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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT  
TOPAZ, UTAH

ARMISTICE DAY AT TOPAZ

By

Russell A. Bankson

November 17, 1943

PROJECT REPORTS DIVISION  
HISTORICAL SECTION



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### ARMISTICE DAY AT TOPAZ

Armistice Day in Topaz was marked by one of the most beautiful days of the Fall. A warm, soothing sun, without a breath of air gave a pleasant glow to the center which made it possible for the residents to enjoy and participate in the observance of this day in greatest comfort.

Plans were laid for Armistice Day several weeks prior to the date. At a Planning Board meeting it was agreed that the Education Section should assume sponsorship of the program. This Section, in turn, delegated responsibility to the high school where the program was prepared and presented under the auspices of the associated student body.

General plans for observance of the day were discussed at the Planning Board and Cabinet meetings but details were left to the sponsoring group. The first step was to arrange for a football game to be played between Topaz and Fillmore high schools. Fillmore is the county seat of Millard County, located some 50 miles from Topaz.

In previous games the Topaz High School had defeated the Delta High School team at Delta and at Topaz; the Fillmore High School team at Fillmore and had in turn, been defeated by the Wasatch academy team at Mount Pleasant, so that with three victories and one defeat to its credit, this game became an



important highlight in the athletic career of the local high school.

It had been ascertained as a result of the previous games, that they had created excellent public relations between Topaz and surrounding communities. With this thought in mind, plans were discussed as to ways in which arrangements could be made for a general center-wide attendance at the game. It was finally decided that, while no holiday could be declared on Armistice Day, arrangements could be made whereby all who desired to attend the game could do so by using overtime, where such overtime had been accumulated or by working on the following Saturday afternoon.

Thus, with general attendance assured, plans went forward for presentation of a formal observance of the day on the high school plaza in the open air, weather permitting.

A loud speaker system was set up on a platform opposite the 50-yard line on the west side. A piano was placed on this platform and guests of honor for the ceremony were seated there.

With arrival of the Fillmore squad, there came a caravan of some 50 or more enthusiastic high school rooters, led by their feminine cheer leaders. By 1:30 in the afternoon the crowds had begun to assemble, and by 2:00 it was estimated that at least 3,000 people were massed around the entire field.



With Noboru Kobayashi, president of the associated student body, presiding, the ceremony started a few minutes after 2 o'clock, when the Boy Scout Bugle Corps took its position between the south goal posts and the color guard took a similar position between the north goal posts.

A bugler blew and the color guard of three scouts marched down the field to the center and at right angle into a position before the west audience. There with the entire assembly at attention, the allegiance to the flag was pledged, followed by the singing of the National Anthem.

Burst after burst of wild cheers filled the air as the two teams trotted onto the field. Then after the game had started, the cheer leaders on both sides of the field, with the home rooters on the west side and the visitors on the east side, began to compete with each other, as they urged their respective team to victory.

It was a fine game of football, played with real sportsmanship, and the first half ended in no scores nor with any great threat of scores by either side.

During the half intermission, further ceremonies were held on the platform where 11 veterans of the first World War were introduced by Masaji Fujii, vice chairman of the Topaz City Council. Among other guests of honor were members of the Community Council and families in Topaz with sons, brothers or husbands in the Armed Forces. Also, a number of soldiers on



furloughs, visiting relatives in the center, were among the guests of honor.

At this time Charles F. Ernst, project director, spoke briefly on the "Meaning of Armistice Day", and Miss Yo Ikeda sang a solo "This is Worth Fighting for". The speaker of the day was Dr. Angus Naughton, superintendent of the Millard County schools. The theme of his talk was "A Hope for the Future". The ceremonies between halves concluded with a medley of military songs, presented by the Junior High School Girls Chorus.

The second half of the football game produced the tense thrills which the sport has a way of doing. At first Topaz pushed over a touchdown and bucked over the additional point. The second touchdown came for Topaz with a beautiful 29-yard forward pass. However, Topaz failed to convert so the score stood at 13-6 for the home team. This gave Topaz High School a season record of four wins and one loss.

