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Meeting
Minutes

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SECOND

ALL CENTER ENTERPRISES
CONFERENCE

Granada Relocation Project

Amache, Colorado

April 3, 4, 5, 1944

GUESTS, SUPERVISORS AND DELEGATES

Merlin G. Miller, Educational Director, CCA, N. Kansas City, Mo.
Ray W. Johnson, Acting Project Director, Amache, Colorado
Gerald Richardson, Washington, D. C.
C. M. Featherstone, Attorney, Washington, D. C.
Otto Rossman, New York City, New York
George Ishiyama, Priority Officer, New York City, New York
Lee Poole, Supervisor, Manzanar, California
Charles Belts, Supervisor, Poston, Arizona
Neil McNeil, Supervisor, Tule Lake, California
E. H. Runcorn, Supervisor, Amache, Colorado

TULE LAKE

Y. Hitomi	CHAIRMAN	General Manager
M. Nishimi		Ass't General Manager
J. Goto		Ass't Treasurer

POSTON

S. G. Sakamoto	VICE PRESIDENT	Vice President
M. Kawashima		Executive Secretary Pro Tem
D. Yabuno		Ass't General Manager
S. Amano		Board Director

GILA

H. Kono	PRESIDENT	President
M. Kato		Executive Secretary
J. Omachi		Chairman, Legal

HEART MOUNTAIN

T. Sashihara	CHAIRMAN	Chairman
A. Shibayama		Buyer & Trustee
H. Horiuchi		Trustee

MINIDOKA

H. Hatate	PRESIDENT	President
S. Sasaki		Executive Secretary

MANZANAR

H. Tsurutani	BOARD DIRECTOR	Board Director
S. Takeyasu		Treasurer
M. Hori		Ass't General Manager
F. Yasuda		Executive Secretary

ROHWER

J. Uchiyama	PURCHASING MANAGER	Purchasing Manager
M. Takahashi	ASSISTANT MANAGER	Assistant Manager
	EXECUTIVE SECRETARY	Executive Secretary

AMACHE

M. Naruse
S. Fujino
S. Ota

President
Vice President
General Manager

N. Y. BUYING OFFICE

George Morey
Wilbur Takiguchi

Head Buyer
Buyer

CHAIRMAN

T. Sashihara

Heart Mountain, Wyoming

AGENDA COMMITTEE

S. G. Sakamoto, Poston
Y. Hitomi, Tule Lake
H. Kono, Gila River
S. Takeyasu, Manzanar
H. Hatate, Minidoka

BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

M. Kawashima, Poston
J. Goto, Tule Lake
J. Omachi, Gila River
A. Shibayama, Heart Mountain
H. Tsurutani, Manzanar
S. Sasaki, Minidoka

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

M. Hori, Manzanar
M. Kato, Gila River
T. Kawasaki, Executive Secretary
H. Tsurutani, Consultant, Manzanar

APRIL 3, 1944

Granada War Relocation Authority
Amache, Colorado

Opening of the Meeting:

The meeting was called to order by T. Kawasaki at 10:45 A. M. at 6H Adult Education Administration Office. Eight Centers were present.

As the Chairman Pro Tem of the conference, T. Kawasaki, Executive Secretary, extended greetings.

The message of good wishes from Jerome Cooperative was read by the Executive Secretary.

"SOLICITING FEDERATIONS SECOND CONFERENCE EXPECTING
SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME REGRET NON-REPRESENTATION."

