

Block Managers' Meeting

September 12

Agree

The Block Managers' committee on Block Gardeners con-

sulted the body as to the advisability of holding a meeting of Block Gardeners in order to decide once for all what they should do in the future. There had been some ³dis₁satisfaction among

SEPTEMBER 12 -- (2)

Managers that Block Gardeners were no longer useful to the blocks, ~~for~~ too much of their time were taken up by the agricultural work. Murakami, for one, expressed that the Gardeners should be entirely transferred to the Agricultural Department. He believed that the Gardeners had outlived ~~their~~ usefulness to the blocks, especially at present when ~~the~~ labor shortage was acute. The Managers voted to endorse the plan of the committee to hold the meeting.

SEPTEMBER 6 --(3)

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
CAMP I, BLOCK 37

Summary of Production and Consumption of Various
Crops and Livestock for the Fiscal Year 1943-44.

	<u>Total Weight</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
Beans	425,590	\$2781.15
Broccoli	29,556	295.56
Beets	71,600	716.00
Blackeye Beans	1,178	11.78
Cantaloupes	35,025	497.45
Carrots	170,630	2275.24
Cabbage	379,515	3795.15
Cucumber	73,210	4369.93
Daikon	201,411	2014.11
Eggplant	54,045	540.45
Green Onion	20,625	206.25
Gobo	2,725	27.25
Lettuce	94,275	942.75
Nappa	52,673	526.73
Onion	35,235	352.35
Peanuts	2,880	28.80
Radishes	25,000	250.00
Spinach	82,560	825.60
Sweet Potatoes	41,230	412.30
Shiro Uri	114,075	2647.92
Potatoes	3,290	32.90
Squash (Banana)	3,715	37.15
Togan	4,690	446.90
Tomatoes	6,560	483.66
 Total of Vegetable	 1,531,293	 \$24,117.38
 Broccoli Seed	 500#	 \$ 5,000.00
Daikon & Nappa		
Shiro Uri	300#	3,000.00
	800#	\$ 8,000.00
 Milo Maize (227 sacks)	33,240#	
Barley (1244 ")	124,400#	
 Total of Feed	157,640 lbs.	
 Chicken	23,129½#	
(Delivered to Mess Halls)		
Eggs	9,729 Doz.	
(Delivered to Subsistence)		
Hogs	361,525#	
(Delivered to Slaughter House)		

SEPTEMBER 6 --(4)

Total acreage utilized for various crops during the fiscal year 1943-44.

<u>Date</u> <u>Planted</u>	<u>Variety</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Date</u> <u>Planted</u>	<u>Variety</u>	<u>Acreage</u>
July 8	Radish	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	April 1	Pumpkin	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
31	Daikon	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	1	Togan	4
			3	watermelon	35
Aug 5	Eggplant	3	18	Sweet Potato	10
9	Shiro Uri	6	19	Daikon	3
9	Cucumber	1			
12	Carrot	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	May 1	Eggplant	1
13	Daikon	2	25	Shiro Uri	5
23	Bean	1 $\frac{1}{4}$		Nappa	2
25	Cabbage	4 $\frac{1}{2}$		Seed Farm	9
26	Broccoli	3 $\frac{1}{2}$		Azuki	3
Sept. 3	Nappa	3	Total Acreage for Truck		
			Crops 241 $\frac{1}{2}$		
4	Daikon	4			
20	"	4	Nursery		11
20	Lettuce	4			
Oct. 26	Nappa	1	Guaikyule		4
8	Onion (Green)	$\frac{1}{2}$			
Nov. 4	Onion (Dry)	2	Alfalfa, Sec. 10		155
18	Onion (Dry)	10	Alfalfa, Sec. 34		40
15	Daikon	3			
16	Carrot	10	"(Block Garden)		60
15	Spinach	6			
17	Cabbage	10	(Turned in from Landscape		
15	Lettuce	5	on 4/11/44)		
22	Beet	2			
Feb. 11	Cantaloupe	10	July 1	Milo Maize	700
9	Tomato	10			
18	Shiro Uri	5	Dec.	Barley	250
20	Bean	10			
18	Cucumber	5		Milo Maize	17
				(ready to plant)	
Mar 10	Irish Potato	10			
20	Honeydew	20			
27	Daikon	2			
27	Radish	2			
			Grand Total		848 $\frac{1}{2}$

SEPTEMBER 6 -- 95)

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CAMP I BLOCK #37

Estimated Acreage of Truck Crops for the Year 1944-45.

