were expressed, but assurance was made again that food was distributed equally, excepting when special requests are made by stewards to accommodate increased numbers. Variations between mess halls are due to the changes the head-cooks make to the menu sent out from the office.

Mr. Shirrell reported that there is no restrictions against speaking Japanese or playing Japanese checkers.

Evacuee warehouses have been set up here for the convenience of storing colonists' property; the colonists will be able to store or withdraw the property at any time.

Liquor, guns, cameras and short-wave radio sets were listed as contraband. In reference to the above which were turned in heretofore, the government assumes no responsibility.

It was requested that all steel cots be turned into the block manager as soon as their own is received here. The acute shortage of cots was cited.

The question of compensating the ministers located here was already forwarded to the regional office.



The request for having a chiropractor practice here, will be taken up with Dr. Carsons.

The technicality of the term "gambling" was questioned and this matter will be taken into consideration by the judicial committee.

Mr. Rhodes, Fire Marshall, is scheduled as the guest speaker at the next meeting.

The council expressed compliments to Mr. Shirrell, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Cooke, and Mr. Kendall Smith for their recent appointments.

Meeting adjourned. 10:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Morris Abe  
Secretary



MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE BLOCK MANAGERS  
January 5, 1943

The first monthly general meeting of the Block Managers of the year was called to order by Chairman Ted Nakamura at 2:00 p.m. on January 5, 1943, in Mess Hall #2520.

The roll call was made and the following Managers were absent: Paul Abe #15, Ben Kasubuchi #14, Frank Furukawa #16, James Matsushima #24, Masamori Maruyama #7, Harry Nakaya #40, Harry Fukushima #42, Takeo Okimura #46, Tomio Itabashi #50, Masayuki Kano #52, Ray Yasui #68, Kenji Ito #71, and Mac Makiyama #74. Block Managers #7, 14, 46, 50 and 52 were excused for their absence.

The following Managers were tardy: Ralph Shinbo #4, Tom Maekawa #5, Ben Oshima #26, Bob Murakami, #9, Wallace Tsuda #10, George Sakai #29, Jindo Noda #38, Ted Tsukamaki, #54, and Frank Matsumoto #73.

Since the minutes of the previous meeting was distributed to all the Managers, it was not read. Since there were no errors or omission, a motion was made and carried that it be accepted as mimeographed. (An error was later noted on page two, under OLD BUSINESS on the Co-op report of the Wards, Ward 5 reported that the votes were 5 to 4 in favor of not having the classes instead of Ward 6.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The following announcements were read from the memos received from the various divisions:

1. Mr. Howard Kobayashi of the Public Works Division requests all Block Managers to obtain requisitions from Mr. Ota's office for burned-out light globe replacements. The original copy will go to Mr. Kobayashi's office and the duplicate will go to Warehouse #348 where the globes are obtained. This is necessary in order that an accurate account of the globes may be made.
2. Mr. Kobayashi also requested the Block Managers to warn the childrens in their blocks not to play in the boiler rooms of the utility buildings. This warning is obviously necessary because of the danger of the children being burnt. The Maintenance Dept. will also notify the janitors of this present.
3. Dr. Jacoby of the Internal Security Division requested the aid of the Block Managers in locating milk cans which were taken from the Mess Halls by the colonists. It was reported that approximately 500 such cans were missing and that the milk company is threatening to discontinue delivery unless the cans are returned.
4. Mr. Huycke of the Leaves Clearance Dept. requested the Block Managers to accept character references forms from the people and forward them to his office. No stamps are necessary when sending them through the mail.



The following were announcements made by the Chairman:

1. Mr. Don Elberson is no longer connected with the Block Managers. Hereafter, all memos, requisitions, etc. should be addressed to Mr. Bob Ota.

All requisitions to the various divisions must first be sent to the Route Girl, Miss Alice Yamasaki. Complaints has been received from the various divisions that the Block Managers are not following the proper procedure. In such cases, the requests are ignored.

2. Efforts are being made to obtain partition materials for the Block Recreation Halls. It has been reported that several managers or the people in their blocks are obtaining these materials illegitimately. Considerations must be given to the other blocks, because if this practice is kept up, they will not receive their share.
3. For the benefits of the Managers who have no pigeon-holes at the present, it was announced that it will be delivered to them within the week.
4. The matter of the trucks speeding in the Project as reported in a weekly report has been referred to Mr. M. Cooke of the Transportation Division. Suggested that a larger number be printed on the trucks.

The matter of installing mufflers on the trucks was also referred to Mr. Cooke. It was reported that the noise from the exhaust pipes are awakening that babies at night.

5. Mr. William Teramoto of Block #23 requested that any Manager who have purchased any lumber for the baths from sources other than the Co-op, contact him.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

There were no old businesses.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Harry Mayeda, representing the Community Council, stated that a Civic reception in honor of the new Project Director, Mr. Coverley is being planned. Since it is a civic event, an invitation was given to the Block Manager to join in as co-sponsors of the affair. The party will be held sometime in the next week and the charge will be 25¢ per couple.

At this time, the Chairman spoke in behalf of Mr. Ota who suggested that an appreciation party for Mr. Elberson be given. Also the idea of a New Year's get-together party was brought up.

Various suggestions were made as to the number of parties to be held.



Mr. William Mayeda, Block #32, moved that the Block Managers enter as co-sponsors of the welcome party for Mr. Coverley. The motion was seconded and carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Wallace Tsuda, Block #10, that the New Year's party and the appreciation party for Mr. Elberson be combined as one. The motion was carried.

Acceptance was made of Ward II's offer that Mess Hall #30 be used for the occasion. The following Managers were appointed on the committee to plan the party: Minoru Iwasaki, Peter Osuga, Ben Oshima, William Mayeda, Tom Hasogawa, and Ralph Shinbo. The Chairman is also included.

A resolution was read stating that the Block Managers realizing the necessity of the resettlement program of the W. R. A. will wholeheartedly cooperate with the administration in any way possible, and that they shall assist the Adult Education Dept. in their efforts to teach the English language to the isseis and the kibei in order that they may be better fitted to live in the outside communities.

Mr. William Mayeda made a motion that the resolution be adopted as read. The motion was carried unanimously. Copies will be forwarded to Mr. Coverley, Dr. Francis, Mr. Huycke, Mr. Harkness and Mr. Fleming.

Mr. Harry Mayeda was again introduced to speak as the Supervisor of the Recreation Dept. He stated that he had two reasons for which he would like to address and to clarify with the Managers; one, the Recreation Hall problems and the other the distribution of the Christmas toys.

In line with the juvenile delinquency problem now being studied, the matter of obtaining spaces in the Block Recreation Halls for the use of the Block children was suggested to him. He stated that plans has been made to allot one third of the Recreation Halls for such purpose; however, it is practically impossible for any individual block to assume that these buildings as their own. The buildings has been assigned to the Community Activities Division and also considerations must be given to the blocks where the halls are being utilized as canteens, offices, classrooms, etc. In such cases, the neighboring blocks will have to share their halls with them.

Mr. Mayeda reported that aggressive steps for Block recreations has been taken. The need for partitions has been referred to Mr. Shirrell prior to his departure and who has assured him that the matter will be taken up with Mr. Dillon Myer in Washington. If the Block people are able to secure the materials legitimately, they may construct the partitions.

Spaces in the Recreation Halls would be available as stated, but there is a lack of sufficient recreational equipments at the present.



Efforts were made to obtain more. At the present time, the equipments now on hand will be assigned to each ward and it will be kept in a central point to be known as the Ward Recreation Hall. Hereafter, the various Recreation Leaders will go into each Ward and work on a block-to-block basis instead of on a community basis.

Mr. Mayeda stated that the National Japanese-American Citizens' League was largely responsible in obtaining the Christmas toys and presents which were distributed to the children. In regards to the distribution of these gifts, he stated that there seems to have been some misunderstanding and that he would like to clarify the matter.

Prior to Christmas the gifts arrived at the Project very irregularly; consequently, an accurate estimate could not be made and also the fact that they did not know just how much more were coming made the distribution very difficult. At first, there weren't sufficient toys to give to all the children so the nursery kids were first considered. Upon the arrival of more toys and gifts, it was then given to the grade school and part of the high school students. Later the little children who do not attend school were given toys. However, there seems to be a prevalent feeling among the colonists that there are still some children who have been missed.

Mr. Mayeda reported that there are still more presents left and that more have arrived after Christmas. These gifts will be divided equally among the blocks and the Block Managers may distribute them in whatever manner and on any occasion that he sees fit. He also stated that in place of toys, moneys has been sent from the outside and that a fund has been set up. Mr. Mayeda stated that he would be glad to clarify the matter further at Bldg. 3001-A or at the Recreation Dept. in Bldg. 1808.

The Chairman in behalf of the Managers gave thanks to the Recreation Dept. and the Christmas Toy Committee for their splendid work. Also a letter will be sent to the National J. A. C. L. expressing our appreciation for their efforts.

The Chairman then introduced Mr. Shiro Kunitatsu from the Housing Dept. who spoke to the Managers in regards to the coming colony-wide inventory. As stated in a recent edition of the Tulean Dispatch, the Property Control Division is to make the inventory; however the Housing Dept. is responsible for the accounting of all items in the apartments such as cots, mattresses, blankets, etc. Since the work will take some time if they themselves took care of the matter, the Block Managers were approached and were asked for their assistance.

Ten days' time will be allotted and the work may be done in the spare time the managers may have. Only an accurate account of the non-expendable items will be necessary. The information will not be used to take any items away from the colonists as in the case of the last inventory. One reason for asking the Block Managers' help is to avert any trouble between the person taking the inventory and the residents as it was in the previous case. The Block



Managers will not be held accountable for any items. The mimeographed forms will be sent to all the Managers as soon as it is printed.

The Chairman, with the approval of those present, assured Mr. Kunitatsu of the fullest cooperation of the Block Managers.

Mr. Perry Saito of the Little Theater Group again addressed the Managers and thanked them for their cooperation in making their last effort a success. He again asked for their aid for the coming presentations. He stated that a special performance will be presented to the Managers, Tulean Dispatch Staff, etc. The tickets will be sold in the same manner as in the previous sale.

A motion was made that the Managers again support the Little Theater Group in their effort. The motion was seconded and carried.

A suggestion was made and which was later made into a motion that the Ward Recreation Leader be responsible for the distribution of the tickets. The motion was carried.

Since the next speaker, Mr. Huycke of the Leave Clearance Dept., was not present at 3:00 p.m., a short recess was called at this time.

The meeting was again called to order by the Chairman at 3:05 p.m. and Mr. Huycke was then introduced.

Prior to the talk by Mr. Huycke, the Chairman notified him of the newly adopted resolution. Mr. Huycke then introduced his two assistants, Mr. Frank Hirahara and Mr. Tom Uyeno. He stated that he has been the supervisor of the Block Managers in the Minidoka Project in Idaho before his arrival here. He also stated that he would like the Managers to try to encourage the evacuees to obtain outside jobs and leave the Project. Examples of a typical letter was related about a girl in Chicago who is enjoying her life outside very much. He stated that a new office to take care of the relocation of the evacuees will be opened in Chicago with Mr. Shirrell in charge; however, it was pointed out that it would take some time to establish the office and so it would be advisable for any interested person to contact someone they know in the East for positions.

The W.R.A. will not approve any one to go into any community where the evacuees are not accepted. It is also their concern to see that there shall be no "ganging" up in any one place. The State of Idaho was given as an example where it is now at the point of saturation. This rule is obviously necessary in order to avert any hostile reactions against the evacuees. It would be to the best interest of the evacuees if they would try to assimilate with the outside life as much as possible. Anyone may return to the Project if they cannot make a go of it on the outside.

A question was asked whether or not the government will subsidize any of the evacuees in their effort to relocate themselves. Mr. Huycke stated that as far as he knows they will not do so. He stated that the various church organizations has approached the



W.R.A. and it was suggested to them that they assist the evacuees in their relocation.

Mr. Huycke asked that whenever any of the Managers who receive any character reference forms do not know the applicant that they write on the form as not knowing the applicant well enough and return it to his office. He also requested that these forms be returned to him as soon as possible since a job may depend on the applicant's early clearance. He stated that prompt action on the leave clearance will be given first preference to those who has a definite offer of a position.

At this time a question was asked by Mr. Wallace Tsuda, Block #10, whether a person may return to his home to clear up his properties and businesses. Mr. Huycke answered that outside of making court appearances and visiting relations who are critically ill in hospitals the Military is very definite and that it is practically impossible to return. It was pointed out that such cases must first be appealed to the Evacuee Property Division. The appeal is made through the Legal Aid Dept. and the colonists may see either Mr. Walter Tsukamoto or Mr. Henry Taketa.

Mr. Ben Oshima asked as to the possibility of every returning to California to reside. Mr. Huycke stated that he cannot give any definite information about the question since he did not know.

Mr. Huycke was then requested to outline the proper procedure in obtaining the clearance. An application Form #126 is made at the Placement Office in Bldg. 1208. Three such copies must be made. Then character reference forms are sent to the applicant's division head, Block Managers, Councilmen, etc. When an applicant has a definite offer of a job a Form #30 which is a request for indefinite leave is filed in addition to Form #126.

Short-term leaves are given to persons in certain cases pending the granting of an indefinite leave. In cases of leaves for work group a Form #129 is filed and in this case the leave will be a short-term one until an indefinite leave is granted. If the approval is not granted the worker must return to the Project.