Introduction of W. R. A. Officers, Buyers and Delegates were given, followed by nomination of Chairman of the conference. The following were nominated:

T. Kawasaki, Executive Secretary
T. Sashihara, Heart Mountain
M. Naruse, Amache

Voting Power of Rohwer:

Voting right for the Rohwer Delegates was discussed. It was moved to give voting privilege, in the matter of election of Chairman, to Rohwer. And in reference to other discussions, Rohwer delegates refrained from voting. The motion was seconded and passed. Election was held with the following result:

T. Kawasaki	-- 2
T. Sashihara	-- 4
M. Naruse	-- 2

T. Sashihara was elected and took the chair.

Mr. T. Sashihara Presided:

Report by T. Kawasaki, Executive Secretary, followed and the highlights of his report were as follows:

During the first two months after the inception of the Federation, Dr. Miyamoto was an Acting Executive Secretary. Following information were compiled:

Business Analysis
Proposed By-Laws and
the Articles of
Association
Classifications Schedule

Patronage Refund Plan
Employment Data
Employment Rating and Per-
centage - Wage Rating

Letter from Jerome Cooperative in reference to their desire of withdrawal was read. Miss Margaret Kawashima's resignation letter was also reported and explanation was fully made in reference to the articles contained in the manila folder which was given to each delegate at the time of the registration.

Report from New York Buying Office -- George Morey

Due to the fact that the record books did not arrive in time, statistical report was not available.

Started business in November of last year. However, due to the various document which needed to be signed in order to make funds, the actual business was not transacted before the 15th. The method of business stipulated in Chicago conference was to purchase Center's much needed goods, especially in the line of dry goods. Have tried to purchase the materials and also to work for other items which were thought to be of value.

Very shortly after the operation of the New York Office, we requested an additional capital of \$500.00 because at times the bank account went so low that we were unable to make any commitment. The deposit of at least \$1,000.00 from each Centers seems very advisable. We request urgently for any suggestions and criticisms which will increase the efficiency of the New York Office, thereby giving better service to each Federation members.

Remark -- Mr. Otto Rossman, Senior Business Enterprises Advisor

Following were the highlights of his message:

Although the object of Federation has been an immediate necessity of getting goods into the stores but as the time goes on Federation will probably function in the way of coordinating the educational activities. "One organization is weak but the many are strong." Federation of Center Business Enterprises has done a splendid work in the short trial period of five (5) months and it should be continued.

Until December 1943, something over 40,000 members in 10 Centers out of 92,000 population (including children) were members of the cooperatives. Heart Mountain operates trust but the profits are returned to the residents on the same basis as the cooperative so all in all it has served its purpose. Let us plan, during this conference, something for post-war period, and let us continue to serve the people even after relocation so that our movement will tie in with the cooperative movement of the entire nation.

Message - Mr. Gerald Richardson, Head, Business Enterprises Section
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Gerald Richardson, Head, Business Enterprises Section in Washington, D. C. was introduced to the delegates and delivered the following message:

"I am very happy to be here because of many reasons, but seeing the Amache Co-op is one of the most delightful experiences of this conference and there are many outstanding features which we must bring back to each Center. Merchandising is one of the most outstanding feature here." Our Cooperative is for, by, and of the people and the Superintendent is no longer the supervisor or the director of the enterprises but merely a consultant. The wages paid by the enterprises are not realistic but under the present systems it cannot be helped but the strength in the cooperative is that we are running it ourselves and not by the government. Situation of Selective Service took many of the superintendents away but there are Project Attorney to help enterprises for legal matters and other appointed personnels to continue the intimate relationship with the W. R. A.

Additional program are still the biggest problems of the future. At the present time there are great number of appointed personnels living with their family in the Project who are interested in hiring domestic helpers. Present system of domestic employment is unfair. (1) Because domestic workers are getting much more wages than the W. R. A. regulation wages of \$19.00 and \$16.00. (2) Because appointed personnel who gets a good salary is able to pay the prevailing wages to the domestic workers. Mr. Myer's request was to establish an employment agency by each Center cooperatives to meet the request of the appointed personnel for domestic workers and the difference of prevailing wages paid by the appointed Personnel and the wages paid to the domestic workers by the cooperative should be given back to the people as a Patronage Dividend in the same manner as the merchandise and services given to the residences. This requires a very delicate technique and it requires education. Because the principles of cooperative in the Center is opposed to private enterprises and unfair practice by selfish people, it is urgently requested to plan and establish employment agency of domestic workers.