<u>Variety</u>	<u>No. of Acres</u>	<u>Planting Date</u>	<u>Harvesting Period</u>
Cabbage	5	9/1/44	February
	5	11/1/44	April
Beets	2	10/1/44	February--March
	1	11/1/44	April
Carrots	3	9/15/44	February--March
	3	11/1/44	April--May
	3	1/20/45	June--July
Green Onion	1	9/15/44	March
	1	11/1/44	April
Crystal White Onion	2	10/10/44	May
Utah Yellow Onion	8	10/10/44	June
Lettuce	2	9/1/44	December--January
	2	10/1/44	February--March
	2	11/1/44	April
Spinach	1	10/1/44	January
	1	11/15/44	February
	1	12/15/44	March
Broccoli	2	9/1/44	January--March
	2	10/1/44	February--April
Parsley	1	9/1/44	December--January
Cauliflower	3	9/1/44	January--February
Nappa	2	8/25/44	November
	3	9/15/44	December
	2	1/15/45	March
	2	2/1/45	April
	2	3/1/45	May
Eggplant	3	8/1/44	November-December
	3	3/1/45	June-August
Beans	2	8/20/44	November
	2	3/1/45	June
Daikon	5	9/1/44	November-December
	3	10/1/44	December--January
	2	10/15/44	January
	3	1/20/45	March-April

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<u>VARIety</u>	<u>No. of Acres</u>	<u>Planting Date</u>	<u>Harvesting Period</u>
Sweet Potatoes	10	5/1/45	October-November
Tomatoes	5	1/20/45	May--July
Turnips	1	9/10/44	November--December
	1	12/10/44	March
Watermelon	20	3/1/45	June--July
Radishes	8	8-9-10-11/44 1-2-3-4/45	October--June
Cantaloupe	5	2/10/45	June--July
Honeydew	10	3/1/45	July--August
Casabas	10	3/10/45	July--August
Squash (Banana or Jap.)	5	3/20/45	July
Squash (Hubbard or Jap.)	5	8/10/44	November-December
Cucumber	5	2/25/45	May--June
Shiro Uri or Armenian	2	8/10/44	October
	3	9/10/44	November
	3	10/1/44	December
	2	3/1/45	April-May
	2	4/1/45	May--June
Togan	5	3/25/45	August
Celery	2	8/10/44	January--March
Potatoes	10	3/1/45	June
Total	199		

September 5 Okabe of the Agriculture Department reported that harvesting
Blk. Mgr. System of onions was taking more time than expected, and requested per-
mission of the Managers to use the Block ~~Managers~~^{Gardeners} a week longer.

Agree. There was still the question of what to do about the alfalfa fields
~~was~~ undecided, and the matter was referred to the special committee
of Managers, which had been created for the problem sometime ago.

Local Council
Meeting
September 4

Agenda

Okabe of the Agriculture Department reported the summary of production and consumption of various crops and livestock for the last fiscal year and the plan for the new fiscal year. He explained that the new plan called for a great reduction in acreage over the last fiscal year due to manpower shortage. Detailed data were given in the following statements issued by the Department of Agriculture:

August 15-

The committee for the problem of Block Gardeners met with Okabe and another representative from the Agricultural Department on August 11. (Cf: August 8, page 8) Ishikawa made its report as follows:

Aggie

AUGUST 15 -- (4)

1. When the harvesting is completed, the present harvester-Block Gardeners will be consolidated with the crew in charge of the alfalfa work. The work will be distributed equally among them. It will require their contribution only about four days in a month and the rest of time they will be released to ~~the~~ work in their blocks.

2. There are twenty-one Block Gardeners at present. The remaining blocks are urged to hire Gardeners.

The report was adopted by the Managers in toto.

April 13

An emergency meeting of the Block Managers was held from 3 P. M. in the conference room of the Unit Administration Building.

Okabe of the Agricultural Department complained to the Managers that the block gardeners had not been coming out to the farm work steadily as called for by the agreement between his department and the Managers. (As a term of the final settlement between the Managers and the Administration it was agreed that the block gardeners would be given their work cards by the Agricultural Department. But they were allowed to continue to work in their respective blocks except during the busy periods

APRIL 13 -- (3)

of the Agricultural Department. These periods they were required to assist its work.) The first call for the gardeners was made on April 11. On this day only twenty-two out of thirty six blocks sent their gardeners out to the Agricultural Department. But on the second day the turn out was worse. There were only ten gardeners out. Today, the third day, the turn out was a little better with eighteen persons. Okabe stated that it was not fair to the Agricultural Department if the Managers did not cooperate in sending the gardeners out. After all, he said, the gardeners were getting their pays out of the Agricultural quota.

Okabe then explained that his department expected the gardeners to come out four days next week.

One Manager complained that the arrangement was not quite in accord with the agreement with the Administration. He understood that the gardeners were to help the Agricultural Department to harvest. If the gardeners were to work for the Agricultural Department four days out of a week, the blocks were not getting much benefit out of them. He understood the agreement to have meant that the gardeners were to be assigned to the blocks most of their time.

Another Manager complained that the gardeners were usually old men, who could not stand much hard work. If the Agricultural Department demanded too much time from these men, they would quit. If they did so, the blocks would have to suffer.

