

POSTON ONE  
Sentiments

Week of July 1-7, 1943

<u>Topics</u>	<u>Satisfaction</u>	<u>Dissatisfaction</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Relocation.....	1½	3½	5
2. Outgroup.....	1	3	4
3. Agriculture.....	1½	2	3½
4. W.R.A. Policy.....	0 0	3 3	3
5. Religion.....	2½	½	3
6. Food.....	2	½	2½
7. Politics.....	2	½	2½
8. American Amusement.....	2	½	2½
9. Japanese Amusement.....	2	0	2
10. School Construction.....	1½	½	2
11. Health.....	1	1	2
12. Community Enterprise.....	1½	½	2
13. School.....	1½	½	2
14. Housing.....	½	1	1½
15. Administration Personnell.....	½	1	1½

Sentiments Meeting Held  
Week of July 1-7

July 12, 1943

NOTE: Since there were no available records of the past weeks chartings, some difficulty was experienced as to what to base the evaluations for this week. However, an attempt was made to base them upon what Yatsushiro and Ishino could recall from the previous week.

Yatsushiro lead the discussion while Ishino recorded the sentiments.

The members present were Grace Morimoto, block 27, Aiko Tanemachi, block 37, Akiko Awaya, block 17, Nobuyo Miyaya, block 27, and Ester Nakamura, block 4.

1. Relocation has probably the number one position in community interest <sup>WITH</sup> more dissatisfaction than satisfaction. The notice about cash grants for relocators being delayed brought a great deal of anxiety and dissatisfaction. There were rumors in the blocks that the new congressional appropriations to WRA did not make provisions for these cash grants. Job offers and hostel invitations still seem to be coming in plentiful and may have added to the satisfaction of many. The number of departures for indefinite leave seem to have taken a slight increase due to the transportation difficulties of the previous week in which very few were permitted to leave with most of them postponing their departures to this week.

2. Out-group relations. It seems that this particular phase has fallen in community interest, for no one could recall anything worth mentioning. The burning of one of the barrack of the internment camp at Santa Fe, New Mexico was brought up, but that was a topic of interest for the previous week. <sup>CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION OF W.R.A. CREATED SOME INTEREST,</sup>  
<sup>AMORE DISSATISFACTION THAN SATISFACTION. THERE SEEM TO HAVE BEEN A RELATIVELY LACK OF NEWS APPEARING IN THE TIMES OR EXAMINER.</sup>

3. Agriculture is in third place with a little more dissatisfaction than satisfaction. There was a special meeting of the various people in-



terested in this agriculture problem. Members of the Community Council were also present. There ~~was~~<sup>was</sup> interest ~~brought up~~<sup>in</sup> and dissatisfaction shown in the select group of interested people in having the irrigation canal work completed so that water can be had for the planting this fall. Also news of Mr. Matheisen leaving the Center was made public. Satisfaction resulted ~~in~~<sup>mainly because</sup> ~~mostly that many~~ of the melons on the dinner tables were actually raised here in Poston.

4. WRA Policy. Interest mostly dissatisfaction was relatively high in this. There were quite a lot of discussion of the special wire from Washington asking for cut in the number of employed on the project, the elimination, temporarily at least, of the nineteen dollar wage group; and the more strict observation of the working time. Paid workers in Japanese culture activities such as shibais, shaku-hachi, and judo, were cut down to one paid instructor each.

5. Religion. Religion seemed to take a jump this week also with a great deal of satisfaction noted. Rev. Joseph Penner, Phoenix Baptist minister spoke at the block 5 outdoor sanctuary. Comments were that "He was a good speaker, but he sure talked long." Rev. Kowta and Sadaichi Asai were announced as candidates to attend the Ministerial Conference in Denver, Colorado. Among the Buddhists, there was a special service for the benefit of the people in and around block 17 (mostly of San Juan Bautista, Gilroy area, according to Akiko). Rev. Kawasaki of camp III was the speaker. The YEA held a special social on July 2 which was well attended and resulted in favorable comments.

6. Food. Interest, or rather comments of food was high and was mostly satisfaction. The frequent (almost too frequent) appearance of



cantaloupes and watermelons at breakfast, lunch and supper brought forth many comments. Home grown egg-plants were available also.

7. Politics. Politics probably has gained an interest over the previous week and was more expression of satisfaction than of dissatisfaction. The announcement of the new permanent Local Council of Unit I, the new Executive Board, and Labor Relations Board, and the appointment of City Manager, K. Kuroiwa, are significant points of interest among the select group directly affected.

8. American Amusements. This increased some in view of the Fourth of July holiday. There were many people going to the river, a few going to the swim meet held in camp II, and at least one Fourth of July dance held in one of the blocks. At the movies, a special OWI pictures on evacuation of the Japanese was shown and some favorable comments were heard. The movie, "Magnificent Dope" resulted in mixed expressions of satisfaction and dissatisfaction. At the block 4 movie, the Girl Scouts sold punch. On the whole most of these tended towards satisfactions. *Softball CONTINUED TO BE POPULAR AND PLAYED DAILY.*

9. Japanese Amusement. The amount of interest shown in the Japanese amusements was not as high as the American Amusements. The shibai held on Saturday, July 3, brought out many favorable comments among the older generation. There may have been some discussion of the new WRA policy to cut down all paid workers in the Japanese culture programs such as the shibais and judo.

10. School Construction. This was rated relatively low, but there were some interest shown, especially those blocks that were immediately affected. It seems as time goes on a larger percentage of the block residents are volunteering, an evidence of the competitive spirit among



the blocks. A new schedule had been made for the second round for each block to volunteer.

11. Health. There was little interest shown in health with about the same amount of satisfaction and dissatisfaction. Tuberculosis X-rays were being taken for all the block residents starting with block 35. Some concern was evident with malaria mosquitos.