The meeting was adjourned at 12noon.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Meeting was called to order by Chairman T. Sashihara at 1:45 P. M. Roll was called and 8 Centers were present.

Message - Mr. E. H. Runcorn, Supervisor, Amache Consumer Cooperatives

Mr. E. H. Runcorn, who was called for pre-induction physical to appear at his local Board in New Mexico, was introduced by the Chairman and made the following appeals to the delegates.

"It is quite an honor and privilege to be able to extend my thoughts to you. Getting acquainted and exchanging ideas is one of the Rochdale principles. We are always in a lookout for an improvement by comparison with the other Centers.

Thinking about our Federation of how far ahead we can look, it occurs to me that something that we can take hold for mutual advantage is not only for the people in the Center but also for our cooperative movement in the years to come. Federation should give serious thoughts for the future of the residents so that they can establish an economic foot-hold in the United States after the war. The resolutions which you have made in Chicago conference was very impressive to the cooperative people in this country.

I strongly suggest and recommend sending a responsible man to Rochdale Institute in New York and train him as your own Educational Director. He may study and listen to Co-op Leaders and investigate the Co-op Wholesale Activities so that he may bring back to all Centers, the educational side of the cooperative movement. There is no cooperative dry goods wholesale in the United States and if we can tie in with the other cooperatives in the United States we have a tremendous future for our Co-op.

Preferred stock certificates for the amount of \$1950.00 which we did not pay extra money was received by the Amache Cooperative is a good example of participation with other cooperatives and I would strongly suggest the Federation consider the significance of such participation. As many wholesalers will be dealing with orientals in the future, let us cooperate with them socially as well as economically.

Committees:

At this time the Agenda Committees, By-Laws and Resolution Committees were chosen. The results were as follows:

AGENDA COMMITTEE

S. G. Sakamoto, Poston
Y. Hitomi, Tule Lake
H. Kono, Gila River
S. Takeyasu, Manzanar
H. Hatate, Minidoka

BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

M. Kawashima, Poston
J. Goto, Tule Lake
J. Omachi, Gila River
A. Shibayama, Heart Mountain
H. Tsurutani, Manzanar
S. Sasaki, Minidoka

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

M. Hori, Manzanar
M. Kato, Gila River
T. Kawasaki, Executive Secretary
H. Tsurutani, Consultant, Manzanar

Reference to Utilization of New York Office:

At this time George Morey, the Head Buyer, gave general idea of the New York Office and explained in full some of the difficulties the office was up against. The highlights of his explanation were as follows:

(1) The lack of fund -- Started out with \$500.00 apiece. At first it was thought that many of the purchases could be made on deposit but it is very difficult to hold merchandise with limited deposit and its very seldom where a vendor can hold merchandise for a week.

(2) In the matter of firm orders -- Several Centers place orders and the inquiries were made to some particular thing, but by the time the answer comes back, the merchandise is gone. It is very desirous by the New York Office to receive any type of orders providing that such firm order may be lifted up to discretion of the buyers, but should you feel our selection is not satisfactory we would like to receive an inquiry instead of firm order.

New York Office to Continue:

Suggestions of Agenda was read by the Chairman and discussions were followed, and as to the question of continuation or discontinuation of New York Office, the concensus was to continue the New York Office for an additional half year with a provision made to have additional half year continued automatically if there was no alternative. It was moved and seconded and carried unanimously to continue New York Buying Office's Service.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 P. M. to have picture taken.

The picture of the delegates were taken in front of the Amache Consumer Cooperative's new building.

APRIL 4, 1944

MORNING SESSION

Meeting was called to order by Chairman T. Sashihara at 9:15 A. M. Roll was called by Secretary and all were present.

Adoption -- General Plan of By-Laws, Articles of Association and Agreement.

