

*Hoshiyama, F.*THE ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF OF TOPAZ

To date (October 1, 1942) the Topaz Administrative staff is comprised of Project Director, Assistant Director and twelve (12) Division Chiefs with sixteen (16) Section Heads under the various Divisions with another to be added on the 11th of October when the Head of the Community Activities Section arrives for duty.

The following is the list of offices and their titles for the Topaz Administrative staff.    /

Project Director	Mr. Charles F. Ernst
Assistant Project Director	Mr. James F. Hughes
Chief, Public Works Div.	Mr. Lee J. Noftzger
Head, Irrigation and Conservation Section	Mr. Henry R. Watson
Head, Construction Section	Mr. Mulford M. Hutchinson
Chief, Agricultural Division	Mr. Roscoe Bell
Head, Agr. Production Sect.	Mr. William C. Farrell
Chief, Community Services Dev.	Mr. Lorne W. Bell
Head, Education Section	Dr. John C. Carlisle
Head, Community Welfare Section	Mr. George Lafabreque
*Head, Community Activities Section	Miss E. Minton
Chief, Internal Security	Mr. Ralph B. Fridley
Chief, Community Enterprises	Mr. Walter W. Hondricks
Chief, Project Reports Div.	Mr. Irvin Hull
Chief, Fire Protection Div.	Mr. Samuel V. Owen
Chief, Administrative Div.	Mr. Gilbert L. Niesse
Head, Procurement Section	Mr. William Hunter
<del>Ex-Head</del> Head, Property Control & Warehouse Section	Mr. K. W. Scoopmire
Head, Budget & Finance Section	Mr. Leon Burnham <i>Reed</i>
Head, Office Services Section (mailes and files)	Mr. Adrian H. Altvater

Chief, Employment and Housing Div.	Mr. Claude C. Cornwall
Head, Quarters Section	Mr. Arthur Eaton
Head, Placement Section	Mr. James M. Jennings
Head, Occupational Coding and Records Section	(Unnamed)
Chief, Transportation & Supply Div.	Mr. Roy Potter
Head, Motor Pool Section	Mr. Carl Rogers
Head, Mess Management Section	Mr. Brandon Watson
Chief, Maintenance & Operations Div.	Mr. Paul H. Baker
Head, Garage Section	Mr. Kenley Taylor
Head, Bldgs. & Grounds Maintenance & Repair Section	Mr. Lawrence B. Taylor
Chief, Medical Officer	Dr. W. S. Ramsey

Mr. Dillon S. Myer dropped in to Topaz and stated that the bulk of the administrative work will necessarily have to be done by the resident evacuees. The government provides for a minimum of skeleton staff as administrators and therefore, there will be only a very few Caucasian staff members. These men will be selected so that they may lend guidance, leadership and provide training for the evacuee force in the various divisions and sections of the Topaz city life. As the above list shows, there are twelve Divisions under the Project, Director with a Head of Sections under the Divisions. Some of the Heads of Sections will be replaced by the resident individuals as they prove themselves capable.

It's a difficult thing to get the inside information on all the Caucasain administrative staff members in the short period of less than one month especially when one doesn't get the opportunity to work with them, but in order to give a mental idea of the quality of staff members we have and the type of attitude they manifest, The following paragraphs will be devoted to some factual information about few of the administrative staff officers. It may be psychologically beneficial to make this statement concerning the administrative staff at this time so that the reader can keep it in mind as he reads the following information. Nearly all of the residents who were asked what they thought of

our administration replied that they were well pleased with the personnel of the administration because of their humble attitude and their genuine interest in our welfare. They did not take the job just because it paid rather well, but because they had a social philosophy in which they believed that they can carry out with the Japanese evacuees, especially at this critical time of war and propaganda and artificial public opinions.

Mr. Charles F. Ernst, Project Director

A short sketch of our project director, Mr. C. F. Ernst follows: Charles F. Ernst, director of the Central Utah Relocation Project, now known as the Topaz Relocation Center or better still, City of Topaz, was born in Boston, Massachusetts. While a student at Harvard College, in 1907, he was a volunteer at South End House, a social settlement in Boston. It was there that he met Mrs. Ernst, and together they have been actively engaged in the general field of social service ever since that time either as staff or as Board member.

In September 1927, the Ernst family came to the Pacific Northwest and settled in Seattle, Washington. Ernst was then the manager of the Seattle branch of the Hood Rubber Company whose factory is in Watertown, Massachusetts.

By this time the family had grown to the extent of two sons. One, Charles, is now in Washington, D. C. in the Naval Reserve; and the other, David, is a post-graduate student at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy in Medford, Massachusetts.

Mr. Ernst became active in the whole problem of unemployment relief first in Seattle in 1931; then later with the State of Washington in 1933. For eight years he was the director of that department, serving with the then Governor Clarence D. Martin.

SKETCH OF PROJECT DIRECTOR, CHARLES F. ERNST

In 1941, he joined the staff of the American Public Welfare Association in Chicago; of which Association he had been the president for two years.

In June of 1941, Mr. Ernst joined the American Red Cross in Washington, D. C. as liaison for the National Office of the Red Cross to the Office of Civilian Defense under Dean Landis and to the Office of Defence Health and Welfare under Governor Paul McNutt.

The work with the Red Cross brought Ernst to the Pacific Area Office in San Francisco in February, 1942. In August, Mr. Ernst joined the War Relocation Authority and was assigned to the Central Utah Project, coming to Delta on September 1. This closes his brief sketch.

Mr. Ernst is a huge man with a very distinguished appearance and seems in perfect health. He is in his middle fifties, but he looks much younger and exerts tremendous energies as he carries on his duties.

As the project director, he has the responsibility of planning future programs. He has proven himself an excellent speaker and a very clear minded, kind, sincere person. Sometimes, it helps to see into the man by the type of things he expresses which he knows will be read by all the residents as well as committing himself to the people as well as to his superiors, the WRA directors. So, begging the reader's indulgence we shall present the Director's message to the residents of Topaz.

DIRECTOR, CHARLES F. ERNST'S MESSAGE TO EVACUEES

This Central Utah Relocation Project has been dedicated by the leader of the advance contingent, Rev. Taro Goto, to the Glory of God. In that spirit we welcome every man, woman and child who comes to help us fulfill through Divine Guidance whatever Destiny lies before us.

We are not the first to establish a collective home in this great hospitable State of Utah. We can obtain much encouragement from the success which has been gained in spite of hardships of every description by the early pioneers of this State.

You will find that the various agencies of the United States Government have been mindful both of your material needs and of those opportunities which you desire in the fields of religion, employment, education, health and recreation.

You will be shown every respect as befits the dignity and importance which belongs to every human being. You will in turn be expected to join your best efforts to those of your fellow residents in the common objective of developing our community to the greatest degree possible.

The adjustment will be many and difficult. With God's help and blessing we can have faith and hope for the future. /

--Charles F. Ernst  
given to press on Sept. 17, 1942 Project Director

C. F. Ernst, Project Director

For the first few weeks, Mr. Ernst held staff meetings and ironed out any difficulties, daily. Now that things are more settled and organized, he doesn't hold staff meetings daily, but he requests reports from each section under the 12 divisions and narrative reports on Thursdays from every branch of the administration.

Ernst

Mr. Ernst told group of us that he tried to get the best possible personnel with definite qualifications for each ~~job~~ respective job, but he really doesn't know the ability or the calibre of the men he hired as yet. Some came to him with highest recommendations and to those he has given freer reins of management.

Here's an interesting side light to the nature and sincerity of the man's character. He personally requested each one of his staff members to try to attend the Reception Assembly meetings at which time the newly arrived residents are given official greetings and welcome by the Project Director and top division heads. He asked the residents to arrange for the meeting as each new contingent arrives and he wanted to meet them. After working all day getting up early in the morning at Delta, driving to Topaz, a distance of 16 ~~and~~ miles, putting in a hard day's work, he stays until about 10:00 pm to greet the new arrivals. He does this for all the groups coming in and it sure gives the newly arrivals a big boost and respect for our director. He introduces his staff members, those who were able to make the evening meetings. His wife accompanies him to each one of those meetings and so do the wives of other men such as Lorne Bell, Roscoe Bell, Dr. Bane, Dr. Ramsey and few others. This writer was asked to chair these reception meetings so he was as each one of the meetings which were held, sometimes every night, sometimes every other night, and sometimes every three or four nights until all of the residents were at Topaz.

Charles F. Ernst:

Another interesting human interest story of Mr. Ernst took place one night when the contingent arrived in the evening and they had to sleep in unfinished barracks and roofless rooms. The group started to arrive around 6:30 pm and didn't all get in until 9:00 pm. From then they had to eat supper since they had only one cup of coffee for breakfast and nothing since. They had to find their baggages, their beddings, and then find their apartments which were full of dust, at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch thick on the floors in a new unfamiliar place.

We had planned on a reception meeting for those who arrived the day before and those who arrived that day, thinking they would all be here by the noon hour. The meeting was called off since all the people were at the Induction center waiting for the ~~people~~ <sup>in-coming people</sup> to arrive and the people who were just arriving couldn't attend the meeting since they had to eat and get their belongings and find their rooms.

Mr. Ernst and Mrs. Ernst went to the Dining Hall and talked with each family unit, groups, and to each dining hall table as they ate to say a few kind words and greeted them with apologies and some humorous remark to cheer them up. As the groups came in by bus loads, they would rush into the dining hall and eat. As each new busload came in, Mr. Ernst and Mrs. Ernst would make the rounds of the dining hall tables and greet them and speak to them. Rev. T. Goto and myself went around to introduce Mr. and Mrs. Ernst. He stayed until the very last group came in which was close to 9:40 pm. Then he asked to be excused since it was late and he was very tired. He also mentioned the fact that tomorrow would be a busy day. So, he left the dining hall and was going to his car. On his way to his car, he overheard an excited person speak about a boy who got hurt falling in a ditch. Just at that time, there were open ditches about three feet wide and four feet deep for the sewer pipes. He instantly

inquired as to the whereabouts of the boy and his condition. Not getting satisfactory replies, he left his wife and another lady waiting out in the dark outside and the cold, jumped into his machine with the other persons who knew about the accident and rushed off to the boy's home to see how ~~maxxxx~~ badly he was hurt. After about one hour, he came back and told me that the boy was more frightened than hurt, that he wasn't seriously hurt and that he had restored the boy to his mother after having medical treatment given at the hospital. It was the doctor's duty, not his to worry about it, but at that time, I thought to myself that the bigger and greater the man, the more humble and serviceable he is. My respect and admiration for Mr. Ernst jumped in geometric ratio~~x~~ when I saw what he did.

Many of the friends that I speak to about our director say that it's almost impossible to believe that Mr. Ernst can be sincere and constant as he first showed to be. It's too good to believe they tell me and they expect a change, but I am confident that what Mr. Ernst has manifested himself to be so far is his true self and that he will be steadfast and thorough in his attitude and sincerity.

Some of the comments regarding our administrative staff which one overhears in shower rooms, dining halls, and informal bull sessions are: "It won't be the administration's fault if this city does not make good". We're fortunate to have such an understanding administrators." "They are more tolerant and humble than we can ever be". "We hope we shall not lose Mr. Ernst like Gila lost Mr. Smith and Manzanar lost Mr. Nash." "It'll be our fault and we will have only ourselves to blame if we fail to develop the best center of all".

m A great deal of discussion was made on our director, Mr. Ernst for we feel that the director has a great deal of influence and authority and what he feels, what~~x~~ he desires, what~~x~~ he plans, what he dreams, will in a large measure mold the attitudes and type of

activities the other members of his staff will have towards the residents and also the cooperative attitude of the residents can be measured by their feelings toward the symbolic head of the project center.

Mr. James F. Hughes, Assistant Director

Mr. Hughes is a man in his forties, but he is a man who seems to be more like a business man than a social worker. He is a handsome man, tall and heavy (6 ft. 200 lbs). There is no verification of this statement, but as we understand it, he was one of the assistant directors of WPA on the Pacific Coast before coming here. Mr. Hughes has one of the toughest job of all the men in that he has the responsibility of seeing that the plans which Mr. Ernst programs is effectively and efficiently carried out. Mr. Hughes must see to the operation and maintenance of city life.