12. Community Enterprise. This week, CE brought more satisfaction than dissatisfaction. The canteen opening in the evenings as a special service feature brought many satisfactions as evidenced by the number of people that are shopping. The canteens were carrying a <sup>LARGER THAN USUAL</sup> ~~large~~ stock of cakes, coffee rolls, pops, popsicles, ice cream, and watermelon. Dissatisfaction was beginning to show up again on some of the clerks showing partiality by selling things to some that are not sold to the general public.

13. School. This week, school was a topic of interest big enough to be mentioned on the chart. Dr. Carey left the Center for Hawaii, Dr. Harris temporarily took his place, and Miss Cushman assumed principalship of the high school of Unit I. With the regular school being let out for summer vacation, summer school and the religious "daily vacation Bible School" (both Buddhist and Christian) have been combined to put on a program to keep the children busy. Special make-up classes for those students who have not done so well in regular school have been arranged.

14. Housing. This week, housing has been low in interest with more dissatisfaction than satisfaction. There was some satisfaction noted where improvements have been made by covering the walls with wallpaper and cardboard to beautify the rooms, screens were available to help keep out

mosquitos. The abundance of mosquitos in the units, and the "freezing" of moves from one unit in a block to another have been sources of dissatisfaction.

15. Administration Personnel. Interest this week has been limited to Dr. Carey leaving the resulting dissatisfaction shown. This has been discussed also under "School."



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POSTON ONE  
Poston, Arizona

"SENTIMENTS"

Week of July <sup>A-14</sup>~~15~~ 1943

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Satis- faction</u>	<u>Dissatis- faction</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1. Relocation .....	3½	1½	5
2. Outgroup .....	3	2	5
3. Agriculture .....	2	2	4
4. Politics .....	3	½	3½
5. Religion .....	3	0	3
6. American Amusement .....	2½	½	3
7. WRA policy .....	0	2½	2½
8. Food .....	2½	0	2½
9. Health .....	1½	1	2½
10. Japanese Amusement .....	2	0	2
11. School construction .....	1½	½	2
12. Community Enterprise .....	1½	½	2
13. Administration Personnel ....	1	1	2
14. School .....	1½	½	2
15. Selective Service .....	1	0	1
TOTALS .....	<u>29½</u>	<u>12½</u>	<u>42</u>

POSTON ONE

"SENTIMENTS" --Week of July 8-14, 1943, inclusive

(Staff meeting on July 15, 1943)

by T.Y.

A staff meeting was held on the morning of July 15th, 1943 (Thursday) from 8:30 to 10:00 o'clock. Members present were Iwao Ishino of Block 11, Toshio Yatsushiro of Block 35, Grace Morimoto of Block 27, Aiko Tanazachi of Block 37, Akiko Awaya of Block 17, Nobuyo Miyaya of Block 27, and Esther Nakamura of Block 4.

Ishino led the discussion while Yatsushiro recorded the discussion.

1. RELOCATION: Relocation remained constant from the previous week's scoring of five points. A good number of evacuees continued to leave the Center for resettlement on the outside, indicating satisfaction. The leaves have been all restricted to an early morning hour of 4:00 o'clock instead of the evening hour of 8:00 o'clock. Call for seasonal work in Utah (cannery and field work) attracted many niseis and some isseis, and seem to indicate satisfaction. Other factors causing ~~the~~ satisfaction are: 1) Masao Sato, YMCA visitor to Poston to organize YMCA in Poston; and his proposed talk on "Resettlement" on night of July 17th as well as several talks he had already ~~gave~~ given; 2) announcement in Chronicle that CIO desired the names of Nisei members for possible placement in jobs on the outside; 3) Announcement that Hawaiian niseis are eligible for return; 4) campaign underway to recruit evacuees for Camp Savage.

Factors making for dissatisfaction are: 1) Change of leave hour from evening to early morning; 2) continued reverberations over Detroit race-riot few weeks ago; 3) poor housing conditions on the



outside, especially Chicago, where it is reported that evacuees are forced to live in the Negro section of the town; 4) Taxes which amount to about 20% take up most of one's wages. Dissatisfaction is being expressed by those who signed to have themselves repatriated to Japan. Total interest shown is five points, with  $3\frac{1}{2}$  satisfaction and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  dissatisfaction.

2. OUTGROUP: Total interest in "Outgroup" increased one point over the previous week, from 4 to 5 points, and with "Relocation" led the field of topics in community interest. Satisfaction accounted for 3 points and dissatisfaction for 2 points. Factors making for satisfaction are: 1) Director of WRA Meyer's firm stand regarding the Congressional investigation of WRA; 2) Ruling by Arizona Court of unconstitutionality of Arizona business law aimed against the evacuees. The Arizona Court ruling in favor of the evacuees brought a tremendous amount of satisfaction to the evacuees. Factors making for dissatisfaction are: 1) Move by Arizonans (Governor and other public groups) to prevent evacuees to settle anywhere in Arizona; and 2) Few unfavorable news articles in the Times and Examiner. The Allied invasion of Sicily keyed up interest of the evacuees in the war campaign.

3. AGRICULTURE: Agriculture increased half-point over the previous week, from  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to 4 points (total). It was even divided with 2 points satisfaction and 2 points dissatisfaction. Factors making for satisfaction are: 1) Sonoda replacing Mizusawa as head of the Agriculture Department and general reorganization in plans and personnel; and 2) completion of the irrigation canal work. Factors making for dissatisfaction are: 1) Departure of Mathiesen from Poston;