Chairman called upon Messrs. George Morey and Wilbur Takiguchi and asked them to express their opinion in reference to By-Laws and Articles of Association and Agreement compiled by Mr. Featherstone of Washington, D. C. They pointed out, should the new By-Laws and Articles of Association be adopted, it will not

affect the New York Office very much. Due to the fact that credit has been already established by the buyers themselves and not by the name of the Federation, but in most cases, payments were made in cash to hold the merchandise and the said merchandise were shipped to each Project directly and consequently the bill had been taken care by each Project accordingly. It was also pointed out that Federation's credit standing was not listed in Don and Bradstreet Financial Journal, and therefore, the vendors were selling the merchandise on the strength of reputation of the Buyers.

Numbers of opinion were expressed by the delegates and consensus was the general plan of By-Laws, Agreement and the Articles of Association compiled by Mr. Featherstone with the recommendation of Solicitor Glick, should be adopted. The motion was made and seconded and carried unanimously that the general plan was accepted by the delegates. There upon the Chairman requested By-Laws Committee to excuse themselves in the adjourning room to discuss the details of the By-Laws and to present the result to the members-at-large at the afternoon session.

Resignation -- Miss Margaret Kawashima Accepted --

Miss Kawashima, one of the three Buyers, stationed in New York Office, tendered her resignation whose letter was read on Monday's meeting were brought to the attention of the delegates, explanation was fully made by the Executive Secretary. The resignation was regretted and unanimously approved and the compensation to Miss Kawashima which had already been settled by the New York Office was also approved by the delegates.

Exemption from Federal Unemployment Compensation Tax --

In reference to the exemption from Federal Unemployment Compensation Tax was explained by the Agenda Committee and after due deliberation the matter was referred to Mr. Featherstone for clarification.

Public Damage and Public Liability Insurance --

Most interesting incidents and experiences were revealed in reference to public damage and public liability insurance. After lengthy discussion the Executive Secretary was requested to investigate this matter thoroughly. However, the delegates were instructed to forward the information in relative to rates and the name of companies which they were insured and many other necessary information to the Executive Secretary.

Extended Illness Compensation and Usage of Gasoline In the Project.

Discussion in reference to the extended illness compensation followed and explanation of Mr. Leland Barrow's letter was fully read by the Secretary. It was suggested that a committee be appointed to have informal negotiation with Mr. Richardson. The information

in reference to usage of gasoline in the Project by the Co-op were exchanged, but since the set-up of the Co-op in each Project differs from one another, no action was taken.

Uniformity of Rental --

The uniformity of rental of Co-op buildings was questioned by the Agenda Committee and after the reports from each Projects revealed that rental was uniform among the Project at present.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:40 A. M.

APRIL 4, 1944

AFTERNOON SESSION

Meeting was called to order by Chairman T. Sashihara at 1:55 P. M. Roll was called and 8 Centers were present.

Exemption of Income Tax --

Because the cooperatives in the Centers are performing a job that is to the benefit of the government and not for profit making purposes, the delegates pointed out that a Federal Income Tax should be exempted as same as Welfare Association. It was revealed that some Centers were already exempted from Federal Income tax. However, delegates felt that clarification was needed by Mr. Featherstone of Washington so the matter was tabled until later.

Dissolution -- Jerome Cooperatives --

Letter from the Jerome Cooperatives was read by the Secretary and it was requested to have the New York Office inquire the Jerome Cooperatives as to the manner in which the dissolution takes place and losses sustained from such dissolution and etc. It was moved and seconded that we adopt a resolution stipulating our assistance and cooperation in Jerome Cooperative's dissolution. The motion was unanimously carried and the resolution committee was instructed to compile such resolution.

Priority Goods -- George Ishiyama, Priority Officer in New York --

George Ishiyama made the most interesting report on priorities on soaps, shoe leather materials and tissues. In reference to priority goods it was suggested that we should discuss this matter with Mr. Richardson to ask the cooperation of W. R. A. so that we may receive a higher rating of priority. Concluding his report, Mr. Ishiyama strongly recommended the Buyers in New York be given an authority and financial backing in relative to cotton good purchases.

Agency for Domestic Employees --

The Chairman explained fully the message of Mr. Richardson which was delivered on the opening day in reference to the establishment of agency for domestic employees by each cooperatives. However, the members felt that such information should be brought back to respective cooperatives and the matter should be given deeper consideration in order to have a successful undertaking.

