1:10 COMMITTEE RECORDS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP "CONFERENCE ON INTERRACIAL COORDINATION" JAN. 10-11, 1945

C-A
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Proposal for a Strategy Conference on Coordination of Effort for Evacuee Return and for other Interracial Problems - December 20, 1944.

The Need. Since the Japanese Evacuation began, many agencies have worked on the problems that were thereby precipitated, but there has been little coordination of effort among them. The job has been so large that overlapping has been slight, but on the other hand, coordinated planning and effort would unquestionably have made better use of personnel and resources.

Now that many evacuees will be returning to the Coast within a few months, it seems eminently wise to effect some measue of coordination among the chief agencies concerned.

A further reason for such coordination arises from the fact that the large influx of Negro and Mexican workers during the last few years has complicated interracial relations, and has given rise to numbers of new interracial committees, such as those formed in Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Seattle. In those three cities a considerable measure of coordination has been effected, but still there are many committees giving incidental attention to racial matters which have not been included.

Statement of Main Purposes of Proposed Strategy Conference

1. To draw together, for joint planning of programs aimed at facilitating the orderly return and harmonious integration into community life of such evacuees as may return, all those agencies on the West Coast vitally concerned, - civic, social, religious.

2. To provide a steering committee or other organizational machinery which will ensure continued coordination of planning and execution of general programs agreed upon.

3. To consider whether it might be well to look forward to bringing about similar coordinated planning and execution in reference to other problems in the field of race relations, in the Pacific Coast States.

Agencies Known to be Concerned and Eligible to Participate in Conference

Amer. Council on Race Relations
Amer. Friends Service Committee
Committees on Race Relations of Churches-denominational, interdenominational
Protestant Church Commission for Japanese Service
Young Men's And Young Woman's Christian Associations of Area
International Institutes
Japanese American Citizens League
Nat. Association for Advancement of Colored People
National Urban League
Filipino and Chinese Associations
International House of Univ. of California
Councils on Civic Unity and similar municipal committees in Los Angeles San Francisco, and other cities.
Committee on American Principles and Fair Play, and its main chapters
Friends of the American Way -- Pasadena
East and West Association, West Coast Branch, Santa Barbara
Committee for Intercultural Education
Consultants from W.R.A., Educational Associations, Etc.

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Labor Organizations

AGENDA

Planning Committee Meeting for Strategy Conference to be held January 10, 1945, on problems relating to the return of persons of Japanese Ancestry to the Pacific Coast.

I. What will be the nature of the Strategy Conference?

a) Purpose (Reintegration of returnees)
b) Scope (Coastwide)
c) Participation

II. Areas of action and interest:

1) Welfare of returnees
2) Housing for returnees
3) Jobs for returnees
4) Public Relations
5) Liason with Government Agencies

III. Means of Coordinating Work by all groups in phases mentioned, in

1) Rural areas
2) Urban Centers

IV. Suggestions of persons whose interest should be utilized in Conference and ensuing program.

V. Discussion of future coordination of similar efforts in field of race relations.

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Highlights of Conference on Interracial Cooperation

at Palace Hotel, San Francisco
January 10-11, 1945

Sponsored by -- Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play.

Purposes: 1. To draw together persons connected with Government Agencies and voluntary organizations in order to plan jointly for the orderly and harmonious integration into community life of such evacuees of Japanese ancestry as may return, with Army approval, to the West Coast, and

2. To consider creating machinery to ensure coordination of plans agreed upon and of activities of organizations concerned with interracial and intercultural relations.

Participants: Representatives of Government Agencies:--

War Relocation Authority
Federal Social Security
War Manpower Commission
Federal Public Housing Administration
Children's Bureau
U. S. Office of Education
Civil Service Commission
President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices
Public Health Service
State War Board
California Agricultural Adjustment Agency
California Department of Agriculture
Farm Security Administration
Emergency Farm Labor Project, Agricultural Extension Service.
Federal Land Bank, Berkeley
United States Employment Service

Members of Voluntary Organizations:
Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play --Representatives from: Los Angeles, Pasadena, Santa Barbara, Sacramento, Fresno, San Mateo, San Jose, Seattle.
San Francisco Council for Civic Unity
Seattle Council for Civic Unity
Berkeley Democratic Club
National Conference of Christians and Jews
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
Filipino Groups
Residents of relocation centers

Berkeley Interracial Committee
American Council on Race Relations
Berkeley Branch--Women's Internation League
Committee on Resettlement, Federal Council of Churches.
Rosenberg Foundation
Columbia Foundation
Chinese Six Company
Office of Community War Services
Young Men's Christian Association
Young Women's Christian Association
American Civil Liberties Union
International Institutes
Congress of Industrial Organizations
Northern California Council of Churches
East and West Association
Community Chest
American Friends Service Committee
Japanese-American Citizen's League
Jewish Survey Committee
Representatives of the difference churches

The Agenda:

Program: January 10

9:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

I. Call to Order and Statment of Purpose, by the Chairman, Mr. Maurice E. Harrison.

II. The Situation and the Outlook as seen by Mr. Dillon S. Myer, Director, War Relocation Authority.

III. Statements by representatives of other Federal Agencies

See Part II for Summaries

V. Description and Explanation of Work Groups, meeting from 11:30 -12:30 and 1:45-3:15 p.m.
(Numbers I, II, and III are primarily concerned with problems facing persons of Japanese ancestry returning to the Western Defense Area.)
(Numbers IV and V are related to all groups working on practical technigues in the general field of race relations on the Pacific Coast.)

Group No. I Welfare
Chairman: Mr. Richard M. Neustadt
Secretary, Miss Priscilla Beattie

Group No. II Legal & Constitutional Questions
Chairman: Mr. Edgar Bernhard
Secretary: Mrs. Maynard Force Thayer

Group No. III Employment
Chairman: Dr. Hubert Phillips
Secretary: Mr. Joseph Conard

Group No. IV Public Relations:
Chairman: Mr. George Rundquist
Secretary: Miss Ann Madsen

Group No. V Coordination of Interracial Programs
Chairman: Mr. Herman Hagedorn
Secretary: Miss Annie Clo Watson

3:30 to 5:15 Consideration by the Conference of Reports and Recommendations of Work Groups. Chairman, Dr. Monroe E. Deutsch.

5:15 to 5:30 Summary by Dr. Arthur Cushman McGiffert, Jr.

January 11.

10:00 a.m. Call to Order--A. J. McFadden, Chairman, State Board of Agriculture

10:10 Introductory Remarks--Dr. Paul S. Taylor, Vice-Chairman, Committee on American Principles and Fair Play and former member State Board of Agriculture.

10:15 Outlook and Situation of Japanese-American's in Pacific Coast Agriculture---Statements by State and Federal Agencies.

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11:30 The Situation of the Returning Japanese-American Farmer: Statements by chairman and members of the Conference.

11:45 Question Period

1:30 p.m. Call to Order--Prof. Paul S. Taylor
Discussion of Problems raised in Morning Program

3:00 p.m. Summary by the Chairman.

HIGHLIGHTS OF CONFERENCE ON INTERRACIAL COOPERATION

PALACE HOTEL, SAN FRANCISCO
January 10-11, 1945

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Public Health Service
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PART I

The Gist of the Conference

1. It was widely Representative.

Among the participants were representatives of five Federal and four State agencies: voluntary agencies concerned with interracial and intercultural relations; Nisei and Japanese evacuees; and persons of the Negro, Filipino and Korean minorities; also representatives of the press.

2. It was Constructive.

Attention was focussed primarily upon solving the problems arising from the prospective return of some of the Nisei and Japanese evacuees, and secondarily, upon mobilizing the forces of order and good will in local communities. No time was spent in arraigning the "opposition".

3. Cooperation of Other Minorities with Evacuees

The Negro, Filipino and Korean spokesmen all expressed eagerness to safeguard the rights and liberties of returning evacuees, and said that any attempt to make capital for their own racial groups at the expense of the Japanese would be sawing off the limb on which they themselves sat. They recognized that all minorities - and for that matter, all citizens - were in the same boat, and that to deny full constitutional rights to any racial or religious group would weaken the rights of all. Specifically, the Negro spokesmen said they would make no trouble over cases where Japanese owners of houses legally terminated leases to Negro tenants; and the Filipino and Korean spokesmen declared they would not allow indignation over atrocities by the Japanese military to betray them into taking revenge on innocent and unfortunate persons of Japanese descent here.

4. No Discrimination by Government Agencies.

Spokesmen for nine Government agencies gave assurances that they practiced no discrimination on account of race, color or creed, and that they attempted to secure application of the same policy by local agencies, such as Housing and County Farm Security committees. It was admitted, however, that local agencies were swayed by local sentiment and might discriminate against returning evacuees. The cure for such discrimination would be to develop strong community committees for constitutional rights and fair play. As to housing, returnees employed in war industries would get housing on the same basis as other people; but evacuees working in other industries would have great difficulty in finding housing unless they owned houses or took farm or domestic positions. The operation by churches and other private agencies of hostels and other temporary accomodations for evacuees will help greatly, but will not solve the permanent need. It was urged that the W.R.A. should operate hostels, but no assurance to that effect was given.

5. Mobilizing Community Forces now Urgent

It was agreed that the overwhelming majority of people on this Coast are fair-minded and averse to active discrimination against returnees, but that in order to check lawless and malicious groups intensified efforts should at once be made to mobilize the forces of order and good will, especially in interior centers. Experience has shown that leading citizens will readily participate in forming a Council for Civic Unity or a Fair Play committee when it is brought home to them that unless they make their influence felt for law and equal rights, a few lawless acts by night-raiders may cause great damage to life, property, and the city's reputation. Already in some communities vigilante gangs have begun to work under cover, and although returning evacuees may be their first victims, they would not be their last.

It was pointed out that hostility to returnees generally stems either from ignorance or from self-interest, and that the best cures are constant publicity for the truth and the organization of sound and responsible citizens.

6. Coordination of Interracial and Intercultural Agencies Demanded.

The Conference was called partly in order to pave the way for effecting closer coordination among the scores of councils and committees on the Coast that are concerned with some phase of racial or cultural relations. A strong desire was evidenced for the formation of a Coastwide agency, which would have four functions, namely: to serve as a Clearinghouse for information; to make Inquiries and Studies of general value; to Evaluate the work of agencies, when requested; and to Stimulate the undertaking of new projects and the Formation or Coordination of local agencies.

PART II

Statements by Government Agency Representatives

Federal Public Housing Authority -- Langdon Post, Regional Director

"We will house returning Japanese - Americans who become war workers, in the same manner in which we house any eligible war workers. The same policy will apply to persons of Japanese ancestry making application for employment in our offices, subject to ...standards set up by the Civil Service Commission..."

