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COLORADO RIVER-WAR RELOCATION PROJECT
Poston, Arizona.
May 11, 1942

Mr. G. E. Blackledge, County Agent,
Yuma County,
Yuma, Arizona.

Dear Mr. Blackledge:

Would it be possible for you to get for us a quotation on Bermuda seed in one-ton quantity? It appears that we might be needing some of this seed for planting of lawns within the camp areas occupied by the Japanese.

Very truly yours,

H. A. Mathiesen.
Chief of Agriculture and Industries.

Poston, Arizona
June 3, 1942

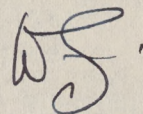
MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Head.

The selection of a competent agronomist trained in the Soil Conservation Service seems to me the key to going forward with the farm planning program developed in my conferences with your Staff.

Mr. Flory has suffered and highly recommended Mr. Lucien Hale, Project Area Director of the SCS at Phoenix. He also suggests we further investigate Mr. Petler, who is joining our S&M Staff at Phoenix. Mr. Petler could be detailed here to try him out.

If neither of the above works out, you might get in touch with Floyd Matthews, SCS, Albuquerque, who is acting in charge since Calkins left.

If you can get the expert agronomist, should he not be put in direct charge of the Technical Division, under general supervision of Mathieson? I raise this point because the farm planning technique developed by SCS are unique and of critical importance to your program, and ought to be directed by someone thoroughly versed in them.



Ward Shepard

ttm

Poston, Arizona
June 3, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Head.

The following are the main points of numerous discussions on the landscape program:

Irrigation will be responsible for levelling and preparing the Project Area for planting, and Mr. Mathieson will be responsible for the planting program.

The landscaping committee will assign a landscaping expert to each Block.

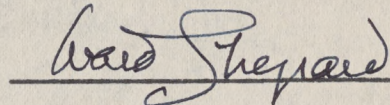
The land between the houses will be available to the family groups for flowers, vegetables, or lawns.

The general landscaping plan outside of these family plots is being made by Mr. Noguchi, but it should be reviewed by the landscaping committee and individual landscape experts. Because of the extreme formality of the camp layout, the landscaping plan it seems to be should get away from over-formality and should introduce as much variety and informality as possible.

Mr. Flory has prepared a list of plant material suitable for the landscaping. Apparently an adequate supply of tree stock can be obtained free. I suggest, however that a large supply of quick growing vines be purchased to cover the houses. The small nursery being established by the landscaping committee will supply vegetable and flower plants. A ton of Bermuda Grass seed has been ordered but it is urgently necessary to make an estimate of the total amount required by the three towns as the new crop will be harvested soon, and I understand there is a heavy demand for Bermuda seed.

Page 2
Mr. Head
June 3, 1942

Can the contractors be required to complete the clean-up of the open areas in Poston in the immediate future? And can Mr. Kurusaki before that is done, organize a crew to salvage all lumber suitable for furniture, toy-making, and fuel, and stack it on several lumber yards in different parts of the community?

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ward Shepard", is written over a horizontal line.

Ward Shepard

ttm

Community Council
310-8-D
Poston, Arizona

September 29, 1943

To: Agriculture Department, Unit 3
From: K. J. Takashima, Chairman

Numerous complaints have been received regarding the operation of the water pump opposite Block 327. The nearby residents are requesting that such operation of the pump at night which hinders their sleep be discontinued at the earliest.

May we depend on your cooperation so as to correct the annoyance. Thank you very much.

K. J. Takashima, Chairman
Community Council, Unit 3

Community Council
310-8-D
Poston, Arizona

October 4, 1943

To: S. Sunahara, 327

From: K. J. Takashima, Chairman

Although it is quite an annoyance to have the irrigation pump operated at night, the representatives from the Agriculture Department requests the cooperation of the near-by residents. The Agriculture Department assures us that unless it is absolutely essential to irrigate in the evenings, they will refrain from operating the pump at night. In order to germinate the seed properly, they will have to irrigate at least for several more days and nights.

Since the vegetable products are being raised for the benefit of the residents, I request your fullest cooperation by bearing the discomforts for just a few more days, and also that the mechanism of the pump will not be disturbed in any way.

Thanking you for your consideration on the above matter.

