

Tomi Shibutani
Tule Lake, California

August 11, 1942

Minutes of Council Meeting

Weekly Council meeting called to order by Chairman Gerry Wakayama at 7:15 p.m. Roll call was made with the following absentees listed: Messrs. Harry Tanaka, Ichiro Hamatake, Barton Sasaki, Fred Fukui, and Frank Doi. Inasmuch as minutes of the previous meeting are distributed to each delegate, the reading of the minutes were dispensed and approved.

The report by Mr. Yego's Committee on Better Living Conditions was presented. The results were in the form of a resolution which stated the necessity of evacuation, loss sustained resulting from evacuation orders, present necessity of expenditures for necessities, insufficiency of present cash advances; and resolved that the following modifications be made by the WRA:

1. Minimum cash advance of \$30, \$35, and \$40.
2. Family allowance of \$5 to each non-working member of the family.
3. Clothing equivalent in value to that received by men in Service.
4. Adequate medical care.

Report was submitted to discussion by the Council members. Question arose as to the July sales from the community enterprises. July sales were \$74,000. It was requested that Mr. Shirrell present these figures to the Conference at San Francisco this week. This resolution will be submitted at the Conference by Mr. Shirrell.

Contrary to rumors, the community stores have not sold any or ordered any lumber-assurance by Mr. Miyamoto, stores' manager.

A report was made by the Committee on Permanent Council, a committee composed of the committee on Better Living Conditions and the Temporary Judicial Committee. Its plans for a permanent council were explained by Mr. Yego. This plan is to be submitted by Mr. Shirrell at the conference as the Council's suggestion. The status of the community enterprises in the Council was argued

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and suggested that the importance of this problem necessitated further discussion, together with block decision. Motion was made and seconded to have this plan accepted and submitted at the Conference by Mr. Shirrell. Passed.

Complaint was cited against the acuteness of the clothing problem. The necessity of the WRA's furnishing shoes, stockings, and laundry supplies was requested. In response to the request for action on the distribution of the accumulated cash advances, Mr. Shirrell assured that they will be ready soon, possibly this Friday. It was noted that the entire community payroll cannot be distributed at once, since the bonded cashier can handle only \$15,000. The second distribution will continue as soon as possible.

Instructions as to indigent cases are on hand at the office, and all cases should be reported by the block manager to Mr. Jacoby or to Mrs. Halle. A case was reported to have been forwarded to the Social Welfare department with no result; Mr. Shirrell will take action Wednesday.

The authority to issue soap to each family is pending. \$37,000 worth of lumber has been requisitioned and will be distributed to families requiring partitions.

The distribution of food on a per capita basis is expected to relieve many complaints. In reference to the complaints against the mess division it was requested that a spokesman be sent by the complaining group. It was also suggested that equal results could be accomplished by placing the complaints with Mr. Harry Tanaka at the Mess office at #325, or with Mr. Pilcher, Assistant Project Steward at #325.

Several complaints were made on the shortage of silverware at various mess halls. Mr. Shirrell commented that purchases were made on the open-market, and the present shortages were due to losses via the garbage cans and colonists' personal use. A check, however, will be made.

Request was made to provide professional photographers to photograph

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momentous occasions, such as funerals. In a letter to the Council from Mr. Shirrell, it was cited that more elaborate funeral services may be available if requested, but the family should contact Mrs. Halle for necessary information.

Petition was presented to the Council representing Ward III's opposition to the opening of the fifth canteen in Block 23. A majority of the families in Ward III had voiced their opposition for the canteen, with reason based on the general welfare of the Ward. It was suggested that the canteens are established throughout the community for benefit of the entire community, and that these latest proposals were proposed to be of benefit to the residents during the colder months. Proposals for canteens in Blocks 70 and 23 were noted. Due to the inability of settling the issue, a motion was made to have the representatives refer the problem back to their blocks for future consideration and to decide the issue at the next meeting. Seconded and passed.

Question presented before the Council requesting the Council's opinion of the Community Store's handling of dress shoes. Discussion was open. Arguments expressed that such a policy may hinder our efforts to obtain clothing necessities from the WRA. Once again Mr. Shirrell assured the Council that he would do his best to acquire clothing allowances for the colonists here. In regard to the store's policy for the sale of dress shoes, a motion was made to allow the stores to sell shoes on the grounds that they were limited to dress shoes and not related to the clothing allowances. Seconded and passed.

A request was made to translate the Tulean Dispatch into Japanese, but such is not possible, inasmuch as a special stencil is required which is not available.

In reply to the query as to the possibility of having a hog farm in the southeast end of the project, Mr. Shirrell reported that that corner was selected due to the prevailing wind.

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In reference to the colonists request to leave camp to settle business transactions, a permit may be acquired providing personal traveling expenses are paid, plus the expenses of an accompanying guard.

Complaint was issued that the new stoves were too large for the smaller apartments, and requested that elbows be provided. Response was made that it was already considered but no elbows are obtainable.

To relieve excessive colds caused by the dust, a suggestion was made to water the roads with a water wagon; check on its possibility will be made.

Barber shop prices should coordinate with the prevailing cash advances. It was suggested that Mr. Miyamoto check on this and report at the next meeting. Sanitation of the barber shop was cited and suggested that Mr. Miyamoto make a check on this.

In regard to the possibility of continuing claims against the Unemployment Compensation, the councilman from the Legal-Aid Department reported that the appeal which had been filed is pending, and that those entitled to this compensation should file their application.

Rules and regulations pertaining to permits to leave this project for employment are available in Department of Internal Security. Applications are approved and cleared by the Army.

It was reported that contrary to the articles published by the Tulean Dispatch, the local banks are making charges for the cashing of checks. A check will be made.

Charge made for the notarizing of absentee ballots is against the policy of the WRA.

Street cleaning system requested; will be taken up.

Meeting adjourned. 10:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Morris Abe
Secretary

Copy: 8-13-42/mn

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Minutes of Council Meeting

7:15 p.m.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Gerry Wakayama. Following noted as absent: Mr. Shigaichi Kubo. Correction to previous meeting: the word "tentative" be inserted in lines 4 and 9, paragraph 5, page 1, so that it would read: "This tentative plan is to be submitted by Mr. Shirrell, etc."

