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MINUTES OF WELFARE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Welfare Committee consisting of Mr. Sasaki, Mr. Mori and Miss Thunder met on January 19, 1944 for the purpose of discussing more specifically the problem of reduced budget which the Social Service Department is faced with at the present time. The request for \$18,000 for a quarter was cut to \$7,800. In addition to this it seems important that the Welfare Committee become more active in a discussion with the Social Service Department for the purposes of Community interpretation and so ^{that} the members of this committee may report periodically to the Council.

The discussion necessarily centered around the budget question. There were many interesting questions raised from both sides in an attempt to understand the program of the Social Service Department and the attitude of the population as reported by the committee. The committee discussed (1) the kinds and number of cases receiving Public Assistance (2) the necessity for Public Assistance and (3) the possibility of releasing names of clients on Public Assistance rolls to the Welfare Committee for investigation. This meeting took up the entire morning. The committee were of the opinion that the need for assistance was being over-emphasized and that more specific investigation as to resources were indicated; although, as the meeting progressed, it appeared that they changed their attitude in regard to this question and it seemed as though they were interested in examining it more carefully before forming a decided opinion. It was explained to them that Public assistance names were withheld because of the confidential nature of social service but that the Social Service Department would be both interested and willing to examine any case that was reported to them where it was felt by any member of the committee that assistance was being received under false pretences.

The committee has an overwhelming fear that the Japanese people will become overdependent and that Public Assistance is one of the major contributory factors in encouraging such dependence.

They expressed, in closing, an interest in other problems that has been raised during the discussion that would need service, and they even went so far as to say they would be interested in referring cases for assistance where the individual or family was known to be in need but who because of their fear of criticism and shame in the community were doing without such help. It was agreed that there would be meeting twice in a month of this committee and that at some of these meetings the staff members of the Social

Service Department would be participants. A meeting was set for January 31 at 9:00 a.m.

January 31 (in preparation for this meeting, the staff members who attended raised the following questions for possible discussion: (1) the growing need for a more active Red Cross program in Canal Community (2) a possibility of using services of Red Cross in helping alleviate the growing need for housekeeping service among elderly people in the community who are not actually bedridden but who do need this type of service on a part-time basis and (3) the possibility of working out a plan whereby the Employment Division could make light work available for some of the Public Assistance clients whose physical condition precludes heavy labor).

The discussion progressed in the order above-mentioned and the committee felt that the Red Cross program in Canal should be strengthened and since Mr. Sasaki is on the committee for the Red Cross activities, he thought that he could work out something that would promote further interest and more active participation. Along with this, he mentioned that the National Red Cross is sending material and representative to both camps to start a program for home nursing. Along with this question as to whether the elderly people in the community could not be aided in such a program was discussed and it was thought that this was a very good possibility. It was further brought out about the necessity for having a re-arrangement or some more specific understanding with the community of the program of diet kitchen which is now in Block 16 and fairly far removed from many members of the camp who need to eat in such a kitchen. It was learned that the hospital is being quite firm in denying the continuance of diets or care in the hospital unless their recommendations were carried out. This latter matter was to be presented to the Council for discussion.

The committee was Very interested to learn that we had some people known to us who could do light work and Mr. Sasaki agreed to follow our suggestion through as to what plan could be made for taking care of this matter.

The committee is continuing to express considerable feeling about the numbers of people on Public Assistance and methods of investigation. They raised a point as to whether the investigation for assistance could not be carried outside the center. This would involve a checking with the place of former residence as to resources and I raised the question as to whether the state of California would be willing to cooperate in such a manner and if they were, the length of time elapsing between the request and a reply might

be considerable and put the client in a position of great disadvantage. However, since it is a good point I agree that it needed further study and discussion before any conclusions could be reached. All of what the committee says about the numbers of Public Assistance seems to be very much colored with their feeling about the relief system existing in the United States. There was considerable discussion over the two points of view about relative responsibility as practiced in social work. They were very interested in these two points of view and are of the opinion that no matter the circumstances of a son or daughter, his responsibility is for the care of his parents. Although the question of whether the parents had been adequate was raised, they were of the opinion that this point only encourage a further dependency even although it might free the individual child from an intolerable situation.