- 2) Resignation of Mizusawa as head of the Ag. Dept.; 3) Reported firing of Mrs. Mizusawa from the Ag. Dept. for no reason at all. The Agriculture Dept. meeting of July 8th in which reorganization of the Dept. ~~xx~~ personnel and plans brought both satisfaction and dissatisfaction among the select group.
4. POLITICS: Interest in politics increased one point over the previous week, from  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  points. This was divided into 3 points satisfaction and  $\frac{1}{2}$  point dissatisfaction. Factors making for satisfaction are: 1) Council swiftly getting organized; 2) Reported arrival of the Spanish Consul to Poston for which the council and the various blocks held special meetings to discuss matters which may be presented to the Spanish Consul for representation to the U.S. Government and Japan. The relative disinterest among the community accounted for the  $\frac{1}{2}$  point dissatisfaction.
5. RELIGION: Interest in religion remained constant at 3 points from the previous week. This represented all satisfaction and no dissatisfaction. Satisfaction was accounted for by: 1) Among Christian circles, the visit and talk by Rev. Nicholson, Rev. Stewart of Phoenix, and Masao Sato, special representative for the YMCA from Granada relocation center; 2) Among Buddhist circles, Poston delegation to Gila center to attend YBA conference.
6. AMERICAN AMUSEMENT: Interest in American Amusement jumped a  $\frac{1}{2}$  point over the previous week, from  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 points. This was divided into  $2\frac{1}{2}$  satisfaction and  $\frac{1}{2}$  dissatisfaction. Satisfaction accounted for by: 1) movie "Night in New Orleans" which was fair; 2) Softball being played by boys and girls almost nightly; 3) Boys League organization and party, together with visit of Masao Sato to help in the organizations; 4) Dance at Block 35;



5) Starlight Symphony Concert held in the Poston Bowl near ~~Rancho~~  
Block 5. Dissatisfaction was expressed by some over the concert and  
the movie.

7. WRA POLICY: Interest in this decreased one-half point, from 3 to  
2 $\frac{1}{2}$  points. It represented all dissatisfaction. Concern/~~was~~ ex-  
pressed over the WRA policy of cutting down the number of employed  
evacuees, cutting down the number to receive \$19. monthly wage,

and enforcement of stricter working hours. (Announcement by Zimmerman  
that cash grants to relocatees would continue to be issued was not discussed)

8. FOOD: Interest in food remained at the same level as ~~last~~ the pre-  
vious week or 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  points. It represented all satisfaction. Eggs, ham,  
cantaloupe and honeydew melons, noodles, fish, fresh fruits as nec-  
tarines and plums continue to be served in the mess halls. There  
was announcement of the opening of the noodle factory.

(It was recalled that in evaluating the sentiments for the week  
July 1 to July 7, the fact that chicken was served on July 4th and  
had brought a good deal satisfaction was not mentioned.)

9. HEALTH: Interest in health increased  $\frac{1}{2}$  point, from 2 to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  points.  
This was divided into 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  points satisfaction and 1 point dissatis-  
faction. Satisfaction was represented by: 1) continuation of hos-  
pital program of taking x-ray of all evacuees by blocks in T.B.  
check-up; and 2) return of Dr. Saito to the dental staff.

Two colored nurses arrived in Poston to work in the hospital. This  
brought feelings of satisfaction and dissatisfaction, probably more  
satisfaction. Mosquitos continue to prevail in abundance. (Incident  
in which mortician is reported to have socked Dr. Pressman in the  
jaw--cause unknown-- a sidelight)

10. JAPANESE AMUSEMENT: Interest in this remained exactly at the same level of 2 points, with 2 points representing all satisfaction. The satisfaction was accounted for by the Saturday night "shibai".
11. SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION: Interest in this remained constant at 2 points, with  $1\frac{1}{2}$  points satisfaction and  $\frac{1}{2}$  point dissatisfaction. Larger numbers of volunteers from the various blocks seem evident, indicating a competitive block spirit. Announcement that a new volunteering schedule for the various blocks is to begin brought some measure of dissatisfaction. Satisfaction was brought in at the announcement that work would be for only half-a-day in this new schedule.
12. COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE: Interest in this remained constant at 2 points, with  $1\frac{1}{2}$  points satisfaction and  $\frac{1}{2}$  point dissatisfaction. Satisfaction accounted for by the appearance of ice cream, popsicle, soda pops, cakes, cookies and other delicacies. Satisfaction also that <sup>big</sup> /canteen/ being opened three evenings in the week. Dissatisfaction accounted for by the disagreement among council members and C.E. staff as to the method of disposing the surplus fund of the C.E., after dividends had been paid to all purchaser-members.
13. ADMINISTRATION PERSONNEL: Interest in this increased  $\frac{1}{2}$  point over the previous week, from  $1\frac{1}{2}$  points to 2 points. This was divided equally into 1 point satisfaction and 1 point dissatisfaction. Dissatisfaction was revealed in Mr. Mathiesen leaving the project; <sup>in</sup> and also/Miss Katherine Embery's leave which created dissatisfaction among the school students. Satisfaction was indicated in Miss Findley's denial of the charges made by Mr. Townsend and Mr. James in the Dies investigation. Her statement was made in a press interview in Hawaii.



14. SCHOOL: This is a new topic which was introduced in the previous week. Interest in this remained constant at 2 points, with  $1\frac{1}{2}$  points satisfaction and  $\frac{1}{2}$  point dissatisfaction. Daily Vacation School continue to function bringing satisfaction to many who are connected with the school program directly or indirectly. The National Honor Society accepted the Poston Schools as a chapter member and brought some measure of satisfaction. Dissatisfaction was expressed over the contemplated leave of some of the school teachers.
15. SELECTIVE SERVICE: Interest in this has resumed again after being dormant for some weeks. It was given a total of 1 point evaluation representing all satisfaction. News about the recruiting of eligible evacuees for Camp Savage and registration of boys who attained 18 years of age for the selective service brought measures of satisfaction.

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POSTON ONE  
Poston, Arizona

"SENTIMENTS"

Week of July 15-21, 1943

<u>Topic</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Satis- faction</u>	<u>Dissatis- faction</u>
1. Relocation .....	6	4	2
2. Outgroup .....	5	3½	1½
3. WRA policy .....	5	½	4½
4. Politics .....	5½	5	½
5. Religion .....	3	3	0
6. American Amusement .....	3	3	0
7. Agriculture .....	2½	1½	1
8. Food .....	2½	½	2
9. Health .....	2	1	1
10. School construction.....	2	1½	½
11. Community Enterprise .....	2	1½	½
12. Selective Service .....	1½	1½	0
13. Japanese Amusement .....	1	0	1
TOTAL .....	<u>39</u>	<u>24½</u>	<u>14½</u>



POSTON ONE

"SENTIMENTS"

Week of July 15-21, 1943, inclusive

(Staff meeting on July 22, 1943)

by T.Y.