1. Reaction of Ward III towards the opening of the fifth canteen in Block 23; Blocks 34, 23, 24, 35, 36, 32, and 31 voiced definite opposition; Block 33 voiced opposition of 37 families from his block; and Block 22 was absent at the time. The petitions which were presented will be placed on file for possible future reference. The objections basing the petitions were: (1) existence of sufficient canteens and (2) "unequal financial conditions of the colonists will cause a drastic social problem with families having children if the canteen is located near." Motion made and seconded whether Ward III will have a canteen. Vote: 26 voted, and 21 opposed the opening of canteen.

Possibility of having canteens located on the fire-breaks was reported to be improbable as much as it should be separated from the blocks.

Suggested that the canteen employ more clean-up men to keep the surroundings clean. Commented that the fault of untidiness lies with colonists, and that the colonists should be educated to help keep trash off the grounds. Mr. Elberson reported that the block managers were handed all responsibility of keeping their respective blocks clean.

2. Co-op Advisory Board Meeting. The outcome of this meeting held last night seemed to indicate a feeling among the majority of first generation members that the second generation, through the proposed controlling power of the community council, were attempting to deprive the rights and privileges

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of the older and more experienced generation. If this feeling continued, it was felt that friction would develop between the two generations. These facts presented, a motion was made on the floor to have the Council divorce itself entirely from the tentative plan for the control of the community enterprises, excepting legislative powers; and that a telegram to this effect be sent to Mr. Shirrell, who is at conference with W.R.A. authorities at San Francisco. Recommended that this motion be voiced to the colonists prior to vote, but since the tentative council plans are already under discussion at San Francisco, immediate council action was deemed necessary. Motion seconded and passed.

3. Introductions to the Council: Mr. Joe O. Hayes, Assistant Project Director; Mr. Sullivan, Procurement Officer; Farm Labor Committee (Mr. Doi and Mr. Uchida present).

4. Report on barber prices and barber sanitation: present indications show that it is impossible to reduce barber prices. Effort is being taken to maintain sanitary service, including a sanitary solution to cleanse tools. Question was presented as to the possibility of having the W.R.A. foot all expenses necessary to operate the barber shop. Motion was made to add to the telegram requested earlier in the evening, the Council's opinion that haircuts should be provided as a community service without charge inasmuch as haircuts were a necessity. Seconded and passed. Suggested that W.R.A. should provide shoe repair service. Mr. Hayes related the recent telegram received from Mr. Shirrell stating that clothing and shoe allowance information will be on hand on his return. To satisfy immediate demands, Mr. Hayes added that clothing and shoes have been ordered locally and will be distributed possibly this Sunday to those workers doing hard outside labor. Possibly allowance slips will be issued for exchange at local canteens for clothing.

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5. Mr. Hayes emphasized that the Project staff is doing its utmost to procure the demands of the community, and that it was impossible to force further. It was requested that complete coordination be given by the colonists with Project Staff, preferably by committees which could bring forth the problems of the community.

6. The past recommendation that food costs per capita be increased has received no W.R.A. approval as yet. When hog farm, bakery, etc., are established, savings will be made which can be expended for better food. A 15-day emergency food supply requisition was sent in last week to modify the regular 55-day advance requisition to Quartermaster.

7. Suggested that a full-time board or committee be organized which would consider all grievances and be in close contact with the Project Staff. Motion made to table this discussion till next meeting. Passed.

8. Question of the possibility of the project farmers sharing in the farm land ownership as an incentive for productive farm labor.

9. Lumber sale on the Project; woodworking shop at 1508 is selling lumber. Mr. Fleming responded for its justification: Mr. Reid of Modoc High School and instructor of woodwork class here sold lumber at cost for the sole benefit of retaining his class here. All lumber sold was used for furniture built there at the shop, and not contrary to Council policies.

10. Request was made to ask the Legal-Aid Department to obtain the status of the first and second generation colonists. Mr. Throckmorton, Project Attorney, will return soon from the Regional Office with report on this question.

11. Suggested that the Farm Committee be invited to the Council meetings and that they be granted the floor to partake in any pertinent issue. Motion made and seconded to this effect. Passed.

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12. Problem of contacting Council members in the event of a special meeting was felt necessary, was left to the discretion of the chairman.

13. Japanese bath report. Original plans of baths 5' x 8' x 3' previously considered too large were reduced to 4' x 6' x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ '. These plans were ready for Council recommendation. Motion made to accept these plans and forward them to the Regional Office for approval. Seconded and carried.

14. System of Work Report slips. Question was presented as to its efficiency. A foreman rating these Work Report slips may be biased or obligated in the ratings; therefore, suggested that a personnel board be organized which would decide the efficiency of all employees. A Merit Committee is already organized, composed of four colonists and three Project Staff members, and this system was instituted as the first step to organize some system.

15. Alturas Chamber of Commerce visit. During their visit here, \$100.10 was received of which \$90 was paid to defray food expenses. Remainder of \$10.10 was forwarded to the Council requesting its division to the cooks of #2920 and recreational staff. Motion made to divide it equally between the mess hall staff of #2920 and recreational staff. Seconded and carried.

16. Complaint voiced concerning the smoke nuisance of latrines and laundry rooms in Block 49. Request was made for extension of chimneys.

17. Question of the probability of the manufacture of tofu (soybean cakes) and other Japanese products for consumption within the Project. Will be checked.

18. WCCA clothing allowance report. Mr. Tsukamoto of Legal-Aid Department reported that the reply to his second letter to the WCCA office affirmed the first letter. A letter had also been sent to Lt. General DeWitt requesting further action; reply to this is forthcoming. The Council's backing in all correspondence on this subject was requested. Motion made that the

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Council back the Legal-Aid Department in filing the appeal against the WCCA.

Seconded and carried.

19. Funeral service. Requested that better care be taken in burial of deceased. Recent burial prompted several criticisms.

20. Announcement will be made in Tulean Dispatch for definite dates on which absentee ballots may be cast and notarized.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Morris Abe

Secretary

COPY:8-20-42/mn

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Council Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 7:25 p.m. Roll call was made and the following were noted as being absent: George Yuasa, Gerry Wakayama, Chugoro Ono, Masao Kawada, Ray Yasui, Mun Iseri, Tsuyoshi Horike, and George Kadoyama. In the absence of Chairman Gerry Wakayama, Mr. Sumio Miyamoto was unanimously elected to preside for the evening.