He is well liked by the residents, but no one gushes with eloquent phrases about him as they do for Mr. Ernst. Mr. Lorne Bell told us that Mr. Hughes has the welfare of the residents comforts and daily necessities so much at heart that he opposed Mr. Ernst, the director in his plan to house the administrative staff in block #2 since the houses for the administrators would not be built in time for occupancy this fall. Mr. Hughes insisted that the residents come first and since the residents did not have enough places to sleep in as the contractors were far behind schedule, he opposed to have the administration staff move into Block #2. He said that the residents should have first preference and the administrators could still sleep at Delta, 16 miles away. Mr. Ernst looked at the problem from another point of view it seems for he insisted that unless they give the Caucasian staff members place to stay in Topaz that they would quit and leave their jobs which would cause administrative trouble.

It seems that Mr. Hughes compromised with Mr. Ernst since the residents were housed outside of Block #2 somehow, and so today, we find the families of Administrative staff members living in Block #2. In other words, the administration live in the same barracks and eat the same foods as the evacuees. This is an interesting corollary to the humble attitude and the social philosophy of the administrators.

MR. LORNE BELL, Chief of Community Services Division

Mr. Lorne Bell comes to us from West Los Angeles, being in the YMCA work prior to this life. He is around 45 years old and he certainly has the 'push' which gets things done. The Community Services Division has one of the ticklish jobs in the whole project. Under it comes the following sections. Community Welfare, Community Government, Religion, Community Activities, Education, Library, Recreation in its broadest meaning.

He lives in Block #2 with his wife who is very charming and useful in our center. He just had one of his son get married and so he and his wife are alone here.

Mr. Bell seems a very capable man and he knows how to get things done. So far, as far as community life is concerned, his sections have taken the most active and pattern-setting part. Community Council has been started, Ministerial Alliance formed among ~~between~~ the Protestants, Catholics, Buddhists, Seventh Day Adventists and other religious groups, Recreation is being set up and the Education system is now having its pre-service training and will open on the 19th of Oct. and the pre-school nurseries have been started since Oct. 5th. Special meetings, Reception meetings, etc. were all under the Community Service, or Mr. Bell.

Mr. Lorne Bell

Mr. Lorne Bell attends all the Christian church services and seems vitally interested in the religious life of our center. Mr. Ernst also suggested that he would like to have breakfast prayer meetings. Many of the administrative staff members are very religious men and those who are on the staff from the State of Utah are Mormons so very religious also.

Mr. Bell is a forcing type of personality, but he is well liked. He likes to have things punctual and organized and he certainly plans his program very definitely.

MR. ROSCOE BELL, CHIEF OF AGRICULTURAL DIVISION

A tall 6 foot 2 young man with a very amiable personality is Mr. Roscoe Bell. He has four children, a very charming wife and one of the highest recommendation as an Agricultural man from California. He resided in Berkeley prior to his coming to Topaz. (Berkeley, California) The whole family is sincerely religious and he is one man who is soft-spoken, kind and sincere. It shows in his whole bearing and mannerisms.

Mr. Roscoe Bell is the chief of the Agricultural Division, and he has already started the machinery to get farmlands cultivated and programs outlined for the feeding of the center and of beautifying of the city with landscaping and ~~park~~ parks. He has a very sincere interest in the people and wants the people themselves to suggest, work up and plan for our future livelihood. He seems a very capable leader and is one of the best liked of the staff members.

MR. LEE J. NOFTZGER, CHIEF, Public Works Division

Rather a well set man with one bad eye which seems to look cross-eyed at you. Very flighty in nature according to other men who work under him. He has a large responsibility and so he is quite busy everyday. He is definitely not a diplomat for he demands action and things by yelling and swearing for them.

There was an incident in the second week in which a crew of evacuee workers were working on the garbage detail when Mr. Noftzger asked one of the truck driver a question as to where the truck was next going. The foreman, who was a Japanese evacuee, of the crew was on the truck and he answered the question instead of the truck driver and Mr. Noftzger got angry and swore using long string of profane words and walked off. Evidently, he was that type of person for later reports of him express the same thing about him.

Then and there the evacuees decided he didn't like the Japanese. However, underneath his rough exterior personality, there seems to be an understanding and interested heart for he seems to be making plans in which the evacuees will be highly considered such as putting Japanese in charge of different sections under him. My room mate, for instance, was asked to set up the laboratory for testing water and sanitation. There is an architect who graduated with honors from U. C., Berkeley, California with M.A. who works directly under Mr. Noftzger and he claims that Mr. Noftzger does not know his stuff at all, as far as technical knowledge is concerned.

Mr. Paul H. Baker--~~Head~~ Chief of Maintenance & Operations Divisions

I have no personal knowledge of Mr. Baker, but I was told that he came to Topaz from Manzanar. There was a serious strike there and he came out here since it involved his work groups. All the evacuee working for him claim him to be the best man in the center. They all like him and agree that he knows his stuff. It seems that there is some kind of a personal animosity between Mr. Baker and Mr. Noftzger for when Mr. Baker heard about the Garbage detail incident, he told the boys that he would take it up with Mr. Noftzger and have it cleared up. Many of the college graduates who were working for Mr. Noftzger leaves to take up job with Mr. Baker and there seems to be this competition for the trained workers, especially the engineers and lab. technicians.

Mr. Walter Hondricks--Chief, Community Enterprises

Young man of 30 odd years, married, son of a minister, very congenial personality, quiet, but commands respect and attention for his sincerity and genuineness which shines all through him. He is a good organizer and well liked by the administration people and the residents. He came from Washington State having number of years experience in Coops and have studied in Europe, primarily Sweden, and is one of the best qualified person to handle cooperatives in this country. Discussion on Coops will be handled under title Coops.

Mr. George Lafabregue--Head, Community Welfare

Coming to Topaz directly from Sacramento, graduate of U. C. Berkeley, California, Mr. Lafabregue is a man about five feet tall weighing about 130 lbs. He is full of energy, very efficient, capable and enthusiastic personality. Has one of the fairest and unselfish attitude with a very tolerant understanding of his job. Married and has a charming wife who is taller than he. They live in Block #2.

Mr. Arthur Eaton--Hedd, Housing Section

Mr. Eaton is a graduate of the University of California and he is a bachelor, most handsome person in the city and has a likeable and saleable personality. He is well liked, but little young for his tremendously responsible job and perhaps can be influenced by more matured minds more than he should be. He is doing his honest best and coming along rather well now. He arrived one week late which accounted for all the trouble at the Housing headquarters. He knew many of the Japanese in Berkeley and went to school with a great number of them. He is among friends here and he seems to like the Japanese people very much.

His job is to house the people, give them the necessary supplies such as Army spring cots, army blankets, comforters, broom, mop, fire bucket, stoves and etc. He is intelligent enough to get the best possible personnel for housing adjustment is one of the toughest job since families can't be placed like blocks into the apartments just because the Army planned to house so many in this room, 2 in another room, 4 in another room, 6 in another room. Mathematically, there is lots of room for everyone, but realistically and speaking in terms of human beings, one just can't chop up families like lumber and fit them according to plan. Family privacy seems to be the most serious of all the trouble.

Mr. Brandon Watson--Head, Mess Management Section

A rather heavy set man with average height, has appearance of a business executive, but not a likeable person. In the very first few days, there was a mess strike and the main object of the strike was not against wages or conditions of work, but because of the dislike for Mr. Watson. He is technically the chief steward, but he doesn't know how to handle the steward's job properly and yet is not willing to listen to suggestion.

He tells the evacuees to let him worry about the problems since he was hired by Uncle Sam to do the job and is not tolerant or open to suggestion. He has no regards ~~mf~~ for the individual personality of the evacuees. The chief cooks know that he cannot do the job properly so they got together and decided to walk out on him and did. It took a little mediation committee and Mr. Ernst to iron out the difficulty. Since then, there is a definite line of demarkation as to duties, and Mr. Watson can no longer come into the kitchens to tell the chief cook what to do. The chief cooks who are evacuees are their won boss in the kitchen.

Mr. James M. Jennings--Placement, Employment

1933 ~~Mr~~ University of California Graduate and special training and experience in social welfare work. Well liked, very sympathetic with individual problems and tries to be very serviceable. Has a huge job of trying to get enough workers for city employment and outside work to help defense efforts. Not enough capable personnel to handle the big job efficiently or adequately, but under the circumstances, he is considered to be doing a fairly good job.

There seems to be lots of complaint about the resident employees of the office, but he has been considered to be fair and open to suggestion. The resident employee who are working in the office helps their friends to get good jobs and favoritism and partiality has been accused of them.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Generally speaking, the administration is open to suggestion and shows a very sincere attitude towards the problems before us. There's no question of the fact that Mr. Ernst has a lot to do with this attitude, but from the sampling of the personalities of the staff members, you can easily see that many or most of them are very religious in their private lives and that they either had some contact with the Japanese or even worked and lived and went to school with them.

Before it is forgotten, Dr. John C. Carlisle is a Ph. D from University of California, was the assistant to the president at the Utah State Agriculture College. He will be the Superintendent of Schools, and his title is the Chief, of Education Section.

Dr. Laverne C. Bane is a Stanford Graduate student, taking his Adult Education degree at Stanford and he is a devout Methodist Church member. Dr. Carlisle is a very sincere and devout Mormon.

I do'nt know the other members of the staff well enough to make comments without generalizing too much so I shall wait until better knowledge can be obtain regarding them.

In the discussion of the administrative staff, we can point out few pertinent facts which we should keep in mind. The men who are heading various divisions and sections are on the whole / experienced men and in the education department, they have one of the finest educators that can be found in the ~~State~~ State of Utah. They are nearly without exception very religious men, most of them are of the Protestant faith. Most of them had previous contacts with the racial<sup>1</sup> group known as the Japanese. They all seem to like to work with them and have a sincere interest in their welfare. This last factor is a very important factor to remember for it will prove a very ~~imp~~ essential fact in the way this city grows up and becomes fully bloomed.

A folder with all sorts of attitudes noticed at Topaz center will be recorded. It is the hope of the writer to collect various attitudes and then try to organize the attitudes into the following categories:

1. Nisei attitudes towards the Administration
2. Nisei attitudes towards the Center
3. Nisei attitudes towards the Issei and vice versa.
4. Nisei attitudes towards the Community Government
5. Nisei attitudes towards the Community Enterprises
6. Nisei attitudes towards ~~the~~ Private employemtn outside of the Center.
7. Nisei attitudes towards further college training.
8. Nisei attitudes towards the War and United States' part in it.

Here is an expression of attitude towards the new center by one of the most active of the leaders among the evacuees. He came to Topaz as Train monitor and was appointed the first Block Manager which at the first two weeks was the whole representation of the ~~xxxxxxx~~ first volunteer work copp at Topaz. He says:

"Topaz is more than just an engineering marvel. It is more than just an isolated settlement for evacuees. It is the sum total of dreams, deep thinking, courage, and faith--it is a living personaltiy. Topaz is born of the great Mother America.

We are again the pioneers, blaxing the road into the wilderness of our social frontiers. Not that we alone march but that we follow the ever guiding pillar of the divine wisdom and light--it is our strength.

When the first contingent arrived here after the long journey from the western shore, we were welcomed personally by Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Ernst, the project director and his wife. We knew then ~~that~~ that we were in a big warm family. Let us do our uttermost in making this Center a bit of His Kingdome on earth.....Rev. Taro Goto..

ATTITUDE TOWARD EVACUATION PROGRAM  
BY A COLLEGE GRADUATE

I have a room mate who graduated the University of California and had two years of graduate work in the Bacteriological Research and prior to evacuation was a teaching fellow. His is single, 25 years of age, and nearly had his M.A. completed.

"What's the use of going to school anymore. What good did my seven years of college training do for me? It makes me feel as if there's no future for us and I feel frustrated mentally. I wrote to 25 colleges with my qualifications, but no school has an opening for me. I wrote to 15 Want Add advertisement for men workers, but not one favorable reply did I get. I sure want to get out and continue my studies, but what's the use? No money, no work and no scholarships."

"Democracy doesn't mean anything to me anymore. Is this a country where education counts and where equal opportunity for man exists? We're just rot here. The country needs good scientists, good doctors, and what do the higher ups do? Put us behind barbed wire and keep us cooped up to rot and get bätter."