It was the unanimous opinion of all that Armistice Day in Topaz was one that would be long remembered for its true feeling of reverence for the day, and its enthusiasm for the program presented.

Despite their defeat, the visitors expressed their appreciation of their courteous reception while in the center, and a desire that they might again face the football opponents who had twice beaten them.



It was extremely satisfying to observe after the game that the two teams were congenial and fraternized freely at a get-together in the Home Economics building of the high school, where they enjoyed refreshments that were prepared and served by girl students of those classes.

As a side observation on the general good relations which the football team from Topaz had created through the season, mention should be made of the reception which was given to the Topaz team members when they played the Wasatch academy team at Mount Pleasant, Utah. Following the game, which was won by Wasatch, the student body had the Topaz players as guests at a banquet, and the Topaz team members furnished some of the entertainment numbers during the festivity.

Members of the Administrative Staff felt that, as a result of this observance of Armistice Day, many friends had been made for Topaz and for the relocation program who might otherwise have been unconvinced.

A copy of the formal program is herewith attached.



# TOPAZ CITY HIGH SCHOOL

PRESENTS  
AN

## ARMISTICE DAY PROGRAM

NOVEMBER 11, 1943  
FOOTBALL FIELD



# PROGRAM

2 P.M. Football Field

Noboru Kobayashi, Student Body President presiding

1. Flag Ceremony - Boy Scouts

2. National Anthem - The Audience

First Half, Fillmore-Topaz Game

3. Talk - Mr. C.F. Ernst, Project Director

4. Solo "This Is Worth Fighting For" - Yo Ikeda

5. Introduction of World War Veterans by  
Mr. Masuji Fujii, Vice Chairman City Council:

George K. Adachi	Rev. J.K. Tsukamoto
Chikao Ishida	Saburo Matsumoto
Keizo Matsumori	Henry Nomura
Kacichi Muneno	Yajiro Okamoto
Masaru Ozawa	T. Nomura
	Y. Yamahara

6. Jr. High Girls Chorus - Medley of Military  
Songs

Second Half, Fillmore-Topaz Game

# STARTING LINEUP

Topaz

RE	Mike Mayeda
RT	Willie Hamada, co-capt.
RG	Mac Yoshida
C	Stan Tsujisaka
LG	Yosh Takakuwa
LT	Ky Tanamachi
LE	Hisanori Sano

QB	Roy Harano
FB	Harry Kitano, co-capt.
LH	Tony Kimura
RH	Yosh Yamada

Fillmore

RE	Wilden
RT	Day
RG	Alstrom
C	Grosbec
LG	Paxton
LT	Abraham
LE	Robinson

QB	George
FB	Kell
HB	Warner
HB	Davies



SCHOOL YELL

"Indian" Yell:

Ee ra ra, Woo ra ra, T-O-P-A-Z,  
Topaz, Topaz, Topaz High!

"Go Back To The Woods" Yell:

Go back, go back, go back to the woods,  
You haven't, you haven't, you haven't got the  
goods;  
You haven't got the pep, you haven't got the  
jazz,  
You haven't got the team that Topaz has!  
(clap, clap-clap, clap, clap) Go back!

"Spell" Yell:

T-T-T-O-P (clap, clap-clap, clap, clap)  
P-P-P-A-Z (clap, clap-clap, clap, clap)  
T-O-P-A-Z, Topaz, Topaz, Topaz High!

"Axe" Yell:

Give 'em the axe, the axe, the axe,  
Give 'em the axe, the axe, the axe,  
Give 'em the axe, Give 'em the axe, Give 'em the  
axe, Where?  
Right in the neck, the neck, the neck,  
Right in the neck, the neck, the neck,  
Right in the neck, Right in the neck, Right in  
the neck, There!  
(Repeat whole yell, faster)