A staff meeting was held on the morning of July 22nd, 1943 (Thursday) from 8:50 to 10:30 o'clock. Members present were: Iwao Ishino of Block 11, Toshio Yatsushiro of Block 35, Grace Morimoto of Block 27, Aiko Tanamachi of Block 37, Akiko Aways of Block 17, Nobuyo Miyaya of Block 27, Esther Nakamura of Block 4, and Yoneo Ono of Block 19.

Ishino led the discussion while Yatsushiro recorded the discussion.

1. RELOCATION:

Relocation continued to hold the top interest of the community. It increased by one point this week for a total of 6 points, with 4 points satisfaction and 2 points dissatisfaction. Satisfaction were evidenced in: 1) large number still leaving, especially with seasonal ~~xxxx~~ employment offers coming in; 2) Saturday night public meeting at Block 4 stage on "Resettlement" with four panel speakers, namely, Giles Zimmermann, Dr. Ishamaru, Dr. Balderston, and Masao Satow; 3) opening of a relocation library in Block 27; and a labor delegation that left for Texas to investigate the possibilities for resettlement in that region. Dissatisfaction was found in the public meeting on "Resettlement" among the isseis who did not understand English too well and the Nisei-Filipino incident in Chicago in which 10 Filipinos is reported to have attacked and knifed three /evacuees. With the announcement of the employment reduction in all relocation centers, the WRA announcement of segregation within two months, and the numerous offers which are coming in the Employment Office both seasonal and permanent types--there seem to be developing a feeling of unrest and uneasiness among the evacuees within the

Center. This is causing agitation for or against resettlement among different groups. One sentiment of an issei expressed in the meeting of the Spanish Consul de Amat with the isseis well represents a large majority of the isseis. (Refer to the report of the meeting dated 7/16/43, page 5, fourth paragraph. The Spanish Consul asked the isseis if they had any grounds to fear forced resettlement) Mr. Tanaka, business manager of the hospital, said this: "We have good grounds to fear that we will be forced out to work outside--to reduce the meager amount of meal allowance from 45¢ to 31¢, and in addition to reduce the number of people working in the project. When we apply for unemployment compensation the Government has advised us that there are plenty of jobs on the outside and we are not eligible for compensation payment." (see page 29 - further notes)

2. OUTGROUP:

Outgroup remained constant this week at 5 points, with  $3\frac{1}{2}$  satisfaction and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  dissatisfaction. The greatest source of satisfaction came from the visit of the Spanish Consul (de Amat) to Poston to investigate the conditions in the center. Block meetings were held in all the blocks to discuss matters which could be brought to the attention of the Consul, and a special issei meeting with the Consul was held. Numerous isseis held private conferences with the Consul to make special requests. A few of the isseis felt that the Consul could not accomplish very much and did not derive any real satisfaction from his visit. Among the niseis girls there was some source of satisfaction in the news release that a nisei girl had been accepted into the WAACS. Ickes denial of danger of sabotage to the Parker Dam brought satisfaction to many. News that the Dies committee had discontinued investigation of the WRA brought some satisfaction.



1. RELOCATION (Additional notes)

Announcement that dining car meals being available to evacuees departing from the center and that the meal prices on these cars had been frozen and are within the \$3.00 per allowance granted by the WRA. The departure brought measures of satisfaction. Another source of satisfaction was the announcement that Omaha "Y" camp was made available for use as a WRA hostel. Announcement that evacuees may leave to the New England states without a previous job offer and only with a leave clearance, which is necessary, brought some satisfaction to some.

The first news release on the Nisei-Filipino incident in Chicago brought some dissatisfaction, but a follow-up clarification by the relocation supervisor in Chicago (Shirrell) brought some satisfaction. There were scattered unfavorable articles in the Times and Examiner. The relative lack of news articles on the evacuees is increasingly being noticed. There ~~was~~<sup>were</sup> some favorable articles in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, which has a very limited circulation in Boston. Favorable talks by Masao Satow/<sup>visiting YMCA leader</sup> at various public meetings have somewhat minimized the fear of the outside, especially the public.

### 3. WRA POLICY:

WRA policy took a tremendous boost in interest to 5 points from the  $2\frac{1}{2}$  points of the previous week, with  $4\frac{1}{2}$  points representing dissatisfaction and  $\frac{1}{2}$  point satisfaction. The greatest source of interest and dissatisfaction was the WRA announcement of the segregation of loyal and disloyal evacuees. There is a tremendous amount of concern and anxiety over this policy, especially among the issei with families, and the question in the minds of the evacuees is how is the program going to be carried out. The great concern seems to be that many families may be split up, if the mass registration is to be used as basis of the segregation. There is a small amount of satisfaction among the more loyal ones who feel that such a policy will safe-guard the loyal from the disloyal and create greater harmony within the relocation centers. There is continued dissatisfaction in the WRA policy of employment reduction, which is to become effective July 1st, 1943, in Boston. The issei and many of the nisei are beginning to feel that the employment reduction is a direct means of the WRA to force the evacuees out of the centers, and this is causing some resentment among the evacuees.



#### 4. POLITICS

Politics remained constant at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  points with 3 point satisfaction and  $\frac{1}{2}$  point dissatisfaction. Among the political groups there was strong discussion about what to do with the surplus Community Enterprise fund, and the decision of the Council was that it be turned over for use by the Community Activities. This brought some satisfaction. Another source of satisfaction was the arrival of the Spanish Consul, which created interest and satisfaction among the Council, the blocks and community at large. The distribution of the Camouflage Trust Fund was discussed and the amount each block was to receive was made public in the paper and in the block meetings. This brought satisfaction. There was some concern among the Block Managers and Council members over the problem of juvenile delinquency. The ousting of about five young boys (19 to 21 years of age and popularly referred to as "Bonar's gang") from Poston to Gila about a week or two previous created some interest and concern, probably more satisfaction than dissatisfaction. These boys were reported to have been involved in numerous gang fights and misdemeanor charges.