Training Educational Man for Federation --

Training for an educational man for the Federation was brought to light by the Chairman through recommendations of Mr. Runcorns address of Monday afternoon. The discussion was followed and the concensus was that the time was rather pre-mature for the Federation to train in educational man. However, the suggestion was also made that this matter should be left to each cooperatives and the matter was tabled.

Travelling Expenses --

It was agreed by all delegates present that the members of the Federation was to stand the travelling expenses of Mr. George Morey and the train fare of Mr. Wilbur Takiguchi to and from New York for Amache on this conference.

As there were no further business, meeting was adjourned at 4:45 P. M.

APRIL 5, 1944

MORNING SESSION

Chairman T. Sashihara called the meeting to order at 9:15 A. M. Roll was called and 8 Centers were present.

Monthly Maintenance Expense --

Discussion was held as to the monthly maintenance of New York Buying Office and the method of supporting this office. As the delegates were ready to discuss the Agreement, articles of Association and By-Laws of Federation, the Chairman T. Sashihara requested Mr. Henry Tsurutani, Chairman of the By-Laws Committee to read the discussion. Mr. Tsurutani explained fully the reason for needed adjustment as to the monthly maintenance expense of \$50.00 which was paid by the members of the Federation previously.

(1) Some members were not purchasing enough goods from the New York Office on account of having surplus stock on hand.

(2) Some Centers are geographically situated in such a way that they do not need the buyers to spend too much money for

at 1:30 P. M. and 8 Center delegates were present.

Effective Date of Withdrawal -- Jerome Cooperatives --

Chairman Sashihara notified the delegates that a letter of withdrawal of the Jerome Cooperatives to the New York Office was dated February 21st. And George Morey, Head Buyer was requested to elucidate the question on the letter more further. Upon request, Mr. Morey explained that the form letter dated February 21st was received, and at that time there were \$100.00 deposit made by the Jerome Cooperatives plus \$500.00 deposit in New York for purpose of Pool Fund. Their purchase amounted \$6.98 up to February 21st. Discussions were held as to the method of returning the money deposited at New York Office by the Jerome Cooperatives and the consensus was that the expense involved in the New York Office was calculated to be pro-rated to Jerome as of February 29, 1944. The expenses of the Federation of Center Enterprises were calculated as of March 31, 1944. George Morey, Head Buyer, was requested to remit the sum due Jerome after deducting whatever they owe to the New York Office and the Federation.

REAPPOINTMENT OF NEW YORK BUYERS

Upon request by the Chairman, two Buyers, George Morey and Wilbur Takiguchi were excused from the room for the discussion on appointment of Buyers in accordance with the Agreement made by the delegates in Chicago conference. It was moved and seconded that we reappoint George Morey, Head Buyer and his assistant, Wilbur Takiguchi, as our Buyers effective as of May 1st. The motion was unanimously carried. It was explained by the Buyers that George Morey, who is an accountant, had been tied down keeping his books, thus making efficiency cut to 14 men which undoubtedly crippled the functioning of the office. There upon it was suggested to have a successor--

George Morey was re-classified as 1-A and passed pre-induction physical, and awaiting his induction. It is likely that Wilbur Takiguchi will also be re-classified as 1-A, and it was suggested that we discuss the method of choosing such successor should either be taken to the army.

Manzanar Cooperatives strongly recommended Mr. Mike Hori, Assistant General Manager at Manzanar, be given a chance. However members felt that it would be a better idea to have qualifications, name and past experiences of the candidates be filed at the Executive Secretary's Office not later than April 30th. Upon receipt of such candidates, the Executive Secretary may forward these names for proper voting by the members-at-large.

