

J 1.501

67/14  
C



B 113 K

ISSEI INFORMAL REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

POSTON II

Meeting Minutes

from

August 5, 1942 to ~~August 24, 1942~~  
and 15th



## ISSEI INFORMAL REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

### Representatives:

Block 207	K. Takamoto
	H. Taketoya
208	S. Harada
209	I. Sakashita
	H. Yanehira
211	F. Toyama
	G. Matsumoto
213	Shimotsuka
	Nakai
214	Ono
	Iwakiri
215	T. Yamada
	U. Shikuma
216	H. Yoshizumi
	S. Horikawa
219	A. Hayashi
	K. Tachino
220	S. Kitamura
	K. Koshima
221	K. Kamizuka
	T. Matsumoto
222	S. Dohi
	N. Shohara
226	H. Onishi
	U. Imoto
227	S. Hasegawa
	Y. Kanagawa
229	Hironaka

### Executive Committee

Mr. Tachibana  
Mr. Takezawa  
Mr. Aramaki  
Mr. Sakurai  
Mr. Kitamura  
Mr. Motoki

### Brief History of Organizers of Issei Council

Mr. Tachibana -- School teacher, produce market owner of Hawthorne, California and Watsonville.

Mr. Takezawa -- School teacher in Salinas, California

Mr. Aramaki -- Retail grocery store proprietor, Watsonville, California



Mr. Sakurai -- Farmer, Watsonville, California

Mr. Kitamura - Farmer, Salinas, California

Mr. Motoki -- School Teacher, Watsonville, California



## ISSEI IN FORMAL REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

First meeting held on August 5; 8:30 p.m.; Mess Hall 211.

### ORGANIZED BY:

Mr. Tachibana	Mr. Sakurai
Mr. Takizawa	Mr. Kitamura
Mr. Aramaki	Mr. Motoki

### FIRST MEETING:

1. Explained purpose of meeting.
2. Discussed ways and means to create or arouse a feeling among all the Japanese people, especially among the Niseis, to stick together in a compact and united group.
3. Started future policies and decided on places to meet for subsequent meetings.
4. Since there are restrictions placed on council membership, a resolution was sent in to the Administration of the camp with a text to the following effect:

"We the people of Camp 2, wish to abolish distinctions such as citizen or non-citizen if there is to be any form of government among the Japanese people. An equal number of representatives should be selected or elected from each group of Isseis and Niseis, should either be appointed or elected by the people of the respective blocks."

5. The main aim of this council is to get equal powers for the Isseis and especially to erase the citizen, non-citizen distinction.

Second meeting held on August 10; 8:30 P.M.; Mess Hall 211.

### SECOND MEETING:

The selection of a committee to speak to Mr. Crawford and thence directly to Mr. Head on the warehouse problem. Purpose of committee to get Mr. Head's guarantee that the food-stuffs used in this camp will be stored in the camp's own warehouses and from here delivered to the kitchens.



## ISSEI INFORMAL REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tachibana at 9:00 p.m. and these are the remarks:

"Instead of waiting until Monday evening to call a meeting and since the consensus of opinion of the people, that is the Issei, was for an earlier meeting, we have called this gathering together tonight to determine what the opinion of the various blocks was in regard to the nomination of representatives for the Temporary Council. Since our secretary, Mr. Takizawa, is sick, I will ask Mr. Kitamura to take the minutes for this meeting and for this reason the minutes of the previous meeting will not be read.

"Since our Last meeting (referring to the Pre-Temporary Council meeting) ended at 2:00 a.m. in the morning without arriving at any definite conclusion except to adjourn to our respective blocks and call together a meeting, we have called together this meeting to ascertain the final conclusions as arrived at in your respective blocks. The Isseis are not speaking against the Niseis, nor are we saying that we will not support them. The inequality which exists at the present is blamed either on the W R A, the army or the government or the Caucasian group of the camp. It seems to me that the consensus of opinion among the Niseis is that they wish to take the road their parents take and act as a united group to fight against the ruling of the W R A. In order to avert any trouble in the future, we have called together the meeting tonight."

Roll Call was taken.



Chairman Tachibana: In the previous meeting of the Pre-Temporary Council meeting held on Thursday, August 13th, we sent four members of this group to speak to the Nisei members of that council. The following four members spoke in that meeting: Chairman Mr. Harada, Mr. Shikuma, Mr. Iwakiri, and Mr. Kobayashi. The Chairman called upon Mr. Harada to give a report on that meeting.

MR. HARADA: Since it is needless waste of valuable time here to repeat in detail the speeches of the four representatives, I will confine myself to the main points and the results obtained. The problem in itself is very simple. Since the Niseis' mind run in different channels, even though they have within their systems a part of our blood, we feel that we cannot entrust our future welfare to the Niseis. In the present W R A regulations, the government of this entire camp, a population of 20,000 people, is confined to representatives of only Niseis. We feel that after the poor job that the Niseis have done in California, we cannot possibly entrust our future welfare to that group. We the Isseis were very disappointed at the attitude of the Nisei leaders at that meeting. We feel that even without asking for support from the Niseis, they should voluntarily stand with the Isseis for their rights. We feel that we had presented our views at that meeting in the clearest possible manner.

The Chairman then asked for a report on the food situation from the committee. The committee was composed of six members:

This committee went down to see Mr. Rupkey and Mr. Wickersham but



they could not get any satisfactory results. This committee in the meantime heard that Mr. Henry Tanda had resigned his position as Poston II Assistant Chief Steward to Mr. Back and they wanted to obtain the reasons why Mr. Tanda had resigned but as yet were not able to get it. The committee also suggested to Mr. Best that he appoint Mr. Takiguchi to fill in the vacancy left by Mr. Tanda. Mr. Best had already appointed Mr. Takiguchi and Mr. Hanamoto of Sacramento to fill that position. This met with the approval of the committeemen for it had been the desire of the people of this camp to see Mr. Takiguchi fill in that capacity. With this, the committee reports were finished.

CHAIRMAN TACHIBANA: In the past Pre-Temporary Council meeting, that is the one held on Thursday, August 13th, the main issue was the unjustness of dividing this group into citizens and non-citizens. In that meeting, they decided to send a petition to the W R A in protest to that measure. The question was how or in what manner we could write this petition so that it would be most effective. Each representative was to return to their respective blocks and immediately call a meeting the following night to decide on whether or not they will vote on September 1st and to nominate representatives by Monday at which time all nominations must be in the hands of Mr. Head. I believe that such a meeting has been held in all the blocks. Some blocks voted that they will vote and comply with the regulations of the W R A. The other blocks voted not to comply with those regulations because it was unfair and unjust. Since it has been de-



251  
cided, one way or the other, in the various blocks, we cannot do anything about it at the present time; however, I feel that the regulations of the W R A are unjust and not for the best interest of the people. I believe that a great majority of the Niseis feel the same, however, some blocks voted for and some against. How great this hiatus is and how big it will be in the future, one cannot fathom at the present. It is the purpose of this council tonight to produce a solution to this problem. It is my belief that in so doing, we can lessen the responsibilities to a certain extent. Perhaps what I am saying right now may not be clear in your minds but I hope you, the council members, will discuss this point and present your individual views.

