

James Sakoda
Tule Lake

October 1, 1942

cannot say a thing at a meeting in Japanese. I think it is very inconvenient among us Japanese.

Shirai: It's because they feel a hikeme (inferiority complex). How about our using the language we are best able to use.

X: Miyakawa born in Japan and educated in Harvard University (came when about two years old). (a) Manager of _____, (b) started his own business in Watsonville two years ago.

Mr. Shirai, Bunrika Daigaku, taught in middle school, and educated in college here. Graduate of Michigan and Stanford and lectured at Stanford the last couple of years.

Tad Iseri: 1942 graduated California 1941. Graduated from Middle School.

Shirai: It is natural for rumors to travel. They call America a dema-kurashi (demagogue life).

Tad: Took a chemistry course.

X: Mr. Shijo, very majime (serious). Only graduated high school.

X: Mr. Araki. Has both schooling and business experience. Very well-rounded personality. "Oshi ga Kiku." (Can push forward a point.)

D: I approve of him.

Sakoda: Has graduated college and has been to college in Japan.

JS: Let's make it majority vote.

M: Why not appoint the person. (Note Issei attitude.)

Election results

| | <u>First</u> | <u>Second</u> |
|-----------|--------------|---------------|
| Mitsutomi | 8 | 12 |
| Matsumoto | 1 | |
| Miyakawa | 2 | |
| Shirai | 4 | 4 |
| Donao | 1 | |
| Iseri | 1 | |
| Shijo | 1 | |
| Araki | 7 | 8 |
| Sakoda | 7 | 8 |

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How to break the tie?

M: Let the older one get it. It's Japan style. It's that or leave it up to the chairman.

M: It's better to have the member on the Board of Directors serve longer.

Chairman: How about collecting 5 cents wherever we have a meeting. Or shall we take turns in taking charge of the meeting. Let's start with block 25 and next 26, etc.

JS: Let's decide on about \$1 only to be spent on refreshments.

M: Smith doesn't want to hand the profit of the canteen over to us, that's why he started the theater.

Shirai: I believe that the Advisory Committee made a misjudgment. The Issei didn't want to hand the canteen over to the Niseis (Councilmen). Smith had no one to take the canteen matters to.

Sumio M: Didn't know till about a week ago that a theater was going to be built. It was only when Smith paid cash for the lumber that he realized that the theater project was a reality.

Sakamoto: We should not invest in real property, such as the theater. When the war is over we cannot make use of the theater or sell it off.

Chairman: It's 9:35. How about closing the meeting. Next meeting at 7:30 at block 25.

Five cents from each individual present to defray the expenses for the refreshments bought for this meeting.

Notes: Issei Leadership

Several interesting things were brought out by the meeting tonight. The first was the use of Japanese and the leadership taken by the Issei. None of the Niseis except myself said anything during the whole meeting. Mr. Matsumoto, Donao

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Mitsutomi, Komatsu, Sakamoto and Shirai did practically all of the talking.

Japanese Custom

In the voting JS insisted on a majority vote and secret ballot election according to good American custom. Mr. Mastumoto, however, thought it would be better if the members of the Board of Directors were chosen by popular assent (suisen) in the Japanese fashion. While the election proper was by the American method, to break the tie between Araki and J.S. the Japanese method was employed. In the case of this sort if the two parties were Isseis they would have insisted that the other party be chosen no matter how much they desired the office themselves. In fact, the more they desired the office the more they would have had to insist that the other be chosen. The two Niseis, however, said very little. JS thought that the Japanese method of age determination was fair, while Araki mentioned just once whether we shouldn't let JS take over the office.

Friday, October 2, 1942

Work

This morning I spread out all of my cards and notes for the Christian church on my desk and on my cot, got out my outline and started to bang away on my typewriter. After writing an introduction I decided to write a development history in terms of the extent of the organization completed. This took me all morning and afternoon and evening, as I plodded along slowly looking up data from every source I had. Next I intended to write on uniform ways, giving a cross-section picture of the Christian church and follow with an analysis of membership characteristics.

Went to the canteen with Ruby and Mrs. Yoshida. Took last night's minutes to Fumi and had a little discussion with her. Dropped in at the social welfare office and had a little chat with Tom and Mrs. Murayama on the JACL.

First Hog Killed

The other day a hog was run over by a garbage truck and maimed. George and

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the others decided that there was no use in letting it live because it wouldn't grow up properly anyway. Maybe it would have died anyway. Swede, the head of the garbage crew offered to kill it. Knowing that it would not be so good if it got out that a hog had been killed and not turned over to the community, secrecy was maintained. George at first decided that it could be cut up and taken home by the workers on the hog farm without anyone else knowing about it. I talked to him about it and told him that Scott, the head of the hog division, should be notified. I also suggested that if the meat were brought home people would find out sooner or later. The next day he told Scott who said couldn't accept the meat when it was offered to him. He suggested that the boys eat it. So the hog was cut up and taken home by the workers. It weighed only about 80 pounds or so.

Asako

Ruby has been facing quite a time trying to arrange a schedule for her adult English which has been constantly increasing. Recently she received a raise to \$19 because she was supervising more than four or five teachers. She's been trying to work out most of the difficult problem by herself, taking care to be fair to everyone. Asako was assigned to a room in the 40 block and she complained that it was too far for her to go. She was ill when she was young, and again her health broke down while she was working. She doesn't seem so weak, but maybe she is. Part of her present type of adjustment might be traced, to her physical weakness.

Co-ops

When I went to hand in my minutes, Fumi discussed with me some of the problems she was facing with me. She wanted to know whether it wouldn't be a good idea to have a nominating committee to chose members for the various committees. I thought that it would be a good idea if the ward groups were given a chance to make

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nominations from the floor. We also discussed the desirability of spreading information of parliamentary procedure among the people, especially Isseis, if the co-op were to be run properly. I always think of the criticism raised against the JACL when methods of running an organization are being discussed. I think that proper procedure should be maintained to give the members a proper voice in the government.

Jobo

We were discussing Jobo tonight in connection with some discussion on psychology. I pointed out that in his Joe Suzuki story he introduced a girl who jilted a boy. In the Oct. 1 edition of the T.D. in his column called "Star-Dusting" he related a dream he had in which Fate calls him a "blundering idiot" and a "shrimp." Again in his "Story of a Starry Night" (T.D. Magazine section, August, 1942) a girl ignores the hero for a "tall boy." The things that bother Jobo seem to be almost obvious now -- short stature, making mistakes, being disliked by girls. Ruby related that once Frances S. wouldn't go home but stayed in our room because she knew that Jobo had come to see her. When Jobo came by and looked in the room and saw her he seemed very uncomfortable. Ah what a sad thing life can be.

Saturday, October 3, 1942

Work

In the morning I worked on the section on the Christian church, but towards noon my head was feeling a little dizzy. I didn't get very far because I was chasing around for information and my cards weren't complete. In the afternoon went to Tom's place with Frank, then three of us had a conference on the stenographer business. We decided that Frank would look up the two girls whose names were sent by D.S. and hire someone full time if possible. Tom and Frank seem to have decided that it was best to pay only \$16 plus clothing allowance according to WRA regulations. Anyway, we're going to wait until D.S. comes up and clears the

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matter with Shirrell. Came home and worked on the church again, but didn't get it completed. In the evening played a game of "go" with George and won using the white stones. I decided to go to the stag and stagette dance even if I couldn't get into the Tolo dance because I didn't have a girl. Frances S. was sitting in the shade today and hinted around about why I didn't go to the dance tonight, but I said that I didn't want to go.

I was feeling pretty low today because I wasn't getting very far with my report, and I was told that I was being too frank about going out and getting information for my report. After I went to the dance I felt better.

Public Dance (Ruby Kawasaki)

There were two public dances on tonight -- one a Tolo Dance, which was given some amount of publicity by the TD. Some of the interesting facts of this dance was that no stags were allowed, doors were to be closed at nine, and program dance was to be held. Also, every girl had to make something for the boy to wear around the neck. The increased "frill" is quite evident.

The other dance was a plain stag and stagette dance, with the stags being charged a dime and the stagettes admitted free of charge. I stopped by at the outdoor stage to watch Shizuko Imbe and Bando Misa give a dance together. Shizuko was dressed as a Samurai and played her part very well. The audience, which was much smaller than usual probably because of the colder weather, seemed to enjoy the dance.

When I entered 718 I was surprised to find Ruby Kawasaki by the entrance. She was dressed in slacks, but was looking pretty enough. I stood by her and talked to her.

She seemed surprised to see me, and I told her that I hadn't come with the intention of dancing, but just to see how things were. She wasn't dancing at all, and I asked her whether she had come with someone. She said that she did, but that she was waiting for him to take her home. I asked whether she didn't dance

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and she said that she felt foolish dancing. I asked her if she knew how to dance, and she said that she had gone to dances with Hakujin kids, but that she felt silly dancing with Japanese. I said how did I feel if she felt silly. Then she offered to dance with me if I were a good dancer and took simple steps. I didn't guarantee her that my dancing was good, but I did take her out on the floor even though I had on dirty cords. The first several times I stumbled along with her, but the more we danced the better we became, until finally we were really both enjoying the dance.

In the meantime I made most of the effort to talk about something which wasn't very hard because I was curious about a lot of things about her. I asked her whether she was still working and she said that she was now a private secretary to Mr. Conner, head of the administrative department. She said that she had been called up by placement to come to look for work, but that she was going out daily to see her friends off to the sugar beet fields, because she thought that she might never see them again. Then she learned that she had already been hired, taking the place of a Caucasian secretary. She sits in a cubby hole with the "chief", as she put it, so that she seems to get along quite fine.

We discussed the office and Mr. Shigekawa somewhat. I started the ball rolling and she made comments or answered my questions. She had never appeared at any of the office socials. She said that she felt different among Japanese and she probably knew that she wasn't liked in the records office. I said that she had really done a great deal for the office when Mr. S had come along. She seemed to have thought that we had given him a rough treatment, but we decided that he had it coming to him.

I asked her about the future and she said that she was still intended on getting out. "When I make up my mind, I go after it until I'm told that I could have it."

Her partner, Richard Sato, was looking for her, and when he did come up to her she wouldn't dance with him. Instead she asked me whether I wouldn't dance

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some more and we left the poor fellow chasing after some other girls. I asked her why she didn't dance with him, and she said that she was particular whom she danced with. But she finally did dance with him and in the meantime I was able to look around at the crowd a little more.

There were about 30 girls and 60 boys, not more than that anyway. On the whole the group seemed to be young. The lights were pretty well dimmed and the hall was decorated nicely. The atmosphere was rather quiet, considering it was a stag-stagette dance, I thought. On one side the stags kept crowding the hall, but there didn't seem to be too much tagging going on. Two of the girls were dancing with each other or just shuffling their feet. The group seemed to be rather young -- below twenty. Some of the stags seemed to be those just learning how to dance or to get along with girls. Most of the group seemed to be taking walking steps. When jitterbug music was put on, there were only eight or nine couples dancing. Most of the boys were informally dressed. Some came in jeans and dirty cords, but they didn't seem to be out of place.

I asked Ruby whether her parents objected to dancing, and she said that they were broadminded. I remarked that their folks spoke English and she said that her mother was born in Hawaii and didn't know Japanese until she came to America. Her father spoke broken English, she said. I asked her whether Jyo had been her name and she said that that was the name of a boy. I was going to ask her about her family background because I had been asked to find out, but I didn't have the heart to do so. Ruby seemed to be enjoying the dancing and having some one talk to her and I felt that I was doing her a good turn. I was enjoying that feeling and I didn't want to spoil it by digging into her past.

After she had danced with Richard I walked up to them and shook hands with Richard and told them I was going home. Ruby wanted to go home, too, but I told

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her to stay till the last dance. On the way home I couldn't help feeling that in the oddest places you meet with circumstances that give you the feeling of really being alive and being human beings. I felt that way tonight as I walked home through the chilly night air.

Story

I wrote another story today which I called "Indian Summer." I had been thinking about it every since the plot occurred to me one night as I started to go to sleep. I dashed it off in about 45 minutes. Ruby and May read it but didn't seem to think much of it.

Sunday, October 4, 1942

Citizenship Rally

Moderator: Harry Maeda

Edwin Fergeson. Regional Attorney of the WRA.

Nisei were prevented in New Mexico to buy land. Their argument was that Nisei were citizens of Japan. The Nisei backed out of the deal and the case was dismissed.

The move was made in San Francisco to take the names of Niseis from the election roll. The case was dismissed as Niseis were citizens. An appeal was threatened, but has not taken place.

The 14th Amendment gives the Niseis their right as citizens by birth. The Supreme Court has upheld this amendment every time. The Supreme Court is unlikely to revise its present stand. Five reasons for this.

Duty of the WRA is to do everything possible to protect the rights of the Niseis.

Two Bills in Congress

Only one has been considered by even a committee. Steward Bill, a bill to intern all Japanese. This was introduced in February. It was reported upon favorably by the committee, but no further action was taken by Congress. But it

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doesn't take away Nisei citizenship. It would only give the War Department the power to relocate citizens and aliens. No further action will probably be taken on this. Nothing has been done for four months. The WRA program has been approved by the Congress. However, the American Legion is asking that Japanese be kept interned for the duration.

Holman Bill

Federal Constitution to be amended to deprive citizens who are claimed to be citizens by other countries of their citizenship. There are twenty-two countries which would come under this. Only those with dual citizenship would be involved. Congress has the power to make exceptions.

The obstacles to this bill seem to be too great. Amendment to the constitution, in the first place is very difficult. It runs contrary to the ideal of this country. "It would hardly be stomached by the American people."

The WRA will fight these bills. But if we are to be persuasive we must have your cooperation, your Americanism.

Tamotsu Shibutani

Disagreement as to the policy that we Nisei should take. We should agree on what type of organization we should have. There is only one organization now -- the JACL. Many have felt that the JACL has not been holding up the rights of the Niseis adequately. But our aims are the same. The difficulty is in the means of attaining that end. Can we preserve our rights by sticking with the JACL?

The present threat might not be so great. But for post-war we need organization. There are pressure groups who want to take away citizenship from the Niseis. They are well organized, powerful, rich. One of the pressure groups is the California Immigration Committee. It is composed of the American Legion, the California Granger, the N.S.G.W., and the State Labor Federation. When they want to do a thing they hire experts. To fight such an organization we must organize ourselves.

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These groups have some economic motives. If Niseis are deprived of land it means that someone can make a lot of money. The tactics are among the most undemocratic.

A threat to the right of one group is a threat to the rights of other groups. There are many groups who are fighting with us because they know that they are next in line to lose if we are deprived of our rights. Student Relocation and church groups have been working for us. We are not alone in this fight.

What can the Nisei do. I don't think that the JACL as organized at present is powerful enough. They did as well as they could do. If we had a powerful group during evacuation they would have known that hysteria would have started and prepared for it. It wasn't until the end of January or the beginning of February that hysteria began. It does not seem that we were moved because of military necessity. Some said that it was for the protection of the Japanese that they thought we should be evacuated. Some JACL leaders felt that way.

Either the JACL reorganize or we start a new organization. A number of members are dissatisfied with the leadership. If democratic control had been maintained the leadership could have been changed. A more democratic procedure would have helped.

We must cooperate more with other groups which have something in common with us. We should offer to help them at the same time they help us. The Negro organization has influential people, some Caucasians, on its Board of Directors, the type of thing that the JACL ought to do.

The JACL must collect all of its money from the Japanese people. Any organization must have money, but there are ways of getting money from people who have money and not from evacuees.

The organization should open up its membership to all citizens if possible.

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If the JACL cannot meet the needs then we must make another organization which will meet the needs. There is a job that must be done. It is difficult to organize a new group. But these problems must be solved. Only through unity will solve the problems. We are not fighting the cause of the Niseis alone. We are fighting for democratic rights of any group.

Walter Tsukamoto

We have only about 2 or 3 hundred people here which is disheartening. I am not here as an official of the JACL. I am here to talk to you as one of you. There isn't going to be any hard feeling between some people. The JACL is not going to be on trial. It is the Nisei who didn't lift a finger to help themselves are on trial. Most of the people here are JACL members. I know you are all loyal.

I am not taking issues with any of the gentlemen who preceded me. The WRA has absolutely nothing to do with you being here. Neither has the JACL. (Silence.) I wish that on these rostrums the speakers would get together. I grant you that the Stewart Bill will probably not pass. But that is only a possibility. But the Stewart Bill should become law, many Japanese in Hawaii and in the Free Zone will be interned. We often heard that we can't have concentration camps, but what is this.

The Holman Bill has very little chance of passing because it aims at many things. But a bill can change and there is a chance for this bill to take away the rights of the Japanese citizens only. I am hoping that if you all will realize that you have certain obligations to Niseis and their children.

So far as the JACL is concerned we are not going on suppositions. The JACL is proud of its records. I give you the record of the JACL and ask you whether it merits your support as an American citizen. In 1922 when we were still in school some students felt that an organization was necessary free from control

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of aliens. The American Loyalty League was organized in 1922. This organization died a natural death. In 1929 the same leaders who were leaders in their community got together and formed the JACL. They desired to retain the word Japanese in the name to show the activities of citizens of Japanese extraction. Would you blame us for wanting to take credit for those accomplishments (here he lists what some of the chapters have done. Making a large American flag, Nisei festival).

We have never supported any movement that has smelled of anything un-American. It is unfortunate that some of our leaders were not the most brilliant among Niseis. We don't compensate our leaders. These brilliant people who like to talk don't like to get down to business. Is that the fault of the JACL. The responsibility rests with the people. The people who come out of college with Phi Beta Kappas, etc. The honor belongs to that group of JACL leaders who sacrificed their time and effort. I have every respect for that group of JACL leaders.

In the early days the traveling expenses were paid by the members not attending conferences. They sacrificed time away from their work. These JACL leaders with hardly an exception, have served under those conditions.

On the outside what organization do we have which doesn't restrict its members by creed or religion which helps the Niseis. You have the Y.D. and the Buddhists and Christian, which restricts their membership by their belief. What have these people done to protect your citizenship and interest. The JACL has worked night and day. It worked on the Student Relocation problem. When a Nisei problem is going to be solved people are not going to other than Niseis for the facts. If the Niseis are willing to stand up and fight for their own ...

The JACL appreciates the outside organizations such as the WRA, ACLU, and Christian organization. But are we going to sit down and let others just do work for us.

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It's easy to say we'll create another organization. Maybe the JACL has made some mistakes in the past. Is there any organization that has not made mistakes. Is that grounds for withdrawing your support? Many people have never given their support in the first place. I am not going to accuse you. Those of you who are over the age of eighteen who can think for themselves and cannot realize their own duties as citizens I can't do anything about it.

An organization to be effective must have some history. If we do create an organization in here can we send a representative out. What prestige is our organization here going to carry anywhere. In unit there is strength. The only time that we are going to be heard adequately is when we all get together, no matter where we are. The JACL is the only organization that is represented in all of the relocation centers and in the Free Zone. The treasurer is not getting a cent. T.I. is getting only room and board. Mike M. gets only \$150 a month. He hasn't enough money to take Congressmen to dinners to discuss Nisei problems.

Whether or not you support the JACL, it will continue to function to the last penny. Their conscience will be clear. But I wonder of the conscience of 36,000 Nisei.

The JACL decided against the policy of asking for membership dues from non-members. We are through begging for membership. If giving up your property is not sufficient to make you realize that it is necessary to organize yourselves, there's no hope. (Long pause, aware of futility.) If you want to help yourselves to clear your conscience, to help yourselves and your fellow Nisei we have this organizational setup. But we are not going to pressure you to use it.

The thirteen chapters in the Free Zone are with you 100 per cent. They have given the best response since the beginning of the organization. Are you going to let them work alone?

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Mr. Shirrell

Your duty as American citizens in Tule Lake. General Pershing's speech to soldiers: "As a citizen if you failed to discharge the obligation of citizenship ... it is steadily but slowly committing treason." Had we Americans taken on our duties some of these things would not have happened.

You here must discharge your duties here.

It is necessary that you support your friends on the outside who are fighting. Use your best judgment and choose your organization and be loyal to it.

As an American citizen it is your duty that you conduct yourself to reflect your loyalty to your country. On the job you have the responsibility of doing your best.

It is a WRA policy to get people out of here as soon as possible. We shall not stand in the way of anyone who desires to go out no matter how valuable here.

Somehow the colony will keep on. We are keeping an employment record of training, etc., to present to your prospective employers.

Responsibility as a group of American citizens. But you represent one seventh of the 110,000 Japanese. We are discussing developing your sense of responsibility for your own affairs. Our social state and economics will all be disturbed after the war. You cannot evade the responsibilities. As a group you are responsible to yourselves for the good reputation of the Tule Lake project. You must do nothing to endanger the good reputation that we have here. The respect and friendship and support of others outside must be won.

I have a heavy job today. I get worn down, but I come back in the morning. I feel responsible for the welfare of this community. But above that we feel a most serious responsibility for the American citizens at Tule Lake. If it were not for the fact that we feel that you are making progress, we would have no joy in our work. It is our responsibility to help your problem. It is my responsibility to go out and tell people of your loyalty. Your job is to make this an American

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community.

Questions:

H.I. Are you ready to cooperate with racial minority groups.

W.T. We always have been willing, ready, to cooperate with other minority groups. In 1939 we cooperated. It has not been possible to cooperate with every minority group; we have to what extent we can. I hope that other minority groups will come to our rescue.

X: What is the position of the citizens at Tule Lake. What is the WRA program.

Mr. Shirrell: We must treat everyone favorably here, but we do favor citizens whenever we can.

X: We haven't received as much cooperation as we expected. We have a farm where aliens are employed, but who intends to stay in this country. I would like to have them referred to as domiciled aliens. Why are the aliens allowed to go out and work in the beetfields.

Shirrell: That is voluntary labor, which is allowed under international law.

S. Miyamoto: The JACL did not have the ability to look into the future you said. If we had another type of organization is there any assurance that it will be able to look into the future if the Niseis in the background remained the same.

TS: I didn't say what you implied. I cannot give any assurance. We have a very grave problem to face. We must have unity and organization. If the JACL could meet the situation then let's support the JACL. I suggested opening membership to
There would be a great many who would be interested in helping us.
all who are willing to help us. / If there were a research staff with experts then I think some of these things can be foreseen. I did not say that the JACL cannot do it.

SM: Don't you think that the point that the Nisei are too indifferent, that it's up to them to support the JACL. It's up to them to get in their own leaders.

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H. Uratsu: Can the JACL deal with the WRA?

F. Masaoka is conferring with the WRA officials on almost every important problem. I can say unqualifiedly yes. He has approached Mr. Myer.

Y. Shibata: The membership of the JACL wasn't very large before the war. Do you suppose the JACL in a membership drive can form a strong organization in this camp?

W.T. Our membership was small. Our membership fee wasn't very large -- it was about \$1. Some chapters have charged as much as \$3 recently. They started a \$100,000 endowment fund and that is the funds we are now using.

Jobo: We should combat the indifference of the Nisei. How many attend Block meetings? (A few raise their hands. Jobo grunts in disgust, "Your're liars.")

JACL Reaction

I was sitting near Mike Inbe and was able to listen in to some of the JACL leaders get together after the rally. Yego, Frank Tsukamoto, Yoshimi Shibata, Mike, and Noboru Honda were gathered around together. I felt funny about approaching the group, but I thought that it wouldn't hurt to hear the other side of the story. Walter came down from the platform seemingly excited. The others congratulated him on his speech, saying that it was very good.

Yego was saying that there was going to be difficulty in the Social Welfare Department because Tom was in there handling grants. He said he ^{was} going to take a few cases in tomorrow, and he was going to test him out.

"He's had training and education and things like that but he hasn't raised any kids, no experience. How is he going to know the needs of a family. I'm afraid that we're going to have trouble."

Yego's constantly harping on the fact that he has experience while other people only have education seems to be an obsession with him. I haven't heard him

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talk yet without bringing this point up.

The small crowd was commented on. "If this doesn't rouse the Niseis," Walter said, "nothing will." I said that they couldn't be roused because they weren't here. I said that the main thing that should have been brought out today, as Jobo pointed out, was the fact that Niseis were apathetic to important problems. Yego said that Shibutani has a fixed way of thinking and can't help expressing his views whenever he talks.

Then the leaders began to recount some of their experiences as JACL leaders. Yego was proud of the fact that one month his telephone bill ran up to \$86, while Noboru Honda said his bill ran up to \$60. Yego again brought up the fact that there were rumors in Sacramento that he had been killed.

I walked home with Mike and took Ruby along to the canteen with her. I treated, of course. We hung around in the store for a while, and then went to Mike's place where Ruby looked through some knitting books. When her sister came home from working in the canteen and demanded to know how the rally had come along I said that Walter was very angry and heated while Shibutani remained rather calm. Ruby wanted to know whether Walter was beaten by Shibutani, but Mike tried to say that it was Shibutani that received the worst of the bargain. She had previously said that she had never seen Walter so angry before. He had always been able to keep his temper even when he felt angry inside.

Notes

It seems to me that Tom got the better of Walter today. Walter was "put on the spot," but he didn't choose to answer all of the charges that was hurled at him by Shibutani. He did not say that the JACL would change its ways. He rambled on about the past accomplishments of the JACL and pointed out what it was doing at the present. Walter talked longer than he had intended, he said. He seemed to be

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searching for words, things to say. Tom had all of his arguments lined up and seemed very calm. I've seen him riled and he wasn't in that state today.

But as both Jobo and Sumio pointed out today, the real problem was ignored it seemed. If the Niseis themselves do not take interest in their own welfare, then there is no chance of radically changing the ways of the JACL, or organizing a new group more powerful than the JACL. There should be a block-by-block organization of Niseis to train them to take interest in the affairs of the Council, the Co-op, and other affairs. They should have their fun, but with it they should learn the serious side of living, of taking part in their own community life. Noboru Honda said that he had organized the young people in his block into a serious group, and he finds that they are taking interest in block affairs. This is the sort of thing I believe should be started in every block. If the block manager is not willing to do it, the Councilman might do it.

Christian Sunday School Rally

This morning I went to observe the Sunday School rally that was going on on the outdoor stage. The program didn't start till about 9:30 even though it was supposed to start at 9:15. I was curious to know the number of people present. Near the stage groups of little children were clustered together, and around the fringe older Niseis and a few Isseis were standing about. I estimated about 250 to 300 Sunday school children and 150-200 others in the crowd.

This is not a large number considering the large number of classes held in different wards. Fusako M. had a group of eight to nine girls, and she said that she had only eight and was going to take them on a hike after the rally. Someone else, she said, had the boys. I think the average class is only composed of ten or fifteen children.

It was announced that Juniors and Seniors would meet at two places only,

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while the Intermediates would meet in the same places as before. Since Juniors meet in four different places before, this constitutes a shrinkage in the number of classes held.

Holy Communion Service

I shed my dirty coat and work shirt to go to the Holy Communion held for young people in the No. 1718 hall. Dr. Smith was speaking about the YPCC when I went in and most of the seats were occupied. I counted about 200 young people in the hall. The benches in the hall to seat that many people seemed to be mostly church property from various sections of the camp.