K. J. Takashima, Chairman
Community Council, Unit 3

Agriculture
KJT:n

Colorado River Relocation Center
Poston, Arizona

February 28, 1944

MEMO TO: Mr. R. H. Rupkey, Assistant Project Director

SUBJECT: Agriculture Section

This will summarize conclusions reached at the meeting this morning, attended by Messrs. Sabin, Burge, Nelson, Sharp and yourself.

1. No proposal for beef production will be submitted to Washington in the near future.
2. We should submit to Washington, as soon as possible, our proposed hog program.
3. Arrangements should be made as soon as possible for the part-time services of a veterinarian on a contract basis.
4. A complete inventory of farm machinery and equipment should be supplied the Washington office.
5. The following personnel actions should be instituted:
 - a. The transfer of Lee Necham from the Engineering Section to the position of Assistant Farm Superintendent, CAF-9, \$3,200. Mr. Sabin has approved this action, but it should be submitted in the usual manner to the Washington office for administrative approval.
 - b. The transfer of Pete Homer from the Engineering Section to a position as Senior Foreman, CFC-8, \$2,200, providing Civil Service Commission will approve. If approval for this grade cannot be had, we should request the establishment of a foreman position at whatever grade the Commission will approve, in lieu of one of the CFC-8 positions.
6. No decision was made on the proposed transfer of Phillips and Sanderson from Gila. I suggest that you and Mr. Sharp interview Mr. Sins at the earliest opportunity to ascertain whether he is interested and qualified for the position of Assistant Farm Superintendent, CAF-9, \$3,200.

Before a decision is made to bring Mr. Sanderson in from Gila, we must have a definite arrangement as to housing, since the Sandersons have eight children.

As soon as we have decided on Phillips, the Washington office should be notified of our decision.

DM:ds

cc: Mr. Sharp
Mr. Nelson
Mr. Cassilly

Duncan Mills
Acting Project Director

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Washington, 25, D. C.

March 22, 1944

Mr. Duncan Mills
Project Director
Colorado River Relocation Center
Poston, Arizona

Dear Mr. Mills:

This is for the purpose of recording some of my observations on my recent visit to your center on February 27 and 28. Because of the briefness of my visit and the muddy conditions existing at the time, I was unable to examine the operations of the Agricultural Section as closely and thoroughly as I wished. My general impression, however, was that since the last visit I made to your center there has been a marked change in the agricultural picture at Poston. With the completion of the leveling contract in May, about 2,600 acres of land will be ready for agricultural use. This contrasts greatly with the small acreages available for vegetables previously.

Organization

I think we are in agreement, as indicated in the discussions in your office, that the organization has not kept pace with this expansion of crop acreage and increase in poultry and hog enterprises. The operation of three camps complicates the administrative problems. You certainly need to strengthen, as soon as possible, the agricultural personnel in order that this section may provide the leadership demanded in the situation. For example, as I understand it, there is no attempt being made to bring the evacuee personnel responsible for the operation of the three camps together in definite and systematic meetings to work out improved methods of operation. At the present time there is a certain amount of rivalry existing between these units which may be good, but could be made much more effective and result in better production practices all the way around, if the responsible persons were encouraged to meet regularly and develop a feeling of mutual interest in one another's poultry units. The attitude of the Agricultural Section is too much that of service to the evacuee foreman, whereas, what is needed is stronger leadership and a coordinated program.

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March 22
April 4-18
July 4-20

Poultry Enterprise

The progress being made on the laying houses and brooder houses at Camp I was gratifying. It will be a definite help to have the birds properly housed in these new structures. The poultry in the temporary quarters were quite bedraggled the day I saw them following the heavy rain of the night before. Because of this temporary, inadequate situation, it is difficult for me to give an adequate appraisal of your poultry operations. Also, I did not have an opportunity to visit the other two poultry units.

One thing that bothered me was the tendency to keep sick birds on the premises in an attempt to doctor them back to health. Except for an occasional bird with a minor ailment, this practice should not be encouraged. Instead, sick birds or those that are badly crippled should be disposed of immediately. I also had the feeling that probably inadequate rations were being fed, as it seemed to me that the gains the birds were making were not as great as they should be. However, I had no opportunity to definitely determine this point as Mr. Sharp did not have the formula of the poultry feed and I was unable to secure it from the evacuee in charge. Probably the protein content of the feed is deficient as there is a tendency at the present time for commercial feed mixers to slight this element. If it is possible to buy any supplemental high-protein feed, it should be secured to help balance the poultry rations. First, however, I think that the Agricultural Section should carefully study the composition of the present feeds to determine, if possible, the adequacy of the rations now being fed.