Preference of the type of employment desired is listed by the Placement Office so that a record may be referred to when a call comes in. Applicants are interviewed by either Miss Bogorad, Mr. Huycke, Mr. Egan, or Mr. Frank Smith. It was stated that in order to hasten the program, more workers will be needed in the office. A question was asked in regards to taking Civil Service Examinations. Mr. Huycke stated that efforts are being made.

In conclusion, Mr. Huycke told of his sincere interest in the resettlement of the evacuees and that the other members of his staff are likewise interested. He requested the Managers to inform the girls of many domestic job opportunities in the Middle-West. A suggestion was made that a bulletin on job offers be mimeographed and sent to the Managers to be posted on their bulletin boards.



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General Meeting of the Block Managers

1/5/43

Mr. Hirahara and Mr. Uyeno also expressed their desire to help and that the Block Managers in their positions do a lot towards the success of this program.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ George Muraki  
George Muraki, Secretary  
Central Committee

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MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

January 12, 1943

Since the Chairman, Mr. Ted Nakamura, was unable to attend, the meeting was called to order by the Secretary, George Muraki, at 1:35 p.m. on January 12, 1943, in Bldg. 2707-D.

The roll call was made and it was found that Mr. James Matsushima, Ward III Secretary, and Mr. Seiichi Tsuda, Ward IV Secretary, were absent. They were both excused.

Mr. Mun Iseri and Mr. George Kanemasu each paid the 25% penalty for not having attended the meeting on December 29, 1942.

The minutes of the previous meeting was not read since it has been distributed to practically all the Managers. A motion was made that the minutes be accepted as mimeographed. The motion was carried.

REPORTS BY THE CHAIRMAN:

The following reports were checked on by the Chairman, Mr. Ted Nakamura, and reported by the Secretary:

1. The matter of obtaining chamber pots for quarantine cases has been forwarded to the hospital and is now being considered by them. However, it was reminded that there are no extra pots available at the present.
2. The boilers which arrived recently from Klamath Falls were of the "old type." The new type are expected soon from Buffalo, New York.
3. A complaint was sent ~~by~~ Ward III that the hospital is asking the Managers to announce to the mess hall workers that it would be necessary for them to take the tuberculin tests. This matter was referred to the hospital and they have given their apologies since they did not know that all mess halls have Supervisors.
4. In regard to the exchange of directories with those of other Projects, it was reported that there are no other centers who have started this idea.
5. It was reported that the pigeon-holes for the Block Managers are being distributed.
6. The Co-op has been requested not to sell cigarettes and contraceptives to minors. This matter will be referred to the Board of Directors. Also, in regard to the purchasing of stamps at the canteen, it was reported that the Co-op at the present is on the point of re-organization so the matter has not been taken up yet. However, it is being contemplated.

OLD BUSINESS:

A letter from the new Project Director, Mr. Harvey M. Coverley, commending the actions of the Block Managers regarding the recently



adopted resolution of the Managers was read.

The reports of the Wards on the Co-op Study Group were taken at this time. With the exception of Ward VII, who has not discussed this matter, all the Wards were against using the Block Managers' Organization for this purpose. However, some of the Managers are interested, so it was recommended that classes be conducted for individuals who are interested. It was also reminded to the body that the recommendation for the Ward Co-op Educational Leader is to be forwarded to Mr. Noboru Honda.

Mr. Kaz Yamane stated that the extra light globes for the Utility Buildings have not been issued to the janitors and also that the globes for the Recreation Halls have not been requested. This matter will again be taken up by the Chairman.

In regard to the exchange of the vests for jackets, Mr. Maekawa requested that the Chairman inquire if they may still be exchanged, since it was reported that there is a surplus of jackets at the Warehouse. Mr. Ota stated that the person in charge of the Warehouse at the time of the issuance of the vests did not have any right to state that the vests may be exchanged later. He was informed of this by Mr. Hayes. It was recommended that a committee be appointed to see Mr. Hayes about this matter. This recommendation was approved and Mr. Tom Maekawa, Mr. Clifford Yamada and Mr. James Okimoto were appointed to take this matter up with Mr. Hayes.

Mr. Peter Osuga, the Chairman in charge of the coming combined Block Managers' New Year get-together and appreciation party for Mr. Elbersen, requested the body to set a definite date for it. The evening of January 27 was agreed upon by the Central Committee. The charge will be approximately 25¢ per person.

A request was made by the secretary that the 25¢ charge for each Manager to pay for the reception party for Mr. Coverley be handed in after the meeting.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

The matter of obtaining disability compensation for injured workers was brought up by Mr. James Nakagawa. He pointed out that there are no provisions set by the W.R.A. at the present. When a person is injured on duty, he is permitted to take a two weeks' sick leave and is then terminated at the end of that period. The Placement Office has been placing them on the unemployment compensation list and then referred to the Social Welfare Dept. for public assistance grant; however, regulations states that a person is not eligible to the grant if he has a certain amount of assets. Regulations also stated that a person who is fit but unable to obtain employment through no fault of his, is eligible for unemployment compensation. An injured person is obviously unfit for work.

It was further pointed that most firms on the outside as well as the Federal and State governments provides for such compensations, and that some steps should be taken by the W.R.A. towards the pro-



tection of any injured or disabled workers in this Project. Mr. Ota stated that Mr. Carter has suggested that this matter be presented to the Council by and with the backing of the Block Managers.

A motion was made by Mr. Kazuo Yamane to the above affect. The motion was carried.

Two new issues were presented by Mr. Tom Maekawa. He requested whether it would be possible to have a drainage hole installed in the older type of the women's shower-rooms. It would much more convenient for the janitors in cleaning and also is needed for sanitary reasons. The body agreed that this matter should be referred to Mr. Slattery by the Chairman.

Mr. Maekawa also stated that an article be published in the Tulean Dispatch to inform the colonists of the amount and type of supplies that are furnished to them by the W.R.A. It seems that the people misunderstand and think that they are to receive additional supplies. The article should be written both in English and Japanese. This matter was agreed upon by the committee.

Mr. Peter Osuga asked whether it would be possible to request the hospital to instruct the Block Home Nurse to report to the Block Manager at least once a day. Some of the Nurses are not living in the blocks to which they are assigned and, therefore, it is very inconvenient to the block people. A discussion was held and it was decided that this matter be referred to the hospital with the recommendation that the hospital give preference when employing the Nurses to the person living in that respective block.

Mr. James Okimoto stated that only one day's supply of baby's food consisting of one can each of milk and corn syrup are given to the mothers at the Baby Food Kitchen. The Chairman was requested to find out whether or not two or three days' supply could be given at one time for the mothers' convenience. It was pointed out there may not be sufficient supply to do this. The Chairman will find out if there are sufficient supplies of these items, and if so, request the hospital for the extra supply.

Ware IV, in line with the control of juvenile delinquency problem, suggested that ice skating rinks be made. Since the weather is cold enough at the present, the rink could be built in practically all the Fire-Breaks with little or no cost.

A motion was passed that this suggestion be presented to the Recreation Dept. for consideration and action.

Mr. Kaz Yamane suggested a plan to distribute the mail in each Block. A sign to indicate that there is mail for any person may be placed in the mess hall and such persons are to call for them. He stated that this system is working very well.

Mr. Ota announced that the Motion Picture Committee of the Recreation Dept. has given a season's pass to see all movies to all the Managers. The secretary was requested to write a letter of thanks



to Mr. K. Otsuji, the director in charge of the committee.

Mr. Ota requested all Managers when sending a memo or requisition to his office through the mail, either address the envelope to the Civic Organization Office or state it as official business. He has received many notices from the Post Office stating a letter with a 2 cents postage due is being held, and which was later found to be a memos, etc., from the Block Managers.

He also added that the Managers are not to follow any instruction from anyone with the exception of the schools without first having his approval.

Mr. Lauritzen of the Maintenance Dept. stated that he has received complaints from the Managers and the colonists in regards to the coal delivered to the blocks being used by the various classes and offices. It was pointed out that these classes and offices are opened for the benefit of all the people and also that these coals are for the use of everyone in the block and not for the use of the block residents alone. He requested the Managers to clarify this misunderstanding among the colonists. The temporary chairman assured him that the Managers and the colonists will so be informed.

Mr. Shirai, the newly appointed Executive Secretary of the Community Council, was introduced by Mr. Ota. Mr. Harry Mayeda, the Chairman of the Council, who attended the meeting to explain the present coal situation, was introduced by the Chairman.

Prior to his request, Mr. Mayeda reported that the obtaining of partition materials was approved by the W.R.A. in Washington and work will begin as soon as possible.

Mr. Mayeda then presented the coal problem. At the present there are 112 carloads of coal in the Project which would have to be unloaded as soon as possible to avoid an embargo on the Project. It was pointed out that there is a fuel scarcity all over the nation and also that it may be sold to the Army camps, Klamath Falls, or other places where these coals are needed. The congestion was caused by the wartime disruption of the railroad schedule since preference must be given to the Army trains and also caused by the scarcity of freight cars.

The various divisions such as the Farm, Construction, etc. in addition to the regular coal crew have volunteered their services. The Planning Board and the Council felt that the Block Managers should be contacted for their assistance in obtaining volunteers. If possible two volunteers per day is requested from each Block.

The work and distribution will be made on a Ward basis, and the Ward volunteers are requested to unload two carloads a day. Sufficient shovels and gloves will be provided and the work will be done during the daytime. Other details will be worked out to avoid the pandemonium which occurred at the last unloading.

Because of the dissatisfaction received in the way the last coal issue was presented to the Managers, the body felt that the matter



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CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

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should first be presented to all the Managers at a special meeting. A discussion as to the time of the meeting was held.

A motion was made and carried that the meeting be held at 4:30 p.m. in Bldg. 1308 immediately after this meeting.

Because of the necessity in notifying all the Managers immediately, other businesses were tabled and the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ George Mureki

George Mureki, Secretary  
Central Committee

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1/15/43



## MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

January 19, 1943

The last regular weekly meeting of the present Ward officers known as the Central Committee was called to order by Chairman Ted Nakamura at 1:37 p.m. on January 19, 1943, in Bldg. 2707-D.

The roll call was made and the following representatives were recorded as absent: Mr. Seiichi Tsuda, Ward IV Secretary, and Mr. Min Iseri, Ward VII Chairman. They were both excused. The Chairman, Mr. Ted Nakamura, and Mr. Kazuo Yamane, Ward VI Chairman, were tardy and penalized 20¢ and 10¢ respectively.

The minutes of the previous meeting was not read since it has been distributed to practically all the Managers. An omission on Page One, Item #3 under Reports was corrected and should read as follows: "A complaint was sent in by Ward III ---." A motion was made and carried that the minutes be accepted as corrected.

Prior to the calling to order of the meeting, Mr. William Teramoto introduced the newly elected chairman and secretary of Ward III, respectively, Mr. Jack Okumura and Mr. John Kinoto. The Chairman, at this time, thanked the former officers, Mr. William Teramoto and Mr. James Matsushima, for their excellent work.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Coal crew volunteers will not be needed any longer unless it becomes absolutely necessary. Thanks were given to all the Block Managers for their cooperation.
2. A letter from Mr. Harkness, the Superintendent of the Schools, expressing his appreciation for the recently adopted resolution of the Managers was read.
3. Stamps will be sold at all canteens beginning January 20.

### REPORTS:

1. Regarding the extra supply of light globes for the utility rooms, the Chairman reported that he was unable to get in contact with Mr. Kobayashi; however, his secretary stated that no arrangement has been made as yet. The Chairman will again contact Mr. Kobayashi.

At this time Mr. Teramoto reported that Mr. Kobayashi will accept requisitions for drainage pipes for the baths and will also re-arrange the shower pipes at any time.

2. Mr. James Okimoto, a member of the committee to check on the exchange of the vests, reported that they have spoken to Mr. Hayes. A refusal was made at first, but, later, the committee was requested to see Mr. Bello with the statement that Mr. Hayes did not have any objection to the change.

Mr. Bello also refused at first but later told the committee to see him on the coming Thursday; however, no definite answer



was given.

3. The Chairman requested the Managers who attended the reception for Mr. Coverley to pay their 25¢ charge as soon as possible.
4. In regard to the disability compensation, there is a procedure through which a disabled person may follow to obtain the allowance. Four copies of a form must be filed with the Legal Aid Dept. and which are sent to Washington, D.C. for approval. At the present, the matter of whether a disabled person may obtain such compensations after he leaves the Project is not clarified.
5. The hospital has been contacted and requested to have the Block Home Nurses see the Block Managers once a day to notify and discuss the cases of the block.
6. Regarding the additional supply of baby foods, the Chairman stated that he personally did not see the necessity since the longest distance a mother has to walk to obtain them is two blocks. He shall, however, investigate to see if there are sufficient supplies to do this.
7. Plans are being made by the Recreation Dept. to make ice skating rinks in the fire breaks. Facilities for night skatings will be installed.

A memo to all Block Managers has been sent stating that the Fire Dept. has forbidden any more building of rinks between the barracks since it constitutes a hazard in case of a fire.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

Of the matter of having a Portrait Studio set up in the Project, photographers in Klamath Falls are being contacted to come here about two or three times a week. Approval by the W.R.A. has not been given as yet.

A letter from Mr. Kumeo Yoshinari of the Recreation Dept. was read in which an invitation was given to the Block Managers' organization to send a representative to the Recreational Co-ordinating Council. The deadline will be January 25th.

Mr. Ota outlined the purpose of the council. The representatives from all the various social organizations assemble to plan, discuss, and to co-ordinate all recreational programs. The New Year's Bazaar was an example and in which Mr. Ralph Shinbo acted as the chairman. The Block Managers' organization was invited to join the council as a social group.