Minutes of the previous meeting were dispensed as per usual and approved as mimeographed and distributed.

1. Guests of the evening were introduced: Mr. Blaisdell, Director of Higher Education, University of California; Mr. Boyd B. Rakestrau, Assistant Director, University of California Extension Service; Mr. Charles Bursch, Chief of Department of School Housing, State Department of Education; and, Mr. Merton Hill, Director of Admissions, University of California.

Old Business

2. The complaint of lumber being sold at the wood-working shop at #1508 was issued. Inasmuch as the Council previously requested the canteen to refrain from selling lumber, the consistency of this policy was requested to extend to the woodworking shop. Suggested that Mr. Shirrell's report will clarify this situation and that the discussion be tabled till later.

3. The floor was turned over to Mr. Shirrell for his report on recent conference with Washington officials at the Regional office at San Francisco.

a. In introduction, an elaboration was made on Mr. Don Elberson's duties on this project. They are as follows:

- (1) Liaison officer between the block managers and the administrative office.
- (2) Aid in local cooperative organization through his experience in cooperatives.
- (3) Aid Mr. Throckmorton and Mr. Fleming in the formation of a permanent government.

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- b. To alleviate the lumber problem, it was hoped that the \$39,000 lumber order destined for Tule Lake was placed prior to the lumber freezing order. The distribution will be made according to the necessary requirements of the colonists.
- c. Food. The ration per capita per day was raised from 40¢ to 45¢. The food raised on the local farm will be sold to the Chief Steward at the prevailing market prices. Surplus farm products will be ice-packed and sold to other projects at the prevailing market prices.
- d. Soap distribution. Only initial supplies will be furnished. Blocks which have not received their initial supply will be supplied.
- e. Local purchases. With the exception of surplus commodities, emergency purchases may be made. Construction materials, however, are limited to \$500. The possibility of purchasing typewriters from dealers in Northern California was exemplified.

4. The second part of Mr. Shirrell's oral report consisted of the employment and compensation policies.

- a. Subsistence for all evacuees involuntarily confined within the project was defined as food, shelter, medical care, and elementary and high school education. It is definite, now, that no subsistence assessments will be levied on any colonists.
- b. Cash wage advances and clothing allowances will be made in addition to subsistence to those working. Due to the Congress appropriation bill for the present cash advances, the present

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scale must remain (\$12, \$16, \$19); but alterations have been made so that a majority will receive \$16. The \$12 group will be an "entrance rate" applying to new workers and apprentices. The remaining groups remained much the same.

- c. Workers employed overtime will be entitled to compensatory leave upon application with the approval of his division chief, the employer may elect the date of such leaves.
- d. Merit Rating Board shall be established and composed of three Caucasian staff members and four evacuees. This is already established here and shall proceed. Such items as quality of work, quantity of work, and conduct of employees will be reported to the Board. This Board should seek work incentives by planning awards and recognitions.
- e. War Relocation Work Corps. Each employee automatically becomes a member of the Work Corps and is eligible for membership to the Work Corps Order of Merit upon the completion of three months' satisfactory employment, and recommendation of the Merit Rating Board. Preferential considerations will be given to these members.
- f. Fair Practice Committee. A committee of seven Work Corps members shall be elected to function as an investigating committee on all complaints regarding employment, working rules, and employment remuneration. The procedure in detail will be announced later.
- g. Clothing Allowances. In addition to cash advances, clothing allowances will be made to each employee, except to those who refuse to work. This will be in the form of script issued

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monthly and redeemable at the community stores. The schedule at date is as follows:

Employed man, 18 or over	\$3.85 a month
Boy, 13 to 17	3.30 a month
Boy, 6 to 12	3.20 a month
Woman, 18 or over	3.25 a month
Girl, 13 to 17	3.00 a month
Girl, 6 to 12	2.40 a month
Child, 2 to 5	1.65 a month
Infant	1.75 a month
Aged man (not able to work)	3.20 a month
Aged woman (not able to work)	2.60 a month

- h. Employees in Community Enterprises. The community enterprises shall pay to their employees the standard cash advances and clothing allowances on the same basis as other W.R.A. employees.
- i. Private Employment. Evacuees accepting and leaving the project for employment will not be eligible for benefits after they leave or during their absence. Their dependents, who remain in the project will receive only subsistence as defined previously. The evacuees accepting private employment but continuing his residence on the project must deposit the difference between his actual wage and the wage equivalent if working for the W.R.A. This amount is to be deposited on a trust fund for the benefit of the community.

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5. The next part of Mr. Shirrell's report concerned public assistance grants to persons without sufficient means to provide support for themselves and their dependents. Eligibility, in brief, include: (a) single individuals and heads of families unable to work due to illness or incapacity; (b) children under 16 years and without support; and (c) the heads of families that have a total net income (from whatever source) that is inadequate to meet their needs. Those refusing work will not be eligible for grants. Amount of grants, which may be approved, are as follows:

Men	\$4.75 a month
Women	4.25 a month
Children, 13 to 17	2.50 a month
Children, under 13	1.50 a month

These amounts are subject to change, depending on the necessity.

6. The final section of Mr. Shirrell's report concerned that of Internal Security. It was decided that we should do our own policing inside the project. This responsibility will rest with the W.R.A. wardens. An intensive training program is contemplated and also, more appropriate clothing is under consideration.

A judicial committee of not less than three shall be set up with powers of determining the guilt and making recommendations of decisions to misdemeanors. Felony cases will be handled by the State or County courts. The Project Director will have the veto power wherever the Council exceeds its proper functions.

Subject to certain regulations, the organization of the permanent community council will be left to the temporary council. All persons over 18 will be eligible to vote. An Issei may not hold an elected office, but may be appointed.

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to any committee which the Council so desires. The Council has not taxing power, but may license the community enterprise up to a maximum of \$1000 per year.

7. Comments supplementing Mr. Shirrell's report. After October 1st, a speedy system of making wage payments and bills is anticipated by making these payments by checks mailed directly to the individual.

Regarding outside private employment, the Issei and Kibei will be granted leaves providing they are in groups and passed by Army regulations.

Question of having a full-time paid executive officer will be left up to the discretion of the Council.

The names of three Japanese translators have been cleared through the Army and will be available soon for Council meeting minutes translation and weekly war bulletins.

On end apartments having two doors, one of the doors will be sealed to protect the apartments from excessive draft during the cold months.