YBA Service

I went to see what the YBA service was like tonight. I had also intended to go to the Christian Young Peoples Fellowship but it wasn't being held in No. 2508 as usual, but was being held in a mess hall for the first time. As I approached No. 2720 where the Buddhist service was being held, I saw many young people standing outside, listening to the sermon. I went around the mess hall and counted about 90 people standing outside. Inside the hall was packed containing probably 4,000 people. Formerly the mess hall was usually able to take care of most of the crowd, but this evening there seems to have been an increase in the attendance. Perhaps it was the program by the Marysville group which attracted more people.

The interesting thing is, of course, that the Buddhists persist in having only one meeting, when there is a crying need for at least two. Yoshio said that there were plans for having two meetings, but they certainly take a long time in materializing. If this had been the Christians, of course, they would have several services in different places. Evidently the Buddhists do not have the efficiency in organization and the leadership to carry out even a simple move such as this.

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Yaye

Stopped in at May's place after the Communion services. I hadn't been there for so long, I thought I should as long as I was out there. I asked to see Yaye's typewriter. It turned out to be a battered old thing, full of dust and with many difficulties. She said that she had received a bid to a dance tonight from a friend. I knew that she wanted me to talk about going to the dance, but I made out that I didn't notice that she mentioned dances at all. I asked her whether I could use the typewriter and she said that she would have to ask her mother because her mother had had it sent up so that she could find work and she had had a big argument about it. I told her that if it were that much trouble I didn't want to borrow it, although I did want to have an extra typewriter.

I don't think Yaye really wanted to refuse to lend me the typewriter because she wasn't using it at all. It seems to be her habit to keep stalling about a thing. She probably wanted me to ask her many times before she let me take it. I was surprised when she said I had to ask her mother and couldn't help feeling that I was right in believing that women were hard to understand.

Christian Offering

At the Holy Communion Service the collection plate was passed around. I put in only a penny, but I took a look inside to see how much others had put in. The pennies and nickles seemed to be evenly divided, while there were a few dimes in the collection plate.

Issei Opinion of Citizenship Rally

Just before the rally started I hear some Isseis express their opinions on the rally being held by the Niseis. "Why can't those Niseis realize that there is no use in trying to do anything about the citizenship. What good would a citizenship be to them in a place like this. Even before the war what good was their citizenship.

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Nisei college graduates couldn't get jobs as other Hakujin graduates did." Other Issei agreed with this sort of opinion. The Niseis were foolish trying to retain their citizenship. Their citizenship isn't doing the Japanese people any good.

Issei-Nisei Relation

It can be realized with this sort of opinion dominant among the Isseis, how hard it is for Niseis to express their own opinions. Since the broadcast affair has been turned down by Isseis voting dominantly in block meetings, the anger of the Niseis has been roused. Jobo has expressed the sentiment of the Niseis very well. Yego has also said that the rabble-rousing Issei are controlling things around here. Until this the cleavage between the Isseis and Niseis wasn't so clear. But it is becoming evident here and there that the attitude of the Isseis is detrimental to the welfare of the Niseis.

Nisei Interest in Rally

To those who took part in the rally the most disgusting thing was the lack of interest shown by the Niseis. There were less than 400 persons present at the rally. Out of 4,500 between the ages of sixteen and twenty-five less than 1 out of 10 appeared. When Jobo asked how many attended block meetings a few raised their hands, and Jobo declared in disgust that they were liars. It is probably true that those at the rally were the same ones who attended block meetings too. But it is indeed a small number.

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Work

Spent part of the morning working on the section on Christian people. Then went to the Administration building to see Dr. Jacoby about the job he had for me. He asked me to come again in the afternoon. I stopped in at the Housing Division and got some good statistics on population. In the afternoon I took these to Connie's

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place to have her type them but as she wasn't in I gave them to her mother to take home for me. Stopped in at the Civic Organization office and talked about the rally with the force. They seem to accept me as a regular visitor now. I had a little chat with Howard Imazeki concerning the broadcast. In the afternoon went to see Jacoby, saw some books he had. He loaned me Thrasher's, "Study of Gangs" and gave me a \$19 job with the title of community assistant worker. In the evening was able to finish the section on the Christian church and was greatly relieved. The whole thing was a headache to write, but it didn't sound too bad when I read it over. There was a movie given in our block, but I walked out when I learned that I had already seen them at one of the Buddhist services.

Walter Tsukamoto

On the way home from the Administration building I got into stride with Eugene Okada and we started to talk about the rally. I mentioned that Jobo and Sumio had the right idea and Eugene thought that Sumio was wrong because Tom hadn't criticized the JACL but had merely suggested that it should become more powerful. He then went on to say that many people didn't like Walter because of his business dealings. He himself had given him a piece of work concerning his property before the evacuation. He had paid Walter money to take care of the property then and after evacuation. Walter disappeared one day without warning anyone leaving the name of a Hakuji successor. Eugene had seen Walter the preceding day, but Walter didn't say that he was leaving when he was asked why he was cleaning up his office. When the Hakuji lawyer was approached about the matter he asked for a fee of \$35 because he hadn't been paid yet.

Eugene went on to say that in Sacramento the whole JACL was blamed for what they did. In the matter of inoculations, for instance, the doctors, who were JACL leaders, were against free inoculations. They had complained to the Medical Board

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when some organization started free inoculation.

Henry Takeda

Eugene said that Henry was considered honest and was respected by the people because he worked hard for the people. Saburo Kido had charged a very low fee in San Francisco, Eugene said, and this put Walter in a bad spot because he was charging a higher fee. As a result, however, Kido was left poor.

Broadcast(Howard I.)

I talked to Howard about the broadcast. I asked him why nothing had appeared in the paper about it. He said that it would have appeared if it had been a favorable decision, but that since it was adverse he didn't want to let it get out to the public. I think he had something there because it wouldn't have been a good thing for such a thing to be known generally. We agreed that the Niseis should be made to take more interest in public affairs. However, Howard said that he didn't want to take sides in issues which involved a split between Isseis and Niseis. He said that he didn't want to be the one to cause the split between the two. I said that if an important issue came up the Niseis **should** stand up for themselves, even if they have to antagonize the Isseis.

Jobo Nakamura

I walked part way home with Jobo. I told him that he was the only one at the forum that had the right idea. He patted me on the back and seemed pleased with himself. He said that he had written a burning editorial and it was coming out in tomorrow's paper.

Tuesday, October 6, 1942

Work

In the morning went through the section on the Christian church for correction. Then I gathered my material on co-ops together. Just before ten I went to the 1600 block to see some people leave for the sugar beet field. Two buses were laden with

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passengers. I saw Tom Okabe and his wife on the bus. Tom said that he was going to work at washing apples. He wanted to go to school, but couldn't because he was a Kibei.

Reverend Kuroda was standing by the bus watching and I started a conversation with him. I went on to the Administration building and learned that I could sign in at the Warden's office. Dropped in at the Civic Organization Office and talked to Koso who wanted me to help him on a discussion group to be held among Christians. In the afternoon worked on an outline for a section on co-op. Read a little on the Gang and thought about it a little. Tonight I'm going to the Creative Writers or Scribblers' meeting. I ought to go to the Council meeting but I think Frank will be covering that.

Chashu

The last few days our barrack has been smelling rather good. The pig that was killed the other day because it was run over has found its way into the home of two of the workers who live in our barrack. The meat was soaked in shoyu and after a day or so was broiled in the huge coal stove over live coal ashes. That's what Mr. K. did anyway, and Ikuro did the same with his piece and brought us our share. It was very good, although there wasn't very much of it. George talked freely of the taste, without mentioning that perhaps it was wrong to have brought the meat home. He knows that it would be bad if it were known that the meat had been brought home.

Today another pig was killed because it was ruptured and when it was castrated the intestines came out. It wasn't George's fault because it was Scott who made the error. The meat, however, was sold to the community food warehouse at the market prices, resulting in a loss of a few dollars for the farm. George says that since the workers have to work hard on the farm they should be allowed

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some extra energy now and then. So maybe we can expect more chashu in the future.

Rev. Kuroda on Pacifism

We were talking on some of the things done by the friends and he said that he had not made up his mind yet about the war. He had been in Japan till about twenty-three or twenty-four so that he knew what Facism meant, he said. When he compared British imperialism and Japanese domination he could see that one was worse than the other. As a practical problem he thought that Fascism ought to be stopped. I asked him what would happen to his ideals if he started to pass judgments on the real merits of various nations. Our conversation was cut off short by the bus leaving. I promised to see him again and left, wondering why he didn't stick to his ideals.

Creative Writers

Tonight we met at Miyoko Takagi's place. About fifteen of the steady members gathered there. Ruby didn't come because she had class, while Connie didn't turn up for some unknown reason.

Shuji Kumura

The chairman for this meeting was rather quiet, but had the most comments to make on the pieces read. If he were not the chairman he probably wouldn't have expressed all of the opinions that he did express tonight. This is probably one advantage of the revolving chairmanship. I'm sure that he enjoyed being chairman for one evening because he could express his views more freely than if he were just an ordinary member. He is rather shy and hesitated to call the meeting to order until someone else suggested it. Even when he wanted to say something he kept still until a good opportunity showed itself. In choosing the next chairman, for instance, someone else had to suggest it before he went ahead and appointed Ken Hayashi.

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Indian Summer

My story was read first. Shuji expressed the opinion that it seemed to reflect a sense of frustration that many of us felt. He also added later that the part on awakening wasn't so good. Most of the others didn't seem to have much comments to make, and seemed to be pleased enough with the piece as it was. I was afraid that it wasn't so good because May didn't seem to be impressed by it.

Ode to Cook

Connie's dig at Mr. Cook was read and seemed to amuse the audience. It seems to be a common thing among Japanese to get some pleasure out of taking digs at Caucasians. Of course, Mr. Cook had many faults. The subject of Hakujins again came up and it was decided that too many of them and too often at our meetings would ruin the gatherings. Jobo said that he didn't feel comfortable when Hakujins were around. I advised that they be **not invited** permanently.

Ken's An Ideal

Right or Wrong, Ken's piece caused some comments. Everybody liked the twist that he gave to his story. Shuji thought that it was too much of a preaching sort of thing and it would be improved if it were kept a matter of actual dialogue. Shuji said that we should try to see the truth in things. Truth, he thought couldn't harm us. The treatment we are receiving should be looked on in the light of truth. If it is racial prejudice that put us in here we should acknowledge that fact, and accept America as a nation which has racial prejudice.

Response to Outside Correspondence

I brought up the matter of getting names of colonists who are willing to correspond with Hakujins who want to help the Japanese in here. The response was very good. Hiroshi was very enthusiastic about the matter because he thought that he would be able to find a good job through something of this sort. Perhaps it was his enthusiasm that spread to others. He thought that he wanted to write to a

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boy and a girl and so did Ken. Four or five others put their names on the list. There didn't seem to be any opposition to the idea of corresponding with Hakujins which one might have found in more conservative groups who were suspicious against Hakujins and against letting them help them in any way at all.

Frank's Pacifist's Speech

Frank read the first part of his pacifist's speech. It stimulated a discussion on the stand that ministers should take. I suggested that many ministers sanctioned war because pressure was put upon them by the public. The majority in the group seemed to accept this realistic view of ministers. This group is probably more wide awake in their thinking than other young people's groups.

Tulean Dispatch

The T.D. came up for trial. I mentioned that some people have objected to the T.D. as devoting too much space to sports and to the tea and dance column. As several of the members were on the newspaper staff, they arose to defend the newspaper. Their claim was that the amount of space devoted to sports was only two columns and that without the sports and social columns the newspaper would be considered stale. They thought that the newspaper was considered a well-balanced newspaper because it included sports and social items.

Coffee and Ink (organization)

Miyoko served coffee and some doughnuts and crackers, and Jobo suggested that Coffee and Ink was a good name for the club. It was mentioned that the new name for the club had not been decided yet. Everybody seemed to like the idea of having coffee served at each meeting, and Jobo mentioned on the way home that the club was getting better and better without a rigid organization. The arrangement worked out seems to fit the individuality of the members and still get something done. So far as organization goes, it seems that the group has achieved what it really wants. They get a chance to write in the manner they desire and read it to a friendly

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group. There is as little formality as possible. There are no attempts to maintain standards which would be done in some types of social groups. There are no worries about dates. The two girls who were in the group today were accepted on the same level with other members. While much was made of someone going after Connie the next time, there is no squabble among the members to attract the attention of these girl members. Every one seems to have gone home feeling satisfied with the present arrangements of the group.

Co-op

The Board of Directors met last night, according to Koso, and tried to clarify to people in ward V about the liabilities of a co-op. The chairman of the ward has quit and other representatives are about to quit. It seems that there are suspicions on the part of the people that they might have to take on too much liabilities if the co-op is formed. They want to know the extent of liabilities, what risks are involved, etc., questions which were also brought up in our block. Only Mr. S. and I took care to answer those questions soon after they were raised, thus clearing up most of the doubts in the minds of the Isseis in our block.

Wednesday, October 7, 1942

Youth Organization in Block 25

I went to the block manager to find out if there were going to be a block meeting tonight. He said that the councilman had said nothing about a meeting. Evidently he had been becoming tired of reporting to Isseis alone. He was close by and was asked whether there was anything to hold a meeting about. I said that the theater project was important and needed discussing. He then offered to hold a meeting, possibly tomorrow. I did want to have that meeting tonight/^{so}that I could attend it and get some opinions of the block people on the theater project. Mr. Yagi the councilman said that in the Council it was decided to decide matters without consulting the block people each time. This was probably the reason that

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he felt that he didn't want to have a meeting of block representatives. Maybe he thought that the theater project was not important enough to call a meeting together about.

I brought up the matter of organizing the young people in the block. The councilman was enthusiastic about it, saying that he had such a scheme in mind. He said that these block meetings were not fair to the Niseis because very few Niseis turned up at these block meetings and most of the Advisory Committee members were Isseis. The block manager thought that it was a good idea too. We told him that the people in our block were too unreasonable, and he nodded his head and said that there were four or five persons of that sort. We told him that we shouldn't call the organization a citizenship organization because that would antagonize the Isseis. I said that such an organization would be valuable in training the young people to take interest in some of the important issues of the community. The sympathy of the Isseis could be aroused by appealing to their parental feeling. I think action is going to be taken on this matter soon.

Yagi, Councilman (JACL)

Mr. Yagi said that he used to be the head of the JACL in Walnut Grove, a group of about 150, but most of the members had gone to Colorado. He said that if they had been around he would have started a youth organization long ago.

Issei-Nisei Conflict

Until now there seems to have been no major conflict between the Isseis and Niseis. The matter of the broadcast, however, has brought this split into the open. Until now the Issei have been allowed to voice their discontent rather freely. At strikes it was the Isseis who controlled everything. In the block meetings, too, the Isseis usually had their way, while Niseis were usually not even present at these meetings. Since the Advisory Committee was mostly composed of Isseis they discussed most of the questions brought up in the block among themselves. When a block meeting was held, it seemed that Niseis weren't allowed to voice their

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opinions freely. Some of the Isseis with calmer judgments than others were afraid to voice their opinions at times.

The broadcast, however, has brought about an opening split, although the repercussions of that affair are not too evident yet. The Isseis voted one way and the councilmen voted another way. The final way was determined by the Isseis who voted in the block meetings. Some councilmen revolted saying that their job was nothing more than that of a messenger boy. At the last meeting it seems to be that the Council has decided not to ask the opinion of the block each time in deciding a matter. The theater project, for instance, was decided by the Council after a report from a committee. The next objective step seems to be the organization of youths in each block. Nisei leaders have come to realize that without unity among the Niseis they cannot oppose the Isseis.

Work (D.S. and W.I.)

Didn't do much work this morning because I was expecting D.S. and W.I. to come up. Signed up at the Warden's office for my time and then dropped in to see Tom at the Social Welfare Department. He seemed to be getting along quite happily in there. Went up to the Administration Building and hung around Dr. Jacoby's desk until D.S. and W.I. arrived. In the meantime talked with Dr. Jacoby about groups. He thought that Kibeis weren't a group, but were merely categories because they didn't have the organization and inter-action which groups are supposed to have. D. S. and W.I. came in a little before noon and had a long chat with Mr. Shirrell. They had brought Bob Spencer up.

In the afternoon we spent the time away just eating nuts and chocolate candies that had been brought up and talking about things in general. In the evening we did just about the same sort of thing. Dr. Watanabe was with us as well as Harno. Spencer and I had a little talk about people in Gila and also about church-

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goers. He was of the belief that churchgoers took religion seriously to some extent, while I thought that many of the churchgoers went to church for social purposes. He is interested in religion as a culture, which is sort of out of my line. Bob B. came back from his trip and dropped in as we were ready to break up. He said that he was sorry that he wasn't here sooner, but we assured him that we had discussed nothing of significance. No comments are made of personalities on the staff because I find that they have to go through my journal now and then.

Thursday, October 8, 1942

Work

Corrected some recent pages of the journal to give to Thomas. Conference with Thomas at ten. Discussed wage policy. Conference again in the afternoon. Ran through the report. I'm afraid that I didn't have much to offer. When I said that I hardly had anything at all on the families, D.S. seemed to be quite disconcerted. The heavy talk left me feeling rather weak in the stomach. But many points were cleared up.

In the evening I attended a meeting of the ward ll co-op representatives.

Mr. Shirrell and Junior Farm Foremen

Jun Miyakawa was telling this to us. The junior farm foremen were on the verge of quitting because they were receiving \$16 just like other farm workers and they had to take on extra burdens. Sakoda was sent to Shirrell to convey this message. Shirrell told Sakoda bluntly that if the junior foremen wanted to quit they could. They would be replaced. Sakoda in turn went back to the farm and told the junior foremen just what Shirrell had said. Possibly Shirrell didn't mean it in just that way. The foremen became angry and decided to quit. But there weren't anybody to replace them. Jun then went to Mr. Shirrell and got a letter from him saying that he was misunderstood and that he didn't mean what was interpreted from his words. In this way the matter was settled today.

The point to this whole incident is that Shirrell could have avoided all of this sort of trouble had he approached the junior foremen more tactfully. If they

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had been told that there was nothing he could do at present but that he would try his best the next time he had a conference, Jun says that the foremen would probably have gone back to work satisfied. So much of the blunders are so unnecessary.

Issei-Nisei Conflict (Theater Project)

The Issei-Nisei conflict was split wide open through discussion tonight at the ward co-op meeting. We discussing the theater project and Mr. Matsumoto demanded to know why the Council had not consulted the various blocks before making the final decision on the matter. I explained that the Councilmen had become tired of just being messenger boys and they also felt that taking back a problem to the block only meant having Issei make the decisions for them. On the broadcast affair they had come to see their work in a new light. The sort of decision made by Isseis were not judicious. Besides they had come to feel that as representatives of the people they had some power to decide matters for themselves without having to take them back to the people all of the time.

The repercussions were immediate. Most of the Isseis thought that the Niseis were taking an antagonistic attitude toward the Isseis and that they were creating a split between the two. They thought it was not the right sort of attitude to take.

I maintained that if the block was going to make a lot of the decisions, then the Niseis in the block should be allowed to express themselves freely in these block meetings. In order to do this it was necessary to have the Niseis come out and take interest in these meetings. Also, rule by a demagogue at these meetings should be avoided. The decision made by Isseis on the broadcast affair weren't done under judgment.

Jun felt that Councilmen should be given some power to make decisions for the people, and he felt that they represented the majority of the people. The

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other Isseis didn't agree with him. None of the other Niseis said anything.

One Issei said that Niseis were trying to get ahead by themselves, leaving the Isseis out of the picture altogether. Another said that there was discussion in his block that when the real election came around they shouldn't put up any Nisei for Councilman. From this it can be seen that the repercussion of both the broadcast affair and the theater project decision has been felt, first among the Niseis and then among the Isseis.

Komatsu felt that the manner in which the decision was made on the broadcast affair was wrong. He felt that he wanted to tell his son to be loyal to America even though they weren't being well treated by America. He thought that in that meeting that morning the matter of the broadcast was mixed up with disgruntled feelings which were poured forth. Some one gave the example of the Nisei who said that after the sort of decision the Isseis made that morning on the broadcast he felt that he couldn't stand up for the Isseis any more after what they said.

Few of the others felt that the Isseis' real feelings were not understood if the Niseis couldn't understand how the Isseis felt when they made such a fuss that morning. I brought up the fact that it wasn't that we didn't understand the Isseis, but that the decision wasn't made under calm conditions. It amounted to Niseis losing respect for Isseis. A few of the others continued to grumble about the reasons why the broadcast should not have been done.

Someone tried to explain that the broadcast itself did not matter much. Japan was winning the war and they would not have paid much attention to the broadcast anyway. He said that if they had had the broadcast they would have lost face. (Kao ga tatanaku naru.) I was amused to hear this phrase because it had been joked about so much.

There was a feeling, however, that the split between the Isseis and Niseis should be held back, if possible. Komatsu thought that more intelligent thinking

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should be done first by Isseis.

The meeting tonight brought out very clearly the repercussion that took place on both sides. In the first place, the Council lost respect for Isseis when they saw the way in which they handled the broadcast affair. Then when they took it upon themselves to decide the matter of the theater project, the Isseis resented the fact that they weren't consulted. As a result of this there is a suggestion to organize the Niseis in the block so that they can participate in deciding community matters. What further developments take place will be an interesting matter to watch.

Issei Idea of Representative Government

I wanted to find out whether the co-op movement wouldn't approve of the decision of the Council in allowing the theater project to go ahead, since it should help to settle this matter without a lot of fuss. I knew there was a lot of opposition to the theater project, especially on the part of Isseis. Too many of them feel that the theater should have been built by the WRA.

When I asked that the group approve the decision of the Council several of the Isseis began to say that if they did that they would have to resign. Because I made the suggestion they felt that in order to respect my opinion they couldn't come right out and say that they were against the decision made by the Council. On the other hand they had a sense of responsibility toward members in their block whom they represented. Since it was the usual of the members in the block that the theater should not be built, they could not vote otherwise at the ward meeting. Their idea was responsibility to the people and also their readiness to resign are interesting characteristics of the Isseis. Niseis would neither respect a suggestion made by one of the leaders in the group nor feel so responsible to the members in their blocks to the extent that they would immediately resign if they found that they had voted contrary to the wish of the people. The Isseis seem to become quickly

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sentimental about points like these. When Mr. Mitsutomi said that he approved of the theater project because his children were glad to have it, even though he would have to sacrifice himself by taking on additional expenses, he was being sentimental too. If the Isséis are to be understood, these weak points should be thoroughly understood.

Issei Rabble Rousers (Kishiyama, Nakamura)

After the meeting Mr. Sakamoto the block manager and I got together and discussed the Issei-Nisei situation. We agreed first that the meeting was a very good one. We talked of the desirability of getting Niseis out to the block meetings in order to get their point of view asserted. We discussed how difficult it was for a group of Japanese to agree. We again came back to the few among the Isséis who seemed to cause most of the difficulties in block meetings. Mr. Nakamura and Mr. Kishiyama were among the several that were mentioned. The block manager's wife seems to have noticed this keenly took and said that she didn't like the way they acted. "Daben o furutte" (talk trash), she described their way of talking. She said that they seemed to be trying to feel important by acting in that way. She seems to have a good insight there. K. I know is not too intelligent and is not liked by some of the people in the block. There is nothing mean in him, but he seems to get satisfaction out of getting up in meetings and expressing some of his dissatisfactions of the ways some of the things around here are run.

Nakamura

Seems to be the same way. I don't think he's so well liked here in the block. Aside from the fact that he is not working he seems to want to butt into what other people are doing. In playing go he likes to point out how another person should have played. When I first became acquainted with him and he seemed to be afraid to approach me in a friendly manner, I thought for a while that he was suspicious of me. But I believe it was because of a slight sense of insecurity that he has.

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Tanihana

It has been pointed out by other people that these people who get up and speak at meetings and make **fiery** speeches are not people who are looked up to. Tanihana, the fellow who has gotten into trouble in the Recreation Department and recently made a **fiery** speech in the broadcast meeting, has taken out some cement in Shirai's name, according to Shirai. Jun M. was saying that at farmers' meetings many of the workers would stand around to hear these rabble rousers for hours. But they would soon tire of them and little by little would drift off to work and the few who do all of the talking would be left by themselves. This dissatisfied element is a minority. Some one called them the Kyoko-Ha (unyielding, obstinate faction) which I believe is **rather** descriptive.

Status of Old Men

The co-op is bringing out the position of the old man. Mr. Ikeda was here last night and suggested that we form the co-op in a hurry to avoid further trouble such as the theater project. He has been pointed out as one of those intelligent men in the community who is consulted when an important problem arises. He didn't say very much last night probably because he wasn't a member of the group. But someone pointed to him in contrast to these other rabble rousers. As an old man, however, he is given special attention. Mr. Masui was given a similar sort of deference when he was sent to the broadcast meeting. Mr. Matsumoto holds an important position in the co-op group because of his age, even though he is not the most intelligent in the group.

Suspicion toward Hakujiin

Suspicion toward Hakujiins is definite in the group. They desire to have the position of the advisor clarified to mean that they will only have power to make suggestions, but nothing more. They even want the power to take advisors out of

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the co-op setup, meaning, of course, Mr. Smith. They don't like him at all. Opinions were expressed that he should be watched out because he might make money on the side when he bought things for the co-op. They believed that he should not be allowed to handle the buying alone. Somebody even questioned whether Elbertson wasn't trying to slow down the formation of the co-op, but we told him that he was in a rush at the present time.

Friday, October 9, 1942

Walter T. an Eta

Ever since I've read in the Harper Magazine that Walter is an Eta, I have been curious about finding out whether it was true and how people felt about this matter. Personally I was shocked when I heard it, and could hardly believe that such a thing would be printed in a leading magazine. Who ever wrote such a thing in praise of a person certainly didn't know too much about Japanese psychology. I have heard that some people deny the fact that Walter is of a different class. One version runs that he called himself an Eta to prove to the FBI that he wasn't a leader among the Japanese, thus saving his neck. "He's the type of person who would go to that extent to save his own neck" was the comment made at the time. Another lady who married a relative off to Walter's brother claims that people from the same district as Walter's family say that they are thought to be Eta only because they happened to live close by to Eta-mura (Eta village), but that they really are not Eta. People from Sacramento seem to accept the fact that he is an Eta, and it seems to be well known among the Sacramento people. Fumi S. spoke about it calmly, as if it were an accepted fact. She said that she didn't want to hold that against him.

There is another report that the family of the wife of Walter denounced her for marrying him, and has nothing to do with Walter's family. This seems to be true.

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Mrs. Yoshida says that there are four families of Etas in her block while Asako claims that there are two in her's. She also knows that name of another who's well known in the colony, but didn't tell me because the fact is not so well known and she is not too sure of it herself.