HARADA: Mr. Crawford, Mr. Haas and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Mr. Collier are sincere when they say that the present regulations of the W R A are unfair. It is my hope that you, the members, will keep this in mind when discussing this problem.

CHAIRMAN TACHIBANA: This is a problem of vital importance. Please make a sincere effort to solve it.

HORIKAWA: At Saturday's, August 15th, Block Managers' meeting, Mr. Crawford mentioned the fact that a high army official stated that the W R A ruling is not a ~~hardfast~~<sup>be</sup> ruling but one of necessity. Some sort of regulation had to be made to cover all the camps. This army official stated that these regulations in no way meets the requirements and problems of the individual camps, therefore, it is possible to alter these regulations by petition.

HARADA: We do not think anything about the army taking



over command here. We feel that perhaps it is even better if they do so.

CHAIRMAN THACHIBANA: In speaking to Mr. Crawford on various problems, we thought that as Camp #2 Director his authority was very limited due to the fact that he had to refer all problems to Camp #1 for solution.

REPORT FROM BLOCK 220: The results of the vote was 17 to 13 in favor of no vote, no council.

CHAIRMAN TACHIBANA: In Camp#1, thirty-six blocks voted for their representatives and as yet five has failed to nominate any representatives. Perhaps, many of you have heard reports from your friends or relatives in Camp #1 that due to the government's interference, father and sons relationships have been disrupted. Since we are eating at the same table, living in the same room and at the same time trying to make this place a happier place to live in, we are endeavoring to avoid a duplication of such a situation in this camp.

REPORT FROM BLOCK 219: The representative could not be heard but 219 voted to nominate representatives for the forth-coming election.

HASEGAWA: Our grievances are aimed at the W R A. It is their regulations that we are grieved at. We want the Niseis to understand this point of view.

REPORT FROM BLOCK 214: (gathered after the meeting) The representatives of Block 214 did not have a clear solution to the problem as presented in the Pre-Temporary Council meeting on Thursday, August 13th, so therefore we intend to hold a meeting this coming Sunday, August 16th to revote on the issue.



MATSUDA: (Issei) In spite of the fact that a petition to the effect that council representatives shall consist of one Issei and one Nisei was passed in the Pre-Temporary Council meeting, the representatives returned to their respective blocks and failed to present this petition. I feel that the council members failed in their responsibilities to their respective blocks.

(From Floor) A member of the council made a suggestion to the possible solution of this problem. It is evident that a great many of the rights of citizenship have been deprived from niseis. In order to not cause trouble, we will elect Nisei representatives, however, we want them to understand that they will be working for all the people as a Japanese and not as an American.

REPORT FROM BLOCK 209: They voted no vote, no representatives but could not hear clearly the dissertation on the reasons for not voting.

At this point, the Chairman called upon the people auditing this meeting, especially Niseis, to present their views on the matter.

MATSUDA: (nisei) I feel that even though the Isseis have the right to vote but have not the privilege to hold office, it is unjust and that we the Niseis should join hands with the Issies in their stand of no vote, no council representatives.

(Opinion from the floor, Issei) I believe that if the Niseis elect representatives like Mr. Matsuda who has just spoken, the welfare of the Isseis will be safe in such capable hands. I know for a fact that there are many Niseis in our Block who feel the same way and who have capabilities of leadership.



REPORT FROM BLOCK 219: We have in our block a Nisei who has all the capabilities of leading or representing our block in such a manner as to satisfy the desires and wishes of the Issei, so, therefore, we voted to nominate representatives for the September 1st election.

REPORT FROM BLOCK 229: (Mr. Sato representative for block) We voted to go through with the election in order to keep this camp alive.

REPORT FROM BLOCK 211 by Chairman Tachibana who is also Block Manager of 211: The Isseis are not trying to hinder your affairs. We will give you unequivocal support. In our block the vote was unanimous for no vote no council.

If matters go from bad to worse, we have a strong backer; namely, the Spanish Ambassador. We are not here because we desire to be here. The government has sent us here against our wishes. The ice which has been sent to our kitchens and to our Block Managers' offices was not the work of the Council but that of the Block Managers. Mr. Crawford is always present at our three weekly meetings. It is my belief that under the Block Manager system, more can be accomplished than in the council and without the council, I believe that we can get along satisfactorily. If there is no discussion and since the evening is quite late, I will ask for adjournment.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:45 a.m.

AFTER MEETING COMMENTS: The Chairman, Mr. Tachibana, was clarifying in the minds of several Niseis the stand which the Isseis will <sup>take</sup> in the future. The Isseis who attended this



meeting will not vote as individuals in the September 1st election. This has no bearing on the way that the bbcks choose to vote. The Isseis will not stand in the way of the elected Nisei council. We will give every support to that council and help meet any emergencies which may arise.

(KE)



B 113

*Discussion in meeting in Japanese  
no interpretation*

8-15-42

### ISSEI INFORMAL REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tachibana at 9:00 p.m.  
*These are*  
and this is the opening remarks:

"Instead of waiting until Monday evening to call a meeting and since the consensus of opinion of the people, that is the Issei, was for an earlier meeting, we have called this gathering together tonight to determine what the opinion of the various blocks was in regard to the nomination of representatives for the Temporary Council. Since our secretary, Mr. Takizawa, is sick, I will ask Mr. Kitamura to take the minutes for this meeting and for this reason the minutes of the previous meeting will not be read.

"Since our Last meeting (referring to the Pre-Temporary Council meeting) ended at 2:00 a.m. in the morning without arriving at any definite conclusion except to adjourn to our respective blocks and call together a meeting, we have called together this meeting to ascertain the final conclusions as arrived at <sup>in</sup> your respective blocks. The Isseis are not speaking against the Niseis, nor are we saying that we will not support them. The inequality which exists at the present is blamed either on the W R A, the army or the government or the Caucasian group of the camp. It seems to me that the consensus of opinion among the Niseis is that they wish to take the road their parents take and act as a united group to fight against the ruling of the W R A. In order to avert any trouble in the future, we have called together the meeting tonight."

Roll Call was taken.

#### MAIN BUSINESS:

Chairman Tachibana: In the previous meeting of the Pre-Temporary Council meeting held on Thursday, August 13th, we sent four members of this



group to speak to the Nisei members of that council. The following four members spoke in that meeting: Chairman Mr. Harada, Mr. Shikuma, Mr. Iwakiri and Mr. Kobayasi. The Chairman called upon Mr. Harada to give a report on that meeting.

MR. HARADA: Since it is needless waste of valuable time here to repeat in detail the speeches of the four representatives, I<sup>will</sup> confine myself to the main points and the results obtained. The problem in itself is very simple. Since the Niseis' mind run<sup>in</sup> different channels, even though they have within their system a part of our blood, we feel that we cannot entrust our future welfare to the Niseis. In the present W R A regulations, the government of this<sup>entire</sup> camp, a population of 20,000 people, confines<sup>2</sup> its representatives<sup>of only</sup> to the Niseis. We feel that after the poor job that the Niseis have done in California, we cannot possibly entrust our future welfare to that group. We the Isseis were very disappointed at the attitude of the Nisei leaders of that meeting. We feel that even without asking for support from the Niseis, they should voluntarily stand with the Isseis for their rights. We feel that we had presented our views at that meeting in the clearest possible manner.