At Topaz, the Recreation program was late in getting started. The experience in Tanforan proved very useful in setting up the recreation program. The set-up for Topaz must be different from what we had at Tanforan for the following reasons. 1) Tanforan had no work project except actual operation and maintenance of camp life. 2) There will be many work projects in the agricultural and semi-industrial divisions. 3) Number of the residents will be leaving the center from time to time to take up private employment in fields and cities. 4) School system will be set up on more organized and permanent basis adhering to the best standards of the Utah State School system. 5) The attitudes and feelings of the residents at Topaz will be more settled and the residents will be looking at their future with a broader and longer term program in mind whereas at Tanforan, the life was very temporary and the feelings and attitudes of the evacuees was flighty and easily changeable. 6) The residents knew what type of life to expect at Topaz while at Tanforan, the first few weeks was a big transition from well established city and rural life to an emergency ~~camp~~ camp of 8,000 people in an area about 170 acres. Therefore, the type of recreation will be different and the need for recreation will not be as acute as it was in Tanforan. So, it is only natural to find that the recreational activities are slow in getting started.

For each block of which there will be 36 living quarters at Topaz, there is a recreation hall. Eight of these buildings have been assigned to the pre-school nursery schools, two to the Community Enterprises and one to Community Welfare, one to Community government. Others will be assigned to other needs, but

there will be at least 10 of the 36 buildings which will be reserved for recreational purposes. One is now being used for Community Activities Headquarters which is centrally located. Five has been ~~opened~~ opened up for serving the community as recreation centers.

In order to organize the recreation program, the Topaz city of 42 blocks was divided up into wards of four blocks each. There were some wards with more than four and one with only three blocks of residence, but the physical breaking up of the city couldn't be done mathematically even since some of the blocks were not constructed yet. There will be 8 wards.

In each of these wards there will be one recreation hall at least which will serve the general recreational purposes of each ward residents. Starting last week, Oct. 2nd, the rec. halls were opened one by one and each hall would be staffed with a director, assistant director, and a steno-clerk. Under these paid staff members, there are number of volunteers signed up to handle groups and special interests. Those which were opened first were the areas in which the people were first settled. The locations of the rec halls were selected so that it would be most central for the residents that the rec.halls would serve. The type of activities the recreation halls provided for the first few weeks after they were opened were the 'stop-gap' type of program.

The halls would make announcements and posters, and other publicity channels and then announce the hours, activities such as athletic games, table games (chess, checkers, jig saw puzzles, playing cards, and readings), and handicrafts. The supervisor with his or her assistants and volunteer helpers would keep the place open and assist in organization of group activities and ~~handicrafts~~

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lending out of equipment. The hours which the rec. halls would be opened varied, but usually it was from 9-12 am, 1-5 and 6-9 pm. The activities for the recreation was delayed unduly since the equipment which was brought in from Tanforan (the donated supplies which served the needs of the Tanforan Rec. program for the first two months--donated from the YMCA, Friends Service, Christian Churches, Japanese Student Club at U. C.) did not arrive to Topaz until end of September.

These supplies included all kinds of table games, athletic equipment such as football, basketball, softball supplies, and horseshoes. Library books were also shipped from Tanforan. The received equipment was distributed so that it would spread out evenly to each rec. hall. In the meantime, a certain amount of new supplies were ordered through government requisition. It was limited since the budget for the Recreation program in WRA centers was very small.

Todate, Oct. 9, 1942 there are approximately 8,000 residents in Topaz which includes the 560 from Santa ANITA which came in on the 8th of October. Some of the rec. halls aren't finished since electric wiring and roofs aren't completed. Stoves aren't installed yet, but in the coming winter there will be definite need for the stoves.

The rec halls are 20 ft. x 100 ft. each with three entrances, one on each end and one in the middle which is a double door. There will be three large stoves which burns coal located at equal intervals in the rec. halls.

The organized group work such as clubs and camp-wide program will have to wait and it may not be set up at all. Probably, the rec. halls will be just a gathering place and camp-wide type

of recreation program will not be feasible in a place like Topaz where there is no place large enough to ~~mix~~ have the whole center meet at once. The lack of large auditorium and lack of stadiums will mean that activities will necessarily have to be on local de-centralized program.

Private agencies have not step into the recreation picture yet, although there has been talk about getting YMCA, YWCA, Boys Scouts and other private agency work organized. Private Agencies will have to use the rec. halls for their activities.

One objection to any kind of private agency work is that when such a program is put into action, there will be different cliques and groupings formed. The one sore spot in any community in our pre-war life were the different cliques which were formed between the various organizations such as the YMCA, Buddhist Y and YW groups, YWCA, Scouts, Athletic Clubs and Churches. So, at Tanforan, with this problem in mind, the director of recreation tried his best to wipe out any barriers which were existing in our normal lives and tried to bring the groups into harmonious cooperation in each geographic area instead of having cliques and pre-war groupings continued. To a large extent, the wiping out of former cliques were successful and the same feeling of having cliques prevented prevails among the policy forming and program making committees. We shall have to wait ~~xxx~~ until few more months to see just what the future developments will be like.

Those who are interested in starting private agency work such as the YMCA, YWCA, YMWBA (Buddhist), will meet much opposition. It'll have to be slow and it'll have to be done very tactfully. The Boy Scouts is a non-~~religious~~<sup>sectarian</sup> organization and by its nature is open to all so the Scout movement should be

heartily approved, accepted and pushed. In fact, most of the Administrative officers who were residents of Utah are big men in the scout movement. They will offer their help in organizing troops according to conversation with them. One man particularly ~~is~~ is the commissioner of the Scouts for Salt Lake City area. It seems that Scouts is the only youth movement in Utah and there is no YMCA in Utah yet.

There doesn't seem to be much need for Recreation nor ~~is~~ are the people too concerned about it yet. Perhaps the newness of the life, the process of getting settled, and the ~~of~~ immediate concern over the education set-up takes the residents ~~in their~~ leisure hours so much that they aren't concerned about the recreational activities.

Three Saturday nights in a row a dance for the whole center was held, but only a very few couples show up. An entertainment was ~~xxx~~ given in which talents were selected from the residents which included few Japanese numbers (dance and songs) and other acts were skits, musical numbers, vocal solos and chorus, but the attendance was relatively small in comparison to the packed audiences of Tanforan.

No playfields have been set up yet, only on plans on paper, and no ball diamond, basketball standards, no volleyball nets, and no ping pong tables have been set up yet. Therefore, the type of recreation activities is limited to small group games and table games. There are lots of open spaces between the living residences so boys kick the football around and the girls just walk around visiting.

For time being, the recreation activities will be a limited and passive type. When playgrounds are finished and stadium is built,

greater interest will be shown.

There is another factor for the lack of interest in the recreational activities of this center. Many of the men and women who were on the personnel of the Recreation Staff at Tanforan were men and women who in private lives were doctors, optometrists, engineers, farmers, and only one or two were qualified recreation workers. Therefore, when they came to Topaz, they were more interested in going ~~xxx~~ <sup>in</sup> into work which they had had college training. They were thinking of their future and since relocation camps are more permanent than assembly centers, many didn't want to take up recreational work as their career here. This is only natural and it is better for the whole community to have the qualified engineers as engineers and doctors as doctors. There is more concern on the part of the residents for education than anything else and are willing to sacrifice a lot to get a good educational system with the highest standards, but they will not do as much for a recreation program.

As this is being written which is just about ~~xxx~~ one month since this city first got started, ~~xxxx~~ there is difficulty in getting enough trained, experienced personnel for the recreation section. New employees will have to be trained and young persons will have to be recruited which means that the standards of the recreation program might suffer in the first year or so.

Time will only tell what the actual situation will be one year hence, but in the meantime, the experience at Tanforan has given those who are in charge of recreation some sound working basis to begin their program and the right start has been made. The policies which will be followed and the type of program may be changed somewhat, but on the whole, the general outline of Tanfo. experience will be followed.

Oct. 10, 1942

With Topaz City now almost fully settled, the Community Activities section is busy planning and organizing a community recreation program designed to serve every youth. When there are almost 9,000 persons within one square mile, the need for leadership in the use of leisure time is certainly self-evident.

The staff members of the Community Activities which primarily handles the Recreational Program for the city of Topaz, are 36 in number to date with Mr. Kim Obata, M.A. in Art from U.C. as temporary Convener. Eventually, there will be approximately 120 employees in the recreation field, and the department will be supervised by Emily Minton, formerly of the Oakland Recreation Department, who is now at Tehachapi Institute, who is arriving here tonight, Oct. 10th, 1942.

During the first month ~~xxx~~ of this city's life, the Activities group spent most of its time arranging welcome meetings, entertainments, dances and rallies. Also, Rec Halls #6, 11, 20, 23, and 37 have been opened to serve the residents in the respective areas, and three more centers will be opening this coming week in other strategically located parts of the City according to the Wards system of having four blocks to a Ward.

All the recreational supplies now being used in the various halls here were donated by the Tanforan recreation program and are really inadequate to serve <sup>c</sup>this large community. Requisitions have been placed for athletic equipment, handicraft material and reading matter; and if they come through, the program will begin to really roll.

In the meantime, play area facilities are being mapped out by the staff leaders with the assistance of the landscape architects

division. During their spare time, the residents must all aid the Community Activities section in construction of the numerous courts diamonds, courses, fields, rinks; this voluntary help will facilitate the early opening of the recreation area.

"Mr. Kim Obata, Convener of the Community Activities Staff, today appealed to the residents to bring their own equipment to the Rec. Halls until the halls are able to obtain their supplies. Five Rec. Halls are now open: #23,37,11,20, and 6. But their use has been limited due to lack of equipment. Obata said the halls are available to bridge players; that ping pong tables will be installed shortly; and that other games will be established as soon as supplies are available. Departments or divisions wishing to use the Rec. Halls are asked to clear their requests through the Community Activities Division."

Topaz--COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES SOCIALS 1--F.H.  
September 12, 1942

At Recreational Hall Number 3 the first social in the form of Mixer Dance was held in Topaz from 9 o'clock to 10 P.M. The social was announced to start at 8 o'clock, but there was much difficulty in getting the group together, so that any kind of group social activity could be held.

It was necessary to have some of the boys go out and call for all the girls in order to get the girls to social. Boys would come in groups and found out that the girls did not arrive. Girls would come in groups and found out that the boys were not in there. Altogether, there were about twenty couples, and they exchanged dances after each record. The social was very successful, for everyone met each other and had a grand time.

The music was furnished by Tom Ikega's turn-table and amplifier and Fido Obayashi's records.

Chairman of the evening was Fred Hoshiyama and Kim Obata and Tad Hirota assisting.

The boys wore different type of clothing, but most of them were in jeans and heavy shoes, and the girls were dressed in casual every-day clothes with anklets and flat heels.

In addition to the dancing, there were about two sets of bridge players playing bridge with about six interested on-lookers watching the games. The evening was very warm, and weather was clear, which accounted for the good turn-out of the first contingent who arrived in Topaz the day before.

Comments heard regarding the social: Many expressed the opinion that it was too early in our new life to hold a social

Topaz--COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES SOCIALS 2--F.H.  
September 12, 1942

TOPAZ Socials-2 FH

of any kind. People just arrived the day before were too tired yet, and they were too much concerned in getting their new homes ready, so that it can be conveniently livable. Those that attended the dance were mostly Nissei people, and they enjoyed it, but it was too early since there was no actual request for social. The most prevalent comment was "Are we going to have a social so soon?"

TOPAZ COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES SOCIALS--3 F.H.  
September 26, 1942

TOPAZ Socials #13

The second dance at Topaz was held on September 26, at Dining Hall Number 10. The emcee was Mr. Goro Suzuki, and dance was announced by large posters in each dining hall and also through verbal announcements during the week. Time was scheduled from 7 to 10 P.M. The dance did not get started until 8 P.M. with the make-shift lighting system and electricity source. The dining hall was not properly installed with electricity, so extension cords had to be borrowed here and there in order to get the electrical juice from one of the block manager's apartment. The music was provided through the use of Tom Ikeda's turn-table and amplifier and records were borrowed from different individuals from the center. There were about 35 couples attending the dance, which was Couples Only Dance.

There are about 4,200 residents in Topaz now, and turn-out from the total group was very small. The reason given for small turn-out was that those that are really interested in dancing were not here yet.

However, there seems to be other reasons such as the heavy dust and the transient nature of the residents. Those attended the dance enjoyed it, and it might be a good thing to have the dance every two weeks rather than every week. Many of the younger people were still moving around, helping move baggages of their families. So until everyone gets settled, socials and dances will not be of primary interest as it was at Tanforan. Perhaps it is better so that it is not a primary

TOPAZ COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES SOCIALS--4 F.H.--2  
September 26, 1942

TOPAZ Socials 4 FH

interest at Topaz, since there are many other things of importance.

