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MEETING OF THE CENTRAL EXECUTIVE BOARD HELD AT 2:00 P.M. DECEMBER 29, 1942,  
IN THE OFFICE OF WADE HEAD, PROJECT DIRECTOR.

Those present were:

Mr. Head	Andy Sugimoto
Mr. Gelvin	M. Okamoto
Mr. Evans	Jimmy Yahiro
Smoot, Katow	M. Nakamura
S. Niiseki	Rev. M. Mitani
H. Nakachi	George Kurata
N. Nishino	

- Sugimoto - We would like to start in about the Press Bulletin of December 22. Have you read that issue?
- Head - Which article would you like to talk about?
- Sugimoto - We feel that the emphasis is on the wrong phrase. The existence of the Central Executive Board is terminated and the existence of the Labor Relations Board and Honor Court will be extinct, so we would like to get an opinion on this thing. The paper cuts out articles we give it and prints something else. More information should be gotten to the Japanese speaking people so we have decided to establish a bureau. We made an agreement with Mr. Norris James to that effect on December 3 as a result of our conversation with you with regard to same.
- Head - The right to relay information ~~xxx~~ to the Issei committee was granted on November 27. There should have been a little more explanation on the full right to print facts to the Japanese speaking people. The question seems to be, what should be published by each group.
- Sugimoto - There is nothing in our publications about football games or other sports.
- Head - All of these announcements for the paper have to be sent to the WRA for their files and we keep copies in our files.
- Sugimoto - All our articles are things the people are interested in and have to be given out the people.
- Mitani - One statement Mr. James made, was that translations were possible only when Mr. Head authorized an official translation. The only things we can translate are WRA orders with Head's permission. The Labor Relations Board has to get out releases every day to let the people know how things are going. Mr. James told us all translations are out unless ordered by Mr. Head.
- Mitani - Announcements or releases from the Labor Relations Board to the people should be printed in the paper.
- Sugimoto - In the agreement on December 3, we understood it to be a statement from all organizations. He does not want to recognize all organizations. He stressed that point to the former Executive Board.
- Mitani - Very frequently we feel that Mr. James has not given us cooperation in any serious way.
- Gelvin - Wasn't it agreed in a statement that Mr. Evans was to monitor those releases during Mr. Head's absence?
- Head - They will have to be monitored and approved, then both copies, English and Japanese, filed here and copies sent to Indian Office and WRA office. They should be handled by the administrator of Poston 1.

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Comm.  
Comm.



- Evans - I think an understanding has to be arrived at toward a cooperative thing between you and the advisory committee and not put out by the Labor Relations Board and not put out by the Labor Board and the Advisory board on their own hook.
- Mitani - When Head is away, Mr. Gelvin is Project Director, but the way we understand it, we are left in the air as he says he can do nothing about it.
- Head - I think the fellows do not understand each other. The first thing is that all this is to be monitored and is not news which interferes with the paper but will be announcements which affect the people regarding their work, Administrative orders and things of that nature.
- Mitani - We have to clarify the status of the paper in this community. Does it belong to us, to the people, or to a few individuals?
- Head - I think this announcement was in accordance with what a newspaper would publish.
- Gelvin - Since the paper has been published, there has only been case where Mr. James has asked the editor to change an editorial.
- Mitani - The city editor said Mr. James told him to withhold things that we had given to the paper to be published. We feel that if a group sends in a news release, they are entitled to consideration and if that is withheld, this group should be given reasons instead of just putting it under the pile and forgetting it. After that takes place, you feel the press is not interested, in what is going on and some of the news we consider important is cut out so we cannot see the reason for the paper. As a high school paper it is OK, but as a community paper for people of all ages and experience, it is not any good. The Labor Relations Board may have no business with the press except news, but we are interested in what ~~xxxx~~ kind of treatment we get from the press on our releases. If we know their reasons for not wanting to publish our items, all right, but otherwise, we want an explanation instead of just being shelved. When some announcement which is of real interest to the community does not come out we want to know why. When Mr. James tells us he will run an announcement, we usually believe him, but he does not always do what he says. It seems they have boys too young and untrained to give reports on the matters concerned.
- Head - There is one thing you want to be careful about; you do not want two or three groups here vying for power. There is no overlapping whatever, and there should be no overlapping between your board and the Council. You should work in conjunction but not superseding any body. If that happens, all forms of self-government will be knocked out right now. If you start answering articles by letter, this will keep people aroused and disturbed, which is what you should not do, unless I am wrong.
- Mitani - The Community Council, Issei and Labor Board wants to know the function of the press and wants a clarification as to why things cannot be released, both in English and Japanese.