The Chairman then asked for a report on the food situation from the committee. The committee was composed of six members:

This committee went down to see Mr. Rupkey and Mr. Wickersham but they could not get any satisfactory results. This committee in the meantime heard that Mr. Henry Tanda had resigned his position as Assistant Chief Steward<sup>Prator II</sup> to Mr. Best<sup>Back</sup> and they wanted to obtain the reasons why Mr. Tanda had resigned but as were not able to get it. The committee also suggested to Mr. Best that



he appoint Mr. Takiguchi to fill in the vacancy left by Mr. Tanda. Mr. Best had already appointed Mr. Takiguchi and Mr. Hanamoto of Sacramento to fill that position. This met with the approval of the committeemen for it had been the desire of the people of this camp to see Mr. Takiguchi fill in that capacity. With this, the committee reports were finished.

CHAIRMAN TACHIBANA: In the past Pre-Temporary Council meeting, that is the one held on Thursday, August 13th, the main issue was the unjustness of dividing this group into citizens and non-citizens. In that meeting, they decided to send a petition to the W R A in protest to that measure. The question was how or in what manner we could write this petition so that it would be most effective. Each representative was to return to their respective blocks and immediately call a meeting the following night to decide on whether or not they will vote on September 1st and to nominate representatives by Monday at which time all nominations must be in the hands of Mr. Head. I believe that such a meeting has been held in all the blocks. Some blocks voted that they will vote and comply with the regulations of the W R A. The other blocks voted not to comply with those regulations because it was unfair and unjust. Since it has been decided, one way or the other, in the various blocks, we cannot do anything about it at the present time; however, I feel that the regulations of the W R A are unjust and not for the best interest of the people. I believe that a great majority of the Niseis feel the same, however, some blocks voted for and some against. How great this hiatus is and how big it will be in the future, one cannot <sup>Santhorn</sup> ~~sanction~~ at the present. It is the purpose of this council tonight to produce a solution to this problem. It is my belief that in time, we can lessen the responsibilities to a certain extent. Perhaps



what I am saying right now may not be clear in your minds but I hope <sup>you the</sup> other council members will discuss this point and present <sup>your</sup> their individual views.

HARADA: Mr. Crawford, Mr. Haas and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Mr. Collier are sincere when they say that the present regulations of the W R A is unfair. It is my hope that you, the members, will keep this in mind when discussing this problem.

CHAIRMAN TACHIBANA: This is a problem of vital importance. Please make a sincere effort to solve <sup>it</sup> this.

HORIKAWA: At Saturday's, August 15th, Block Managers' meeting, Mr. Crawford mentioned the fact that a high army official stated that the W R A ruling is not a hardfast ruling but <sup>one</sup> of necessity. Some sort of regulations had to be made to cover all the camps. This army official stated that these regulations in no way meets the requirements and problems of the individual camps, therefore, it is possible to alter these regulations by petition.

HARADA: We do not think anything about the army taking over command here. We feel that perhaps it is even better if they do so.

CHAIRMAN TACHIBANA: In speaking to Mr. Crawford on various problems, we thought that as Camp #2 Director his authority was very limited due to the fact that he had to refer all problems to Camp #1 for solution.

REPORT FROM BLOCK 220: The results of the vote was 17 to 13 in favor of no vote, no council.

CHAIRMAN TACHIBANA: In Camp #1, thirty-six blocks voted for their representatives and as yet five has failed to nominate any representatives. Perhaps, many of you have heard reports from your friends or relatives in Camp #1 that due to the government's interference, father and sons relationships have been disrupted <sup>Since we are</sup> while eating at the same table, living in <sup>at the same time</sup> same room and while trying to make this place a happier place to live



in, <sup>we</sup> We are endeavoring to avoid a duplication of this situation in this camp. <sup>Such a</sup>

REPORT FROM BLOCK 219: The representative could not be heard but 219 voted to nominate representatives for the forth-coming election.

HASEGAWA: Our grievances are aimed at the W R A. It is their regulations that we are grieved at. We want the Niseis to understand this point of view.

REPORT FROM BLOCK 214: (gathered after the meeting) The representatives of Block 214 did not have a clear solution to the problem as presented in the Pre-Temporary Council meeting on Thursday, August 13th, so therefore we intend to hold a meeting this coming Sunday, August 16th to revote on the issue.

MATSUDA: (Issei) In spite of the fact that a ~~repetition~~ petition to the effect that council representatives <sup>shall</sup> ~~still~~ consist of one Issei and one Nisei was passed in ~~the~~ in the Pre-Temporary Council meeting, the representatives returned to their respective blocks and failed to present this petition. I feel that the council members failed in their responsibilities to their respective blocks.

*From Floor.* A member of the council made a suggestion to the possible solution to this problem. It is evident that a great many of the rights of citizenship have been deprived from niseis. In order to not cause trouble, we will elect Nisei representatives, however, we want them to understand that they will be working for all the people as a Japanese and not as an American.

REPORT FROM BLOCK 209: They voted no vote, no representatives but could not hear clearly <sup>the</sup> dissertations on the reasons for not voting.

At this point, the Chairman called upon the people auditing this



meeting, especially Niseis, to present their views on the matter.

MATSUDA: (Nisei) I feel that even though the Isseis have the right to vote but have not the privilege to hold office, it is unjust and that we the Niseis should join hands with the Isseis in their stand of no vote, no council representatives.

*opinion from floor* → I believe that if ~~we~~<sup>the</sup> Niseis elect representatives like Mr. Matsuda who has just spoke<sup>d</sup>, the welfare of the Isseis will be safe in such capable hands. I know for a fact that there are many Niseis in our Block who feel the same way and who have capabilities of leadership.

REPORT FROM BLOCK 219: We have in our block a Nisei who has all the capabilities of leading or representing our block in such a manner as to satisfy the desires and wishes of the Issei so therefore we voted to nominate representatives for the September 1st election.

REPORT FROM BLOCK 229: (Mr. Sato representing ~~for that~~<sup>vs</sup> block) We voted to go through with the election in order to keep this camp alive.

REPORT FROM BLOCK 211 by Chairman Tachibana who is also Block Manager of 211: The Isseis are not trying to hinder your affairs. We will give you unequivocal support. *In our block the vote was unanimous for no vote no council*

If matters go from bad to worse, we have a strong backer; namely, the Spanish Ambassador. We are not here because we desire to be here. The government has sent us here against our wishes. The ice which has been sent to our kitchens and to our Block Managers' offices was not the work of the Council but that of the Block Managers. Mr. Crawford is always present at our three weekly meetings. It is my belief that under the Block Manager system, more can be accomplished than in the council and without the council, I believe that we can get along satisfactorily. If there is no discussion and since the evening is quite late, ~~we~~<sup>I</sup> will ask for adjournment.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:45 a.m.



AFTER MEETING COMMENTS: The Chairman, Mr. Tachibana, was clarifying in the minds of several Niseis the stand which the Isseis will take in the future. The Isseis who attended this meeting will not vote as individuals in the September 1st election. This has no bearing on the way that the blocks chose to vote. The Isseis will not stand in the way of the elected Nisei council. We will give every support to that council and help meet any emergencies which may arise.

