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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT

Topaz, Utah

SPRING FESTIVAL AT TOPAZ

by

RUSSELL A. BANKSON

PROJECT REPORTS DIVISION
HISTORICAL SECTION
R. A. Bankson

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Early in April, Charles F. Ernst, Project Director of Topaz, began to look around for some social activity that would be center-wide in its interest.

It seemed quite logical to plan this around a May Day program which was already formulating in the schools. A committee representing units and sections of the Administrative Staff and various organizations and groups among the residents, was called together by Mr. Ernst to discuss the general idea. The original suggestion that this proposed activity center around May Day was quickly expanded into a tentative program for a project wide Spring Festival which would extend over a ten day period. Considerable enthusiasm developed immediately, and committees were selected to assume charge of various phases of the proposed festival.

Chojiro Numajiri, a leader in center activities, was the unanimous choice for general chairman of the Spring Festival. Various other resident and staff personnel were chosen for chairmanships of various sections of the program. Regular meetings were held by committee men and the idea developed to a point where it included practically every phase of Center life.

Under the direction of Miss Wanda Robertson, elementary school principal who served as chairman of the program committee, the various activities decided upon for the festival

were coordinated into a well rounded program which featured some highlight each day and evening, beginning with Friday, May 5, and concluding with Mother's Day, May 14.

Attractive programs were prepared by the Project Reports Division and distributed throughout the Center to every apartment. These were produced in both English and Japanese. A copy is attached as Exhibit A.

The program throughout the festival period featured demonstrations, exhibits, tournaments, shows, and tours of inspection. There was such wide spread interest that practically every person in the entire Center either participated or was a spectator at some phase of the festival.

By actual count or close estimate, the rather amazing total of approximately 23,000 persons attended the various events, with a center population of less than 6,500, which means that every resident viewed three or four events. In addition hundreds of persons were participants in the various events. The table of statistics is attached as Exhibit B.

Details of the various events are briefly summarized as follows:

The opening feature centered around Boys' Day on Friday, May 5 and consisted of proper observance with programs in the various dining halls.

This is a very important annual event in the Japanese social pattern and has as its base, an ancient Chinese legend which tells of a mighty river which flowed so deep and so swift

that fish must struggle every inch of the way to navigate its course to the stiller water of the mysterious lake which forms its source. Of all species, only the carp ever succeeded and of these, only the very few were courageous, strong and determined enough to achieve success.

Symbolically then, is the youth has the courage and the determination to succeed in his studies and his physical prowess. On this day, the huge paper fish in gaudy colors are flown in Topaz on masts above the mess hall buildings. On Boys' Day, from a high elevation looking over Topaz, it was a colorful and interesting sight to see these huge fish, some of them as much as 20 feet in length, flying from every Block.

The programs were participated in by most of the youths of the Center and consisted, in their serious parts, of a repetition of the legend of the fish, handed down through the generations by word of mouth from the older to the young people.

Saturday and Sunday, May 6 and 7, were set aside for various exhibits including sewing school, Red Cross, flower arrangements, goh, shogi, and softball tournaments.

The sewing school exhibit was sponsored by the sewing and needlecraft schools of Topaz and took the form of spring fashion exhibits and a tea, and was held in Rec. Hall #5. Over 1,500 persons attended the exhibit during the two days of the affair.

The exhibit featured clothing fashioned by students of

the school under the direction of various teachers who had organized their small groups, and covered the range from dainty underlings to formal suits. In all, 135 articles were exhibited, most of which were prepared by the advanced students. The exhibits were wide in variety, each class vying to show an interesting array of clothing. It was interesting to see just how extensive the students have carried their work into the field of dress-making.

The class conducted by Mrs. H. Suzuki and Miss A. Nakahara exhibited 3 box-coats, 2 dress coats, three 3-piece suits, (coat, skirt and blouse) three 3-piece suits (overcoat, skirt and top-coat), 4 dresses, 2 men's sport shirts, 2 men's pants.

Mrs. T. Katagihara and Miss M. Sakuda's class exhibited 1 redingote coat, 2 princess coats, 2 boxy jackets, 1 box coat, 2 dress suits, 2 wool jacket suits, 2 dinner dresses, 2 afternoon dresses, 1 semi-formal, 2 housecoats, and 5 skirts.