War Manpower Commission - A. E. O'Brien, Regional Attorney

"The rules and regulations of the War Manpower Commission were adopted for all Americans, regardless of race, creed, or color. To the best of our ability, we will continue to apply these rules indiscriminately. The War Manpower Commission recognizes its responsibility under its memorandum with the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices, and will continue to strive to carry out that responsibility.

The War Manpower Commission can not assume responsibility for factors affecting employment over which it has no control, such as problems of housing, transportation, health, and safety.

Fair Employment Practices Committee -- Harry L. Kingman, Regional Director.

Whenever the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice receives a complaint that a worker of Japanese ancestry who has been returned to the West Coast with Army approval is denied equal employment opportunity by employers or unions in war industry or in Government, it will investigate to determine whether the complaint is valid. If discrimination is found to exist, the Committee will do its best to obtain elimination of the unfair employment practices. The same attempt will be made in this case to carry out the provisions of the national Non-Discrimination Order that is made in behalf of any other minority worker over which the FEPC has jurisdiction.

Children's Bureau -- Miss Lenroot, Chief

The Children's Bureau consistently advocates justice to all people regardless of race, color, or creed, and especially, equal access of all children to all services and opportunities promoting their health, education and welfare. Administration of all services for which Children's Bureau is responsible, including Maternal and Child Health, Emergency Maternity and Infant Care, Crippled Children's Services, and Child Welfare Services is based on this principle. We are particularly interested in opportunities that will be afforded to loyal Japanese returning to their former homes and communities, or relocating elsewhere. The Children's Bureau will give all possible cooperation in working out plans for mothers and children.

Federal Security Agency, Social Security Board.-- Richard Neustadt, Regional Director

"The Federal Security Agency and all its technical operating organizations including the Social Security Board, the U. S. Public Health Service, the U. S. Office of Education, and the Office of Community War Services, have gladly pledged their full cooperation to the War Relocation Authority in resettling those who were evacuated from their former homes on the West Coast. The provision of financial

assistance is being made through the Bureau of Public Assistance of the Social Security Board, which will supervise the distribution of such funds through the State public welfare departments and their constituent units in the counties. Technical and professional advice of all the agencies operating under the Federal Security Agency, and also the Children's Bureau, as well as all other Government departments that in any way deal with the problems of human beings, is available to the War Relocation Authority, which is the agency having primary responsibility."

EXTRACTS FROM ADDRESS BY DILLON S. MYER

Mr. Myer insisted that all the Centers must be closed by December 31, 1945, and the schools in them by summer, a decision to which a number of his hearers objected as impracticable and unwise. Dependency would be cared for by the local welfare agencies in the communities where the people settle, and "if these agencies can not meet the need, we will ask the Social Security Board to do it, a better and cheaper plan than to open centers especially for such dependents." W.R.A. will not dictate where evacuees should settle, but will advise them, as heretofore, to scatter, and to go eastward unless they have pressing reason to return to the Coast. Of the 35,000 already relocated, 85% are nisei. and 70% of them have settled in the Middle and Eastern states. This may make it hard for the older folks, and some families may never be reunited.

He opined that "there would be little violence against returnees to the Coast, because people are not going to attack those whose sons, fathers and brothers are fighting beside other American boys. Already, 316 nisei from California have been war casualties, 70 of them killed. Those who return to the Coast are urged to get jobs in advance, but we can't insist on it: they are free agents like the rest of us. Resettlers must get loans from federal or private sources, and several bankers have told me they would be glad to do business again with them."

EXTRACTS FROM ADDRESS BY PAUL S. TAYLOR

Professor Paul Taylor, close student of farm labor, exploded fallacies about the Japanese residents with facts, among which were the following: Between 1930 and 1940, the number of persons of Japanese descent declined by nearly 9%. In the same period, the number of such persons in the larger cities on the Coast declined in nine out of ten of them. The total Japanese population will not increase; as the Tolan Committee declared, it is bound to drop substantially. In 1940, there were only 8,307 wage workers of Japanese ancestry on farms, most of them so old that they can not long "displace" any other race. The acreage of farms operated by Japanese declined between 1920 and 1940 from 7/10ths of 1% to 4/10ths of 1%, of the total farm acreage. Unpaid members of Japanese families cannot constitute a serious competitive threat for there were in 1940 only 4,832 such workers on Japanese farms, less than one per Japanese operated farm, and only one to every 57 farms on the coast.

Prof. Taylor closed his remarks with a cutting reference to Hood River. He said that in truck farming farmers of Japanese ancestry "have competed with the most highly-industrialized agricultural operators in the West. People are acutely conscious of this competition in areas where industrialized grower-shippers predominate. But to those of us whose interest lies in the welfare of western agriculture, the warning of Hood River is clear. There, heedless citizens took measures to oppose persons of Japanese ancestry whose loyalty to this country is beyond question. All the money and effort of years to advertise apples never carried the name of Hood River over the nation and across the seas like those measures. We do not want our lettuce and melons and fruits advertised...as the apples of Hood River were advertised."

Dave Davidson, Chairman, State War Board and California Agricultural Agency.

The policy of the Agricultural Adjustment Agency makes no difference in treatment because of race. The regular payment programs of the Triple A recognize as eligible producers any farmers, either tenants of landlords, who are operating farms. Triple A does not even make distinction because of citizenship or the lack thereof although payments are, of course, dependent on Treasury and other Government regulations. No distinction with regard to special services rendered by Triple A to farm operators is made because of race. Any farm operator who can qualify receives assistance.

The regulations prescribed for the Department of Agriculture War Board give no recognition to any difference in treatment because of race.

Ralph W. Hollenberg, Regional Director of the Farm Security Administration.

Rural rehabilitation or operating loans may be made to citizens, and aliens not of enemy nationality who have indicated their intention of becoming citizens, on the same basis as apply to any applicant. Farm purchase loans are available to veterans of the present war, farm tenants, renters, and laborers, who are American citizens. Health Services, Water facilities loans, and Group Services Loans are available. Before a loan can be made to any applicant, the County Farm Security Administration, composed of three prominent local farmers, must pass on his eligibility, character and integrity. (It was observed that the sticking-point was likely to be in some of these County committees).

Frank Buckner -- Associate State Supervisor, Farm Labor Project;
Agricultural Extension Service, University of California

The Agricultural Extension Service can take no other position that that of seeing that the farm placement in this State is open to all employers and all workers without discrimination. It is open and free to every farmer and every worker in the State, Farm Labor Offices are located in each county of agricultural importance and all offices are prepared to assist job applicants in finding agricultural employment.

The Agricultural Extension Service is required from time to time to certify to the War Food Administration the needs of the State for foreign agricultural labor. Such certifications of need are based on the principle that qualified domestic labor shall not be displaced by the foreign workers. If Japanese-Americans become a part of the agricultural work force in California, that fact will be taken into consideration when certifications for Mexican Nationals are made, and the basic principle referred to above will be observed.

Willard Ellis, President Federal Land Bank, Berkeley

The Land Bank has made loans to Japanese-Americans and when they come back, they will receive the same kind of treatment that they formerly received. However, the Land Bank cannot make a loan to anyone unless it is first recommended by the local association of farmers, since the local farmers have to become liable for the loans. In the past, there have been a few instances of prejudice against making loans, and there might be some under existing circumstances. I think, however, that there will be a minimum of prejudice, and that most of those who have the necessary security can obtain loans through their local associations.

Discussion: Afternoon of January 11

The question of housing must be immediately considered and the various possibilities worked out. The National Housing Authority and W.R.A. are trying to work out a plan of housing for war workers. Temporary housing is being planned by church groups.

Dr. Kim expressed the desire of the Korean people to help in what ways they can. He also recommended that other conferences be held as a means of understanding the problems of minorities and fostering cooperation among all groups.

Mr. Antonio A. Gonzales, representing Filipino communities of the Western states: the problems of the Filipinos are also acute at this time. The Filipinos as Christians are endeavoring to practice Christian ideals in their relationships with other minority groups.

The San Mateo Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People presented a petition to be called to the attention of the National Housing Administration and the Federal Public Housing Authority, for immediate assistance in the housing situation in their community. Despite the serious problem presented because so many Negroes live in the areas formerly occupied by Japanese Americans, the Negro cummunity seems to be almost universally sympathetic with the Japanese-Americans and fully convinced that their return to the Coast is right and appropriate.

The question of laborers of Japanese ancestry versus those of Mexican nationality was raised. An objection to paying for the importation of Mexican labor was voiced, since the returning Japanese will provide a source of labor, already in this country, and by the rules of the War Food Administration must not be displaced by imported workers.

Mr. Saburo Kido, President of the Japanese-American Citizen's League, sought some official declaration by the conference as to the return of evacuees to the West Coast. Since the conference was not a delegated body, it was decided that no resolutions could be adopted.

PART III

ROUND TABLE FINDINGS

WELFARE

All the city and county Welfare Departments are fully advised of the policies and procedures developed by the State Welfare Department and also of the aid available from the Federal Government, and they know they must provide public assistance and institutional care for the evacuees who qualify for such services the same as for any other persons.

The acute shortage of housing points to the need for the W.R.A. to exert itself to secure all possible aid from the Federal and local housing authorities, and also to provide hostels for scouting evacuees, in addition to the hostels being provided by private agencies.

LEGAL QUESTIONS

It was recommended (1) that WRA extend beyond 60 days the period after which free transportation of movable belongings will not be granted; and impose less strict limitations on the amount and kind of help given; (2) that WRA represent evacuees in court; and (3) that naturalization be open to the alien parents of those now in the armed services; and those working for the government in war services.

EMPLOYMENT

Government agencies should be given public support in applying their excellent policies of non-discrimination. All government agencies should be urged to reinstate former employees of Japanese descent and should be urged to make available employment for other American citizens of Japanese descent on an equal basis with other citizens.

The present policy of the U. S. Employment Service, if a person referred by it to work is turned down for what appears to be racial discrimination, is to report this to the War Manpower Commission or the FEPC, and it will not make other referrals to such an employer until the issue has been properly settled.

The War Manpower Commission controls only after an evacuee has taken his first job. Then he is subject to the same restrictions as other persons regarding shifting to another occupation. Evacuees are strongly urged to take war work.

Every effort should be made to discourage returning evacuees from accepting employment at sub-standard rates.

The problem of housing is acute, even in projects where war workers are eligible for public housing. Non-discrimination policies must be rigidly upheld. The problem of housing should not become a source of friction between the Negro and returning evacuees. It is gratifying to learn from Negro spokesmen in this conference that Negro organizations are exerting themselves to prevent such friction.

Threats to an evacuee should not be allowed to gain headway since they would encourage vigilantism. In the face of threats, support for evacuees from friends of order, and public authorities should be organized.

The National policies of the C.I.O. and the A.F. of L. forbid discrimination, based on race, creed or color. Public support of these policies is important, in order that they may be observed by local unions.