(KE)



ISSEI INFORMAL REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

August 24, 1942

Meeting conducted in Japanese.  
No interpreter used.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mr. Tachibana at 9 P.M. in Kite hen 211. Secretary Mr. Takizawa called the roll.

Chairman:

We have a large number of absentees tonight but since the majority of the members are here, we will proceed with the meeting.

From the very beginning I wish<sup>ed</sup> to resign from this position but have filled it due to <sup>your</sup> the insistence, at present due to various circumstances, it is not well for me to continue. I have presided at the last four or five meetings and will finish this meeting tonight. This council was established under the sponsorship of Dr. Powell and Mr. Crawford. We have discussed ways and means to meet the various problems up to the present time. For what reasons was this council formed? Of what benefit will it be for the people of this community? Perhaps we will know in the future how much influence this council has had. As you all know the Pre-Temporary Council was dissolved and a new Temporary Council will be formed on September 1. This council, therefore, will of necessity have to decide what stand they will take on this matter. It will be necessary for you the members to decide whether you intend to continue as you ~~before~~ have been, or clearly decide other means or steps you wish to take. Up to the present time, Mr. Takizawa and I have been temporarily filling the positions of secretary and chairman respectively. I believe it will be for the benefit for all of us to clarify our position at the present time. Please discuss this openly.

Question:

What happened to the petition which was to have been sent in to Mr. Crawford?

Answer by Mr. Tachibana:

I have just received a question from the floor in regard to the petition which ~~previously~~ <sup>is</sup> reads in the following manner: that the council members shall consists of one Issei and one Nisei, that is, <sup>in</sup> ~~another~~ words, equal representation. The committee has forwarded this petition to Mr. Crawford but as yet have not received any answer. We therefore cannot give you any definite answer at present.



Mr. Yanohira:

At the previous meeting, it seemed to me that the stand of no vote, no council was clearly in the majority with three or four blocks firmly stating that they will vote. There seems to have been a decided change in the opinion of the various blocks since then. Is it possible to have the blocks report on this matter?

Chairman:

I believe all of you heard the question asked by Mr. Yanohira. Will some of you in the audience volunteer any information?

(No answer--mere silence)

Mr. Yanohira:

Since I asked the question, I will begin with the report on our block as an opener. I will ask the rest of the representatives to follow suit. In our block, we had a definite understanding that we will not vote unless equal representation was granted to the Issei. A group of Niseis ~~in~~ our block started nomination proceedings two or three days ago. After hearing various rumors that Block 216 had voted, I found out that about twenty signatures on two petition for two representatives had been turned in from our block. As a block, we are clearly for no vote, no council. According to Mr. Crawford's statement in the Block Manager's memorandum, handed out several days ago, it was too late to send in names of representatives and that those blocks which had failed to elect representatives could do so by obtaining ten signatures on a petition for each prospective candidates.

One young fellow was approached by the group circulating this petition. This fellow stated that he ~~didn't~~ <sup>wouldn't</sup> sign such a petition because he did not believe in such procedure. They said that they would strike him if he did not sign. I later found out that my daughter also had signed a petition without knowing anything about its contents. This is something which we must look into. Actions such as this have no place in our community. It seems quite definite that Mr. Webb has started proceedings to take away the citizenship rights of the Niseis. This is also the stand taken by the American Legion. It is therefore, our duty to exert all our efforts and add to ~~the~~ <sup>our</sup> Nisei power our experiences in order to fight this. Due to the fact that we had transferred our lands, our property and money, other rights denied to Aliens, to our children, the Niseis, ~~who~~ <sup>they</sup> in many cases had large sums of money ~~and~~ <sup>in their possession</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> possession in their bank accounts all of a sudden. In many cases various



rumors have reached my ears that many of the Niseis took advantage of this and flagrantly used money which did not belong to them. This perhaps changed the attitude of the Niseis to some extent and this also caused them to act like play-boys as referred to by some of the speakers in our previous meetings. It is for this reason that we the Issei should fight to run this community in the smoothest manner possible.

Mr. Urabe:

I am not a member of this council but if I may, I would like to present my views. I am living in Block 220. I have also heard that a few individuals in our block have taken this matter of representatives into their hands and have nominated petition candidates to the Temporary Council to be formed September 1. It seems to me that this is a very unfair method in which to elect candidates. I feel that the entire block should have some say in the matter. Is it proper at the present time to dissolve this council?

Chairman:

Will someone of this group answer this query by Mr. Urabe?

Mr. Yanohira:

We are not dissolving this council merely because the Niseis have taken the lead. We are dissolving this council because our efforts have not been recognized by the Administration. We feel that a new start should be made with the proper Administrative backing. This does not mean that we are giving up the fight, far from it. We will dissolve this council at present to build a new, bigger and better Issei group.

Mr. Sakurai:

This Representative Council was not formed because a Pre-Temporary Council was formed. I feel that we should not dissolve this council at the present moment. We have far more important and greater work to do in the future. I believe that it is here that we should take a firm stand and call the Spanish Ambassador here to iron out the difficulties which has arisen due to the WRA rulings. We cannot possibly attack any further problems or make decisions or call the Spanish Ambassador if we call for the dissolution tonight. As regards to the matter of no vote no council, I believe that the actions by the few within the blocks will not befitting the democratic ideals set forth by the United States Government even if such a petition as mentioned by Mr. Urabe is taken in, as it also has been in our block.



The few who have signed it may vote in the September 1, election, but I still believe that the greater majority of the people will not. As humans we cannot accept this injustice. It is in our belief that a council can do more work and exert greater powers and greater authorities than one solitary individual. It is therefore my firm belief that this council should continue functioning and not disband.

Mr. Takizawa:

I have read in the Press Bulletin of several days ago, that the WRA regulations cannot be changed. I also read that petitions must be in ~~between~~ 15th of this month but ~~the~~ newspaper of just two days back stated that the nomination date had been extended to August 25.

(This statement by Mr. Takizawa was incorrect as that statement was made expressly for the people of Poston III and not for Poston II. That article maybe found in the Press Bulletin for Poston III on August 22. No one made it is correction at the meeting. K.E.)

Mr. Urabe:

We know that the WRA regulations were unchangeable from the very beginning but we were still willing to buck it. If we are going to permit a hand full of Niseis to run our block, I feel that there is no need to have block meetings.

Mr. Sakuragi:

The various rumors on the situation in Manzanar as presented by Mr. Evans was due to the fabrication of the WRA regulations.

Correction from the floor:

I heard differently about the situation in Manzanar. I believe Mr. Kido was the one who spoke about it.

Question:

The main purpose of this council was to obtain results from the petition forwarded to Mr. Crawford. What does Mr. Sakurai mean when he says he opposes dissolution of this council.

Answer by Mr. Sakurai:

I believe that if we use the name of this council and act as a united group and not as individuals, we can get better results.



Mr. Hayashi (Block )

The results obtained in our block are still the same as that which I have presented at the previous meeting of this group. I will beg your pardon and ask your permission to leave this meeting. (Mr. Hayashi disgusted with the meeting, therefore picked up his hat and was ready to walk out).