#### 5. RELIGION:

Religion remained constant at 3 points, all of it representing satisfaction. Among the YMBA circles there was a good deal of satisfaction in the visit of Rev. Kumata of Topaz, ~~and~~ who is the National Y.B. League director, and the all-Poston oratorical contest held for Buddhist members. At Block 15 the Buddhists conducted a special service on the opening of the new church in that block. The Christians found satisfaction in the visit of Rev. Paul Tibbatts, who is an accomplished violinist. At this church service there was evidenced some disturbance among the audience, and this created for some dissatisfaction.

6. AMERICAN AMUSEMENT:

American amusement remained constant at 3 points, all of it representing satisfaction. The movie "The Great Man's Lady" starring Babara Stanwyck and Joel McCrea was very good. The Community Ents. price announced that the evacuees will be permitted to select the movies they preferred from a list of movies available. This week's Wednesday night featured popular and swing music at Park 5. The Saturday nite public meeting on "Resettlement" at Block 4 stage brought satisfaction to many. Baseball, dances, and private parties continued to reign.

7. AGRICULTURE

Agriculture took a decline in interest from 4 points of the previous week to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  points this week.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  points represented Satisfaction and 1 point dissatisfaction. Continued reorganization within the Agriculture Dept. brought some satisfaction. From the previous week there has been some expression of dissatisfaction over the reported "firing" of Mrs. Mizusawa from the Ag. Dept.

8. FOOD:

Food remained constant at  $2\frac{1}{2}$  points, with 2 points dissatisfaction and  $\frac{1}{2}$  point satisfaction. Among the council and other circles there has been discussion about unequal distribution of food among the blocks, and this has been causing dissatisfaction. There is dissatisfaction in the discussion that food is being more strictly rationed to the center and to the block mess halls. In general the food was a little worse over the previous week. Noodles and squid which appeared on the dining tables brought both satisfaction and dissatisfaction, with strong dissatisfaction among some groups as the niseis.



8. Some satisfaction was found in the change of canteloupe to honeydew melon being served next for breakfast and other meals occasionally.

9. HEALTH:

Health declined from  $2\frac{1}{2}$  points to 2 points this week. This was distributed equally between satisfaction and dissatisfaction, or one point each. Satisfaction was found in the continued hospital program of taking x-ray of all residents in Poston. Continued dissatisfaction being expressed over the abundance of mosquitos every night, which find their way into the screened apartments. Many people are burning mesquite beans in small cans, and the resulting smoke aids greatly in chasing away the mosquitos. Some families smoke out their apartment of mosquitos this way. People even carry these cans of smoking mesquite beans to the movies and other outdoor function as protection from mosquitos. This is beginning to cause the Fire Department some concern in their fight against fire hazards.

10. SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION:

This remained constant at 2 points. The program of volunteers from the various blocks was continued, bringing  $1\frac{1}{2}$  points satisfaction and  $\frac{1}{2}$  point dissatisfaction. The rapid completion of the buildings and the active cooperation of the block residents is creating satisfaction. The heat and dust are causing dissatisfaction among the workers.

11. COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE:

C.E. remained constant at 2 points with  $1\frac{1}{2}$  points satisfaction and  $\frac{1}{2}$  point dissatisfaction. The continued appearance of soda pops, cookies, cakes, watermelons and other delicacies have brought satisfaction. Disclosure that the unclaimed sales receipt refund of the Unit I C.E. would be donated to the Community Activities brought a measure of satisfaction.

## 12. SELECTIVE SERVICE:

Selective Service increased  $\frac{1}{2}$  point over the previous week to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  points this week. Announcement that the fourth group of army volunteers would leave on Sunday from Poston brought satisfaction to some, especially the volunteers. Announcement that 125 Nisei graduated from the Army Japanese language school at Camp Savage brought some satisfaction. The program of recruiting of eligible evacuees for Camp Savage ~~xxxx~~ continued to hold interest among some groups.

## 13. JAPANESE AMUSEMENT:

Japanese Amusement tumbled from 2 points to 1 point this week. There was no "shibai" and this may have created some dissatisfaction. The Saturday night public meeting on "Resettlement" held at Block 4 stage brought keen dissatisfaction among the isseis, who composed half of the audience, as the meeting was conducted entirely in English and as many were under the impression that it ~~xxxx~~ was going to be conducted in Japanese.



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POSTON ONE  
Poston, Arizona

"SENTIMENTS"

Week of July 22-28, 1943

	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Satis- faction</u>	<u>Dissatis- faction</u>
1. WRA Policy .....	6	$\frac{1}{2}$	$5\frac{1}{2}$
2. Relocation .....	4	2	2
3. Outgroup .....	$3\frac{1}{2}$	2	$1\frac{1}{2}$
4. Politics .....	$2\frac{1}{2}$	1	$1\frac{1}{2}$
5. Religion .....	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$	0
6. American Amusement .....	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$	0
7. Food .....	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	2
8. Selective Service .....	$2\frac{1}{2}$	2	$\frac{1}{2}$
9. Health .....	2	1	1
10. School Construction .....	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1
11. Agriculture .....	1	1	0
	<u>30<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>	<u>15<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>	<u>15</u>

POSTON ONE  
Poston, Arizona

"SENTIMENTS"  
Week of July 22-28, 1943, inclusive

(Staff meeting on July 29, 1943) by. T.Y.

A staff meeting was held on the morning of July 29th, 1943 (Thursday) from 8:45 to 9:45 o'clock to discuss Poston "Sentiments". Members present were: Iwao Ishino of Block 11, Toshio Yatsushiro of Block 35, Akiko Awaya of Block 17, Aiko Tanamachi of Block 37, Esther Nakamura of Block 4, and Yoneo Cno of Block 19.