There was one other point discussed which the Social Service Department promised to follow through and that was concerning Army allotments. The committee were not in agreement with the law written that a child should have a choice in making allotment to his parents, brothers or sisters but that he should be made to support them regardless of whether they're in the Army or not. Since a case had been referred to us that involved this problem and was ^{the} identical problem of having relatives living on the Project and already being supported by the government, it was agreed that we would make a test case of this and give a report back to them.

Reports back from the committee in the future are:

- (1) Red Cross activity
- (2) Question of diet kitchen location and
- (3) Employment of person of limited physical ability.

Reports from Social Service Department are; (1) Army allotment and (2) Question of more specific investigation involving contacts outside the WRA for the establishment of substantial eligibility.

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TELETYPE

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CASA GRANDE 495 FROM LA 895 NR 56
LEROY H BENNETT WRA GILA RIVER RELOCATION CTR RIVERS ARIZONA

FOR CONSIDERATION OF TOTAL PROJECT CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS MAY WE HAVE FOLLOWING INFORMATION BY MONDAY NOON LATEST. USE FAMILY CARD BASIS FOR COMPUTING FAMILY UNITS. APARTMENT SHOULD BE CONSTRUED AS A ONE ROOM DWELLING UNIT. GIVE BEST ESTIMATES WHERE PRECISE FIGURES ARE NOT IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE. ANSWER BY WIRE TO FIRST 11 QUESTIONS AS NUMBERED. IN CHART FORM GIVE DATA FOR QUESTION 12. BY AIRMAIL. URGENT FOR WPB CONFERENCES.

1. NUMBER OF FAMILIES LIVING ON PROJECT.
2. NUMBER OF UNATTACHED MEN AND WOMEN NOT LIVING IN FAMILY UNITS.
3. NUMBER OF APARTMENTS ORIGINALLY CONSTRUCTED FOR EVACUEE DWELLING USE.
4. NUMBER OF APARTMENTS NOW OCCUPIED BY EVACUEES.
5. NUMBER OF EVACUEE APARTMENTS NOW VACANT.
6. NUMBER OF APARTMENTS NOW USED FOR PURPOSES OTHER THAN HOUSING OF EVACUEES.
7. NUMBER OF EVACUEES NOW LIVING IN RECREATIONAL HALLS OR OTHER BUILDINGS NOT ORIGINALLY INTENDED FOR EVACUEE HOUSING.
8. NUMBER OF FAMILIES NOW OCCUPYING ONE APARTMENT.
9. NUMBER OF FAMILIES NOW OCCUPYING TWO OR MORE APARTMENTS.
10. NUMBER OF INSTANCES IN WHICH A FAMILY IS SHARING AN APARTMENT WITH ANOTHER FAMILY OR UNATTACHED INDIVIDUAL.
11. GIVE DIMENSIONS FOR EACH TYPE OF APARTMENT NOW OCCUPIED, INCLUDING THOSE MODIFIED BY PARTITIONS AS WELL AS THOSE IN ORIGINAL STATE OF CONSTRUCTION.
12. GIVE TOTAL NUMBER OF APARTMENTS IN EACH DIMENSIONAL GROUP, SPECIFYING NUMBER OF OCCUPANTS IN EACH OF THESE VARIOUS SIZED UNITS. BY WAY OF EXAMPLE, THIS COULD MEAN THAT OF 50 EVACUEE APARTMENTS 20 X 24 IN SIZE THERE MIGHT BE 20 APARTMENTS HOUSING FOUR PERSONS, 15 HOUSING FIVE PERSONS, 10 HOUSING SIX PERSONS AND 5 HOUSING SEVEN PERSONS.