It was felt by several persons that the W.R.A. should take more vigorous action to help secure employment.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

In face of the tensions that have developed in America along racial and religious lines, it is imperative that an educational and publicity program be developed which will be aggressive and thorough. Techniques in developing such a program:

> Each community should organize an overall council or committee of outstanding citizens from every walk of life--labor, capital, business, etc. --to deal with racial and other minority tensions. The council should

carry on such activities as the following: (1) Investigate individual cases of discrimination that may lead to major tensions if unchecked: (2) Appoint a competent subcommittee to map out a program of community education through existing clubs, churches, labor unions, etc. (3) Reduce prejudice against various minorities by probing and exposing the sources of prejudice and by exhibiting the cultural and economic contributions of each minority; using such media as newspapers, radio, forums, school programs and a speakers bureau.

It is to be hoped that a coastwide or national agency will provide expert guidance in developing such programs.

COORDINATION OF INTERRACIAL AGENCIES

It is most desirable to encourage the formation of local councils for civic unity, mayor's committees, committees on race relations, etc., with the purpose of unifying all groups interested in minority problems. Then, it is important to create a Coastwide agency which can coordinate and serve all the local and regional councils and committees. This general coordinating agency would eliminate overlapping, evaluate and disseminate knowledge and techniques of action, and serve as a research and fact-finding agent.

There was no conclusion reached as to whether the coordinating agency should be entirely new or should be based upon an existing organization. But, it was recommended that the Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play give consideration to the problem, in consultation with other interested agencies. It was generally agreed that the American Council on Race Relations could render valuable service in research and counselling, in connection with whatever Coastwide coordinating agency might be formed.

It was further recommended that the WRA act as a clearing-house for information on housing, employment, and all other problems relating to returning evacuees.

Dear Ruth:
It might be good to check the accuracy of this with Harry, since I don't take short-hand + can't guarantee anything! Joe C.

CONFERENCE ON INTERRACIAL COORDINATION

San Francisco, January 10, 1945

(Called by Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play)

GROUP NO. III - EMPLOYMENT

Chairman: Dr. Hubert Phillips

The discussion was quite spontaneous and not organized around specific points. The following outline presents ideas in logical relationships to each other, rather than in the order in which they camp forth in the group.

I. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES.

The group felt substantial encouragement from the favorable position taken publicly by the various governmental agencies who had reported in the morning session. It was pointed out, however, that all the government agencies will have to be watched closely both in the regional and in the local offices, to be sure that the non-discriminatory policies are in fact carried out. If all government agencies really applied their good policies, the problem of resettling persons of Japanese ancestry should not be serious. Otherwise, it may be almost insuperable. Government agencies are substantially influenced by the citizenry when that citizenry is alert to the work of the agency and keeps in touch with it at any time the agency fails down.

Mention was made of the policy of California State Civil Service in removing from office all persons of Japanese ancestry in early 1942. It was also pointed out that former Nisei teachers on returning recently to the Coast have in at least some instances been unable to secure teaching jobs because of their ancestry.

It was unanimously resolved by the group that "All government agencies, national, state, and municipal, should be urged to reinstate former employees of Japanese descent and should be urged to make available employment for other American citizens of Japanese descent on an equal basis with other citizens."

[illegible]

Questions were asked concerning the policy of U.S. Employment Service and the War Manpower Commission. It was stated that whenever U.S. Employment Service refers a person of a minority race to an employer who does not accept the referral and whose reason appears to be racial discrimination, then the USES must report this to the War Manpower Commission or the FEPC and should not make other referrals until the matter has been clarified. The War Manpower Commission will try to deal with the matter, and if it does not succeed shortly, report the case to the FEPC. This policy was heartily approved.

The War Manpower Commission controls operate as follows in relation to Japanese Americans: Persons coming from relocation centers are available for any kind of work for which they apply, but are strongly encouraged to secure war work. After a person of Japanese ancestry has taken his first job, he will be subject to the same restrictions as other persons regarding shifting to another occupation. U.S. Employment Service will supply application forms in the relocation centers and will refer applicants first to war work. If specific jobs proposed are not acceptable for reasons which seem legitimate, U.S. Employment Service may refer the applicant to other war work.

The group resolved that "We request the State Legislature to enact a fair employment practices act in California."

II. WORK AND PAY STANDARDS.

In the east there have been a very large number of Japanese Americans who have accepted employment as domestics. This is partly because the demand for this kind of work is very high, partly because the Japanese Americans feel security not having to go from home to office and meet large numbers of people from the general public, and partly because domestic work provides a home with the job. There are now many demands for domestic help on the West Coast, and the question arises as to how far Japanese Americans should be encouraged to take this kind of occupation. Also the question was raised as to what should be done when well-intentioned

persons can offer a friendly atmosphere and a comfortable home for a domestic worker whom they are glad to have at a very modest payment, but to whom they cannot pay standard wages. Wages for domestics are in some cases very high at present, and therefore the prospective employer is faced with a difficult problem. It was pointed out, however, that there is a substantial difference in pay according to the quality and quantity of work given or required.

Although it was recognized that some individuals might find a happy relocation and a friendly home with sub-standard pay, it was the unanimous feeling of the group that any cutting of labor standards should be avoided, and the group resolved that "Every effort be made to discourage returning evacuees from cutting present wage levels by accepting employment at sub-standard rates."

It was mentioned that many times persons are unable quickly to find the kind of work for which they are trained, and the question was asked as to whether they should seek some menial type of work. It was the opinion of the group that this should be in any event a last resort and that every effort should be made to avoid a tendency for persons of Japanese descent to become associated typically with menial work. For this reason the tendency to congregate in domestic service should be discouraged, even though it is obvious that a certain number of persons of Japanese ancestry will legitimately want and should receive such work.

III. THE PROBLEM OF SECURING WORK.

Many Caucasians expressed a view that the problem of finding work would not be particularly ~~serious~~ difficult because of the serious manpower shortage. Nisei who had been seeking work in southern California and who were present in the group did not agree with this opinion. One reported efforts to secure work with several large industries, running from air craft to dairy work. In each case he was told that his services could not be used, and the most common reason was that other workers might quit.

It was suggested that those of us who wish to help might probably first call

upon the existing labor management committees set up in the industries where work is being sought. When favorable action is secured from the labor management committee, persons should get in touch with the management and with the labor union concerned.

It was pointed out that in many cases the statement that workers will quit is not a valid problem, but an excuse on the part of the management. One answer which might be given is to point out that if the worker did quit an essential industry, he would be without a certificate of availability for subsequent work.

Encouragement was felt because the A.F. of L. national convention took a stand opposing discrimination against persons of Japanese ancestry. The C.I.O. record is almost universally good, but the A.F. of L. unions which unite together in the Federation often have discriminatory clauses in their constitution which flatly contradict the more enlightened statement adopted at the recent annual convention. This frequently presents a problem with which citizens can best deal through securing the cooperation of members of unions. In general, however, there is no clear judgment concerning the best approach to a labor union. In some cases an outsider will be cordially welcomed to come and express his views to the union, while in other cases the problem may best be presented by a member of the union.

IV. HOUSING.

Although it was not the responsibility of this group to deal with the problem of housing, one cannot discuss employment without touching upon this most central difficulty. It was pointed out that despite the favorable statement made by representatives of the Federal Public Housing Administration, the problem of housing is acute. Racial origin does prevent housing for Negroes in a number of housing projects at the present moment, and it is most important that the announced policy of no discrimination against persons of Japanese ancestry be carried out. It was pointed out that only war workers are eligible for public housing, and that many of

the evacuees may not be able for one reason or another to become war workers. It was also pointed out that eligibility for public housing is a very different matter from actually securing space, because there is an absolute shortage of units available even for war workers. No solution at all adequate can be found unless there is an immediate and substantial increase in housing construction.

There was discussion of the particular problem presented to the Negro because so many Negroes live in the areas formerly occupied by Japanese Americans. Despite the serious problem presented, the Negro community seems to be almost universally sympathetic with the Japanese Americans and fully convinced that their return to the Coast is right and appropriate. It is important, however, for the Caucasian to see to it that the Negro does not have to bear alone the very large burden which would be presented by evacuees reoccupying houses now used by Negroes. With our concern to find housing for the returning evacuees, we must add an equal concern to find housing for other minority groups whom their return dispossesses. It was pointed out that this problem may not be so serious as it appears, because the number of homes actually owned by their former Japanese American occupants is relatively small.

In view of the fact that there is housing available for workers under the Navy at Hunters Point and Mare Island, the group suggested that the Navy should be approached and encouraged to recruit an appreciable number of evacuees for work at these points. No one can secure this work and housing unless he is actually recruited by the Navy.

V. PUBLIC INFORMATION.

It was the judgment of the group that the return of evacuees should in no sense be kept a secret or hushed up, with the idea that nothing will happen if we can just return the Japanese Americans quietly and unnoticed. The group inclined to feel that the return should be openly accepted and regarded as natural and right. Let it be known that "Mary Suzuki" has just returned to our neighborhood and that her brother is serving in the forces in Italy, etc. etc.

VI. SECURITY OF PERSON AND PROPERTY.

Mention was made of the rather frequent appearance of threats to the life or property of evacuees and rumors concerning violence already committed.

All present felt the urgency of confirming rumors before repeating them, because it is found that a substantial number are deliberately created in order to frighten Japanese Americans from coming back.

Similarly it is discovered that in most cases threats are made purely as a bluff, by people who have no intention whatever of carrying them out. In instances cited the W.R.A., having heard reports of threats, accompanied Nieei back to the community, secured the support of law-enforcing agencies, brought the evacuee out in plain sight of the community, and stayed with him to give moral support. In each case the threat is traced, so far as possible. In these instances the threat has come from utterly irresponsible sources, and the trouble quickly blew over.

It is recognized that there is inevitably some risk in remaining in any community after threats are received, and certainly law-enforcing agencies should be quickly brought to bear on the situation. Friends of the Japanese Americans and of the Constitution can also be rallied to the support of the person threatened. It seems important, however, that evacuees should not move out in the face of these threats, since every vigilante group which discovers ~~them~~ threats successful will be encouraged to try them again, and they might spread quite rapidly. On the contrary, if their futility is quickly proved, they will soon diminish.

It was therefore resolved that "In the face of threats we should organize support for the evacuee from friends and law authorities as occasion demands, and we should simultaneously encourage the evacuee to stay despite the admitted existance of some risk.

VII. ENCOURAGEMENT.

Instances of great encouragement were mentioned, including a telephone

call the morning of this meeting from an Italian on Terminal Island offering 100 jobs to returning evacuees, and an offer from Dutch Leonard near Fresno to provide 200 family units with jobs for evacuees who may accept this opportunity while seeking more permanent work and housing.

Joseph Conard
Secretary.

Organizations Represented

W.R.A.