Another Manager was more pugnacious. He said that there was no use in keeping these men as block gardeners if their time was mostly taken up by the department. They might as well be transferred to the department completely. "We are getting gipped," said he.

APRIL 13 -- (4)

Okabe explained that the Agricultural Department had its quota reduced, too, on April 1. When he protested, he was told that he should be able to manage well with the aid of these block gardeners. If the blocks insisted to keep the gardeners when the Agricultural Department needed them, it would not be fair to his department either. His department would not feel justified to keep these men on their payroll if they could not help it. He said that there was considerable misunderstanding between the parties concerned over the matter. It might be that the Administration had "double talked"; telling the Managers one thing and the Agricultural Department another thing. He reiterated, however, that the busy time for the department would not extend beyond the month of July and they would not be called upon for help after that.

The last statement by Okabe was enough to sooth the Managers who agreed to cooperate with the Agricultural Department as much as possible. However, they said it was quite a problem to convince each and every block gardener of the meaning of the agreement. Some of them, they thought, would quit; in such cases the Managers would have to find replacements. And they were willing to go through these probable difficulties ^{in the future} if the gardeners would not be taken away from them more than one third of their working days. The Managers wanted to use the two-thirds of the working time throughout a year for their block purposes. This was satisfactory to Okabe, as his department would not need them from August to ~~the~~ next April.

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March 21

A regular weekly meeting of the Block Managers was held in the conference room of the Unit Administration Building from ~~12~~ 2:00 P.M. today.

Sakai read the following notice:

March 22, 1944

We, the members of the Local Council, Unit I and the Poston I Department of Agriculture, gratefully express our appreciation to the residents of Poston I for their wholehearted cooperation which was extended during the recent horse chase to protect our vegetables.

/s/ Seichi Nomura
Chairman of Local Council, Unit I
/s/ Frank K Otsuka
Supervisor of Agriculture

Feb 2

The Department of Agriculture several days ago issued a call for workers to harvest the crops in Section 28, but no one answered it. Okamoto attempted to transfer the Block Gardeners to the Agriculture Department by a resolution of the Council. He asked Nishimoto, the observer from the Block Managers, what he thought about the plan. Nishimoto explained that the Gardeners were under the jurisdiction of the Block Managers, who by right should be consulted if the Council wanted to avoid an open ~~clash~~ clash with them. The rest of those present agreed to Nishimoto, who promised he would call an Executive Committee meeting tomorrow to discuss the matter.

The meeting was adjourned at 4 P. M.

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Jan 25

Copy

About 1:30 P. M. I had a five-minute conversation with Wade Head in the corridor of the Administration Building. He asked me what was new here. I reported to him that last week the Block Managers and Councilmen were taken on an inspection tour of the projects operated by the Agricultural Department. I described the trip in detail. I told him that the wire fence crew has completed their assignment today. He was very much interested in my accounts. "We are making a healthy progress here, although it may look awfully slow. I know those ^{WRA} people at Washington are not satisfied with our progress. They are impatient," I stated.

"Don't mind them. You just go ahead with it," Head stated. He usually understands without going into detail what we say. These were cryptic statements, but Head knew that I meant the motivational difficulties of full participation by the evacuees. I also talked about the agricultural projects, because I knew that was what he wanted to hear.

"What's new in your circle?" I asked.

"Nothing new among us," replied Head.

"Isn't the change of the Project Director a big news?"

"Is it?" Head asked good naturedly.

"Sure, to the evacuees it is a news of a man biting a dog."

JANUARY 25 -- (6)

"We don't know whom~~we~~ we will get for the job," Head stated.

"I have a good man in my mind, but I don't know if he will come here or not. That's Mr. Gelvin."

"He is a very good man for the job," I said. "But you have to do lots of fast talking to both Mr. Gelvin and Commissioner Collier."

"I know it," was Head's parting words.

See also Evacuee Losses, January 20.

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Jan 20
Agric

About fifty Block Managers and Local Councilmen were taken by the representatives of the Agricultural Department for an inspection tour of its projects. They started on the tour about 1:30 P.M. in four trucks. First, they saw the Hog Farm. Then the Slaughter House, the Smoking Room, and the new site unnder construction for the Hog Farm. They, they were led back to Section 28, where cabbage, carrots, lettuce, and barley were growing. After the vegetable garden, they saw the Poultry Farm, the Nursery, the Duck Farm, and the Farm of Fish Culture. The trip was concluded at 4:30 P.M.

Aggie
Jan 19

Okabe of Block 28, who is scheduled to succeed Sonada as the chief of the Agricultural Department, invited the Councilmen for a tour of the various activities of the department. The inspection tour is to take place tomorrow afternoon. (The Block Managers were also invited by Okabe yesterday and all of them signified their intention of going on the tour.) (Sonoda is leaving Poston to join his daughters, who had relocated to the Midwest.)