Hog Enterprise

Here again I was glad to notice that progress was being made in providing more adequate facilities for hog production. Directorial approval of your 1944 program will indicate definitely the extent to which pigs should be farrowed on your center. It would seem that farrowing houses which were nearing completion while I was there should be sufficiently extensive to meet any farrowing needs approved for your center. The problem of greatest importance as I now see it is the completion of more adequate garbage feeding facilities for the feeder pigs.

I was sorry that the new feeder pigs had not arrived from Los Angeles as I was interested in seeing the kind and quality that were being purchased. I have a feeling that we are paying too much for feeder hogs and that the solution might be to explore other sources, possibly in Arizona, Nevada, Utah or farther east. The usual movement of feeder hogs in your area is from east to west and the Los Angeles market is apt to be the highest of all. I think this whole problem of feeder pig purchases should be given careful consideration.

Crops

Satisfactory crop production on your center will depend on our maintaining and improving soil fertility. To do this, it will be necessary to incorporate as much organic matter in the soil as possible. Probably it will be necessary to grow cover crops and plow them under in order to achieve this result. We discussed the plowing under of alfalfa at the end of its first full season of productivity. To plow it under earlier would not give full benefit to soil, or be economical. Therefore, this suggestion will fit into future plans more than into current operations. To speed up the process of including organic matter in the soil you may also wish to plant and plow under summer cover crops following winter vegetables and plant winter legumes after summer grain crops are harvested.

I have not checked into Arizona experimental data to determine which of the legumes would be most feasible under your conditions, but the general problem is one which your staff should carefully consider. At the end of this year your center will have more good agricultural land under cultivation than any other relocation center except Gila River, and I know that you and your staff are anxious to have it properly utilized.

Farm Machinery

A request for an allotment of two combines and two pick-up hay balers, out of the twenty percent national reserves, has been forwarded to WFA, but to date no definite reply has been received. We fear that this full request may not be approved. The gang-disk plows and the tandem offset disks are also rationed items, but no request was made for their approval as we are hopeful that your needs may be met by transfer as indicated in Mr. Utz's teletype of March 13. I expect you will receive authorization for the purchase of three peg-tooth harrows at the same time you are officially notified regarding the hay balers and combines. With the beef program sidetracked, for the time being at least, we are not putting forward your request for a crop cutter or crop blower. We can not justify this to WFA. That leaves the hammer mill and feed mixer which you have requested and upon which no action has been taken. It is expected that a request will be made to WFA for an allocation of these two items within the near future. Any additional facts you have, other than those you have already submitted to this office, that would strengthen the case should be sent in immediately. In fact, I think it would be most helpful if your office would include a paragraph on each item stating exactly why it is needed and listing the equipment that you now have on hand to perform this work.

I want to personally thank you and members of your staff, particularly Mr. Barge, Mr. Rapkey, Mr. Nelson and Mr. Sharp, for the many courtesies extended me while I was at your center.

Sincerely,

15/

Donald R. Sabin
Agricultural Section

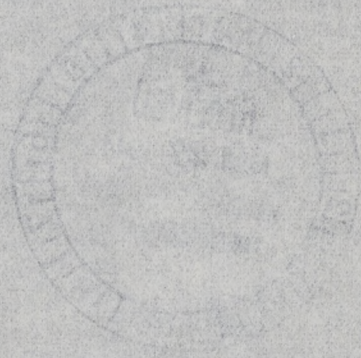
Approved:

14/

E. J. Uta, Chief
Operations Division

cc—

✓ Mr. Cozzens
Director





160
May 22, 1944

MEMO TO: City Council

FROM : Agr. 37

SUBJECT: Manpower, Equipments, and Gas Ration

During the 1943-1944 fiscal year, Unit I Agricultural Department made a tremendous stride in expansion. Its 70 acres field crop farm at the beginning of the year looks now rather insignificant compared to the present farms of 250 acres of barley and 250 acres of alfalfa. The 60 acres truck crop farms located at various spots on the fire-breaks in the camp are no longer the sole source of fresh vegetables; the main farm now consists of 160 acres in section 34. No other center can boast of such an expansion this year.