Luther T. Hoffman, Topaz, Utah ---Project Director
Edgar Bernhard, S.F.--Assistant Solicitor
R.B. Cozzens, S.F. --Assistant Director
Pat Frayne, S.F.--Information Specialist
Marie D. Lane, Wash.D.C.--Head Welfare Section
Katherine Luomala, S.F. --Spcial Science Analyst
Winifred J. Ryder, S.F.--Welfare Consultant
Elmer R. Smith, Hunt,Idaho-- Community Analyst.
Helen K. Shipps, S.F. Medical Social Consultant
Walter Mewing, S. F. Area Supervisor
Charles F. Miller, S. F. Deputy Ass't. Director
Kent Silverthorne S. F. , Senior Attorney

National Conference of Christians & Jews

Caroline MacChesney, S.F. Executive Secretary
Dr. U.S. Mitchell, S.F. - Director
Milo J? Smith, S.F. - Membership Secretary
Mrs. M. Brothertos, S. F.
Jean Lindbarg S.F.

Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

Mrs. Wallace Alexander--Orinda
Harry W. Cox (Mrs.) San Mateo, Congregational Church
Galen M. Fisher, Orinda
Russell P. Hastings, S.F.
Mrs. John A. Hoien, Fowler
Will C. James-Berkeley
Katherine F. Kaplan, Los Angeles, Executive Secretary
Ruth W. Kingman, Berkeley, Executive Secretary
Elizabeth S. Kilsan, Berkeley
Annie B. Lapham, San Mateo
R.A. Leet, Oakland, Y.M.C.A. Pres.
Thomas E. Lopez, Fresno,
P.G. McDonnell, L.A.,
A. C. McGiffert,J r. Berkeley
Mrs Alfred McLaughlen, S. F.
28 Dr. Hubert Phillips, Fresno
Mrs. Roy V. Sowers, Alma
Mrs. Maynard F. Thayer, Pasadena
Dr. Henry T. Tyler, Sacramento
Clyde S. Cook, San Mateo,
E. Sebbelov, Burlingame
S. H. Buckham, San Mateo
Esther Cameron, San Mateo
R. Priscilla Beattie, Pasadena
Philip N. McCombs, Berkeley
Mrs. Paul Fleming, Oakland
Mary C. Baker, Fresno,
Monroe E. Deutsch, Berkeley
Nina E. Bancroft

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

Joseph James, S.F. President
Mary Shepardson, S.F. Chrm., Housing Committee
J. Montgomery Reynolds, San Mateo, Executive Committee Member
7 Kelly Mack, San Mateo, Vice-President
Mrs. Kelly Mack , Executive Committee
Geneva Dhue, S. F. Secretary
Sidney L. Staton, San Mateo, President, Peninsula Branch

Council For Civic Unity

5 Aubrey E. Haan, S.F. Ass't. Executive Secretary
David Jenkins, S. F. , Director
Mrs. Robert McWilliams, S. F. Chrm. Housing Committee
Ann P. Madsen, Seattle, Director
Matt Crawford, S. F.
Robert E. Gibson, S. F. , Executive Secretary

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Churches Doris Bowers, Pacific Scool of Religion
mr. S. H. Buckham, San Mateo Congregational Church
Clyde J. Burnett, Free Methodist, L. A. Supt. Pac. Coast Jap. Conf.
Gordon K. Chapman, Protestant Church Commission for Jap. Service, S. F
Mary Coxhead, Plymouth Congregational Church, Oakland
Royal H. Fisher, Denver, Am. Baptist, Home Mission Soc. Western Field Rep.
Buell Gallagher, Berkeley, Pacific School of Religion
Harley H. Gill, S. F. , Northern Calif. Cong'l. Conf.
Clarence S. Gillett, L.A., Congregational Committee on ChristianDemocracy
A. Raymond Grant, Sacramento, Methodist Church
O. J. Groeneveld, Hanford, Presbyterian Church
W. W. Groesbeck, Berkeley, Free Methodist Church
Rev. H. V. Hartsough, Hanford, Presbyterian
Eugene A. Hessel, Oakland, Oakland Council of Churches
Robert Inglis, Oakland, Oakland Council of Churches
Frederick D. Jordan, L. A. Church Federation of Los Angeles,
Rev. Sohei Kowta, Poston, Ariz. Christian Church
H.H. Landram, S. F. Council of Churches
Ann Larson, S. F. Protestant Commission
Dorothy M. Lupton, San Mateo, Congregational Church
E. D. Minton, Mountain View, Calif. Methodist Church
Rev. Glenn W. Moore, L. A. Presbyterian Church
W. Carl Nugent, Delta, Utah, Protestant Church Commission, Topaz,
Rev.S. C. Peabody, San Jose, First Congregational Church
Ralph H. Richardson, S. F. Methodist Church
Frank Herron Smith, Berkeley Methodist Church
W. Clyde Smith, S, F, Presbyterian Board of National Missions
James Sugioka, Indianapolis, Indiana, United Christian Missionary Soc.
Kojiro Unoura, Rocky Ford, Colo. Protestant Church Commission
L. Rose, Fellowship Presbyterian Church, S. F.
31 Mr. Jesse Lacklerm Berkeley, Methodist Church, Dist. Superintendent
Henry McFadden, S. F. Presbyterian, Director of Youth Work.
Blanche Yeomans, S. F. Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions,
Donald F. Gaylord, S. F. , District Methodist Church

Jewish Survey Committee

1 Irving Babow, S. F.

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ROSENBERG FOUNDATION

Mrs. Leslie L. Ganyard

U.S.E.S.

Mary Carmody, S.F. Mgr. Junior Division
Marjorie Walker, Berkeley, Manager

COLUMBIA FOUNDATION

Marjorie Elkus, S. F.

F.E.P.C.

Harry L. Kingman, S. F.

Chinese Six Co.

F. W. Dun, S.F., Acting Secretary

Social Security Board

Seldon H. Martin, S. F. , Public Assistance Analyst.
C. L. Towne, S. F. , Information Rept.
H. Barry, S.F. Ass't. Regional Director
Agile H. Aaron, S. F. , Regional Representative

U. S. Children's Bureau

Ekka Gordon, S.F. Medical Social Consultant

State Dept. of Social Welfare

Genevieve Jefferson, S. F. Supervising Social Welfare Agent

Office of Community War Services

Else A. Reisner, S.F. Report Specialist

War Manpower Commission

A. E. O'Brien, S. F. Regional Attorney
John E. Cooter, San Mateo, Placement Specialist

Filipino Groups

J. C. Dionisio, S. F. Resident Commission of the Philippines to the U. S.
Amado E. Dino, Hollywood, Calif., Philippine-American Observer, Editor
Antonio H. Gonzales, Stockton, Filipino Inter-Community President
Estela R. Sulit, S. F. Filipino Group
Shumgnok L. Kim, L. A. Korian P.C., Minister
Juan M. Dulay, S. F. Filipino Community, Advisor

Relocation Centers

Frank Yasuda--Manzanar, Calif. Block Managers Assembly.
Rev. E. J. Kawamorita, Topaz
S. Kubo, Gila River Relocation Center, Rivers, Ariz.

Berkeley Inter-racial Committee

Mrs. W. J. Davis, Berkeley

Berkeley Democratic Club

Mrs. E. C. Bioletti, Berkeley, Corresponding Sec't.

American Council on Race Relations

Dorothy E. Handy, S. F. , Secretary

Berkeley Branch Women's Internat'l. League for Peace & Freedom

Mrs. Dan Stanislawski, Berkeley, Inter-racial Chr.
Mrs. A. C. McGiffert, Jr.
Carolyn B. Threllseld, S. F.

Committee on Resettlement of Japanese Americans

George E. Rundquist, N. Y. Federal Council of Churches., Executive Sec't.

Federal Public Housing Association

Omar Mills, S. F.

Communist Political Assn.

Louise Todd, S.F. State Secretary
2 Oleta Yates, President, S. F.

Northern California Council of Churches

R. T. Brownscombe, S. F. Coordinator of Japanese Resettlement
3 Mr. Gorman Y. Doubleday, Berkeley, Chrm. Interracial Commission
Abbott Hook, S.F. Executive Sec't.

F.S.A.

1 Ed Banfield, S.F. Information Specialist

State Department of Education

Irene Taylor Heineman, L. A. Ass't. State Superintendent of Schools
John W. Taylor, Ukiah, Sup't. of Schools Mendocino Co.
4 Mrs. Harold Treanp S.F. 2nd District Parent Teachers Assn.
Mrs. C.W. Corson, S. F. Calif. Congress P.T.A. , 2nd Vice-Pres, 2nd Dist.
Leland Hyde, S. F. --2nd Dist. C C P T
Henry E. Keyes, Menlo Park,, Teacher Peninsula School

Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Adon Poli, Berkeley, Agricultural Economist
5 Walter S. McKaul, Berkeley, Social Scientist
Walter R. Goldschmidt, Berkeley, Social Scientist
Frank L. Buckner, Berkeley, Associate State Supervisor, Emergency Farm Labor
Warren M. Engstrand, Berkeley, Agricultural Economist
C. E. Houston , Berkeley,

East & West Association

1 Hermann Hagedorn, Santa Barbara, Director West Coast Office.

Community Chest

1 Mrs. Rhea Wendluif S. F. Consultant Family Welfare Council

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Y.M.C.A.

Rudy Abrecht, Sacramento, Secretary
Reginald West, Sacramento, General Sec't.
James F. Eggleston, S. F. Associate Sec't.
6 J. Delmar Branch, S.F. Field Executive
Edwar Lee, Chinese Christian Youth Conference, S. F.
E.A. Begrum, S. F. Pacific Southwest Area Council, Assoc. Area Sec't.
Paul Toch, Berkeley, Univ. Y.M.C.A.
Leon Tichinin, Berkeley, Univ. Y.M.C.A.
W. J. Davis, Berkeley, Univ. Y.M.C.A.

Y.W.C.A.

Mrs. Dorothy Dale, S.F., Health Education
Mrs. Bartlett B. Heard, Berkeley, National Board, Chr. Western Region
6 Ruth Lois Hill, Berkeley, General Sec't.
A. C. Zimmerman, Oakland,
Leila W. Anderson, Univ. of Calif. Executive Secretary
Helen M. Grant, Oakland, Executive Sec't.

American Civil Liberties Union

Ernest Besig, Director, S.F.
4 Ann Ray, Berkeley
Gus J. Solomon, Portland
Mrs. Ansley K. Salz, S. F. , Vice-Chr.