Mrs. H. Shimizu and Mrs. M. Isoye's class exhibited 7 children's dresses, 4 children's pinafores, 2 boy's sailor suits, 2 girl's sailor suit, 5 aprons, 4 sets of boys and girls' suits, 1 men's sport shirt and 2 women's dresses.

Mrs. H. Harada and Mrs. S. Harada's class exhibited 2 dress suits, 2 sport suits, 6 evening dresses, 6 afternoon dresses, 1 sport coat, and 2 fancy blouses.

Mrs. T. Tokunaga and Miss F. Kondo's needlecraft department

exhibited 1 round table cloth, 5 knitted suits, 6 babies' sets, 10 lace collars, 4 girls' sweaters, 10 laces, 3 boys' sweater, 3 men's sweater and 5 knitted scarfs and lace fastinator.

The Red Cross exhibit was held in one end of the same Rec. Hall as the fashion exhibit and all who attended one attended the other. This exhibit was under the supervision of Mrs. Kuniko Fujita, chairman of the Home Service Department of the Red Cross.

The exhibit centered around a huge background poster, 6 feet square, the work of Mr. Hibi, well-known artist of Topaz. The exhibit featured the various kinds of materials which the Topaz Red Cross is providing for the Topaz Hospital and local welfare use. In the exhibit were 50 variety of garments, cigarettes and candies, magazines and first aid kits.

The flower exhibit was held in the new auditorium building and consisted of displays and arrangements of cut flowers shipped in from long distances, mainly California, and paper flowers and dolls. The display occupied the entire perimeter of the auditorium together with table displays scattered about the auditorium floor. A total of 103 persons participated in the preparation of the displays, and over 4,000 spectators were registered during the two days.

The softball tournament was an afternoon event for center-

wide participation and was attended by a large crowd.

Saturday events concluded with the Girl Reserves' Dance held in the high school dining hall #32, with a capacity crowd in attendance.

The goh and shogi games, which were center-wide in their participation, were held on four different days, the first tournament being in Rec. Hall #39 on Saturday and Sunday, May 6 and 7, and the finals on Saturday and Sunday, May 15 and 16. The goh tournament is a Chinese chess game and the shogi a Chinese checker game, both of which have extensive following within the center, among the older people.

During the tournament, there were 89 participants in the goh games, and 80 participants in the shogi games, with a total of 160 participants, while spectators who observed the play during the 4 day period totaled 1,250. Mr. N. Fujii was the commissioner for the goh tournament and Mr. T. Tawara was commissioner for the shogi tournament.

Sunday, May 7 also included special church services in both the Protestant and Buddhist Churches during the morning, each being attended by a capacity crowd. During the afternoon, the softball tournament continued and an Old Folks' Party was held under the auspices of the USO in Rec. Hall #4.

For the softball tournament, an extensive program was prepared which included a flag raising ceremony by the Boy

Scouts of Topaz and singing of the "Star Spangled Banner" by the entire audience. Acting Project Director Roscoe Bell was present to represent the administration and gave a brief talk. Dr. George Ochikubo, chairman of the Community Council also gave a talk. A response to these two talks was given by Shizuo Sasaki, chairman of the Baseball Committee. Mr. Bell and Dr. Ochikubo tossed the first balls. Spectators were estimated at 2,500.

The Old Folks' party was especially interesting. Each resident over 75 years of age was invited to be a guest of honor at a tea party. There were 57 persons in the center who were qualified to be guests, and out of this number, 31 were in attendance with a total of 81 present.

The chairman for the occasion was Kinoshige Hashimoto. The program consisted of remarks by the chairman; vocal solo by Miss Hoshiga, accompanied by Miss Sugiyama; address by Mr. Numajiri, chairman of the Spring Festival; address by Mr. Hoshiga, representing the Council; response by Mr. M. Tsukamoto, representing guests and entertainment (jugglery) by Mr. John Kato.

A noticeable feature of the occasion was the presence of a couple from Block 36, Mr. and Mrs. and Mrs. Kiyomura, the ages of each being 88 years. In view of the fact that this was the first attempt at a gathering of this character, it was unusually successful.

Monday, May 8, featured the opening of the garden program in the afternoon when many residents and Appointive Staff members

members took the occasion to start their victory garden, with several hundred participating.