Compensation for church ministers was questioned. Exact pay-roll status is not definite. Solicitations among the congregation is permissible providing it does not exceed \$19.

Property receipt forms must be turned in to the block managers if not done so already. This is urgent inasmuch as the government warehouses will be closed.

Books picked up at Pinedale and held as contraband will be investigated.

Mr. Shirrell stated that haircuts cannot be classified under subsistence.

Complaint was expressed on the speed limit of cars. Speed governors had been installed on all trucks, but many have been removed. No more tires will be available to the project, so in view of this, a strict policy will be put in effect. It will also be intended to safeguard the colonists.

It was reported that the government does not carry insurance on any property;

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however, colonists may carry their own insurance through contacts with the community stores.

Portrait studio will be set up shortly under the community enterprises, but negatives must be cleared by the Army.

All vital statistics -- births, deaths, marriages, and divorces -- are being recorded in compliance to the California laws.

Evacuees employed are entitled to the Federal Employee Compensation, and all accidents must be reported within 48 hours.

In spite of the inconvenience, it is improbable that a substation post office can be established inside the community. To facilitate postal inspection and to speed delivery of mail orders, a list of contraband articles will be sent to Sears Roebuck and Montgomery Ward.

The Army assurance was made to Mr. Shirrell that sheet rock for the completion of the unfinished apartments will be rushed.

Every effort and encouragement should be made to colonists to go outside relocation centers for private employment.

8. Motion was made to establish a committee to investigate the possibility of organizing a grievance committee. Passed.

9. Correction was made to last week's minutes (No. 18 on page 3) to read as follows: "WCCA clothing allowance report. Mr. Tsukamoto of Legal Aid Department reported that a reply to his second letter in this matter to the Commander of Western Defense affirmed the first letter to WCCA ..."

Mr. Kenji Ito, lawyer and member of the Washington bar, was introduced to the Council by Mr. Tsukamoto.

10. Question was raised on the Judicial Committee's results on the recent assault and battery case. For the safety of the community, it was requested that

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definite and immediate action be taken against the tactics of gangs. Reply-
ing for the Judicial committee, Mr. Henry Taketa explained the procedure of the
Council that individual hearings are held for both accuser and accused. As
soon as all facts are on hand, the Council will prepare a recommendation which
will be presented to the Community Council for the decision of the Council.
This Council recommendation will be forwarded to Mr. Shirrell for final ap-
proval and action if necessary. It was explained that facts on hand at pres-
ent are not sufficient to present to the body, but in fairness to all, will
be retained. The committee is scheduled to complete the hearing Wednesday,
and in probability a special community council meeting will be called for,
this case in particular.

11. A motion was made to have Judicial Committee formulate rules and
regulations on the basic policies of the Judicial Committee and to submit
these to the Community Council for approval and adoption. Seconded and
passed.

12. Mr. Walter Tsukamoto was called to report on further action against
the WCCA regarding clothing allowances not received by Wallerga and Arboga
evacuees. A petition addressed to President Roosevelt, and a copy to Secre-
tary of War Stimson, was read to the Council for approval. This petition to
be signed by Council members is an appeal to previous letters forwarded to
the Army.

13. To expedite the formation of a permanent Council, a motion was
made to elect a committee of seven, one from each ward, which shall convene
to draw up the plans for the constitution and present it to the Council for
approval before forwarding it to the Project Director and Regional office.
Seconded and passed. The following were elected:

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Ward I	Mr. Tom Uyeno
Ward II	Mr. Roy Miura
Ward III	Mr. Yoneo Suzuki
Ward IV	Mr. Coffee Oshima
Ward V	Mr. Frank Yamamoto
Ward VI	Mr. Tom Yego
Ward VII	Mr. Kiyoshi Yumibe

As legal advisors to the above committee, three lawyers, Walter Tsukamoto, Henry Taketa, and Kenji Ito, were included in the committee.

14. In explanation for visitors to our meetings, it was restated that the meetings are open to the public, but all visitors are to remain orderly and the floor may be obtained only if request is made prior to the opening of the meeting.

15. Report on Merit System was made by Mr. Harry Mayeda on behalf of the Committee. The policies of the Committee are not complete, and a full report will be made at the next meeting. As a request to the Council, Mr. Mayeda stated that the Committee is in need of a full-time secretary over 25 years of age and competent in both English and Japanese. Applicants are to go to #1208 for an interview with Mr. Frank Fagan.

16. Contrary to rumors, the Tule Lake Colony will not be moved to Arkansas.

Meeting adjourned at 11:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Morris Abe, secretary

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Special Community Council Meeting

Special Council meeting was called at 2:25 p.m. with Chairman Gerry Wakayama presiding.

Due to the confidential nature of this meeting, all visitors, with the exception of Mr. Kenji Ito, who is one of the ^{new} legal advisors, were requested to withdraw from attendance.

Mr. Walter Tsukamoto on behalf of the Judicial Committee gave the report of the Committee of its latest case. The Committee's commendation for the invaluable aid of the four shorthand stenographers, Misses Minnie Nakano, Margie Kawasaki, Yasuko Minzoue, and Elva Shinozaki, was expressed.

Mr. Tsukamoto elaborated on the important phases of the report of the Judicial Committee which had been mimeographed and distributed to each Council member.

Three problems were presented to the Council prior to its decision on a recommendation to Mr. Shirrell:

1. Whether the first four accused are guilty of conspiracy and of assault and battery.
2. Whether the fifth accused is guilty of conspiracy and assault.
3. The sentence to be imposed on the five accused.

Council discussion presented views of both sides of the problem and culminated with a vote of 39 representatives expressing guilt and six not guilty.

On the determination of the sentence a motion was passed to request the Judicial Committee to bring forth sentence suggestions. A short recess was called after which the following suggestions were presented to the Council.

1. Separate expulsion to different relocation area.
2. Expulsion in group to another relocation area.

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3. Project jail sentence for a designated term.
4. Discharge from present type of employment.
5. Suspension from work for designated time.

With the above, a probation clause was provided to suspend the case upon good behavior of the accused.

The Council's decision by vote was that the sentence be the expulsion to separate relocation areas of the four who conspired and committed acts of assault and battery; but that this sentence be suspended providing the four conduct themselves in good behavior and for the period of two months report weekly to the Chief of Internal Security. The fifth found guilty of conspiracy and assault was sentenced similarly excepting probation period was to be one month of weekly reports. The above decision of the Council is to be the recommendation of the Council and to be presented to Mr. Shirrell for final decision.