International Institute

Mrs. Russell P. Hastings, S. F. , Pres. of Board
J. F. Shuman, Berkeley, Alameda County I.I., Vice-Pres.
7 Allen C. Blaisdell, International House, Univ. of Calif. Berkeley
Marie S. Watkins, Fresno, Executive
Rose Esperti, Oakland, Director Case Work ~~Supervisorxx~~ Services
Mrs. Francis Lloyd, S.F. Board Member
Annie Clo Watson, S.F. Executive Secretary

U.S. Civil Service Commission

2 Harry T. Kranz, S.F. Regional Director
Paul L. Engbretson, S. F. Representative
C. F. Burns, S. F. , Representative
B. A. Storking, S. F. Representative

C.I.O.

George Wilson, S.F. President
2 Robert Robertson, S.F.
8 Philip M. Connelly, L. A.

Miscellaneous

Carol Andrew, S. F.
Mrs. Edgar Bernhard S. F.
Frank A. Clarvee, S. F. Editor the News
Mrs. Jessie Ross de River, S. F. , Free lance writer
Elsa Douglas, Berkeley
Mrs. Florence W. Farquhar, Berkeley, Prof. of Oriental Languages
Mrs. Patricia B. Hewes, S. F.
Jura Hoffman, Berkeley, Daily Calif.
Frank Kent, Los Banos, Daily City
C. S. Morris, San Mateo, San Mateo Jr. College, President
Mrs. Pillipan J. Phodes, Palo Alto
George Sabagh, Berkeley, Univ. of Calif.
William C. Spaan, San Jose
Ida Stinson, Berkeley
Phyllis Sudkin, Berkeley, Daily Californian
Dorothy Lange Taylor, Berkeley
Mrs. Dorothy S. Thomas, Berkeley, Univ. of California
Mrs. Henry T. Tyler, Sacramento
Mrs. Elaine Yoneda, S. F. N.E.R.M.W.A. 1412, Secretary
new

American Friends Service Committee

Mrs. Josephine Duveneck--S. F. Associate Secretary
Mrs. R.A. Isenberg, Palo Alto
Esther B. Rhoads, Pasadena
Harriet Yarrow, S. F.
7 Mrs. Jean Coolidge, S. F.
Joseph W. Conard, Berkeley,
David C. Walden, Altadena, Finance Secretary

Japanese-American Citizen's League

Tei ko Ishida, S. F. , Acting Nat'l. Secretary
Saburo Kido, Salt Lake City, Utah, Nat'l. President

Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds

Morton J. Gaba, S. F. Field Representative
~~Richard M.~~

Federal Security Agency

Richard M. Neustadt, S. F. Regional Director

Ogden Japanese Union

Ernest N. Chapman, OGDEN, Utah, Assoc. Pastor

3

Federation of Women's

Mrs. A. O. Field, S. F. , President
L. P. Boyce, S. F. State Chairman Ancricur Cuzesseys Clntt

Chronicle

C. Ayres, Sid Tates

Call-Bulletin

Clayton Darrah

Conference Program

Thursday, January 11, 1945

Palace Hotel

10:00 a.m.	Call to Order -- A.J. McFadden, Chairman, State Board of Agriculture
10:10	Introductory Remarks-- Dr. Paul S. Taylor, Vice-Chairman, Committee on American Principles and Fair Play and former member State Board of Agriculture.
10:15	Outlook and Situation of Japanese-American's in Pacific Coast Agriculture--A Series of 10-Minute Statements
	Dillon Myer- Director, War Relocation Authority
	Dave Davidson, Chairman, State War Board and California AAA Committee.
	A. A. Brock, Director, California Department of Agriculture
	Ralph Hollenberg, Regional Director, Farm Security Administration
	Frank L. Buckner, Associate State Supervisor, Emergency Farm Labor Project Agricultural Extension Service, University of California.
	Williard Ellis, President Federal Land Bank of Berkeley.
11:30	The Situation of the Returning Japanese-American Farmer--
11:45	Question Period (Questions may be directed through the Chairman to any of the previous speakers.)
12:30 p.m.	Recess
1:30 p.m.	Call to Order -- Mr. McFadden Discussion of Problems Raised in Morning Program
3:00 p.m.	Summary -- Dr. Paul S. Taylor
3:15 p.m.	Adjournment

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AGENDA OF CONFERENCE ON INTERRACIAL COORDINATION

San Francisco January 10, 1945

Called together by the Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play.

9:45 a.m.

I. Call to Order and Statement of Purpose, by the Chairman, Mr. Maurice E. Harrison.

II. Review of Agenda

III. The Situation and the Outlook as seen by Mr. Dillon S. Myer.

IV. Statements by representatives of other Federal Agencies.
- Federal Social Security -- Mr. Richard M. Neustadt
- War Manpower Commission -- Mr. Anthony O'Brien, (representing Mr. Fay Hunter, Regional Director)
- Federal Public Housing Administration -- Mr. Omar Mills (representing Mr. Langdon Post, Regional Director)
- Children's Bureau -- Miss Bess Williams, Consultant
- U.S. Office of Education -- Miss Florence Beardsley, Consultant.
- Civil Service Commission -- Mr. Harry Kranz, Regional Director
- President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice -- Mr. Harry L. Kingman, Regional Director.
- Public Health Service -- Dr. William T. Harrison, Regional Medical Dir.

V. Description and Explanation of Work Groups.
(Numbers I, II, and III are primarily concerned with problems facing persons of Japanese ancestry returning to the Western Defense Area.)

(Numbers IV and V are related to all groups working on practical techniques in the general field of race relations on the Pacific Coast.)

Group No. I Welfare
- Chairman, Mr. Richard M. Neustadt
- Secretary, Miss Priscilla Beattie

Group No. II Legal & Constitutional Questions
- Chairman, Mr. Edgar Bernhard
- Secretary, Mrs. Maynard Force Thayer

Group No. III Employment
- Chairman, Dr. Hubert Phillips
- Secretary, Mr. Joseph Conard

Group No. IV Public Relations
- Chairman, Mr. George Rundquist
- Secretary, Miss Ann Madsen

Group No. V Coordination of Interracial Programs
- Chairman, Mr. Hermann Hagedorn
- Secretary, Miss Annie Clo Watson

11:15 to 11:30 RECESS

11:30 to 12:30 Work Groups

12:30 to 1:45 LUNCH HOUR

1:45 to 3:15 Work Groups

3:15 to 3:30 RECESS

3:30 to 5:15 Consideration by the Conference of Reports and Recommendations of Work Groups. Chairman, Dr. Monroe E. Deutsch.

5:15 to 5:30 Summary by Mr. Lawrence Norrie.

Part I.

The Gist of the Conference

1. It was widely representative.

Among the participants were representatives of five Federal and four State agencies; voluntary agencies concerned with interracial and intercultural relations; Nisei and Japanese evacuees; and persons of the Negro, Filipino and Korean minorities; also representatives of the press.

2. It was Constructive.

Attention was focussed primarily upon solving the problems arising from the prospective return of some of the Nisei and Japanese evacuees, and secondarily, upon mobilizing the forces of order and good will in local communities. No time was spent in arraigning the "opposition".

3. Cooperation of Other Minorities with Evacuees

The Negro, Filipino and Korean spokesmen all expressed eagerness to safeguard the rights and liberties of returning evacuees, and said that any attempt to make capital for their own racial groups at the expense of the Japanese would be sawing off the limb on which they themselves sat. They recognized that all minorities- and for that matter, all citizens - were in the same boat, and that to deny full constitutional rights to any racial or religious group would weaken the rights of all. Specifically, the Negro spokesmen said they would make no trouble over cases where Japanese owners of houses legally terminated leases to Negro tenants; and the Filipino and Korean spokesmen declared they would not allow indignation over atrocities by the Japanese military to betray them into taking revenge on innocent and unfortunate persons of Japanese descent here.

4. No Discrimination by Government Agencies.

~~All of the~~ Spokesmen for nine Government agencies gave assurances that they practiced no discrimination on account of race, color or creed, and that they attempted to secure application of the same policy by local agencies, such as Housing and County Farm Security committees. It was admitted, however, that local agencies were swayed by local sentiment and might discriminate against returning evacuees. The cure for such discrimination would be to develop strong community committees for constitutional rights and fair play. As to housing, returnees employed in war industries would get housing on the same basis as other people; but evacuees working in other industries would have great difficulty in finding housing unless they owned houses or took farm or domestic positions. The operation by churches and other private agencies of hostels and other temporary accomodations

for evacuees will help greatly, but will not solve the permanent need. It was urged that the W.R.A. should operate hostels, but no assurance to that effect was given.

5. Mobilizing Community Forces now Urgent

It was agreed that the overwhelming majority of people on this Coast are fair-minded and averse to active discrimination against returnees, but that in order to check lawless and malicious groups intensified efforts should at once be made to mobilize the forces of order and good will, expecially in interior centers. Experience has shown that leading citizens will readily participate in forming a Council for Civic Unity or a Fair Play committee when it is brought home to them that unless they make their influence felt for law and equal rights, a few lawless acts by night-raiders may cause great damage to life, property, and the city's reputation. Already in some communities vigilante gangs have begun to work under cover, and although returning evacuees may be their first victims, they would not be their last.

It was pointed out that hostility to returnees generally stems either from ignorance or from self-interest, and that the best cures are constant publicity for the truth and the organization of sound and responsible citizens.

6. Coordination of Interracial and Intercultural Agencies Demanded.

The Conference was called partly in order to pave the way for effecting closer coordination among the scores of councils and committees on the Coast that are concerned with some phase of racial or cultural relations. A strong desire was evidenced for the formation of a Coastwide agency, which would have four functions, namely;: to serve as a Clearinghouse for information; to make Inquiries and Studies of general value; to Evaluate the work of agencies, when requested; and to Stimulate the undertaking of new projects and the Formation or Coordination of local agencies.

Conference called by Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

Thursday morning, Jan. 11, 1945, Session

Mr. A. J. McFadden presided.

Dr. Paul S. Taylor gave the Introductory Remarks. (See his prepared statement.)

Dillon Myer: I have no question but what there are going to be a good many problems in connection with the readjustment of people who have been in the agricultural field up to the time of the evacuation and are now free to return to that vocation. About 45% of the evacuees were farmers or agricultural workers. Just what percentage of those people are already relocated in other parts of the country and what percentage will return here, I don't know. We realize that there is a very complex pattern involved. Many of the folks who left gave leases, maybe for the duration. Many had it on a month-to-month or year-to-year basis. The WRA is going to advise everyone among the residents of relocation centers as they return that they do it in an orderly manner and stick to the contracts they have made, and we expect other people will do the same thing.

One of our biggest problems in the next 60 or 90 days is the fact that there are many people around the Coast who are doing a lot of tough talk and trying to bluff people out. My judgment is that we are not hearing as much from people who have a contract as we are from a lot of other people who for some reason or other don't have enough to do.

We are abandoning our program of seasonal recruitment of employees from the Center in the Middle Western States.

We think it is tremendously necessary that this job be done now while workers are needed in the war effort, etc.

Mr. Dave Davidson: (He explained the activities of the State AAA Committee and the State War Board.)