RE-ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Past Executive Secretary, T. Kawasaki, was unanimously re-

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elected to carry on the duties of the Executive Secretary until relocation. It was requested by T. Kawasaki that within 30 days after his formal resignation he may be given an authority to appoint anyone to succeed him if there was no candidates available. However the election of the Executive Secretary will follow the same system as the election of the Buyers, as above. Mr. Richardson suggested that the Executive Secretary be transferred to the New York office to act as Director-Secretary of the Federation. The members felt that such step was pre-mature at this time.

Explanation - Extended Illness Compensation --

Mr. Gerald Richardson, who was present at this time, requested to have the chair for further conversation with the delegates to explain further in reference to Mr. Leland Barrow's letter, concerning the protest made by the Federation of Center Business Enterprises. Mr. Richardson and Mr. Featherstone both explained why the cooperative should continue to pay for the extended unemployment compensation. Clothing allowances and extended illness compensations payment to the employees are the most significant undertaking of business enterprises in the Center. And limited supervision by the W. R. A. makes it possible by each enterprises as well as the Federation to function smoothly.

Government subsidy means additional instruction and regulation governing our enterprises.

REQUEST FOR DEFERMENT FOR GEORGE MOREY, HEAD BUYER

Mr. Richardson was asked as to the possibility of having the Federation securing deferment for Mr. George Morey who passed his pre-induction physical and awaiting his induction. It was suggested that Federation should write to Mr. Morey's local Board in Los Angeles, California. The Executive Secretary was requested to send the letter to the Local Board.

Bookkeeper-Stenographer for New York Office --

Chairman Sashihara inquired Mr. Richardson whether W. R. A. has any intention of hiring bookkeeper-Stenographer in New York Office to assist George Morey and his associate Buyer. Mr. Richardson explained that he has tried his best to have a girl be classified as Civil Service employee. Mr. Richardson felt that the budgeting division is becoming more stricter but he promised to try again upon his return to Washington and notify the Executive Secretary accordingly.

No More Supervisors --

Hereafter the job of the supervisor to the community enterprises will no longer be available at each Center. However, there will be four or five field man who in turn will visit all the enter-

prises and suggest recommendations, and Mr. Richardson also promised to continue to pay the services of Mr. George Ishiyama and the services of the New York Office in the Empire State Building plus telephone, telegraph and incidental expenses. According to the information received from Mr. Richardson is that Tule Lake is going to receive two (2) superintendents of enterprises while others will not maintain any superintendent. However, there will be one temporary superintendent in Rohwer. It was pointed out that each enterprise is to make a report on activities of enterprises for each month so that the Project Director as well as the Field man will be posted of happenings of the Project Cooperatives.

Exemption -- Federal Unemployment Compensation Tax --

Mr. C. M. Featherstone of Washington, D. C. was asked as to the possibility of Federation members the exemption from paying Federal and State Unemployment Compensation Tax. The point of contention was that although all of the enterprises are paying either State or Federal Unemployment Compensation Tax, they are not receiving any benefit from such payment. Mr. Featherstone explained that it is reasonable for Center Enterprises to file an application for an exemption of such tax by each enterprises in accordance with the State Statute.

Check Cashing Facilities -- Reimbursement from W. R. A. --

In reference to Mr. Richardson's suggestion that centers demanding reimbursement for any check cashing charges incurred in the cause of cashing checks, it was decided that the Executive Secretary write a letter to Washington.

E. H. Runcorn's Message --

At this time, a telegram was received by Mr. E. H. Runcorn, Acting Supervisor of Consumers Enterprises of Amache:

"SORRY MISS SAYONARA. TRUST STEPS TAKEN AFFILIATE NATIONAL MOVEMENT."

Request Reconsideration -- George Morey --

George Morey, Head Buyer, asked the floor to explain further the situation now existing in the New York Office. Requested reconsideration of decision made by the delegates. The request was to have an additional Buyer immediately, however, delegates felt the additional Buyer was not necessary. Reasons were:

1. The amount of business in the past five (5) months did not indicate to warrant additional buyer.
2. Anticipated another secretary-stenographer by W. R. A.

expense means relieving of Mr. Morey from keeping books, thus he could devote more time and talent to his line of work.