An induction banquet for selective service candidates in the evening was the second one sponsored by the Community Council and USO, and honored 128 men who had passed their pre-induction physical examinations, under the selective service system. The same evening an amateur night was held in the Civic Auditorium.

The USO coordinated the program with the cooperation of the Block Managers, Community Activities and the Citizens' Committee. The banquet was held at 6:30 PM at Dining Hall #19 with invitations extended to the 128 guests of honor; 11 men in the Enlisted Reserve Corps; representatives of the Citizens' Committee, Block Managers, Community Council, Community Government Officials, Judicial Commission members, Spanish Joint Committee, USO and those assisting in the service.

The banquet program was presided over by Dave Tatsuno as toastmaster. Grace was asked by Rev. Tsukamoto. Miss Margaret Kitashima sang "God Bless America" and "Dear Mom". She has a beautiful voice and is widely known as a vocalist in this Center. Speakers for the banquet included Mr. S. Sasaki as Issei Representative; Mr. George Shimamoto, Vice Chairman of the Community Council, and Project Director Charles F. Ernst for the Administration. The response was given by Tad Fujita. The program concluded with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne".

At 8:00 PM, the guests of the banquet adjourned to the auditorium for the amateur night where the first row of seats had been reserved for this group. Attendance at the banquet was 175 persons as a number of the selective service boys had already left the Center.

One of the highlights of the Festival was these amateur talent contests which were held on the evenings of May 8 and 9 in the auditorium. These contests were sponsored by the Community Activities Section, and revealed a great deal of heretofore unknown talents.

Since the basic principle of the whole Spring Festival was to encourage the mass participation of Topaz residents, the amateur night was inaugurated instead of the usual talent show as originally suggested. In this way, an opportunity was provided to any talented person to participate in such activity. In addition, the residents profited from this event, by discovering new featured for future talent shows.

The original plan called for the distribution of \$20 in awards, which was furnished by the Spring Festival Budget Committee, by giving \$15 to the winner of the first place in the contest, and \$5 for second place.

This plan was changed however, so that the division of awards was left to the discretion of the judges for a wider distribution. It was also arranged so that awards were divided

between American style and Japanese style presentations, and two sets of three judges were selected for the American style numbers. The contestants were judged on the following point system :

Entertainment value		50 per cent
Technic		25 " "
Costume	5	
Memory	10	
Tone	10	
Poise		15
Talent		<u>10</u>
	Total	100 per cent

The winners were: first, \$5.00, Miss Violet Yoshiyama, acrobatic dance, age 8; second, \$5.00, Jivesters, dance band; third, \$3.00 Miss Reiko Obhima, vocal soloist; fourth, \$2.00, Miss Grace Otsuji, baton twirling.

The Japanese style numbers were judged on the ability and production basis, and included Odoris (Japanese dances) from Madame Tachibana's class, with three entrants dividing the \$5 prize. The winning participants were the Misses Kimiko Abe, Setsuko Abe and the Yoshida sisters.

The program was completed by showing a motion picture feature titled "The Silver Queen". The same program was shown both evenings, and the awards were made at the end of the second evening.

By special arrangement, Nisei boys who had taken their pre-induction physical examination for selective service were

the honored guests for the first performance, with a reserved section set aside for them and their girl friends.

The attendance for the two evening was 2,300.

The principal feature of the festival on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 9 and 10 was the Agriculture Program. On Tuesday, about 50 Block Managers and their assistants spent the forenoon on a tour of the project farm. After lunch at the central farm kitchen, they joined about 15 block participants on one of the tracts and assisted in the replanting of 2,000 cabbage plants to inaugurate the agriculture replanting program.

The feature of the agriculture program on Wednesday, May 10, was the visit of 2 groups of about 150 residents who were taken on a tour of the farm. A large passenger bus was used to make this tour comfortable and easy for the ladies and elderly men.