The boys were attired in slacks, jackets and sweaters, and noone was dressed up in a suit. The girls wore flat shoes and a little better type of clothing than their every-day wear. The evening was moderate temperature and weather was clear.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES HANDICRAFTS I--F.H.

Since Friday, September 25, the recreational activities of the Community Activities moved into Building 9 of Block 4 and conducted group work and handicrafts such as pyro-craft, catalin and related activities for younger boys as well as drum and bugle corps classes. Mr. Toby Hirabayashi, Mr. George Suzuki, Mr. Yosh Isono, Mr. Frank Gao, Tom Tsuji, Mr. Ichiro Sasaki were responsible in supervising and teaching these activities.

Office hours were kept by secretaries, and the activities were opened to the whole center from the hours of 9 to 12 and 1 to 5. Very few boys took advantage of the program in the handicraft, but about fifteen boys were more than enthused in the drum classes.

Announcements of these activities were put through the "Topaz Times" paper, a weekly mimeographed paper, and also by announcements on posters which were posted on dining halls. The classes in handicraft and drum and bugle will be opened during the week until such time when all the residents will get to Topaz, and we can de-centralize our program on the ward basis.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES RECEPTION ACTIVITIES 1--F.H.

The first regular contingent to arrive at Topaz after the original work corps, which came on September 11, was the group that arrived on September 17. It was a responsibility of the COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES to receipt the new arrivals in some appropriate welcoming manner. Therefore the group decided to meet each busload of the new arriving residents with the drum and bugle fan fare. For every busload as entered since the 17th, which has been at the rate of 500 per day, was for a few days lull after the 24th until the 28th. The drum and bugle corps has been giving the arriving buses a rousing and enthusiastic welcome.

In addition to the brass band welcome the Community Activities have been arranging meetings, which has been called the Assembly Meeting for want of better name to which the new residents assembled together with the director of Topaz, Mr. Charles F. Ernst and his top personnel which we called the administrative staff.

The usual order of the meeting is something like this:

1. There is the Pledge of Allegiance by the audience to the American flag.
2. As they remain standing Mr. Goro Suzuki leads them in "God Bless America."
3. Mr. Reverend T. Goto, who came to Topaz on the volunteer contingent, and who has been most active in getting the new city organized, and acting as the official liasion man between administration and the residents, is introduced by a chairman who asks Mr. Goto to greet the residents in behalf of the already arrived residents and

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES RECEPTION ACTIVITIES 2--F.H.

at the same time introduced the director of the project Mr. Ernst.

Mr. Ernst gives his greetings to the newly arrived residents and introduces his staff members and their wives. Few words are spoken by the section chiefs and their assistants from the administrative staff, and any question is clearly answered by the staff members. Then Mr. Ernst says a few words on the community government and type of council we can have as to self-governing body, which will set up policies and procedures and eventually act as the representative of the people to the government. Then the audience stands and sings first verse of "America" and the meeting is adjourned.

Sometimes the procedure is changed by having a panel of outstanding residents in different departments such as Welfare, Government, Community Enterprise, Medicine, and Housing to answer any question that the residents may ask or again, a special division is highlighted such as having just the staff members of the Education Department tell their residents of their programs, plans, and ambitions.

The drum and bugle corps is comprised of approximately fifteen members who volunteered their services to receipt the new arrivals as buses arrive, and they also parade in front of each new apartment in newly arrived residents in order to encourage and draw them to assembly meetings.

The comments heard regarding this activity has been most favorable. The arriving residents are impressed by the

TOPAZ Reception 3-FH

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES RECEPTION ACTIVITIES 3--F.H.

welcoming they get, and it makes them feel more at home and gives them a better attitude toward the problems of new life, which challenges the people in each one of the residents.

RECEPTION ASSEMBLY MEETING  
Sept. 17th, 1942

Meeting started at 8:10 pm. It was late in starting for the meeting was announced ~~xxxxxx~~ to begin at 8:00 pm. sharp. The meeting was called to order by the chairman who asked the audience to stand and repeat the "Pledge of Allegiance" to our flag and while standing the group sang the first verse of "God Bless America". Chairman spoke a few words of greetings, and stated that the purpose of the meeting was to have the members of the Administrative staff meet and officially greet the newly arrived residents. The other purpose of the meeting was to have the administrative staff answer any question which the residents wish to ask and also to get the necessary information.

Rev. Taro Goto was introduced by the chairman of the evening and Mr. Goto gave the following message which is not verbatim. I behalf of the residents who are already here before you folks arrived, I wish to take this opportunity to greet you with open arms. When we arrived at Delta taking the same route and the same train ride as you did, the place was dark with low hanging black clouds. Rain greeted us, but in the midst of the rain, Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Ernst stood by the train ready to receive us and welcome us. We got off the train and took the small buses to Topaz. Just as we approached the center we saw a grand view. A rainbow was hanging right over the whole center and we all clapped our hands in glee and shouted, "That's a good omen--it means good luck and welcome." We did not have a brass band and drum corp to greet us as we have greeted you, but the rainbow was a symbol which gave each one of us new hope and vision of the city-to-be.

This report of the reception meeting is given so that an idea of exactly what transpires in these meetings can be gotten. The attitude of the residents and of the administration can be gotten often from the nature of their messages and the type of information given. ed.

After Rev. T. Goto finishes his message, the chairman asked the Rev. Mr. Goto to introduce Mr. Charles F. Ernst.

Mr. Ernst, Director of the Central Utah WRA Project, humorously remarks that he agrees to all what Rev. T. Goto said which was spoken in Japanese for the benefit of the ~~the~~ issei people. This brings a laugh and then he continues with these thoughts. Let's share the future together. We must take it together. We feel very humble about the whole situation. We have to learn how to do it. You have to learn how to do it. We shall make number of glorious mistakes, but we have to learn together. There's a right way and we want to do the right way. It's new to us and so we must live and take and work for what's good for the greatest number.

Then, he introduced his top personnel, who at this particular meeting were: Mr. Jim Jennings, Dr. & Mrs. Roscoe Bell, Dr. W. S. Ramsey, Mr. George Lafabregue, Mr. Ralph Fridley, Mr. James Hughes and Mr. Coverly (dropped in for visit on way to Gila Project).

After the introduction, he spoke a few words about the community government, stating the regulations and the extent to which self-government would be significant in our life. The regulations of self-government will be discussed elsewhere under the title, 'Topaz-Government'.

After Mr. Ernst finished, the chairman thanked both the administration and the residents for their attendance and then asked them to stand as first verse of "America" was sang by the whole audience and the meeting was dismissed which was about 9:30 pm.

Mr. Goto continues--Opportunities are vast here and it is up to us, you and I, to build something enduring and worthwhile while we are here. We need to cooperate together more than ever and we can do anything that man can do. We shall have the best education, the best leaders and the attitude of the administration has been grand and will be most conducive for a harmonious future. We have the best men in every line. There will be chances for you young college people to learn a career here and in many of the professional departments the experience here will be worth couple years in college. There will be all types of jobs and we need to have all of you pitch in and do your share of the work. So, please sign up at the employment office and let's all work together for the common welfare of our great big community. §§ \_\_\_//

\_\_\_/ Rev. Taro Goto came with the first volunteer work contingent to Topaz on Sept. 11th and he was the train monitor in charge of us. Mr. Hughes, assistant director, appointed him temporary block manager to represent the residents to the public and administration. He was formerly a minister of the Japanese Methodist Episcopal Church in San Francisco, Calif. He is Japan born, but reared in California, U.S. He speaks Japanese fluently and English just as well. He has both the Japanese education and the American college education, understanding both psychology and is well liked by the general public.. He is married, has two young boys and is a very liberal and progressive minister. He has been asked to greet the each new group of arrivals in behalf of the residents already here at Topaz. Perhaps, he is the most outstanding minister in U.S among the Japanese and is very effective and influential personality.

The different receptions were made possible through the planning of Mr. Lorne Bell and his Community Activities Section. On Oct. 8th, a group was due from Santa Anita Assembly Center. There were little over 600 people in the contingent and they were coming to Topaz because they had originally lived in San Francisco and had to be shipped to Santa Anita because Tanforan would be too small for them all. They were sent to Topaz so that they may re-join their former friends and since they were primarily urban residents, they would be more adjusted in a center with urban population.

A very special welcoming reception was to be planned for the Santa ANITA group for they were returning and it was just a little different from the ~~usual~~ usual groups which arrived from Tanforan. Therefore, the Activities Committee staff members made plans for a grand reception with "WELCOME HOME" signs, with super drum and bugle corps, with all the free residents out to the induction center to greet them as the buses drive in, and in the evening to hold a special ASSEMBLY with entertainment and music, in addition to the staff members greetings and Mr. Ernst's official welcome.

It so happened that Mr. Ernst had to leave for Salt Lake City and therefore, the meeting and reception was postponed until Sunday night. The reception meetings have been held in the Dining Halls which is located right near the arriving groups new homes. The dining halls hold about 350 people comfortably and if crowded, over 500 can be pushed in.

A special welcoming dance is being held this coming Saturday night, October 10th.

I have been asked to chairman these Reception Assemblies and I was able to observe the attitudes of the administration and of the residents.

It seems that the first impression which the residents receive as they come into the center has a lot to do with the attitude they will adopt later. This statement has been substantiated with the following observations.

When the group arrives on a calm sunny day early in the evening the arriving residents will say that they like the new place, but if they should arrive in the evening after supper and the wind is blowing the dust as only Utah wind can blow them on the desert, they will immediately assert disfavor of the place.

When the administrative staff greets them and Mr. Ernst is specially congenial, they immediately ~~sing~~ express praises of the administration and of the place. The attitude which the residents have towards the administration is much more important than the type of physical facilities and physical conditions the residents may find at the new center. The residents who arrived on the day there was a terrible dust storm, the whole center as well as the administration is bad. It's the same place, the same administration, but the feelings of the residents are determined by the first impression. Sometimes, the staff members of the administration are working over time and are tired. If they do not make a good impression, it seems to influence the residents attitudes. However, the very fact that the ~~administrative staff~~ Administrative staff works all day and then stays until after supper even up to 10:00 pm to greet and welcome the residents makes them feel very honored and it has done more than anything else to

create a good and cordial relationship between the administration and the residents.

At Tanforan, Mr. Davis spoke to the general public only once in the four months that we were there. At Topaz, Mr. Ernst has appeared in front of the open meetings more than ten times within the past month. Such a change of attitude on the part of the administration from the Tanforan administration to that of Topaz certainly surprised the residents and they are more than ready with their favorable comments. The Topaz administration are humbler in their attitudes, open to suggestions, and they are willing to learn with the residents. At Tanforan the administrators were very low grade of men for they ~~xxxx~~ were not open minded and they had no business or organizing ability. What we understood of them that they were WRA employees who couldn't get jobs in private employment seem to be ~~xx~~ proven by their actions, their attitudes and their work record at Tanforan.

General statements are meaningless when different groups in the social situations are concerned, but it might be safe to say that on the whole, the administration has won the respect and confidence of the residents by their extra effort to be sincere and sympathetic, and that the residents on the whole like their new city-to-be Topaz.

On the other hand, I have <sup>heard</sup> comments such as these very recently. "I'm afraid of the Administration--they are too nice to be true" "It seems that the Project Director is just presenting a front, but behind it he's a mean boy". "Our top personnel on the Administration is too smooth and they can't be trusted". "I don't think their attitudes and humbleness can continue".

One can't generalize and say that the big difference between the attitude of the administrative officers at Topaz and that of Tanforan makes the residents ~~feel~~ doubtful and skeptical of the Topaz administration. But, there seems to be no other answer since the Topaz administration has proven themselves beyond reproach in any way and they are so efficient and well meaning that city life is bustling. ~~between them~~ No strained feeling exists between Mr. Ernst and the residents what~~s~~soever. There has been instances of trouble between the stewards and the Japanese chief cooks, and between the Caucasian staff members themselves.