However, members all felt that regardless of status of Mr. Morey or Mr. Takiguchi, it was necessary to have a candidate ready for the position of Buyer.

Resolutions Adopted --

At this time the resolution committee read the resolutions adopted by the group. They are as follows:

"WHEREAS, the decision of the W. R. A. to close the Jerome Relocation Center in June, 1944, has necessitated the withdrawal of the Jerome Co-op from membership in our Federation.

Be it resolved that this Federation at its convention held in Amache, Colorado, this 5th day of April, 1944, accept such withdrawal with sympathy as to their position and with deepest appreciation of their past membership, hereby extending to their officers, employees and members our heartiest welcome to full participation in the respective business enterprises of the Centers to which they will be transferred.

Be it further resolved that the Federation members extend their respective facilities to fully cooperate and assist the Jerome Cooperative Enterprise towards accomplishing its dissolution in a satisfactory manner."

"WHEREAS, the various delegates to the Federation of Center Business Enterprises assembled in convention at Amache, Colorado, the 3rd to 5th day of April 1944, have enjoyed the warm welcome and kind hospitality extended to them during the convention.

Be it resolved that the Federation and its members, individually and collectively offer and extend their deepest thanks and appreciation to the Amache Consumers Cooperative, the Administration and residents of Amache Relocation Center for their kindness and splendid support."

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 P.M.

SUMMARY
FEDERATION OF BUSINESS
ENTERPRISES CONFERENCE

MORRISON HOTEL
CHICAGO, ILL.
SEPT. 28-30, 1943

I. Relationship of W. R. A. and Business Enterprises:

Problem: That employment in Co-ops should be under the jurisdiction of the Co-op Manager and Board of Directors.

That Co-ops should not be manipulated so as to coerce evacuees to leave the Center.

Mr. Richardson stated that:-

1. He had contacted Mr. John Provinse of Washington, D. C. and he, Mr. Provinse, had promised to do his best to straighten out the matter.
2. He promises to bring the matter to the attention of Mr. Meyer.
3. He promises that no case as this shall again arise.

A. Resolution was passed to be forwarded to Mr. Meyer through Mr. Richardson.

II. New York Buying Office:

1. Three buyers to be selected, one of whom is to be head buyer.
2. Each Center to pay base of \$50.00 plus assessment according to purchases per month.
3. The Centers shall pay the buyers' salary and the W. R. A. to stand office and operation expenses.
4. Salary:-
2 Buyers @ \$250.00 per month.
1 Head Buyer @ \$275.00 per month

5. Each Center to post \$150.00 by November 1st and \$50.00 per month on each following month.
6. Buyers to be selected on open basis.
7. Pool:
Each center to post \$500.00 cash to be used as a revolving pool. This pool is to be reimbursed upon advice from the buyers that funds have been withdrawn for that Center's purchase.
8. Deadline on deposit November 1st.
9. Surety Bond of \$10,000.00 to be carried for each buyer.
10. Payments on cash transactions to be made by and through the New York Office unless otherwise instructed by buyers.
11. Service to non-members:
 - (a) A service charge of 5% is to be levied.
 - (b) This charge is to be retained by the Federation.
12. Membership in good standing Centers must pay \$50.00 per month continuously.
13. Obligatory period.
Six months, after which any member may withdraw upon 30 days notice.

ROLL CALL:

Tule Lake	- Yes	Grenada	- Yes
Manzanar	- Yes	Minidoka	- Yes*
Gila	- No	Jerome	- Yes*
Poston	- Yes*	Heart Mt.	- Yes

*Subject approval of Board

4 Yes 1 No
3 Yes*

III. Federation of Business Enterprises:

1. Among Center business enterprises.
2. Office to be established in one of the Relocation Centers.
3. Elect ex-Secretary for trial period of 6 months. Wages, maintenance, and operating expenses to be paid by the Federation of Business Enterprises at the W. R. A. scale.
4. T. Kawasaki - Elected Ex-Secretary
T. Nogaki - Elected Alternate Ex-Secretary
5. The name shall be:
FEDERATION OF CENTER BUSINESS ENTERPRISES.
6. Ex-Secretary to draw up By-Laws.
7. Open an account in the name of the Federation, New York Office with any two of the three buyers' signature and also study legal aspects of such practice and to change accordingly to comply with the law upon advice of the Ex-Secretary.
8. Dr. Miyamoto will be asked to temporarily assume the duties of the Ex-Secretary until such time as Mr. Kawasaki is available.
9. The Ex-Secretary is authorized to appoint a stenographer to aid in his work.