- Head - It should be restricted to announcements which affect the community. Neither Mr. James, nor anyone else, is satisfied with the paper. His people do not have the experience but are doing a wonderful job under the circumstances. All groups should sit down and talk to him about it.
- Mitani - They should find out what he is trying to do with his press and what the people want to do with it and help him build up the press and stop giving the people the items they are trying to impose on the community now. The press is a success in some ways and a failure in others. The Japanese section of the press is supposed to give correct reports ~~for~~ but the translation usually varies and gives a very misleading impression. The Unit 1 Executive committee has translators on the board who can translate any announcement from your office.
- Head - It would be a good thing if this board has its best translators work on translating your stuff, also the news releases.
- Mitani - It would be much simpler; we do not want to establish new people, but in the past several months the announcements to the public were somewhat slow and inefficient so the people did not get the impression immediately and half the population missed out. They should come out in English and Japanese at the same time so people will get a complete picture in both languages at the same time. It seems that each committee is trying to dominate the other.
- Gelvin - As a matter of information, how long does it take a translator to take an ordinary page and transpose it on a stencil.
- Mitani - It would take at least half a day.
- Gelvin - Is there any reason why one staff of translators could not do the translating for the whole thing?
- Mitani - If anyone is a newspaper man, does he have to be interned? I heard that all newspaper men must be interned; at least, that is a rumor going around Poston.
- Gelvin - Yoshida was with a news agency and he wasn't interned. I have heard nothing to that effect.
- Mitani - If that is just a rumor without foundation, we may be able to get a group of translators who have been seasoned newspaper writers. Before I suggest anything, I want to bring out that if those people are given a chance to work out translations in the press office, it will facilitate the understanding of the people.
- Head - The solution of this thing shouldn't be with anybody. Mr. Kurata and Mr. Nishino should arrange to meet with members of the council and sit down and talk this thing over.
- Mitani - We want Mr. James to have the impression we are united and not fighting each other, and if the heads of the press will help us to bring the committee into a harmonious understanding, it will be a great contribution, but if not, it will create a great misunderstanding.
- ~~xxxxxx~~
- Head - Do not answer by letter any attack they make on you in a newspaper, but go down and talk to the editor.
- Mitani - I think Mr. James probably has information which is exactly correct that he may be just running a newspaper on that policy or information, instead of having a complete picture of what is going on.
- Head - Experienced newspaper people just are not showing up. We worked for three months getting one transferred in here.



- Sugimoto - We should make this a paper of the people instead of a few individuals. If this paper is owned by someone on a benefit basis that is a different story, but it just being set up here for the convenience of the people, it is nothing else.
- Head - If you can get together and can understand one another, I think you and Mr. James will find you want the same thing. If I sit down and talk to someone for two or three hours, I find we can usually work it out.
- Gelvin - Why is it necessary to publish the paper, and in addition to that, put out these announcements? Cannot this be combined into the paper? We have a difficult job now getting paper.
- Sugimoto - Our idea in the first place was to attach them to the Press Bulletin. Mr. James stresses that the Press Bulletin is a paper for three units and the information bureau here is just for camp one and it should not go into the Press Bulletin.
- Evans - Nothing should appear in the paper that is only applicable to one unit; anything can appear in the paper and not apply only to Unit 1.
- Head - You would save circulation troubles as well as paper. Mr. Nishino, what is your opinion?
- Nishino - I was not very familiar with the problem of the newspaper until I was appointed by the representatives and just a few days ago I was told of the facts by these gentlemen here and if we feel that in the sense of Issei, we feel the necessity of having Japanese published in their own language as part of the real announcements of the facts as being desired by these people ~~or~~ Executive Board.
- Nakachi - At present, there are three papers actually published; one is English section, one is Japanese section translated in camp two, and one translated here. That makes it harder for us to cooperate with you as the idea is to have only one English edition and one Japanese edition coming out every day according to the news of each unit and people get one picture rather than three different opinions.
- Gelvin - Outside of the various releases which have been released to explain the functions of the committee, everything else is just as much to the interest of two and three as well as unit one.
- Kurata - It should be one publication as confusion arises from more. Three papers would have a different phase of one article.
- Katow - Will it still remain a free press under that set up, like on the outside.
- Head - There is no more free press; every paper now has entered into voluntary censorship.
- Katow - We are going to have some kind of a program here but we want to get the paper ~~under~~ <sup>under</sup> some kind of control.
- Head - You will need to have free press to a certain extent, in other words, establish a newspaper policy and follow that policy straight through. I think that is what any paper needs.
- Katow - Still there will be directives put out separately from the papers in English and there should be one in Japanese too.
- Head - I think every administrative order coming in here should be published and sent to every body-whether the paper should do it, or if it should be done separately, I don't know. On a lot of these orders, someone should take them and rewrite them so the people can understand them.