Mr. Minoru Iwasaki moved that the Managers join the council. The motion was carried and the Chairman appointed Mr. Shinbo as our delegate.

The matter of the elections of the Ward officers was brought up at this time. Mr. Ota stated that the original suggestion was made by Mr. Elberson and he felt that the election should not be compulsory and that the decision would lie on the feeling of the majority of the



respective Managers in each Ward. He stated that he would like to have the present officers intact.

The Chairman stated that since the original understanding was that an election is to be held every three months, he felt that the formality of the election should be carried through. The election is to be held with the recommendation from Mr. Ota that the present officers be re-elected. Since Ward III has elected their officers, they were excepted. A suggestion was made that a memo be sent to all Managers. Mr. Ota's recommendation does not mean that there are no other capable leaders. This being the last meeting of the present term, the secretary was thanked for his work.

In regard to the invitation to Mr. Slattery requesting him to talk to the Block Managers at the next meeting, no answer has been received as yet. He will again be contacted.

The letter to Mr. Kay Otsuji of the Motion Picture Dept. thanking him for the passes was read for approval. It was approved.

The Chairman reported that he has sent a letter to the National J.A.C.L. expressing the thanks of the Block Managers for the Christmas Toys.

Mr. Ota again requested that the recommendations for the Ward Co-op Educational Leader be submitted to Mr. Noboru Honda. Only two Wards has sent in their names as yet.

Mr. Teramoto brought the matter of having the grounds between the barracks leveled. In answer, Mr. Kobayashi has requested that the Managers refrain from making such requisition since it obviously would be a tremendous job. The work being done around "Alaska" way is necessary since the barracks are high and the dirt is needed to "winterize" them.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

It was announced that hereafter the Central Committee meeting will be held at Building 1608, the Civic Organization Office, at the usual time.

The Chairman, in bring up the next issue had in mind the bettering of the whole Block Managers' organization, and so he pointed out that definite steps should be taken in order to have the organization be recognized and be respected as an efficient and competent unit; consequently, the discharging of incompetent Managers would be necessary in order to attain this aim.

It was pointed out that some Managers are still not following the correct and usual procedures, nor performing their assigned and expected duties, and in some instances, some are not even in their offices at any time. Mr. Ota stated that there are some Managers whom he has not seen for two months at a time because they hardly ever come to his office for any requests or businesses. A Block Manager, although he is on a 24 hours call, is obligated to work his regular 8 hours a day just as same as any other workers in the Project.



An example of an unreasonable action on part of one of the Managers was given. It seemed that a man, a block resident, was taken to the hospital for blood-poisoning treatments and could not be released for a while. His wife, having twins, was unable to take care of the house, and so requested that he be sent back. The Hospital refused stating that the man was in no condition to be sent home. The Block Manager then called up and asked for the man's return stating that he knew that the person's condition was not such that it required the Hospital's attention which was contrary to the doctor's opinion. Such actions as this would naturally tend to reflect on the whole organization. Unless tact and diplomacy are used, the other divisions would not respect the Managers any longer.

The matter of the weekly reports was brought forth. It was pointed out that the quality or the quantity of the writing does not prove or disprove the efficiency of the Manager; however, some Managers are still writing day-by-day and hour-by-hour reports, such as the time of his awakening, starting the fire in the stoves in his office and recreation halls, etc. Such things as this and other daily routine are obviously done, and it has pointed out to them many times that such reports are not necessary. Some of the complaints on the inefficiency and the lack of responsibilities of some of the Managers were received directly through personal contacts and observations.

The Chairman, pointing out the difficulty in discharging any of the Managers, requested some sort of a solution from the Committee. It was suggested that the Chairman and Mr. Ota request these Managers to come individually to Mr. Ota's office and talk over the matter, and it was also suggested that the block advisory council could be contacted for their opinion. A suggestion that all the Managers be called at one time or another to discuss various problems which would help the individual Managers to solve them was made. The suggestions will be tried out for a while.

Mr. Nakagawa stated that since the workers in some of the other divisions are being issued uniforms, a request should be made for the Block Managers. The understanding is that these uniforms must be returned to the W.R.A. Mr. Ota will check on the matter.

Ward VI suggested that the Block Managers' organization go on record as discouraging extravagant parties in view of the colonists' present income. It was stated that if anyone sets such a precedent, it would be difficult for the next person not to do likewise. A discussion was held and it was decided that it would be unwise to make such a resolution; however, a suggestion will be referred to the Tulean Dispatch that they write an editorial about it both in Japanese and English.

A memo from the Co-op requesting the Block Managers to make an announcement was read. It was pointed out that lately the Co-op has been requesting the Managers to make too many unnecessary announcements. The Committee requested that the Co-op be contacted and



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CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

1/19/43

asked not to use the Managers for such purpose unless the matters are very urgent and important.

Mr. Ots requested the Ward Chairmen to make out the December Work Performance Report sheets of their respective Managers. Appointments were made.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ George Muraki

George Muraki, Secretary  
Central Committee

FINES COLLECTED TO DATE: 80¢

COPY:  
1/21/43  
GM:aky



MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING  
January 26, 1943

The first regular weekly meeting of the present term of the Central Committee was called to order by Chairman Ted Nakamura at 1:30 P. M. on January 26, 1943, in the Civic Organization Office at Bldg. #1608.

The roll call was made and the only absentee was Mr. James Okimoto, Ward VI Secretary, who was excused.

The following newly elected and re-elected officers of the Wards, with the exception of Ward VI, where no election was held as yet, were introduced:

WARD I	Chmn.	Tom Maekawa	Sec'y	Ben Kasubuchi
" II	"	Peter Osuga	"	Minoru Iwasaki
" III	"	Jack Okumura	"	John Kimoto
" IV	"	Robert Murakami	"	Seiichi Tsuda
" V	"	Hozumi Takaki	"	Tom Hasegawa
" VII	"	Mun Iseri	"	George Kanemasu

Mr. Kazuo Yamane and Mr. James Okimoto are the officers of Ward VI at the present.

The secretary reported that the 25¢ fine from Mr. Seiichi Tsuda for his unexcused absence at one of the meetings in December was collected. The sum of \$1.05 has accumulated to date.

The policy of charging fines for any unexcused tardiness and absence was explained by the Chairman. 10¢ per 5 minutes will be charged and the maximum penalty is 25¢ which is also the penalty for any unexcused absences (per meeting). The Chairman stressed the point that although the amount may be small, the representatives are obligated to their Managers to attend these meetings.

Since the minutes of the previous meeting was distributed to all the Managers, it was not read. A correction was made on Page Four, Fifth Paragraph. Ward V instead of VI made the suggestion. Motion was made and carried that the minutes be accepted as corrected.

The newly-appointed Executive-Secretary of the Block Managers, George Muraki, was introduced at this time. The Chairman stated that because of the addition in the office staff, it would give he and Mr. Ota more opportunities to correct any misunderstandings about the Block Managers and also to try to readjust some Managers who seems to take little interest in their work as stressed at the last meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. It was requested that the Block Managers refrain from using clips when sending in reports, memos, etc. to 1608. This is due to the scarcity of such articles.

Envelopes which the Managers use to send in the notes are returned to them empty so that they may be used again.



Mr. Yamane stated that all Managers when sending their notes to 1608 should not place it in the front mail box at the Post Office; otherwise, a postage charge will be made against Mr. Ota. The notes should either be routed at the Manager's office, delivered personally, or when taken to the Post Office, brought to the back entrance box.

2. A request was made to all Ward Chairmen to obtain the names, family numbers, ages, birthdays, and addresses of the respective Managers and their secretaries. The secretary requested that it be sent to 1608.

At this time, it was stated that a secretary from the Block Managers' office will be requested to spend a day at Bldg. 1608 to help familiarize them with office procedures, etc. as part of their vocational training. A discussion as to whether it should be placed on a compulsory basis was held, and it was decided to make the request in a form of an invitation.

3. The Chairman reported that he has spoken to the Tulcan Dispatch staff about the editorial to discourage extravagant parties, etc. The article was published in the next day's issue.

#### REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEES:

In regard to the vest exchange, Mr. Clifford Yamada reported that Mr. Bello has advised the committee to obtain the exact number of vest to be exchanged. Mackinaw coats may be issued in its place. Request was made to bring all vests to be exchanged to 1608 by Friday Morning, and also the name of the person, his size and address was asked. It was also requested that the respective Managers send in a list of clothings which they have received to date.

Mr. Mun Iseri asked Mr. Ota whether a Manager who has never received any clothes or requisition may obtain them. Mr. Ota stated that the requisitions must be dated prior to October 21, 1942, in order to obtain them.

A report was made by Mr. Peter Osuga on the coming Block Managers' party. He stated that the preparations have been made and that the collection of the money is the primary consideration at the present.

A discussion as to whether the charges should be made compulsory was held. The Chairman pointed out that some Managers are against going to any parties as a matter of policy and, therefore, do not wish to make it so; however, the need of the money is understood and that the Central Committee has voted to hold this party. It was stressed that this get-together will also be an appreciation party for Mr. Elberson and that the present has already been bought.

A motion was made by Mr. Seiichi Tsuda that the decision as to whether the collection should be made on a compulsory basis be left to discretion of the Ward Chairman. Motion was carried.

A question as to whether transportation facilities could be provided was brought up. Mr. Ota checked on this matter, and reported that no trucks or cars could be provided due to the strict rationing regulations at the present.



The Chairman also presented a brief outline of the party and stating that a Recreation Leader was obtained to assist with the entertainments. Games will be played with the guests participating in them.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Maekawa brought up the possibility of obtaining gravel or dirt to level the roads and the ground between the barracks. The water from the snow have flooded the grounds. It was again pointed out that the job will be tremendous since all the blocks are in the same predicament; however, it will be checked with Mr. Slattery.

The possibility of obtaining drainage pipes in the women's shower rooms was again brought forth by Mr. Maekawa. The matter has been referred to Mr. Kobayashi; however, it was stressed that there is only one service truck being used by the Maintenance Dept. and that there are other emergency services should be given first considerations. The Chairman stated that this problem should be left up to the Maintenance Dept. to decide whether or not there is such need.

Mr. Tom Hasegawa requested informations on the boiler jackets. Chairman stated that he has checked up on the matter last week and they were expected any day; however, no commitments could be made.

Mr. Nakamura stated that Mr. Lauritzen informed him that extra supplies of light globes for the utility buildings could not be furnished. Burned out globes will be exchanged.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Mun Iseri asked about the possibility of having a porch constructed in front of each Manager's office. Mr. Ota stated that he has made three attempts to obtain one for his office at 1608 and is still unable to get it. The Chairman pointed out that the residents in the end apartments would also wish to have one and that consideration should be given to them. Resentments will be created if such a porch was obtained, if possible, for only the Managers.

The possibility of obtaining the scrap lumber at the tent factory was brought up by Mr. Maekawa. Mr. Ota stated that it may be arranged, but the problem will be its equal distribution.

Discussions were held and Mr. Mun Iseri moved that the entire matter be dropped. The motion was carried.

Mr. Maekawa pointed out the need of a dry cleaning plant in the colony. It was reported that probably the Co-op has already considered the matter; however, it will be referred to them. Mr. Hasegawa stated that he knew a person in his block who has such equipments to sell.

Complaints regarding the garbage system and crews were made by Mr. Peter Osuga. Such complaints have been previously received and were checked on. Mr. Kobayashi has expressed the difficulty in obtaining anyone for the job; so, consequently, is reluctant in taking aggressive actions against the crew.



The possibilities of obtaining supplies for the Home Nurses was asked by Mr. Osuga. Such matters should be referred to Mrs. Yamana, their Supervisor. Mr. Yamane stated that requisitions were made but the supplies have not come in yet.

The following issue upon which a decision was made at the last meeting was again discussed at this time. This is in regard to the Co-op announcement which the Central Committee refused to forward to the Block Managers. At that time, the circumstances for the necessity of this request was not given; consequently, the Committee felt that the Block Managers' organization should not be used as an advertising agent for the Co-op. However, any important or urgent announcements will gladly be made by the Managers.

This hasty decision was referred to the Co-op and which seemed to have created some resentments against the Managers; however, after making careful explanations and clarification to the Co-op leaders, Mr. Noboru Honda and Mr. Yoshimi Shibata, the matter was settled. Mr. Fleming, hearing of this matter, felt that the Managers were perfectly justified in making this decision as upholding the dignity of the organization.

Mr. Iseri and Mr. Ota both stated that since the Enterprise is the people's, the Managers should cooperate with them and give the service to the colonists. Other methods were suggested which the Co-op may utilize in the future.

A recommendation was made that a letter of explanation be sent, but since the matter is already clarified and settled, it was dropped.

Mr. Tom Hasegawa stated that a block resident who is hard of hearing has bought a Sonotone Hearing device which work miraculously and that the company is interested in selling more such devices to anyone who wishes them. This matter will be referred to the Community Enterprise by Mr. Hasegawa.

The Chairman requested the names and the addresses of the Block Advisory Council of each Block. These advisors will be contacted to clear any misunderstanding they may have against the respective Managers and also to find out about the capability of the Managers. Sentiments of the block people will be noted and no discriminations will be made against any Managers. All the blocks will be checked on.

The secretary requested all the Ward Secretaries to hand in an attendance record of the respective ward meetings each week. This is to be separate from the minutes. Forms will be made and distributed.

Having no further businesses, the meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

COPY: GM:aky  
1/27/43

/s/ George Muraki  
Executive-Secretary of Blk Mrgs.



# THE MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE BLOCK MANAGERS

February 2, 1943

The monthly general meeting of all Block Managers was called to order by Chairman Ted Nakamura at 2:00 P. M. on February 2, 1943 in Recreation Hall #1408.