On these 660 acres farms, practically all crops are nearing the harvesting time. 200 acres of alfalfa must be mowed and baled monthly and barley harvest must start within a next few days; vegetable, too, should be harvested on time to insure proper yields.

All these call for more labor and proper equipments. The present number of farm workers, 92, which is 42 below the quota is far from sufficient to accomplish the work as shown on the attached labor charts of various crops. For example, the barley harvesting scheduled to be completed in 25 days requires 325 mandays or average 13 men per day. This is based on harvesting with two combines, one of which, we are assured, will be available within a next few days, but the other nobody knows when. Alfalfa maintenance and harvest require 584 mandays per month or 22 men per day, provided a traveling baler which is not here yet, is used.

Another bottle neck had been added to this already heavily burdened department, namely "gas ration". The quantity of gas required by this department needs no mentioning as there are experts handling this rationing. But it is a fact that more gas should be provided if this department should comply with the national policy of producing and saving food stuff.

If these situations, manpower shortage, lack of equipments, and gas ration, prevails any longer, this department shall be compelled to take one, or reduced combination of the following three courses:

1. To abandon a great part of the crops.
2. To discontinue maintenance of some of the growing crops.
3. To discontinue preparation of ground and planting of the fall crops.

However, it is our sincerest desire to avoid such a course in order to be able to continue furnishing fresh vegetables to Boston residents. In view of this fact, whatever cooperation you may extend to us in improving these conditions will be greatly appreciated.

Y. Shimomaye
Supr. of Agriculture I

cc. W. C. Sharp
Duncan Mills
R. H. Rupkey
Community Council

255 ACRES OF ALFALFA

	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total Mandays
Irrigation	336	336	336	336	336	336	168	2184
Mowing	37	37	37	37	37	37		222
Haking	18	18	18	18	18	18		108
Bailing	108	108	108	108	108	108		648
Hauling	85	85	85	85	85	85		510
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	584	584	584	584	584	584	168	3672

Need 25 men steadily

MATERIALS & EQUIPMENTS REQUIRED

1	Dump Rake
1	Traveling Saler
1	Mower & Extra Parts
2	Tractors
1	Truck
	Baling wire
1 doz.	Hay Forks
1 set	Service Tools
1 doz.	Hay Hooks
25#	Cup Grease
1	Belt Wax

May 22, 1944

Barley Harvesting

250 Acres

(From May 29 to June 29, 1944)

Combine Operators	100 mandays
Sack Sewers	100 mandays
Haulers	105 mandays
Extra Helpers	20 mandays
	—
Total	325 mandays

Materials and Equipments Required

4000	Sacks
2	Combine
150 #	Twine
12	Needles
1	Truck
1	Set of Service Tools
5 #	Cup Grease
1	Tractor
1	Belt Wax

LABOR REQUIREMENT FOR MAINTAINING & HARVESTING

171½ Acres of Growing Vegetable Crops Consisting of 21 varieties:

1920 Mandays in June 1944
 1672 " " July 1944
 1457 " " Aug. 1944

MANPOWER REQUIREMENTS

	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Present Manpower</u>	<u>Additional Required</u>
Truck Crops	171½ Acres	50	30
Alfalfa	255 Acres	17	8
Barley Harvesting	250 Acres		13 in June
Swine		20	4
Total		57	55

Above figures do not include the labor required for preparing the ground and planting vegetable crops for 1944-45 fiscal year.

COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION CENTER
Poston, Arizona

June 1, 1944

MEMO TO: Mr. Duncan Mills
Project Director

SUBJECT: Veterinarian

Following Washington office approval for the employment of a veterinarian on a part-time basis, a contract was negotiated with Dr. J. W. Caldwell of Riverside, California. This agreement was drawn up for one regular trip of two days duration on the Project once a month and if warranted, additional trips are provided for. Dr. Caldwell has made his first visit and spent May 25 and 26 on the Project. His official visit to the Project was certainly a mental relief to me as the responsibility of the health of 1,400 hogs and thousands of chickens was a real burden and carried with it a strain from which there was no relief. Dr. Caldwell is mailing to us a detailed report of his visit to the Project and this report I am expecting about the first part of the week and upon its arrival I shall immediately forward it to your office. In the meantime I shall give you a short report of his visit.