This festival gave the first opportunity for some residents to get a close up first-hand view of the agricultural activities. The itinerary for the agriculture days follows:

May 9: Educational Tour by Block Manager and Inauguration
Replanting

9:00 AM
9:30 AM - 9:50 AM
10:00 AM - 10:20 AM
10:30 AM - 10:50 AM
11:00 AM - 11:20 AM
11:45 AM - 12:45 AM

Block Manager leave Office
Block Manager visit Nursery
Block Manager visit Poultry
Block Manager visit Swine
Block Manager visit cattle
Lunch

1:30 PM	Block Participant for Inauguration of Replanting, leave center.
2:00 PM - 3:30 PM	Replanting followed by short speech by Mr. McColm
4:00 PM	Block Manager and Participants leave for Center.

May 10: Educational Tour by General Public

9:30 AM	First group leave center
9:40 AM - 10:00 AM	Nursery
10:10 AM - 10:30 AM	Poultry
10:40 AM - 11:00 AM	Swine
11:10 AM - 11:30 AM	Cattle
11:30 AM	Leave for center

1:30 PM	Second group leave center.
1:50 PM - 2:10 PM	Cattle
2:20 PM - 2:40 PM	Swine
2:50 PM - 3:10 PM	Poultry
3:20 PM - 3:40 PM	Nursery

May 11 featured a health exhibit at the high school during the afternoon and evening, and a presentation of the high school play, "Gay Nineties Review" at the Civic Auditorium in the evening.

Education Day was featured on Friday May 12, with a repeat performance of the "Gay Nineties Review" in the evening. The Education Day program was one of the most elaborate of the entire festival period and was staged on the High School Plaza out in the open. The program was designed to include in its scheme, the participation of every students in the schools. No less than 1,500 spectators viewed the colorful ceremony staged by the elementary school pupils. The program included the

following:

Instrumental selections - H.S. Orchestra under the direction of
Thayer C. Barrus

Coronation of the queens -

High School Queen--Roscoe Bell, Acting Project Director
Desert View Elementary School Queen, Dr. Geo. Ochikubo
Chairman of City Council
Mountain View Elementary School Queen, L. C. Noble
Superintendent of Schools

Speech of Welcome - Roscoe Bell

Chorus of Fifth and Sixth Grade Children of the Mountain View
School -- Spring Songs

Dances under the direction of the elementary school teachers
and Principal

KINDERGARTEN OF BOTH SCHOOLS--Shoemaker's Dance & Dance
of Greeting

FIRST GRADES OF BOTH SCHOOLS--Have you Seen My Shoes?
Over and Under

SECOND GRADES OF BOTH SCHOOLS--Hansel and Gretel Dance
Paw Paw Dance
Jump Jim Crow

THIRD GRADES OF BOTH SCHOOLS--Virginia Reel
Oh Susanna

FOURTH GRADES OF BOTH SCHOOLS--Chegobar
A Hunting We will Go

FIFTH GRADE OF THE MOUNTAIN VIEW SCHOOL--Norwegian Mountain
March
Gathering Peascord

MAYPOLE DANCE
Fifth Grade girls of both schools

MILITARY DRILL
By the Fifth and Sixth Grade Children of the Desert
View School

In connection with the elementary school program, an art exhibit of the work of the pupils in the two schools was shown in Rec. Hall #8 on Friday and Saturday with a total attendance of 600.

The Spring Festival festivities concluded on Mother's Day, May 14. These ceremonies were held in the auditorium and attracted approximately 600 persons. Sponsored by the Topaz Inter-Faith Ministerial Association, the program included seed and soil dedication, Mother's Day Program, and a Japanese entertainment.

The seed and soil dedication began at 1:30 PM with Rev. Tsukamoto acting as chairman. The program included the following numbers:

- | | | |
|------|---|---------------------|
| I. | Congregation Singing: "This is my Father's World" | |
| II. | Introductory Remarks | Chairman |
| III. | Scripture Reading: St. Mark 4:3-9 | |
| | Japanese | The Rev. Imai |
| | English | The Rev. Tsukamoto |
| IV. | Prayer | The Rev. Imai |
| V. | Chorus "We Plow the Field" | Japanese Choir |
| VI. | Seed and Soil Dedication | |
| | A. Dedication of Seed | |
| | Japanese | Mr. G. Hoshiga |
| | English | Mr. Koji Murata |
| | B. Dedication of Soil | |
| | Japanese | Mr. Sakai Toda |
| | English | Mr. Vernon Ichisaka |
| | C. Dedicatory Prayer | The Rev. Tsukamoto |

- VII. Congregational Singing: "Ureshiya Harubewa"
- VIII. Address Mr. Roscoe E. Bell
- IX. Address The Rev. T. Hashima
- X. Congregational Singing: "Work for the Right is Coming"

The Japanese part of the program under the chairmanship of Mr. H. Honnami included classical and modern Japanese dances, presented by Madame Tachibana and her pupils, sponsored by the Engel Dramatic Club.