Block 25 Meeting on Theater Project

The meeting was supposed to start at 7:30, but by 7:40 only 30 persons, mostly Isseis were here. Three Niseis just walked in. A few girls were about to come in, but went home again when they saw that no other girls were here. There is a meeting of the Isleton club, so most of the young people won't be here. Most of the people, both Isseis and Niseis, look like farmers. Most of them presumably came from the Delta region. Three girls just came in. There's no women here. The meeting was opened by the block manager at 8:43 in the mess hall. Mr. Yagi first gives his report on the Council meeting.

First, he begins on the theater project. The Council okayed the building of the theater. There were some who thought it should be taken back to the block. A vote was taken and it was found that by 28 to 10 they decided to build the theater.

(He reads the expense items.) Up to fifteen years the amount is 5 cents, for the adults 15 cents. There will be a Japanese show once a week. I didn't say anything concerning this. When the vote was taken I knew that the Isseis in this block were not in favor of the theater so I didn't say anything.

I think that there is no objection to the theater project, but the way in which Mr. Shirrell or Mr. Smith handled the matter. We shall take this up later, again.

The problem of using women in the fields was brought up in the Council meeting. A vote was taken and it was found that by 20 to 16 this passed. It wasn't taken back to the block in all cases as had been originally suggested, it seems.

Lumber is not available for the high school, which will be soon.

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Mr. Shirrell expressed his desire to have the Councilmen help him in getting people to leave the project for work on the outside.

The petition to remove Mr. Pilcher has not been settled. Committee of five has been chosen to take care of this matter.

The Council is now working on a constitution, but since it is not done yet, I will have to report on it later. There will be another election of the representatives after the constitution is adopted.

Discussion

Ueda: You should start from the first.

Y: What discussion is there on the theater project?

B.M.: The voice of this block on this matter was known, but since there are different conditions, are there any questions.

Ueda: The Councilman represents the block, but why did the Council vote in favor of the theater project.

Ueda: Has the Councilman the power to wield the entire power in voting in the Council.

Y: The Council decided that it would cost only 84 cents per person, and it is not too much to spend for recreation. Especially in the winter time there would not be very many recreations going on. Also, there was an opinion that it would be well to take each little matter back to the block. Since the Advisory Committee is all Isseis and they oppose anything that is brought up, they decided that small matters should be settled by the Council.

Nishiyama: I want to say a few words about that.

Ueda: Let's have the questioning first.

Y: There were too many opposing the matter of taking the theater project back to the block.

There is much opposition to the action taken by the Council in other blocks,

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K: If the Council decided it we can't help it, but doesn't that mean that they went ahead by themselves.

Ueda: How about it.

G.U. It's a great mistake for the Niseis to decide things for themselves. It's for the sake of the Isseis that the Niseis can get along.

K: From the standpoint of education American movies cannot be good. Japanese movies might be good. But I believe most Isseis are against having American movies.

Yamamoto: The Council has decided that small matters would not be taken to the Isseis, but a committee would be taken to a committee which would announce to the Isseis. Can you explain this to us.

Y: This is the planning board. Matters are going to be taken by the planning board before being taken up by the Council, etc.

Yamamoto: We all voted for Mr. Yagi. Mr. Shirrell said that it is because you take matters back to the Isseis that they opposed them and you cannot do anything. The Council is recognized, but the block meetings are not recognized. (Okina kuchi o kiita. (Blew his mouth off.)) Why did the administration allow free election if he's going to say such a thing. Why should we vote for representatives.

We Isseis are being persecuted. We should do something about it now. Why cannot the representatives go back to the block and have things discussed.

XI: If what Mr. Y. said is true then the representatives are working for the administration to persecute the Isseis.

Ueda: I think that Shirrell is saying the truth and that the representatives are wrong.

XI: Shouldn't the representative hand in his resignation.

Bill S.: Is that true.

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Bill: He said that there is no provision made for block meetings.

J.S.: (explanation) Here I gave the history of the Issei-Nisei split, starting from the broadcast affair. I pointed out that it was a result of the reaction of the Councilmen to the broadcast affair that they decided not to take all of the problems back to the blocks. I said that I thought matters of importance should be brought back to the block to be discussed. I brought out the fact that Mr. Smith had all the power to run the canteen. The Council took up the matter only because the construction crew would not work unless they had the vote of confidence of the people. If the Japanese people do not take over the community enterprise, I said, we shall always have this sort of trouble.

Chief Cook: Isn't 10 cents and 5 cents all right.

Ueda: How about those who cannot pay it. There will be serious consequences.

K: From the standpoint of education I think the movie is bad.

XI: Shouldn't the opinion of the Japanese be asked.

Chief Cook: How about the canteen. It's more expensive. What happens if the people are against the theater project?

Y: It was said that if the Council opposed the theater project it was said that the theater project would not be continued.

XI: It was decided by individual opinion.

Chief Cook: Then if the people are opposed to it, the theater project will not be built.

K: Then it means that the Councilmen used his own opinion.

(Many murmur this.)

Ueda: This is a big problem.

Block Manager: Mr. Y. did not vote for the theater project. The matter of the Council voting without asking the opinion of the people is a big problem. Let's ask the opinion of the people once more and have our opinions extended to the Council.

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Nakamura: Did Mr. Y vote no or yes.

Y: I did not vote either way.

XI: You should have voted no.

Y: I want to resign. (I suggested that he say this.)

Ueda: Stay on a little more.

Y: It's because I can't fulfill my duty.

J.S. Why not decide to have matters brought back to the block.

XI: Every block has to do this to be effective.

J.S.: How about bringing a motion in the Council. (I try to point out they can get what they want, but they don't seem to want to do anything about suggestions I make. All they do is keep quiet.)

George U.: It is because the duties of the Council is not understood that this sort of problem arose.

XI: How was it at the first meeting. Did more people vote no?

Y: There were more yeses.

IX: It's too small (the building).

George U.: I have talked to the older men on the farm. They are 100 per cent no. The vote of yes of the Council is against the block.

JS: Do all of the barrack representatives ask the opinion of the barrack before voting in the advisory committee meetings?

K: There are times when I can't make a decision because the opinion of the block differs. I think that there should be a person from each apartment instead of each barrack. (He is our barrack representative.)

IX: (Sofue) If Smith says that he's going to build it, then we could ask the carpenters to stop working.

JS: (Motion to take a vote.)

34 vote no.

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No-yes vote taken. The Nisei kept their hands down. Some people tried to intimidate those not raising their hands, but asking them if they were in favor of the theater project. Mr. S. and the block manager had to say that they were opposed to it.

XI: How about asking the hallnot to be used as a movie hall.

GeorgeU.: Why not take the co-op over first and then build the theater if it is necessary.

Co-op Report (Takamoto gives a history of the co-op.)

Says that the co-op is not built yet. The WRA desires the Japanese people to take over the community enterprises. At the present Mr. Smith has the whole power. He went ahead with the theater project. Since the co-op is going to take over the community enterprise the co-op will have to take over the theater project too if it is built by Mr. Smith. Some people will be members and others won't be.

Yagi: How shall I take this matter to the Council.

Chief Cook: Isn't it too late. You can vote no when this problem comes up again.

XI: Can a special meeting be called for this matter?

1. Expense (Ueda)
2. Education (K), and moral (Fuki)
3. Too small (one man(

Chair is necessary in the church. Build the high school first.

J.S.: Don't you want to see Japanese pictures?

I.X.: No, we don't want to see it.

I.X.: Let's decide not to go even if the movie is made.

George U.: The farmers were against it. They didn't want the women to be dragged out to the farm to work. They threatened to strike.

Y.: I voted no on this issue.

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IX: Don't vote yes where the people don't want to go.

IX: It's wrong because the Councilmen go in front of keto and bow their heads.

K: There is no need to make women wear pants and work out in the field. I am absolutely against it.

Planning Board

One Issei from each ward. Only Isseis make up the board. All matters are to be discussed in the planning board before taking up with the Council. The problem of nomination from the Council came up.

Chief Cook: It seems like it is all right.

Y: Are there any opposition to this planning board?

Everybody is in favor of it.

Ueda: No if Mr. Shivat is going to choose the planning board. (A few others oppose appointment by the Councilmen.)

Y: How do you want it made. How about having a representative from each block and have them select the one person.

Ueda: How about having two from each ward.

XI: How about two from each block. And selecting one main person and one vice man.

Tanabe: Is Walter T. a Councilman.

Vote taken: 2 from block ----- overwhelming majority

2 from ward

1 from block ----- 3

George Ueda: What is the difference between the planning board and the fair practice committee.

S: One concerns work and the other general problems of the community.

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Y: Shirrell wants people to go out to work.

K: (jokingly) He has trouble feeding us. (He seems to be glad.)

Block Manager: We are going to have Mr. S give his report as a co-op representative.

Co-op Report

Incorporators -- one Issei and one Nisei from each ward. From our ward we elected Mr. Mitsutomi and Mr. Araki. Committee on by-law, Mr. Nakamura. Committee on committee work, Mr. Matsumoto.

JS: (Gave report on the incorporators meeting.)

Mr. S.: Read list of co-op representatives for Ward 11.

XI: Is Mr. Smith necessary to the co-op.

JS: Mr. Smith will probably be the buyer.

S: The plan is to have him go out as little as possible.

XI: He's going to make money. Don't let him go out at all. He probably took money out of the theater project. ... The Japanese are honest.

(The girls left early.)

Use of Women's Shower Room

George Ueda: This matter of using the women's bath. I would like to have it changed to 6:00 P.M. and 8:00 P.M. as decided before, because it is changed to 5 to 7.

Sofue: The timekeeper came around and said that in other blocks they have it from 5 to 7. The day is shorter and the women inconvenienced by having the time extended to 8:00 P.M.

George Ueda: There isn't much time between 5:15 and 7:00 P.M. if we eat at 6:00 P.M. The women are not working.

Sofue: Open up a women's meeting.

Abe: If it gets too late the water will be cold for the women. We ourselves don't care. We want to let them have a hot bath.

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George U: Formerly when it was 5 to 7 there was enough hot water. I am not making a personal attack.

Sofue: Why not ask the women.

Sakamoto: How about asking the opinion of the group.

Ueda: Let's not take a vote and take something in between.

Block manager: (Changing the time to 5:30 to 7:30. General assent to this suggestion.)

Nagata: Why was the soap box taken from the bathroom? (To keep the wall clean.)

George Ueda: It seems that some boys come in to take a shower in our block.

Sofue: If we keep the furnace burning at the regular rate the water will be cold by 9:00 P.M. we work extra.

Block manager: I'll write a notice to ask people from other blocks not to use our shower.

K: I heard this. They say that they give out soap in other blocks.

Block manager: We didn't receive any soap from the very beginning even though we requested many times. They say we received our share already.

Abe: The laundress was complaining that she had no soap to do her washing.

Block manager: That soap is supposed to come to the mess hall. There's been an extra load of brooms distributed to our block. I gave twenty to the new incoming group and I have the rest on hand. It must have come in place of the soap.

The meeting was closed at 10:15.

Work

Wrote a letter in my journal in the morning and then went to the gate to see Connie off. We had to wait 2 hours before the bus came and then had to wait some more. We finally left because it was approaching noon. In the afternoon worked

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a little at home after sleeping an hour and a half. Then I went to see Connie. I asked her some of the details of the theater project to prepare for the meeting tonight. At night there was a block meeting. I came home and talked things over with George who didn't attend the meeting and I have him convinced that the young people in the block must be organized and also he suggested that the voting be done by ballots in order to insure that a few people will not make the decision for the whole group. He expected the matter of the theater to be approved, and it seems to have hit him on the right place to make him realize the necessity for going out to meetings. I'd better stick to co-ops and not stick out my neck too far or I'll have some of those Isseis on my tail.

We won a victory for the co-op tonight, I believe, because we were able to hammer the point home that unless the people took over the co-op the theater project is going to be repeated. The people seemed to swallow that point without too much trouble. Some of those Isseis don't swallow anything if it means cooperating with anyone else. I guess I'm in an ugly mood tonight.

Saturday, October 10, 1942

Walter T. On Council

This morning I went to see Mr. Jacoby. As he went to K. I sat at his desk for a while, and couldn't help hear Walter T. talking loudly in the next department. I took down the following:

People who have responsibility are at a disadvantage. You do things for the people, but they don't appreciate it at all. When the councilman decides issues with the welfare of the people in mind and then are blamed for making those decisions then people of ability are not going to run for councilman. Suzuki said to his block that I didn't care about the welfare of the Isseis at all. There were some people that said that I ought to be mobbed, and S. didn't do anything to stop it. Have

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I ever stood against the people? Look at my record. Why should I change my colors now. If people are going to twist things in that manner I'm not going to work any more for the people. I don't have to stay here. There's a lot of places I can go to. I'm not going to stand it. I appreciate my friends, but if my friends are so weak I can't do anything. They let agitators do what they please.

Diary

It was warm last night, probably because it was cloudy, something which has not happened for some time. We have been quite thankful for the good weather that we've had for the last few weeks, especially we expected it to become colder than this much sooner. This morning it was strangely cloudy and windy and dusty. In the evening it began to rain. That will lay the dust at least.

Part of the morning I spent in writing up the minutes for the last meeting. I dropped in at the Civic Organization Office and helped the girls start a fire. I went to the Administration building to speak to Dr. J. but he was just going out to Klamath Falls. I sat at his desk and listened to Walter T. talk for a while.

I caught a taxi back with Don Elbertson and we discussed the recent action of the Council. I made a few suggestions which he thought rather good. Hung around in Elbertson's office for a while. Elbertson is becoming more valuable in other capacities, and is not going to have time to be an advisor for the co-op.

I worked on my outline for the study of social groups, incorporating my old outline and that of D.S.'s. Also read a little cut of Blumer's Critique.

I am trying to think of what I should take up as a special problem of my own, but can't seem to settle on anything. I want to learn all I can about the technique of studying social phenomena so that it will stand me in good stead later on. I also want to learn a little more about methodology, which is necessary in tackling any sort of problem. I sometimes think that I want to formulate my problem in terms of a method, but everything is too vague yet.

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In the evening went to see Dr. J. once more because I forgot my jacket in the Administration building. I had to chase around with him for a while while he did some errands in the Administration building. He mentioned that he met most of the staff members on their way to Klamath Falls, which he described as characteristic of Saturday afternoons. His wife is not home now -- maybe she got tired of living the rugged life of a colonist. Discussed some recent happenings with J., and exchanged some important information with him. He brought me home in his car in the evening, but I had him drop me off at the end of the block. This working for J., doing my research, being a co-op representative, trying to buck the Isseis have combined to put me in a delicate situation. Although in my own block I have the respect of a great many Isseis now, I'll have to be careful about what I do and say.

Council -- Issei-Nisei Split

I discussed the recent mixup beginning with the broadcast and continued in the theater project with Dr. J. He said that he was in favor of a delegated authority where the representative has the power to decide things for himself or be taken out of office if the people do not like him. I pointed out that under ordinary conditions this would be all right, but that in here that wasn't so good because the Council was composed only of Niseis. Dr. J. said that he was in favor of having Isseis represented on the Council. If things are to be taken back to each block I suggested that secret ballot be used and the youths be organized.

Agitators, Saboteurs.

Dr. J. seems to be most concerned with agitators and saboteurs. He wanted to know whether some of the agitators at the meetings made threats of physical violence or carried out their obnoxious activities in physical form. I said that I wasn't aware that there were people who went around doing physical harm to things. I said that I thought that most of the agitators would not go beyond talking and possibly intimidating others. J. pointed out several instances of sabotage which

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had been brought to his attention. The fire extinguisher in the motor pool had been emptied of its liquid content or filled with water; jets in the carburetor of a machine had been removed, workmen in the furniture factory had been threatened to quit work. He was afraid, he said, that if things of this sort got out, it didn't help the people in here. He had gone to K.F. and the people seem to think that the majority of the people in the project are loyal. Father W. especially seems to have left a very good impression with the people there. Part of J's fear seems to rest on the fact that he doesn't come in direct contact with the people too much and doesn't know just what is going on. I talked to him about some of the rumors that were going about, and suggested that there be a bulletin to counteract these rumors, and he said that he didn't know that such rumors were going around.

WRA News Bulletin

We talked of a WRA news bulletin, when I mentioned that we should have a much more powerful propaganda machine in here. J. thought that the T.D. should be left alone so that the information that it did print would be relied upon. I pointed out that too many facts were being twisted around as they were carried from person to person. The statement made by Kalleem that the outside public wasn't buying the farm products of the Japanese was attributed to Shirrell and has never been denied. Shirrell didn't seem to know who had made such a statement. It was true that two or three large stores had refused to put in bids, but at present other firms are purchasing products made on the project farm. This just goes to show how badly a publicity man is needed in the project.

Secret Ballot for Block

I spoke to E. about starting a system of secret ballot for block meetings in order to insure that no small group control the election. Also this would make splits such as the Issei-Nisei split less objective when issues were voted upon. This idea of the secret ballot is really partly George's idea, because he said that

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he didn't want to sit through several hours of meeting just to vote.

Issei-Nisei Split

Issei opposition to the **action** taken by the Council was rumbling rather loudly today. Tom Y. said that some Issei came over to demand whether the Council had taken a person vote or block-by-block vote. He said that if the Isseis were going to continue to squawk there **wasn't** going to be any Council left. At the Legal Aid Department there were several visitors discussing this question. In some blocks the block manager seems to have been asked to call a block meeting to discuss this matter.

This split is really a serious matter. The two groups are beginning to lose respect for each other and it is not going to improve morale inside the project. If the **Constitution** of the Council is being worked upon the matter is going to be complicated. If as is being said, the Council is trying to get a lot of power for itself, then it's going to mean trouble. Not only the Isseis, but there are going to be Niseis who are going to oppose giving the Council a great deal of power. The co-op also probably will not want the Council to have too much power.

A Five-Point Program

To solve these problems it seems that the following line of action will achieve the best results.

1. Have important matters brought up before the Council first discussed in block meetings (no barrack representative meetings.)
2. Matters which are of minor importance and those which the majority of the the Councilmen are confident that they can vote upon without discussing it with the block and Council should have the power to vote upon and decide.
3. A method of recalling the Councilman who doesn't have the vote of confidence of the majority of the people in the block should be worked out. Or in

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the Japanese manner the Councilman can offer to resign whenever he finds that he did not carry out the wish of the people he represents.

4. Secret balloting on the day following a meeting should be insisted upon in order to avoid having a few people intimidate others. This will also insure giving a voice to those who do not choose to attend meetings. This is especially true of women.

5. The young people in the block should have organized as a youth group (seinen kai) and taught to take interest in their own affairs. Methods of achieving results by making motions, etc. should be taught them. Talks can also be given on matters concerning co-op, etc., and they can also have the type of recreation they desire.

Sunday, October 11, 1942

Issei Theater Project Meeting

Speaker: We want to avoid a split between Isseis and Niseis, between the Council and the people, between parents and children. There are many obstacles ahead of us, and to meet them we must unite. We must not criticize too harshly the decision of the Council. Please express your opinions quietly. I shall introduce Mr. Suzuki the chairman.

S: I'm a Nisei and can't speak Japanese very well. The Council approved the building of the theater with a majority vote. In the Council there was difference of opinion. Some thought that the issue should be taken back to the block, but that was lost. They also said that Niseis constituted a majority of the people here so that if their opinion were asked then it would represent the majority opinion in the camp. There were some who favored the theater project as an individual, even though his block was against it.

I would like to ask who is here representing the different blocks to keep as as a matter of record.

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No. 4 --not here.

No. 5 Shinozaki. Block opinion is no. We are going to have another meeting after I report back to the block.

XI: Let's separate the representative from the block and people who are here only to listen.

Chairman: All those in favor please clap your hand. (Hand clap.) Those opposing (no voice).

XN: All who could come were encouraged to come, so it is hard to say who is the real representative. (All three were considered to be representatives.)

No. 6: We are going to decide after hearing the result of this meeting. We object to putting up a theater.

(The representatives from each block are not clear. Some came here by themselves.)

No. 13:

No. 14: No -- Koiri

No. 15: No

No. 16:

No. 17: No -- Tsutusui

No. 18: Undecided

No. 25: No -- Masui, Yamamoto

No. 26:

No. 27: No -- Kashi

No. 28:

No. 29: We left the power to the Councilman. We thought we had no voice in this matter.

No. 30: No -- none.

No. 37: No decision has been made. Meeting is to be held Monday. Undecided.

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- No. 38:
No. 39: No -- Ito.
No. 22: No -- Muraki
No. 23: No
No. 24: No
No. 31: No
No. 32: Yes -- Kyugo
No. 33:
No. 34: No -- S.
No. 35: No. Decided long ago.
No. 36:
No. 7: No
No. 8:
No. 9:
No. 10: No -- Yuki
No. 11: No -- Umetsu
No. 12: No -- Dairiki
No. 19: No -- Shimozu
No. 20: No -- Makishima
No. 21: Yes
No. 40: No-Okano
No. 41:
No. 42: It's okay if it's about 5 and 10 cents admission. Asagawa
No. 43: No, Nakao
No. 44: No -- Yoshida
No. 45: No -- Nimura
No. 46: No -- Makimoto

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- No. 47: No -- Abo
No. 48:
No. 49:
No. 50:
No. 51:
No. 52: No -- Kano, Yabuki?
No. 53: No -- Otsubo
No. 54: No -- Kumagai
No. 56:
No. 57:
No. 58:
No. 59:
No. 67:
No. 68: No -- Kirazawa
No. 69:
No. 70:
No. 73:
No. 74:

Chairman: The Council has no power in deciding this matter of the theater project, but since the construction workers won't work if we are not in favor, we have a voice in this matter.

Nimori No. 45: The Councilman voted yes personally inspite of the fact that the people were against the theater project. I was "mad" when I heard that the Councilman made a personal decision. The power of the Councilman was doubted by many. If we set an example right now we won't know what sort of decision is going to be made in the future and we will be streamrollered. (Clap of hands.) We should avoid mistakes of this sort in the future. This is my first point.

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Also from the standpoint of law it may be wrong. From the standpoint of expenses the highest doctor is only receiving \$19 and workers like me only \$16. It's only one tenth of what we would receive on the outside. If we have to pay 15 cents it compares with \$1.50. The majority of the people may be able to afford clothes and movies too. But I have a lot of children, and I believe that there are a lot of people like myself. We must think that we are not here to spend money. To live on an equal and unified basis we must make the weak person the basis of our calculation.

Another problem is the connection between the sexes. With everything so free it is dangerous. I have a daughter. I have heard bad stories from my friends. The young people will take advantage of the movie and fall into error.

There is also the problem of the canteen. The expenses of the theater is coming out of the canteen. Mr. Smith says that he can control the community enterprises as long as the people have not taken it over. They lectured that in the future the canteen was going to be ours, but they are going to build a show and charge high admission for it and take money from the people. They may start a lot more enterprises. If we are going to be stripped it's going to be hard on those of us who have nothing to be stripped of.

I demand a reconsideration by the Council. If not, we will think up some other direct method here. (Clap of hands.) (He hints of extreme measures.)

XI: I would like to hear the opinion of a Councilman who answered yes.

Chairman: Mr. Ryugo, why was block 32 in favor of the theater project. At the block meeting there was much discussion but the result was yes.

XI: Are there any councilmen here who voted yes? (There is none.)

Block 22: We were in favor if the admission was 5 or 10 cents. It was based on sympathy for bachelors and children.

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Block 44: (Y) Members of the advisory committee in our block are all Issei while Councilmen are Nisei. As a method of avoiding further clashes I want to express an opinion.

Our block was against it. The block manager and the Councilman were for it. But the Councilman seems to decide things the way he desires it. The vote of the councilman should be printed in the T.D. to see that he doesn't do anything cowardly.

Chairman: I would like to have the quieter plan presented by Mr. N. accepted by the group and the matter presented to the Council for discussion again.

Block 22: I think the matter should be referred back to the Council.

X: I would like to know the reason for the Council okaying the theater project.

Chairman: It was based on the opinion that the Council need not act merely as a messenger boy. Also they felt that Niseis constituted the majority in the camp.

N: Every time the Councilman goes back to the block they don't always have a meeting.

Chairman: There are no rules saying that Councilmen promised to ask the opinion of the block and report decisions made in the Council.

Chairman: Mr. Shirrell said that Councilman made the habit of reporting to the block by himself.

IX: Have that written in the records and tell the Councilmen.

Chairman: All those in favor of referring the matter back to the Council (All raise their hands, none against it).

Chairman: There has been talk of forming an Issei organization^{to}/exchange opinion.

XI: Please repeat it.

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Okamoto: There's an advisory board to the Councilman. I think that the advisory board of the whole project should get to go about once a month. There seems to be blocks where there are no reports made. This sort of problem is going to arise again. If we have an organ to exchange opinions then we can avoid further problems. We should think of methods of organizing this organization.

XM: I think that someone should come from the block to watch his Councilman at Council meetings.

Nimori: Isn't it a necessity to have a plan in case the first plan doesn't work.

XI: I believe in physical violence (nikugan gamae). (Clap of hands.) In case the Councilman votes differently from his block.

Chairman: I don't think you need to go to that extreme. Since the Isseis need not work if they are opposed to this theater project. And they don't have to work.

Katsuyama: If I talk the FBI is after me. (Don't worry the FBI is after everybody) I brought up this matter on September 26. The WRA stamp wasn't put on the plan. He was told that the money was coming out of the people's pocket. The Council had not okayed it. I felt that the Council was representative of the people. We decided not to start work unless the Council okayed the matter. Unless you people okay the matter we shall not touch the project. I shall guarantee this. If Caucasian workers come in and work on it we can't help it. But the expenses will be increased. There are talks that I okayed it. But I really opposed it. The building cannot be built at the figure mentioned by Mr. Smith. Several of us calculated this. We decided that it couldn't be built for \$7,400. If I say more I shall be taken by the FBI.

Nimori: Where do you get the fact that there are more Nisei in the colony. I would like to have Nisei consider "Where am I standing." The treatment that we are getting is that of a war prisoner. But you Niseis have no reason for being treated like this. In economic matters it is still controlled by Isseis. (Clap of hands.)

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As a second plan I would like to have the Council itself considered. Why should the Council be composed of citizens only. The Isseis are still here. I'm in favor of changing the Councilman if we are dissatisfied with the decision.

Chairman: You can do that in each block if you are dissatisfied with him.

Nimori: I think there wouldn't be much use in just changing the Councilman. I doubt the actual setup of the Council. I want something that would represent the people. We Isseis are not Isoro or yakkai mono (unwelcome guests). We are guests of this place. (The main point is the Nisei-Issei split and not expenses, etc.)

IX: The mistake lies in the Nisei not respecting the opinion of the Isseis. I think there is a need for having an Issei on the Council. But according to the way we handle this matter, I think it is possible to have Isseis on the Council. As long as we are living together the opinion of the Isseis ought to be respected.

IX: I am in favor of his opinion.

IX: Block 13 Councilman (Frukawa): I want to clarify the purpose of this meeting. We don't want to break up the decision of the Council or to stop a theater that is being put up. The main purpose of the meeting is to find out what sort of opinion you Isseis had. If you have an opinion to express I desire that it be presented to the Council **quietly**. The reason that this problem occurred was because the ideas of the Issei and Nisei **didn't** coincide. I don't intend to resign until this matter is settled. If the Isseis are going to kawaigaru (to be kind to) us, I want you to express the opinion of your block and I think that we'll understand.