Chairman:

Please wait awhile Mr. Hayashi, let us all cooperate and settle this matter in one way or the other.

Mr. Hayashi:

I believe this Representative Council is a very important thing. It was our main purpose to fill in the gaps which the Niseis have and back them up in every manner possible. I don't think it necessary to dissolve this group merely because we have failed in our mission. Since you are in favor of dissolving this council, I feel that it is best to do so and get a new start.

Question:

Is this group clearly a separate entity from the Pre-Temporary Council? The Pre-Temporary Council has been dissolved but will our dissolution be recognized by Mr. Crawford?

Answer by Chairman:

I will answer this question to the best of my knowledge. As you know, in Camp No. 1, the Issei group had about twelve lectures covering the Agricultural Projects, the Political System, the Block Manager's System, the WRA Orders and also the rules and regulations covering Camp No. 1. Interpreters were used to bring this to the Isseis. The lecturers included Mr. Head and Dr. Schnur on one side, and Mr. Evans and Dr. Powell on the other. Since such lectures were scheduled to be given in Camps No. 2 and 3, this camp was asked to get ready but as yet we have had no lectures presented to us. In regard to the petition to which many of you have referred to in this meeting, we had made it in this council and presented it to the Pre-Temporary Council for ratification and presentation to Mr. Crawford. This is exactly the same method used by the Advisory Board of Isseis in Camp No. 1 and I feel sure that Mr. Crawford will recognize the dissolution of this group.



Mr. Sakurai:

Even though it is my individual belief, I still maintain in that some kind of council or group of Issei is required to present our views. I still think that it is the best policy to retain this council in its present form for most effective presentation of our ideas, policies and petitions to the Temporary Council to be elected on September 1.

Mr. Yanohira:

To dissolve means to fade and disappear. I believe that as the Representative Council, our petition has been ignored. If this council is not recognized by the authorities of this camp, I do not see any use in continuing it.

Mr. Tachibana:

I wish to express my personal viewpoint as an individual and not in the capacity of a chairman. At the first, second, third and fourth meetings of this group, many of the members and also a large number of auditors were present. Mr. Crawford and Dr. Powell, as I have previously stated, gave us the privilege of organizing this Issei Representative Council. We have worked hard, expressed our views and our ideas, but at the last moment when the final goal was to have been obtained, we were thrust aside. I have acted as an interpreter in this Issei Council as well as the Pre-Temporary Council meetings. In both of these meetings, I have noticed that the attitude of indifference prevails among the members of both groups. In this council, also, only a very few of the members have expressed their views. How can we arrive at a definite conclusion when there is this lack of cooperation existing in these gatherings.

I have heard Mr. Sakurai and Mr. Yanohira's opinions, and I agree with both of them; however, I wish to add just another little thought to that, and that is, we the Isseis must pull together if we expect the Niseis to cooperate with us. At the present time my conscience is warning me that it is better not to follow the path we have been following. I believe that it is the best policy to dissolve this Representative Council for the present and in dissolving this council, there is a great chance that we will have new faces and new ideas from the new representatives. I have heard that a great deal more can be accomplished if we get Mr. Crawford's approval on anything we may wish to do. ~~first~~.



After this meeting, I believe that if we bring our reasons for dissolution to the Nisei leaders, I don't believe that they will think that our act was cowardly. I believe that it is best to dissolve this council for the present.

Auditor speaking:

I have found instances of misunderstandings among the Isseis. I have also found dissatisfactions added to this among the Niseis. I think it is the best idea to dissolve this meeting and build a bigger and better council by using the experiences gained by this group as a foundation. Perhaps, up to the present time, the Isseis have been emphasizing the Issei's stand too much. Perhaps the Niseis have been emphasizing the rights of citizenship too much. I believe a better understanding between the two groups can be arrived at, of course there is the problem of Kibeis to be considered, but a dissolution as close to an ideal situation can be arrived at if we try hard enough.

Opinion from the floor:

Just as you, the chairman and a few other speakers have already stated, I believe that this council has been accused of being without a backbone, and its members being a group of no-account riffraffs. The work of this council has been ignored by the Administration. Under the circumstances, I believe it is wiser for us to dissolve this group and work for the establishment of another council which will have the approval of the Administration heads.

Question:

What does the speaker mean by the word ~~of~~ riffraff?

Answer:

This is not what I as an individual believe in, but I am presenting what I had over heard on the outside.

Mr. Takizawa:

Up to the present time, we have been confining our thoughts to the present prevailing situation, but like us, will you <sup>come</sup> forward into the future a little? After peace, what is going to happen to the Niseis? There is no doubt in my mind that they will be kicked around like dogs, as witnessed the treatment of Germans in the past Post World War. <sup>period</sup> I don't know if the Niseis realize the predicament they are in. What we really wanted to hear from the Niseis was a statement to the effect that they will work hand in hand with the Isseis, and face and work out, and fight any



problems or situations which may arise from time to time.

In various blocks in this camp, I have heard that small groups have taken the power into their own hands and nominated representatives to the Temporary Council. I think this is cowardly. Why could they not have come out into the open and discussed ~~a~~ ways and means with the entire block in solving the election problems?

Chairman:

Permit me to ~~reiterate~~ <sup>repeat</sup> the statement I made previously. Dr. Powell and Mr. Crawford were the sponsors of this Issei Council. They have said that self-government will be permitted here. While in school, I majored in Political Science. I was very happy when I heard this, but have found out to my dismay, that this was not the case. Self-government can only be attained when each and every person within a designated area, get together, and form a governing body of their own choice. It is only then, that self-government in every respect of the term, can be realized. As I have said before, whatever we wish to do, it is the best policy to get Mr. Crawford's approval. I repeat again what I have already said before, that since this group remains unrecognized, I feel that it is wisest to dissolve this council and wait for such a time which will be convenient to again form a bigger and better Issei Council with the proper approval and backing by the Administration head.

Mr. Sakashita:

I have come to the conclusion from the various ~~speakers~~ <sup>speeches</sup> present, that the attitude of the group here is all for dissolution.

Chairman:

Is there any further discussion? Are there any questions? It is the wish of this council to dissolve this group. Those in favor signify by raising their hand. Unanimous vote for dissolution. (After the voting was finished, it seemed that the few of the members wished to have certain points clarified).

Mr. Satow:

Is this dissolution merely dissolution in the sense of the word, or is it a conditional dissolution. That is, are we going to say that dissolution will be effected after we receive definite answer to the petition which has been forwarded to Mr. Crawford, or is it dissolution without this condition?



Mr. H orikawa:

Whoever heard of a conditional dissolution. (Applause)

Chairman:

Since there was some misunderstanding on the part of the members, I will take a revote on this issue. Those who favor the dissolution of this council, signify by raising their hand. Unanimous approval.

At this point, dissolution declaration was presented by Secretary Mr. Takizawa.

The following is the declaration in Romaji:

Hon daihyosha kai wa, hon kai, keni wo mitome rare zaru ni yori, koko ni kaisan su.

August 24, 1942.