The Mothers' Day program started at 2:30 PM and included the following:

- I. Prelude
- II. Introductory Remarks The Rev. Imai
- III. Singing: "What a Friend We Have in Mother"
- IV. Addresses
 - A. High School Boy Student
 - B. High School Girl Student
- V. Greetings
 - A. Administration-Charles F. Ernst, Project Director
 - B. City Council
- VI. Response Mrs. Kuniko Fujita
- VII. Chorus: "Though Far You May Stray" Japanese Choir
- VIII. Address The Rev. Motoyoshi
- IX. Singing: "The Swance River"

Summaries of the remarks of some of the speakers follow:

Mr. Imai said: (Translated)

"In behalf of the Inter-Faith Ministerial Association, we are glad for this large gathering to honor each and every Mother. Mothers who have passed to their rest, still reminds us of our duty to manhood and womanhood, leaving example of love and unselfishness. Mothers living today are keeping up the traditions by service of love also. What is the world without a Mother! Mother being home always, is a shining light in each household. Absence of Mother causes darkness and sadness in any home. Each year as today, it is a joy to set apart a day to honor our Mothers. To pause awhile from every day duties, to look back and remember all the sufferings and patience undergone by Mother, because love was the main motive daily.

"So today, as chairman of the program, may each Mother cheerfully and patiently live up to their name."

Mr. Shimamoto said: (Translated)

"Greetings to Mothers of Topaz. We are glad you are here today. The meaning of Mother is a very important thing in our lives. In the word Mother lies the meaning of unreserved love. During this tense and troubled times of war, how important is the role of Mother to wisely guide us, pray for us, and cheer us. So Mothers, may you never forget your duty to your children that you will be good and understanding Mother as long as you live.

"And to the Inter-Faith group who made this Mothers' Day program a great success, may I say 'Congratulations!'"

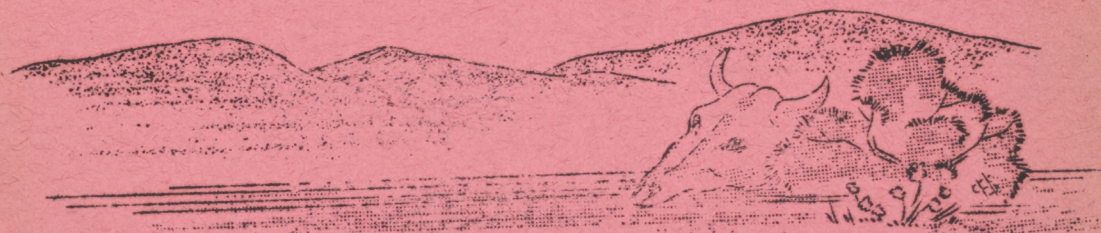
Mrs. Pajita's response: (Translated)

"Dear friends: Today I am greatly honored. I have been asked to represent the Mother of Topaz, so here I am in their behalf. First of all, I wish to thank the Inter-Faith group for this wonderful program to honor all Mothers. Also, in behalf of the Mothers of Topaz, I want to thank our dear Project Director, the City Council, and the students of Topaz City High School.

"We as Mothers, wish to live each day that we can be of benefit to our children; That we will have the patience to understand our children; To guide them safely to successful living.

"In behalf of the Topaz Mothers, I wish to thank you each and everyone for your presence here today. We are indeed very happy to be honored and may we be worthy of receiving it all."