Mr. A. A. Brock: (Was called on, but was not present.)

Mr. Ralph Hollenberg: FSA does not have any special program for citizens of Japanese ancestry, but there is no bar whatever because of ancestry. We are not in a position to make loans to enemy aliens or to those who are not in a position to get citizenship in the U.S.

(See mimeographed statement.)

Mr. Frank Buckner: California produces 10% of the dollar crop in the nation. California agriculture is significant. It is important and vital to the war effort.

We expect some reluctance on the part of Japanese to come back to California agriculture.

Perhaps the first step will be that the Japanese owners will come back to their own farms. They will immediately begin looking around for workers, unless they have a family-sized farm. Again, we have to expect that other American citizens will be reluctant to work for a Japanese employer. In years gone by, the Japanese have worked for Filipinos, and vice versa. The Japanese will probably offer employment on their farms to other Japanese.

The Agricultural Extension Service operates 130 farm offices in the State of California.

The returning Japanese is a free agent. No government agency can tell him where he must work. We cannot say to the employer "You must hire this kind of worker, or that kind of worker."

The program is open and free to every farmer and worker in the state.

Mr. Willard Ellis: (He told something of the work of the Federal Land Bank of Berkeley. There are 58 offices in the 4 states. In the past there has been some prejudice against making loans to Japanese people.)

Mr.A. J. McFadden: (In the absence of Mr. Brock, Mr. McFadden told a little about the California Dept. of Agriculture. He described it as a policing organization that tries to see that the laws are observed.)

QUESTION PERIOD

Two Japanese gentlemen spoke.

One said: I think the easisst group to return are the land owners, and yet even they find it not so easy to return. One of the reasons is that they cannot get laborers to work for them. How can you operate a farm without labor?

Last Saturday from Poston the first family set out to return to California.

Mr. Myer: The places that have had the Japanese agricultural workers as seasonal ~~workers~~ employees want them--want more of them. The people in California aren't any different from the people of the Mid-Mountain States--not when they want labor.

Mr. Frank Yasuda, from Manzanar: Some of the farmers have the property and the money, but they need priority to buy the equipment.

Antonio A. Gonzales, representing Filipino communities of the Western states: As I heard my good friend there give you a little reminding of what American principles really are in practice and what we are fighting for, it seemed to me that, while ~~there~~ this may be a digression, I'd like to remind you also that there are some 45 to 50 thousand Filipinos in this ~~xxxx~~ country. Fifteen thousand of them are in the armed forces of the U.S. Most of them were born under the American flag. But today they are denied the elementary principles of Americanism. They cannot lease or own land. They cannot be naturalized American citizens. Exceptions: he must be a trained killer and a trained dishwasher.

That's an awfully low standard for American citizenship!!!

Not very long ago a bill was presented on the floor of the Congress of the United States for naturalization. This bill was unanimously approved by the Committee on Naturalization.... The Representative from Stockton (which is the Filipino population center in America), LeRoy Johnson, is the very Representative who fought for the Chinese naturalization bill. He opposed the bill for Filipinos.

Talk about China as the ally of the U.S. They are fighting for their country! Of course, we are too, but we are not responsible for this war. The US declared war against Japan, the Philippines didn't.

The Filipinos and the Japanese now are before the attention of this country. What is the attitude of the Filipino toward the Japanese? What I personally think is this: the Filipinos are a Christian people and we try very hard to be real Christians. The Filipino does not know how to harbor a grudge. In 1898-1902 Negroes shot down Filipinos after they had dug their own graves. That's true. Look up your own history.

We are not fighting the Japanese people. We are fighting the Japanese system. We are fighting fascism. We are not fighting the people.

The Filipinos are being used and have always been used by the selfish interest, the economic interest, and the fascist interest to fight against the other minority groups.

Conference called by Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

Thursday afternoon, Jan. 11, 1945, Session

Dr. Paul S. Taylor presiding.

Chm. -- We have time for a brief discussion of the principal problems which have been raised this morning or during other sessions of this conference.

The meeting was called by the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play. This conference group has no formal status. We are simply gathered together on the invitation of the Committee on Fair Play. The chair, therefore, will not entertain motions, but the proceedings will be sent to all persons who have registered at the door when they came in, for further consideration by themselves and their groups.

During the morning, a letter was received from the Maritime Union.

(Letter read)

The meeting is now open for those who would like to discuss problems.

Mr. Duveneck: Mr. Chairman, I would like to reiterate a point that has been brought up before. That is that the question of housing is about the most essential thing that we have to consider. There are a good many of us who would be glad to house Japanese families. I wrote Mr. Myer about a year ago to that effect, but we wouldn't take anybody without having a chance to see them first. In the first place, I think it is necessary to have some kind of temporary housing such as hostels. Many of us could employ some kind of labor, gardeners, etc. Also, I think we delude ourselves if we don't do something about the general ~~situation~~ housing situation. I don't see how we are going to put two feet into one shoe. The housing formerly occupied by Japanese is now largely occupied by Negroes. We certainly don't wish to solve one racial problem and create another one. I suggest that we immediately consider the question of temporary housing.

Chairman: Is there any member of the housing agency, of the WRA, or any citizen, that wishes to make a contribution on that point?

Floor: Is any of the housing that has been built for Mexican laborers available?

Buckner: There has been considerable construction of housing ~~and~~ for Mexican workers at private expense, and also at state expense.

Floor: They got priorities so that they could get the materials?

Mr. Buckner: Yet, it is the barracks type housing, for ~~a~~ large groups of men.

WRA: I think there are hundreds of places throughout the three states that have employment that could be offered on farms. I think that channeling that information of available jobs to the Centers is something that should be worked out. Just how, I don't know. I believe some procedures of the WRA will be put into effect where perhaps that could be thru the various WRA offices. That is not our program at the present time--being an employment agency.

WRA (cont'd): We have some 8 or 9 centers, and here is a gentleman who offers work and housing for a family. How are those two going to get together? That is a real problem. I know we are giving it some thought and some arrangement for people of that kind to get together must be worked out. He says he would like to see what kind of family he is getting. The family would like to see what kind of housing they are getting into.

Dean Morse (San Jose): I wanted to ask a question. Has any investigation been made, in regard to this temporary housing, of the possibility of using military housing no longer used for that purpose? I know that a short time ago we were interested in getting some such housing for educational purposes. We were told that we could get some temporary housing, that the military no longer wanted, at a price much less than it would cost to build them in the first place. I know that in Santa Anita there were a number of buildings set up at the time they thought it would be used for a WAC or WAVE center. Those facilities are available at a very nominal sum. Has anybody investigated this?

MC Grath: The WRA has been holding a series of conferences, and among those are meetings with the National Housing Agency. We were talking with Mr. Wright, who, I think, was in on the conference yesterday. The specific point that Dean Morris made--there is a possibility of using those buildings if the NHA can certify that they are not needed for inmigrant workers in the particular area. We know, for instance, there are 200 homes available in Reno that the NHA will be glad to certify for persons who are not essential workers. There may be some localities that are feasible for using that type of housing. The other possibility for housing is the private conversion program, and that is not a very realistic thing, partly because the time it takes to convert homes is six months or so at the shortest. The number of homes that have been privately converted to create war housing is very small--only two or three thousands. The third possibility--and one that looks possibly the most helpful--would be to use public housing in areas where the returning people would secure employment in the defense industries, such as the shipyards, Hunters Point, etc. There is a little problem that comes in there because the Army is still--and this, of course, applies to everyone--requiring that an individual investigation be made of persons who are to be employed in certain essential industries. Whether or not the lifting of the Exclusion Order on the persons of Japanese ancestry will be interpreted as meaning that they have been sufficiently investigated for employment in the war industries is still questionable.

I think there is some likelihood of employment in defense industries in SanFrancisco, LosAngeles, Portland, and Seattle areas, and the housing people are doing everything they possibly can to work with us on that idea of housing.

Smith (Board of Missions, Methodist Church): We are greatly interested in this matter of temporary housing, especially for the men who wish to work near their former homes and later bring their families. We have a total of 75 buildings. Some of these are rented; many are not now. We plan to begin in Oakland, where we have a large building and have already made arrangements for a minister to come (a second generation person) to make a center where these men may leave their baggage and sleep. At Mt. View, near Duveneck's, a building is almost ready, andhe can go to Mt. View and at least see the man. The family, as we see it, would not come until we have a place to put the family. We are planning to cooperate with

the Berkeley groups. There are two different groups in Berkeley interested in doing something in that city. I am sure that something can be worked out, and in the very near future. These buildings ~~will~~ are all up and down the coast.

Chairman: Shall we say that we have talked out housing? What is the next problem?

Floor: Mr. Buckner, this morning you said your agency, of course, couldn't give help only to Japanese. Does that mean that the present plan is to bring back as many Mexicans as ever, despite the return of the Japanese? ----- You said you couldn't force an employer to take Japanese!

Mr. Buckner: We might even ~~break~~ bring back more Mexicans if the labor problem is a more acute problem this year than it was last. The problem changes each year, depending on crops and other influences which affect the labor market. I am sure that in our responsibility of certifying as to the need of foreign labor, we will take into consideration the possibility of the return of Japanese citizens who would work in California agriculture, and to the extent that they might be available, presumably to that extent, our demand for Mexican labor would be reduced.

First of all, the Japanese are free workers. They have something to say as to where they will work. To a certain extent we can't tell them where they must work or tell the employer whom he must employ.

Chairman: I understand your reluctance to force a person of Japanese ancestry to work for a particular employer, and vice versa. Is the answer any different, however, when you consider ~~the~~ an entire labor market? Are employers as a group to be permitted to indulge their prejudices in employment at the expense of the American taxpayer? You see ~~the~~ no difference between the individual and the group?

Mr. Buckner: I see no way you can avoid those prejudices. I think you aggravate the problem and do not solve the problem. If you force a certain type of worker on a specific employer against his will, the employer is not ~~only~~ dissatisfied, but the worker is dissatisfied.

Floor: I am not asking that you force them. But say the employer asks for a certain number of laborers and then refuses them because of their skin color, then all you should say is "Then you can't get anyone."

Mr. Buckner: As a matter of fact, that has been said many times by a number of agencies. I still say that you can't force workers on employers or employers on workers and have a satisfactory solution of the problem. I'd like to repeat again the answer to the question. The question was whether or not the Agricultural Extension Service, as the certifying agency, would take into consideration the possible return of a significant number of Japanese to the area. The answer is yes, we will take that into consideration in our certification for the need of foreign labor.

Floor: If a large employer refuses to take Japanese when he asks for labor, then it seems that the Government agency should say, "All right, then we can't serve you." If the government agency should say, "All right, we'll send you Mexican nationals," that would mean we are subsidizing that racial prejudice of that particular employer.

Mr. Buckner: I am sure we are not going to displace American labor, including persons of Japanese descent, by the importation of Mexican labor.