Issei Representative Council

(Translation)

Since this Representative Council's authority is not recognized, this organization there upon dissolves.

Chairman:

Is there any discussion or possible correction or addition you wish to make to this declaration? No changes made and declaration approved by members.

Mr. Sakurai:

Since Mr. Tachibana and Mr. Takizawa has worked so hard for the success of this council, I propose this toast for your approval.

In Romaji:

Hon Issei daihyosha kai wa Tachibana, Takizawa go-r yoshi no konnichi made no shinshoku wo wasure, kono gojinryoku ni fukaku shai wo hyosu.

(Translation)

This Issei Representative Council deeply express our gratitude to Mr. Tachibana and Mr. Takizawa for their undivided efforts to the present time. (Applause)

Mr. Tachibana:

I will point five members to present this dissolution declaration to Mr. Crawford. Mr. Doi, Mr. Horikawa, Mr. Satow, Mr. Yanohira and Mr. Iwakiri.



Mr. Yanohira:

Since we all cannot speak English in a manner which can be understood by Mr. Crawford, I suggest that you, (Mr. Tachibana), accompany us.

Mr. Tachibana:

I will do so.

Mr. Iwakiri:

Mr. Tachibana, we want you to present just this declaration and nothing else. We want you to stick to the point and present only ~~that~~ changes absolutely necessary.

Mr. Tachibana:

Precisely. Now, what day shall we decide to see Mr. Crawford.

Mr. Iwakiri:

Tomorrow afternoon right after lunch.

Mr. Tachibana:

Since I will attend the Block Manager's meeting tomorrow, I will get an appointment from Mr. Crawford for 2 o'clock. Let us all meet in front of the cooler in the Administration Building.

Meeting adjourned 11:20 P.M.



11-6-42

ISSEI ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Place: Ward 7, Hospital

Topics discussed: Cotton picking, internees, clothing allotment, wages.

The meeting was called to order by the chairman, M. Nagai. The secretary called the roll and then read the minutes of the Temporary Community Council meeting held yesterday.

Chairman: Since Wednesday is the regular City Council meeting it has been suggested that the quad representatives meet here on Tuesday, followed by the 36 block representatives. Is there any comment?

Block 38: Is the regular meeting on Thursday to be changed to Tuesday?

Chairman: Yes.

Secretary: Dr. Ishimaru will meet the nine quad members at 2:00 and at 2:30 there will be a meeting of the 36 block representatives.

\_\_\_\_\_: Won't 1:30 be better for the meeting of the quad representatives? The earlier the better.

Chairman: Talked of making cotton picking a block affair, the proceeds going toward block welfare. Those who have jobs will not be docked. Are there better suggestions?

Secretary: If we put the proceeds into the block fund we can buy Christmas presents for the children.

Block 21: Our block has agreed to go cotton picking.

Chairman: Is there any opposition toward making cotton picking a block affair? There is no dissension then.

Block 24: How frequently are we going cotton picking?

Ishimaru: Only once. Two ranches are already finished. When Camp II went cotton picking a boy stole a carton of cigarettes.



I went to the Trading Post day before yesterday and apologized for the young man. To steal like that is not very good publicity for the Japanese in Poston. I said that among 20,000 people there always are a few bad ones but this is not a pleasing sight.

Chairman: With reference to the internment of Japanese it is claimed that a large number of innocent people is confined in internment camps. The separation of families is a great problem. Even in Japan, American families interned there are not separated. I should like to request the Dept. of Justice in Washington to do something about it.

Block 14: Can't we as Japanese people rather than as the Issei Advisory Board request this?

Block 16: I was interned at Santa Fe. When the Spanish consul came over to Santa Fe the chairman of the internees requested that when they were released they would be permitted to rejoin their families in relocation centers. If they could not be released he requested that the families be permitted to join them in internment camps. An official from Washington came to visit us one day and we block captains had a meeting with him. He liked the idea and took a copy of the one we had given to the Spanish consul back to Washington.

\_\_\_\_\_: I think many of those in internment camps are innocent.

Block 6: I came back from Bismarck and agree with the gentleman from Santa Fe. We also expressed the same desire to the Spanish consul. There are no bad Japanese. Only those who have been interned know that feeling of being separated from home.



Block 13: I received a letter from an internment camp saying that they had read somewhere that all those now confined are to be released.

Chairman: Individual requests have been made to Christian ministers but these do not appear to have reached the top. But if all of those whose relatives are interned in Poston made requests and sent a delegate to Washington accompanied by a WCCA or WRA representative they might get to the proper authorities.

\_\_\_\_\_: There is no dissension in such a case so please investigate the matter.

Chairman: Reads a letter from an individual in block 11 complaining of his difficulty in obtaining free clothing.

Block 46: Free clothing is given only to workers. Those who are sick or unemployed should consult the Social Welfare Department.

Block 19: Claimed that he went to the clothing distribution center and was given shirt, trousers and a pair of socks, although he was unemployed. Therefore he thought the letter was fabricated.

Block 37: Since we are prisoners here and cannot work they should give us clothes or we shall freeze.

Chairman: We will take this matter up to the City Council.

\_\_\_\_\_: I worked on the subjugation crew. Since 180 worked there they told us to send 25 individuals at a time. The first group of 25 got clothes but after that no one got any. But those who went individually received clothes. It is cold now. It's disgusting to come home



from work to see young punks and unemployed sporting warm coats. We should have a more equitable distribution.

Block 46: Nisei punks are too discourteous in the hospitals, canteens, etc. Please investigate. Cited case of a patient fainting in the hallway at night because the Nisei nurses would not answer his call.

Chairman: This is the first time I've heard of such a case. We must investigate the matter.

Secretary: There is a committee in the Nisei council to look after such things.

Chairman: I shall notify the committee.

Block 46: In the circular issued to members of the Issei Advisory Board the term "salary" or "wages" is used instead of "cash advance". We should clarify this. We are receiving only \$12 or \$16 -- this is "relief" not "wages".

Chairman: I asked Rev. Mitani about this in one of the Coop meetings and ----

Block 46: This is "relief" instead of "cash advance".

Chairman: I heard that during the last World War the Germans first received cash advances then at the end of three months received prevailing wages.

\_\_\_\_\_: In answer to Mr. Tsukamoto if we regard our pay as merely a cash advance and not our entire pay the attitude will be more healthy.

\_\_\_\_\_: There are not enough screens in Camp I whereas Camp III has enough. We should have a more equitable distribution in this camp. Also, would it be possible to have



transportation to the other two camps at regular hours?

Block 25: Camp III probably did not receive any more screens than Camp I but the people from Reedley are wealthier so they bought their own.

\_\_\_\_\_: Wants more information on Coops.

Block 10: I should like to have Rev. Mitani come here next week to deliver a lecture on the Coop. (all agreed)

Block 16: Wants to know about the school problem.

Secretary: Gave a brief resumé of Harris' speech in the T.C.C. meeting yesterday. Also gave plan of evacuating block 35 or 46 to put in the sick, the aged, pregnant women, etc. who required a dietician's care.

Block 28: Claimed he had heard that schools were to be ready by October.

Block 46: Mr. Hirose quit his job yesterday because all the lumber that had been intended for schools went to an airport.