TOPAZ Spring Festival



MAY 5 - 14

P R O G R A M

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Time</u>
May 5 - 五月五日	Boy's Day Program 端午の節句 催し	Block D.H.'s 各食堂	All Eve.
6 - 六日	Sewing School Exhibit 裁縫学校展覧会 Red Cross Exhibit 赤十字展覧会 Flower Exhibit 花の展覧会 Goh - Shogi 碁 将棋	Rec. #5 Rec. #5 Auditorium 高校講堂 Rec. #6 Rec. #38	All Day All Day All Day All Day All Day
	Kite Contest 風揚競技 Softball Tournament ベースボール Girl Reserves' Dance 少女團舞蹈会	H.S. Plaza 高校廣場 Block 15 D.H. #32	All AM 1:30 PM 8:30 PM
7 - 七日	Sewing School Exhibit 裁縫学校展覧会 Red Cross Exhibit 赤十字展覧会 Flower Exhibit 花の展覧会 Goh - Shogi 碁 将棋	Rec. #5 Rec. #5 Auditorium 講堂 Rec. #6 Rec. #38	All Day All Day All Day All Day All Day
	Church Services 教会禮拜 Softball Tournament ベースボール Old Folks' Party 老齡者歡待会	Churches 教会 Block 15 USO - Rec. #4 2-25 妙	Morning 1:30 PM PM

May 8 - Garden Program
五月八日 農園 催し
Induction Banquet
徴兵 晩餐会
Talent Show
演藝會

9 - Farm Program
九日 農園 催し
Talent Show (Repeat)
演藝會 (二度目)

10 - Farm Program
十日 農園 催し

11 - Health Exhibit
十一日 衛生展覧会
H.S. Drama Presentation
高校劇上演

12 - Education Day
十二日 教育デー
H.S. Drama Presentation
(Repeat)
高校劇上演 (二度目)

13 - Elem. School Art Exhibit
十三日 小學生美術品展覧会
Marble Contest
はしき玉競技
Adult Ed. Art Exhibit
成人教育美術品展覧会
May Day Dance
春祭舞踊

14 - Mother's Day Program &
十四日 Farmers' Spring Dedication
母の日 及び 農園 催し
Adult Ed. Art Exhibit
成人教育美術品展覧会

Farms 農園	All PM
D.H. 19	6:45 PM
Auditorium 講堂	7:30 PM
Farm 農園	All Day
Auditorium	7:30 PM
Farm 農園	All Day
High School	PM & Eve.
Auditorium 講堂	8:30 PM
Schools 学校	All Day
Auditorium	8:30 PM
Rec. #8	All Day
H.S. Plaza 高校廣場	All AM
Rec. #7	All PM & Eve.
Auditorium	8:30 PM
Auditorium 講堂	PM
Rec. #7	All PM & Eve.

Honorary Chairman.....Mr. Charles F. Ernst
General Chairman.....Mr. Chojuro Numajiri
Program Chairman..... Mr. Tats Nakamoto
Miss Wanda Robertson
Finance Chairman.....Mr. Gilbert L. Niesse
Publicity Director.....Mr. Russell A. Bankson .

EXHIBIT A

SPRING FESTIVAL STATISTICS

Exhibit B

DATE	EVENT	PLACE	TIME	ATTENDANCE
5/5	Boy's Day Program	Block D. H.'s	All evening	2,500
5/6-7	Sewing School Exhibit	Rec. #5	All Day	1,500
	Red Cross Exhibit	Rec. #5	All Day	1,500
	Flower Exhibit	Auditorium	All Day	4,000
	Goh-Shogi	Rec. #6 & 38	All Day	1,250
	Softball Tournament	Block #15	1:30 PM	2,500
5/6	Girl Reserves' Dance	D. H. #32	8:30 PM	200
5/7	Church Services	Churches	Morning	350
	Old Folks' Party	USO-Rec. 4	3:00 PM	81
5/8	Garden Program	Farms	All PM	800
	Induction Banquet	D. H. 19	6:45 PM	175
5/8-9	Talent Show	Auditorium	7:30 PM	2,300
5/9-10	Farm Program	Farm	All Day	150
5/11-12	HS Drama Presentation	Auditorium	8:30 PM	2,000
5/12	Education Day	Schools	All Day	1,500
5/13-14	Elementary School Art Exhibit	Rec. #8	All Day	300
	Adult Ed. Art Exhibit	Rec. #7	All PM & Eve.	250
5/13	May Day Dance	Auditorium	8:30 PM	120
5/14	Mother's Day Program &	Auditorium	PM	600
	Farmers' Spring Dedication			850
			TOTAL	22,926