Dr. Caldwell is no doubt a well qualified veterinarian and very practical. He is a man, I believe, who knows his business and if I am not mistaken, a person who will follow details to completion. He is free in giving advice, explaining thoroughly why a thing should be done. He does not hesitate to repeat the advice or tire of repeated demonstrations. Dr. Caldwell is an agreeable, friendly person, and is easily approached. He is a man who will get along well with the evacuees. He recognizes their skills and abilities and plans to use them in his work here. Even though he has made only the one trip he seems to have gained the confidence of the workers and they are anxiously looking forward to his next visit. In fact, just this morning the superintendent of the swine workers was in my office explaining to me plans he is attempting to follow under Dr. Caldwell's direction. In expressing his opinion on the swine enterprise, Dr. Caldwell compliments us on our success, operating under a temporary set-up and with the many problems arising under such a situation.

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He did not get to spend as much time as he would have liked on the poultry projects, but will go through them more thoroughly on his next trip. From his remarks I gathered we were handling the poultry situation as well as is possible under the crowded condition. He was pleased with our plans of constructing more shelters and enlarging our poultry yards and indicated that a great many of our poultry problems would be solved with this expansion. We spent some time on future planning, and upon the Doctor's next trip we will go further into this phase. I am very glad the employment of a veterinarian was made possible and feel sure his services will be invaluable.

Dr. Caldwell showed much interest in the Project and he spent two very busy days, during which time he vaccinated pigs and spent a half day at the slaughterhouse. He actually was here from Wednesday evening until Saturday fore-noon, devoting his whole time to veterinarian problems.

W. C. Sharp,
Chief of Agriculture

June 17, 1944

MEMO TO: W. C. Sharp

FROM: Three Agriculture Units

SUBJECT: Change of 1944-45 Agriculture Program

Due to the situation we are facing at the present on manpower, farming equipments, and conditions in which they are in, lack of dependable transportation and also problems of necessary containers for crops, we feel that it is impossible for us to carry on the program set and approved by the Washington W.R.A. office.

Therefore; the supervisors of the three Agricultural units came to the following conclusions:

I. Camp I

- (a) To abandon all alfalfa in Sec. 10.
- (b) To maintain $\frac{1}{2}$ of the Truck Crop program.
- (c) To maintain present programs of Poultry, Hog, Nursery, & Fish Culture divisions.

II. Camp II

- (a) To abandon the Field Crop division.
- (b) To maintain $\frac{1}{2}$ of Truck Crop program.
- (c) To maintain the present Poultry & Nursery division programs.

III. Camp III

- (a) To maintain $\frac{1}{2}$ of the Truck Crop Program.
- (b) To maintain the present Poultry & Nursery program.
- (c) Field Crop division cannot be maintained after school opens.

Camp I Y. Shimomaya
Camp II T. Iwakura
Camp III K. Minura

9716
Colorado River Relocation Center
Poston, Arizona

August 21, 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. Duncan Mills
Project Director

SUBJECT: Pork Production

In accordance with the suggestion made in your office, I am submitting the Supply Section's understanding of the situation on Poston Pork Production.

At the present time production is limited by five things--lack of complete understanding between Agriculture and Subsistence as to the pork requirements of the project, breakdown of the chilling room at the hog ranch, lack of hanger facilities in the Camp III reefer, small size of the slaughterhouse crew and purchase schedule under which the Agriculture Department is now operating.

To affect the change over from present production to that required by the Project it is necessary for the Subsistence Unit to notify the Agriculture Dept. in writing, of its requirements for the second quarter and thereafter whenever desired by the Agriculture Unit, for the Operations Division to install meat hanging racks in the Camp III refrigerated warehouse (I believe this work is under way if not completed by now), for Agriculture Unit to plan the purchase of small hogs and to increase the size of their slaughterhouse crew to handle the proposed hog production schedule and finally for the Operations Division to install the insulation material, the refrigeration coils and relevant equipment in the hog ranch chill room.