Chairman: I shall tell that to Mr. Ishimaru and then confer with Mr. Head.

\_\_\_\_\_: Cited case of a boy three months under 16 being refused work in the adobe project but 12-15 year old girls going out to pick cotton. Who gave them permission to go cotton picking?

\_\_\_\_\_: My girl aged 14 had to go cotton picking today. The teacher threatened to lower her grade if she refused to go. She is a grammar school child and this is a week day.

Chairman: Anyone over 16 is permitted to go cotton picking for his class fund.



Block 36: We should ask the teacher whether she is taking her children out to teach them nature study or to earn money.

\_\_\_\_\_: I don't know how important the class fund is but to choose a school day to go cotton pick<sup>K</sup>ing is not commendatory. They should select Saturday or Sunday for such a purpose. (Much heated discussion ensued at this point).

\_\_\_\_\_: Objected to loud music and late dancing in the hospital.

Block 11: This is under investigation already.

The meeting was adjourned about 4:30 P.M.

*(I've tried to keep the translations as literal as possible).*  
T.T.



## ISSEI ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Place: Ward 7, Hospital.

Topics Discussed: Coop, school buildings, clothing allotment, wages.

At 2:15 P.M. the nine quad representatives met Dr. Ishimaru, chairman of the Temporary Community Council, in the back half of the ward to become acquainted with the topics to be discussed in tomorrow's council meeting. The meeting of the 36 block representatives commenced at 2:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by the chairman, M. Nagai, followed by roll call by the secretary. The secretary gave a brief report of their meeting with Dr. Ishimaru: that several sugar beet workers had returned yesterday; that Mr. McCaskell, the liaison officer for the Indian Service and the WRA would be at tomorrow's meeting and that Mrs. Tachibana's Education committee was scheduled to give a report tomorrow. Regarding the news of rescinding of order for cotton picking by Gen. DeWitt in all probability it held for Gila and not Poston. With reference to Chairman Nagai's memo to have school buildings constructed soon Dr. Ishimaru had reported that \$350,000 had been allotted for school buildings. Dr. Ishimaru would like the council's permission to attend the JACL meeting in Salt Lake City next week especially since Dillon Myer to be there.

Chairman: Mr. Collier of the Indian Service will be here soon so would like to have him clarify the matter of \$3.50 clothing allowance, and late payment of wages. If Dr. Ishimaru is going to Salt Lake City or to Manzanar we ought to think up some ideas that he can take with him. Would you rather have the meeting on Tuesday or Thursday?  
(Tuesday was unanimously chosen).

Eddow: (12) Wants to learn about Coop.

Block 45: The three camps are divided into three units. Coordinating coop has been suggested to equalize prices, etc. Process of changing from Community Enterprises to Coop is difficult. Mr. Head is very much interested in changing to Coop. What to do with profits from Community Enterprise is main problem at present. Suggestions: to keep amount in trust fund; to lend to coop, etc. The original plan



was to permit every infant, child, etc. to join the Coop but Head thought only those above 16 years of age should be allowed. After the by-laws drawn up they will be taken to the project attorney, then to WRA lawyers in Washington, then sent to blocks to be ratified by the people. By this Saturday hope to get all signatures possible of individuals above 16. Saw a number of Nisei representatives to council who were opposed to it and told them why not stand aside and let us older people run this show. They said Coop idea was o.k. but the plans for drawing it up was wrong. When I asked them what was specifically wrong, they said that out of deference to me they had signed the petition -- if it had been ~~xxxx~~ put to a ballot less people would have voted in favor of it.

Block 12: Then do we have to vote twice? I think that it would appear suspicious to take signatures so many times.

Block 45: I wanted to say "Democracy is no good" concerning the coop movement but refrained from saying so. If we must have 100% backing we might just as well give up the coop idea for the duration because even then there will still be some one thousand or so who will not have been sufficiently educated to accept the idea.

Block 6: Because of ignorance block 6 opposed the coop idea. I suggest that some one who is familiar with coop movement be sent to barracks opposed to idea to clarify their doubts.

Block 45: The committee on Community Enterprises of the city council investigated us yesterday. Under the Community Enterprise



system profits were to go to recreation, sumo, etc.

Under the Rochdale system the profits are returned to us. Out of this a certain amount will be used for recreation, etc.

\_\_\_\_\_: After the Coop is adopted, will there be a county or state tax?

Block 45: Since it's a non-profit organization no taxes will be levied. At present the project lawyers are investigating Arizona laws.

\_\_\_\_\_: In Arizona from 1931 to 1939, \_\_\_\_\_ was a non-profit organization but had to pay over \$1000 in income taxes.

Chairman: Is there anything you would like to bring up in tomorrow's council meeting?

Block 30: Yesterday in Mr. Head's office we had a meeting. According to Dr. Cary 48 rooms are needed for classrooms but only 36 are now available. For high school students he must centralize buildings. We suggested that he pull over empty barracks in Camp II and use them. But Mr. Head thought it might be better to take the smallest blocks in Unit I and ask volunteers to go to Camp III. Since blocks 12 and 21 are the smallest their representatives were notified to consult their blocks. Dr. Cary said that some high school students walk as much as five to six miles daily.

\_\_\_\_\_: We thought it was a good idea since it is easier for a small block to move than a large one. Mr. Head said he would replace partitions and faucets but this might



end up in a Poston promise as usual. Councilmen from blocks 12, 9, and 21 offered to consult their blocks.

Chairman: Who called yesterday's meeting, Mr. Murakami?

Block 30: Mr. Haas consulted the Housing Department and -----

Chairman: Were there any talks about teachers yesterday?

Block 30: None at all. (Much discussion back and forth at this point regarding the transfer of whole blocks to II and III).

Chairman: I should like to be excused from the council meeting tomorrow but would like to have as many interested ones among you to go to the meeting.

Block 6: Even if you aren't there, the secretary will be there so I wonder if as a body we could not recommend that altruism be shown on the part of blocks 21 and 12.

(All agreed)

Block 19: My block is wondering how many pieces of clothing are to be included in the clothing allotment. I think they are not giving enough.

Chairman: There is much talk in my block that formerly friends of those in charge of clothing distribution were favored.

\_\_\_\_\_: I live near the place where clothing is distributed. The place opens at nine or ten in the morning but already at eight there is a long line. There are no favorites but you are unlucky if the place closes before your turn comes.

Chairman: Since we were put here against our will the government should give us free clothing. This seems to be so in Japan where Americans are interned. Personally I think that \$16, \$19 should be exclusive of the clothing allotment.



\_\_\_\_\_: They should give clothing to workers and clothing coupons to all others.

Chairman: Expressed idea that the government should ~~xxxx~~ issue free clothes to everyone regardless of whether he works or not. All others were in favor of this.

Chairman: I should like to send a petition to this effect to Mr. Myer.

\_\_\_\_\_: I heard a rumor recently that an order had come to deduct the clothing allotment from our monthly wages.

