

H2.02

43 of 66

H448

67/14  
c

TOPAZ 11448  
H2.08

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT  
TOPAZ, UTAH

PUBLIC RELATIONS AT TOPAZ

by

Russell A. Bänkson

PROJECT REPORTS DIVISION  
Historical Section



WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT  
TOPAZ, UTAH

PUBLIC RELATIONS AT TOPAZ

by

Russell A. Bankson

PROJECT REPORTS DIVISION  
Historical Section



WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT  
TOPAZ, UTAH

PUBLIC RELATIONS AT TOPAZ

For some time, it has been felt that exceedingly good public relations were being developed between Topaz and a number of the surrounding communities through the activities of the athletic department of the Topaz High School.

Over a period of months, the Topaz High School football and basketball teams have been meeting teams from Delta, Fillmore, Hinckley, Wasatch Academy, and other places, both in Topaz and on their home grounds.

A new high in such public relations was reached on the week-end of March 25. So unique and so pleasing was this particular incident, that it seems worthy of a special report.

The girls of the athletic department at the Topaz High School have developed a strong basketball team. Through the efforts of Mrs. Pauline Newman, physical education instructor, a game was scheduled between the Topaz girls and the girls team of the Wasatch Academy, located at Mt. Pleasant, Utah. The Mt. Pleasant girls were invited to come to Topaz for the game on the afternoon of March 25. They arrived about 2:00 p.m., in a group of 15 with 13 players and Miss Lee,



physical education director, and David Mershell, coach.

The game was played in the new Topaz civic auditorium with a large turn out of spectators. It proved an exciting contest, with the score close at all times, and ended in a victory for the Topaz girls with a score of 26 to 24.

Immediately after the game, each member of the Topaz team then invited a member of the visiting team to be her personal guest for a week-end visit in Topaz. The local girls took the visitors to their respective dining halls for dinner that evening, where they were given the experience of joining in with the resident diners. After the dinner, the visitors were invited to the homes of their hostesses and all reported that it was a most pleasing experience and one that they would long remember. It was the first time that girls from the outside had been entertained in this manner.

Saturday evening, a social program was arranged for dining hall 32 in the high school building block. A program was presented which included folk dancing, with specialty numbers presented by both Topaz residents and the visitors. The latter part of the evening was devoted to social dancing. The visitors were joined by about 90 Topaz high school young people for the evening.

That night, the visitors were housed in rooms pro-



vided for them in Block 2, their hostesses arranging the rooms for them, seeing that they were comfortably settled for the night.

The following morning, Sunday, March 26, as the dining halls were opened at the usual early morning hour, the visitors were permitted to sleep in. Their hostesses surprised them then by carrying food materials to the dining hall in Block 2, where they prepared breakfast for the guests. A wonderful time was had by all in preparing the meal and eating it.

After breakfast, the Topaz girls took their guests on a tour of the project, where they visited the school buildings, the hospital, a basket weaving exhibit, and other interesting features, before departing for their homes.

The entertainment of the guests was under the general direction of "Bubbles" Keikoan, president of the Girls Athletic Association at Topaz.

Mrs. Newman was assisted by Yosh Isono, coach of the girls basketball team at Topaz.

So favorably impressed were the guests of the royal entertainment given them, that they urgently invited the Topaz girls to play a return game at Mt. Pleasant on the evening of Tuesday, April 4, at which time they will remain over-night and enjoy the hospitality of those to whom they were hostesses on this occasion.



It would seem through little affairs like this that some of the best public relations at Topaz are being achieved.

Guests for the week-end included:

"Red" Shirley Redman	Myrle Morris
"Nan" Manning	Barbara Manski
Evelyn Deering	Bobby Peirce
Dorothy Fouste	Beverly Reese
Joan Nesland	Mary Bracco
Opal Lyman	Maxine Coats
	Maxine France

Those serving as hostesses were:

Yosh Keikoan	Kitty Yamauchi
Sumi Keikoan	Grace Tsujisaka
Nancy Takahashi	Sachi Dowke
Asaye Ashizawa	Yo Ikeda
Margaret Kawaguchi	Mari Shinoda
Kaye Yoshiura	Amy Nakasawa
Betty Nakaso	Mits Sato
Larry Fukuhara	Mrs. Pauline Newman
Yoshio Isono	Miss Lottie Lamb
Akio Kimura	