- Mitani - It would probably be more simple in this way: establish a policy of letting the Labor Relations Board announce your decisions and releases without publishing the whole text. Have a release set up and approved by one person without going through so much red tape. As it is now, when it does get to the paper, it ceases to have any value to it. Have an agreement with James to this effect, that the release will go into the English section or Japanese section.
- Katow - It should have been one paper; I do not think a free press works in here; it should be under the control of someone responsible. There should have been a connection between a Central Board, Council and to the people, then the circle will be complete. The Central Board should be controlled by the Council and the people.
- Head - Your Council should be interested in your paper and feel free to help or criticize it but you don't want it to become a political publication. We will have to ~~xxxx~~ realize that we can ~~xxx~~ not let politics enter into it.
- Katow - If it keeps on running in its present condition, it will go off on a tangent.
- Head - I think the paper should be operated as a medium for the community. I still think you should sit down and talk this over with Mr. James and do some planning on it. One of Mr. James' duties is to keep people outside from attacking us; he is also responsible for the project newspaper and makes all reports and gets them ready for my signature.
- Sugimoto - Has he any control over any reports going out of here to outside papers? So many misleading articles have come out in different papers.
- Head - That is because he is being quoted on things he has not said.
- Sugimoto - The news reported out of this camp to some other ~~place~~ papers gives them wrong information on things that did not actually happen here.
- Head - You cannot control newspaper reports outside. They release articles and give them a Poston dateline and no one from Poston has ever heard about them.
- Mitani - One article appeared in the Press Bulletin over your name which was rather misleading and the people wondered about it.
- Head - What was it?
- Mitani - I will get it for you.
- Head - Mr. Yahiro, what do you think of trying to combine all this into one newspaper?
- Yahiro - They want the red tape cut out; this paper should be a medium to make the people understand what is going on in the project. All announcements going in the paper should be clear. One department of translators is sufficient.
- Head - James wants to know what the people think of this paper.
- Gelvin - There is something I do not just exactly agree with on these meetings. When there is an objection to something and individual is doing, I think he should be right here in this meeting.
- Sugimoto - Last Saturday we made an agreement that we should ask all these people to sit in with us at a joint meeting and we want to get all those things straightened out. But we thought it was proper to see you first and arrange for this meeting.
- Kurata - If it is a question of dispensing information, regardless of what nationality it is printed in, they should have that information.