Chairman: When Mr. Collier comes shall we petition him as a body? Let us also include the matter of late payment of wages, and destitute cases being told to wait because the pay was on its way. There is nothing to be afraid of so voice your grievances. Let us tell them that we ought to get a \$5.00 clothing allowance beginning in May. I heard at a block managers' meeting that the payment is delayed because Taylor, the cashier, is bonded for \$2500 and ----

Block 46: During the last World War Germans in this country received cash allowances at first then prevailing wages. We must regard our monthly wages as relief. If the \$16 and \$19 we receive are classified as cash advances we shouldn't work. (Great discussion at this point in various sections of the room).

Secretary: Read the following recommendations to be presented to Mr. Collier on his arrival :

1. Wages to be paid earlier.
2. Clothing allotment of \$5.00 to everyone beginning in May.
3. The present wage scale of \$12, 16, 19, should be clarified as to whether they are to be considered relief or salary.
4. The type and number of clothes to be issued should be clarified.

The meeting was adjourned at four o'clock.



*Pre-Strike*

ISSEI ADVISORY BLOCK REPRESENTATIVES

Quad 1:

Blk 2: Nagai  
15: Takemori  
16: C. Yamaguchi  
19: Nakachi

Quad 2:

Blk 3: Nagai  
4: Matsubara  
13: M. Yamaguchi  
14: Kushiya

Quad 3:

Blk 5: Sugi  
6: Omori  
11: Dr. Murakami  
12: Eddow

Quad 4:

Blk 17: Nishijima  
18: Fukumoto  
31: Mohri  
32: Endo

Quad 5:

Blk 21: Ishikawa  
22: Okazaki  
27: Kadowaki  
28: Niino

Quad 6:

Blk 35: Matsumoto  
36: Mrs. Takahashi  
45: Dr. Mizushima  
46: Tsukamoto

Quad 7:

Blk 37: Kanno  
38: Hara  
43: Nakawatase  
44: Sashida

Quad 8:

Blk 26: Kawabe  
39: none  
42: Koga

Quad 9:

Blk 53: Sakemi  
55: Nomura  
59: Kodama  
60: Niiseki



REGULATIONS FOR ELECTION OF BLOCK REPRESENTATIVES TO THE  
ADVISORY BOARD OF THE TEMPORARY COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF POSTON, ARIZONA

1. Qualifications for Voters:

1. All persons eligible for enlistment in the War Relocation Work Corps, who are non-citizens, shall be qualified to vote. Each block council shall compile a list of the eligible voters in its block.

2. Advisory Board:

The Advisory Board shall consist of one representative from each Quad.

3. Qualifications for Block Representatives:

1. Each block representative shall be a citizen of Japan, over 21 years of age, and a resident of the block which he represents, and shall not during his incumbency in office, be eligible to hold an appointive office in the Project Area.

4. Nomination:

- a) Each Block Council shall nominate for the office of block representative no less than two persons from its respective block. The names of such nominees shall be filed in the office of the Community Council not less than 7 days before election day.

- b) Any qualified person may also be nominated for block representative by a petition signed by not less than 10 eligible voters. This petition shall be filed in the office of the community council not less than 5 days before election.

5. The order of the names on each ballot shall be determined by lot.
- 

10. Quads:

For the purpose of this election the following blocks shall constitute quads:

1. Blocks 2, 16, 16, 19
2. Blocks 3, 4, 13, 14.
3. Blocks 5, 6, 11, 12.
4. Blocks 17, 18, 31, 32.
5. Blocks 21, 22, 27, 28.
6. Blocks 35, 36, 45, 46, 30.
7. Blocks 37, 38, 43, 44.
8. Blocks 26, 39, 42.
9. Blocks 53, 54, 59, 60.



11. The Election of Advisory Board:

- a) The Advisory Board shall consist of 9 members.
- b) The block representatives of each quad shall elect one member to the advisory board and one alternate who shall take the place of the member in case of his sickness, or disability, or in case of vacancy of office due to resignation or other causes.

12. The Date of Election:

The election shall be held on September 28, 1942.

T. G. Ishimaru  
Chairman of Temporary Community  
Council.



112  
ANNOUNCEMENT!!

1/11/43  
REASONS FOR REFUSING DEMAND OF RESIGNATION BY THE ADVISORY BOARD

January 9th, 3:00 P.M., City of Poston, Issei Advisory Board's representatives, eight of them, to the members of this committee demand of resignation handed over. Although it was difficult to understand their action on next 10th day after seeing the manuscript with reasons for demand of resignation those five points can be reduced to two points: dereliction of duty and incompetence.

By the way this committee is one privilege obtained by the Emergency Council which handled the solution of the November incident. This newly organized City Planning Board was based on the Emergency Council for the purpose of setting up machinery for civic administration. These eight members were selected rigidly by said Board.

Since the formation of this committee on November 28, we have worked without a day's rest earnestly with just one object, to build a more habitable, serene, peaceful city of Poston which we promised project director Head at that time. We have progressed to this day without forgetting the fact that we begged for voluntary dispersal after we had reported to our 10,000 brothers who were assembled in that arena the promise with administration on the final day.

A month and a half has gone already since the formation of this committee. We were taken by surprise of all surprises out of a clear sky when we received the demand of resignation



from the Advisory Board at the present time when we are trying to attain step by step the first goal after fighting through many difficulties. We regret very much to find many dubious points taken up by the Advisory Board at this time when we investigate the inside dope. Let us point out the significant points to the left (i.e. as follows):

1. They refused the attendance of member of this committee at the Advisory Board meeting in which they passed the non-confidence vote.

2. Why did they not ask for explanations after requesting the presence of members of our committee if they had something incomprehensible, vague or untrustworthy.

3. The ballots in the non-confidence vote were without signatures.

4. They did not open the ballots in the Advisory Board meeting but in secret.

Those who hold political offices must at least recognize political ethics. They have not shown cooperative attitudes toward the work we have been doing to this day. Moreover, they are unkind to demand resignation forcibly by balloting contrary to political ethics without well-meant questioning or without ascertaining its truth by mere arbitrary decision of their own. We regret that we are forced to conclude that this destructive action, irrational, unintelligent, is the action of our brothers in our present destiny.

All our participation, march or retreat or behavior must be just and aboveboard. When we examine those points we cannot accept them as the will of the Advisory Board as a whole because they are very vague indeed. We have no other recourse but to refuse this kind of proposal as it lacks justice and aboveboardness, as there is great suspicion that it is



due to agitation of certain ambitious people.

However, we in accordance with our initial convictions must do our best for the happiness and peace of the vast populace. We do not like to quarrel among ourselves. When we think of the situation we are in at present we wonder what is next to come. When we think of this we tremble with a cold feeling. Therefore, we are giving in one step to them when we request its reconsideration by the Advisory Board. If they value real self-government and think of the peace of our brothers the Advisory Board should call the meeting again and retract the unfail resolution. After that they should call a joint meeting of the first and second generation delegates and should request the presence of us C.E.C. members and after questions and answers we want to have it decided by a just vote in public because it is most important at this point to ascertain the wish of the Nisei City Council regarding this even if it be the demand of resignation of Issei only because the C.E.C. is a joint committee of the Issei and Nisei. We cannot do practical work wanted done by the public by absolutely neglecting the wish of the City Council. We herewith announce our contentions and humbly request the criticism of our loving brothers.

January 11, 1943

Central Executive Committee.