Suggested that a copy of this recommendation be forwarded to Warden's Office if approved, with instructions that in the event of any recurrence the persons involved be detained under guard. Misbehavior is termed as any criminal act or any contempt of the law.

Motion made and seconded that a letter be sent to the Complainant and all other involved, that circumstances indicated their partial responsibility in the gravity of the case, and that future conduct be cautioned.

Requested that Mr. Samuel Friedman, Housing Department, be asked to be our guest at the coming meeting. Motion made to this effect and passed.

An announcement was made requesting the Council members to ask their residents to refrain from taking excessive supplies of wood and coal from piles near the latrines.

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Morris Abe, Secretary

Tule Lake
Shibutani
9/21/42

Council Meeting

What is to be done with difference of the WRA and money earned on the outside? So far no one has canvassed the blocks. In regard to the trust fund Shirrell said: "the producers' profit also goes in."

"I think if the people go outside to work the money should be put into a trust fund for him and not be spread to all members of the Work Corps., otherwise, no one will go."

Many people can't hear what's going on. Only a few persons talk. Only a few seem to understand what's going on.

Shirrell says he doesn't want the people back in camp. He doesn't want relocation after war.

Planning Board. Is the planning board and the fair practice committee the same asks one person. Shibata offers complicated problems and offers motion for a committee of seven. Tsukamoto amends this motion to make Shibata chairman of the committee. Koso moves that the committee have four Councilmen and select three ~~colonists~~ colonists to the board. Almost everyone is in favor of this. There are a few arguments. Shibata gets things pretty much his own way. Shibata is allowed to select his own men on the committee.

Mess Hall. Pilcher and Beck are not around, so this has to be passed over. Everybody just votes.

One man moves that pedestrians be required to walk on the left hand side of the pavement. There is a murmur of disapproval and the move is downed as no second is heard to the motion.

Yumibe suggest a scholarship fund be created to be awarded to the outstanding student.

Mess Hall Problem. Beck is introduced to the meeting. A disturbance arose when a man stopped after a second man went out to give him "hell". The old Issei doesn't give a "damn".

Beck talks about food shortage declaring that careless handling of food leads to a loss. Every ounce of food wasted means less food to eat. He says he saw six bushels of farm vegetables in the garbage can. Says it is harder to get food from the farm than from San Francisco. Says there are no crates because the people take them from the mess and burn them. The cost of the meals has been raised from 42¢ to 43¢ per day, says Beck.

Mr. Takeda, mess representative to the fair practice committee wants to speak in Japanese. After much discussion he is permitted to speak in Japanese with Honda as interpreter. He says that since Pilcher came supplies came down - in Sacramento - two pieces of bread per day - one pound butter for 100 persons. In a meeting at 1820 everyone wanted to discharge Pilcher but Shirrell was not there so he was given a month's trial. Whenever complaints were made the food supply increased and when there were no complaints the food became less. A conference was ~~was~~ held with Pilcher and complaints were made that equal supplies were not being to all mess halls, that mess halls got "hell" from the block. When asked for cooperation Pilcher is said to have uttered: "I'll do my job in the way I want to." Can't cooperate with Pilcher feeling the way he does. Another mess meeting was held demanding the discharge of Pilcher. Last week a two-day conference was held with him - in July - food for 11,000 was

stretched to 15,000 was the explanation of Stults. Books showed that the amount spent was only 35¢ per person. Regarding eggs, they wanted to hold the whole thing back until Beck returned, but Pilcher went ahead and collected all eggs, even those of the dietitians. Pilcher and Douglas said that they would bring in the military and call him "Communist", said that there were eggs in the warehouse. "I try to cooperate but I am not an agitator; but Pilcher is impossible." When Beck returned another meeting was called. The discharge of Douglas and Pilcher was asked in a petition signed by 9000 persons. What should we do? We want advice from the Council. Beck said that 42-43¢ was spent per person but read menu and showed discrepancies because of lack of supplies. How can we obey the menu without supplies? He told how he had to use substitutes. He read what the WRA said ought to be supplied and showed discrepancies. He said Beck cooperates but Pilcher won't change, he picks up eggs to equalize supply does nothing about others. Woman in Alaska wants to kick Takeda but has to hold back.

Wakayama: Subordination is the problem. At mess 13 the cook can't prepare pork and beans; Pilcher says to force him - responsible for farm can't do - Beck says force them - no tact - don't be blunt - people aren't working for wages but to help each other, can't expect ~~help~~ cooperation after orders. Peck threatens to replace cook.

Peck: "We've got people to feed and they've got to be fed. Just because one cook can't get along with another, we can't let people go hungry. Can't help it if cooks can't get along with their help." He defended Pilcher and says his contacts too numerous, just doesn't understand Japanese.

Suzuki: Takeda has presented enough evidence so Shirrell should remove him.

Shirrell: "In Parker and Gila stewards just quit and they are hard to get. There must be more sides to the question." He referred to the merit committee. "Pilcher has undesirable qualities but we'll wear him down. We can't fire civil service employees without charges. It is impossible for 9000 persons to know Pilcher, they signed the petition because someone said: 'This guy's a son of a bitch.' Better with 64 cook's signatures."

Suzuki argued that Sacramento people all hate him.

Takeda said division heads must be C.S. but assistants ~~must~~ can be evacuees.

Shirrell: "Some positions all white."

Wakayama: "The reason why cooks don't cook is no time, Peck didn't catch."

Shirrell: "Cooks are temperamental. They own the kitchen. We get mad; but we've got a job and we must do it." Dirty kitchens - women want to work.

Takeda: "No inventory was taken until August 15. Who knows what the figures are? Most cooks are Issei and don't understand English. Cooks are high tempered. Pilcher takes stuff without explanation in Japanese.

Peck: If we use eggs for every meal we need 85 cases. The situation was bad and they had to make the best of a bad situation. His attitude was bad.

Fukuyama (Merit Committee): "Merit board is working on this case. Passing of petition before investigation is not fair - table petition for the time being."

Suzuki: "Fukuyama is wrong. The petition came from the people and should go directly to Shirrell."