It seems that the project director is the symbol for the whole administrative staff and if the people like their project director, they will like the whole administration. This ~~fact~~ was very true at Tanforan. No one liked Mr. Frank Davis, Center Manager at Tanforan and therefore, they didn't think much of the whole administration. Only two of the men at Tanforan was popular and well liked by the residents. They were Mr. Leroy Thompson and Captain Speares. The same thing holds true here and so if past observations and experiences can be any judge of the events and attitudes of the future, Topaz will get along harmoniously and cooperatively.

WELCOME RECEPTION FOR THE SANTA ANITANS

On Oct. 11th, 1942, the Community Activities Committee held a special welcome reception for the Santa Anitans. They met each bus as they arrived with former San Franciscoans who went to Santa Anita Assembly Center and were sent to Topaz to be re-assembled with the other San Franciscoans at Topaz, with a drum and bugle corp welcoming them with all kinds of ~~music and~~ band airs. ~~The music was~~ This was the rousing welcome given them on Thursday, Oct. 8th, 1942. Then on Oct. 11th, a special meeting with entertainment was planned for the Santa Anitans on the evening at Dining Hall #34.

It so happened that before 7:30 all the kids in the neighborhood, those who did not come from Santa Anita were at the door. They went in soon as the doors were opened and took the front seats, Very few Santa Anitans showed up. So, group of former "YMCA" boys were asked to make house to house campaign to get the Santa Anitans, especially the issei folks. Each kid was asked to bring a parent in order to get in but not one kid budged. So, the meeting went on as scheduled.

During the meeting the issei showed up and the hall was packed with all seats taken up and in the sides and back there was another 300 persons making the total audience over 750 people for the night, the largest crowd for any of the reception meetings.

Many unkind and cutting remarks were heard regarding both the Tanforan group and the Santa Anita group. After the meeting, the people who heard some of these remarks stated that they felt the meeting was highly successful for it broke the ice and that some of the Santa Anitans who vowed during the meeting not to clap or laugh at any jokes, entertainments were enjoying it after the ice was broken. The Santa Anitans came to the meeting with a chip on their shoulders trying to jeer and boo the meeting. But, in spite o

spite of their avowed intentions, they enjoyed the meeting and were laughing during the meeting at the humorous sayings and the entertaining stunts and skits.

Mr. Charles F. Ernst, project director, sensed the hostility and so he turned on the ice breaking remarks and had the audience roaring with laughter. He was in his best moods it seemed for he wisecracked for over  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour and the audience was won over. He did a wonderful, superb job of breaking the ice and brought unity and fellowship to the meeting. Then after the semi-formal part of the

meeting was finished at which time Mr. Ernst introduced his staff members, and important highlights were interpreted by Rev. T. Goto, the meeting was turned over to Goro Suzuki, social chairman of the Community Activities Section. He arranged for issei entertainment which was enjoyed by all those attending, both by the issei and the Caucasian staff members. The meetings <sup>was</sup> ~~were~~ chaired by Fred Hoshiyama who gave few words of greetings, stated purpose of meeting, introduced important speakers, and closed the meeting with brief summary and parting remarks to unite and create fellowship among the new arrivals. He has been chairmanning all of the mass assembly meetings which were held primarily to receipt the new arrivals officially and have the administration meet the new arrivals.

## RECEPTION FOR LAST TANFO. CONTINGENT

On the eve of Oct. 15th, the Tanforan's last working contingent were officially received and greeted by Mr. C. F. Ernst, Project Director and his staff members. It so happened that it rained that day and at night when the meeting was to take place.

So, the audience was very small, in fact only four or five members of the last Tanfo. group were present. There were about 50 other people who had missed these reception assemblies there, but there were nearly as many administrative caucasian staff members present as the Japanese or the evacuees.

Mr. Ernst wanted to have the meeting as planned regardless so Mr. Fred Hoshiyama, chmn. conducted the meeting in the ~~am~~ usual manner. Mr. Ernst remarked about the completion of the circle and about the togetherness of the whole city since everyone was at Topaz now. He then went into the Community Government explanation which he did to every group he met with and then he talked about social and human problems. He stated that he knew nothing about Japanese American problems, but he did know a little about human problems. He didn't consider the evacuees as Japanese or Americans or any other nationality for that matter. To him, a person is a human being no matter what his color line or party line was. He expressed interest in the social and human problems and related his exper~~iences~~ in the Settlement Houses of Boston where he met Mrs. Ernst and how they both worked together until now.

The meeting was brief, but it gave the people a chance to meet and talk with the caucasian administrative staff members and their wif~~ies~~ wives. The meeting was entertained by the Cossack Chor~~us~~ sining and then the meeting was closed by sining "America".

Mr. Walter Hondricks gave a few public statement about the type of opportunities presented in the Community Enterprises Section and as he spoke, it created much interest among the residents. It wasn't a new born interest but a stimulation of the interest which was already planted in the minds of the residents.

At Tanforan, special Coop study groups were conducted to educate the people to the principles of the coops and also discussion by way of Town Hall of Tanforan (Forum) and interest aroused by Essay Contest on Coops, Panel Discussions at Churches on Coops and WRA were held which made the residents conscious of the importance of cooperative enterprises in the WR<sup>a</sup> centers.

In the first volunteer contingent ~~group~~ few of the more advanced students of the Coop study groups were delegated with ~~request~~ request to approach the proper administrative personnel on Coops and try to get coops started soon as possible. It so happened that Mr. Hondricks was a farsighted and experienced ~~man~~ man on coops and he had already anticipated such a move.

It wasn't any trouble at all therefore, to get the Coop machinery set up. The beginning of anything is mighty important and so I will describe just how the Coops at Topaz was started.

#### CANTEEN STORE

When the first contingent arrived in Sept. 11th, Mr. Hondricks conferring with Mr. Ernst and others bought number of store merchandise to be sold to the residents. When the residents asked about the Canteen, he was ready with the stocks and cash register and open accounts with private business houses to purchase stocks for the residents. He had already bought quite of bit of supplies which he knew were sure sellers to get the Canteen started.

This store was started on the 12th with cash money as the medium of exchange. This certainly surprised the residents to find the Canteen ready when at Tanforan it took about one month to get the Canteen started. It was remarked that the Canteen at Topaz had on the very first day more varied items for sale than what the Canteen at Tanforan had at its best, and there was more truth to this remark than meets the eye.

About one week after we were here, Sept. 19th, Mr. Hondricks offered to sit in with the group of delegated persons who were interested in the Community Enterprises. In order to get the ball for the discussion and the machinery for setting up the Boards and Committees for the Community Enterprises started, he outlined what he had done to date and then continued with few pertinent suggestions.

He said that he had opened accounts with private business houses for the right to buy on one month consignment with no obligation on the part of the WRA except to sell the goods at retail value or 20% mark-up and it will be sold for cash and the cash money for the cost of the goods will be paid by the WRA officials meaning himself to the private business firms with whom he opened accounts. Not one firm refused his offer and request so he bought lots of supplies. He also purchased a cash register.

He outlined the following set up which has controls for effective and accurate accounting and auditing and adheres to sound business principles.

1. All goods sold must be sold for cash at 20% mark up.
2. All cash taken in every day will be deposited at the Bank in Delta, Utah (16 miles away) daily
3. All bookkeeping and accounts must be supervised by the government employee (WRA official), but payment of accounts

will not be guaranteed by the government.

4. Retail prices will be immediately put on the goods soon as they come in.

5. In the books, a charge against the Coop Canteen store will be made for every article of good at retail price.

a) This means that either the stock is in the bank as cash or it is on the shelves and so merchandise inventory can be gotten on monetary value, not item inventory--cash inventory system to be used.

6. Wa rehouse will be organized so that soon as goods are ordered, the warehouse will get a copy and when the ordered goods arrive, they will extend the retail unit price on them. In this way price inventory can be taken instead of descriptive item by item inventory which will allow for maximum flexibility and it will give central control no matter how many stores there might be.

7. The employees in the Community Enterprises will be paid prevailing wages by the WRA but the government will charge the Community Enterprises the exact amount for the wages and the Community Enterprises will pay out from its profits the cost of employment as well as other expenses which will be involved as new enterprises such as Shoe repair, Barbershops and Beauty Parlors are set up.

8. My time and service is paid by the government so it won't come out of the profits of the Community Enterprises.

9. We will have to purchase equipment from the profits and what's left after a certain amount equal to the stocks purchases is taken for Reserve or Emergency Fund, we can decide what the rebates should be to the consumers or you, the residents.

10. At Mang~~an~~ar there is a business of \$100,000 per month  
 and at Tule there is a business of \$76,000 which is  
 paid out from the residents pockets for goods and  
 services--some through the Community Enterprises and  
 much of it through the mail order houses.  
 We can keep all the money in the city here if we  
 start~~ing~~ getting our Community Enterprises set up early  
 as possible and start manufacturing of some things and  
 giving number of services.
11. A system which has worked elsewhere and it might work here  
 is a system in which each block of residents elect two (2)  
 delegates to the All-Coop Congress. Each house will elect  
 two representatives to the Block meeting from which the  
 two delegates to the All-Coop meeting is ~~chosen~~ elected.  
 This Congress can get together, decide what it wants to do,  
 divide up into committees, and start the machinery for  
 setting up the Community Enterprises.
12. There will be a big need for Consumer Education. Motion  
~~is~~ pictures, Books, Pamphlets, and talks.
13. What the group wants to buy, let them buy it as long as it  
 doesn't jeopardize his fellow men. Give all a freedom of  
 expression and make it as democratic as possible.
14. It is better to sell things at prevailing retail price  
 for ~~more~~ less people will buy unnecessary things if the  
 same article sold for 20¢ rather than 15¢ which is cost.
15. Administration of the Cooperatives must be definite and  
 rigid with practising of the highest business practices on  
 technical and professional level. Each employee and employer  
 must take their jobs as if they were being paid \$100,000.

16. Accounting will be necessary and Auditing will be important, not because someone can't be trusted, but it is necessary for giving information, especially to the Project Director. It will give confidence to the residents.

17. For organizational purpose, there will be a need to get an elite group first to educate first. Education by discussion among the residents is the best plan and one technique is to have a large group break up into small groups and discuss a question. Everyone one can't all speak at once and everyone may have different ideas and opinions about a question. In small groups, they can more freely express their opinions and in that way everyone can participate on the same question. Then have each group that has broken up into small groups from the larger body delegate one of its members to give a summary report of the discussion. This touches everyone and everyone feels that they have actively participated.

Now, I shall turn the meeting back to you folks and let you discuss among yourselves to set up the machinery. It is getting late and I didn't mean to talk so much, but I shall keep still hereon.

-----  
Since it was ~~xxxxx~~ supper time, the meeting was adjourned without any definite plans except to meet on the following Monday to continue the discussion. The group met the following Monday and decided to get the representation organized. The plan called for election among each barrack to elect two representatives to the Block Meeting and at the Block meeting to elect two delegates to the All-Coop Congress and this plan is being carried out now.

To date, Oct. 9th, 1942, the Canteen is employing approximately 25 employees and selling all kinds of essential articles along the line of stationery, magazines, newspapers, drugs, ice cream and other frozen refreshments, canned goods, all kinds of tobacco and cigarettes and few clothes. It has a Barber shop giving haircuts to the adults at 25¢ and to children at 20¢ each. As new blocks are filled, meetings are held and the delegates are chosen to the All-Coop Congress.

#### ATTITUDE OF RESIDENTS TOWARD COOP

All the residents are enthused at the large variety of the goods at sale at the coop and they express appreciation for the way it is handled. The store is fixed up with nice counters and they have a special service of taking mail orders for the Sears Roebuck and Co which gives the Canteen a 10% discount on most of the orders. Other mail order houses were asked if they would be interested, but Sears Roebuck & Co was the only firm to reply so they are the ones who is getting the business.

The daily sales makr is now over \$700 daily and as new groups arrive and when the people get their pay checks, the sales total will continue to rise.

The employees are working under excellent supervision and they are getting grand experiance and training from a man who has been devoting his life to Coops in U.S. and in Europe. The residents are happy to see such a well organized store in their city and since most of them are still fresh from the experience of Tanforan, they can't say things good enough for the Canteen at Topaz.

One of the first things which Mr. Hondricks mentioned about the Community Enterprises was that it was OURS. Not his, not the WRA's not yours, but OURS. This seems to stick and attitude is OURS.