Floor: For a good many years we have been trying to get the government to pass a permanent FEPC Act. Certain unions here in town have a policy similar to what has been referred to here. For instance, in the restaurants here, if you call up a union and ask them to send an employee and then won't accept that employee because he is a Negro, saying "We don't want him," then the union says, "Then you don't want anybody."

I'd like to say something else. What are we faced with here? Where is all this talk about the Japanese not coming back to California starting? I first heard it two years ago.... The mayor of Los Angeles is wringing his hands.... I think the governor of this state meant what he said when he said if we brought the people back he would protect them.

If we can get elected officials to carry out the Constitution of the United States, we can be proud of this country. We have now, without teeth, a FEPC. That is an arm of the government that should be strengthened. I say that because of these discriminations. Can't we realize what is happening throughout this world? It is the saddest thing that ever happened.

Mr. Buckner: We're dealing primarily with the resettlement or return of people of Japanese ancestry. California, as I see it, is the state where the problem is perhaps more extensive than in any other state. It seems to me that the first practical step to take in the solution of the problem is for those Japanese who own land in California to come back to their own land--it is the natural thing to do--and in turn offer their own people from these camps employment on those farms. From there I think the thing will expand naturally to the point where they will be employed by other employers in other industries and other lines of endeavor. I'm sure that doesn't take a lot of planning. I'm sure that we would all offer such assistance as the public agencies can give. The government should and would afford protection. We still can't change people's minds. We can't change human nature.

Chairman: I suppose that underlying this meeting is the thought that we can change some people's minds, and maybe quite a bit.

(Mr. Buckner agreed.)

I have information that Dr. Kim, from Los Angeles, is in the audience. We should like it very much if you can speak to us for a moment. Dr. Kim represents in some way the Korean community.

Dr. Kim: I came here not as an officer or delegate--just for myself. I am interested in this problem because we are a minority people, and we have problems, and we want to help in many ways our people first, as well as the national problems. I enjoyed the many discussions here. First, I think we ought to have this kind of conference and also make some definite plan at a conference like this so all the minority people express their problems. I guess this meeting is regarding especially the returning Japanese.

Our people, the Korean people, were under such oppression and mistreatment for the past 25 years. We are naturally against the Japanese people. But since we are living in America, most of the Korean Christians are trying to avoid that emotion which they have. Among our people we haven't satisfaction here. We send a lot of young people into the Service and we have not the right as the other people. They are saying so many things. But at this moment, when the Japanese are coming back to California, we are trying to help them in some way we can. But it is very hard. Before this evacuation some Japanese people tried to sell their property. Some of our people were interested and tried to buy it. And I think they started talking and then hand over about 1000 or 2000 dollars for their farm. When the Japanese knew that a Koreanist was trying to buy that property, he turned down. Such reactions were here in this country. So they have that kind of feeling. As ministers and social workers among our people, it is a very hard problem. But still we want to help them in some way in their coming to California.

In the future I hope we will have such a conference in a local city so that we can understand better these problems, and work together toward a peaceful way.

Mrs. McDonald: I want to echo the statement just made. That what we need is a development of these discussions in the local agricultural areas. I can only briefly state my experience. We have a ranch in Aptos, and my husband hasn't been well and we have to have some assistance. We have a house--a cabin. A friend wrote us asking about placing a Japanese family there. We said that on investigating the condition around Watsonville we would let them know what the sentiment was. Now here comes a very important question that has to be settled on the part of theperson that is offering cooperation. Where is the responsibility for what may happen? Obviously, the person who is offering assistance to the family they are bringing in does not want to offer indignities to the family that is coming in, especially if there are children in the family. We made inquiries. The Valencia Farm Center recently repassed a resolution stating that they under no circumstances would have the Japanese farmers back in that community. Only one farmer spoke against the resolution. We were told by the head of one of the government agencies (1) that the Japanese were not wanted back because all their places had been properly taken over by other farmers and were being operated better, (2) that the Japanese were mining the soil although students know that all short-time farmers do that. We were told there was a large Filipino community in Watsonville and that there ~~might~~ would be large attacks against the Japanese if they came back.

Then we went to our two neighbors, who both have small children, to see what they felt. The sentiment was terrifically antagonistic to the return of the Japanese. And since this family would have to be left there by themselves, it didn't seem fair to place that responsibility on

the returning Japanese family since their children would have to go to school and they would be subject to the indignities, etc. Therefore, it seems to me that in outlying rural areas there has to be some educational work, answering these statements which are incorrect, and some agency has to take the responsibility of initiating such conferences. That is the point that should be settled if it can be settled here.

Chairman: Does anyone wish to speak to this point of what steps should be taken in this community?

Mr. Kido: Dr. Kim, who does Mr. Kitsuhon (?) represent, because he has been the most vicious of minority peoples in attacking us?

Dr. Kim: It is pretty hard to say about him. I don't know his standing. The Korean leaders are not thinking what they feel about it. We are under the Japanese government about 35 years. Kitsuhon is not the most typical.

Mrs. Thayer: The Pasadena Ban The Japs Committee has only one member. Also there is only one Filipino group like that. But it throws the wrong light on the minority groups.

Mrs. Salz: Is it so that the FEPC hasn't enforcement power? Can this group take any action?

Chairman: This group considers this problem but passes no resolutions.

Mr. Chapman, (of Protestant Church Commission): It is my understanding that one of the chief motives which underlie the calling of this conference is that already several groups had come to an understanding that there should be visiting teams organized to go out into these country districts--teams which would represent not only business and social agencies but also farmers, with a view to presenting the facts in these communities and trying to organize support and cooperation in each community. Now if that recommendation has not come through the findings, I would like to move that we recommend to the Fair Play Committee that these things be organized for the cultivation of these communities here on the Pacific Coast.

Mrs. Kingman: I think that went in yesterday in one of the groups.

Mr. Kido: Of course, I have been rather close with a large number of you people, and, therefore, I know how you feel. Of course, when I came here there was one idea which I wanted to really grasp which I have been trying to find out, and which I understand most likely it is unpolitic to have in a resolution form. But from all the discussions it seemed evident to us that our people will be welcomed back to California. Now if that could be officially expressed, I think it would give the people in the relocation centers a great deal of encouragement. I know the WRA is not going to do it because it is afraid that it is going to be accused of encouraging the people to come back to California when there is such a loud noise being made to prevent the Japanese from coming back. Maybe the Fair Play Committee also does not want to go on record on this because it may also be subjected to criticism. As far as we are concerned, as an organization and as one who has access to newspapers and an organization with a publication with 7500 readers--we would like to convey to our

people what our friends on the Pacific Coast want them to do. Academically speaking, dispersion is all right, and those who can disperse have gone to the Middle West and East. The cream of our young leadership have gone out of the evacuation centers and have gone to the Middle West and East. Thosepeople who cannot resettle are the ones who have remained in the relocation centers, or those people who have property here. But the young blood of our group is away. Therefore, when this question of returning back to California is brought up, it depends a great deal upon what our friends want us to do. If you want us to come back, then naturally those in the position of leadership must guide their policy accordingly. I don't know whether this assembly could give us any additional word as to that or not, but that is the official feeling that we have been trying to probe yesterday and today. What should we tell our people to do? Definitely, unless many of them can come back to California they are not going to move out of relocation centers.

Very few Japanese families were on relief during the depression years. Because that was so, even many of our friends thought the Japanese families were being subsidized by the Japanese government.

There are going to be thousands of Japanese families who are going to be on relief rolls. You can't get away from that fact. If they come back to their home state, the state institutions will have to take care of them. Is that the proper way to handle the situation of dispersing the people?

We feel that as long as they are in the relocation centers--the government asked them to go there, and as long as they are being supported there--there is no stigma. But if they are going to be brought back to California and become institutionalized by getting relief from the state or federal government, it is a reflection upon the family head to be on public relief. The general sentiment is that if they are going to be supported by public money they would rather remain in the relocation centers. If the people are going to be resettled and restored to their normal pre-evacuation position, then definitely I don't think we can dodge the issue by just saying that we will encourage those who want to come back to come back. I would much rather than our friends go officially on record and say that we would be glad to welcome back all the evacuees. I think a positive statement on the stand you desire us to take is the thing we are really seeking. If you are going to just say that you will find housing if we come back, the people are not going to know exactly what they should do. If you really want to help them make up their mind, a positive statement of policy on what you would like the Japanese people to do would be the thing we would like to have come out of this conference.

Chairman: We appreciate very much your remarks and we realize that you put a direction question to this meeting.

Mrs. Kingman, I understand we cannot put direct resolutions. I assume we must adhere to that, though many people will regret that they cannot pass the kind of resolution that you want. I suggest that the members of the conference carry back Mr. Kido's very sincere question of the dilemma in which he and his people find themselves, to groups to which they belong. There, it seems to me, is the place where the question may be answered. Unfortunately, our time for adjournment has arrived and we can't go on with the discussion, which I am sure hasn't ended.

Gonzales: I'd like to make a statement. It seems to me that the time has come for everyone of us to take a stand on a moral issue. It is frightful to think that so many men and women are evading the issue when they are not willing to go on record as favoring the return of the Japanese.

I say the Filipinos have suffered the most.

This is the time to take a stand on a moral issue.

Chairman: Mrs. Kingman--

Mrs. K.: I think there is no question as to how the people at this conference feel on this subject. I think the people we have been working with the last two years know how we feel. The ways and means by which the thing may best be accomplished still need a lot of going-into. I don't think we are competent here other than to say just that the spirit of the meeting (which means nothing) feels a certain way. That is why before the conference was called together the rule was made that there were no resolutions to be passed as such. Not because we are afraid. We have never been afraid or we would never have been the last few years. But I think it would be unwise for us to pass a resolution, when we do not know the ways and means of carrying it out.

Chairman: If the chair is able to sense the temper of the meeting throughout this day, it seems that the determination has been very clear that the full rights of loyal persons of Japanese ancestry shall be respected here on the West Coast as anywhere else. The Supreme Court has spoken. The Army has spoken. Agency after agency has spoken. This conference here--an unofficial agency--has spoken. The Japanese should certainly know that their rights are to be respected as far as we and the officials who have been here can assure the respect of those rights. I'd like to say that I think one of the most significant observations was made by representatives of minority groups here when they said that they recognized in this problem of persons of Japanese ancestry a problem which they too share. I think I can say to those who spoke so ably that our interest is in all minority groups, although for the moment we have necessarily, and I think wisely, concerned ourselves with the return of persons of Japanese ancestry.

I suppose, in summing it all up, those whose final appeal is to the Christian faith are concerned with the equality of man before God, and those whose concern is with political philosophies are concerned with human rights, irrespective of creed, race, or color. As to those persons who bear deep prejudices--I suppose that the appeal can be made to them in the language of Bobbie Burns, "A man's a man for all that."