The roll call was taken and the following Managers were recorded as unexcused absentees: Isamu Ashizawa, #12, R. Yeya, #39, Koziro Wada, #48, Ray Yasui, #68. Managers Bill Tamura, #30, Wallace Tsuda, #10, Ed Izumi, #21, Harry Nakaya, #40, Hozumi Takaki, #43, Tomio Itabashi, #50, and Dan Sakahara #67, were excused.

The following Managers were tardy: Ralph Shinbo, #4, Tom Nagasawa, #6, Frank Furukawa, #16, George Okamoto, #17, Ben Oshima, #26, Minoru Iwasaki, #27, Peter Osuga, #28, George Sakai, #29, James Matsushima, #24, Frank Miyake, #31, Soichi Hida #35, Jack Takahashi, #11, Ted Ito, #19, Mutsuo Hashiguchi, #59, George Kanemasu, #69, Kenji Ito, #71, Frank Matsumoto, #73, and Mac Makiyama, #74.

The reading of the previous meeting's minutes was dispensed since it has been distributed to all the Managers. Motion was made and carried that it be accepted as mimeographed.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A letter from Mr. Shiro Kunimatsu of the Housing Department expressing his appreciations to the Block Managers for the cooperation given to them in taking the recent inventory was read. Mr. Kunimatsu also hoped that the Managers will give his department the same cooperation again in the future.

A list of some of the Block Managers' names were read and they were requested to contact Mr. Conner about obtaining their clothing issuances. Requisitions for these Managers were obtained through their reply to a memo sent to all the Managers approximately a month and a half ago.

Mr. Ota suggested that, if any of the other Managers feel that they are also entitled to receive their clothing but did not answer the memo, form a committee to check the matter with Mr. Hayes.

## REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEES:

Mr. Clifford Yamada reported on the vest exchange matter. The committee, after a talk with Mr. Bello, had obtained an approval for the exchange; however, the person in charge of the clothing warehouse felt that the Managers were not entitled to another mackinaw coat since one has already been given to them. This matter was again referred to Mr. Bello who refused in view of previous issuance.

There being no further possibilities of having the vest exchanged, the matter was closed.

The financial report of the recent Block Managers' party was made by Mr. Peter Osuga. A deficit of \$1.25 was reported. Contributions of breads were made by the Managers of Ward II.

The Chairman again pointed out that the collection of the charges was not placed on a compulsory basis but on the discretion of the respective Ward Chairmen.

A suggestion was made that the fines accumulated at the Central Committee meetings be turned over to Mr. Osuga to balance the differences. The Chairman felt that this was not fair since the fines were not paid by the Managers themselves but by their officers.

(The deficit was later cleared through the contributions of \$1.00 by Mr. Ted Nakamura and 25¢ by Mr. Ben Asubuchi.)

## NEW BUSINESS:

The Chairman reported that he has sent a letter of invitation to Mr.



Slattery of the Construction Department about a month ago requesting him to speak to the Managers in order to create a closer understanding between the divisions; however, Mr. Slattery replied last Saturday that he would be unable to attend.

Mr. Anthony O'Brien, the Project Attorney, was then contacted to speak on the subjects of taxes and the new selective service regulations. At this time he was introduced by Mr. Nakamura.

Mr. O'Brien felt that it was not necessary for him to speak on these two subjects, inasmuch as an expert on taxes will be sent from the U. S. Bureau of Internal Revenue to assist the colonists in filing their reports. The representative will be here from February 15 to March 15. In regard to the selective service, he stated that he did not know of any further informations other than those published in the Tulean Dispatch. He stated that an agent from the U. S. Army will be here within the next two weeks to explain the situation.

The property problems of the evacuees was chosen as his topic and a brief history of the creation of the Evacuee Property Division of the W. R. A. on Sept. 1, 1942, and the establishment of officers in Portland, Seattle, San Francisco, and Los Angeles was outlined. This division was created to assist the evacuees in settling their property problems and also in taking care of their general maintenance. The employees are all under government supervision and obtain no personal gains; and the services are given to the evacuees free of charge. Instructions has been received from Washington, D. C. to establish an office in the Project. He stated that, up to the present time, requests for such services has been very slow and that the reason may be that the colonists do not know of this. He requested the Managers to inform the people and tell them to see Mr. Henry Taketa or Mr. Walter Tsukamoto at the Legal Aid Department when needing such assistance.

Mr. O'Brien stated there are men to handle both commercial and agricultural properties. Because of the acute labor shortage, and the shortage and wearing out of a farming equipments, many farms are being operated at a loss; also, in the towns and cities, because of the increasing number of workers moving there, business is booming; and since many factories have been converted to produce war materials, necessary commercial and agricultural equipments are difficult to obtain. Consequently, there are heavy demands for such items which the evacuees now own.

He pointed out that after the war is over, these factories will again operate to produce better equipments, cars, etc. making these present implements obsolete. Hence, this is now the opportune time for the evacuees to sell and obtain good and reasonable prices for their properties. He stated that he and the staff members know of the tremendous loss which the evacuees has sacrificed at the time of the evacuation. He has heard of rumors being spread whereby their properties will be seized by the government unless it is sold. This rumor is entirely false and the Managers were requested to stop it.

An evacuees does not have to sell his property if he feels that a reasonable price is not offered and the government will not force anyone to sell. The final decision lies on the owner himself. The division will check and try to obtain the best price for the item. It is the policy of the W. R. A. to assist the property owners from suffering any loss.

Many persons directly and indirectly has requested to know whether the evacuees has any farm equipments, automobiles, hotel furnitures, etc. to sell, but the division has no way of knowing whether there are any unless the person wishing to sell brings the matter to his office. In line with this matter a motion was later made and passed that the Block Managers assist by announcing to the people and sending the list of articles for sale with the details to the Legal Aid Department.

Mr. O'Brien then presented the new policy of the W. R. A. in regard to the personal household properties of the colonists. He stated that before the colonists were placed under the jurisdiction of the W. R. A., the Federal Reserve Bank was in charge of the warehouse and later wished to clear them after the W. R. A. took over the people. Since the W. R. A. now has its own warehouse, the goods may be stored



for the duration or shipped to the Projects free of charge. The new policy, though not set up as yet, provides for the packing, crating, and the transportation costs to the warehouse. A person leaving for an indefinite period may have his household goods shipped from the warehouse to the place of his destination at the expense of the government. However, he cannot have it shipped to the Project first and then sent to the place of his relocation. When leaving for resettlement, personal effects weighing up to 500 lbs. per families will be paid by the W. R. A. In storing commercial goods, exception is taken if it has little or no value for obvious reasons, that is, it will not be stored.

Various questions concerning these matters were directed to and answered by Mr. O'Brien. The list of contrabands such as firearms, ammunitions, explosives, short-wave radio sets, transmitters, etc. were read. He also stated that a warehouse in Tacoma and Marysville will be probably be established, and when anyone has his personal properties shipped, the W. R. A. will not be held responsible. A person may insure any goods himself. The personal property forms may be here within a week and proper instructions may come with them.

Mr. O'Brien was thanked for his enlightening and interesting talk, and following this Dr. Ito from the Base Hospital was introduced. He requested the aid of the Block Managers in trying to obtain at least one Nurse's Aid from each Block. At the present there is a need for 40 or more aides. The applicants must be a person who is willing to serve the people since the work is not an easy one. Girls over 18 years of age are preferred and will undergo a training period of 2 to 3 weeks as well as getting actual experiences. Bus services will be tried to be furnished for any person living quite a distance from the hospital and lunches will be provided at the hospital for them.

Various questions regarding the hospital services was asked by the Managers. Dr. Ito stated that because of the shortage of workers prompt and efficient service cannot be given to anyone except emergency cases.

Mr. Ralph Shinbo moved that the Block Managers try to obtain help and replacements for the hospital. The motion was seconded and carried.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ George Muraki

George Muraki, Executive-Secretary  
of the Block Managers

COPY:  
GM:aky  
2/4/43



## MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

February 16, 1943

The regular weekly meeting of the Central Committee was called to order by Chairman Ted Nakamura at 1:30 P. M. on February 16, 1943, at the Civic Organization Office, Building 1608.

All members were present.

Since the minutes of the previous meeting were distributed to all the Block Managers, it was not read. A motion was made and carried that it be accepted as mimeographed.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The delay in the distribution of the shovels and picks which were promised to the blocks by the Maintenance Dept. was explained. Mr. Lauritzen was contacted and he stated that he was unable to accumulate sufficient amount to deliver to all the blocks. It was stated that these tools has been distributed to some of the blocks. The Chairman pointed out that these shovels and picks are loaned to the blocks for use during the present muddy period and must then be returned.

A letter was sent to Mr. Harry Mayeda of the Recreation Dept. concerning the possibility of having one or two nights a month set aside for Block meetings and whereby there be no other activities going on those nights. This letter was sent at the suggestion of some of the Block Managers. He replied that in a city as large as this Project, it would be impossible to do this. There would naturally bound to be some sort of a program and parties going on and which could not be stopped.

### NEW BUSINESS:

The Chairman stated that whenever he calls a meeting to order, it has been his policy to check his watch and begin on the designated time. He stated that a Block Manager who has been late in attending some meetings and has been recorded as such has argued against this. A question was asked of the Committee whether or not a few minutes leeway should be given. The Committee felt that all meetings should begin exactly on the time set.

An announcement that Mr. Robert Ota, the present Supervisor of the Block Managers, will be leaving the Project on February to enroll in the Rochdale Institute in New York was made by Mr. Nakamura. The Block Managers' Secretaries Organization is sponsoring a dance in his honor on the evening of the 23rd and invitations has been sent to all the Managers. A request has been made that they send a reply to the invitation.

Mr. Nakamura asked whether or not the Central Committee members as representing the Block Managers would favor giving an appreciation gift to Mr. Ota at that time. Mr. Maekawa stated that the Managers of Ward I favored giving Mr. Ota a monetary gift since it would be of practical use. A collection of 25¢ per Manager was suggested. A discussion as to whether such a gift or some other type of present should be given was held. Mr. Maekawa's report was put in a motion and was carried.

The responsibility of the collection of the money will be left to the Ward Chairmen, and the giving of the money by the Managers will not be placed on a compulsory basis. A card with the names of the Managers contributing towards this gift will be given to Mr. Ota.

Mr. Tom Hasegawa asked whether a definite procedure for the colonists in line with the present shoe rationing program has been established. The Chairman stated that he has received orders from Mr. Coverley that the ration books collected from the colonists are not to be returned until further instructions has been received from Washington. The new instructions will be sent to the Managers upon its arrival.



Mr. Maekawa requested information on the delivery of parcel posts. This matter will be checked on.

At one of the previous meetings Mr. O'Brien stated that a new policy and procedure has been established by the WRA concerning the shipping of the evacuees' personal properties. Mr. Peter Osuga asked if the forms were now available. It was stated that a copy of the procedure has been received by the Civic Organization Office but to date the forms and instructions has not been received. It will be distributed to the Managers as soon as it arrives.

Concerning the stove guard for the utility buildings, the Chairman stated that the matter has been referred to the Hospital at the time Dr. Carson was in charge. A reply was sent by the new supervisor, Dr. Pedicord, who stated that this matter should be taken up with Mr. Slattery. Since, obviously, Dr. Pedicord did not seem to have understood the circumstances, another letter has been sent to him. No reply has been received as yet.

A question was asked that since scrips are now being used throughout the Project to buy at the canteens, whether it may also be used to pay for admittance to the movie. Mr. Kasubuchi stated that he has already inquired about this matter and was informed that the scrips will not be accepted since the Moving Picture Dept. is not a part of the Community Enterprise.

Mr. Maekawa stated that the visiting nurses from the Base Hospital are requesting the Block Managers to give them the birthdays of the block resident. Since a clearance has not been made by them through the Civic Organization Office, he asked whether or not the Managers should comply with request. Mr. Nakamura stated that individual judgment should be used, but in view of the policy of the Managers a letter shall be sent to the Hospital. The secretary reported that the letter explaining the procedure has been sent to Mrs. Yamanaka of the Hospital recently.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ George Muraki

George Muraki, Executive-Secretary  
of the Block Managers

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## MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

March 9, 1943

The regular weekly meeting of the Central Committee was called to order by Supervisor, Ted Nakamura, at 1:30 p.m. on March 9, 1943, at the Civic Organization Office, Building 1608.

The roll call was taken and it was found that the following members were absent: Ben Kasubuchi, Ward I Secretary, Seiichi Tsuda, Ward IV Secretary, and Kenji Ito, the newly-elected Chairman of Ward VII. Mr. Tsuda and Mr. Ito were recorded as excused. Since there are no Block Managers in Ward V at the present, there were no representatives.

Since the minutes of the last meeting has been distributed to all the Block Managers it was not read. A motion was made and carried that the minutes be accepted as mimeographed.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. In regards to the making of any Co-op announcements by the Block Managers, the Enterprise has requested that it be continued through this week. Thereafter the Block Co-op Representatives will make all such announcements, thus, relieving the Block Managers.
2. Mr. Howard Kobayashi has informed the Civic Organization Office that a large shipment of boiler jackets and sectionals of jackets are now on the way.
3. The Civic Organization Office at the present does not have a Route Girl. In order to straighten out the requisition files and to avoid any duplication of requests, all the Ward Chairmen were asked to inform the Block Managers in their respective wards to come to Building 1608 and clear their requisitions.
4. Due to the misunderstanding between the Block Managers and his residents in some of the blocks during the registration period, the Civic Organization Office has left the making of any announcements up to the discretion of the Managers. However, in the case of announcements which the Office deemed important and imperative, it was so designated. The same policy will prevail hereafter and all announcements will be marked "imperative" or "optional". Mr. Nakamura requested that the Managers comply accordingly.

### OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Jack Okumura requested information concerning the new procedure for the storage and transportation of personal property. Mr. Nakamura stated that the new forms have not arrived as yet. They will be distributed to the Managers as soon as they arrive.

### NEW BUSINESS:

Since Mr. Ted Nakamura, the former Central Committee Chairman, has recently been appointed to replace Mr. Robert Ota as the Supervisor of the Block Managers, he asked the Committee whether the election for a new chairman should be held presently or to wait until the new Block Managers have been assigned to those blocks which have no Managers at the present. Due to the precarious position in which the Managers have found themselves during the registration period, some of them have resigned feeling that they could perhaps do more to straighten the confusion which was prevalent at that time by resigning.

Mr. Nakamura stated that after consulting Mr. Fleming they felt that it would be wiser to wait until after the registration is over before appointing the new Block Managers. It was suggested at this time that in order to obtain a capable Manager the block residents should recommend or nominate three or more persons and that the final choice and appointment be left up to Mr. Fleming and Mr. Nakamura after interviewing the persons carefully.



As to the election of the new Chairman, Mr. Nakamura stated that in the past the duty of the Chairman was to keep a harmonious relationship between all the wards and also to attend the ward meetings to obtain informations and suggestions; however, at the present, the organization has been working together very smoothly and informations of the ward meetings are brought to the Central Meeting by the Ward Chairmen. Consequently, in view of these reasons, Mr. Nakamura felt that there is no need for a Central Chairman; but if the Block Managers wished someone to represent them in order to bring complaints or matters of resentments to the Civic Organization Office, a new Chairman should be elected.

After some discussion, the Central Committee also felt that a chairman was not necessary and that all grievances could be presented by the Committee itself. Mr. Nakamura will conduct the meetings as he has been doing in the past.

In order to reorganize and to get the Block Managers back into the working spirit again, Mr. Nakamura suggested that a general meeting of all Block Managers be held. Mr. Fleming is willing to attend and talk to the Managers.

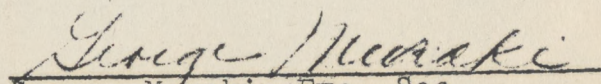
The Committee decided that the meeting should be held on the coming Tuesday, March 16th, at 2:00 p.m. The place will be Building 1308 unless another place is obtained.

In regards to the delay of obtaining shoe ration tickets, Mr. Nakamura stated that application forms were to have been distributed to the Block Managers' offices, but since the ration scrips or tickets have not arrived, the administration felt that it would be wiser not to distribute the forms until such time. The Managers were requested to advise their residents that the forms will be sent as soon as the ration tickets arrive. The administration had planned at first to take care of any emergency needs but they felt they could not determine who needed them the most.

Mr. Tom Maekawa requested Mr. Nakamura to obtain a new list of the names of the Administration Personnel Staff and distribute to the Block Managers.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
George Muraki, Exe. Sec.



## MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

March 23, 1943

The regular meeting of the Central Committee was called to order by Chairman, Ted Nakamura, at 1:30 P.M. on March 23, 1943 at the Civic Organization Office, Building 1608.

The roll call was taken and the following representatives were absent: Mr. Kenji Ito, Ward VII Chairman; since Ward V Block Managers have resigned there were no representative; Ward VII secretary was absent because of resignation.

Mr. Jack Okumura, Ward III Chairman was noted tardy.

Since the minutes of the last meeting were distributed to all the Block Managers, it was not read. Following correction was made to the previous minutes: Page 2, paragraph 3 was corrected to read: Notices for the Councilmen's nomination meeting were sent out but the date was not designated. The minutes were approved and accepted as corrected.

### ANNOUNCEMENT:

Mr. Nakamura introduced Mr. Dan Sakahara newly appointed Co-Supervisor, who will take over as Supervisor after Mr. Nakamura leaves the project.

Mr. Shig Yamane was also introduced as the Executive-Secretary who will take over the duties of Mr. George Muraki. Mr. Muraki will also leave the project very shortly.

### OLD BUSINESS:

During the past week, Mr. Nakamura inquired into the possibility of getting screens around the mess hall, utility and ironing room stoves. He reported that due to the shortage of material it was impossible to make the above improvement at the present time.

### NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Murakami brought up the question of having uniform length of time for all block advisors. After a thorough discussion the body felt that the length of time for the respective block advisors be left to the discretion of the individual blocks.

Mr. Nakamura stated that the Civic Organization will receive 5,000 shoe ration cards from Don Elberson and that the distribution of these cards will be left to the discretion of the Block Managers. It was stated that when the Block Managers were asked to collect the sugar ration books; many of the colonists did not comply with the request. Among the persons who retained these books were some who bought sugar and coffee through Caucasian friends while others purchased shoes with #17. Block Managers were placed in a rather embarrassing positions for not being able to collect each and every sugar ration books from their respective block people. Therefore, it was suggested that the shoe ration cards be issued first only to those persons who have turned in their sugar ration cards.

To people in Ward VI and VII who went to Pinedale and there had their sugar ration cards confiscated, Mr. Nakamura stated that just as soon as he is able to get the names of the persons who gave up the sugar ration cards he would notify the two wards and make it possible for them to get the shoe ration cards through special channels.

Children wearing size 4 or less are able to buy shoe without the ration cards so the Block Managers were asked not to issue shoe ration cards to these infants.

All those persons who have either lost the card or have never applied for sugar ration card are asked to go to 717--A and make special applications.

There being only a limited number of cards available to the colonists at the present time, all those present were asked to instruct their



ward Block Managers to issue shoe ration application blanks to only those persons in dire need.

Persons bringing difficult questions and problems regarding the issuance of the shoe ration cards such persons were asked to make personal inquiries into the matter at 717--A.

Mr. Osuga asked if the block people turned in their sugar ration book now whether they would be eligible to get the shoe ration cards. He was told that they could providing #17 stamp was still in the book.

Mr. Nakamura stated that he would inform each block managers as to the instruction to be followed. Ward chairmen and secretaries were asked to clarify the shoe ration set-up at their ward meeting.

At this time Mr. O'Brien and Mr. Lowery were introduced to the group. Mr. Lowery reported that at the present time, form 155 for storage of property, form 156 for the transportation of property and form 153-A request for assistance in connection with property matters were available to the colonists.

Mr. Lowery stated that in accordance with the obligation of the authority to aid evacuees in the conservation of their assets, the transportation section of the Evacuee Property Office will provide assistance in connection with the transportation and storage of personal property.

The assistance provided by Mr. Lowery's office will include the establishment and operation of warehouse, for free storage of evacuee property, the furnishing of traffic information and assistance without cost to the evacuee. In connection with the storage and transportation of the property, whether the evacuee resides at the project or elsewhere, it was further stated that after household and personal effects have been moved from the former residence or private storage to a Government ~~central warehouse~~ under WRA expense, one additional transfer will be made of evacuee property from the government warehouse to the project or any other place outside of the project without cost to the evacuee. To assist the colonists in relocation, provisions have been made to transport up to five hundred pounds of household and personal effects belonging to an evacuee and his immediate family from the project to the destination designated by the evacuee. In connection with this problem, Mr. Lowery stated that inquiries have been made to Washington to permit larger families to take more than 500 pounds under WRA expense.

In some cases where number of families have placed their furniture and household goods for storage in one building steps are being taken to work out some solution whereby the Government would take over that building as a central warehouse and in doing so provide necessary guards and the rent for the building.

If an evacuee wishes to have those household furnitures now stored at their former residence or place of storage moved to a Government warehouse and if he so wishes to have part of that sent to the project, such accommodations could be provided if forms 155 and 156 are filled out. Those who have applied for government transportation or storage on the old form (WRA 83) are not required to fill out the new forms but if they have waited for two months or more and have gotten no action, those persons are asked to make inquiries at Mr. Lowery's office.

Mr. O'Brien stated that at the present time it would be impossible for the evacuees to go back to their former residence to clarify problems concerning household and personal effects or commercial property but by filling out form 153-A. War Relocation Authorities will provide the necessary assistance and legal aid.

Mr. Lowery stated that because of the limited warehouse space available here, the Project Director's approval is needed to bring household furnitures to the project and it was further suggested that only the essential things used in the apartment be brought into the project.

Mr. Nakamura reported that the vacated Block Managers offices are being filled.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Shig Yamane, Exe.-Sec. Blk. Mgrs.



## MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

March 30, 1943

The regular meeting of the Central Committee was called to order by Chairman, Ted Nakamura, at 1:30 P.M. on March 30, 1943 at the Civic Organization Office, Building 1608.

The roll call was taken and the following representatives were absent. Ward VII secretary was absent because of resignation, and in Ward V since the Block Managers have resigned there were no official representative. Mr. Wada, newly appointed Block Manager of Block 48, attended as a special representative.

Mr. Tomijiro Maekawa was noted tardy but was excused.

Since the minutes of the last meeting were distributed, it was not read, a motion was made and passed that the minutes be accepted as mimeographed.

Guests for the day included: Mr. John D. Cook, Mr. Lauritzen, Mr. Rhodes and Mr. Fleming.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mr. James Okimoto, secretary of Ward VI stated that since his leave clearance had arrived, he would be leaving the project for outside employment. In behalf of the Block Managers Organization, Mr. Nakamura expressed thanks to Mr. Okimoto for his untiring efforts and past cooperation.

Regarding broken boiler jackets, it was reported that Mr. Nakamura and Mr. Muraki had approached the Construction Dept. on this matter. Mr. Kobayashi stated confidentially that 20 boiler jackets had arrived but since 120 boilers are now out of order, the 20 on hand would first be used to accommodate the broken mess boilers and if there are any left, the distribution of the remaining ones to be left to the discretion of Mr. Kobayashi's office. The group was given assurance that at least two utility boilers in each block would be repaired shortly.

Mr. Kasubuchi asked whether the boilers could be cleaned every so often to prolong the life of the boiler but Mr. Nakamura stated that from the information that he could gather the boiler jackets now in use needed cleaning only about once in two years. The chief cause of the breakage has been the over heating of the boiler.

### NEW BUSINESS:

Regarding the Red Cross Drive the body went on record as favoring the idea of Block Managers and their secretaries making the Red Cross Contribution as a unit. Each ward chairman to receive contribution in his respective ward. Each Block Manager was asked to display the Red Cross Poster in his block office and accept membership and contribution.

Mr. Fleming reported on the shoe ration. He stated that there are about 5,000 shoe ration certificates at the Tulalake ration board but at the present time there are no provisions to release these to the colonists unless signed by the outside board member. Because of the labor shortage the number of certificates released by the Tulalake board is insufficient to accommodate the colonists; therefore, Mr. Fleming has wired San Francisco to speed up the issuance of shoe ration certificates to the people. Those who have given up the sugar ration book #1 to the Block Managers were asked to make their application through the block office and for those who have either lost the book or have never been issued sugar ration book were asked to go to 717--A. Co-op office to make their application.

Regarding the ash pits that are dug in Ward I, the Block Managers were of the opinion, the holes that were dug to dispose the ashes were very inadequate. It was stated that the holes were too shallow and wide. The youngsters playing in and around the holes were in constant danger of getting hurt. Mr. Lauritzen replied that under the existing priority condition it is impossible to build covers for the holes. He stated that at the present time people are throwing ashes all over the block.



and digging holes for ash disposal too near the barracks, thus creating a fire hazard. He related cases of deep holes being dug in the fire-break. To render these unsightly conditions Mr. Slattery, after consulting with Mr. Rhodes of the Fire Dept., thought that by digging the ash pit in the middle of the block it would solve the ash disposal problem.

Mr. Rhodes stated the necessity of a general clean up in each block. After much discussion it was decided to set aside April 17th as General Clean Up Day. Mr. Fleming would inquire into the possibility of stopping all work in the project to have the people participate in the clean up. Mr. Lauritzen stated that after April 17, if any apartment is found hoarding unnecessary amount of kindling, the delivery of kindling wood to that block would be stopped until the kindling could be moved to some central pile in the block.

Mr. Lauritzen stated that he would make every effort to get more rakes for the clean-up day and if possible would provide each block with a truck to dispose the debris.

To encourage and put the clean-up on a competitive basis, Mr. Rhodes was appointed to inquire into the possibility of getting awards and pennants to the cleanest block in the project.

Mr. Cook was appointed as a committee of one to publicize the clean-up in the Tulean Dispatch.

Mr. Nakamura stated that it was getting quite difficult to replace block managers in those blocks that the Managers have resigned. He asked those leaving or contemplating on leaving the office to make recommendations to fill the vacated office.

Mr. Iwasaki asked if the outgoing Block Manager could still occupy the apartment next to the block office. If arrangements could be made with the new Block Manager, he could retain the apartment, but otherwise, that room would be reserved for the Block Manager and those connected with the Civic Organization.

Mr. Kaz Yamane stressed the need of stapler in the office. Mr. Nakamura assured the group he would inquire into the possibility of providing the block office with stapler.

Mr. Osuga asked that steps be taken to give each block office broom and mop. At the present time the Civic Organization warehouse being completely out of stock, until new supplies could be gotten, Mr. Nakamura stated that he would be unable to make the distribution.

Mr. Kasubuchi said that since he had an extra supply of large chamber pots on hand, he would accommodate any block in need of the the pots.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Shig Yamano,  
Executive-Secretary, Blk. Mrgs.