- Kurata - Nothing should be withheld. If we cannot dispense with our papers so the people can understand it without going into gossip, we won't get any place. Cartoons should be cut out and more sports should be cut out. I've worked night and day on this paper, giving them the right news at the right time and trying to get them to cut out the cartoons and all the foolishness and give the people current events. If it is something interesting to be done, put it in; if it is current events, put it in, but keep out the school stuff. We would like to contact the right persons to cooperate fully with us so we could dispense a paper with a little sense in it instead of all this poppycock we have now. We can do this without hurting any party concerned, by not emblazoning any individual or making any heroic statement of any one person by giving them a paper they will like.
- Head - I would like to see what you have just said go into a resolution and outline of what the people want in the way of a daily paper.
- Kurata - We do not know what Mr. James is actually doing here. We had an assumption but did not know for sure whether he was here to help us or to act against us.
- Head - The only people who have come out to help with the paper are youngsters; they should be represented, too, of course, but I would like to have mature people with experience to help Mr. James on this. He does not read these articles before they are published; that is not his business.
- Kurata - We are not trying to put anything through that is not permitted. The primary objection is that we have quite an underground current going on about which we know nothing. In order to get a firm grip of the situation you must have some form of disposition where everyone can understand the same thing at the same time. You want a community that is worth living in, otherwise people want to get out of here and go some other place. Now we want to kill that feeling.
- Head - I have found out that many of the misunderstandings are due to not getting together and thrashing them out. I believe you people have an idea and believe it will be fine if you can get together with Mr. James and Mr. Evans and talk these things over.
- Mitani - Do you think you can have the Council arrange the time very soon to have Mr. James come and discuss these questions with us.
- Kurata - Now that we understand his position, I think he will be very much interested.
- Head - I think Mr. James will be glad to find out who these newspaper people are and get them to help him with the paper.
- Kurata - Is it possible to have James at an early date?
- Head - Early next week I think. Let us talk just a little about when I am not on the project. Mr. Gelvin will be the director and Mr. Evans will be in charge of Unit 1. These men will be right here in direct contact at all times but Evans will be the man to handle the problems of Unit 1. Mr. Gelvin and I are thinking of all three units and the outside, and do not have time to think of what ~~xxx~~ our local problems are, but Mr. Evans has time to do that.
- Kurata - If you will make an appointment for us to meet with Mr. James next week, we will appreciate it very much.
- Head - We will set the date for Monday afternoon, 2:00 p.m., Ward 7 at the hospital.
- Gelvin - I would like to make a suggestion to see what you think about it, and all the men here. With the meeting today and another Monday makes the meeting today practically wasted. I think it is a good idea to



Gelvin - have all persons concerned at the meeting and saves this business of meeting with Head and arranging another for the same purpose.

Head - In addition to that I would like to get together with the different committees and discuss whether or not we have too many committees and if you think so, perhaps we can absorb some of them.

Kurata - I am sure this will be a happy event, and now, if there is nothing more, I motion we adjourn.



February 22, 1943

MINUTES

Meeting with Mr. Frank Mizusawa of the  
Agriculture Department

Present: (Agriculture Department) Mr. Frank  
Mizusawa

(Labor Relations Board) Messrs. H.  
Nakachi, Joe Nakai, Rev. Mitani

(Executive Board) Messrs. Nagai,  
Matsumoto, Kawai, and Kawashima

Mr. Kawashima opened the meeting. He mentioned that  
this meeting was held in accordance with Article III, section  
2 of the "Formation of the Executive Board", in order to:

1. It is the duty of the Executive to hold consultations  
with the evacuee and departmental heads.
2. The body wishes to help and serve the community as a  
coordinator between various departments.
3. The Executive Board wishes to study the set-up and  
policies of the Agricultural Department.

The following points were made, mentioned, or suggested  
by the group:

1. Organization:

F. Mizusawa: "We have one central body for Camps 1, 2 and  
3, an Executive Committee that is in charge of all three units  
ratio of 3,2,2. The committee makes plans and takes in over-  
all activities. They are chosen by department in each Unit  
by the Board of Directors. Members of the Executive Com-  
mittee are Dr. Takahashi, ch, and in Camp I Mr. Nitta, Ayaka  
Takahashi, and Mr. Yano. The chairman is appointed by the  
Executive Committee. All departments mentioned in the or-  
ganization chart are in existence except the Field Crop Divi-  
sion. As for the Fish Culture Division we intend to get oil  
and minerals as well as for diet. Refining of fish is passed  
on to the Industry Department. We have in the Hog Ranch 300  
heads. The land is levelled and the slaughter house will be  
ready. 3,500 chicks are already here. For the beef cattle the  
main problem is the feed. They want to get some alfalfa from  
Gila. This Dairy Project was approved but it has not been  
started yet. We are preparing the land now."

K. Matsumoto: What we are interested in is the relations  
between Subsistence and Agriculture Department.

F. Mizusawa; Subsistence is first and above subsistence the  
Council decides.

M. Kawashima: When there is no coordination with each



department what happens.

F. Mizusawa: Goes back to Head. Certain functions have to be followed. It is sent to Mr. Head to be approved. Given leeway to go ahead with program. Not acreage and irrigation for Feed Crop.

M. Kawashima: Explained to Mr. Nakachi of the set-up of the Agriculture Department.

F. Mizusawa: Priority status of our Agriculture Department is 9A or better on purchasing of materials or for maintenance and operation. For the Hog Ranch it took 5 months to get it approved. Depending upon the construction of the Irrigation Canal we would be able to use 800-900 acres if we had better irrigation. There is not enough acreage for the food situation. We need 5,000 acres for subsistence.