Until everyone gets to Topaz from Tanforan and elsewhere, the All-Coop Congress can't really get started for one of the primary emphasis is to make the Coops the peoples which means every one. So, for the first month, the All-Coop Congress cannot function too effectively. However, the store is doing a prosperous business and the barbershop is opening for business starting just ~~few days~~ ~~ago~~ Oct. 8th, 1942. Cash money will be the medium of exchange throughout and the type of rebates is not determined yet definitely.

Membership is open to anyone ~~over~~ 16 years of age or over and the stocks for membership will be \$1.00 one dollar per share. Each person will have one vote and the delegates are recallable at any time, being responsible to the people they represent.

Just what type of community enterprises will be set-up in the future is all up to the residents, more specifically the policies and the decisions of the All-Coop Congress. Since the Congress represents the people, the final answer lies with the residents themselves. According to the statement made by Mr. Hondricks, the regulations drawn up by WRA Office in Washington D.C., the plan for the Community Enterprises and the opportunities presented in it couldn't be better. So, we can expect a very varied type of activities under the Community Enterprises and we shall be waiting to see the developments. No private business can be started in this city so all the businesses will have to be done on cooperative plans. Community Enterprises will play a very vital and important role in the city life of Topaz.....

Article in the mimeographed bi-weekly "Topaz Times". Oct. 7th, 1942  
FORMATION MEETING OF CO\*OP SET FOR TODAY AT DINING HALL #4.

With hopes of serving all needs of every resident, the Topaz Co-operative will get under actual operation when the Co-operative Congress holds its first formation meeting today at 1:30 PM in Dining Hall #4.

As yet, only 12 blocks have elected representatives to the Congress, but the other blocks are expected to name theirs within this week. The Congress is composed of 2 representatives from each block.

George Matsumoto, chairman of the steering committee, explained the machinery of the Co-operative as follows: "Every building should hold a house meeting and elect 2 delegates. The 24 delegates in each block form the Block Assembly, and they should elect 2 representatives to the Congress, which in turn will select an Executive Board to do most of the administrative duties. Congress, however, will have the final veto power."

All persons 16 years of age or over are eligible for membership in the Co-operative, and tentative plans are that a person may buy one share and have but one vote, and that each share is to be sold for \$1.00.

In its initial stages, the Co-operative will deal only in consumer's merchandise, but it eventually will undertake to operate various services like the barbershio, shoe repair, beauty parlor, laundry and cleaners, etc. It may even go into the production line. An example is the manufacture of soda water, face creams and other drug commodities.

## SHOWER ROOM COMMENT REGARDING COOP ENTERPRISES

Oct. 10, 1942

Last night there were four men talking about the Coop in the Block #3 Shower room. One of the men, named Jim who is the temporary manager of the Canteen made this comment which grew into an interesting discussion. "The Canteen and the Coops will be a mess because of politics"

Listening to the conversation this is the information obtained. A group of former merchants who were owners of stores on Grant Avenue in San Francisco in Chinatown wants to run the policies of the coop. The temporary chairman happens to be Mr. George Matsumoto who was a successful store owner.

Grant Ave stores which dealt in Oriental Art and Silk merchandises were all owned and operated by Japanese although they were located on Grant Ave in San Francisco's Chinatown. All the nice looking modern shops were the Japanese ~~were~~ owned shops and these men were formed into an association known as the Downtown Merchant Association. Many important men in the Japanese community of San Francisco were members of this association. They are the ones primarily interested in starting cooperative enterprises and were attending Coop Study groups in Tanforan. So, it was only natural with their personal interests and with their past experiences and training, they would be taking a active role in the setting up of the Coops.

So, their influences in the preliminary setting up of the Community Enterprise machinery is great. Others who are not members of the association would naturally feel that there is something to which they are not part of and feel that they are

being left out of the picture. Being ~~a~~ all community affair, such a feeling of partiality shouldn't be present, but when a certain group appears to be more progressive and active than the other members of the whole group, it gives those who are not members of the inner group a feeling of being left out.

The term politics was used to mean that a certain elite group who were members of the Downtown Merchants Association would be running the Coop administration and if this happens, there will be dissention among the membership and it will cause ill feelings and <sup>favoritism</sup> ~~favoritism~~ and other symptoms of disorganization. Unless there is better understanding among the All-Coop Congress members and the public, and unless there is education to the true meaning of Cooperation, the future of Community Enterprises is jeopardized at Topaz.

## BARBERSHOP COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE

Topaz City Barber Service opened Thursday morning in Rec. Hall 12, across the road from the Canteen. A part of the Consumer Enterprises, the 10-chair shop has temporarily set its prices for haircuts at 25¢ (adults) and 20¢ (children). Lack of facilities limits the service to hair-cuts only.

Until stoves are installed, the hours are from 9 AM to 4:30 PM.

The staff requests that customers wash their hair before the sitting so as to minimize dulling of clippers and scissors by the dust.

At present the barbers are: Satoru Harano, Jungo Koga, Yajiro Okamoto, K. Shimada, Yonezo Suzuki, and Frank Yamaguma. The staff will be expanded with the addition of 6 more barbers soon.

The barbers will be paid by the government the prevailing wage of \$16.00 per month, but from the price of 25¢ and 20¢ per person, adult and children respectively, the Coop will pay the government for the exact amount paid for salaries to the barbers. The tools of the barbers which are privately owned is rented by the Community Enterprises and ~~will be paid~~ the rental which amounts roughly to 10% of the value of the equipment will be paid to the individual barbers from the profits to the barbers on monthly basis.

On busy days, the good barbers can cut as many as 40 haircuts per day from early in the morning till about 9:30 pm. In private business, at 40¢ per head, a good barber can make \$16.00 per day while at Topaz, they will all get \$.6.00 per month.

On Oct. 8th, the contingent from Santa Anita arrived to Topaz, Utah. Five hundred and fifty former San Franciscans arrived from the Santa Anita Assembly Center and were settled in Blocks 33, 34 and part of 40, increasing the City's population to 7,856 residents. The majority of them were those who formed the first group to be evacuated from San Francisco.

The Santa Anita contingent left Arcadia, California Wednesday morning at 9:00 am (PWT). They arrived at Topaz Relocation Center in the morning of Thursday. The arrivals first lunched at Dining Hall #34 and #35 before going through the induction process, which was carried out at the Block #42 Induction Center.

Among the group were 3 persons 79 years old; Mr. Yasuhiro Inouye, Hiroshi Onishi, Sr. and Yujiro Yamada, and the youngest Santa Anita was a 4 month old baby.

The trip taken by them was much shorter and the time taken to make the trip was much shorter taking about 14 hours all told whereas the Tanforan group took anywhere from 39 hours to 48 hours. They looked rather well without any serious effect or strain from the trip, but besides their mental and health appearance, the picture presented by the younger set of the Santa Anita surprised and even disgusted some of the former friends of theirs.

Many of the young nisei boys who were conservative dressers came off of the bus in "zute suits" and other flashy dress wear. The girls wore their hair in styles different from the Tanforan group.....ala Hollywood glamour styles--either long like Veronica Lake or short and put up. Their language, their attitudes, their manners changed to the extent that it was easily discernible and many of the Tanforan girls and boys expressed surprise as well as disgust for seeing such changes in their former friends.

First contingent to leave Tanforan Assembly Center for Central Utah  
WRA Center-----September 9, 1942      On train

Starting exactly at 8:00 pm. five trainful of adventurous spirited evacuees from Tanforan embarked upon a 39 hour trip to the Relocation Center in Utah. With the two baggage car attached to the caravan of issei and nisei evacuees, the group left with good byes yelled from drawn up windows and replied the farewell cheers of the camp with waving arms from the windows.

The first contingent were comprised of 213 persons, with about seven women to every 30 men. Most of the groups, of which there were five, numbering Group I, II, III, IV, V, were quite young. Many were single men, but there were some men who were isseis who were past their middle age. There were more single girls than married women, although there were even some girls who left their husband behind and are going first. Average age of the groups would be around 30 years of age.

Before the impression of the whole processes of moving out is forgotten or too dimmed, I am typing this just as we got into the trains. I am in the second group, the ~~second~~<sup>fourth</sup> car from the end. We are travelling in the southerly direction. The passengers are seated in two in a seat and usually, the women folks have two seats so that they have one seat a piece. Few of the men folks have two seats between the two, but most of them have only the seat they are sitting in and they are resigned to the fate.

At each end of each car, ~~xxx~~ an armed military police is located and he is there to prevent any passing of the passengers from one car to another. They are very quiet and courteous. Unless we make trouble for them, they seem to be very unassuming.

## DEPARTURE OF FIRST CONTINGENT

At each end of the cars is posted information and regulation sheets. These sheets have rules which tells the passengers what they can do and what they cannot do. All shades must be pulled down between sunset and sundown. Drinking water must be used sparingly without wasting and sanitary rules must be strictly observed and inspection will be made every three hours. There is ~~x~~ one train monitor for the whole group, and there are five monitors, one to each car who shall see that the regulations are observed and the passengers are made comfortable.

The train makes stop at certain sidings to let faster train pass and for other reasons which I do not know. We stopped at the town of San Bruno and at San Mateo.

The passengers in my car have got their baggages put into the overhead racks and made themselves comfortable. The room has air ventilators with fans and also heaters. The weather has been quite comfortable so many of the passengers have taken their coats off and settled down for a quiet night. Many brought reading materials with them and many have started bridge games and poker sessions. Nearly everyone is smoking.

Steps leading to embarking...

Exactly two weeks ago the Personnel Office held interviews for those desiring to volunteer for the first work contingent. Many were asked to go by heads of departments who were asked to supply men by the U. S. Employment Service. Selections were made by the U.S. E. S. and the Employment office under Mr, Gunder of the Tanfor n WCCA Center made the necessary arrangements. The volunteers were told that the date of departure would be approximately on the 9th of Sept., but no definite word was given officially. As to where they were going had not been ~~made~~ stated. On Sept. 7th, official notice was delivered to each volunteer member and they were notified when and what time on a piece of duplicat notice. The date was Sept. 9th, and the whole

were to meet at 6:30 pm at the Laundry room near the train platform. They were assigned to respective groups and were told who the train captains were to be. This was first official word that the destination was to be Central Utah.

Inspectors were going around to homes which had requested for their baggage to be inspected so that they could have it tied or nailed and picked up to have sent with the passengers. Many were busy packing and getting the possessions crated. Finally, by supper on the 9th, all the necessary clothing and etc. for the first 10 days or so were loaded into the baggage cars. Each baggage, whether hand baggage or suitcases had to be inspected for contrabands and government property. Trucks went around picking up these baggages, but the personal hand baggage for the 39 hours of travel had to be brought to the assembling place by the persons.

That day, Sept. 9th, all the evacuees who were leaving were gathered into the waiting room after their things had been inspected. It was the first time at Tanforan when the residents did not obey the curfew for the head count. Many of the residents came to see their family members off and didn't go back for the head count.

There were over 3,000 people at the assembly place by the time the train pulled out. Many came to see their friends leaving and many came to see what the process was like and many were just crowd followers. Many were on roof tops watching for their friends or family members.

The people were kept out of the area wired off by fence. This area was about 75 ft. by 50 feet and there ~~was~~ was only one gate through which the volunteers could get through. The examination of baggage and the waiting for the whole contingent to get assembled and organized took one and half hours. Much time would have been saved if the hours were better staggered and the examination area marked so that the volunteers could find their group much quicker and the ~~managers~~ captains wouldn't have to holler and run around so much.

Truck drivers, recreation directors, social workers, hospital staff (skeleton staff) stenographers, secretaries, bookkeepers, time keepers, and work crew in general were included in the first group. There were many cooks and waiters, and storekeepers. It seems that with each group, the necessary manpower for each group will be sent with the groups leaving starting from 15th, which will include the family members of those going on the 9th. From the 17ths of ~~on~~ so, the groups will leave in contingent of 500 and every other day from there on until the whole camp is evacuated. There will be the truck drivers and the work crew which will stay until the very last to clean up the camp at Tanforan.

I am going down as the one of the our recreation directors and I look forward to this trip because it is the first time in my life that I shall leave California and I'm anxious to get the experience of living in Utah where snow will be plentiful during the winter months. I am challenged and the adventurous feeling that we are to help set the camp for the rest of the camp gives our mission a double edge of keenness about the whole trip. I didn't want to leave Tanforan until the very last, but when I was asked to go I felt a responsibility which I think is worthwhile and I shall try to do my best. There is an added incentive in being trail ~~blazers~~ trail blazers for we can get better jobs, more scrap lumber and get to know the camp situation and administrative staff much better.