It's not good to reverse the opinion of the block. I hope you won't bump into this matter from the front because there **should** be other ways of handling the matter. This meeting wasn't held to break up the decision of the Council.

Chairman: We have to ask Mr. Shirrell whether it's all right to form an

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Issei organization. I don't think there is anything else to bring up tonight. This matter will be brought up at the Council Tuesday night. Are you all in favor of that? (All in favor.)

IX: Suppose this matter is voted no, what will happen.

Chairman: Mr. K says that he won't work on it if the people are opposed to the theater project.

XI: When I heard the broadcast on December 7 the Premier broadcasted that we should be loyal to America (meaning Japanese). If we know when the war is going to be over, it's all right if we emptied our pockets. But people like me who have a lot of children get into trouble. They haven't given us pay for 2 months and it's getting cold and we haven't received clothing yet. We will be weak if we stay in here. When we go out we have to fight. We shall be spiritually and physically weak, and what will happen if we have no money too. Money will be drained out of us if we have a theater. To be loyal to America we must save money. If we go out without money the government will have to take care of us. You Niseis have to think. We don't believe in getting bread from others and we don't want our children to beg for food.

Chairman: I think tonight's meeting progressed very quietly and we accomplished our purpose. Thank you. Closed 9:35.

Mess Go-Slow Strike

Today in the mess hall there was an announcement by the chief cook that from tomorrow the hours of the meals would be changed to 8:30, 1:00, and 6:00. The mess hall committee of seven had met and decided on this. Various shortcomings of the administration were given as the reason for this move. It was also announced, that the move was calculated to upset the work on the project in the hope that the demands of the people would be accepted.

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I went to see the chief cook later to learn the details of this matter. It was about 4:00 P.M. and the mess hall was just starting to get ready for the next meal. The chief cook seemed glad to find a listener. Other mess workers were cleaning beans as they listened. I asked first about the cause of this action. He said that the fact that Pilcher wasn't removed seemed to be the underlying cause. When he was being questioned it seemed that he wasn't facing the Japanese in good faith, but was only doing things to prolong the proceedings. Meat has been stored in the warehouse until it got moldy, but the colonists weren't allowed to have them. The last week or so we have had very little meat. Instructions are here from San Francisco saying that the Japanese people are to be allowed to eat what they desire, but the chief cook said that this wasn't being done. Also the menu should have been announced and a copy of it distributed to the people, but this has been hidden. Evidently somebody has gotten hold of some of these papers that should have been distributed to the people.

The real reason, however, seems to be the fact that P. wasn't fired as the people petitioned him to be. As Elberson says, the reason for the Japanese doing a thing may be quite different from the reason he gives.

The chief cook went on to recount the atmosphere at the meeting of the committee. When somebody expressed an opinion contrary to the wish of some of the people they threatened him with violence or just shouted him down. When some persons suggested that the school children be fed regularly, there were outbreaks of protest, saying that this matter was more important than that.

Children, however, were given special considerations. School children were to be allowed to eat to get to school on time.

Diary

I'm really too sleepy to write any more. Wrote letters in the morning. Took

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a nap in the afternoon. Went to the YPCC, panel discussion. There were only about 180 to 200 present. In the evening went to the meeting of the Isseis on the theater project.

Monday, October 12, 1942

Legal Aid Attitude on Council

Went to the Civic Organization Office in the morning and found Tom Y. there. We discussed the power of the Council and he expressed some definite opinions. He said that the Council not only had the right to decide matters of the community by itself. He did not think of taking the theater project back to the blocks to be voted upon. What's more, when the new constitution went into effect, no issues were going to be taken to the blocks to be voted upon. He said that Isseis had no reasons for complaining of their treatment in here. After all, they were enemy aliens. It is we Niseis who should be doing the complaining, but who have chosen to sit back and do nothing.

Later when I talked to Shibata I learned that others in the Legal Aid Department felt the same way. They were in favor of giving the Council a great deal of power. They are so Americanized, he said, that they can't see the Isseis in the same way that we who lived more closely to the Isseis can.

Shibata on the Council

I talked to S., and he seemed to be in accord with my ideas of taking the issues back to the various blocks. He felt that the opinion of the Isseis should be taken into consideration. He was busy at the present movement trying to get his Planning Board into effect. He said that he spent 6 weeks in trying to get it approved. At the next meeting he hopes to have the Planning Board actually working.

Koso on the Council

K. believes that major issues should be taken back to the blocks because of the principle of democracy. He is gathering arguments to prove that Issei represent

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as much number as do the Niseis and that it is a mistake to ignore them.

Miyamoto on the Council

Frank seems to feel that the Council should have the power to decide matters for itself. He says that they haven't been taking the responsibility for things because they haven't been given this power of deciding issues for themselves. It was interesting to note that he quoted Mr. Shirrell on this. He thought that the Isseis should have another organ through which they can express their opinions. In case the Issei and the Nisei groups do not agree, he believes that the Council should have the power to decide the matter.

When I suggested that issues should be taken back to the blocks, secret balloting be used, and the young people organized to come out to the meetings, he seemed to be rather pessimistic about such an arrangement. He was afraid that the Isseis would dominate any block meeting and it would not be fair to the young people. He felt that secret ballots would not solve the situation because coercion could be exercised in many ways. Again he was pessimistic about being able to get Niseis to come out to meetings. If the Isseis were to dominate the block meetings and decide many of the issues, he felt that it would create problems because their ideas would not coincide with those of the administration.

His basis of argument is that there must be cooperation with the administration if things are to proceed smoothly. He feels that the Issei-Nisei split will come about no matter what method is worked out. Is the important point to have law and order at any cost, or is it more important to let the matter settle itself in whatever manner it desires, as long as the principles of democracy are maintained. Again, is it more important to maintain harmony between the people and the administration or between the Isseis and Niseis.

Jacoby on Mess Strike

I went to see J. this morning to get his view on the mess situation, which I thought he would be very much concerned about, because it was a plan to obstruct

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work. He was telling Mr. N. that the mess strike didn't concern him at all. Why should it be when the policy of setting the eating time was being decided upon by the mess people. Evidently he wasn't aware of some of the issues involved. Mr. N., Mr. S., and I tried to explain how the whole thing came about. He pointed out that Pilcher was the main reason for this trouble. J. brought forth some arguments somewhat in favor of Pilcher. I told him that Pilcher's whole attitude was contrary to the policy and spirit of the WRA. J. evaded that by saying that he had never talked to P. although he knew that Pick's attitude was not the same as his. I also pointed out the WRA policy of letting the Japanese take over any work that they could, and suggested that P. could be shifted to another job. I don't think J. comes in contact enough with the Japanese people to know some of their line of reasoning and some of their feelings. This gulf between the people and the Administration is not any too good for the people.

Jacoby on Agitators

I asked J. whether he had heard the rumors about 8 girls being in the soldiers' barracks. He said he didn't and felt that it was all a rumor. I said that I had heard that the problem was being discussed in some blocks. He asked me to trace the rumor.

We went on to discuss the agitators, about whom J. seems to be very much worried. He thought that it would be a very good idea to keep in mind who some of these people who threatened others with violence were in case something did happen. He wanted to know if some of the people who spoke at the broadcast affair were the same ones who spoke last night. I told him that I recognized only one or two persons who had spoke at both meetings, but I didn't tell him the names of anybody or anyone else. I'm getting into a fix where my job is becoming really precarious.

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Diary

We didn't eat till 8:30, so we got up a little after 7. We have run out fire wood and have been having some trouble starting the coal stove in the morning. Mary K. told us that she could start the coal without any wood at all and a piece of newspaper. We've tried it several times but still can't seem to be able to do it. We have taken to using small pieces of wood and a sheet of newspaper to conserve on the wood we have and what little we can get from the pile brought to the block. Most of the others have a large pile of scrap lumber for fire wood, but since we were building so many things and had a pile of lumber, we decided that we wouldn't hoard any fire wood.

Wasted my time at the Administration Building in the morning. The girls in the Housing Division seem to like me and are willing to do a lot of things for me. Today I went in to get some figures and really got some polite service.

After taking a nap went down to the Administration Building again. Myer and Rowalt were both here today and Don says that the staff members were given a pep talk. They were told that they were just over the hump and that they should keep on working. Walked to the special meeting of Councilmen and block managers to hear Mr. Myer speak. He outlined a program of leaves for anyone desiring to do so. He also explained some of the policies of the WRA which showed that the officials were doing all they could to help the Japanese reestablish themselves in the American community. He felt that more people should have heard that talk. Shook hands with Myers and asked him a question.

In the evening stayed home and worked on the co-op section. I'm writing it in shorthand mainly because Ruby was using the typewriter. I think I am going to progress faster and do a better job if I used shorthand. If I could only get a typist to type the whole thing up it will just be heavenly. Ruby can't do it because she can barely keep up with the journal.

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Issei-Nisei Conflict

Myer said that they had decided on having only citizens for representatives because:

1. It was done on the outside.
2. For better relations with the outside.
3. To give the Niseis a chance to practice running a community.

He also mentioned that provisions had been made so that it would be possible for Isseis to serve on boards and committees. He also felt that this policy was all right because this was to be a temporary setup and as many people as possible were being encouraged to leave the project.

Koso, Frank, Harry Maeda and I argued the matter. K. and I were for taking matters to the block. Frank and Harry were skeptical of such procedures, because Isseis controlled block meetings. Frank was probably more concerned with the fact that direct control by the people was likely to result in poor government.

I had asked Myer whether he desired the voice of the self-government body in the project here should be that of citizens only or should reflect the opinion of all the people here. M. said that it should include the opinion of all people here who intended to stay in the United States. He assumed that all those who didn't sign up for repatriation intend to stay here in the United States.

After pondering on what Myer said, I was afraid that some Councilmen were going to take it as an okay of their policy to decide everything for themselves, giving Isseis advisory power only. It seemed to mean that the main thing is that we work out a system that will work smoothly. Not until we get the cooperation of all the people in the colony will we get very much done. In order to do that everybody must be given a voice in the government. To that extent I think direct decision by the people in each block is going to be very effective in getting the people to take

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responsibility. Even if the Council takes a lot of responsibility, it won't do much good if the people are not in accord with the Council.

Pilcher

Don said today that Pilcher had handed in his resignation, but that Shirrell hadn't accepted it has yet. Last night they both had a good talk about the matter and Don tried to suggest that Shirrell accept the resignation. Shirrell, however, is still undecided. Don says that there is some "face-saving" involved. Possibly Shirrell feels that if he gives in once, he may have to give in some more. Don says that as a labor relation man he's not going to do anything because everything that can be done has been done. The pay and clothing have been requested already, it seems.

Tuesday, October 13, 1942

Mess Hall Workers' Meeting

At 3:30 today the mess hall workers had a meeting. When I went a little before 4, the mess hall was about full. Mr. I. was giving his report on the progress of the negotiation committee. Several things he mentioned were of interest. One was that Shirrell had said that if the workers didn't go back to work in the morning all of the cooks would be fired. He also related that some of the people working in the office were not in sympathy with the strike. He was disgusted with the Nisei girl who had asked why they were striking. He asked whether they were satisfied with the food they were getting, and she answered that she was. This antagonism between the common workers and those working in the office seems to be general.

What is most interesting in the following report of the meeting is the demand made by the group for extra clothing which is ⁱⁿ the warehouse. While it is true that to mess workers it is unfair not to receive any clothes at all when farmers and other outside workers are receiving all sorts of clothing, etc. The demand for

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extra clothing by Japanese people would have been something unthinkable before evacuation. This and the scrap lumber/conflict were both something unique to the relocation center.

XI: Is it true that Mr. Pilcher has been taken out?

Cooke: Yes, Mr. Pilcher has handed in his resignation and it has been accepted.

(Applause) I hope you will have confidence in me because it is a hard job to feed 15,000 people. I'm doing all I can.

Elberson: I just want to add just one point about Mr. Cooke's effort to solve the mess hall situation. There will be an effort made as soon as the Planning Board is set up to investigate the mess hall situation and recommendations made. It is important to the Japanese people.

One other point which was discussed in Mr. Shirrell's office today. That is regular meetings between the committee in each messhall and the people who supervise that for suggestions for what's wrong. We have done a lot of talking about committees but I have yet to see them function the way they should. One of the boys in the office made an important point, if we had a system of meeting between the people and the people in the office. I wish you would think immediately of appointing two or three people to meet regularly with the supervisors for suggestions for improvements.

IX: If the mess does not open at 7 o'clock tomorrow morning all the cooks will be terminated. Did Mr. Shirrell say that.

Mr. Cooke: Mr. Shirrell did not say that. He said that he was in a mood to do that. Mr. Shirrell wants me to ask all of the cooks to go back to regular hours. We are meeting all of the four points. We are really trying to cooperate and to give what you really want. Mr. Shirrell said that if the colonists had waited a little while more they would have gotten their clothing and more food.

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Takeda: Let's make our decision after these people (Caucasian) go out.

XI: I hear there are several hundred overcoats. I would like to have them distributed as a sign of good faith. Also I have heard that the August pay has arrived, but Shirrell has refused to sign them out.

Cooke: Over \$15,000 is being spent to buy clothing for you. We have some clothes for outside workers. There is discussion in Mr. Shirrell's office of distributing warm clothing to additional workers. I shall tell Mr. Shirrell to give you additional warm clothing. But to help me I wish you would go back to the regular hours tomorrow morning.

XI:(Oda) The farmers' strike is in sympathy with the mess workers. If we go back to regular hours, will the farmers be allowed to go back to work?

Cooke: This morning Mr. Kallam told me that the farm workers were in sympathy with the mess hall workers and told Mr. K. that they would not go to work. Therefore, the truck was sent to pick up the children. That is all I know about the matter.

I am sure that if all of the cooks go back to work tomorrow morning the farmers will go back to work, too. I will do my best. (Foxy.)

XI: I would still like to have some clothing distributed right away.
(Sad case!)

Cooke: I am sure something will be done to meet your wishes.

XI: I think that the dissatisfaction of all sympathy strikers should be met by the administration if we are to go back to work.

Cooke: It is my impression that Mr. Shirrell wants to issue extra clothing, and I think that it will be more likely that he will want to issue extra clothing if you go back to work tomorrow.

I don't think there will be any trouble concerning other divisions if you go back to your job in the morning.

IX: I think we should take a yes or no vote right here.

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Takeda: (a) Forty-five cents is going to be met. (b) Mr. Pilcher has resigned. (c) Clothing has been sent for and additional clothing is going to be talked over with Mr. Shirrell. (Mr. Cooke is pretty sure the mess workers will get this.) (d) Mr. Cooke: The check has to be paid from Washington, but you will receive it regularly. We are trying to speed up the processes.

IX: Mr. Shirrell promised the people in block 49 that the check would be coming from Portland in about a week.

Elberson: The clothing allowance is to be issued through the community store. We are getting ready for that. As soon as the administrative division and Mr. Smith are ready, then we shall be ready to issue clothing.

XI: I would like to know why we didn't get 45 cents worth of food in the past.

Cooke: It was my impression that we were feeding 45 cents, but in September we were feeding 42 cents. Therefore, we increased our order. Formerly the shortage was due to the steward not making proper allowance for the increase in population.

Takeda: I hear that many fresh foods are rotting in the warehouse.

Cooke: This is the first I have heard that, and I'll investigate it.

Takeda: Why are fresh vegetables dumped. Is it the fault of the mess halls or the warehouse?

Cooke: This is the first time I have been face to face with you. I feel at home with the Japanese people. I have lived in Japan for 21 years. I ask that you please go back to work tomorrow morning and you will not regret it.

XN: Why don't the mess halls get more soap.

Cooke: I don't know the details, but I'll look into it. I think two carloads were ordered sometime ago.

IX: Can't we get fish suited to Japanese taste?

Cooke: I will speak to Mr. Peck. He can get more fish per pound than meat.

Takeda: Let's report our decision to these people later on.

IX: Why have any secrecy? Let's decide it in their presence.

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IX: Are we going to decide this matter without consulting other units?

IX: Let's not go back to work unless we get our coats?

Elberson: I feel that Mr. T. is doing a good job of trying to solve this mess hall situation. I feel that he is not trying to whip you into a frenzy. He is not trying to crush you.

I feel, therefore, that Mr. Takeda is a valuable man as far as labor relations go. Therefore, I will be a supporter of Mr. Takeda in any case there is an investigation of Mr. Takeda. I think he is a valuable man and one who should be kept here.

XI: There is no reason to fear the FBI. But Mr. Hoover and Douglas said that Mr. Takeda was spreading propaganda. I would like to have such rumors from them stopped through Mr. Elberson. (Mr. D. called Mr. T. a communist and a radical.)

Elberson: I am charged with the labor relation, but 90 per cent of my work is training the Caucasian staff. I have to get them to take an intelligent attitude toward the people they are getting to work for them.

(Elberson leaves.)

IX: If we don't take something back to the mess hall as a gift, it is difficult to go back and ask that we return to the regular schedule. I think that we can manage to get some warm clothing. Let's not return to the regular schedule unless they give us extra clothing by tomorrow.

T: I agree. We should return to regular schedule if they give us the warm clothing tomorrow. If we can believe their words we wouldn't have had to do what we did yesterday and today.

We also have to consult the construction and other departments who struck with us.

I shall say that we cannot go back to work without **you** showing your good faith.

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XI: Can we be satisfied with our getting clothes alone. How about some of the other divisions.

T: This should be the responsibilities of the committee. If the other divisions are not satisfied with this solution, then we shall report back to you again. We don't want to do anything which will make other departments say "Is that all they got?" (Mr. Shirrell said that he fired Mr. Pilcher.)

Don't make lunches for school children who go out to work on the farm. I asked one friend to stop his kid from working on the farm. My wife was then told why they were stopping his boy from going to work on the farm to earn some money. So don't try to force people to stop their kids from going out to the farm. Lunches will not be made for them tomorrow. Also there will be no trucks to take them out to the farms. I have asked men in charge of these things.

Council Meeting

Tom Yego presented a copy of the proposed constitution.

Koso made a report on the plans for the building to be used by the Council. Office will be 20 x 20, etc.

Committee on Mess Hall.

Mr. Araki gave a report. They were instructed to check up on the menu because it was reported that we were getting only 35 cents worth of food. But we didn't want to see Mr. Cooke last week end because of the trouble that occurred. Warehouse is overloading the mess halls with an excess of fresh vegetables from the farm.

David Evans: Report on Outside Employment

I think the Pacific Citizen and the organization back of it is going to be the means of promoting better feeling between Japanese and Caucasians. (He talks of the need for growing sugar. Supply from Philippines cut off.)

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Sugar refineries in 36 states are expected to give all of their sugar to the war effort. There is a shortage of man power in every agricultural field. Mr. Roosevelt said that the shortage of farm workers was the most serious problem faced by the United States next to the making of ammunition and building the Army.

I saw the voluntary evacuees of the Japanese in the spring looking for work and places to stay. Those people on the outside in the mean seem to be happy because they are working and producing in spite of the poor living conditions.

I talked to Larry Tajiri about some of the long-range programs of the Japanese. Relates the story of Welsh town which was against Japanese but which ended up in importing 60 Japanese workers who made a place for themselves by working. There is a place for you in our life by cooperating under present conditions without too much regrets about the past. In these communities where your services are needed, you will make friends, public confidence will increase, and there is a place for all of us in this country. (Read a resolution asking Japanese to come out to sugar beets to work.)

Gunderson, School Report

I want to see the youngster come to school on time. The thought came to me that the parents were interested in seeing that their children get an education. Children are sitting on the floor and writing on benches. I have three things to bring up. There is lumber, machinery, and man power to make furniture. There's a warehouse full of supplies but the transportation is upset. Living conditions for the teachers are poor. Ten or 12 teachers are sleeping in a barrack without partitions.

Those are some of the problems that we face. We are interested in helping your youngsters. There's no job worthwhile if you didn't feel like quitting once in a while. I have felt like that often since I have come here.

I think it is time the parents wake up. I made a mistake when I didn't

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work a P-T organization from the beginning. We need ceiling, supplies in the warehouse. We are better equipped with supplies than 95 per cent of the schools in the country. We need better housing for the teachers.

Suzuki: As regard to transportation problem, what is the trouble.

Shirrell: We have lost the trucks. We are losing 19 more tomorrow.

Walter T: Five girls came and told me about the condition in the school. I don't think we have lost our respect to the extent that they have to go back to the blocks to decide to help these people. What reason have these people to stop constructing, to feed the children, etc. These people are sacrificing a lot so that our children can get an education. Here we are doing nothing about it. I think it is about time that we should act.

I want to make a motion that everyone of the men vital to the upkeep of the school keep on doing their work.

XN: What is the situation in the furniture factory.

Shirrell: Nobody works. I have three Caucasian workers in the factory working on the machinery. The putting together is being done in the shops.

XN: I will report to the warehouse and will have any supply the school wants over there first thing in the morning.

Koso: Teachers don't have chairs. If the men won't work, then leaders of this community should go out there and help them in their spare time.

Yoshimi: There are no ceilings and often no books. The voices carry over and make it difficult to teach. Without any blackboard it is quite difficult.

Suzuki: I think this is the first time we have heard of this condition of the school. If the Issei who are the objectives of all this talk really knew the result of their slow-up tactics, I'm sure that they would be the first ones to help the school. Without these conditions presented to the people, you can't

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expect them to act to remedy the situation. I am sure that the block people will be glad to back us regardless even if we do take action tonight, because we know that education should come first. I support all of the previous speakers in this matter.

Walter T: I move that this Council go on record as recommending and urging those branches within this administration which is necessary for the construction of the ceiling, for delivery of supplies and construction of houses for teachers and they be notified the purpose of this work. I amend the motion to ask for overtime efforts necessary. I also ask for tables.

(Everybody is in favor of this.)

Walter: I move that a vote of thanks be given to those working in the school and this be delivered to each principal. (Everybody in favor of this.)

Planning Board

The Planning Board was to be incorporated in the City charter. But because the Charter may take some time, it was decided that it be formed separately. Moreover, if it is declared in the Charter, then it would be necessary to appoint the Isseis, because they cannot, according to the WRA, be selected by election. If there is a conflict of opinion between the Council and the Planning Board what should be done, since both groups represent the people. The Planning Board, however, is not a second Council. The Council is a legislative body, and the Planning Board is to plan for the future. One is Nisei and the other is Issei.

Because of the WRA ruling that no Issei shall serve on the WRA Council there is a feeling that the latter have not been adequately represented. It has become necessary to form some sort of Issei-Nisei organization.

Functions:

1. Advisory board to the Administration and the Council.
2. Collect data to prevent further trouble.

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3. To guide complaints to the proper departments.

Three technical men will be hired and paid by the WRA and will have the power to sit in on all meetings.

Each block will elect an Issei and each ward will choose one planning board member. The block manager will conduct the election. The other eight will act in advisory capacity to the member in the Planning Board.

Qualifications: Some experience in personnel work or human relations. Must be social minded. Must command respect from the colonists. Term 6 months. No pay while on the Planning Board. Recall by 10 per cent petition and two thirds vote of the people in the ward.

Motion made to segregate the Planning Board from Charter. (All in favor.) (Shibata had the stencil cut for the notices to the block managers. He was sure that the Council would vote for it.)

Trust Fund

How should it be handled? Three persons.

Theater Project

Block 13 and 17 sponsored the meeting by Isseis because they were not satisfied with the decision of the Council.

Thirty-six representatives. Three, yes. Thirty-two, no. One undecided. They requested that the vote be retaken. For harmonious relations between the Isseis and Niseis I think we should take the opinion of the Isseis into consideration.

Walter T: I regret so much that this matter was brought up so early. At the last Council meeting this matter was brought up. I believe that every Councilman felt that he was voting for the best interest of the people. One Councilman went back and said that I as an individual and another individual made the remark that he didn't give a damn for the Isseis, therefore this issue was passed. I

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have never made any such remark. Let's go over my record. When the advisory co-op Council was formed it was felt that the Council should take the co-op over. There was some suspicion among the Isseis that the Council was taking away some power from the Isseis. Who got up and made the motion that the co-op should be divorced from the Council. Who made the motion to have the Planning Board adopted. To create dissension among the block by foolish report by Councilmen do not befit a Councilman. Many good Councilmen are resigning because they are losing their self respect. When a majority, 34-11 pass the motion then the minority should accept it. All of my block was in favor of a theater except two. I felt that a motion picture absolutely essential for the young people. Therefore, I voted in favor of it. I think both sides were presented fairly. I am never definitely against Issei interest as such. If they are right I go all the way in protecting their interest. My record proves that.

I am tendering my resignation to my block. The situation that is creeping into this Council, the Councilmen cannot act with dignity. If they cannot make their own decision, then it is high time that the Council dissolve.

Suzuki: I am not sure that the remark was directed at me. At my block meeting I said that Mr. Walter T. voted because it was in the interest of the majority of the people but that the Isseis voice wasn't the only voice that was necessary to be listened to. That is all I have to say.

Koso: I am very sorry of the accusations that were made at Walter. I felt that many Isseis were distrusted in the last Council meeting, by being called agitators. The principle of democracy was at stake if such a spirit ruled the Council. I stated that at least the major issue should be brought back to the block members. The discussion on whether this theater project was a basic issue wasn't clear. The Council was asked to reconsider this matter. I think this is a major issue. My English cannot carry my thoughts very well to you. But I

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sincerely believed, as well as Mr. T. believes, that his opinion represents the welfare of the people, that this matter be reconsidered by the Council. I understand the meeting took place in an orderly fashion. They showed their willingness to cooperate. This appeal was made in that spirit. I have already seen some signs of the Isseis of distrust of the Council. We must have cooperation between Isseis, Nisei, and Caucasian. It is necessary to inform people of the full details of issues. We should appeal to them to make fair judgments. We may have two or three agitators, I don't admit that there are agitators. The majority of the Isseis are intelligent. Since we can call block meetings once a week, I have never asked them the power to make my own judgment. Our block never had any trouble at all. I regret that false accusations were made against you.

Tom Yego

I believe that this theater question has been thoroughly investigated and thoroughly presented to the people. I feel that the different blocks had an opportunity to have two or three block meetings on this matter. I don't see any reason that it should be reconsidered at this moment. I am heartily in favor of cooperation with the Isseis. I respect them. I have never said that I disregard them. I regard their leadership. There are no agitators in my block. I have done my share and have reported the proceedings of my block. Some Councilmen have not reported to their block correctly. The Council is not responsible for the mistake of a few Councilmen.

Walter: Why not let the people decide. I would like to so move.

Shirrell: I am wondering inasmuch as the Council has already made a decision why not let me ask the people to do the voting. It would be by secret ballot.

IX: In our block there are always two or three who do more talking who

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are against the theater. I think it is really unfair because the others follow suit. I think it is the best way to find the opinion of the people.

Walter: Then I amend my motion for the Council to recommend to Mr. Shirrell to refer the issue to the people.

XN: Shouldn't the figures be traced again.

Chairman: Mr. Shirrell will present an estimate on the ballot.