Takeda: Asks for actual count. Pilcher argues but nothing happens. Pilcher's reputation made in Seramento. Cooks were disgusted at dictatorship. "We are not under the Army. If anyone is going to take orders we want to take them from the Army. We don't want to take orders from any man, not even Mr. Pilcher." (Applause)

Fukuyama: "Let's taken action along the proper channels. Some even don't know what they are signing. Personal grudges will lead to all kinds of petitions."

Takeda: "The mess men think the merit committee is under the administration and won't send it, they're fearing unfavorable action. The merit committee has tried to stop the petition. If everyone who complains is labelled, then no one will come to get International Wartime Regulations. I've tried not to go too far and try to cooperate in order to avoid trouble for Tule Lake. I don't want anyone to suffer but I don't want to fight anybody."

Fukuyama: "We all appreciate Mr. Takeda. The merit group is working for the colony. If they are not wanted, they will stay away. If the merit board finds Pilcher undesirable, then we will act. Do the thing sensibly and the easiest way. The Council doesn't know the facts so don't endorse the petition."

Tsukamoto asks if Pilcher was invited. The matter is not trifle. "I have known Mr. Takeda for 20 years and know he is not an agitator. Suppressing petitions is undemocratic. Pilcher is not here and can't defend himself. The Council should endorse the petition and ask Shirrell to investigate. The merit committee has no business in it, but it is the work of the Fair Practice Committee."

Sugiyama moves to this effect and it is seconded. There is no opposition and the motion goes on record.

Shirrell: No interest in the Fair Practice Committee - no quorum elected - will go to the Merit Committee until others elected.

Warehouse Man: "Many watermelons were broken. Anyway (bill of lading allows for it) we tried out best in semi-darkness. Sugar sacks were broken and leaking. Nails were found in the cars. Lots of fellows hang around to pick up things; they took sugar. The warehouse is getting the blame for everything missing."

Fukuyama: "Since the Merit Board has no power, the Council should appoint a committee to investigate the matter."

Wakayama: "What shall we do about mess No. 13? If the cook quits, the block will kick."

Someone: "The trouble will involve the whole farm."

Shibata: Committee of Council.

Taketa: "The administration asks us to cooperate; we might ask the administration to cooperate. Tell us what you want, we'll do it. Pilcher is impossible. Maybe the Army has a more humane attitude - we will have to take orders."

Mayeda: "Give mess question to the Fair Practice Committee."

Miura: "Not ready, give it to Merit Committee."

Suzuki: "Mr. Peck, are you still of the opinion that 13 cooks were insubordinate?"

Peck: "Yes, he could cook pork and beans."

Suzuki: "I move that we give No. 13 full vote of confidence."

Yego: "We haven't had sufficient dope, we've heard only few remarks by Wakayama and Mr. Peck."

Peck: "We will have double lunch hour tomorrow. Farmers are to be brought in."

Wakayama: "We can't cook for farmers with three stoves. Let them cook for themselves. We need two days."

Pilcher and Peck demand that it be done at once. If there is nothing else to do, the cooks will cooperate.

Tsukamoto: "There are no longer administrative men. But we must appreciate their being here. Takeda was kidding about the Army - don't do anything hasty."

Sugiyama: "How are beans to be cooked?" Peck says it's simple.

Wakayama: "We have our own mess people to feed too."

Taketa: "Mess No. 13 is the best kitchen in the camp. If any civilian is going to order me around, I want to have the military do it."

Fukuyama: "We're not getting anywhere. Let's solve this thing in an orderly way. The Committee of Council should settle the matter."

Wakayama: "Trouble will pop soon; shall we wait until it happens?"

Koga: "How about the cooks working tomorrow for only No. 13 until the matter is settled?"

Wakayama: "Cooks will work for No. 13; but if Peck shoves in a new man, there will be trouble."

Koso: "I support the motion because the evidence presented from both sides and I feel that Peck's is weaker."

A vote is taken: 2 opposed, many did not vote.

Oshima: "I would like to ask Peck a question. Personnel and evacuee mess same? Material going out from warehouse. Why is all tenderloin cut for personnel and hospital? Is this Pilcher's orders? Personnel kitchen gets all the sugar they want."

Peck hedges the issue and is not too definite in his answer.

Oshima: Anything the cook orders, he gets from Pilcher.

Beck says he doesn't know.

Oshima: "I can get any butcher to testify."

Shirrell: "Personnel can get from the commissary, but we must take the whole carcass. This has to be stopped if ~~the~~ true."

Wakayama: "It's all true that the choice cuts go to the personnel."

Tsukamoto: "This necessitates an investigation."

A committee of three for study is appointed by the chairman. Passed practically unanimously, committee selected and Suzuki is included in the group.

Shibata wants Council committee for the whole mess problem and moves to that effect.

Yego: "I'd like to see a committee to watch the Merit Board."

Fukuayama: "It is the Council's responsibility and should do the work."

A vote on the amendment. No one knows what's going on. It is now 12:15 and everyone is sleepy. The Chairman picks five committee men at random, doesn't even know their names.

An Issei raises a lumber question. "How about the \$39,000 worth ordered to stop stealing?"

Shirrell: "Scrap lumber should be controlled; the other is government property."

Another man: "That is putting hardship on the wardens."

Oshima: "When do the cooks get clothes?"

Peck doesn't know.

Yumibe: "There is no silverware in Ward 7."

Peck: "Some came in from the CCC. The hog ranch has some."

Meeting adjourned at 12:25.

Tule Lake
Shibutani
Oct. 6, 1942

Council Meeting

- A. Theatre Project Committee: It was reported that construction would cost \$4,000 in material, labor cost was estimated at \$600 and projector would cost \$3000. A contract was already set for a dozen films, first and second run and newsreels. Admission is to be 10¢ straight or 15¢ for adults and 5¢ for children. If there is a demand Japanese films are to be shown. Films are to be changed twice a week with Japanese films to be shown as soon as they have ~~been~~ pass the censor. The initial investment in this project is \$8,400. A roll call was held up because some had not made up their minds.

Tsukamoto "When we go to the block we ought to see that more citizens take part -- not just agitators among the Issei."

Those who want the theatre have no voice. Those with the loudest voices win all the discussion.

Fukuyama "Councilmen are not messenger boys. Let's make our own decisions."

A motion was made and seconded to vote on the matter favorably.