Apr. 6, 1943

# MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE BLOCK MANAGERS

April 6, 1943

The monthly general meeting of the Block Managers was called to order by Chairman, Ted Nakamura, at 1:30 P.M. on April 6, 1943, at 1308.

The roll call was taken and the following were absent: Min Iwasaki, Frank Furukawa, Frank Miyake, Tuffy Yasuda and Kiyoshi Uratsu.

Mr. Jindo Noda, Wallace Tsuda and Koseiro Wada were tardy but excused.

Since the minutes of the previous meeting was distributed to all the managers, it was not read. A motion was made and passed that the minutes be accepted as mimeographed.

## ANNOUNCEMENT:

Chairman read a letter from Mr. Shiro Kunimatsu of the Housing Dept. It stated that Mr. Kunimatsu would terminate his office April 8th, to go out for outside employment. Mrs. Toshi Hitomi to act as temporary supervisor until some one permanent could be installed and asked that the Block Managers acknowledge the signature of Mrs. Toshi Hitomi.

Mr. Yoshida, Executive-Secretary of the Planning Board, reported on the condition at the hospital. He emphasized Dr. Pedicords unsatisfactory and undesired attitude and policy towards the colonists.

Mr. Dan Sakahara, Co-Supervisor of the Block Managers and the chairman of the local Red Cross, reported that to date the colonists had contributed \$179.13 to the Red Cross through the Block Managers. Ward I, III, IV, VI, VII Block Managers and secretaries had contributed \$55.00.

Mr. Bill Mayeda said that on April 9, there would be an Engei Kai at 3220 at 6:30. Everybody was cordially invited.

Mr. Nakamura stated that henceforth the Block Manager's Weekly Report will be discontinued, instead a monthly activities report will be asked of all the Managers. The report for the previous month to be in the Civic Organization Office not later than the third of each month.

## NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Ramey explained the proposed tree planting program in the project. He said at the present time he has 10,000 pine tree seedlings on hand. The one handicap in the planting of these trees is the shortage of water. The present plan is to use waste water in irrigating these plants. The Boy Scouts are taking the initiative in carrying out the program but Mr. Ramey felt that the Boy Scouts alone would be unable to plant all the trees so he asked the Block Managers' cooperation and supervision in planting the trees in their respective blocks.

Mr. Fleming, member of the local shoe ration board reported on the shoe ration certificate. He stated that the present plan for applying for the shoe ration certificate will be discontinued. The Co-op office at 17-A will not accept future emergency shoe ration applications.

Mr. Fleming and Mr. Elbersen wired San Francisco, state OPA Directors for a solution to speed up the issuance of the shoe ration certificates at the Tulalake board, but under the new OPA regulation, the certificate could be issued only after filling out the OPA Form RI703. Mr. Elbersen stated that there were 10,000 new forms at the Tulalake board so that they would get them immediately and have them available for the colonists. After much discussion, Mr. Fleming and the group felt that henceforth all shoe ration applications and certificates should be issued by and through Block Managers and the Civic Organization Office.

Chairman stated that at the present time there are 3,400 shoe ration applications on file. When asked whether the Sugar Ration Book #1 could be returned, Mr. Elbersen replied that it was impossible and anyone having the #1 book have them illegally.

Mr. Tsuda spoke of the uncomfortable position in which the Block Managers were placed as the result of the issuance of the shoe ration applications.



It was stated that the Block Managers acted in good faith when they asked the people for the sugar ration book but led by misleading instructions and changing regulations, the Block Managers have lost faith and good will of the block people. The body felt that those who have turned in the sugar ration book should get first consideration.

Mr. Bill Teramoto suggested that Mr. Cook publish full particulars in the Tulean Dispatch concerning the delay and the explanation of the new procedure.

Mr. Lauritzen of the Maintenance Dept. spoke on the general clean up day program. April 17 has been designated as a camp holiday. All work except those considered essential departments, to stop work and participate in the clean up. He stated that the aim of the camp wide clean up was: to comply with the Government's request to further fire prevention, to beautify the project and for the general health of the inhabitants. To assist in the clean up, the maintenance dept. is to loan 3 or 4 rakes to each block and possibly one truck for each 2 blocks.

Regarding ashes from the apartment stoves, the Civic Organization Office will send out instructions with illustrations for their disposal. Since many of the stoves have no ash pans, Mr. Lauritzen said that he had 4,000 buckets on hand which he would distribute.

Mr. Elberson stated the Co-op will donate appropriate pennants that will be given to the cleanest block in the ward and to the cleanest ward in the project.

Mr. Fleming explained the new cash grant that is being given to those leaving the project. It was stated that the grant would include coach fare, three dollars for meal each day per person and a cash grant of \$50.00 to the head of the family and \$25.00 for each dependent total maximum not over \$100.00 per family. The application for the grant to be made through Social Welfare Department.

The Chairman asked the Block Managers to feel the reaction of their block people towards the formation of a new city council.

Since many of the departments have been issuing shoes to their workers, some of the Block Managers felt that they too were entitled to shoes. Mr. Fleming said the shoes are being given only to that department that was promised shoes, since no promises were made to the Block Managers, it is impossible to get the shoes.

Chairman gave a brief explanation on the complaint forwarded by Ward II Block Managers on the announcement requested by the Civic Organization Office concerning the returning of messhall plates by the colonists. Since Mr. Peck had implicated that if the plates were not returned, he would ask the wardens to make a house-to-house search. Chairman felt that by making the announcement, the people would voluntarily return the plates thus averting embarrassment.

Mr. Bill Mayeda suggested that the Block Managers hold a party. The group felt the matter should be tabled until the next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Shig Yamane  
Exe.-Sec., Blk. Mgrs.



MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL MEETING OF THE BLOCK MANAGERS

April 13, 1943

A special general meeting of the Block Managers was called by Mr. Fleming, Chief of Community Service at 2:00 P.M., on April 13th, at 1308. The meeting was presided by Chairman, Ted Nakamura.

The roll call was taken and following were absent: George Okamoto, #17; Frank Miyake, #31; Isamu Ashizawa, #12; Kenji Ito, #71; and George Sakayama, #22.

Following were tardy but excused: Paul Abe, #15; Frank Furukawa, #16; Ben Oshima, #26; Kaz Yamane, #58; and Kiyoshi Uratsu, #46.

Following persons were introduced: Mr. Hayami, newly appointed Block Manager of Block 68. Father Dai of Block 50 and Mr. Morodomo of Block 51 as special representative.

Mr. Fleming spoke briefly on the new WRA program of giving aid to the physically handicapped persons. Mr. Fleming explained that the hospital and the Social Welfare Dept. have a partial list of the handicapped persons but in order to make a thorough and complete check up he asked the cooperation of the Block Managers to make the survey and fill out the Form WRA-564 and report the findings to the Civic Organization Office by the 20th of April.

In explaining the procedure to be taken, Dr. Bass of the Base Hospital explained that the physically handicapped persons would be classified in the following categories: Blind, deaf, dumb and the physically disabled. In making the recommendation, if the Block Manager feels that he is unable to do so; the hospital ambulance would be available to take the patient to the hospital and there have the doctor make the proper recommendation. Dr. Bass also stated that it would be advisable to have the Block Manager accompany such patient.

Chairman stated that the tree planting program will be carried out as announced at the previous meeting. Number of blocks have failed to report the block reaction to the planting of trees but to all the block that have voiced no objections, the Boy Scouts will deliver 150 trees to each block on Saturday, April 16th. The Block Manager or the tree planting committee will supervise the tree planting in their respective block. One of the factors in judging the blocks for the award is the manner in which the trees are planted. Those who wishes to get top soil to plant the trees, it was stated that good top soil could be gotten at the high school farm situated near the sewage plant.

Chairman appointed the following persons: Toshichi Mitoma, Bill Teramo Isamu Ashizawa and Peter Osuga to meet with Mr. Lauritzen and the Civic Organization staff to work out the final plans for the clean up and the tree planting.



To clarify any misunderstanding the chairman stated the Block Managers general meeting will be held the first Tuesday of each month at 2:00 P.

Mr. Jack Okumura said that numerous complaints are coming in from the Block people regarding mosquitoes in some parts of Ward III. The residents have requested that screen doors be provided for the apartments. The matter will be taken up with Mr. Slattery.

There was some misunderstanding regarding collection of funds for the marathon race. Some Block Managers felt that they were asked to collect contributions from the block people. Mr Sakahara replied that the Block Managers were only asked to cooperate with the ward recreation leader. Any announcement or help towards the collection of the fund was optional.

Mr. Fleming stated that Mr. Myer had requested that a survey be made of the parents with sons in the armed forces. The aim of the survey is to give, if possible, special consideration to those parents. Form TL-570 to be filled in by the Block Managers and returned by April 20th.

Mr. Shirai of the City Council and Mr. Yoshida of the Planning Board spoke on Mr. Myers visit to the project within the next few days. They felt that a representative group should be selected and they talk with Mr. Myer on the present conditions and to discuss and formulate future policies. Suggestion was made that Block Managers call a meeting to select the ward representative who would confer with Mr. Myer. Most of the Block Managers felt there was insufficient time to call the meeting to make the selection. After a discussion, Mr. Wallace Tsuda moved that the Block Managers recommend Mr. Shirai, Mr. Yoshida, Mr. Ogi, Father Dai and Mr. Mayeda to meet with Mr. Myer. For Thursday's meeting between Mr. Coverley and the issei, with Mr. Coverley's permission, one nisei be permitted to attend the meeting. The motion was carried.

The chairman announced that he would terminate his office at the end of the month. He thanked the group for the splendid cooperation given him.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Shig Yamano  
Exe.-Sec., Blk. Mgrs.



## MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

April 20, 1943

The Central Committee meeting of the Block Managers was called to order by Chairman, Dan Sakahara, at 1:30 P.M., on April 20, 1943 at 1608, Civic Organization Office.

The roll call was taken and Mr. Kenji Ito was noted absent. Mr. Tsuda and Mr. Iwasaki were both tardy fifteen minutes.

Motion was made and seconded that a fine be assessed the two tardy representative, but after hearing their reasons for the tardiness both were excused. The motion failed to carry.

### ANNOUNCEMENT:

Chairman reported that \$1,890.00 was contributed by the colonists to the recent Red Cross Drive, of that amount \$413.00 was contributed through the Block Managers office.

Chairman announced the following winners in the recent clean up contest. Ward VI was judged the cleanest ward in the project and the following blocks cleanest in their respective ward: Ward I--Block 18, Ward II--Block 37, Ward III--Block 23, Ward IV--Block 9, Ward V--Block 48, Ward VI--Block 51, Ward VII--Block 67. Mr. Carter and Mr. Rhodes acted as judges in the above selection.

Secretary reported that number of blocks have not as yet turned in their survey on the handicapped persons, sons in the armed forces and the block census. Ward chairmen were instructed to inform their ward block managers that the handicapped persons and the sons in the armed forces survey sheets were to be in by April 20th, and the Block census report to be in by April 21st.

In reply to number of inquiries made regarding the pine trees and buckles Chairman replied that additional pine tree seedlings are not available but to the blocks that were provided with insufficient number of buckles to give to each family in the block, if requisitions are turned in this office would take the matter up with the Maintenance Department.

Suggestion was made that the Block Managers group give Mr. Nakamura a farewell gift. After a discussion motion was made and seconded that each Manager be assessed 10¢ to get an appropriate gift. The motion carried. Each Ward Chairman to collect within his own ward by the 27th of April.

### NEW BUSINESS:

Regarding the re-election of Ward Chairman and secretary, a motion was made and seconded that Ward Chairman cannot serve in that capacity two consecutive terms. The motion carried.



Mr. Ken Yasuda of the Recreation Dept. spoke briefly on the proposed anniversary program. The commemoration ceremony to be solemn and simple. The high light of the program to be the unveiling of a inscribed rock at the foot of the flag pole.

Mr. Osuga moved that the Recreation Dept. send a letter of thanks to all the blocks who so generously contributed towards the marathon and the undokai fund. The motion was seconded and passed.

Mr. Lowery of the project evacuee property office and Mr. Russell T. Robinson, Director of Evacuee Property Division from San Francisco, were present to give first hand information on evacuee property contr. Mr. Robinson stated that at the present time their branch offices have been opened at Seattle, San Francisco and Los Angeles. Numerous incidents were related in which evacuees benefited greatly by taking advantage of the facilities provided by the Evacuee Property Division.

At the present time all relocation centers, except the two in Arkansas, have competent and well trained representatives. It was suggested that colonists sell their stored farm implements and machineries. Mr. Robinson said that legislative steps are now being taken at Sacramento to put into use all idle farm machineries.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

The group felt that Block Managers were entitled to broom and mop for their office. Mr. Nakamura replied that the Community Service warehouse was completely out of stock but he would make further inquiries.

Regarding cleaning and repairing of Block Manager's private owned typewriter, if requisitions are sent in to the Civic Organization office, typewriter repairman will be sent out to pick up the typewriter.

Mr. Nakamura said that the first one thousand shoe ration certificates would most likely be ready for distribution in a few days.

Mr. Osuga related that the Ward II Recreation Halls were being very poorly managed. Chairman to discuss the matter with Mr. Mayeda.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Shig Yamane  
Exe.-Sec., Block Managers



MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

April 27, 1943

Meeting of the Central Committee of the Block Managers was called to order by Chairman, Ted Nakamura, at 1:30 P.M., at 1608, Civic Org. office.

Roll call was taken, Seichi Tsuda was absent but excused. Mr. Nakayama was tardy for 5 minutes, Mr. Ito for 25 minutes. Both were excused.