Fukuyama: Mr. T. says that he is resigning from the Council. I think he has proved a very valuable member on this Council. I think that we should ask him to reconsider his resignation from the Council.

Chairman: I feel that Mr. T. is essential to the Council. I personally would like to see Mr. T. to stay on the Council.

Fukuyama: I would like to have the Council give Mr. T. a vote of thanks and ask him to stay on till the new election.

XN: I would like to have other Councilmen to stay on.

(All in favor of the motion.)

Tom Y: There are others who are resigning. I had that in mind too. I would like to move that members of the Council who have tendered their resignation to reconsider. (All in favor.)

(Tom blinks his eyes, maybe it's just a habit.)

XN: Can't we have the new Council consider the charter?

Tom Y: We should consider this new charter thoroughly. We want to give everyone a chance to consider this.

Chairman: I think we should stay on another week. Councilmen seem to want to quit.

Koso: I think full discussion should be carried on among the colonists. A week or five days is needed to digest it.

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Shirrell: You forget that there is going to be an acceptance by the people. The first step is for the Council to decide upon it.

New Business

XN: Can we obtain teachers for deaf mutes in the camp. There are six that I know of. There are no means of educating them here.

Shirrell: We are trying to get a teacher.

Suzuki: I nominate Mr. Shibata for the Planning Board.

(All in favor.)

Kobo(?): What about the smell and the flies in block 34.

Shirrell: We are sending for a sanitary engineer.

Oshima: Cans have been left in our blocks for too long.

XN: Is chick sexing going to be taught.

Shirrell: We are going to teach poultry.

XN: A monthly statement from the administration is requested of produce sold outside.

Shirrell: We can sell to other centers and to the outside but not to the Army quartermaster. The WPB has instructed to sell on the open market. At first we were short of buyers. But we are sending them out now. I will have the total sales posted.

I am being accused here of making you work which I wish I could. (Everybody laughs.)

Fukuyama: Is something being done by the WRA to counteract articles in magazines.

Shirrell: We are getting articles written by good writers, but I hope they don't come on a day like this. We'll behave ourselves on the day the writers arrive.

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XN: Some departments are taking advantage of getting clothing.

Shirrell: We have **some** from the CCC camps. This is the last we'll probably get. We are going to get it out of the way. Except for uniforms we'll have to depend on clothing allowances.

NX: Did you tell the farmers that they were fired?

Shirrell: I forbade the fishing. I don't know anything about it. I was against their having a meeting out there. The cooks didn't want any more because they were swamped with vegetable. The farmers told the foremen that they didn't intend to work. I trust they will go to work in the morning.

Sakada: Mr. Kallam was misinformed. I thought we were supposed to work this morning.

Elberson: The mess hall dispute has been settled.

Shirrell: We lost two valuable days because of insubordinate cooks.

I'm in the hottest set I have been in. My staff is certain that I have deserted them. I have thrown out a man who is doing his best. It was the most humiliating thing I have had to do. I wouldn't blame Mr. P. if he said how unfair I and the Japanese people in Tule Lake were to him. We are needlessly cruel. My staff believes that he will be the next target, that I will do the same thing with them.

These are very dangerous times for the Japanese people. Such conduct day by day puts just one more plank on the bridge to Japan. If they want to go back, let's have them go back now. I object to those few who make it possible for the rest to follow. There are a few people who should be in some other camp and they are going as fast as I can find them. There are some people who make it impossible for people on the outside to help you. The local newspaper carries an editorial against the Japanese people. This Council ought to bear this burden **with me**.

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This is a responsibility you can't dodge. This is your future, especially if you have children who are going to live in the United States. This is very discouraging. We should quit looking backward and look forward. I told you fellows that it is very serious. You're going to lose some of the staunchest friend among the staff. If you and we didn't work together it's going to be too bad. It's not the Army. They are too glad to get out of here. The FBI is next. It's going to be a long day before I break a man's spirit as I did today. He was trying his best.

Diary

We ate late again this morning. Went to the Administration Building and told Dr. J. that I thought that I had better change my job. I saw Dr. Francis and she seemed to be glad to have me teaching psychology and mental hygiene, especially the latter. She kept harping on the fact of the 44 hours a week on which we operated, but I didn't pay much attention to that.

I attended the mess workers' meeting in the afternoon and the Council meeting in the evening. Two hot issues have been settled for the present, and next we have the charter to look forward to. Maybe I can start to work on the report again.

Wednesday, October 14, 1942

Diary

Wrote a couple of letters this morning to get books for my course. I also thought of "Principles of Psychology" for my technical course and "Personality and Adjustment" for my lay course. I thought it would be a good idea if I gave the former on Wednesday and Friday nights, and the latter on Saturday afternoon. I asked Asako what she thought about my course, and she said that she'd want to come to my more technical course. She was afraid, however, that I would make her write an autobiography of herself.

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In the afternoon went down to the Administration Building to see if Dr. Francis had my termination notice, but she wasn't in. I went down to Placement but my termination notice hadn't come in yet. On the way home stopped in at the Civic Organization office to ask about material on the co-op. I'm really an accepted guest there now. Minnie talks to me like an old friend now and I'm getting to know Hisako. They were both going out on a treat today and H. said that she'd treat, and asked me along. I didn't get all of the data that I wanted because Fumi went out to some place.

Bob and Frank dropped in at the office. Frank said there was a letter from DS, and wanted me to come over and take a look at it. I asked him if it were anything serious. He said not exactly, she wanted some stuff on recreation. Each time a letter of that sort comes I can't help feeling that I'm going to be fired or something.

Bob and I went to see Tom next door. He was sitting in front of a typewriter. Bob wanted to know whether I was two persons or not, because I was in so many places. Well, I have been to a lot of meetings the last few days.

Bob also asked me what I thought of Mr. Shirrell's last remarks, and I couldn't remember exactly what they were. I have them down in my notes, but my head is blank.

Tonight was one of my nights at home. I wrote some more on the co-op movement in shorthand and it's sure running into volumes. I am sure that I can think better writing in shorthand, I can make corrections, I can stay up late at night if I want to. All I need is a typist who will be able to type the thing out for me. If worst comes/worst I can hand the stuff in written in shorthand because I'm pretty sure that most stenographers will be able to read my shorthand easier than my long hand.

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Koso told me today not to teach because I could probably get another job. I think he was hinting about the job on the Planning Board as technician. It's a strange position to say the least.

Thursday, October 15, 1942

Ward 11 Co-op Meeting

Meeting opened at 8:45 by the chairman.

Tsuchiya replaced by Tom Hayashi

Yamada replaced by Henry Kaihara

Absentee: Donao

Shirai

Shijo

Iseri

Minutes read and approved as read.

Report on the incorporators meeting by Mr. Mitsutomi. It was discovered that the minutes of the meeting had not arrived yet in the hands of the ward chairman.

It was reported that the WRA would appoint one advisor to the co-op, probably Mr. Smith. His power, however, doesn't include any power over the co-op or the board of directors, but would act merely as a liaison officer, Mr. Elberson is reported as reporting.

Concerning the theater project it was decided to ask that the decision on the theater project wait until the co-op is set up.

It was reported that incorporation papers were filed and that it would take several weeks to put the co-op into effect.

The minutes of the committee on committee work were read. Mr. Matsumoto then explained parts of the minutes. He reported that there was a lot of work to

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do, and that discussion on the membership committee was not complete. The **only** suggestion made by Mr. Elberson was on some of the committees that might be set up by the committee. Mr. Sakamoto wondered whether Mr. Elberson shouldn't make more suggestions as to what could be done by this committee.

Komatsu: How long will it take before the co-op is legally set up?

Nakamura: It depends on how many co-ops are wanting to be incorporated.

The minutes of the meeting of incorporators were read. Mr. Araki explained the Advisory Board. F.S. explained reason for setting up the Advisory Board more thoroughly. Most of the group seemed to be in favor of the Board.

Mr. Nakamura said he couldn't attend the meeting of the by-law committee and the minutes of the meeting had not been sent to him yet.

The theater project was brought up as unfinished business.

Mr. Matsumoto reported that in his block a secret vote was taken at a block meeting and it was found that there was no yes vote. He presented the opinion that it was best for the co-op to keep away from the topic of the theater project because it might hinder the setting up of the co-op. There's no hurry in setting up the theater. It can even be reconsidered next spring, if we are going to stay here a long time. I think it is best to extend this matter until next spring.

Sakamoto: If the community enterprise takes this over then we would have to take it over as a co-op.

Matsumoto: When we think of this seriously the theater building will be only like a barn. It's going to be cold and women and children may become ill. I think this cannot be avoided. There is no reason that all of this danger must be faced. It's better to build a better theater if we are going to stay here long. From the standpoint of health and morals it can't be good.

Miyakawa: There's no problem if the referendum is taken.

Matsumoto: There's going to be trouble even if we have a vote.

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Komatsu: If you get together the vote of children around 18, can't you see that they are trying to battle one force against another. They think that Isseis are opposed to this measure because they are opposed to a theater because they don't want to see it. Why not decide by block meetings.

JS: Explains Issei-Nisei split.

Mr. M: We are thinking of the welfare of the Niseis.

Hayashi (N): When I came into the camp I thought that there should be no distinction between Issei and Nisei, because we are here and we are all Japanese. There will be some controversy. Mr. M. said that he is looking for our welfare. If the theater is going to be very unhealthy then I see no reason for having it. But if the theater is going to be sanitary, it should be all right on that point. Isseis don't go to theater and their mode of life is different. The Isseis have more to do. The Niseis have a lot of recreation to go to, and one of them is the movie theater. There are a lot of dances going on because there's nothing else to go to. For the general group of Niseis they are not kept busy enough, and the need of a theater is great.

Miyakawa: I think this vote is as fair as anything there can be. Already the Council voted in favor of it and the Issei voted against it. In order to avoid that difficulty a secret ballot is as fair as anything. In this place the 18-year-old person has the right of a man. Second generations don't attend meetings because the discussion is in Japanese. There are very few that speak anyway. The discussion is uninteresting. I think we should take it like a good sport.

Komatsu: It's not the same inside. We are father and son in here. If the boy is supporting himself it is all right. But there are a lot who are not supporting themselves. What will happen to the Japanese if they spend all of their money in here. The WRA wants the Japanese to take over projects. It's a mistake for the

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Council to accept such a thing.

Miyakawa: The Nisei believe that Issei made their decision without taking into consideration the stand of the second generation. If we bring this theater thing again and the first generation decides not to have this thing, it will be the same thing over again. (He starts to speak in English.)

Mitsutomi: There is a difference of opinion between Isseis and Niseis.

Sakamoto: In the co-op Isseis and Niseis can exchange opinion. The Councilman, however, finds it hard. They are in a gathering of Niseis only and then come back to a meeting of Isseis (Advisory Committee). The discussion is always carried on in Japanese and the Councilman cannot express his opinion thoroughly.

Matsumoto: The Councilman doesn't have to argue.

Nakamura: The construction crew will not build the theater so it's no use arguing.

Takemoto: I am here to help the organization of the co-op. For the co-op to succeed we must all be able to express ourselves thoroughly. We should use the language we can use best and not keep still because one cannot speak English well or Japanese well.

The rule of order for conducting business should be followed for efficiency. We shall print a manual in both English and Japanese. Have a round table discussion, and respect the opinion of other people. We should cooperate to meet the situation after the war. Come to the office if you want to know anything or if there is trouble in the ward.

How would it be if Caucasians are admitted to the committees?

JS: I don't think it will work out so very well because of language difficulty.

(Most people are against it.)

T: Co-op believes in nondiscrimination.

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Donao: I don't think it is going to work out very well.

Matsumoto: Caucasians are likely to line themselves up with the Administration staff and may cause a split.

Result of vote on the theater project:

Block 25 No block meeting.

26 No meeting.

27 Block meeting. Issei no. The five Niseis didn't vote.

28 Block meeting. Eighty-seven no, fifty-six yes.

29 No meeting.

30 No meeting. Was no before.

37 Block meeting. Twenty-nine no; eight yes (secret ballot). With one undecided.

38 No meeting

39 Block meeting secret ballot. All no.

The meeting closed at 9:40.

Diary

Worked on the coop report in the morning a little bit. I then went down to Frank's place to borrow books by Horney, Adler, and Freud for my psychology course. I had an interesting discussion with Frank on the trend of things in here. He asked me whether I didn't get demoralized by being in here. We agreed that if we could divorce ourselves from the problems here and study them objectively it would be all right, but when the welfare of the Nisei is at stake, we cannot but help be miserable at times. We decided that we wouldn't study each other unless we could keep a separate diary. I had decided that some time ago. DS is said to have remarked: "For goodness sake don't study each other."

In the afternoon took a short nap. Then went down to the Placement Office and received my assignment slip after two days. By the hospital a crowd was

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gathered. A Caucasian woman was being carried out to a car by Dr. Carson. She was crying. In the ambulance a man was stretched out, his feet showing from the edge of the blanket which covered him. I asked what happened, and someone said that he had killed himself with a gun. It seems to have been an accident. Saw Dr. J., but he went off in a car with other wardens. One middle aged fellow said to me: "Shinya ii." (They ((Caucasians)) best die.) Mary told a similar story about a Caucasian who was brought to the hospital because of some weakness. When he woke up and found out that he was put in a camp with a lot of Japanese he was sore. One of the Japanese attendants, however, spoke to him in Japanese: "You ought to feel thankful for being here."

At the Administration Building Dr. Francis was out, and I went to talk to Frances S. She wanted to know whether George was tired because he was working on the farm now. I told her about my psychology classes, and she didn't seem to be anxious to attend any.

I saw Dr. Francis' secretary who told me I couldn't get my jacket till tomorrow. All of the office workers seem to be getting these plaid jackets. If they are going to be handed out I really want to have one. Reminds me of the sort of dreams I sometimes used to see where I would come across a lot of money. Funny I don't dream about things like that any more. It seems that the only size they have is 42, and even small girls are getting jackets of that size.

And there's the outside worker who remarked: "Now that we've gotten so much clothes (and they really do get a whole lot) I think we'll have to strike for a trunk to put these in."

Minnie was at the Administration Building and I joked around with her for a while and then caught a taxi back with her. I'm on good terms with her now, and today she gave me a copy of the Council meeting quite readily.

DIARY

Friday, October 16, 1942

James Sakoda
Tule LakeDiary

In the morning wrote up my report for the ward co-op meeting. I took it down to the Civic Organization office. Learned that the referendum on the theater project is going to be open to all those above sixteen. I immediately sensed a political move on the part of Mr. Shirrell and knew that Isseis weren't going to stand for that sort of thing. I was reading Frank's report on what took place at the Council meeting concerning the same thing, and Mr. Shirrell gave Mr. Smith an okay on the theater project. Maybe the Isseis aren't very far off when they suspect Mr. Shirrell of trying to make the people take over an enterprise which the WRA could have done itself.

Went to the Administration Building and learned from Bob and Frank that higher education was going to be started. Tried to get Mr. Flemming's signature to get some clothes, but he walked out without doing so. Spoke to Dr. Francis, and received two books on mental hygiene from her. I think it's a diplomatic way of telling me that she prefers that I lay the emphasis on mental hygiene rather than psychology. I finally got F's signature and had to get two others. In all I had five of them. They are handing out clothes to all workers now, and imagine each one of them running around trying to get signatures, etc. Of course, in some departments it is all handled by one person. Came home with a load of clothes.

In the afternoon went to the post office for a package. The M.P's are back in again inspecting the packages.

Read from Horney in the afternoon. In the evening worked on the co-op section, but didn't get it finished as I had intended to. I had occasion to look at Francis' report on the Council meetings and it seemed a superb job to me.

I have decided to spend about 4 hours for my classes; 4 hours for working on reports and 4 hours on attending meetings and writing up notes. I'll have to find me another typist to type up my reports, though.

Theater Project

I was indignant this morning when I learned that the referendum was going to

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be for those above sixteen years. All of the time I had expected that it would be for those above eighteen, since the election of the Council would be done on that basis. The work corps of course, is composed of persons above sixteen, but that is not a logical age limit to use in voting for major community issues. But the thing that disturbs me is the fact that Isseis are suspicious of the referendum as a political move by Mr. Shirrell to build the theater at all costs. The fact that Shirrell is conducting the meeting is bad enough. When he goes ahead and sets the age limit at sixteen, I don't think that Isseis are going to stand for a theater even if the referendum comes out yes. I mentioned this to Frank and he agreed with me that this business was "dynamite." Of course, there's a lot of things that can be done if they are maneuvered successfully. If the co-op were conducting this referendum, it wouldn't be so bad, because Isseis would be represented on the Board of Directors.

Post Office

The M.P.'s are back in the post office inspecting each package. We have to go all the way to the post office again/^{because}of this procedure. Someone said that some liquor was being sneaked in. Whatever the cause this is a lot of nuisance.

Work Clothes

Received a mackinaw (38), breeches (34), cap (7 1/8), and a jacket (46). Everybody seems to be getting them now. The girls, however, get only a jacket.

George tells the story of two old men who come to work just to receive work clothes. They feel that it is a shame to be seen without them on because others can tell easier that they are not working. It wouldn't be a bad idea to have fancy uniforms for workers just to make them proud of their status.

Saturday, October 17, 1942

Council Meeting 2:30 P.M.

The roll taken. The topic is the adoption of the city charter.

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Mr. Ball: (Has been in Japan.) Many people on the outside are asking why many Japanese Americans have to be in relocation centers. Things are going pretty easy in the camp. But because of this people on the outside are very critical of this place. Why should my boys have to go out and fight in the Army when these Japanese are in the camps idle. They have an idea that they are having a good time here. But if you are wise about what is going to happen in the future ... you're being sent back to Japan is just war talk. You need not worry about that. After all you are American citizens.

At the present time there are crops in the state of Oregon which have to be harvested. We have apples, for instance, which have been harvested only 30 per cent. There are many beets which cannot be harvested unless you are willing to help. They are going to take over CCC camps, where conditions are good. I am going to make this suggestion to you. When this war is over and this agitation is over, it's going to be good for all of you if you can say that you helped during the war. You think you had a pretty raw deal. But that's just water under the bridge. I hope you will be able to forget all of that. America is your country. Many of you wouldn't fit in Japan.

Mr. McMillan: (United States Employment Service.) We need you very badly. We are certainly most proud of those already working. Only about one eighth of the sugar beet harvest is completed. To win the war we must feed the Army, and we hope you will help us in this matter.

Tom Yego: We are able to present to you a charter which we think is a good one. (Those who worked on this constitution are introduced.) We shall go through this paragraph by paragraph, or are there any other suggestions? (He starts from the beginning and asked if there are any questions on any of the sections. There are no questions during the first part.)

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Section 11: X: Does that mean any four meetings?

Yego: Yes, it doesn't mean four successive meetings.

Section 11R: X: Won't there be ...

Yego: We thought that a large body wasn't desirable for the council.

X: Are we going to do away with the block representative tonight?

Yego: Yes, the election will be based on ward basis.

X: This means that you cannot report to the blocks on the Council meeting any more.

Yego: A system of reporting to blocks will be worked out by the Council later on.

Suzuki: The Issei voice won't be represented so much. It has been suggested to me that the Issei voice be represented in some manner.

Yego: Wasn't that brought up in the Planning Board?

Suzuki: This person didn't think so.

Yego: The Isseishave no representation according to WRA regulations. The Planning Board is meant to cover that.

Shibata: Is the four representative from the ward because of the size of the Council.

Yego: We didn't have that in mind.

Shibata: Couldn't the stigma be avoided by having ...

Henry T: We had thought of a system of block meetings, had we had more time. We could recognize block advisory committees. The blocks could send representatives to a ward meeting which would be conducted by the Councilmen themselves.

Suzuki: I believe Mr. T's point is well taken and it will satisfy the Isseis.

Yego: We had that in mind, but didn't have the time. They can be written into the by-laws.

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Takemoto: On page 17 you see the by-laws. Changing the by-laws is by three fourths majority of the Council. Do you think that such a vote is easy to get. Shouldn't we include the Advisory Committee in the by-laws first? Or do you think it's better to go ahead.

Yego: If its necessary, it ought to be put in right now.

Suzuki: If it is incorporated in the charter it ought to make the adaptation easier.

Takeda: I think the recognition of the block advisory committee should be put in the charter itself and not the by-laws. We had in mind block representatives' meetings in ward units. Certain amount of discretion will be left up to the block themselves.

Shibata: I'm not trying to break this charter down. What is the objection to having a representative from each block who in turn would elect the Councilmen.

Yego: What do you mean by a representative. We didn't want a big body. (Tom doesn't get the point.)

Yego: We want to get away from that.

Walter: The main difficulty is this. There may be more than one competent man in a block. That's the only reason.

Yego: In one block they are having a hard time chosing a Councilman. Shall we include Mr. T's suggestion in the charter, so we won't have to vote on it? (He's impatient about shoving this thing through.)

Henry: I move to recognize a block advisory committee, who in turn will send serving delegates to a ward session, the purpose being that the block representatives and ward Councilmen can get together and discuss matters.

Elberson: Do you recognize the fact that a great deal of the Advisory Committee is made up of Isseis. Isn't it necessary to insert something about having some Niseis.

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Suzuki: I think that it should be both.

Yego: All those in favor of this motion say aye. (He's trying to shove this thing through. A weak aye, and then he calls for a no without any answer.)

Are there any objections to having two Isseis and two Niseis. (No answer.)

Takemoto: How often will this body meet.

Yego: Any objection to two times a month. Then we will let it go at that.

Shibata: There will be thirty-six advisors to a ward. Will they tell the Councilmen of what they should do. Will these Councilmen vote in one block. Won't there be a friction if some of the Councilmen take the advice of the advisors and some don't.

Yego: No. The Councilmen will have the right to vote as they think is the best for their community.

Takemoto: How to select those four advisors? Will it be left to the blocks?

Henry: Certain facility will be set up.

Gerry: Will the advisor tell the Councilmen what to do? Will we have the power to go ahead and vote in any way the Councilmen saw fit? In other words, the Councilmen will not be representative of the people. How will the Councilmen know the feeling of the block if they don't listen to the people in the block.

Yego: I think that the Council should be able to make a final decision on the matter of the welfare of the people.

X: The advisors themselves may not represent the true wish of the people.

Walter: If a Councilman votes one way or another, ten per cent of the people can still refer the matter to the people. So the voice of the people will be final.

Elberson: Are you going to extend your power over the Planning Board.

Takeda: No, we shall have no power over such things as Planning Board or the co-op, except to protect the people.

Suzuki: Does 10 per cent mean 10 per cent of the ward of the whole community.

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Walter: It's meant to be the whole people.

Elberson: Who recalls the Councilman, the community or the ward.

Walter: The community.

X: I think it should be the ward who should do the recall.

Walter: Yes, I think that will have to be changed.

(Age of officers. Why not make it 25 for all officers or just for president and advisory president. This motion was passed -- all officers must be over twenty-five years.)

F. Miyamoto: Why is the executive secretary to be appointed. (Yego's face gets red.) He is going to be selected by the Council.

Henry: He is not elected because he will not be a Councilman. If he is appointed the Council will have to pass on it by majority vote.

Koso: (Article IV) The Planning Board is going to have an executive secretary, too. Is the executive secretary going to attend the Planning Board meeting, too? If the Community Council doesn't wish to send a Councilman to the Planning Board it can?

Henry: Yes.

Gerry: I think all elective officers should be paid.

X: Wasn't there a limit to tax?

Yego: Wasn't it \$1,000 from each enterprise?

X: No, it was \$1,000 from all enterprises. (On the recall it's the majority of the voters who cast ballots. Suzuki impulsively says that that would make it too easy. He doesn't think when he talks.)

Koso: **Why** the three fourths for changing the by-laws?

Henry: It was thought that it shouldn't be too easy to change.

Yego: Mr. Shirrell has approved this charter already.

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Gerry: What does the Council want to do about this charter. The committee asks that this be held over till the next meeting.

Issei: Isn't the former Council set up better. I don't know which is better, but I would like to have you all reconsider. It may cause trouble if people are dissatisfied. There is talk about the voice of the Issei not being^{re} presented.

Takemoto: I move that we accept this charter as amended. (All vote in favor of it without any further discussion.)

Takemoto: I move that the Council go on record thanking the charter committee.

(The motion passed.)

Yumibe: There has been criticism that the sixteen years and over is too low.

Elberson: You were elected on that basis, and this won't be changed until the Charter is adopted.

Suzuki: Mr. Shirrell said eighteen years and over at the Council meeting.

Takemoto: Translation of legal document is difficult. The committee should start looking for translators.

Henry: We have nothing to do with the presentation to the people.

Yumibe: There was an article on the front page of the Oregonian about Japanese farm workers shooting geese and is creating an unfavorable impression. I think it is the duty of the Councilmen to stop all this. This afternoon some farmers had a goose and were going to have a feast.

The Charter Committee was asked to appoint a translator.

Meeting closed at 4:30.

Block 25 Meeting

8:43. There are 24 men, only 2 or 3 of them Niseis. There are only 2 women here. The meeting is opened by the block manager.

Councilman's Report

Mr. Yagi gives a report on the last Council meeting. He says that a

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referendum is going to be held on Monday. He gives a report on what Mr. Gunderson said about lack of equipment, etc. "What are the parents doing," he said. He reported that the teachers don't have sufficient rooming facilities. There are nine people who are deaf and dumb and they are looking for a teacher for such persons, he reports. (Everybody is quiet. Ruby and George are here for the first time. My constant harping on the need to attend meetings probably had some effect.)

Constitution

Mr. Yagi says that the translation is going to appear in Japanese so that he'll give only the highlights. Voters must be above eighteen; Councilmen above twenty-one; officers above twenty-five. Executive secretary is going to be hired from outside of the Council. Y. has difficulty in explaining the judicial committee and uses such English words as "crime," "jury."

Election

(He starts to say that all of this is not definite, but I told him not to say such things before the meeting so he stops himself.) Five representatives from each block and nominate candidates and the ward elects four Councilmen. There is going to be a ward meeting first and then the matter is taken back to the blocks. In the blocks the representative is to consist of Isseis and Niseis. The acceptance of this constitution is going to take at least several weeks. (He's very unclear about his explanation. I don't think anybody gets what's it going to be like. The only fact clear is that there are going to be four Councilmen for each ward.)

I would like to have your opinion because this is not exactly settled yet. The meetings of the representative are going to be two times a month, and then the matter will be referred to the block.

Nishida: Can this constitution be changed yet. We have to see the Japanese translation before we say anything.

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X: Who made the constitution?

Y: Three Japanese lawyers and five committee men. Mr. Shirrell has okayed it already. There are parts of it that I can't understand.

Sakamoto: When is the election of the representatives to be held.

Y: The temporary Council keeps on until the new constitution is accepted.

On the ward basis we can have more than one representative from one block. There are ^{going} to be half Issei and half Nisei representatives.

Z: Not until Isseis take part things won't go well. Those who are going to contact keto must be Niseis?

Sofue: I don't like the setting up the difference between Isseis and Niseis.

Sakamoto: Their ideas are different.

Yagi: There should be no kick if the representatives are half Isseis and half Niseis.