D. S. MYER

cc: Bennett
Korn
Brown
Slawson
Henderson

Recapitulation

1/11/43

1. 2894 "
2. 1268 "
3. 3024 "
4. 2865 "
5. 57 "
6. 299 "
7. 4 "
8. 1937 "
9. 53 "
10. 581 "

11. 8 x 20
10 x 20
12 x 20
14 x 20
16 x 20
18 x 20
20 x 20
22 x 20
24 x 20
28 x 20
30 x 20
32 x 20
36 x 20
40 x 20

HOUSING REPORT

Butler

Jan. 11, 1943

1. Number of families living on project..... 1792
2. Number of unattached men and women not
living in family units..... $\frac{839}{m}$ $\frac{79}{f}$ 918
~~601~~
3. Number of apartments originally constructed
for evacuee dwelling use..... 2016
4. Number of apartments now occupied by
evacuees..... 1951
5. Number of evacuee apartments now vacant..... 57
6. Number of apartments now used for purposes
other than housing of evacuees..... 210
7. Number of evacuees now living in recreational
halls or other buildings not originally intended
for evacuee housing..... 0
8. Number of families now occupying one apartment.. 1387
9. Number of families now occupying two or more
apartments..... 43
10. Number of instances in which a family is
sharing an apartment with another family or
unattached individual..... 265
11. Dimensions for each type of apartment now
occupied:

Original standard size:

ABC apartments.....20' x 24'
D apartments.....20' x 28'

Apartments modified by partitions:

~~8' x 20'~~
~~12' x 20'~~
~~16' x 20'~~
~~20' x 20'~~
~~32' x 20'~~
~~36' x 20'~~
~~40' x 20'~~

Housing Report--Continued

- ✓12. Total number of apartments available
(including partitioned rms.)2008
- ✓13. Number of apartments occupied by
unattached men and women not living
in family units..... 187

Proof:

Total apartments available.....2008

Families in one apartment.....1387
Families in more than one apt. 43
(fig. doubled) ✓
More than one family in apt... 265
No. bachelor quarters..... 187
No. reserves..... 26
Vacant apartments..... 57

To Mr. John C. Henderson

NUMBER OF BASIC FAMILY UNITS

1792

UNATTACHED SINGLE MEN

839

UNATTACHED SINGLE WOMEN

79

918

CLOTHING ALLOWANCE SECTION

BUTTE CAMP

Canal

ANSWER TO TELETYPE

1. 1102
2. 462 (*male 429; female 33*)
3. 1008
4. 914
5. None
6. One Honeymoon cottage
56 apartments for school
32 apartments for office and Community Enterprise
89
7. 4 persons in block manager's office. (25)
8. 550
9. 10
10. 316
11. ~~8 x 20~~
10 x 20
~~12 x 20~~
14 x 20
~~16 x 20~~
18 x 20
~~20 x 20~~
24 x 20
28 x 20
30 x 20
~~32 x 20~~
~~40 x 20~~
~~36 x 20~~
22 x 20

January 11, 1943

January 11, 1943

[illegible]

GILA MONTHLY REPORT, JULY, 1944

The counseling program has completed a total of 927 interviews. Approximately 800 of these were families of two or more. Consideration of the fact that there are approximately 1,000 people yet to be segregated (of whom approximately 700 are repatriates) leads us to estimate that we have covered one-half of the number of people to be interviewed on the project. Of the 927 families, 580 or 62% are classified as "unfavorable" toward relocation. 347 families or 38% are favorable. We have at various times used different methods for choosing people to be interviewed. Our first group consisted of families which had one or more members already relocated. A total of 135 comprised this group, of whom 62 families (46%) are favorable and 73 families (54%) were unfavorable. A second method consisted of a random sample picking every 5th card in the population file. A total of 205 families were reported in this group. 79 (39%) were favorable and 126 (61%) were unfavorable. Our third group consisted of families containing two or more employable members on the Project. A total of 587 families comprised this group; 381 (65%) were unfavorable and 206 (35%) were favorable.

Further details of the work of the Counseling Unit are to be found in various tables submitted to Washington by the Project Statistician. For your information the Head Counselor conducting a study of the counseling cases and it is hoped that some interesting and valuable information will be forthcoming. When this study is completed, we hope it will throw some light on the question of what the counseling program is doing to help families speed up their thinking of relocation and to help them crystallize their plans.

The problem of personnel is always with us. We have three vacant CAF-7 positions with little prospect in having them filled. Assuming that these positions are not filled, the counseling program will need until December or January before every family has been covered once. With these three positions filled, we could cover all families a good deal earlier and at the same time could do a much more complete job in follow-up.