Mr. Jun Matsumoto, newly appointed Block Manager of #45 and Mr. Wada of #48 were introduced.

A motion was made and seconded that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted as mimeographed and distributed. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Distribution of Buckets--During the clean-up, the distribution of buckets was done very inefficiently, as the result some blocks have received more while the others less than they were entitled. Mr. Lauritzen informed the Civic Organization Office that he would make further delivery to the block where the need is justified. Mr. Sakahara advised the group that those who were fortunate to receive excess supply of buckets not to distribute them to the people since there is no possibility of accommodating all the blocks. He felt that if more than one bucket is given to each family there would be dissatisfaction and ill feeling amongst the colonists in different blocks.

Coal Crew Situation--A committee representing the coal workers was present to explain the facts concerning the latest coal strike. One cause of the strike was the unreasonable discharge of the senior foreman. The members of the committee felt that the working conditions of the coal crew must be improved or else a large number would quit to take other jobs and gave detail explanation of the past difficulties between the coal crew and the administration.

Mr. Sakahara thanked the committee for appearing at the meeting and felt that the Block Managers were greatly enlightened by their explanation.

Chairman felt that since the Block Managers organization had never intervened with other division difficulties we should take no further action.

Mr. Harry Mayeda, member of a committee that is trying to find some solution to the strike, said that although he acknowledges the policy of the Block Managers, he felt that since the colonists depend on the Block Manager for their source of information, he would appreciate if the Block Managers would inform the people of the true facts. Mr. Mayeda further stressed the unsatisfactory attitude of the administration regarding the present labor trouble.

Shoe Ration Certificate--Mr. Fleming of the local shoe ration panel was present to give information on shoe ration certificate. He explained that the latest instruction received from the Tule Lake Ration Board states that all persons who have turned in the sugar ration book #1 would be issued the shoe certificate but those who have either lost the book or who have never been issued one, write back to the home board and get a certification that they were either issued the book, had been refused or have never applied. Mr. Fleming said such a procedure would be most impractical. He felt that the only solution would be to set up a ration board here in the project. Mr. Fleming explained that in some of the other relocation centers the issuance of the shoe ration certificate has been done without the unnecessary delayed red tape. Since the distribution of the shoe ration certificate is left to the discretion of the regional OPA he felt that some offices are more lenient than others. Mr. Coverley who is now at San Francisco has been notified by word of the latest development. Upon his return, Mr. Fleming and Mr. Elberson will discuss the matter with Mr. Coverley. If a satisfactory solution cannot be gotten from the OPA office at San Francisco, the problem is to be referred to Washington.

Shoe Repair--The group was informed by Mr. Kawasaki of Co-op that the shoe repair shop would be closed until next week.



Election of Ward Chairman and Secretary--Chairman asked that the motion that was made, seconded and passed at the last meeting regarding the election of Ward Chairman and Secretary be rescinded.

Mr. Murakami moved that the motion "Ward Chairman cannot serve in that capacity two consecutive terms" be recalled. Motion seconded and passed. Chairman instructed all wards to hold meetings before the next general meeting.

Stove Polish--Inquiry was made as to the possibility of acquiring stove polish for the colonists. Mr. Sakahara replied that none was available.

Baggage inspection--There was complaint from some of the Block Managers that baggages, belonging to people going out, were being unnecessarily inspected after they were packed. Some member of the group felt that since there was possibility that people might take out blankets and other WRA property the inspection was necessary.

Shovel and Rake--Complaint has been received from the Maintenance Dept. that the shovels and rakes loaned to the blocks during the clean-up had not been returned. Chairman informed the group since they were on a loan basis all the shovels and rakes should be returned.

Boilers--Block 23 and 34 were promised new boilers some weeks ago but since no action has been taken on the matter, Chairman was asked to contact Mr. Kobayashi.

Lately the Maintenance Dept. has been using something in the boilers to clean the boiler jackets, since it has a terrible odor, Mr. K. Yamanashi asked that the office contact the hospital to find out if the substance is harmful.

Mop and Broom--Chairman informed the representatives that in cases where newly weds have moved into the block, if requisitions are made to this office initial supply of mop and broom will be distributed.

Regarding announcements--All announcement memo sent out from the Civic Organization office marked "imperative" must be made either in Japanese or English. Those marked "optional" could either be announced or posted at some conspicuous place.

Leveling of Firebreak--Mr. Osuga stated that the firebreak between Ward II and Ward VI was still unlevelled. Chairman to make further inquiry.

That chairman stated that the present policy of the Civic Organization with regards to requests for services and announcements seems to be in conjunction with the sentiment of all Block Managers. However, if there were any criticisms and suggestions, they would receive just consideration if presented at the Central Committee meeting.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned at 3:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Shig Yamane  
Exe.-Sec., Block Managers



# MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE BLOCK MANAGERS

May 4, 1943

The monthly general meeting of the Block Managers was called to order by Chairman Dan Sakahara on May 4, at 2:00 P.M., at 1308.

Roll call was taken and the following representatives were absent: Mr. Tuffy Yasuda, #20 and Mr. Bill Abe, #47.

Mr. William Mayeda was tardy 25 minutes.

The newly elected Ward Chairmen were introduced: Ward I--Mr. R. Shirai; Ward II--Mr. P. Osuga; Ward III--Mr. Okumura; Ward IV--Mr. M. Maruyama; Ward V--Mr. Wada; Ward VI--Mr. H. Nakayama; Ward VII--Mr. M. Makiyama.

Motion was made and seconded that the previous central committee minutes be accepted as mimeographed. Motion carried.

## ANNOUNCEMENT:

Shoe Repair--The Co-op Shoe Repair Dept. has announced the following changes. a. Repair shop will accept five emergency repair cases each day providing the repair is recommended by the Block Manager. Recommended cases to be referred to the Civic Organization Office which in turn will issue special Co-op approved permit for the repair. b. Shoe shop will not accept any more shoe for repair (except the five emergency repair cases each) until May 15th.

Evacuee Property Control Forms 223 and 96--Detailed instructions were given on Forms 223 and 96. The body felt that further clarifications and changes, if possible, be made on paragraph four on Form 223. Chairman to make further inquiry.

Announcement:--In the future if the Supervisor deems it necessary to make the announcement in the mess hall or block meeting, such notices will be marked "Imperative." Block Manager to make the announcement either in Japanese or English. All other notices and announcements will be left to the discretion of the Block Managers.

Coal Crew--The latest development on the coal crew situation was explained by the chairman. Although details of the pending negotiation were not revealed, it was stated that favorable results could be expected.

Monthly Report--Many of the Block Managers have not, as yet, turned in the monthly report. Since it is due on the 3rd of each month, Managers were requested to turn them in immediately.

Clothing Allowance Vouchers--A request was made by the Chairman that the vouchers be returned to the office as soon as possible.

Shoe Ration Certificate--There has been no new instructions on the shoe ration certificate. Mr. Fleming is expecting the result of the conference between the OPA Office and the representatives from the Tule Lake Ration Board. Mr. Fleming stated Tuesday morning that if no new instructions are received from the San Francisco Office within the day, he would send in the first and second batch of application, together with the sugar ration book #1, to the Tule Lake ration board on Wednesday morning.

A letter from Mr. Howard Kobayashi was read by the secretary. Mr. Kobayashi stated that he was leaving the project for outside employment and expressed his thanks for the considerate and full hearted cooperation of the Block Managers.

A motion was made and seconded that the Chairman write a appropriate reply in behalf of the Civic Organization. Motion carried.



NEW BUSINESS:

Ward III representative stated boilers promised them by the Construction Dept. has not been delivered. Office to make further requisition.

Mr. Kaz Yamane requested that further clarification be made regarding disposal of Clothing Allowance checks belonging to persons who have left the project. If some member of the family still remains in the project they could, if they so desire, sign the voucher and accept the check and forward it to the party outside. In cases where the entire families have relocated, the forwarding address together with the check be returned to the Civic Organization Office. The check will then be mailed to the given address.

The matter of giving leave assistance grant was thoroughly discussed. The group felt that every person relocating from the center is entitled to the cash grant regardless of wealth.

A motion was made and seconded that the Chairman approach the proper division to discuss the possibility of giving the leave assistance grant to all persons leaving the project on indefinite leave. Motion carried.

Mr. Shirai, executive-secretary of the City Council, spoke on the urgent need of a City Council in the project. The reaction of the various blocks on the problem was given by the Block Managers. The majority felt that the charter should be amended permitting each block to have a city council representative instead of the present set-up of four councilmen representing the ward.

Chairman stated that Mr. Fleming was leaving the project some time next month.

Motion was made and seconded that Civic Organization sponsor a farewell party for Mr. Fleming. Motion carried.

Mr. Wallace Tsuda was unanimously chosen as Chairman. The details of the affair to be left to the Ward IV Managers.

Mr. Min Iwasaki and Mr. William Mayeda were appointed to assist Mr. Tsuda. Other members of the committee to be chosen by Mr. Tsuda after consults with Mr. Sakahara.

\$1.00 be assessed the Block Manager and the partner and the secretary 50%. Motion carried.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned at 3:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Shig Yamane,  
Exe-Sec., Blk. Mgrs.



May 26, 1943

# MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

May 25, 1943

The Central Committee Meeting of the Block Managers was called to order by Chairman, Dan Sasehara, on May 25, at 1:30 P.M., at 1608.

Roll call was taken and the following were absent. Mr. Wada and Mr. Fujita, Ward V, Mr. Hamaguchi, Ward VI.

Mr. Okumura and Mr. Kimoto were tardy five minutes. Both excused.

Correction was made on the previous Central Committee Minutes of May 18th. The first paragraph of old business to read: "Party to be held May 27, instead of May 25.

Motion was made and seconded that the minutes be accepted as corrected. Motion carried.

## ANNOUNCEMENT:

On the request for additional block washboards, brooms, and mops, Chairman stated that it appears quite difficult to obtain them, but further inquiry will be made.

Mr. Harry Mayeda is working to get shoes for the Block Managers; although no definite commitments were made the group was informed that there was a possibility of obtaining the shoes.

Mr. Kirkman has replaced Mr. Suggett. Henceforth, Mr. Kirkman's crew will handle all heavy baggages going out with persons leaving the project.

Chairman reported that from now on all forms mimeographed by the Civic Organization Office will be numbered. Thus making it easier for the Block Managers and the office staff to keep track of the different forms.

## NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Carter spoke on the new changes made in the Housing Dept. Social Welfare to have charge of all problems connected with housing.

During the week of May 25th to May 31st, the Block Managers were asked not to encourage or initial moves. The emergency cases will be considered by Miss Montgomery.

The representatives were of the opinion that the colonists should be more fully informed of the moving regulation, namely, that of getting the consent of the new and old Manager before taking the new apt.

The group felt the need of a project directory for their personal reference. After a thorough discussion on the matter, it was finally decided to submit the block census to the Civic Organization Office by the next meeting with the following information. Names of all the resident in the block, last name first (alphabetically), with the address. The census to be as of June 1, 1943.



Later Chairman will investigate the possibility of making a project directory for the Block Managers and office reference.

Public Assistance, Unemployment and Clothing Allowance Checks--to relieve the congestion at the Civic Organization office and with the aim of giving better service to the block people; henceforth, some of the checks will be at the Block Managers office. To carry out this procedure, a new form has been made. These forms to be made in triplicate at the Civic Organization office. One carbon copy to remain at 1608 office, the original copy with the signature of the party receiving the check to be returned to Mr. Busselle accompanying the voucher and the third copy to be retained by the Block Manager.

As a added precaution to the ever present danger of being burned by steam in the shower room, Mr. Peter Osuga of Ward II suggested that Maintenance Dept. paint the hot and cold faucet to identify each. The plan was heartily approved by the group. Chairman to make further inquiry.

Report was made by some representative that Dick Reeder accepted #17 from all persons for the purchase of shoe. Persons going out from the project are allowed to use #17 from the Sugar Ration Book providing they can show definite proof they are leaving the project.

Chairman to investigate whether all person or only those persons leaving the project were sold shoe with #17.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Shig Yamane, Executive Secretary  
Block Managers



# MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

July 6, 1945

Regular general meeting was called to order by Chairman Wallace Tsuda on July 6th, at 1:30 p.m., at 1308.

Upon calling roll, the following were noted absent: Mr. Yamashita #13, Mr. Ito #53, Mr. Nakamura #54, and Mr. Fujita #70.

The minutes of the previous meeting was not read due to the delay of its distribution.

Chairman requested all Block Managers for their wholehearted cooperation in making our organization one of which people will look up to respect.

Chairman expressed his gratitude to all Block Managers for their unselfish cooperation at the concession which was a big success. The following committees in charge of the concession were introduced: Messrs. William Teramoto, Isao Hashimoto, Ben Kasubuchi, Howard Hida and Mr. Maruyama. Mr. Frank Miyake, who was in charge of the decoration, was also introduced.

Mr. Ben Kasubuchi made a financial report on the concession.

## Income

Sales on July 3, 1943	\$106.96
Sales on July 4, 1943	127.96
Sales on July 5, 1943	12.50
1000 paper napkins (Credit)	1.00
Charged to Civic Org.	4.25
	<u>\$252.67</u>

## Expense

Net cost on goods	\$180.50
Crepe paper, tacks	2.00
	<u>\$182.50</u>

Net profit	\$70.17
Cash on hand	65.92

The following new Block Managers were introduced.