Ishino led the discussion while Yatsushiro recorded the discussion.

1. WRA POLICY:

WRA Policy led the field in community interest with a total of six points. This is a one point increase over the previous week. Satisfaction accounted for  $\frac{1}{2}$  point and dissatisfaction for  $5\frac{1}{2}$  points. There was continued agitation regarding the WRA policy of segregation. Because no details had been announced by the WRA aside from the fact that Tule Lake had been designated as the segregation center, there has been <sup>deep</sup> concern and anxiety, especially in regards to possible split-up of families. There has been all sorts of rumor flying about in regard to the matter of segregation. One has been that Poston will be closed up as of September 1st, 1943. Another is that Unit III will be used as a camp for Italian prisoners. The radio and press has publicized the segregation issue quite a bit. The Chronicle had several articles on segregation. All in all it is unquestionably the focus of community ~~of~~ interest, and it is growing with time. The reduction <sup>in employment</sup> in the various departments is taking place ~~2/~~ slowly, and the interest registered for this seem to have been relatively light.



## 2. RELOCATION

Relocation took a drop of 2 points from the previous week and registered 4 points this week. This is divided evenly between satisfaction and dissatisfaction, or two points each. On Saturday night about 50 niseis left for work on Utah farms. Other leaves seem to have taken place at a slow pace. The matter of segregation is <sup>and/</sup> affecting relocation favorably/or unfavorably. This is to say that some are more anxious to go out now, while others are more reluctant about leaving as possible family split-up may result from the segregation. Outside employment offers continue to come in large numbers, but the impression is that the response is relatively poor. There seem to be even greater confusion in respect to relocation, a continuation of the previous week.

## 3. OUTGROUP:

Outgroup registered  $3\frac{1}{2}$  points this week, which is a drop of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  points from the previous week. Satisfaction accounted for 2 points while dissatisfaction accounted for  $1\frac{1}{2}$  points. An official statement <sup>has mobilization director</sup> from the White House, authored/ by James F. Byrnes (Popularly dubbed "Assistant President"), which defended and in many ways ~~praised~~ <sup>praised</sup> the program and policies of the WRA brought satisfaction to many evacuees. The radio and the press played up the segregation issue and brought greater dissatisfaction than satisfaction. The article by the American Civil Liberties League condemning the evacuation and severely criticizing the Supreme Court decision upholding the constitutionality of the evacuation brought some measure of satisfaction. The announcement of the ouster of Mussolini as head of the Italian government created deep interest in the community. There seem to be a continued lack of articles on the evacuees in the

newspapers, and consequently there has been evident little hostility toward the outside public.

4. POLITICS

Politics dropped from  $3\frac{1}{2}$  point interest of last week to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  points this week. Satisfaction was 1 point and dissatisfaction  $1\frac{1}{2}$  points. The block managers collaborated jointly with the Local Council in establishing a Youth Counselling Board to combat juvenile delinquency in Unit I. The council made public the fact that Poston penal code was being studied. All this brought mostly satisfaction.

Politics was inevitably tied up with the matter of segregation, as this issue was discussed in the council and in various groups in the blocks and the community. This is registered as dissatisfaction.

5. RELIGION:

Religion dropped  $\frac{1}{2}$  point to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  points this week, representing all satisfaction. Among the Yk Buddhist circles Rev. Kumata, visiting speaker, continued to speak to various Buddhist groups. Among the Christian circles, Rev. Emmett Parks, visitor from Los Angeles, spoke at the Sunday service. Several Christian leaders who attended the church conference in Denver, Colorado, returned and caused some measure of satisfaction.

6. AMERICAN AMUSEMENT:

American amusement dropped  $\frac{1}{2}$  point to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  points this week, representing all satisfaction. The movie "Orchestra Wives" was received very favorably. The Wednesday night concert at Park 5 was enjoyed by those in attendance. Dances, swimming, baseball, and other informal recreation continued to hold sway, and all this brought satisfaction.



7. FOOD:

Food remained constant at  $2\frac{1}{2}$  points, with  $2\frac{1}{2}$  points dissatisfaction and  $\frac{1}{2}$  point satisfaction, similar to the previous week. There seem to have been a good deal of complaints regarding the variety and quality of food being served among some of the blocks. Honey dew continued to be served practically every day and with at almost every meal. Although a larger number enjoy the honeydew, some of the people are getting tired of it. There is still some agitation regarding the unequal distribution of food among the kitchens.

8. SELECTIVE SERVICE:

Selective service took a boost of one point to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  points, with 2 point satisfaction and  $\frac{1}{2}$  point dissatisfaction. Satisfaction was found in: 1) the Sunday night send-off party for the second largest contingent of army volunteers from Poston; 2) the visit of Lt. Col Gould and Col. Rasmussen to Poston to recruit eligible niseis for the Military Intelligence Language School at Camp Savage; 3) Acceptance of nisei girls into the WACS. A small measure of dissatisfaction was registered by some individuals who were not in complete accord with the volunteering of niseis for the army.

9. HEALTH:

Health remained constant at 2 points, with 1 point satisfaction and 1 point dissatisfaction. The X-ray taking of all residents by the hospital continued. ~~Mosquito~~ Mosquitos continue to prevail in abundance and cause dissatisfaction. The temperature seem to be steadily rising and causing a great deal of agitation and discomfort. One person is reported to have said that the temperature on Monday was 140 degrees out in the sun. The general impression is that it was very close to that.

A few sun-stroke and heat exhaustion cases have been reported due to the extreme heat.

10. SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION:

School Construction dropped  $\frac{1}{2}$  point to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  points this week, with  $\frac{1}{2}$  point satisfaction and 1 point dissatisfaction. In line with the general employment reduction in the various departments in the project, there is a definite move to increase the working staff for the school construction project. There is increased desire on the part of some to have the school completed constructed by this summer and before the opening of school next term. The voluntary program is believed to be continuing. Among some circles developing a (mostly isseis) there is/feeling against cooperating in the school construction program, rationalizing that many of the residents are going to be segregated into another center anyway.