MESS HALL STRIKE

The first contingent from Tanforan to Topaz arrived on the morning of Sept. 11th. On the afternoon, 4:00 pm of Sept. 14th, the kitchen work crew walked out on a strike.

In this crew were the best cooks from Tanforan and they were sent to Topaz on the volunteer contingent to set up the dining halls and have the different kitchens staffed. There were 16 workers in this crew and they were called the roving crew to open the dining halls. Their duties were to open two kitchen per day so that when the major part of Tanforan population arrived, the kitchen would be ready to operate and feed the residents.

Cause of the strike was dislike for the Chief stewards who were Mr. Brandon Watson and Mr. C. Allen. The men got along with Mr. Allen, but not with Mr. Watson. They, the caucasian members put on a 'know it all' attitude and looked down upon the evacuee workers. They asked them to clean toilets and made number of changes in their plans and gave conflicting orders. The Japanese workers gave these complaints as reasons for thair walk-out, but it finally came out when the House Captains were called in as mediation committee that the real reason for the strike was to have a show down between the Caucasian stewards and the Japanese Chief cooks.

All the facts were put into the brief and presented to Mr. Ernst and Mr. Hughes. Mr. Ernst held a staff meeting and asked the Caucasian stewards to cooperate more and listen to the suggestion of the Japanese chief cooks. Today, the attitude of the two caucasian men has changed so much that the future seems to be a paved road of smoothness.

The Japanese cooks said that unless it was brought to a showdown the whole future will be full of uneasiness and strained feelings and their wouldn't be any efficiency in the kitchen system.

## MESS HALL STRIKE

It so happened that the four or five cooks who were working in Dining Hall #3 where the residents had their meals were not included in the roving crew since they had to stay and prepare the daily meals. However, they were asked to strike in sympathy with the others and so one meal was threatened not to be cooked. All the men except the chief cook of the Dining Hall #3 walked out. After much begging by the residents not to do such rashful acts, the meal was finally prepared. The strike continued from the 14th to the morning of 17th. On that morning, 500 new residents arrived and the kitchens were not opened yet and the stoves weren't fired. Number of the conservative residents asked the cooks to cooperate even though they couldn't get along with the Chief Stewards, but they refused. So, finally, after the meeting with the strikers and with the Administrative staff, the mediation committee of which this writer was the secretary, a truce was agreed upon on the following conditions.

1. Mr. Brandon Watson will have no jurisdiction in the kitchen itself. He would order the food, see to the sanitation and general appearance.

2. Mr. Allen offered to let the Japanese cooks run the dining halls as they saw fit and he wouldn't butt in unless they were doing something absolutely wrong. Any suggestion they might make would be seriously and sincerely considered by him. He won't use profane language against them and vice-versa.

3. The chief cooks were to draw up their plans on paper and present it to the Chief stewards and they were to run the kitchen system as they saw fit.

4. A Steward from the evacuee will be responsible for the management of the over-all program but would be responsible to the Caucasian staff members, the Chief Stewards and his assistant and this

person, the evacuee Steward will be the liaison between the Administration and the Chief cooks on matters pertaining to kitchen.

The above terms were agreed upon by both sides and the kitchen group all pitched in from 10:15 am on Sept. 17th, to prepare food for the 214 who were already in the center and the 500 new arrivals. The meals were delayed about one hour, but peace was attained, and from the point of view of the Japanese, their objectives were gained. It seems to me that the Caucasain bent over backwards to win the cooperation of the Japanese cooks and this seems to indicate another corollary to the type of attitude Mr. Ernst first demonstrated and it seems to run ~~through~~ right down the line of his staff.

Here is part of the brief presented to Mr. Charles F. Ernst from the strikers.

1. We, 16 chief cooks and cooks, (included were two Bakers) wish to present the complete facts of the situation to the Project Director, Mr. Charles F. Ernst.

2. Under the present state of affairs, it's very difficult to return to work since we heard nothing from the Stewards, and we do appreciate and realize that the residents would suffer for our acts. We feel it important enough to get the problem settled now although we are willing to work at any time, starting at any time you wish, if necessary we will work all through the night.

3. We are willing to go back to work if Mr. Ernst personally requests it and for the good of the whole center, we will do any kind of work. We do not want to cause trouble and wish to avoid every bit of it, but Mr. Watson's and Mr. Allen's attitudes and their lack of coordination and the manner of their speech to us make it almost impossible for us to work harmoniously under them.

Our desire to work under them is very sincere, we assure you, but our patience and tolerance is tested to its limit and we find now that it is impossible to work under them since we are also human beings.

4. We place all the facts in your hands, Mr. Ernst and we have confidence in you to do the right thing for all of the parties concerned keeping in mind what is best for the whole center. We are willing to abide with whatever decision you make and will be willing to cooperate wholeheartedly with you. We wish to come to a working and wholehearted understanding with the Messrs. Watson and Allen, our chief stewards, and wish to do anything which you think will be the best for all concerned.

Very sincerely,  
and respectfully submitted

The kitchen working crew (signed)

scrap lumber

At Tanforan, the people who were fortunate enough to get their first got all the best usable lumber and those who arrived late got nothing. So, everyone was concerned about getting all the lumber they could lay their hands on and keep it for future use. The uses of lumber are many and varied in an assembly centers and more so in a relocation center where residence will be for a longer time and perhaps more permanent. Therefore, people were worried about lumber with almost same concern as their beds and showers and etc.

Tables, chairs, benches, bedside stools, and shelves, clothes hangers, closets, partitions, framework for number of purposes, drawers, bureaus, trays and other useful articles are few of the things the residents make with scrap lumber.

The same evacuees who experienced the mad rush for lumber who came to Topaz decided to be rational about the problem and try to prevent stealing of lumber and searching for lumber. The first contingent sat around the ~~xxxxx~~ table (the representatives of each barrack) and decided to stop any taking of lumber until everyone gets here from Tanforan and at the same time investigate to determine how much scrap lumber was available. Their decision was to appoint a committee to look into the problem. The committee's finding and their decision can best be gotten from the following announcement which they submitted for public consumption in the Topaz Times, a mimeographed publication which has been coming out twice weekly to date.

The article reads: "Sufficient scrap lumber is assured all residents of Topaz, according to the committee in charge of distribution. This committee will be temporary until everyone gets to Topaz from Santa ANITA AND Tanforan.

A rough estimate of 450,000 board feet of lumber is now available, and this amount will continue to be increased in line with the construction work on the buildings.

The block managers are to arrange to secure this lumber for the residents, and the committee asked that no nocturnal raids be conducted on the lumber pile. The committee also stressed the point that latecomers to Topaz will be as well supplied as the early ones, and that there was no need for hoarding."

In spite of the fact that announcement were made twice in the papers and all the dining halls were given the same announcement ~~xxxxxxx~~ orally, and Mr. Ernst made same request at each Reception Assemblies, people still try to hoard lumber.

Once, the contractors working on the Center Hospital told Mr. Ernst that unless stealing of lumber stopped, they would stop building the hospital. Guards were placed at every lumber source and notices given, but lumber of different size and amount is still being secretly hoarded by some of the residents. One way in which lumber could be gotten is by truck drivers. Truck drivers were allowed to go nearly anywhere in the center and so they would pile a few pieces of lumber and take it home. This would make the neighbors envious and cause them to feel that they are being left out of lumber. When they see others getting it, they also begin to want it badly. It has a bad psychological reaction and lowers morale of the center. Many go out in the night time and pick up few pieces. When guards stop them, they try to argue their way home. Some get angry and throw the lumber at the feet of the safety council wardens who are guarding the lumber and walk away insulted. It's not a problem and we feel that it's rather well controlled, but there are some who insist upon breaking the rules and who will not cooperate.

FIGHT

In block #7, there was a case of a beating. According to the police reports, it seems that an elderly man went over to his neighbors who had their radio turned on rather loudly and asked them to turn it down. He spoke in a curt manner and the young nisei ~~myx~~ youth who answered the door knock resented this elderly issei to order him around. Reports has it that the younger man struck the older issei in the face and slammed the door in his face. The older issei went home and told his son about it. The son got angry and got some of his friends and went over to the striker's place. They started to beat up the tough nisei who struck the old man.

The one who struck the old man was considered to be a bad one and had no regard for others and was considered to be a tough egg. The other young men who were rounded up by the son of the man who was struck in the face went to the ruffian who struck his father and demanded an apology. A fight ensued and the ruffian was badly beaten up. It was claimed that the son and his friends used sticks and clubs and if the ruffian didn't roll under the bed he might have been killed in the excitement. I don't know how many were involved in the fight, but the story seems to indicate three persons to be involved. The one who was beat up had to be taken to the hospital and his face was so badly bruised that it was hideous and he couldn't be recognized. As the offending young man was taken to the hospital for treatment, his brother was heard to announce that he would get revenge for his brother if it was the last thing he did in the center and told his older brother who went to the hospital to rest assured that he would be avenged.

This fight occurred in the middle of the week, Sept. 24th, 1942. It was the first serious fight since Tanforan people were assembled and evacuated. These people came from Tanforan.

PROSTITUTION

Monday, Oct. 5th, Mr. Charles Ernst had to send memorandum to various section heads to inform the public about the ruling regarding the behavior of the military police towards the residents and the residents towards the military police. This action was necessitated by a specific case of so-called prostitution.

There was at Tanforan a young lady of questionable character who used to have men patronize her for various prices. The residents ~~xxxxix~~ know her as "Texas Mary" and it seems that ~~she~~ she originally came from Texas and her name being Mary, it just became her monicker. Texas Mary works as a waitress in the Dining Hall #7. The Military Police quarters is just off of Block seven where she lives and works.

One of the soldier is now in the jail for being caught in the act of associating with this girl we call "Texas Mary". It seems, according to the police records, that she tried to make a contact through few of the military guards living in the military area and get some business. She has a few friends of the same questionable character who works with her in the dining halls and it seems that she was going into business of prostitution in a big way. There is no question that she has the evacuee men patronize her for I have heard them personally say that they have visited her.

This case was presented to the project director's eyes and he issued the memorandum about the nature of the conduct which the military police must observe towards the residents.

As yet, there doesn't seem to be an acute problem of prostitution in this center. There wasn't a serious problem at Tanforan although there was some of it which is only natural for a community of 8,000 odd people.

Fight-----Stabbing

In the evening of October 15th, the day on which the Tanforan's last contingent arrived making the complete arrival of all the residents, a group of kibel young men went to the apartment room of the issei and sons who were involved in a fight which was related on page 7 of the Social Disorganization-fh, and started a fight.

The kâbâ person who was very roughly and badly beaten up had been in the hospital for few weeks. His kâbei friends came from Tanforan and on the eve of their arrival his friends got together to avenge the beating the kibel took. They went to the home of the issei and the two sons and a fight took place.

One of the person got stabbed in the melâe. Details of the combat is not available at present, but when available, will be recorded. The fight was the continuation of the fight which took place earlier in Block seven on Sept. 24th, 1942. It was the revenge for the beating which the kibel got. This is another actual example of where the kibeis stick together and if aroused to anger, they will go very far in asserting their rights and their personal feelings.

FIRST CHURCH SERVICE

Sunday, Sept. 13th, 1942, at Rec. Hall #3 9:00 am to 10:00 am.

For the first time in the history of our lives a joint service was held between the Buddhist Faith and the Protestant Faith with members of both faith participating in the worship service.

It was one of the most unique experiences in the lives of Japanese and Americans alike.

There was a definite effort in the minds of every resident during the first two weeks to cooperate with one another and it was best manifested in the joint worship service which was the first of its kind in our history. In normal pre-war community life, such a thing would never be possible. It took the abnormal war situation to bring about this breaking down of social, religious barriers and join together for a worship.

The Rev. T. Goto preached the sermon which was liked and appreciated by both the Christian members and the Buddhist members. Youth leaders in both religion participated in the program in

English and the Rev. T. Goto spoke in Japanese mixed with number of English word which was thoroughly understood by all those attending. There was nothing rigid or denominational in his message for he didn't speak only to Christian people, but to all religious groups and was very tactful and yet forceful and inspiring.