It is obvious that most of the problems listed above lend themselves to rapid resolution, the one large obstacle to increased production being the repair of the hog ranch chilling room. This room is vital because the Camp III reefer has neither the storage capacity to hold total production or the refrigerating facilities to chill the freshly killed carcasses and at the same time preserve the meat previously stored. When the chill room is in operation the Subsistence Unit will be enabled to make some deliveries direct to kitchens thereby eliminating storage demands on the Camp III reefer. The refrigerating equipment in Camp III will, of course, also be relieved of the extra burden of chilling the carcasses.

The Subsistence Unit will be glad to secure all their fresh pork requirements from the Project hog ranch and will make every effort to eliminate the unintentional misunderstanding which have existed in the past.

F. M. Haverland

F. M. Haverland
Supply Officer

PROJECT

Colorado River Relocation Center
Poston, Arizona

March 19, 1945

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MEMO TO: Dr. Powell

SUBJECT: Report from Mr. Meham Regarding Death of Hogs
and Poultry

Reference is made to your memorandum of March 5,
concerning reports from Mr. Meham-regarding the death
of hogs and poultry.

These reports were prepared by Mr. Meham in connection with clearing property accounts of the Agriculture Section. An inventory of hogs and poultry is maintained, and changes in this inventory must be covered by records. The reports were not prepared with the idea of determining the exact causes of the deaths, but were prepared for the purpose of certifying that the animals had died and were disposed of, in order that the Property Survey Board might clear Mr. Sharp's accountability.

You are correct in that there are conflicts in statements as to the causes of the death of the hogs. Mr. Lowe, Sanitary Engineer, feels that the chlorine was not the cause of the deaths, while the Veterinarian, Mr. Caldwell, believes otherwise. I believe that it is impossible for Mr. Meham, Mr. Dennis, or you, or me to resolve these conflicts in statements.

R. H. Rupkey
Assistant Project Director

cc: Mr. Mills
Mr. Dennis
Mr. Sharp
Mr. Meham

RHR:sk

Colorado River War
Relocation Project

Poston, Arizona

Please send us your commercial price list, amounts
available, and propagated material on the following
trees and shrubs:

Chinese Elm	Arizona Ash
Loquat	Figs
Pomergranate	Chilopsis
Willow	Pepper Tree
Arizona Cypruss	Umbrella Tree
Olive	Lantana
Euonymous Japonica	Pittosporum
Bottle Brush Tree	Yellow Jasmine
Bouganvilla	Bird of Paradise
Carrisa (Natal Plum)	Pryocantha
Carob Tree (Jacob Bread Fruit Tree)	
Eucalyptus Rostrata (Red Gum)	
Native Arizona Palm (Washingtonia arizonica)	

Yours very truly,

W. C. Sharp
Chief of Agriculture

FL-1

ALL APPOINTED PERSONNEL

DON'T FORGET

DON'T FORGET

DON'T FORGET

Personnel Mess Hall, Tuesday, November 3, 7:00 p.m.

INFORMATION

Robert H. Rupkey, Chief of Operations, will describe the work of his division and tell some thing of future plans at the fourth meeting of appointed personnel and their families Tuesday evening.

Irrigation canals do not just dig the selves, nor do desert trails turn into surfaced roads by magic. Neither does desert growth disappear over night to be replaced by arable land.

We who are here at Poston are privileged to witness the launching of a vast agricultural empire which in years to come will add much to the borders of post-war world. The man who is in charge of making this dream a reality will tell us of it. Let's be there to hear him.

ENTERTAINMENT

Rhythm and a particularly pleasing brand of nonsense will be provided by a talented group of Unit III teachers who only last week took their light out from behind the bushel and gave a much appreciated presentation at a program in their camp.

If you miss seeing them, you'll be sor-r-r-e-e-e-!

We hope, too, to have the J. A. system at the hall and dance records for the use of those with itching feet.

Incidentally, if any of you know of some talented person on the staff or in the families of staff members, how about letting the committee in on the secret? We'd like everyone to have a part in these meetings. And, by the way, what is YOU pet parlor trick? We can use YOU too.

Committee members are Frances Cushman, Ed Nossoff, Dorothy Stevick, Ray Goettin, J. A. Popkins, and your reports officer.