Sofue: But how about it when they contact Shirrell.

Y: There is the Planning Board which is composed of all Isseis.

Sofue: Is the contact going to be made by Niseis?

Y: No.

Sakamoto: Isseis' power has increased.

Y: When the Japanese translation comes I want you to look it over.

Z: In Japan they don't make any distinction between Isseis and Niseis.

Block manager: I think we should wait until the translation arrives.

Y: A man came from Oregon to explain the labor shortage. (Some snicker heard in the crowd.)

X: Laughs.

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X: It's understood that they're going to get into trouble. Let them alone.
What would we say to T.

Planning Board

Three men were sent from this block but they came back and said that there was nothing to report. (Mr. Nakamura adds that Mr. Shirrell asks that anyone with an opinion can attend the meeting.) (The block manager reads the paper written in Japanese on the Planning Board.)

Theater Project Referendum

The block manager announces that an election committee is necessary. How many for an election committee.

Sofue: How about three each.

B-M: Should we have a vote.

X: What's the difference. All they have to do is to open the ballots honestly.

Z: They want to put the theater up at all cost. They want to make profit on the lumber. Smith has to make money on the lumber. There's a building over there that could be used for a theater, but Smith said it couldn't be used.

Kaya, Nishida, Sofue, Taketa, Sakamoto, Sakoda, were appointed by the block manager.

Z: They are trying to keep the Isseis from expressing their opinion.

Kaya: Why not have a box in the mess hall.

Z: Let's have the people write in the name. Do we have to do what the WRA says. A secret ballot is awfully uncertain.

B.M.: Fire practice tomorrow. Old men baseball tomorrow because we are starting to forget.

Nishida who is a member of the Planning Board committee seems to have been favorably impressed by Mr. Shirrell. Personal contact counts.

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Election Committee

The election committee had an informal meeting after the block meeting. The chief cook felt that there were many people in favor of a theater. He said that most of the arguments against the theater were economic. If that were the case, he said, the canteen shouldn't be allowed to sell so many things. Cookies, for instance, should be limited to one or two kinds. The theater is a minor matter compared to the amount of money spent in the canteen. He's more sensible than many of the old men around here. Mr. Abe thought that it was going to be a good fight. With this trend perhaps everything is going to be all right even if the age limit is sixteen and the people decide to have a theater.

Diary

This morning started to correct the past journal pages. Ruby still makes mistakes here and there and there's a whole lot piled up. Since Ruby manages to keep up I find myself taking full notes at meetings now, which I was afraid to do formerly. Before noon went to the Civic Organization office to see if I could get hold of a copy of the community charter, but Koso had only his own copy. The office was in an uproar because it was being refurnished. Koso wants a secretary and Mike Inbe came in today and was offered the job.

In the afternoon I played go with George again and finally was able to win the white stones. I have set an arbitrary rule that whenever one party won two times in succession he would advance one. I then went to see Koso to discuss the charter with him. The only important part wrong we could see was the method of election. Shibata came too and wasn't so sure that it would be all right. We all agreed that it was a method to sidestep the necessity of having each councilman stand a whole block by himself. The way it was suggested, would be four Councilmen against a representative body composed of thirty-six Isseis and Niseis.

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The Council meeting was relatively dry. There was some discussion on the part just mentioned, but Henry added an addition which seemed to ~~take~~ care of the criticism quite well. It seems to me that it would have been just as well to make the original five representatives just four and eliminate the second selection of representatives. This would also retain a body which could replace Councilmen when they had to.

Tonight there was a block meeting which was rather quiet. Kishiyama didn't turn up. I guess he's getting sort of scared about shooting off his mouth too much. I think the tide is turning against the old men who talk too much. The atmosphere of the meeting was rather quiet tonight, partly because they didn't know what the charter was going to be like. Also the fact that they heard what was happening to the school children probably quieted them down somewhat. If they really knew what was happening to them they'd do less talking and cooperate a little more with the administration. Tojo may be all right, but he can't help immediate welfare of the Japanese in America. We'll have to organize the young people in our block after some of these questions are settled, if we are going to get any place.

Played go again with George tonight and lost.

Connie Endo

May says that she has heard from CE from some where in Montana. She seems to be living with Caucasians, doing housework I presume. Kazue was trying to tell me that I ought to have met her. I think she was the type that lived most of the time with Caucasians and didn't ^{get} along with Japanese here.

Santa Anita Outcasts.

Several days ago the remnants of the Santa Anita outcasts left for the beet field. Sabu and a few others expect to join their folks in other centers soon. The rest, May says, are going to try to work their way to a tramp steamer. May was

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angry because the block manager didn't do anything even when he knew that these boys were leaving. May was willing to go tell them goodby and she took along a few people and did so.

Yaye

The Santa Anita boys didn't leave, however, without causing some regret. Yaye seemed to like one of the boys and felt sorry that he was going away. When they went to their room Yaye asked for a map or something which she said she wanted. There was a drawing or something that was drawn, but this fellow which a neighbor went off with, which Yaye wanted rather badly.

May says that Yaye seems to be confused. She tries to treat boys on the whole as if they were not so good as she was. She can't seem to be pleased when she really is. Horney would call it inhibition.

Sunday, October 18, 1942

Diary

Finished correcting journal pages in the morning. Then I went to Mr. Izumi's place to take my Japanese records. Chatted about things in general and then listened to my records. Just prior to evacuation he was operating a produce store for several years, even though he wasn't accustomed to such work. The wife said that they would be willing to go out and try that sort of thing because there was very little else that they could do. But, she said, people with families were at a disadvantage because they were unwilling to take chances. I think we tend to forget the struggle that is necessary on the outside to get along.

In the afternoon played a game of go with George and lost, so I'm back to my black stones again. Mike came by and chatted for a while. She says that her neighbors are too much trouble. Just because she didn't sign a petition they resent her. She wants to get out of here where there won't be many Japanese. Bought the

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Chronicle. Saw the football game going on in the firebreak for a few minutes. There were quite a few watching the game. But pretty soon it's going to become too cold for outdoor sports. After starting to read the magazine section of the Chronicle, I went to sleep. I had intended to go to see Mrs. Murayama or Tom, but didn't get around to it.

In the evening Asako and Miyoko came over. I was going to the Buddhist services with M., but when we went out to look we found that the hall was packed and many people were standing outside. This has been going on for several Sundays now, but they haven't added another meeting yet. We sat around and talked. Ruby has been trying to tell us that Asako is touchy about what others say about her. She seems to be interested in psychological literature.

After they went home I was going to write a few letters, but decided that it wasn't so urgent. Instead Ruby and I listened to the Whistler program of a mystery story.

Monday, October 19, 1942

Diary

Chopped wood in the morning for about an hour. I think I have enough now to last me for at least 2 weeks. Worked on the co-op section, but wasn't able to finish it. Dropped in at the Civic Organization office and advised Koso to get a board of directors to make a statement on the policy concerning the theater project. I had expected that the issue would come out yes. I shouldn't have worried because it came out no.

Read a little more out of Horney in the afternoon and took a short nap. Took care of the election for the theater project after 4. In the evening Ikuo invited George and me over for a cup of chicken noodle soup, and we sat around and talked for a while.

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Theater Project Referendums

Today from 2 o'clock the theater project election was held. I took care of the election in our block with five others, but we Niseis did most of the work. We made sure that the election would be a fair one. We had a list of eligible voters and electors were expected to sign their names before they got their ballots. Then we had them mark their ballots in the back of the block manager's office with a special pencil.

About 5, people started to come in to vote. The young people didn't hesitate, but some of the Isseis didn't know what it was all about. Some of the Kibeis didn't seem to know how to mark the ballot. About 4 or 5 old people couldn't sign their names and had to put a cross instead. One girl was confused when she cast her ballot. She was only about seventeen and evidently had been told something by her parents which made it hard for her to decide. Maybe she was told that she could write in whatever she desires.

We moved the poll to the mess hall when the eating began and got most of the remainder of those who hadn't voted. By 8:00 P.M., however, there were still 25 people who had not voted out of a possible 166. I thought that the vote would come out yes because of the great number of children between the ages of sixteen and eighteen. The chief cook thought so too. Some one pointed out that the chief cook didn't have any children, which would make a difference. Mr. Sakamoto was doubtful because he had heard the result of other blocks at the co-op meeting. I had heard the same figures, too, but wishful thinking, of course, entered in. Mr. Nishida thought that two thirds of the block would be against the theater project. Mr. Sofue thought that it would be about 6 to 4 against the theater project. Most people, however, seem to have thought that it would at least be a good fight.

At 8:00 P.M. we started to count the ballots. The no was definitely in

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the lead. It was rather sickening to hear too many nos come out of the ballot box. Mr. Nishida seemed elated. The final count was 107 nos and 33 yeses.

Mr A and I went to take the result to the ward chairman. We saw the results as they came in from other blocks. We had hoped that other blocks wouldn't be as bad as block 25. Mr. A was a little worried because he felt that Mr. Shirrell would think that he wasn't running his block correctly. However, it turned out that there were some blocks in ward 11 with results worse than our block. The complete tabulation for ward 11 was as follows:

| <u>Block</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>Yes</u> |
|--------------|------------|------------|
| 39 | 149 | 29 |
| 26 | 102 | 45 |
| 27 | 105 | 46 |
| 28 | 81 | 58 |
| 38 | 106 | 56 |
| 25 | 107 | 33 |
| 29 | 95 | 51 |
| 37 | 136 | 34 |
| 30 | <u>113</u> | <u>51</u> |
| Total | 994 (71%) | 403 |

Comments made some of the Isseis who heard of the result indicated that the theater project was not simply a vote taken on the desirability of a theater. "Shirrell has finally lost face." (Kao o tsubushitae shimatta.) "He's making fools of us by demanding us to hand in even the ballots." (Hito o bakani shitoru.) The feeling seems to be general that Shirrell was trying to put something over on the people and failed miserably. Many people seemed to be pleased with this fact. At least there wasn't any groaning because the people couldn't have a theater. When the election result actually comes out tomorrow, we ought to hear more opinions on this matter.

Goerge seemed worried about the result because he really wanted to see some shows. Ruby did too. When I told them of the result they seemed down-crested.

Analysis

The most interesting part of the whole election is the fact that the young

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people didn't vote as a block. The Isseis were probably outnumbered 10 to 7. In spite of this 71 per cent of this ward voted against the theater. Among the Isseis some of them certainly voted yes, which increases the number of Niseis that voted no. One high school fellow is said to have declared that he was going to vote no because the theater project was too expensive. Now that couldn't have been something that he figured out for himself. The only way that I can figure the result out is that the younger kids were greatly influenced by their parents' opinion. They took the arguments of the Isseis wholesale for their own. You can't expect young kids to make very independent judgments. Even concerning other topics such as war, etc., the same probably holds true to a very great extent. This is the one great lesson to be learned from this election. Niseis are under control of the Isseis yet, and very few of them can be expected to make independent judgments. I hope Shirrell benefits as much from the result of this election as I have. In spite of the fact that I had the result from the co-op meeting on hand, I had hoped for a theater. It means that I was going too much on hunches and was out of touch with these young Niseis who cast their ballots today against the theater.

Some people point to the article in the TD as being influential in swinging the young people's vote the other way. This is possible, too.

Ikuo

Ikuo came over and invited us to have soup and crackers with pickles, olives, jam, and peanut butter. Ruby wasn't home because she was out attending some one else's English class. We talked of the war, and this and that, but mostly about racial prejudice. It almost seems to be an obsession with Ikuo, he keeps harping on it so much. He keeps pointing out various incidents that he's heard of. He seems to be thinking of perhaps of returning to Japan, but at the same time seems to have his doubts as to whether he will be able to adjust himself over there.

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He feels the hurt of a racial minority and can't seem to be able to interpret in any but an unfavorable light. George also kept saying that America was supposed to be a country of democracy, but wasn't. They both had me quite uncomfortable. Ikuo's outlook seems to be so narrow and so unflexible. Toby, his young wife, threw an interesting side light on the conversation when we came upon the topic of Filipinos and she said that "We used to treat them like dirt and they took it out on us after the war." Both of them said that they would have voted no if they had voted on the theater project proposition. Ikuo's old man is much more broadminded than either I. or T., and believes that the theater is all right even from an educational standpoint.

Tuesday, October 20, 1942

M's viewpoints (Issei)

I was cornered today by an old man who liked to talk a great deal. I had never seen him before and he didn't live in our block. Perhaps he had seen me in some meeting. He had an "M" on his buckle so I shall call him M. He seemed to be rather intelligent, but liked to talk by himself a lot.

Post-War Views

He thought that the war was going to be over by next summer. By then Russia will sue for a separate peace and England will be helpless. America then will not be able to send troops abroad and will be forced to give up the war as hopeless. I questioned him whether America would give up fighting so easily and he seemed to think that there wouldn't be much trouble in doing that. Until now all of the fighting has been done by colored troops, but when white soldiers are forced to go out and fight there is going to be a lot of clamor to stop the war. Even now, he said, there is opposition to the war. He brushed aside my point that manufacturers wouldn't want the war to stop because they would lose their profits. He thought that after the war Japanese would have a better chance in the Far

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East. He pointed out that some people can go to Java and raise rice on a large scale. The British have tried to keep down the production of rice there because they've had to take over the surplus produced, but there is a great deal of land available for Japanese who desired to expand in that field.

I asked him why more Japanese here had not signed up for repatriation, and he said that it was because they had property and things which they want to dispose of yet. He himself said that he couldn't very well leave right now because he had a son in the Army. Others had property tied up which they wanted to dispose of before leaving for Japan. He thought that many of the Japanese would leave America if circumstances were favorable. Also, if the war was going to last a long time, he thought that many of the people would leave even if they had to leave their property behind. I probed him on the matter of making a living in Japan after getting over there, but he seemed very hopeful about that. He said that it was no use staying in America because the value of the dollar was going to become lower than what it is now and it would be more profitable to work in the Far East.

He said that I knew both English and Japanese and it would be a pity for me to stay in America and suffer when there was so much opportunity abroad. I asked him whether many people wouldn't want to stay in America, and he granted that a few people would and for their sakes nothing that would harm them should be done by the Japanese people. But he felt that we should not take any steps which would put the Japanese in an inferior position with reference to Caucasians. He said that from experience he knew that no matter how good you were to a Caucasian, they didn't treat you any better because of it. He is against people leaving camp just because the government is trying to get us out. He said that after six months we would all become prisoners of war and we would be eligible to be treated as such. That is the reason, he said, that the WRA is trying its best to get us out of here. If we

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stay here long enough, he thought, we will be sent back to Japan as exchange for American prisoners. Also, he was afraid of public opinion on the outside. All of the reports he had heard so far seem to have been of a bad sort. A Japanese sat in the back of a train and covered his face with his hat and slept during most of the journey just to avoid contacting Caucasians. Even those who were friendly to Japanese couldn't help treating them poorly because of pressure from other Caucasians.

Japan Superiority

J believes that Japan is superior to America in all ways, it seems. He said that some one had heard a broadcast saying that America had achieved 30 per cent of her expected production this year. Next year that figure could be expected to become smaller. He also related how steel was being mined in great quantity from the conquered nations of the Far East. Although Japan is slightly short on man power, it had enough material to carry on the war as long as they pleased. The longer the war was conducted the more advantage it brought to Japan, he said. He said that some naval officers came from Japan and laughed when they saw the ship building factory in Vallejo.

Issei-Nisei Relationship

Split between the Issei and Nisei, M. thought, should be avoided. He thought that because the split between the two was just a tactic of the administration to crush the Japanese. He said that religious difference was used in India to keep the people of that country down. He said that Niseis should take advantage of the Isseis and use them to safeguard their own rights if they so wished, although I didn't quite get what he meant. He insisted that Isseis weren't desirous of getting power in here. He admitted that the manner in which the broadcast affair was handled was wrong. He thought that Isseis and Niseis should stick together a little more. He said that he always stood behind his Councilman even though he made a

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decision against the block. He only presented to the Councilman what he wanted him to do and protected him from unnecessary criticisms. Concerning the setup under the next charter, he said that he preferred the old way where there was one Councilman from each block.

Analysis

M. is evidently intelligent and knows to a great extent what he is talking about. His views, however, are so different from those of, say, the Councilmen that it is often hard to grasp what he is trying to get at. His views are not so much those of a struggling immigrant, but those of a richer class of people. At many points, however, his views are rather naive. He has swallowed propoganda from Japan whole. For instance, he believes that Koreans in the Japanese empire are absolutely loyal to Japan and that cases of opposing Japan are found only in this country. It is difficult to say to what extent his views are held by other Isseis and Niseis.

Diary

In the morning worked on the co-op section. Also went to the Civic Organization office. Discussed with Fumi methods of getting fair representation in the co-op setup according to the number of people in the block and ward. Mike was working in the office this morning. Discussed the theater project with those in the office, including Elberson.

In the afternoon lost a game of go to George. Now I am down to two black stones. Took a short nap and then read out of Horney. Went down to the post office to get a package which turned out to be the shorthand manual that I had sent for. Stopped by at the legal aid department and asked for an application for absentee ballot. Talked with the block manager Mr. Masui and the chief cook about the theater project.

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In the evening attended the creative writers' meeting. Came home and read a little more out of Horney before beginning to write up my notes for the day.

Theater Project

Last night's result for Ward 11 showed the general trend of the election. The result showed 55 per cent for ward VII to 76 per cent for ward 1, while the average for the whole project was 70 per cent. Most Isseis seemed to feel that Mr. Shirrell made a mistake by calling the referendum or by lowering the age limit to sixteen. M. thought so, and so did the block manager. I talked with Mr. Elber-son about the matter for a little while and he seemed to feel sure that the people really wanted a theater, but that only the method of presentation was wrong. He said that he was going to ask Mr. Shirrell to consider this angle. I said that it was true that the underlying reason for the opposition was the fact that Mr. Smith had begun the theater without the people's permission, that the Council had okayed it against the wish of the people, that Mr. Shirrell was trying to put something over on the people by making Mr. Smith go ahead with the project and also by having a referendum and lowering the age limit to sixteen. But the reasons that were given also had to be considered as long as they were presented. The fact that the underlying reason was satisfied and the people's "face" saved, doesn't mean that the people are going to consent to a theater or anything else. The reason they presented ostensibly must be satisfied, also. You can't expect the people to blow their heads off saying that the theater is too expensive, and then expect them to turn right around and say that they will consent to it because it is presented in a different manner by different people. Also, if the theater is reconsidered immediately, then the underlying reason is still not going to be satisfied. As long as the WRA doesn't build the theater building with its own expense, the people are still going to believe that Shirrell is still trying to put over the theater

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project if someone else attempts to revive the matter right away.

There was a block manager, a Nisei fellow, who kept insisting that he and other block managers have talked to the people in their blocks and have been convinced that all the people objected to was the manner in which the theater project was presented, but that they were really in favor of a theater project. It should be remembered that B.M.'s are appointed by the administration and is someone loyal to the administration as well as to the people. For this reason, people who are against the administration do not talk to the block manager so often. I find this to be true at least in our block. This particular manager said that he ^{was} going to have a representative from his block bring the matter up with the Planning Board and have a plan for a theater presented which would be acceptable to the people. Fumi and I both objected to this step because it would impair the establishment of this new board which was going to be so important in keeping harmony within the center. Mr. Elberson and this block manager felt that it was all right to try to get the movie theater approved again. Fumi and I were for having the issue buried till next spring.

When I spoke to the chief cook, he seemed to be disappointed also in learning that the theater project did not go through. He said that people would have enjoyed the theater, especially Japanese films, if it were built. "These people can go on remaining dissatisfied all of the time," he said. I think he struck at the bottom of the psychology of the people who were opposed to the theater project. While many of them actually believed that the theater project was harmful for the people no doubt others opposed it because they wanted to remain dissatisfied and find pleasure in expressing that dissatisfaction. The chief cook pointed out that the amount spent in the canteen was a great deal larger than what could ever be spent on the theater.

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The block manager felt that Shirrell had made a poor move by having a referendum and lowering the age limit. He also felt that it was better for the theater project to be made after the co-op got on its feet. When I mentioned that some people were in favor of still having the theater discussed, they laughed and felt that it was ridiculous trying to revive this issue.

This idea that the administration is still going to build the theater in spite of the referendum is gaining ground evidently because Eugene tonight said that in his block the people are saying that the theater is going to go up just the same.

Many Niseis seem to feel sorry that the issue didn't gain the approval of the people. There are also talks of unfair election being held. In some blocks the ballots were distributed to the apartments contrary to instructions sent out from the office not to do so. One fellow was asked how he had voted and repeated that he probably voted no because his father wrote in the ballots and put them in the box. In our block when we voted in the mess hall we couldn't set up a booth in which the people could write in on the ballot. Consequently there were Isseis who stood around and watched people mark their ballots. Old ladies who didn't know what it was all about were being instructed to put a mark after the "No." While it's true that some unfair practices were observed, nothing would have changed the result materially. Seventy per cent is too great a majority.

Creative Writers

The meeting tonight was very quiet. The same number of people appeared, but no one had written anything. Eugene didn't have anything planned, and the meeting dwindled into general talk about books, etc. It was decided that members would be expected to write something every four weeks or pay a forfeit of 15 cents. By lot the group was divided into four, three to every week. There was also a suggestion by Morimitsu of writing to other Nisei writers in other centers with a possible view of forming a writers' league. The members didn't seem so

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enthusiastic, but a few offered to write to people in other centers they knew.

Wednesday, October 21, 1942

Diary

In the morning finally finished the section on the co-op except for a few last words. I still have to read it over and then get someone to type it for me. I asked Asako about it, but she seemed hesitant because she felt she wasn't capable of doing the job well.

I had to go around delivering notices for the co-op meeting tomorrow. Also Koso asked me to come over to see him. He wanted me to attend the meetings of the committee on Committee Works to help it in its work. There are too many interruptions to be able to do very much on the reports in the morning even though I start work before 8.

Played go with George and we decided to call it a draw because George had to rush off to work. And I put down two black stones. Took a very short nap. Finished Horney. Glanced through Groves and Blanchard, but didn't think very much of it. It considers too much of vague generalizations. Although Horney and the psycho-analytical school is often too dogmatic, they are brilliant in their analyses. I liked the way Horney brought out the function of defense mechanism. I glanced through Dorcas and Shafter, too, and found them very good. I'll also have occasion to make use of "Knowledge for What." For my course I'll probably dwell a great deal on the conflict situations which many of us have to face. This will mean an analysis of the American system and the conflicts it produces and also of the Nisei world which produces conflicts of its own. Then I can explain some of the methods used in attempting to avoid conflicts or to solve them. Following this I can give some solutions of some of the difficulties we have to face. Throughout the lecture I hope to be able to give many case histories which will illustrate my point.

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In the evening went to the Cal Club but came home early because it seemed to me a waste of time.

Theater Project

I asked Mr. Elberson today what he intended to have done about the theater project. He said that for one thing he was going to find out how fair the election was and possibly ask for a new election. I said that in some blocks the ballots were passed out before hand and he said that in other blocks old men hung around the voting booth to watch how the people voted. I told him that no matter how perfect the election was held the result would come out the same, it would still be no. I said that if he or any one else meddled either with the election or with the theater project itself Mr. Shirrell was going to get into trouble. He wanted to know if it wouldn't be all right if the move for a theater came from the people and I said that it didn't make any difference where it came from at the present moment, the people wouldn't like it. If the move is going to come from the people it should be brought up several months later, possibly in the spring.

Shirrell

I asked him what Shirrell said about the matter. Elberson said that Shirrell felt the same way that he did. He didn't give a darn about the theater itself, but both he and Mr. Shirrell still felt that the people really wanted a theater. Some people have been trying to tell him this, too, saying that in some blocks the Isseis are making a move to have a theater now. I told him Shirrell was on the spot and that it was better to make no move at all.

Material

We discussed what would be done with the lumber and the projector. The lumber hasn't been paid for yet but has to be rightaway. Five hundred dollars or so has been paid on the projector and other payments would have to be made as the months roll by. I thought it would be a good idea to pay for the lumber and keep

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it because it could always be sold at cost. However, I thought that it might be a good idea to return the projector as a sign of good faith in the result of the referendum.

I guess I told Elberson some things that he wasn't aware of, especially concerning his desire to check up on the election. When I was through talking he said, "Thank you."

Cal Club

The meeting was scheduled for 7, but not many were present at 7:30. Mas S. and his wife, May Sato, Kiku Kato, Hisako Ishii, Tomi, Jobo, Shiro T. Eugene, Art Morimitsu, and a few other boys and one other girl were all that were present. The girls had brought their knitting along and were knitting away. Kiku kept talking about wanting to go to school and get her degree because it mean so much in getting a job. May agreed with her on this point. May seemed desirous of taking up social work or something -- anyway go to school again. Some of the boys were playing with a football inside the small room in 1808.

The discussion for the evening was about entering something in the Harvest Festival. Art pointed out that it was good publicity for a club to put on something and the members seemed to be properly impressed with this idea. Various suggestions were asked for concerning the entry in the parade, the side show and the concession. There were many suggestions, but none of them seemed too brilliant. It was suggested that shoe-string potatoes be sold because potatoes could be gotten freely. Every one picked on poor Jobo when there was any suggestion for an entry in the parade, but Jobo kept insisting that he would do nothing this time because his last effort was not appreciated. It was agreed that the float in the Labor Day parade had brought the reputation of the club to a low level. In fact, somebody had suggested the Cal Club join the International Nut House gang in

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presenting a side show. It was agreed by most of the members that if any float were put out this time it would have to be something that would redeem the good name of the club.

Aside from this nothing of interest went on and so I left before the others a little before 9:00 P.M. Art told me not to leave because it would want to make the others leave too, but I couldn't stand it any longer.

Thursday, October 22, 1942

Ward II Co-op Meeting

The meeting was opened by the chairman at 8:40.

The roll was called and the following found absent: Miyakawa; Kaihara left for beetfield; Miura; Shijo; Taneka; Iseri.

The minutes were read and approved without correction.

Report of the incorporators' meeting was given by Mr. Mitsutomi and Mr. Araki. The minutes of the meeting were read by the secretary.

(Mr. Araki speaks in English in explaining equitable representation.)

Mitsutomi: The most important matter is that of the financial status.

Matsumoto: We should get a complete statement from Mr. Smith.

Mr. Matsumoto reported on the committee on Committee Works.

Discussion was held on the membership committee. (Most of those here seem to find it difficult to understand.)

X: Do you think that anyone will take up the job of being membership committee member from the block if they are not given higher positions than just staying in the block? (He is concerned with status.)

Mr. Nakamura reported that he was unable to attend the last meeting of the by-laws committee because of emergency.

The memo concerning alien participation in Tule Lake was read and discussed. No important questions were raised.

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The by-laws were discussed but it was decided to ask for more time and extra copies before passing on them.

Mr. Nakamura was sent to ask Elberson what arrangements could be made by the office.

Komatsu: Councilmen agree exactly with the WRA officials. The people who are working in the office are that way.

Sakamoto: I think Mr. Shirrell made a big mistake. Kids above eighteen don't obey the parents so much. But those between sixteen and eighteen are likely to do what their parents say.