In order to bring the uniqueness of this meeting to a sharper focus it is ~~relevant~~ relevant to delve into the background of Christian and Buddhist religious community life. In the Bay ~~Region~~ Region in the vicinity of San Francisco, California the Christian forces and the Buddhist groups were well organized

## CHRISTIAN-BUDDHIST BACKGROUND

AND VERY ACTIVE. There always was a friendly, but neverthe less, a very competitive proselyting of the lay community members to their respective churches.

The Christian forces were themselves split up into various denominations such as the Methodists, Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Baptists, Free Methodists, Congregational and combined units such as United Church and Christ Church which is a combination of two or three denominations. However, when it comes to large conventions and conferences, all the Christians groups would join together and forget denominational barriers and become as one group.

The Buddhist groups weren't divided into various sects like the Christians were. They had two major division in name only, the details I am not familiar, but one of the large sect, the strongest group in America is called the Hongwanji Sect. For over 15 years the Christian forces have been holding annual conventions in some central located city. So, not to be outdone, the Buddhist young people started to hold conventions <sup>about 6 yrs ago</sup> and in order to attract the larger attendance they publicized their conventions through all available information channels such as the daily vernaculars of local areas in Japanese and English, posters, announcements at public meetings and <sup>by</sup> ~~through~~ word of mouth. The program for the Buddhist Conventions were not primarily for creating converts or building Buddhist religion. Their main attractions have been dances, banquets, and entertainment. In other words, it was an attractive convention with lots of fun, chance to meet friends, make new friends, and enjoy themselves. Many did not go for religious purposes, but for social purposes.

## CHRISTIANITY-BUDDHISM BACKGROUND

It is only fair to the Buddhist groups to mention that the Christian Conferences were not exactly what one calls only for religious purposes. It was necessary to do a lot of publicity work, have entertainments, religious dramas, banquets, socials in order to induce the delegates to attend. However, social dancing, one of the most powerful of drawing cards, was not permitted in Christian conferences whereas, in the Buddhist Conferences, it is one of their main attractions. So it isn't surprising to find many of the Christian boys and girls attending the Buddhist conventions to participate in the dancing and other fun.

All the foregoing information regarding the Buddhist and Christian conferences concerns only the ~~younger~~ younger element of the adult population of the Japanese Americans. The issei religious leaders of both faith, Buddhism and Christianity, are more serious and do not have large conferences as <sup>young people do,</sup> ~~they do,~~ although the ministers have conferences among themselves or with elders and other important church dignitaries. In other words, the lay membership of the churches do not have conferences in the big state-wide scale as the younger people have been having them.

The purposes of the Christian Conferences is to build more Christ-like personality and to stimulate and help train leaders in Christian work in each local community. Problems of nisei church, sunday school, and community services are discussed and forums, lectures and seminars are held with top Caucasian leaders leading who are asked to volunteer their services. Ministers are often asked to participate and give main addresses ~~xxxx~~ such as Dr. Vere Loper of Berkeley Congregational Church, Dr. Stanley Hunter of Berkeley, and Dr. Trueblood of Stanford, Calif. & many others.

The purpose of the Buddhist conferences were for the purposes of interesting more individuals with the Buddhist religion and to train leadership. In both the Christian groups and in the Buddhist groups there were excellent leaders of young people among the young people themselves, but in the Bay Region there are more Christian leaders than Buddhist leaders.

So it was only natural that the Christian activities, especially the conferences and mass rallies were more matured and better organized. For over 15 years the Christian conferences have been going on, while the Buddhist gatherings which is called Bussei Confab for short has been held within the last five, six years on statewide scale. Many of the Buddhist activities have been aping of the Christian conferences with emphasis on socials and dances. (The word Bussei is coined from Buddhist and Nissei)

#### CHRISTIAN CONFERENCES

In the Bay Region (San Francisco and vicinity,) a conference is held in the Spring month, March or April, for those living ~~in~~ in the Bay Region areas. This conference is called the Bay Region Young Peoples Christian Conference. About 350 to 400 ~~delegates~~ delegates attend this one with ages ranging from sophomore in high school to college graduates, 15 - 30 years of age. In the fall, there is a larger conference called the Northern California Young People's Christian Conference with close to 800 in attendance. These conferences require representation delegates from each church among the Christian Japanese communities in Northern California which really goes all the way down south as far as Bakersfield, California.

These conferences must be held on very strategic dates, one week-ends which will not interfere with the annual 'Big Game', with

harvesting of farm crops, with weather conditions. The duration of these conferences usually is three days, starting on Friday afternoon with registration, continuing all day Saturday and then closing with Worship services on Sunday afternoon around 4:00 pm. This will give the delegates who have to travel hundreds of miles chance to get home so they can be at work on Monday morning.

Housing of delegates have been a big problem which was partially solved by asking members of Caucasian churches to house one or two delegates for two nights. Up to the break of war, cooperation in this respect was excellent and close to 300 delegates have been voluntarily housed by caucasian friends. in the city in which the conferences are held. Usually, Berkeley, California was chosen because it had best facilities, the American churches were most cooperative and it was rather centrally located in Northern California. U. C. Campus and some of its buildings were used for luncheons and other meetings, and large, beautiful Christian Churches and Pacific School of Religion were borrowed for meeting places.

In order to put on a conference, each year a Executive Cabinet is chosen with representatives from various churches and this committee starts to organize the conference about 6 months ahead, reserving churches, getting cooks and banquet halls, selecting working committees, and publicity. By participating in these activities, many young nisei were given such wonderful training in leadership, in organization, in public relations that they become prominent leaders in their respective communities. Starting from Christian conferences, many nisei leaders of today can look back on their Christian Conference experiences and say that it was those experiences which started them right and gave them the groundwork for leadership and organization.

There is truism in the statement, "Leaders will be leaders anywhere", but unless they get their basic training and stimulation to further leadership somewhere, leaders just aren't made. So, I wish to re-emphasize this point, that the nisei leaders in different communities, notably in the Bay Region areas, the Christian Conferences have been one big factor in their leadership. It proved as the training ground for them and I find this especially true among many of my friends and even myself. We get well-known and popular through our activities in the Conference movement and then the community recognized our leadership and soon we are taking active role in the community life in different phases besides just religious.

The same fact remains true for the Buddhist groups. Their leaders are the ones who take active part in the community life, politics (JACL) and other activities, and in the same way the Christian leaders get their training by taking active role in the setting up of and programming the conferences, the Buddhist leaders get their basic training and ~~xxxxxxx~~ stimulations from participating as chairman, or some other capacity in the executive committee of the Buddhist Conferences. The Buddhist groups hold their conferences on Coastwide scale holding their meetings or conferences in San Francisco, Seattle, Los Angeles and once they held a huge gathering during the Treasure Island World's Fair in San Francisco Bay.

It seems ~~paradoxical~~ paradoxical when we look at the actual ratio between the number of Buddhist parents and Buddhist children and Christian Parents and Christian children. There are greater number of Buddhist parents, but fewer Buddhist Children. I do not have actual figures to back up my statements so I must talk in terms of generalities.

There are more Christian children than there are Buddhist children although there are fewer Christian parents than Buddhist parents. Of those isseis who are Christians, we have more sincere and devout Christians than the Buddhist isseis compared on equal quantity. Perhaps, the fact that United States is a Christian nation in its essential genius <sup>and</sup> the schools and the American way of life is imbued with the Christian doctrines and spirit the children reared in this country although born into Buddhist homes become Christianized and join Christian churches and become known as belonging to the Christian faith.

One of the most instrumental factor in Americanizing the children born of Japanese parents and the same thing applies to children of any other foreign parentage is the Christian attitude, training and teachings. It is the Christian churches which acts as the center of the child's early life and his adolescent years' activities. In most of the rural and urban communities in which there are predominance of Japanese residents, the Churches are the center spot of the respective community life. The Buddhist churches although Oriental in its teachings and its rituals and ceremonies is aping the Christian methods and techniques for the nisei and the younger elements of the church. The meetings are conducted in the same manner as in Christian churches, Sunday schools are conducted in same manner and the messages which should be Buddhist are modified to meet the interest of the Americanized children. So, it is easier for the nisei to be partial to the Christian faith than be receptive to the Buddhist faith.

Number of efforts have been made to rejuvenate and re-stimulate the interest of the Buddhist nisei to adhere to the rigid

Oriental Buddhist faith and to the teachings of Buddha. This became necessary since the Buddhist nisei were given such flexible and modified Buddhist religion that it lost much of its punch and the nisei who started with the Buddhist faith because their parents made them attend the Buddhist Sunday Schools and etc. drifted away from the Church, especially when they became old enough to judge the merits of their religion by themselves.

So, today, we have more Christians among nisei population although the parents who have been Buddhist up to now remains so. Among the issei there are more Buddhist although they are probably just Buddhist in ~~an~~ name <sup>rather</sup> ~~more~~ than in deep ~~firmly/true~~ faith, than there are Christian issei. Those issei who became Christians are sincere and more serious in their faith than those who profess the Buddhist faith. This does not mean that there are no serious Buddhist adherents for there are some who are better Buddhist than number of Christian issei who are Christians. However, as stated before, there are more serious Christians than there are serious Buddhist for the same number of people compared in any given community.

CHURCH SERVICES AT TOPAZ

Since the initial joint faith meeting, the Buddhist priests have been having their own services since the center population grew with each arriving contingent of 500 per contingent. They would make the announcements of the morning services on the same announcement sheet as the ones the other Church services are announced which includes the Christian services, the Seventh Day Adventists, the Catholic Church services. The Christian ministers have their services in the rec. halls and the same for other sects.

Each Sunday morning the church services are held, first at 9:00 am the Sunday School ~~worship~~ worship service is held and to date Oct. 16th, the Sunday schools are not broken up into classes. There is mass service for all the different sects except the Seventh Day Adventists which holds their services on Saturdays, on Sunday morning in both the English and Japanese. Until better facilities are available, the church and Sunday school worship services are held in the Rec. Halls.

Starting this Sunday, Oct. 18th, the Protestant Sunday School and the Young People's Church Services will be held in two separate places in order to accommodate the large audience.

The first three Sunday only about 25 to 30 people showed up either for the Sunday School and the Church. On the fourth Sunday the Sunday School and Church was filled to capacity which is a great increase of over 200 -300 in attendance. This increase cannot be explained for majority of the residents were already at Topaz before last Sunday and if they wanted to come, they could have filled the churches to overflow the room. In all mass activities the attendance has been very poor. In social dancing, in meetings, in assemblies, in talent shows, the attendances have been very small and interest has been very weak and small.

## INTER\*FAITH CHURCH COUNCIL

The ministers of all faith at Topaz met together under the invitation of Mr. Loren Bell, head of Community Services. The ministers of Buddhist faith, Protestant faith, and other religious sects and denominations met together and formed an alliance which will be known as the Inter-Faith Church Council. The first organizational meeting was held on September 22nd, 1942, at the Community Services Headquarters.

Using the recreational buildings as the basis, the Council set up temporary locals for the church meetings. The Council unanimously elected Rev. Taro Goto as its chairman and Rev. Kumata as secretary. The following were selected to aid in religious ~~pr~~ publication, through the Topaz Times, for all church activities; Tad Hirota, Buddhist; M. Nishimura, Protestant; H. Honamai, Catholic.

Rev. Taro Goto stressed Americanization as the central theme of the council.        /

This Inter-Faith Council is a very unusual body. It is one of the big surprises, one of the human miracles of Topaz life. It could be safely stated that this would never happen in normal life. It took the war situation and the bringing together of all religious faiths to live together cooperatively to induce the different religious bodies to form one body to regulate and coordinate their activities. Unless these different ministers of various sects and faith were not herded together making their mutual plight a common plight for all, this attitude and this cooperative spirit would be difficult to stimulate. It is truly one of the big surprise in social history of the Japanese people in United States.

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In normal pre-war communities, this very goal of bringing together all the religious groups into one body was attempted many times, but it has never succeeded. It is the first time that this success has been achieved. Even at Tanforan, there was rivalry and misunderstandings. It took the friendly attitude of Topaz and the excellent leadership of the administrative staff members, notably the Project Director and Mr. Lorne Bell, Chief of Community Services to bring about this cordial relationship. Japanese are known as very cliquish people, and this is especially true of the religious groups. If the ministers are willing their members won't permit any alliance. So, the Topaz experience is unique that it is the first time that such an alliance and unity of spirit was achieved and it was only possible because of the abnormal situation brought about by the war. The beauty of the whole thing is that the ministers are happy that such an alliance was formed and they are cooperating 100% in keeping it a success and harmonious.