Koso objects: "We cannot disregard the feelings of the Issei. It is the fault of the Nisei but because of Nisei apathy we cannot disregard Issei opinions."

Tsukamoto "Democracy is the will of the majority. If the issue is of the nisei, the Councilmen who are citizens ought to vote for the nisei. If the Councilmen bow to the minority then they are not fulfilling their duty."

Yego "We gave too much power to the block people. If the Councilmen are to be messengers, I don't want to be one."

Suzuki "The majority never rules. We are in a different situation and we must respect the opinions of the blocks. If the Councilmen object, why don't they work up Nisei interest? If the people can't be heard, why have Councilmen?"

Fukuyama "The people have faith in me and I make my own judgments."

Councilman "The block may be against it but I'll vote yes. If the block doesn't like it, I'll quit."

On a roll call on the motion favoring the building some voted yes in spite of their block's feelings. The motion carries: 34 yes, 9 absent, 11 no.

Koso moves that we have a roll call at the block "because of difficulties with agitators, we are throwing democracy out. Our responsibility is to educate the Nisei and Issei."

Shirrell "This is representative and not pure democracy. I have enough to go ahead."

Koso "I see trouble coming. This is not a Nisei question but concerns everyone. Issei and Nisei are in the same boat. If we don't report back, we can't even get information."

Sugiyama "No Issei in the Council and if we are to make up our mind we should have Issei in here."

Comm. Man "As citizens we don't want to be taken for suckers."

Shirrell challenges him and says no one is a sucker. Koso says that if it necessary explanations could be made door to door. Tsukamoto objects.

Rukiyama

"In an emergency what should be do? The council must stand on its feet."

Motion is voted down.

B. Meat situation in the personnel mess.

A memo from Shirrell to Peck was read, "There is no discrimination between the camp and personnel." O

Oshima (Com.) - choice cuts of meat sent to personnel. Sugar also sent to personnel kitchen. 50-100 persons used 500 pounds in September. Orders from Pilcher.

C. Women employees on project farm.

Shibata announces volunteer high school labor on the farm. If women want to work, it is okay, but lavatories must be fixed and transportation arranged. The presence of women bothers some men. A vote was taken: 20-16 in favor.

D. City Council Constitution. Not ready.

E. Meeting place for council. Set but stove is problem. Not ready.

F. Planning board.

Shibata w. diagram. Problem: (Issei construction crew, Dr. Harada) Need committee to handle difficulties. Function: to advise administration and colonists on basic policies; research on causes of disputes to prevent recurrence; guide complaints to ~~people~~ proper channels; organization of Nisei and Nisei (majority Issei); men go to all meetings to see what's going on - may request anyone to advise: personnel ~~section~~ selection - get more Issei - 7 Issei, one from each ward - Councilman sits in and executive secretary - can't best men by vote - nominating committee select candidates and then colonists vote on them. Qualifications: experience and personnel work - six months only on voluntary basis - even if off from other jobs, will be paid in full, anyone can be recalled. Nine men will appoint three technicians to be paid by WRA for research (25 years of age, experience in personnel work, bi-lingual) - put in outline in charter. Question: What is conflict between p.b. and other boards?

Shibata

"If there are differences, it is better to have it in the p.b. than in the open."

There is a big squabble and quibble about conflict in responsibilities and power in other boards - p.b. Issei - conflict with Nisei Council. Taketa wants power for Council to run works, "supreme authority" over community activities - puts in nice way - recall - anyone can be recalled by name calling. "Any Nisei in administrative position is subject to impeachment by the Council." "Somebody's got to have a lot of power to direct, and I think the Council ought to have it."

Iego

"No use having a Council if we don't have supreme power."

Tsukamoto

"The appointment of any one of Japanese ancestry to any responsible position shall be subject to review by the Council." (reading from New Charter)

Shibata's report accepted. Tsukamoto moves the incorporation of p.b. in the charter. Passed.

- G. Mess: Suggestion for improvements sent to Shirrell. Taketa has report. Tsukamoto moves to have a committee of five to investigate. "Menus not balanced" according to the letter.
- H. Suzuki: "No more soap in Mess 24." Shirrell: "Doubled soap allowance."
- I. School kids work: Shirrell: "We have 11 months to cover $8\frac{1}{2}$ months' work. This is part-time work. They will be paid as apprentices."
- J. Unloading train: Caucasian labor because project has to pay \$300 demurer, getting \$95 an hour. Someone wants colonists to get that for trust fund. "My gang watches them and decides they are working too hard."
- K. Shirrell: School plans approved by WPB, wants people to go to beets. We need labor but this place is temporary and people ought to go. Got permission for two colonists to ~~investigate the place~~ investigate the place. Questions: draft, details. Two T.B. hospitals will be built and patients and families will be transferred.
- L. Mess hall investigation of Pilcher by committee appointed by Shirrell: Pilcher efficient but didn't correct mistakes and didn't explain and was untactful with colonists. He was working under a strain.
- M. Tsukamoto announces correction to rumor: JAOL program is resettlement. Some have the idea that JAOL is working independently, but not working with anyone. Masaoka working with everyone, willing to help us. (1) Home Missions Committee and many churches - all members of St. Relocation Committee. Ends with plug for JAOL.
- N. Ballots - apply now.
- O. Barrells for tsukamono.
- P. Question on area for relocation.
- Q. Motion to support Shirrell's efforts for relocation carries.

Adjourned at 10:45.

Sept. 26, 1942

Kendall Smith "If I had to do this all over again I wouldn't have taken the job. I think there are obvious needs of a community which should be filled. The Japanese people and the staff of the WRA think that the theatre is a good thing. The War Production Board has put a limit of \$200 on amusement buildings and this limit will go into effect on September 7. We had to have lumber. I had to act at once. I don't know why you're kicking now. Nobody kicked when I spent money on other things. I have done my best to give you what the Japanese people told me you wanted. The majority of people wanted a picture show. We have invested \$10,000 of Japanese money to fix up the place, \$6500 for the theatre including machines. I bought the last two available in San Francisco. In August it became obvious that priorities would make theatre material hard to get. The actual cost to Tule Lake will be 38¢ per person and the thing can pay for itself in four months if we charge 10 to 20¢. I turned down some things because they were too risky. It's not my money but yours."

In the meantime Suzuki was getting very restless while Smith yelled and talked in a loud voice.