Part III.

ROUND TABLE FINDINGS

WELFARE

All the city and county Welfare Departments are fully advised of the policies and procedures developed by the State Welfare Department and also of the aid available from the Federal Government, and they know they must provide public assistance and institutional care for the evacuees who qualify for such services the same as for any other persons.

The acute shortage of housing points to the need for the W.R.A. to exert itself to secure all possible aid from the Federal and local housing authorities, and also to provide hostels for scouting evacuees, in addition to the hostels being provided by private agencies.

LEGAL QUESTIONS

It was recommended (1) that WRA extend beyond 60 daysthe period after which free transportation of movable belongings will not be granted; and impose less strict limitations on the amount and kind of help given; (2) that WRA represent evacuees in court; and (3) that naturalization be open to the alien parents of those now in the armed services; and those working for the government in war services.

EMPLOYMENT

Government agencies should be given public support in applying their excellent policies of non-discrimination. All government agencies should be urged to reinstate former employees of Japanese descent and should be urged to make available employment for other American citizens of Japanese descent on an equal basis with other citizens.

The present policy of the U. S. Employment Service, if a person is referred by it to work is turned down for what appears to be racial discrimination, is to report this to the War Manpower Commission or the FEPC, and it will not make other referrals to such an employer until the issue has been properly settled.

The War Manpower Commission controls only after an evacuee has taken his first job. Then he is subject to the same restrictions as other persons regarding shifting to another occupation. Evacuees are strongly urged to take war work.

Every effort should be made to discourage returning evacuees from ~~cutting present wage levels by~~ accepting employment at sub-standard rates.

The problem of housing is acute, even in projects where war workers are eligible for public housing. Non-discrimination policies must be rigidly upheld. The problem of housing should not become a source of friction between the Negro and returning evacuees. It is gratifying to learn from Negro spokesmen in this conference that

Negro organizations are exerting themselves to prevent such friction.

Threats to an evacuee should not be allowed to gain headway since they would encourage vigilantism. In the face of threats, support for evacuees from friends of order, and public authorities should be organized. ~~and every encouragement given to the evacuee.~~

The National policies of the C.I.O. and the A. F. of L. forbid discrimination, based on race, creed or color. Public support of these policies is important, in order that they may be observed by local unions.

It was felt by several persons that the W.R.A. should take more vigorous action to help secure employment.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

In face of the tensions that have developed in America along racial and religious lines, it is imperative that an educational and publicity program be developed which will be aggressive and thorough. Techniques in developing such a program:

- Each community should organize an overall council or committee of outstanding citizens from every walk of life--labor, capital, business, etc.--to deal with racial and other minority tensions. The council should carry on such activities as the following: (1) Investigate individual cases of discrimination that may lead to major tensions if unchecked; (2) appoint a competant subcommittee to map out a program of community education through existing clubs, churches, labor unions, etc. (3) Reduce prejudice against various minorities by probing and exposing the sources of prejudice and by exhibiting the cultural and economic contributions of each minority; using such media as newspapers, radio, forums, school programs and a speakers bureau.

It is to be hoped that a coastwide or national agency will provide expert guidance in developing such programs.

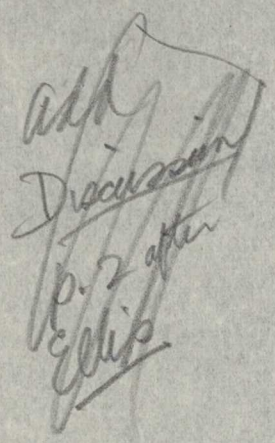
COORDINATION OF INTERRACIAL AGENCIES

It is very desirable to encourage the formation of local councils for civic unity, mayor's committees, committees on race relations, etc., with the purpose of unifying all groups interested in minority problems. Then, it is important to create a Coastwide agency which can coordinate and serve all the local and regional councils and committees. This general coordinating agency would eliminate overlapping, evaluate and disseminate knowledge and techniques of action, and serve as a research and fact-finding agent.

There was no conclusion reached as to whether the coordinating agency should be entirely new or should be based upon an existing organization. But, it was recommended that the Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play give consideration to the problem, in consultation with other interested agencies. It was generally agreed that the American Council on Race Relations could render valuable service in research and connselling, in

connection with whatever Coastwide coordinating agency might be formed.

It was further recommended that the WRA act as a clearing-house for information on housing, employment, and all other problems relating to returning evacuees.



Mr. Dillon Myers (1) statement this morning set the keynote for the responsibility of the Public Relations committee in the statement "Truth Crushed to Earth will rise again." The average American citizen wants to think straight = he wants to believe and practice the true ideals of democracy and to assist others in understanding the American way of life.

This committee made the following generalization and recommendations:

(1) Specifically it is widely accepted --- probably as the result of proven foreign propaganda in the early stages of this war -- that tensions have definitely developed along racial and

religious lines; and to allow such ~~and~~ conditions to go unnoticed in America would be deplorable.

(2) That whatever discriminatory practices affects one minority group affects all minority groups.

(3) Observe Groups working against the rights of minorities have be more vocal than positive groups, therefore, the other groups should be more active and vocal. aggressive

(4) A great deal of racial prejudice is caused by misunderstanding and "inherited" fears therefore educational program imperative at all levels of society = analyzed bias. older generation of race racial groups school children

(5) Minority groups have a definite responsibility in

providing leadership in the total community and interpreting the American way of life to their own groups.

Recognizing the above the committee makes the following recommendations:

(1) Each community be encouraged to organize an overall committee of outstanding, well thought-of-citizens from every walk of life ie capital, labor, business, religion etc., to study the problem of racial tensions from two angles.

(a) Investigation of individual cases of discrimination that will lead to major tensions if unchecked.

(b) A sound program of education or public relations under a sub-committee with trained leadership.

(2) Local Public-relations committee to investigate existing minority prejudices, to interpret problems and bring about basic understanding in following manner through the following media:

(1) Newspapers - conferences with dailies, labor and community papers.

(2) Radio

(3) Exhibits on the cultural contributions of minority groups.

(4) Planning with primary, secondary schools and universities on trends etc.

(5) Speakers Bureau - suggestions be made to clubs and organizations on various types of speakers covering racial question

(6) Public forums with well qualified speakers stressing

the principles of Democracy and how they should work.

(7) Organizing small study groups among community clubs, women clubs, labor union auxiliaries etc. to discuss such subjects as "Probing Our Prejudices". Trained leaders should be secured to work with such groups.

(3) A. General leadership National or Coastwide committee where data on the progress, culture and data on minority groups can be disseminated to community group.

(4) That a trained person in the field of Public Relations be employed by a central intra-organizational committee and be invited to local communities to help on promotional program planning, techniques etc.

Question - Action

Should alien parents of soldiers and those working for gov't in war service be allowed to become citizens

Unanimous - Yes.

Question of boycotts

Any combination to form a boycott is illegal. Must prove such a combination for a court procedure.

Contraband -

Evacuee property office has been quite successful in getting return of contraband.

U.S. District Attorney has been helpful.

Question as to Referral lists of Attorneys.

Lists of attorneys were passed by State Bar

Only names taken from list are -

One who has not lived up to agreement 1/27/50

" " asks his name to be taken off - Only 1

Alien property custodian is looking after property for benefit of U S Govt.

Mr O'Brien -

no good attorney will appear for G.I. Rights, should they for Japanese -

Mr Kido - But harm has already been done for Japanese -

2 Question - Should Govt go into ~~legal~~ litigation for Japanese Amer.

Problem - So many arrangements were informally made - no papers to show.

unanimous - yes -

Question

3. Was WRA or Army test on loyalty - really "due process of law"?

Legal question not decided -

Besig - ACLU -

Discussion as to legal rights of Tule Lake residents -

Has govt right to confine people for bad opinions.

Property Rights - Discussed

Repossession of leased lands -

Must clarify arrangements made - Some misrepresentation made, must be shown

Perhaps more legal assistance needed.

Legal + Constitutional Questions - 1b present -

Presentation of possible points of discussion by Chairman

Question - Mrs Lopez - Fresno -

Will WRA representative be available to help on legal questions

Where are radios, cameras of Japanese - Taken by govt -

Mr Burnett - Santa Monica

Asked question found sent to U S Marshals office

Contraband items need much help in solving.

George Sabagh U of C - Question -

"Legal Assistance will not be given beyond 60 days after arrival in area" -

This is general policy of W.R.A., at end of a set time, people should be on their own. and have set 60 days.

Morlido thinks 60 days not enough for legal help, since questions arose because of acts of govt, govt agencies should assume longer responsibility.

1 Question - Should limit be extended -

Group feels not long enough - Unanimous

Mr C S Morris - speaks in favor of govt assuming longer responsibility

Arizona Japanese shifter - affairs taken over by Caucasian agent refuses to turn business back. How will he do it?

"If problems developed out of govt action - must clear them"

No WRA attorney goes into court on any case, Policy discussed, felt govt could not hire attorneys to be in and out of court.

Afternoon -

Civil Liberties -

Rights of citizens and aliens differ - but rights of aliens must be observed

Aliens are under restrictions of Attorney General.

Decision of Supreme Court seems to imply some degree of detention allowable.

Army is now testing loyalties in the Centers, set up a team to go into Centers including Tule Lake.

Generals in Eastern Coastal territories have given blanket orders not to allow anyone there who is excluded from Western Coast.

An alien coming back to this Coast -
Must report to District Attorney when changing residence or employment under Contraband restrictions

Has anything been done to clarify status of professionals like Doctors, attorneys -
Likely to be some problems on this -

What about people who have said wanted to be expatriated and wants to change mind - as in Tule Lake
Dept of Justice is setting up a procedure to review and judge cases -
Present law allows people to renounce citizenship in war time -

Soldiers who serve 90 days may receive citizenship.

Issei are now allowed to be taken into the Army.

Public relations program - how to get message across

(2) Urbanization Problem

(1) urbe participation

(3) intangible

(4) point facets weakness

lot of thinking already

Key words:

champing allied dissemble

aggressive new = positive, social

social attitudes

comall - many instances of change of climate.

~~material: information~~.

~~leadership~~ - "population -

technique # 3

1 specialist-leadership - 2 forms

Pamphlet

How to develope a public relations program: how get the message across.

note a) note this group urban perspective for JCs to all social minorities

b) intangibility of the problem, long range as well as spot programs; much thinking done already

c) Inadequate pub relations handicaps work of private agencies; some of their acute weaknesses

d) note a changing climate of attitude

(4 pages)

Group II.
Legal Questions.

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Welfare Group

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Winfred Ryder	Welfare Consultant War Relocation Authority
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Ruth W. Fisher	Baptist Home Mission Society, Denver representative
Jean Coolidge	American Friends Service Committee, S.F.

Committee on Public Relations

Name	Address	Organization
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