11. AGRICULTURE:

There seem to have been a decided drop in interest in agriculture from 2 points last week to 1 point this week. It represented all satisfaction. The announcement that an opinion survey would be conducted on the subject of "agriculture" created some interest and satisfaction possibly. The relative disinterest in agriculture this week is interpreted to mean that the people are satisfied with the agricultural- set-up.



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POSTON ONE  
Poston, Arizona

"SENTIMENT" -- Week of July 29 to Aug. 4, 1943 (incl.)

	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Satis- faction</u>	<u>Dissatis- faction</u>
1. WRA policy .....	6½	1	5½
2. SCHOOL .....	4½	0	4½
3. Relocation .....	4	2	2
4. Outgroup .....	4	1	3
5. Food .....	3	1	2
6. Politics .....	2½	1	1½
7. Religion .....	2½	2½	0
8. American Amusement .....	2½	2½	0
9. Health .....	2	1	1
10. School Construction .....	2	1½	½
11. Community Enterprise . ....	2	½	1½
12. Agriculture .....	1½	1½	0
13. Selective Service .....	1	1	0
14. Law and Order .....	1	1	0
	<u>39</u>	<u>17½</u>	<u>21½</u>

POSTON ONE  
Poston, Arizona

"SENTIMENTS"  
Week of July 29 to August 4, 1943, inclusive

(Staff meeting on August 5, 1943)

by T.Y.

A staff meeting was held on the morning of August 5th, 1943, (Thursday) from 8:45 to 10:15 o'clock to discuss Poston "Sentiments". Members present were: Iwao Ishino of Block 11, Toshio Yatsushiro of Block 35, Akiko Awaya of Block 17, Aiko Tanamachi of Block 37, Esther Nakamura of Block 4, Yoneo Ono of Block 19, Mrs. C. Sugino of Block 11, and Misau Furuta (former member of Unit III staff).

Ishino led the discussion while Yatsushiro recorded the discussion.

1. WRA POLICY:

Continuing to lead the field in community interest, WRA policy interest increased one-half point over the previous week to total  $6\frac{1}{2}$  points. Dissatisfaction remained at  $5\frac{1}{2}$  points while satisfaction increased to 1 point. The Chronicle carried a headline account of segregation in every issue. <sup>almost</sup> On August 3rd the block managers and community councilmen of the three units met with the administration officials to discuss the facts about segregation following the return of Ted Haas and Dr. Powell from the Denver <sup>WRA</sup> conference. Within the blocks, individuals, formal and informal groups ~~met~~ were anxiously discussing the details of the segregation. Most of the discussion were expressions of concern regarding the basis of segregation, who is to go and who is not to go. Family split-ups was a great concern among many. Many of the possible segregants, including those who answered "no" to Question 28, were regretful of their past actions and are attempting to seek condonation. Rumors and misinformation were flying fast and thick. The Chronicle spent the whole front page issue of July 30th to spike the rumor that Poston is to be



closed as of September 1st, 1943, quoting the visiting WRA historian, Miss Ruth McKee. This brought some satisfaction to many. The constant announcement in the Chronicle regarding the details of the segregation allayed to some extent the anxiety of many. Sentiments of satisfaction and dissatisfaction were expressed over the selection of Tule Lake Center as the segregation center. Although Dr. Powell and Ted Haas had returned from the Denver WRA conference which discussed the details on segregation, many were waiting anxiously for the return of Mr. Wade Head, project director.

## 2. SCHOOL (Education)

Interest in school returned to the field of community interest from nowhere and was rated a total of  $4\frac{1}{2}$  points, representing all dissatisfaction. Over a hundred teachers and students (majority evacuees) were scheduled to leave Poston on August 2nd to attend a one-month teacher's training conference at Fort Apache, Arizona, but this original plan was abruptly dropped about four days prior to the date of departure. The conference was not abandoned but the conference site was moved from Fort Apache to Poston. A tremendous amount of dissatisfaction ~~was~~ was felt by the teachers and students, as well as the administration, as the conference had been keen anticipated by all of them and by even a good portion of the community. The reason for the change in plans was that the Governor of Arizona had strenuously objected to so large a number of evacuees being moved from the relocation center to another section of the state. The feeling among many is that there is "some dirty politics" behind all this, and a general antipathy for the Governor of Arizona has developed. Plans are hastily being revised to use Poston and the new school buildings for the conference.

3. RELOCATION:

Interest in Relocation remained the same as the previous week, that is total 4 points with 2 points Satisfaction and 2 points dissatisfaction. The number leaving seem to have been the same. Some factors for satisfaction ~~was~~<sup>were</sup> the announcement by Zimmerman that temporary aid was to be granted all departees, and that seasonal work leaves were not being cancelled. Some possible factors for dissatisfaction were the announcement that relocating in Denver area is discouraged and that the continued complaint from Elmer Shirrell in Chicago that some evacuees leaving the relocation centers were not reporting to their contracted work and that this was jeopardizing the relocation program. ~~Also~~ The story of the Harlem riot brought dissatisfaction to some. Other factors of satisfaction and dissatisfaction were caused by the segregation policy.

4. OUTGROUP:

Outgroup increased to 4 points, with 1 point satisfaction and 3 points dissatisfaction. Highlighting the dissatisfaction was the cancellation of the Fort Apache teachers' training conference due to the opposition of the Governor of Arizona. Harlem riot and few scattered articles in the Times and Examiner commenting on the segregation and opposing the return of the Japanese to the Coast were factors of dissatisfaction. The fact that an Army General was specially dispatched to Arizona to soothe State antipathy for the evacuees brought satisfaction to some.

5. FOOD:

Food increased to 3 points with 1 point satisfaction and 2 points dissatisfaction. Dissatisfaction is found in the rigid milk ration and rigid food ration. There is still some talk about unequal block



distribution in regard to food. But satisfaction is found in that generally the quality and quantity of food is good and that honey dew and other fruits ~~stan~~ continue to be served.