"That guy's boiling again," a Councilman arose and said, "The community should have been consulted."

Smith "The community never wanted to know about anything else. Hell, if I didn't do anything, nothing would happen here. The City Council washed its hands of the Community Enterprise a few weeks ago, why should I consult you?"

Suzuki "Shirrell said that profits were spent as the Council saw fit. This shows that Shirrell was a liar. I think it is a matter of principle that Shirrell's word be taken or not."

Takeda "The people run the Community Enterprise."

Smith "I run the Community Enterprise until the people organize a co-op. Should I have waited until it's too late?"

Elberson "At the time of the theatre problem the Co-op advisory board stepped down."

Tsukamoto "This is another instance of issei-nisei conflict - the Co-op and Council separate. The whole responsibility lies with the Co-op board that resigned."

Smith "But I did consult the people. I asked those who worked in the canteen and I also talked to a dozen people who came into the stores."

Suzuki "The way to ask questions can draw the type of answers desired. You probably asked questions which brought the desired answers."

Smith "The inference you're drawing is wrong."

Tsukamoto "The temporary Co-op board should not take the responsibility. We should talk to three members unofficially since this information gets out rumors will fly. Since there is no Co-op body, the Council must take the matter up."

Wakayama "The Co-op is at fault. It's not our responsibility."

Elberson "Let me make this matter clear. The advisory council of the Co-op was a

liaison between the Community Enterprise and the people. When they quit their functions ceased. They had no power to manage. They were merely advisors."

Smith "We didn't have to listen to them but we did and we cooperated with them. I'll be the happiest man in Tule Lake ~~when~~ when the Japanese legally set up a Co-op."

Tsukamoto "Whether we have power or no power the responsibility of the people should have been consulted before the Council passed a resolution. Something is wrong. When the Advisory board did not have the courtesy to consult the people the Council passed a resolution separating from the Community Enterprise because they thought the Co-op board had power. Is that right?"

Suzuki was the only one who yelled, "Absolutely right."

Tsukamoto "The Council ought to take full power now. Somebody should have been consulted."

Smith "Who did we consult for the barber shop?"

A Councilman spoke up: "That doesn't answer the question. An architect or Councilman should have been consulted."

Smith "Consult who? The Council washed its hands. I'll be happy if someone is selected for consultation."

Taketa "The WRA promised buildings but not here. The Community Enterprise comes through. You are good as a business man but the WRA should operate the movie or Shirrell is a liar."

Smith "If you wait for the WRA you won't get a damn thing. I feel sorry for you fellows."

Suzuki "What's already happened can't be erased. But there is a matter of principle at stake. I want Mr. Shirrell's promise down on record."

Wakayama "We thought the whole was turned over to the Co-op but we now know the Board was wallflowers. Everyone ought to be told about this so they won't sneak up on us again."

Elberson "I think it grossly unfair to cast slurs on the Co-op committee, especially if I had stated its functions and you knew about it all the time."

Yego "I was against the Co-op at first, still I think there is responsibility on their part."

Taketa "This is a sad case. I don't think the people in the Administration Building knew what was going on. Can't blame them."

At this point Mr. Katsuyama of the construction crew came into the meeting. He stated that the construction crew would not handle the building material until the Council formally approved.

Tsukamoto "We don't want to blame anyone but we are not responsible. We don't want the responsibility."

Suzuki "The management of the Co-op should have informed the liaison group."

Smith "Don't jump on the Co-op group. Try me. I'm the defendant. I didn't ask the

the Co-op because there was no theatre project when they came."

Suzuki "Then you're the one that's responsible?"

Smith "Yes, I'm responsible for the barber shop, beauty shop, shoe store and everything else."

Taketa "The Council holds legislative power over the police but not over the management. This is a sad, sad affair."

Suzuki "That's right."

Smith "No WRA money for the theatre. Don't yell at me. There's no Co-op and no Council with power and here I am in between. I had to make decisions."

Suzuki "Let's wait until Tuesday and ask the people. The people might be in favor of the theatre. Let's find out."

Taketa "If you want to go ahead, you take the responsibility. If the people confirm them you'll be on better grounds."

Suzuki "The point is the construction crew won't work without approval of the Council."

Smith "I don't give a damn what you do. I'll keep working for what I think is for the welfare of the people. I don't quit."

With this Smith left the room and the Councilmen loudly applauded.

Takemoto "We should have nothing to do with it. We should favor or disfavor it. He knows the construction crew won't work without approval. What he was actually doing was barring ~~possession~~ possibility of the theatre."

Miyamoto Sumio "The cost will be charged to Community Enterprise, the people, but they will have to follow WRA orders."

Katsuyama "We will not go ahead without the Council's O.K. The money is from the people so we want right O.K. If it were WRA money we'd go ahead."

Taketa "We should go back to the blocks and get their opinions."

Tsukamoto "Even if the people objected we couldn't do anything."

Elberson "The Co-op is not yet ready to handle the problem."

Wakayama "Still that doesn't bring back money already spent. Contracts have been signed, it's too late."

Miyamoto "How about \$120,000 worth of clothes? Does everything have to be bought here?"

Suzuki "Yes, but clothes are different things because the WRA supplies script. Your credit is no good. You won't get a damn thing if the government is not here to back you. Don't kid yourself, nobody would send you anything if the government were not here."

Miyamoto "WRA has no connection with the government."

Suzuki & Taketa "Yes they have."

Wak. "Well, what're we going to do?"

Yego "We must look into the matter. It'll be our theatre."

Suzuki "If it's built."

Yego "You fellows who are grumbling are talking through your hats. Let's notify the blocks and get their opinion regardless of their powers. I move the Council report to the people and come back Tuesday."

Tsukamoto then rose and played the nisei for their apathy. He announced very dramatically the Federal bill to deprive nisei of citizenship passed in the House and reported favorably to Senate. He then went on to attack those individuals who had been skeptical about the JACL and ended by saying that it was the problem of the nisei and he was not going to say anything more. This threw the entire meeting into a bedlam. Everyone was shouting. Elberson was so angry he couldn't speak.

Suzuki yelled in a loud voice, "Let's stew over it and get hot."

The meeting was adjourned in the midst of this melee but most of the Councilmen stood around talking to each other.

Foot Note: For more detailed discussion of the effect of Tsukamoto's announcement on the Council, see section in Social Change.