K. Matsumoto: States that some people have suggested cutting down to 1,500 acres.

F. Mizusawa: 5,000 acres are needed. That department submitted a plan to the Council when it was first started but it wasn't approved.

M. Kawashima: Suggested that he submit it again.

F. Mizusawa: Books <sup>are</sup> always open. We do our own bookkeeping. Poultry and hogs bought from subsistence. Raising isn't charged comes from cash advances. WRA basis for that. Ex.: Lettuce \$1.00 a crate, outside \$.75 to produce. Charge subsistence \$.75 we benefit \$.25. The Agriculture Department is always in the red. There is no definite plan received. On November 1, 2, and 3 a Washington agent came. He told us to use the L. A. Market as the basis for the prices. Subjugation comes under developments. Water and land is free as far as the Agriculture is concerned. It's the labor and materials. Wages are from the WRA. Have \$100,000 as a basis to keep on going for a year. Hogs are given back to subsistence plus costs. Subsistence benefits by it. Farming within the blocks is free. The Department gave seeds to the blocks and the block benefited by it. The Subsistence Department purchases vegetables from other relocation centers. Subsistence does the buying the Agriculture does the raising which isn't charged and then they give it back to the Subsistence.

M. Kawashima: What is sold to Gila goes into Agriculture fund.

F. Mizusawa: Yes.

M. Kawashima: Clarification of policy to the Council



suggested. Indian service wants improvement of the land without them paying a penny. What about the balancing of evacuee labor.

F. Mizusawa: A survey was made in September of the labor situation. The Agriculture Department is not a political organization. There is enough labor at present. We can't force people to stay in the Department. Sent to Washington and Community Council to take in labor problem set-up. 450 in Agriculture mostly Issel. In camp I 235. 800 acres of subjugated land. Have cooperation from Head but not from the others under Head. Tractors: 40% of the equipment is used in the block. We became so busy that for this month and next the tractors were frozen to use in other purposes in this project. There are about 8 tractors for the 3 Units. Not enough to go into the blocks. Now being the time to sow the seeds. Recreation area under the Unit Administrator and others say it is under the Recreation Department. (see EXHIBIT I)

M. Kawashima: Dust control and beautification of the camp. Closer contact of department and report of things solved by closer contact.

F. Mizusawa: Care of the Block 6 (with Mr. Evans) use of the laundry, for laboratory. Can't vacate now because of no where to go. Have lumber to make the laboratory but no nails. For new construction no rating but for repairing 9A or better.

M. Kawashima: When are Executive committeemen elected and how long is the term.

F. Mizusawa: Term is 1 year and are on a temporary basis. Each Department took care of own field. Camp 3 has 80 acres. Camp 2--30 acres, Camp 1--80 acres. Included in this is the poultry, dairy and cattle. Vegetable crops there are 300 acres. As soon as water is available we will be able to use more acreage. Camp 3 soil is the best.

K. Matsumoto: What if there is an excess of one vegetable?

M. Kawashima: There will be no excess of one vegetable because all 3 units work together and have it so not too much of one vegetable is planted. Evacuees to decide what vegetables they want and the Agriculture gives them recommendations. The first plan was to have each department fit into the project but it didn't hold out. We tried to rent some of the Evacuees machinery but the Procurement office tabled it. This Department is a Government project so they let it remain as a Government project instead of taking all of the responsibility. Evacuees decide whether to ship vegetable to army or the navy.

Soon after the meeting a memorandum (a copy of which is attached herewith) was sent to the TCC.



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February 19, 1943

MEMO TO: John Evans  
FROM : Department of Agriculture  
SUBJECT: Block Activities

This is to notify you that tractor uses in blocks are to be discontinued indefinitely until such times when the rush of farm activities are past. Exceptions are made for emergency needs only.

Food for camp consumption is the aim of the Truck Crop Division, and the release of grounds for recreational purposes will be made if the plot is found to be absolutely non-productive; otherwise, the production program will be carried until such times when additional acreages are made available outside of the city limits.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

/s/  
Frank Mizusawa

FM/n

cc: W. C. Sharp  
H. A. Mathiesen