## Ward I

Mr. Masao Ota	Blk. 4	Mrs. Rose Maekawa	Blk. 5
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## Ward II

Mr. George Ike	" 26	Mr. Abe Watamura	" 27
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## Ward III

Mr. Satoru Kanegawa	Blk. 34
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## Ward IV

Mr. Kiyoshi Nagatani	" 10
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## Ward V

Mr. Shigeo Nishimoto	" 44
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## Ward VI

Mr. Mitsuyuki Ito	" 53
Mr. Harry Nakamura	" 54
Mr. George Nakashima	" 57

## Ward VII

Mr. Tomoichi Hirasawa	" 68
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Chairman reported that the blanket termination has been ordered from WRA in Washington D.C. Before the information was given to all the Block Managers, the Chairman felt that he should form a committee to investigate this matter.

Those who were on the committee are: Messrs. Wallace Tsuda, Frank Furukawa, William Teramoto and Kenji Ito.

Mr. William Teramoto, member of the committee, gave a report



pertaining to the question. According to Mr. Carter, he stated that the blanket termination has been ordered to reduce the WRA budget. This not only will effect the Japanese employees, but also the Caucasian employees. Wire has been received by Mr. Coverley from Washington D.C. that approximately one third of the present employees are to be terminated by the end of September. A protest to this measure has been forwarded to WRA in Washington D.C. through Mr. Coverley from various dept. They are expecting a reply any day. He emphasized that we should take this issue up very gentlemanly and avoid any liberal argument against it.

In this center, a board consisting of two caucasians and two evacuees are to be set up to discuss this measure, and decide on who is to be terminated.

Mr. Teramoto also read a copy of justification to maintain our secretaries which was discussed by Central Committee at their special meeting July 5th, which was prepared by the committee and submitted to Mr. Carter. No other suggestion nor correction was made. A copy will be retained at the Civic Organization and anyone interested may read it at the office.

Chairman stated that the Civic Orgzation is the first and the only organization which submitted such brief to the office.

Mr. Wilson Graves, an Associate Relocation Officer in Kansas City was present at the meeting to explain the situation in Kansas City and vicinity.

His primary purpose for the visit here was to get acquainted with the activities and problems of the people in this center and also present job offers to the colonists.

He stated that the sentiments of Kansas City and the immediate area is very good from the stand point of employment opportunities toward the evacuees due to the grand support of the committee organized by the Kansas City Star, the only newspaper in the city, the Union leaders, church council, YMCA, YWCA and etc. He gave a clear picture in regards to the industrial and agricultural opportunities in that area and also the accommodation of the Hostels.

The WRA office in that area are located in Kansas City, St. Louis, Mo.; Des Moines, Iowa; Omaha, Nebraska and Manhattan, Kansas.

In reply to the complaints made by some of the Block Managers in regards to the inventory taken by the Recreational Staffs, the chairman delivered the message from Miss Montgomery for which she apologized for not consulting the Block Managers. She explained that she hesitated to ask the Block Managers again since they took the census recently, therefore, asked the Recreational Staffs to volunteer in taking the inventory.

Mr. Nish Kumagai, Supervisor of the Housing was present and he expressed his gratitude to all the Block Managers for their splendid cooperation in taking census.

He stated that it is necessary for the Housing Dept. to take an inventory as of June 30th ending the fiscal year, and the Block Managers were asked to cooperate in taking inventory of their respective block. A mimeographed form has been made which will be distributed to all Block Managers. Instructions were given in detail. The ward chairmen were asked to collect all the inventory in his ward and forward it to the Civic Organization by July 8.

Chairman announced that the ironing pads situation is still pending since Mr. Lauritzen wishes to make a survey as to the actual need in the block.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
/s/ Hiroshi Nakayama



MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

July 13, 1945

Central Committee Meeting was called to order by Chairman, Wallace Tsuda on July 13, at 1:30 p.m., at 1608.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Tuffy Tsuda, Ward IV--Secretary; Mr. J. Fujita, Ward V--Secretary were noted absent and Mr. Frank Furukawa--Ward I Secretary and Mr. Koniro Wada--Ward V Chairman were tardy.

Motion was made and seconded that the previous general meeting minutes be dispensed. Motion carried.

Chairman made our situation clear in regards to the Issci meeting with Mr. Coverley, which is held bi-monthly. It has been our custom to offer courtesy by obtaining meeting place, service of an interpreter and inform Issci representatives in every block of the meeting as to its date, time, place; however, some representatives believe that the Civic Organization is sponsoring this meetings which is not so. In order to avoid any misunderstanding, Chairman suggested that some other department should take over. Several suggestion was made as to which organization was to take over and what can be done to relieve us. It was suggested that Chairman contact Mr. Coverley personally and explain our situation.

Mr. Ramey, Supervisor of Student and Teacher, and Mr. Cook, Vice Principle of High School were present at the meeting to explain about the Scholarship Fund drive which is now being underway. They have stated that faculty of the High School and the various organization of the student body are doing everything possible by collecting donations, sponsoring shows, concerts and dances. In order to reach the goal of \$2500 for selected ten students, full cooperation of the colonists has been requested.

Suggestion was made that the Scholarship Fund Committee ask the WRA to provide such funds since the WRA is obligated to us.

Block Managers assured Mr. Ramey and Mr. Cook that they would cooperate morally and inform the residents in regards to this matter and also if possible answer any question which may arise.

Mr. Ben Hasubuchi reported that the co-op has concanted \$16.02 discount for the purchase made at the time of concession. This will bring the total cash on hand to \$31.94.



Suggestion was made that we have an outing or a banquet with the Secretaries and the committee be formed to take charge. Those nominated to be Chairman of the affair are Mr. Osuga, Mr. Furukawa, Mr. Wada, and Mr. Kasubuchi.

Mr. Osuga was elected and everything was left entirely up to the Chairman.

ANNOUNCEMENT: Chairman announced that the set up in this office has been changed considerably. All Block Managers were asked to notify this office immediately upon completion of their requisition so that we can keep our records straight.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Hiroshi Nakayama, Exe.-Sec.  
Block Managers



BLOCK MANAGERS MINUTES, *Tule Lake:*

July 20, 1943  
Town Hall  
9:00 a.m.

*Meeting with Spanish  
Consul.*

"The Japanese Government requests that Japanese subjects resident in the United States be informed that the Japanese House of Representatives approved a resolution on February 27, expressing their sympathy to their nationals in countries at war with Japan, and to send them, in the name of the nation, a message of hope."

Takahashi asked the Spanish Consul to look into the possibilities of acquiring additional doctors for the center. Mr. D'Amat replied that he would endeavor to help in anyway that he could.

Mr. Minami asked whether letters could be sent to Japan. The reply was that one individual must write the letter through the Red Cross. The Consul said that he could not take private letters, but anything to the Japanese Government, he could take with him. He said that he could send telegrams in every important matters, in very exceptional cases. Anyone that wants telegrams sent should enclose ten dollars and send a letter to the Spanish Consul at San Francisco.

Mr. Higashi asked if there was any chance of the United States Government forcing the evacuees to relocate. The answer was that to his knowledge he knew nothing about forced relocation, but that he is quite certain that it will not happen.

Mr. Ikari asked whether the Japanese Government would accept Niseis who answer no and are segregated as citizens of Japan. The answer: "I don't think it will change the status of the American citizen who answers no and is sent to a segregation camp or applied for repatriation."

Mr. Hirose asked if his child who has no citizenship in Japan would be given citizenship and taken in if she returned there. Answer: "You would have to inquire from some lawyer that has studied Japanese law." (During the time of war, many laws change.)

Mr. Higashi: Have you reported the December 6th incident to the Japanese Government?

Answer: Yes, everything I know about it has been reported.

Minami: Is there anyway to support relatives in Japan by sending money?

Answer: No, I don't think so.



Mr. Minami? There is a man in my block who is 73 years old, who had intentions of going back to Japan just previous to the war, but the death of his wife prevented it, at that time, but he now wants to go back very badly. What can he do?

Answer: There is nothing he can do right now except wait until word is received that he can go. He may write to the Spanish Consul and ask if he is on the list of repatriates eligible to go back.

Question: How can you be certain that your name was on the list called for by Japan?

Answer: The only way to make sure is to write to the Spanish Consul at 58 Sutter Street, San Francisco, or to the Spanish Embassy, Washington, D. C.

Question: How many additional internment camps have they built?

Answer: Three. One at Segoville, Texas, one at Crystal City, Texas, and one in Sharp Park, San Francisco. The latter one is for Japanese internees from South America.

The Spanish Consul mentioned the fact that Assistant District Attorney of Los Angeles, Mr. Di Girolamo is going to Santa Fe, New Mexico on the 29th of this month to hear 500 cases of rehearings.

He said that the Japanese Government will choose 1500 persons from the group of 2000 to go back to Japan. They are awaiting the final list from the Japanese Government, after which they will be able to sail immediately for Japan.

The following was taken from Mess Hall 7 at a Public Meeting at 10:30 a.m.:

Question: Is there a boat going to Japan that is ready to sail at any time?

Answer: Yes, but until the matters of who is to go back, etc., are completed, it will not sail. However, after these matters are thoroughly completed, the boat will sail immediately, giving passengers 15 days to pack their baggage and get prepared.

Question: Is there any instructions from the Japanese Government as to what the Japanese people should do here?

Answer: We don't know, but we can write and ask on it. You can also make a petition from this camp and find out.

Question: If your name is on the list wanted by Japan, does this make it positive that you can go back?

Answer: It all depends on how many boats there are, and if the transportation facilities are sufficient.



Question: Is there only 1500 persons wanted by Japan, or more?

Answer: There are 3000 in all.

Question: Would you advise us (the evacuees) to relocate after considering the public sentiment, etc., outside?

Answer: This is a very difficult question to answer, since it is everyone's individual problem. I would certainly not advise people to relocate who do not have good job offers, or people who for other reasons might not be able to make a fair living outside.

But I do encourage people to go out for the sake of the future. It will be twice as hard to relocate after the war than before the war, but in most cases, the sooner a person starts to relocate, the better for him.

Question: Have all the names on the list for repatriation and expatriation been sent to Japan?

Answer: All the names which have come through our office have been sent to Japan. There are many channels through which the repatriation can be taken. I believe that every name that was sent for repatriation has reached Japan.

Question: Would you kindly make a request to the proper source that persons who applied for repatriation be given priority on the sailing list instead of those that the Japanese Government requests?

Answer: I will take that into consideration and communicate that to the Spanish Ambassador.

Question: If a person has dual citizenship and wants to go back to Japan, can he give up American citizenship and go back?

Answer: Yes, any American citizen with dual citizenship can do that. They can go back to Japan if they want to.

Question: The Red Cross has investigated the Prisoners of War Camps in Japan, and disclosed that they are getting 3500 calories per day. Couldn't that be worked out here in these relocation centers also?

Answer: In the first place, the Japanese here are not prisoners of war. Also, it is not a question of what they get in Japan, but whether everyone here is satisfied with the food. We should not bother ourselves with what they get, but should concentrate on our own food problems, since there is a war going on, and it is everyone's problem these days.

Question: Why is there such a delay in getting all the names of the persons who applied for repatriation and those who are to be exchanged from the prison camps?



Answer: The entire list is still being awaited from the Japanese Government, and there are new names being added, which must be looked into, because there are some of them who do not want to go back to Japan, and so new lists must be made.

Question: If it is possible, could you arrange to have the Spanish Government have an inspector come around to the centers to make a checkup on the food here at the centers?

Answer: All that we can do is to collect complaints, but we do nothing like making checkups, etc., unless it is a necessity. However, if a petition is signed by the residents to that effect, it may be possible to have that done.

Question: Will you report this segregation program to the Japanese Government?

Answer: Yes, I will report it.

Question: Could you negotiate for a little increase in wage pay, since there are many families where there are small children, and \$16.00 is not sufficient to buy them the things children often want.

Answer: I will send this in, but I don't know if it will work out or not.

Question: Has the Japanese Government sent any sort of message to the people in the centers as to what they should do?

Answer: We have not received any message of that sort. The only message was the one which was read previously.

Question: Are all the 3000 persons requested from Japan from the United States?

Answer: Yes, they are only from the United States.

Question: There are rumors that the boat which is to go to Japan is going by way of South America. Is this true?

Answer: The boat will go to Brazil to pick up some people there.

Question: Do you know anything about the Japanese people in Brazil?

Answer: NO, I don't know anything about the Japanese in Brazil, but I do know that there are 27 Japanese who are from Peru who are now at San Francisco.

Question: There are 1500 persons to be exchanged, how many of them are from the United States?

Answer: The majority is from the United States, a very few from other parts of the country. About 70 people are being exchanged from Santa Fe, 15 from Granada, 25 from Phoenix, 15 from Poston, and about 15 from Manzanar.



Question: If you are one of the persons chosen to go back to Japan, how much luggage are you allowed to take?

Answer: 32 cubic feet is the maximum, and not over 300 dollars in cash for adults. You cannot take more than that.

Question: Do you know if the telegrams sent from here have reached Japan?

Answer: I suppose they have been recieved. The telegraph system is very easy, and it reached in about a day or two.

Question: Will there be boats leaving for Japan regularly after the first sailing?

Answer: This is what we hope, but we don't know. I suppose there will be, because there are lots of Japanese that want to go back, and lots of Americans who want to come from Japan to America.

Question: Are the American people in Japan placed in re-location centers like we are, or are they permitted to go about freely?

Answer: Up to now, they have been permitted to go about freely, but recently they have been played in camps like these. I don't know how many of them there are.

Question: We have heard that the exchange ships from Japan are bringing gifts, etc., for the evacuees. Do you know if they have received anything?

Answer: No, I don't think Japan has sent anything as yet.

Question: Has the list of 300 names been sent to the Japanese Government?

Answer: Yes.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.