Nakamura: There was a strike by a group of workers because they demanded pants before they put in cement. Some of them already received four pants in the past. Then some foremen stole lumber yesterday and they are up for trial.

The issuance of clothing was written on the assignment slip at first. Some people used to tear up their slip and get a new one in order to ask for more clothing.

(It was decided that the discussion of the by-laws would be deferred to the next meeting, when copies would be available for the representatives.)

Theater Project

(Everybody seems to believe that it's best not to keep either the lumber or the equipment. Mr. Smith might have bought the lumber on a poor bargain. There are chances of its being stolen. Anyway, there's not much point in having lumber. Everyone agrees that it is best not to handle any of the theater project equipment.

Nakamura: The administrative staff members are paid on the third of every month.

Sakamoto: It means that they take their pay before paying the Japanese.

Nakamura: Smith is not paid as Cooke. Rice and fruits that should have gone to the mess was being sold in the canteen.

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X: Smith may be hiding something.

(The meeting was closed at 9:30)

Sakamoto: The way the administration gave in on the mess hall strike was fishy.

After the meeting the Isseis sat around and talked about the war. They agreed that Japan was strong and had not weakened at all because of five years of war.

Iki-Harada Case

It seems that about four doctors are going to be sent to other centers. Among the four are Iki, Harada, and Uyeyama, the best doctors in the project. Komatus expressed regret that this thing had come to pass. Sakamoto said that Japanese were no good because they did things in a hurry without thinking. They argued that the petition circulated to have Harada stay was a partial cause of both Iki and Harada having to leave.

Reactionaries

On the way home several of the co-op representatives agreed that reactionaries in the block were not doing the people any good. When a reasonable proposal was made, they came out with objections which roused the people. They are filled with dissatisfaction but there's no use in remaining that way all of the time because we can't do anything about the past. We still have the future to think about.

Theater Project

The Isseis that gathered at the co-op ward meeting were against keeping any of the equipment and lumber from the theater project. Not only did the people not like the idea, but some saw no necessity of the lumber. There was a suspicion that Mr. Smith had made a crooked deal on the lumber and equipment and it would pain him to have to return the material. There's a feeling that if his financial

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statement is examined many faults would be discovered.

Diary

In the morning worked my shorthand draft of the section on the co-op. Also dropped in at the Civic Organization office and at the Social Welfare office. At the latter place spoke to Mrs. Akamatsu and Nao.

In the afternoon won a game from George in about 25 minutes starting with two black stones. Took a short nap. Then read Groves and Blanchard and Dorcas and Shaffer. In the evening attended a meeting of the ward co-op representatives. There is lack of interest on the part of certain members.

Merit Board

I asked Koso what had happened at the Merit Board meeting. He said that the farmers and public workers representatives had thought it useless to fill the form which was being offered by the merit board. He said that it meant that all of the efforts of the merit board were going to go to waste.

Social Welfare Department

Tom didn't report to work this morning. Mrs. Halle was away on a sick leave. Nao was not in and several unattractive girls were sitting around. I saw Mrs. Akamatsu in one of the booths and went in to speak to her. She told me something about the doctors when I told her that it was a good thing that her husband didn't have to go. I asked her about the public assistant grant and she said that it was unpleasant work because she had to find out how much the people asking for grants had to have down to the last penny. One family reported that it had only a little over a dollar and was wondering when it was going to be paid past salaries. Mrs. A. said that Nao was rather strict about the regulations which made it hard on the families applying for grants.

Nao

The supervisor came in so I spoke to her for a while. I told her that I

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was going to have a class in mental hygiene and she asked whether she could audit the course. She also said that most of her workers could benefit by whatever they could pick up along the line of social work. Until now she herself has not been able to do very much more than just explain to them about keeping records, etc.

She said that Mrs. Halle had left the case files in a mess. There were cases which had never been written, letters which had never been mailed, names of cases on scraps of paper. She had closed the office just to straighten out the files.

She said that it was necessary to start with one thing and start cleaning it up first, if the place was to be put in order. Evidently the workers don't like her efficiency, if that's what it is. It seems to me that the Social Welfare department is filled with unstable personalities. Mrs. A. and Mrs. M. are probably exceptions.

Doctors

Mrs. A. said that the best doctors were leaving. Her husband wanted to go to Colorado, but wasn't allowed to do so. I thought that he had wanted to stay, but evidently not. All of his friends are leaving and he is being left by himself. She said that Dr. Togasaki was coming from Poston because she didn't get along with a doctor there. As she put it, the people here have to suffer for trouble elsewhere.

Miyoko Ito

She brought in her journal to show me. She had some very interesting comments made on the theater project by members of her Kibei class. As soon as her typewriter comes I'll have her copy some of it for me. I must get her to keep on writing up her Kibei class.

Friday, October 23, 1942

Committee on Committees

The meeting opened at 7:47. The English minutes were read and corrected

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profusely. The reading of the Japanese meetings was dispensed with. Koso is carrying on the meeting by himself just about, even though there is a chairman. There is a prepared agenda, but Koso becomes **impatient** and goes ahead by himself. I suppose these people will learn in time to conduct meetings efficiently.

A memo to secretaries on how to conduct meetings and keep records is read by Koso. The Isseis (they are all Isseis) just nod their heads in assent.

A: People in our ward believe that there's no use in going ahead with the co-op until we see the financial statement. (The rest agree with him.)

K: Last night there was a meeting called by Smith with the board of directors. He asked that the co-op people can come at any time to look at the store or look over the books. The people from ward 11 and 111 felt that it wasn't sufficient to look only at the books. It was necessary to **look** over the stock.

Matsumoto: How about having special committees for each department to keep track of it more closely over a period of time.

Koso: (Schedule for the coming two weeks.) A meeting of Nisei representatives will be held on Wednesday to discuss the by-laws. The following night the Isseis will meet in the same way. There will be an English copy of the by-laws for everyone and a rough outline of the by-laws in Japanese.

X: We discussed the by-laws in our ward.

K: In other wards they were not able to do that. They didn't have enough time and **no extra copies**. Then it will be taken back to the blocks to be discussed and approved by the people. The membership drive will follow soon after. Will the chairman please take over.

Chairman: Should the membership committee be set up first or the by-laws made first.

B: The by-laws should come first. I hear that Smith has a lot of debts

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and the bakery and others have not been paid yet. We have to get the financial statement first.

K: Anything that we say here is not final. We should discuss things back and forth. How about hiring an executive secretary to take care of the membership? How about making the executive secretary a member of the membership committee?

M and others: It seems to be all right. (I don't get it so clearly myself.)

A: The executive secretary would then be paid, wouldn't he? (Yes.)

Chairman: The subcommittee should come to the ward meeting. I mean that they have to have ward meetings.

Chairman: Nisei understand well, but Isseis understand poorly. We should have Isseis take care of the membership drive.

X: It works out best when there are both Isseis and Niseis on the committee. It's also best when the people are allowed to speak in whatever language they desire.

Chairman: The word "sub" doesn't sound so good. (Prestige.)

C: It's the Isseis who feel bad about it.

A: They will feel that they don't have much responsibility.

K: How about ward membership committee? (There is general consent on this matter.)

D: What if the committee members feel that the representative should do the work? (This question is voiced down.)

K: How about getting someone old who had influence in the block. (Meets with approval.)

K: Will it be all right if the executive secretary be the chairman of the membership committee, making a total of eight. He shall not vote. (There's an understanding that the executive secretary will be paid \$19.)

A: How about giving the manager a gift of some sort. I know it's against

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the rule but couldn't it be worked out some way to secure efficiency. There's added responsibility.

M: Let's discuss that later.

K: I've taken the chairmanship over again.

M: It's all right for the present.

K: About the membership drive, shall we make the ward membership committee first?

A: In our ward it's not going to be so easy. The attitude of the people has changed since the theater project. There's other suspicion too.

JS: It would be better to have two from each block.

Chairman: The representative from that block could substitute for members who couldn't attend a ward meeting.

A: How about having business conducted no matter how many are present. We can't be waiting for people to turn up all of the time. (This suggestion is not taken up.)

Audit Committee: K: Please read this bulletin.

A: Could you explain it to us, (Koso reads and explains. Fumi explains "padding" in English.)

Fumi: How about the ward representatives electing the member for the audit committee.

Chairman: How about the block electing.

K: People wouldn't know each other very well in the block.

M: How about electing one and getting the okay of the block.

X: Suppose the block doesn't okay the person.

X: It will be all right if the representative resigns if the block objects to the choice made by the representatives.

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(The Audit committee must be elected at the ward meeting from either representatives or from the membership, but not from the board of directors)

Duties: To check on the taking and pricing of inventory; to insure conservative pricing; and to prevent "padding" of figures. Also to audit the books.

(Taken from bulletin.)

A: Let's have an inventory taken once a month because we don't know when we will be going out. The report of the audit committee is to be given at the general assembly. It is responsible to the general assembly and not to the board of directors.

The audit committee will elect its own Chairman. The officers will include one English secretary. The committee will have the power to hire anyone it desires necessary to aid its work when it deems it advisable.

A: Isn't the inventory supposed to be taken by outsiders?

Chairman: How about having a simple checking up system so that the checking up can be done by the committee easily.

Qualification: Competent auditors, if possible.

Term: Same as the membership committee.

Termination: X: Things like this should not happen. It's best not to have such things in the by-laws too clearly.

K: Two thirds of the ward representatives can recall a member of the audit committee.

Education Committee

A: Arent the by-laws too complicated without such a committee.

K: It'd be necessary to give the movement strength.

A: It's necessary in that sense.

K: There ^{are} plans for a ward study group on the co-op.

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Chairman: In our block people thought that the sum for education was not necessary. If it were to be on a percentage basis it should be only about one per cent.

K: How about leaving it at 1 per cent and then if it is not enough get the board of directors to vote them some more.

A: Is the certified public accountant necessary?

Fumi: I hear that our bookkeeping system is not so good. The CPA would be necessary.

K: Let's leave it up to the audit committee to do as it chuses. (When leaders hit a snag they propose to leave the matter up to a higher committee. It seems to work!)

A: The first thing to do after taking over is to limit the sort of things sold in the store.

(K. reads bulletin 665 on the education committee. K. says that the language qualification should be remembered.)

B: How about having study groups. People from such groups could be put into the education committee. How about postponing the choosing of the committee until then. How about the board of directors appointing the education committee?

Composed of seven members, not necessarily one from each ward. The sub-committee will be chosen by the education committee.

Qualification: Loyal to the co-op movement. Have a knowledge of the co-op.

K: How about it when a paid specialist becomes necessary.

B: It's all right if it's only \$19.

K: The board of directors should be allowed to hire any paid help that is necessary to carry on the work. (Everybody believes that paid help will be necessary for this work.)

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A: It seems that at Washington, D. C. they are willing to help the co-op financially.

K: The government favors the cooperative because they know that after the war the people are going to suffer.

A: Shouldn't the building rent be asked to be abolished. We aren't being paid the proper amount of wages. I think that the rent should be bargained for.

Fumi: We are doing all we can along with other projects, but we really have no power to bargain.

The meeting should be started at 7 p.m. from next meeting. The meeting was closed at 10:16 P.M.

Diary

In the morning corrected the section on the co-op and added a part on analysis. Returned Frank's Council minutes to him. Had a discussion with him on status, role, and needs. He didn't believe much in the concept of needs. Said it was too vague and there were too many of them to be of much use. His concept of role is an adjustment pattern of an individual seen from an objective standpoint of view. I was trying to get some of the theoretic background that he used.

When going home I bumped into Tom. He said that the files of the Social Welfare department were not of much use to him because the records weren't complete. He says that since Halle left they are getting more things done.

In the afternoon read out of Groves and Blanchard; also went after a package from the UC library and it turned out to be a single book, "The Marginal Man." Played a game of go with George in the evening and lost. Then attended the meeting of the Committee on Committee Works as Koso requested me to. It was past ten when the meeting was over.

Social Welfare Department

Tom will probably take care of the Social Welfare department, but I suppose

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I should put down what I can, although this information is coming from Tom himself. He said that Mrs. Halle had left for good. However, before she left she left word that all but four of the staff should be fired, and Tom and Mrs. Murayama were included. The latter became indignant and quit the department. However, she may come back if Mrs. Halle is really not returning.

Saturday, October 24, 1942

Diary

Started to correct pages of my journal to send to DS, but didn't finish it. Asako came in this morning and said that she thought she wasn't able to do the typing for me. I didn't insist that she should. Maybe I should have. She told Ruby that the work would be good experience for her. She told me that she didn't think that she would be able to do the work well enough. I wish these women would make up their minds whether they want to do a thing or not. Went to look Kazuko up to ask her to do the typing but she was out. Dropped in at Mrs. Murayama's place, but she too wasn't home. Went to Tom's place for a social call. Talked mostly shop for an hour or so. Also dropped in to see Frank.

In the afternoon played two games of go with George. It's evident that he's better than I am and I might as well face the fact. I'm getting my account of the day twisted up. It was in the afternoon that I went to see Kazuko and the rest. Just shows how fallible human memory can be. In the morning worked on the minutes of the committee on Committee of the Co-op and took it down to the CO office. Ran into Miss Topping from Japan there and had a talk with her. Had to spend some time there.

Miss Topping

She was asking some questions on the co-op to give her some leads for her study group that she is going to start tonight. I told her what Elberson had taught us in his lecture series. Then when I told her that my name was James Sakoda, she

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said that I was the very person that she wanted to see. She had evidently seen the copy of the report on the Christian Church which I had handed to Reverend Kuroda for correction. She said that such a report would be valuable in guiding a Christian group here in their future work, and also in telling others about the sort of church work being done here in the camp. I could see her point of view, but tried to stall her off about handing out copies of the report. This just goes to show the importance of keeping copies of reports very close to home. Of course, the church report has nothing that most of the church people know **already** anyway.

Miss Topping seems to be here with Dr. Kagawa's message of international cooperation. She seems to be afraid that if she says things people may misinterpret it and get her into trouble. She brought up Hi Korematsu's "Farm Cooperative Plan" and wanted to know whether it wasn't good. I said that it was all right, but that I didn't like the fact that he tried to make it exclusive for Christians. I said that we could not assume that Christians were any better than other people in running a cooperative. She agreed with me, but her excuse for Christians not being what they should be was interesting. She said that it was because of capitalism that the Church was corrupted.

I asked her about her objective in conducting a study group. She gave the international aim first. This consisted in training co-op leaders who will be able to attend international conferences on international cooperation. Next she gave the national aim. She wanted to train leaders who could be sent to co-ops in the Middle West. She felt that if these leaders had a message such as Dr. Kagawa's to convey to the people in the Middle West, they would be more likely to be welcomed. Taking part in the local Co-op Movement she put as the last reason. Her approach is very interesting, at least.

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Sunday, October 25, 1942

Diary

In the morning finished working journal pages. At 10:30 left to see Kazuko Tanabe. At 11 there was a meeting of the Cal Club which I promised two girls that I would attend, but I didn't want to because it concerned the harvest festival parade which they wanted me to take part in.

K. was home dressed in slacks. I talked with her about Kazue who had left for school. K. said that it was quiet around home now because her sister wasn't around to complain about conditions in the camp, etc. The family seems to be getting along more smoothly as a result. I asked K. whether she wouldn't do some typing for me and she said that she would be glad to. I told her all of the circumstances, and impressed it upon her that I was asking her because I felt that she could be trusted. I think the arrangement is going to work out all right.

Then went to see Mrs. Murayama whom I had not seen since Connie left for school. She asked me to stay for lunch which I did. As a result I was able to eat roast beef both for lunch and for dinner.

Bought a Chronicle and came home and then slept till dinner time. In the evening stayed in and wrote letters. Also played a game of go with George and beat him by a narrow margin. I'm back to one black stone again. Reviewed the brief forms from the shorthand manual. I find that I had forgotten one or two of them.

Mrs. Murayama

I talked of various things with Mrs. M but she seemed to want to talk about Connie. She even let me read a letter that she wrote to her from college. Said she had entered a bar at Reno. Mrs. M said that she was glad her daughter was not so inhibited that she couldn't do a harmless thing like that. She admitted that she missed Connie. She thought it was funny that Connie thought her mother was going to break down and cry when she left and therefore asked her not to come and see

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her off. She even told me how Connie didn't get along so very well with her father and that the mother and daughter were always very close.

Elaine Ishikawa

Elaine is working in the recreation and came to see Mrs. M. about something when I was there. She said that she was interested in social welfare work and had taken some psychology courses at Sacramento Junior College. She seemed to be interested in my course. She said she had wished that she had mixed in more with Caucasians when she had lived in Sacramento. She had been going around with a group of fifteen or so Japanese girls. Here she has avoided going around with them and said that she hadn't seen them for some time. When asked why she didn't come around more often, she told them that she was too busy. She seems to have come to feel that it's not so good being too close to one group.

Evidently she is working hard in the recreation department organizing Girl Reserves. People have evidently told her that she's foolish to be working so hard. When I explained to her and Mrs. M that the WRA policy was to get people relocated and that it meant that they didn't want too good of an organization here which would deter people from going out, they both seemed downcast. They seem to have worked on the assumption that they were doing something for the community -- something which would be more or less permanent. For that reason they had not thought in terms of going out.

Monday, October 26, 1942

No. 25 Block Meeting

The meeting is supposed to begin at 7, but by 7:15 only a few people were here. At present there are 7 Isseis and 2 Niseis, one of the latter a girl.
evening.
Total for/Issei: Men, 11; Women 1. Nisei: Men, 6; Girls, 1.

They rang the bell for the third time and a few more Isseis came. It is always the same people who are here. The Ueda family is not here.

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People are talking about extending the meeting to tomorrow night after dinner time because not many people have turned up.

BM: Mr. Nakamura will give the report.

Nakamura: Shouldn't Mr. Nishida explain the Planning Board because he's older?

Nishida: No, we are going to have to ask you to handle this Walter so you might as well explain it.

Nakamura: Then I'll explain it. Mr. Shirrell said that the Planning Board was a good idea to help the Council in its work. We thought it was a good idea and voted for it.

BM: Since it's such an important task we want more people to turn out. After dinner tomorrow we shall do the voting. How about 5 people for an election committee.

Nakamura: Mr. Shirrell said that he thought that the Councilmen were too young and therefore wanted some Isseis who had experience.

JS: How about having candidates nominated tonight.

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Nakamura | Tanabe |
| George Ueda | Nishida (says he hasn't time) |
| Morimoto (by Abe) | |

BM: How about the election committee.

X: Let's have the same committee as the last time.

Nishida: There was question about Dr. Harada being sent away. Mr. Shirrell answered that there are requests from other centers so that those had to be taken into consideration too. The welfare of the whole Japanese population had to be taken into consideration. I can't do anything about it because it's being handled at San Francisco he said.

There was a question also about the 16 years age limit for voting. In the new Charter this won't happen. What Mr. Shirrell said didn't have much point to grasp at.

There is a rumor about spies who are being paid. Mr. Shirrell was asked if this were true. Mr. Shirrell answered that there were no spies under him, but the FBI comes in sometimes. If they want to see anybody I have to let them interview the people. You might as well know that the FBI is watching the place, he said.

BM: (He reports on the plan of a Women's Club of block 14 which wanted to have the children go back to work again. They were told by Mr. Shirrell that if they could get 75 workers, men or women, the school children would be allowed to go back to school. Block 14 asked their block for volunteer workers, but couldn't get much

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response. They have begun to ask other women's clubs. There are a lot of farm workers from this block and there aren't very many who could go out to work on the farm now, but we gave the club a favorable reply. We promised to recruit workers. ((BM is giving the impression that he was against this move, so he says that he gave the women's club a vague reply.)))

Kaya: Are there any people volunteering from Block 14?

BM: It seems that there aren't very many people from that block.

X: Shirrell said that it was all right if all of the workers went out from the project and the crops rotted.

The meeting is closed at 8:20.

Spies

When the matter of spies in the colony hired by Mr. Shirrell was brought up many people seemed to think that Mr. Shirrell wasn't telling the truth when he said that there was no one working for him. One fellow said that on the farm there's a spy because when they decided a thing secretly once, it was known to the administration right away. Then later all three persons who had spoken at the meeting were questioned. This feeling of suspicion is definite and woe is me if anybody in my block gets into trouble. There are people in our block who are very old-fashioned and some who like to gripe a lot, but I don't think there are any who are likely to get into trouble with the FBI.

Diary

Spent the morning getting material together for the section on the Buddhist Church. Mr. Sakamoto came to see me in the morning about going to see Mr. Smith's books to be able to tell the people that we have seen them.

In the afternoon finished Groves and Blanchard and began Adler. Late in the afternoon went down to the C.O. office to take my mind off my work for a little while.

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In the evening lost a game of go to George because I had overlooked a small point. I had him beat and I would have taken over the white stones. There was a block meeting to which George and I went. After that Ikuo invited us to have some supper with him. We talked with his father about this and that.

Mr. Morimoto

Mr. Morimoto was a retired farmer when he was evacuated. His son was doing most of the field work. Here, he is not eligible for clothing grant because he is not quite 65, but he is not working. He believes that it is not worthwhile working here. He is one of the quieter men in our block. His views are very broadminded. For instance, he was in favor of the theater project, to which his son even objected. His interest in Haiku (Japanese poem), in miniature gardening, and also painting give him something to do besides just worrying about the present condition of the Japanese people.

But his views on the evacuation are still different from those of most Niseis. He believes, for instance, that the government has the responsibility of treating Japanese in the project on an equal term with soldiers. He believes that even if we are not paid we should be fed, clothed and given the same amount of allowance as the buck private in the Army. He is insistent on this point and said that he didn't blame the farmers for not working on the farm here because they were being paid only a few cents an hour.

Mr. M. seems to place much trust in the good reports concerning Japan's strength in the war. He believes that after the war Japan is going to be in a position to be able to offer jobs to Japanese who will return to Japan. He said that the Japanese government had offered as much as \$3,000 per person.

All of us also talked about how poorly the Allies were doing in this war. For example, the United States on Solomon Islands. It seems that the United States is losing pretty badly. I don't believe like some Isseis, however, that the Japanese

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are winning without any loss at all.

Youth Organization

George has become enthusiastic about organizing the young people in this block. He wants to have a social of some sort this Sunday. I told him that there would have to be a meeting first of leaders in the block and that there would have to be a plan worked out if the organization were going to run smoothly. He said we could get the leaders together sometime this week and have a social Sunday. I am glad there ^{are} people in favor of a youth organization. We are going to have to put it over if we are going to get any place. If we can organize the young people we ought to be able to swing the election in our favor the next time.

Tuesday, October 27, 1942

Diary

In the morning started to write the Buddhist section up. It was cold this morning and cloudy. Went to the post office to get a package. Turned out to be Brown's "Psychology and the Social Order" from Gundlach. Stopped at Dr. J's office and talked to him for a while about Brown and other things. He said that Brown's use of topological concepts was good for teaching purposes. I also asked him whether he believed in Freudian concepts. He said that theory was too poetic to suit him, but that it didn't mean that everything should be thrown out on that account. He didn't believe that a person's behavior as an adult was controlled wholly by his childhood experiences. We also talked of conflict situations. I told him about my diagnosis of the Nisei world and he didn't seem to object to it very much.

In the afternoon beat George at a game of go and then took a nap. Then read out of Adler. Took care of election of the Planning Board representative. Fumi came in the evening and asked me to attend the meeting of the incorporators

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with Sumio to take notes because she would not be able to attend the same meeting. The Creative Writers were meeting tonight, but I consented to go for her.

Block 25 Planning Board Election

The election was carried on in the mess hall. One hundred and twenty-two out of a possible 150 odd persons voted. Men kept asking for ballots for their mother, wife, or other members of the family, so Tom was letting them have the ballots. It's not exactly right, but we let it go at that. When we counted the votes right afterwards, the result was:

| | |
|----------|----|
| Morimoto | 25 |
| Nakamura | 41 |
| Nishida | 0 |
| Tanabe | 22 |
| Ueda | 34 |

Although Mr. Nakamura didn't have a majority vote, we decided that it would not be necessary to have another election. It was strange that Mr. Nishida did not receive any votes at all. Someone said that he had gone around telling people that he was declining the nomination. Mr. Morimoto made a pretty good showing, considering the fact that he doesn't know so many of the people in the block.

Creative Writers

Ruby bought doughnuts and made ^{potato}chips for the creative writers this evening. I was not present because I had to go to another meeting. There were only about ten present. There was enough work to criticize it seems. When I came in about ten, they were sitting around talking. They stayed till eleven. George says that the members seem to be losing interest, except Art and Riley.

Wednesday, October 28, 1942

Nisei Co-op General Assembly

Meeting opened by Fumi at 8:45. Nisei called together separately to discuss the by-laws. The profit and loss statement should be handled carefully because Mr. Smith doesn't want the people to get hold of one of these statements

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and start all sorts of rumors about them. (The profit and loss statement is discussed with JS as chairman.) The people want to know why Mr. Smith doesn't want the statement published. (Thirty-three people are here.)

Fumi: Do you want the auditing of the book to be done by Japanese or by outsiders. (Fumi feels that it's better to have outsiders because that Japanese will be under pressure.)

Vote of Confidence

The representatives should go back to the block to get a vote of confidence. I don't think it's necessary to have the by-laws approved. Talk about the by-laws in an informal way. Then as for a vote of confidence on the organization as it has been presented to date. I want this vote of confidence because the by-laws have to be filed because we can start on the membership drive. The by-laws will be accepted later.

Caucasian Members

The principle of the co-op is nondiscrimination. The Caucasians should be accorded as much right as the Japanese have.

(Three members of the By-Laws Committee take over the . The by-laws are taken up article by article.)

Membership Fee:

Najima: I thought some of the blocks were in favor of 25 cents or 50 cents.

Chairman: The figure was arbitrary; there will also be the expense of the membership drive which must be taken care of.

Fumi: We will be able to drive a better bargain on the market.

Najima: I think a dollar is too expensive.

Fumi: In the incorporation paper it says a dollar.

Ken: What is a certificate of interest.

Fumi: Include it in the by-laws but don't encourage it?

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Najima: I move that conditional membership be included.

The motion is passed.

Chairman: The book value is the asset minus the liabilities. It is larger than the general reserve fund.

JS: I believe the members should be allowed to take his share of profit out when he leaves because it will encourage members to take out membership.

X: People have received the impression that they are going to receive \$2 as soon as they become members. (This is wrong, of course.)

(Time out for tea and refreshments.)

X: Some people in our block thought that the educational fund was unnecessary. (Fumi has the answer pat.)

Article III, Section 6-B.

None in favor of present scheme.

None in favor of alternative 1.

Majority in favor of alternative 2.

Najima: Why the 10 per cent reserve.

Fumi: It's a California law and the exact amount is going to be left up to the board of directors.

JS: Is the reserve sufficient?

Fumi: This will be discussed with the Isseis too.

Najima: Section 9 should have a quorum.

Fumi: This is usually done by balloting. We shall change the wording to two thirds of the votes cast of the members present.

Article VI, Section 3

"Second Saturday" changed to "Last Saturday."