IV. Production and Marketing:

1. Reports:
2. Dr. Bruce: (a) Production - Marketing
(b) Vocational Training

V. Operations:

1. Rent Resolution
2. Disability Benefit Resolution
3. Tax Ruling
4. Group Insurance
5. Check Cashing Facilities
6. Surplus Merchandise Exchange
7. Mail Problems
8. Patronage Refund
9. Tule Lake Transfers

VI. Mr. Ishiyama:

1. Aid in New York office work.
2. His position will be kept filled for base period of 6 months as need is present.

VII. Buyers to begin work as of November 1, 1943.

VIII. RESOLUTIONS:

1. W. R. A. Relations with the Co-operatives-Passed.
2. Rental - Defeated.
3. Disability Benefits - Passed.
4. W. R. A. Cooperation - Thanks.
5. Cooperative Movement.
6. Social Security and Unemployment Insurance.
(a) Decision requested.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The conference discussion on employment and relocation policy as affecting cooperatives has revealed inconsistencies in certain Projects' Administration of overall W. R. A. policy, and

WHEREAS, such action and authority assumed by a Project Director can result only in the deterioration rather than the progressive development as proposed by the W. R. A., and

WHEREAS, the overall policy of the W. R. A. is in accord with the desires of the center cooperatives, --

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT, Mr. Meyer, as Director of the W. R. A. shall be requested to clarify and instruct all Project Directors that, the Cooperative Personnel Problems are problems of the Board of Directors of the respective Center Business Enterprises, and that, it is not W. R. A. policy to use authority over employment in the cooperatives as a coercive measure to promote relocation.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Administrative Instruction No. 27 (revised) dated August 4, 1943 - Subject: Employment and Compensation, Article VIII C. is contrary to previous regulations covering unemployment compensation, which it displaces, and

WHEREAS, after the expiration of the fifteen day sick leave an employee is terminated, and

WHEREAS, following termination, the Center resident's care is an obligation of the War Relocation Authority, and

WHEREAS, discrimination of the Cooperative employee from War Relocation Authority benefits is contrary to the fundamental principles of the War Relocation Authority --

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the War Relocation Authority be requested to reconsider Administrative Instruction No. 27 (revised) Article VIII C.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Business Enterprises of the Relocation Centers now conducting its operation as co-operatives to assist with the purchasing problems of the evacuees have been assisted by the Community Management Division of the War Relocation Authority during its period of organization, and

WHEREAS, the delegation now convened in conference at the Morrison Hotel feels that we are greatly indebted for the sincerity and untiring effort of the Community Management Personnel of the War Relocation Authority in assisting in the promotion of the co-operatives with full consideration for the evacuees' peculiar position and needs, --

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, this conference shall express its deepest appreciation to the War Relocation Authority and its personnel through the good offices and kindness of Mr. Gerald Richardson, Head, Community Enterprise Division of the War Relocation Authority.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, we have convened as delegates to the War Relocation Authority Cooperative Enterprises Conference at the Morrison Hotel, Chicago, Illinois, September 28-30, 1943, and

WHEREAS, as representatives of the Cooperative Movement of these United States, which embodies some two million Americans,--

BE IT RESOLVED THAT; we affirm and subscribe our loyalty and sincere belief and interest to the aims and purposes of the cooperative movement, its ideals and philosophy, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT; we pledge our wholehearted allegiance to the principles of International Brotherhood, Peace, and Goodwill to all Men.