Correction: Article VII, Section 3: A recall of a representative may be initiated at the request of 10 per cent of the block members.

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Article VII, Section 9-D

Correction: As provided by these by-laws.

Najima: How about it if a representative leaves for the sugar beets.

Fumi: It's been taken care of by the Committee on Committees work.

Article VIII, Section 7. One vote represents one vote representing that district, but it will represent the size of the membership in this block.

Article XI, Section 1. Changes to be made.

Section 2. Membership committee.

Section 3. Auditing committee.

Section 5. Committee on Committee.

Patronage Dividend

In our ward they did not see the necessity of this because the goods are going to be sold as low as possible.

Elberson: The capital structure is important in buying from the wholesale. The markup is important in helping the capital structure. The talk of selling at cost is becoming less and less and the emphasis on having a good capital structure is becoming more important.

Caucasian members

1. The same rights.
2. Two representatives to the general assembly.
3. The Caucasian members may elect a member to each committee if they so choose.

Najima: Aren't you segregating the Caucasians as a group. How about making them the 8th ward. I move that we adopt article 12 as amended.

All in favor. (Unanimous.)

Diary

Finished the development section of the Buddhist Church in the morning.

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Went down to the C.O. office to hand in my shorthand notes of last night's meeting. Fumi got Mike to type the thing up. Mike was embarrassed, I'm afraid, by the task, but I refused to read the notes to her.

In the afternoon finished glancing through Adler. Mrs. Yoshida brought Menninger's, "The Human Mind" home from the library for me and I started to read that. It's good because it's written for the layman. Went to the C.O. office and found that Mike had finished typing the notes. She read her copy as I watched the shorthand notes. She hadn't made so many errors. Minni, however, seems to be more sure of her shorthand forms though.

Stopped at the Social Welfare office and asked Tom for the typewriter ribbon that he promised to bring me. One Kibei fellow there was talking about Niseis being drafted for the Army. Spoke to Mr. Obayashi who said that he liked his work because it wasn't routine work. He was given some of the family cases to take over. He also said that he would be interested in attending my course on psychology. Went to see if Mabel T. was home to ask her to go to the dance Friday because I had gotten the last two bids yesterday at the last moment. She wasn't home, however, because she was now working in the mess hall. Her sister said that she wanted to learn sewing and therefore changed her job. I'm afraid that most girls that are going to the dances have been asked already but I thought that it would not hurt to ask. I want to ask Fusako M. if Mabel is not available, but I don't know where she lives. On the way home took the typewriter ribbon to Kazuko. As she wasn't home from the office yet, I left the ribbon with her father.

In the evening had to attend a meeting of the general assembly of Nisei representatives. Fumi called on me to chair the meeting to discuss the financial statement. She felt that the Nisei incorporators were not able to handle it, I suppose. Anyway, most of them didn't turn up till late. Kiyono was sitting next to me, but came to sit by me in order to look on my copy of the by-laws. I think

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H. must have felt envious.

Nisei to be Drafted

The talk of Niseis being drafted came up in several different places today. A Kibei fellow was mentioning it in the Social Welfare department. It also came up at the dinner table. George said that someone had told him that Nisei were going to be drafted. Toby said that before the war she felt as though she should be loyal to America and fight for her. She said that if she were a boy she would have wanted to go to war. But since we have been treated in this manner, she feels that a great many people are not going to like the idea of being drafted. She doubted that very many people would volunteer even if Niseis were allowed to join the Army. I said that she was mistaken because the treatment of soldiers was relatively good.

The topic came up after the co-op meeting, too. Harno felt that we were to be drafted. He said that we would be drafted sooner or later. Elberson joked that someone would have to win the war.

Thursday, October 29, 1942

Issei Co-op Assembly

The Isseis are here earlier than the Niseis. By 7:30 thirty odd persons are present. By 7:40 thirty-eight Isseis are here and a few Niseis. Mr. Ikeda is here too.

The meeting is opened at 7:45 by Mr. Sugimoto who is the chairman of the By-laws Committee and who is acting as the chairman tonight.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the by-laws. At the same time the financial statement of the community enterprise is going to be introduced tonight.

JS: Is acting as the English secretary, while Mr. Ikeda is acting as the Japanese secretary.

The By-laws Committee members are **introduced**.

The roll is called by Koso. Those absent are:

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| | | | |
|---------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------|
| Yuasa | Hashimoto | Yokoyama Sato (50) | Okano |
| Nakamura (18) | Hattori | Inouye | Tsukahira |
| Ninomiya | Sato | Otsubo | Yamato |
| Shirai | Dairiki | Nitta | Nimura |
| Miyakawa | Yamasaki | Kato | Seiki |

As each person is introduced they get up and make a respectful bow.

Koso: There will be no entertainment because the recreation department is busy, but we will have tea. I want to devote the first part of the meeting to some other discussion before proceeding with the by-laws. We have gotten the financial statement, but it is the desire that these statements don't circulate around the block, although it's all right to explain it to the people of the block, I shall ask Mr. Kuramoto, a member of the board of directors, to explain the financial statement.

Kuramoto: I hope you will ask questions ^{after}/I finish. (He just reads the items without explaining anything at all. He explains that the canteen is receiving 5 per cent profit for mail orders taken through the canteen. Also special envelopes are available. He urges people to take advantage of this in order not to lose the benefit of the 5 per cent profit. It's interesting to note that he lays the emphasis on the profit angle. He explains the reserve for inventory quite satisfactorily. He explains that Mr. Smith said that he would **have** no trouble in selling the movie projector. He explains the lumber for the theater project. "Mr. Smith couldn't make an open contract and only made a contract by word of mouth. The WRA will probably take the lumber over. It seems that both the projector and the lumber will be settled satisfactorily.")

As I can't answer the questions by myself, I shall ask the help of other people.

~~Ikeda~~: The discount is only \$829. Are they getting the discount? Even if it is only 1 per cent there should be at least \$3,000.

Kuramoto: When they first began the business they started without any

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capital. I don't know when they started to get this discount.

Koso: I think the incorporators and others from the ward should go to inspect the store and speak to the manager of the store. We have such a plan right now.

Ikeda: We asked Mr. Smith how he started the business. We learned that he was getting discount from the very beginning.

Incorporators: I think only certain bills are entitled to discount.

Ikeda: I heard that Sears is giving a discount. I don't think you can tell me that. What are the general expenses?

Incorporator: It is mostly paper bags and twine and the like.

Ikeda: What is freight and drayage.

Kuramoto: It's the expense up till the time the goods are brought to the warehouse.

Ikeda: What's the fixture and improvement.

Kuramoto: There five stores.

Ueda: Isn't the amount of the reimbursements to WRA too big, isn't it?
I think the salary is too large.

The last time the profit was \$3,600. It means that in two months they made a lot of profit. What is the markup.

Roy: The service has increased the income and hence the profit.

Fumi: The average markup is 15 per cent at present because the profit on the soda pop is 40 per cent.

Koso: It's going to take too much time if we spend more time on the financial statement so we shall leave the discussion at this.

We should not confuse the financial status of the canteen and the building up of the co-op. Unless we build up the co-op we have no right to investigate the canteen books. We intend to call in an auditor in order to have the books examined.

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At Manzanar they called in an expert auditor and got a good financial statement made up. They recommend this system of bookkeeping to us. There is talk of doing this sort of thing right here. We would like to have this plan approved. It costs Manzanar \$200. It's only a small amount. The board of directors can demand of Mr. Smith to call in such an auditor. What do you all think of it.

X: I think it is very necessary. I hear that Mr. Smith is a yarite (go-getter) and to be suspected. It's good to have a third party come in and examine the books.

The majority is in favor of having this auditor. There is no opposition.

Koso: We are going to inspect the store. We thought of inviting the public, but if we do that we will get people who agitate (yajiteki) and will slow up the procedure.

Incorporator: How about dividing up the group to go to different canteens.

This idea is taken up.

Koso: The incorporators are going to the warehouse on Monday with one person from the ward.

X: What's the use of looking at the stock. (Several people voice this opinion. The meeting has disorganized a little. People are talking all over the room.)

Koso: How about getting those to go who want to go. Then send in the names of those who want to go inspect the canteen.

Next we are going to take up the adoption of the by-laws. I would like to have you take a vote of confidence after going back to the block. It will take too long to get the by-laws approved. We want the representative to adopt the by-laws. We have to file these by-laws right away in order to start the membership drive. I would like to have you adopt the by-laws at the next ward meeting. Even if it is

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adopted it isn't going to be final. It can still be amended. The vote of confidence is also to have the right to vote in the board of directors. The vote of confidence is to be taken for:

1. To adopt the by-laws.
2. To elect the board of directors.

Matsumoto: Does it mean that there is no need to discuss the by-laws with the block people.

Koso: It's best to discuss only the main points as given in the outline.

There are some people who want to join the co-op right now even. This is especially true of people from Pinedale. If we sign them up right now as volunteer members it would help the organization of the co-op.

X: I think it's best not to go out and recruit membership right now. It's duplication of effort.

XI: How about asking them at the next meeting when we have to report the result of the meeting tonight.

Koso: If there are no objections we shall decide in that way.

To take care of the membership drive, the Committee on Committees recommends that the two representatives point one person to help them in the block.

I want you to recognize that Caucasians are a part of the co-op. A good part of the co-op is that there is no racial discrimination. The WRA might have said that Japanese are a lot of trouble. But we should try not to shove the Caucasians aside. We should give them equal right. We may have to have Caucasians on the committee.

The educational work of the co-op is important. I want to keep this in mind. The office/^{work}is included in the education of the co-op.

One more thing. It is important to carry on the business in a safe manner.

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We should take a safe road in handling the store.

Chairman: Discussion will be held on the by-laws. We spent a month making the by-laws. We feared that we would not be able to make anything to satisfy all altogether. But Mr. Elberson, Mr. Takemoto, and Miss Sakamoto helped us. Miss Sakamoto especially helped us in making the by-laws. We lack the knowledge and it can't be very good. Please criticize it as much as you please. The Japanese translation is poor because it was done by several persons. Shall we do it with the English copy?

X: No, let's use the Japanese translation because we are Issais.

X: We won't be able to explain things in the block if you go too fast. How about including farming and poultry raising.

Koso: This is a consumers' co-op and not a producers' co-op.

X: Why does it have the word manufacturing?

Koso: It means manufacturing for internal consumption. But goods cannot be sent outside to be sold.

X: But are some of the other projects doing it?

Koso: They can't do it. The business section is written up to be able to do anything within its power when the co-op desires to do so.

Ikeda: I think it's better to take it paragraph by paragraph.

X: I think it's too much trouble in keeping books. (Speaking of conditional membership.)

Chairman: Then we shall stand against accepting conditional membership.

II, 6-B: (There's some discussion on this. They seem to be having a hard time soaking the alternatives in. They have to look at both the English and Japanese section. They discuss the translation of the word "kai.")

Ikeda: I'm in favor of B.

Chairman: Then shall we accept the second alternatives. (Refund of member-

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ship interest on leaving project.)

11-7

Ward V X: (His name is Tonomura. Acts like a spoiled child.) Since we are not going to stay here very long why not have one year changed to one month.

X: What would **happen** if one partner of a couple died.

Chairman: The Board of Directors will make the proper decision.

1V-1-A: The Niseis were in favor of 50 per cent. (There is some discussion on this. Mr. Ikeda thought that the share included the present profit of \$15,000.)

Chairman: Can't we trust the board of directors?

X: Let's leave it as it is.

1V-1-C. Patronage refund.

Chairman: **There** will be a little refund, but not very much.

X: Isn't it trouble to keep records.

Chairman: It's going to be too much trouble, it seems to me even if they use script.

Ikeda: The **script** is going to take a lot of money and we are going to have to pay some people. But since it's an important part of the co-op, let's leave it in and then work it out some other way.

Donao: Why not make the prices cheaper and have no profit at all.

Chairman: I think that this is the difficult part of the by-laws.

X: Use of the script will also protect the co-op.

X: Young kids are going to have difficulty in using the right amount of script.

Fumi: I think we both don't know enough about script to talk about it. I think the co-op is the best way to prepare you for going outside. If you didn't have a co-op then you wouldn't even be fighting for the profits right now. (She makes an emotional appeal on behalf of herself and Mr. Elberson. This is the life of the co-op for which she is fighting. These men are just thinking about the

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amount of profit involved. They don't give a darn about the real worth of the co-op. Fumi was really on the verge of tears. Three months of hard work would have gone to waste if patronage dividends were taken out.)

X: It's going to be a problem when kids go out with the script book. (This whole thing has turned into a grumble.)

Koso: Let's leave this up to the committee. It can be changed later. (Koso has learned how to handle difficulties.)

X: How about distributing the profit evenly.

Koso: How about leaving it up to the board of directors.

Donao: I think it's best to leave it up to the committee.

Chairman: I'm doubtful about this section too.

Donao: We are going to get stuck on this section back in the block.

Ward V X: You rush the business tonight. It's all right if you take the responsibility for our not being able to explain the matter to the block.

The chairman is trying to railroad the things through. I spent all day in reading these by-laws. I think the chairman should go more slowly. (Koso reads the corrections to be made on the English copy. The group feels that they will not be able to finish the discussion on the by-laws in one night.)

Chairman: Shall we use the English copy?

Komatsu: Let's use the Japanese copy. Japanese should be understood by everyone.

Ward V: This thing is full of mistakes. I can't ask the questions because he speeds the thing up too much.

Komatsu: There are some people who do not understand the English copy.

X: Let's have another meeting to discuss this. (It is already 11 o'clock.)

(There's a lot of rankling at the end. It's decided that another meeting will be held tomorrow night. The fellow from Ward V is very quarrelsome.)

X: Can't we meet in the afternoon?

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Koso: We are not excused from work.

How about starting from 7:00 P.M. Please come to 1608 first.

I helped to clean up the place afterwards, taking over the task of washing the dishes. Some of the leaders stayed behind to help too.

Diary

In the morning worked on the Buddhist Church section. Went to see Mabel T. about the dance Saturday night. She was washing her clothes in the laundry room with Sue. I asked her whether someone had asked her already and whether she would like to go with me. She hesitated for a while and I thought that she had already been asked. No, she said, she hadn't been asked. Then would she like to go. After some pause she said that she had never been to a masquerade dance and would like to go. She and Sue told me how they were enjoying the ouija board.

In the afternoon read from Menninger. He relies on Freud quite a bit. In the evening went to the Issei co-op general assembly. Came home about 11:30.

Friday, October 30, 1942

Issei Co-op Assembly

The meeting is opened by Mr. Sugimoto at 7:40. He apologized for the fact that he had to rush the discussion last night. He says that there are certain parts in the by-laws which may not be exactly suitable to the colonists, but that some parts have been left in because they are important co-op principles. If they are not too much bother, he desired to have them left in the by-laws. He said that Mr. Elberson has been trying hard to organize the co-op here. This co-op is also meant to be an education for the Japanese in case they are desirous of setting up a co-op on the outside. The chairman decides to start from the beginning again to ask for questions.

Matsumoto: I would like to know as much as possible about the statement and would like to have the by-laws finished tonight.

JS and Mr. Ikeda were asked to be secretaries.

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Tonomura: (He starts to speak in English but others tell him to speak in Japanese.) I would like to have the business section discussed. What does marketing mean.

Koso: It means on the inside only.

Tonomura: But wasn't the referendum against the theater? Why is the word theater in this paragraph.

Koso: It's in case we want to have a theater later.

Tonomura: Does it mean that we could not do anything not listed in this paragraph.

Koso: Not exactly.

Tonomura: Then can't we leave the word out? (He is awfully stubborn. The chairman explains that the board of directors has the final say.)

Komatsu: Are you going to charge \$100? How about the profit.

Tonomura: Why have the word incorporators in the membership clause.

Ikeda: You can't have an organization without incorporators. (Everybody is irritated with the fellow already.)

(The chairman is going slowly. Mr. Matsumoto and others say that "It's all right, we understand" and try to get him to go faster.)

(Twenty-four representatives and Mr. Ikeda are here.)

Article III-10. "Any revolving fund certificate or" is taken out.

Patronage Refund

Komatsu: Would it be against the law not to pay this patronage refund.

Koso: Last night it was decided that this matter would be left up to the board of directors. We could sell things exactly at cost. It is sound business policy to have a margin. It is not against the law. Only it is against the spirit of the co-op. In Japan they require it. (This important matter is left at just this.)

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V-3 Reserve Account. Leave out the last sentence beginning "The Board of directors which prescribe, etc."

V-10-b. Dissolution. Ikeda: Is the co-op allowed to spend its money in this way.

Fumi: I had a lawyer draw this section up. If there is objection from the WRA we shall have to take this section out.

Tonomura: In our ward there was talk about dividing the remaining profit among the members only.

Koso: It's not fair if only the few remaining members divide the remaining profit. It is better to use it for the benefit of the Japanese people. I shall ask the lawyer again.

VII-2 Correction: "Election of representatives shall be held during the months of January and July of each year."

VII-8. Quorum. Changed to "two thirds of the members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business."

VII-3 "Notice of regular assemblies shall be given in writing to each representative at least 5 days before such assemblies are to be held" was added to the Japanese translation.

X-9 Take out from the second line "The members and of."

Koso: The management committee advises the management of the store.

Fumi: It will probably be one from each ward. Its main function will be to look after the merchandise. It will look after the interest of the members in this respect. If certain goods are of poor quality, then it will investigate such matters. It would like to have your approval on this committee.

Ikeda: That seems all right.

Matsumoto: It's all right.

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The management committee will consist of one member from each ward elected one from each ward by the representatives of his ward. The Committee on Committees will make the nominations for the members to be elected for the management committee. Its duty is to recommend change in policy in the management of the store to the board of directors.

Matsumoto: Isn't it necessary to replace members who are serving on committees? (He thinks that his work on the committee is important.)

X: I thought to be all right after we get settled.

Article XII Administrative Staff.

Koso: As you know Caucasians also buy things at the store and are going to become members of the co-op. The principle of the co-op is to make no discrimination. (This is discussed. There is no opposition to this article.)

X: What happens when a board of director member moves out of the ward.

Koso: He ceases to be a member of the board of directors because he is responsible to the ward.

Ikeda: If we are able I would like to have the co-op contribute money to entertainment clubs, etc.

X: I think we should have the WRA furnish such funds.

Ikeda: I hear that the WRA says that it hasn't a cent for such funds.

Fumi: Any amount of contribution is possible if the members are in favor of it and suggest it to the Board of Directors.

X: Who does the hiring and firing of workers.

The store manager does the hiring and the Employee Relation Committee makes recommendations.

Ikeda: Among incorporators there are some who have their assets frozen, like Mr. Nishimi. (This was later changed.)

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Nishimi: It was found to be all right as long as such persons did not control the organization.

Chairman: How about giving a representative the power to sit in for an absolute board of director member. He will have the power to speak at such meetings but not to vote.

X: They should have a written permission to replace an absent member. (This suggestion is generally accepted.)

X: What happens if a canteen worker is hurt while working?

Koso: I believe that they are going to be treated the same as other work corps members. I'll look this up.

Fumi: The canteen workers are not receiving clothes from the WRA. They may have received some clothes, but it may be charged to the Community Enterprise.

Koso: There was talk that canteen workers received script two times.

Sumio said that nothing like that has happened. The canteen workers' names are taken out from the list of workers who are going to receive clothing.

(It's 10:45 and a few people are becoming impatient.)

Koso: We want a block meeting to be held by Tuesday. We want you to get a vote of confidence for two purposes. To adopt and to file the by-laws to be able to audit the books and also to take membership fees and to elect the board of directors.

We can't expect the people to know who would make good board of director members or what the by-laws are like.

At the ward meeting on Thursday I would like to have these by-laws adopted. It is possible that in some blocks representatives will not be able to get a vote of confidence. In such cases we cannot stop the progress of the organization. We would also like to have you choose the board of directors.

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X: How shall we report on the financial statement?

Koso: I would like to have the by-laws taken up first in the blocks.

It was decided that the canteen tour on Tuesday would not be held.

X: Why shouldn't the statement get out of our hand when we are allowed to report this matter to the block.

Fumi: Mr. Smith said that the statement was only for the incorporators.

(The meeting closed at 11:00 P.M.)

Analysis

The meeting went along very smoothly tonight. There was no feeling of the chairman trying to rush the matter through, and consequently the progress toward the end was quite rapid without anyone being particularly dissatisfied. Mr. Ikeda's suggestion of using the profit of the co-op for community purposes is very interesting. In spite of the fact that Japanese are known to be generally lacking in cooperation, their desire to think of the benefit of the community first is very great. It is for that reason that so many of the representatives are against having patronage dividends.

Diary

In the morning worked 3 hours on the Buddhist Church section. Then went to the post office after two books. Stopped in at the Administration Building but Dr. Jacoby was out. Spoke to May Sato who is now working on higher education. Went down to the Records office to find out whether I could get my pay for August, but learned that the office hadn't been paid yet.

Read out of Menninger in the afternoon. The more I read of him the more I find that he relies on Freud a very great deal. His section on defense mechanisms is not so good. In the evening went to the meeting of the Issei Co-op representatives. I won't sleep till past 12 again tonight.

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Saturday, October 31, 1942

Diary

Today the project took a day off to celebrate Harvest Festival. These words had very little meaning because work on the farm had not gone along smoothly. Even at present the school children are working out on the farm because men don't work hard enough and women are not allowed by the men to work on the field with them. The meaning of the harvest festival was probably limited to the festivities.

In the morning wrote up the minutes of the meeting last night and took them down to Fumi. She was working in a cold office all by herself, so I made myself useful and made her a fire. She said that she was going to work all day today to cut two stencils in order to prepare for next week. She's really working hard trying to get the co-op to run smoothly. I then went to Kazukos' place to take her some paper, but she was out working in spite of the fact that it was a holiday. Her mother asked me to come again.

Watched the parade come by. It wasn't as good as the Labor Day parade as no trucks were available. The Isseis probably put out the best costumes. When the Charter Day procession came I felt ashamed of myself for not having helped when I was asked. But between feeling silly being in the parade and feeling ashamed of myself, I didn't have much choice. I only hope that I didn't put myself in wrong with some of the members because I was not cooperative. The Cal entry was hastily prepared and not a very good one.

In the afternoon went around to peek into some of the concessions. Bumped into Ruby Kawasaki who insisted on coming along with me. We went to the concert because May was singing. I had to help go after the piano. Fumiko Yabe didn't sing because she had a cold, but later I saw her dancing away at the dance hall. The program was very good. May sang beautifully, even if I say so myself. I don't see why they put Yabe and May on the same program in the first place.

Went around with Ruby to see some of the concessions. We stood in line for

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about 20 minutes in order to get some small hamburgers for a dime. We walked around to see the concessions. I threw pennies into dishes and put one each in the 15 and 10 cent dishes and made 8 cents before the attendant stepped on the board and spilled all of the dishes. They weren't making very much money anyway and they decided to quit. Played Bingo several times but didn't win any prizes.

Took Ruby to the dance hall to see what it was like. One little fellow was trying to drum up trade by the door of No. 2620. They had raised the admission fee from 5 cents to 10 cents because they weren't getting nearly enough people to come in. We went in and sat down and watched for some time. Some of the girls from the music department, including Fumiko Yabe, were dancing away. There were only about 10 couples in all dancing. Music was furnished by records at first and then later by a three-piece orchestra. (Tak Ota's.) The boys weren't dressed up at all and the girls not too much. The persons present were for the most part around eighteen and pretty young on the whole. There was no decoration in the hall. Everything was very drab. There was considerable amount of jitterbugging going on and Ruby thought that it looked rather silly. I danced several times with Ruby and then went out.

I saw Ruby home and then took another look around the booths. Stopped at the Bingo stand to try for a card table at 10 cents per card but didn't win it. Came home and took a shower and got ready to go to the meeting of the Student Relocation Council.

Student Relocation Council

Stopped in at Mabel's place to tell her that I would be coming around to her place at 8 or 8:30. A small group of about seven students were gathered to get some of the people from the Student Relocation office in San Francisco. We had to serve ourselves, but the meal wasn't too bad. I sat at the same table with Tom and we made efforts to talk about something. After eating and finishing the

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dinner off with ice cream, we went to 1608 where we sat around in the Social Welfare office and discussed some of the problems. I wanted to find out the schools for which scholarships were available, but they didn't seem to want to tell me. I asked about Kibeis, too, and learned that they were not allowed to go out yet. Some facts about student relocation that I jotted down were:

2,300 questionnaires on hand.

340 travel permits asked for.

300 arrived in school.

500 accepted in schools.

285 schools on the accepted list.

According to the WRA policy all groups are supposed to be able to go out either to work or as students, but it seems that we are still operating under the old system whereby Isseis and Kibeis cannot go out as students. It was interesting to learn that the Council's former definition of a Kibei was a person who had been in Japan 3 years after the sixteenth birthday.

I asked why some Kibeis had gotten out to school and they seemed to think it might have been those people who didn't hand in questionnaires, but were accepted by schools on their own and the Council took steps to secure travel permits for them. The questionnaires, by the way, are not sent either to the Army or the FBI.

The financial situation wasn't too bad.

There were 2,000 students with \$1,000 and over

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|---|---|-----|---|---|------------------|
| " | " | 130 | " | " | \$ 500 - \$1,000 |
| " | " | 100 | " | " | \$ 400 - \$ 500 |
| " | " | 500 | " | " | \$ 400 or less |
| " | " | 400 | " | " | less than \$200 |

Travel money is not available from the WRA. Usually scholarships of over \$500 are not given. They feel that most students would feel better if they earned part of their

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expenses by working part time. The living expenses at most colleges run from about \$450 to \$800, the average around \$750. They said that there were opportunities in small colleges for some of which there were scholarships available.

I was fidgeting because it was getting on toward after 8:30 and I knew that I was keeping Mabel waiting. When I finally left the group it was already 8:45 and I had to hurry to Mabel's place.

Masquerade Dance

Mabel and I walked out to No. 7218. Mabel had made a mask for me. She had really gotten Sue to make it for her. We met Art by the door fully dressed up as a Chinese soldier. Too bad he didn't get any prize for all of his troubles. We had to crawl through a passage in order to get into the hall. I was charged an extra nickle because I didn't have a costume on. The hall was dark, but profusely decorated with crepe paper and owls, bats, witches, and a couple of skeletons. The hall was filled, but not too crowded. Someone said that 100 tickets had been sold for each hall. Refreshments were served in between and an entertainment was held. There were five program numbers, but Mabel and I didn't bother to make use of them. We only exchanged one dance officially with Jobo and Grace Asai. The rest of the evening we exchanged partners with George and Ruby, Ted and Lucille. George had intended to ask Francis S. when he met her a few days before the dance, but he decided that he should ask Asako. The latter was asked the evening before, I believe it was, and she refused to go. I guess he didn't ask her in the right way. I enjoyed dancing with Mabel and we got along wonderfully. Nothing to worry about but just kept time to the music. Mabel is good because she doesn't put on any sort of airs and is herself most of the time. It was past twelve when the dance was over.

Sunday, November 1, 1942

Diary

We didn't have to get up till 8 o'clock, but even then we were the last