6. POLITICS:

Politics remained the same at  $2\frac{1}{2}$  points, with 1 point satisfaction and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  points dissatisfaction. Interest in this is tied up with mostly interest in segregation and this is registered/as dissatisfaction. The effort to combat juvenile delinquency has brought a measure of satisfaction.

7. RELIGION

Religion is the same as the previous week with  $2\frac{1}{2}$  points representing all satisfaction. Among the buddhist circles, preparation for the O-bon festivals is going on. Dr. Mayberry spoke to various Christian groups and services.

8. AMERICAN AMUSEMENT:

American amusement remained constant at  $2\frac{1}{2}$  points representing all satisfaction. The movie "Henry Aldrich, City Editor" was fairly well received. The wednesday night symphony night was enjoyed by many. Dances, swimming, baseball, and other informal recreation continued to reign, and all this brought satisfaction.

9. HEALTH:

Health remained constant at 2 points, with 1 point satisfaction and 1 point dissatisfaction. The hospital x-ray program continued in the blocks. The mosquitos, <sup>and</sup> the rising heat which has caused many to become afflicted with heat rash has been a source of keen dissatisfaction.

10. SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION:

School construction increased to 2 points, with  $1\frac{1}{2}$  satisfaction and  $\frac{1}{2}$  point dissatisfaction. The block volunteering program, which is in its second round, was continued. Some of the buildings have been completed with the windows put up and this is causing favorable comments. The change of the teachers conference from Fort Apache to Poston has necessitated a rush in completing the school buildings, as these buildings are to be used for the conference. There is some dissatisfaction among some who feel in view of the segregation the residents should not cooperate in building the school.

11. COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE:

Community Enterprise entered the field of interest with a total rating of 2 points representing  $\frac{1}{2}$  point satisfaction and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  points dissatisfaction. Dissatisfaction is found in the council which is criticizing the C.E. for charging excessive prices to the people, two letters in the Chronicle attacking and defending the sales clerk in the canteens, and the limited amount of newspapers on sale at the canteens, especially the Sunday editions with its comic sections. Ice cream, fruits, cakes, and other delicacies which were sold at the canteens have brought measures of satisfactions.

12. AGRICULTURE:

Agriculture increased to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  points, representing all satisfaction. The opinion survey on agriculture brought satisfaction to the people in the fact that they were being given the opportunity to express their opinions on the issue. There were some dissatisfactions but this was not significant to merit rating.



13. SELECTIVE SERVICE:

Selective Service dropped to 1 point representing all satisfaction. There is continued discussion<sup>about</sup>/~~on~~ the volunteers who left the previous week among some circles. Interest in the WACS seem to have been existent among the girls.

14. LAW AND ORDER:

This is a new field of interest, arising from the previous week's interest in juvenile delinquency and the penal code. The Youth Counselling Board, an organization created by the Block Managers group, was given greater publicity. An editorial appeared in respect to juvenile problems existent in the blocks. This was rated 1 point, representing all satisfaction.

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POSTON ONE  
Poston, Arizona

"SENTIMENTS"  
Week of August 5 to 11, 1945, inclusive

	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Satis- faction</u>	<u>Dissatis- faction</u>
1. WRA policy .....	7½	2	5½
2. Relocation .....	3½	1	2½
3. Religion .....	3	3	0
4. American Amusement .....	3	3	0
5. Food .....	2½	2	½
6. Health .....	2½	1½	1
7. School .....	2	1	1
8. Outgroup .....	2	1	1
9. School Construction .....	2	1½	½
10. Law and Order .....	1½	½	1
11. Politics .....	1	1	0
12. Community Enterprise .....	1	1	0
13. Agriculture .....	1	1	0
14. Selective Service .....	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>33½</u>	<u>19½</u>	<u>14</u>



POSTON ONE  
Poston, Arizona

"SENTIMENTS"  
Week of August 5 to 11, 1943, inclusive

(Staff meeting on August 5, 1943)

by T.Y.

A staff meeting was held on the morning of August 5th, 1943, (Thursday) from 9:00 to 10:00 o'clock to discuss Poston "Sentiments." Members present were: Yoneo Ono of Block 19, Esther Nakamura of Block 4, and Toshio Yatsushiro of Block 35. Yoneo Ono led the discussion while Yatsushiro recorded the discussion.

1. WRA POLICY:

Still heading the field of community interest, WRA policy on segregation increased to  $7\frac{1}{2}$  points, with 2 points satisfaction and  $5\frac{1}{2}$  points dissatisfaction. There was <sup>a</sup>/great deal of community interest and activity in regard to segregation. The Return of Mr. Head, project director, brought measures of satisfaction, together with more information concerning the details of the segregation procedure.

The members of the Board of Review for Segregation were named by Mr. Head, and <sup>preliminary interviews</sup> ~~hearings~~ were conducted by the Board with possible segregants in an effort to allow the latter to reveal <sup>their</sup> ~~the~~ definite decisions and intentions. This brought measures of satisfaction and dissatisfaction. The appoint of Raymond Best as director of Tule Lake may have brought some satisfaction as he announced a very liberal policy. Reports and picture displays of Tule Lake Center seem to bring some satisfaction in that Tule Lake is a much better place than Poston all-around. Much information was released to the community, which brought measures of satisfaction and dissatisfaction by allaying or creating anxieties or confusion. It was announced that 1100 people would be in the total number of segregants from Poston to Tule Lake Center. The first group of segregants would be

composed of 281 families or 590 individuals, representing all repatriates or expatriates. The date of the first segregation movement was placed on about October 1st, 1943. Project Director asked the community council to recommend names of residents who will be best qualified to serve ~~me~~ on an advisory committee for the segregation program. This may have brought some satisfaction. Although there have been a number of factors pointing toward satisfaction, the bulk of the interest in segregation represents a feeling of anxiety and uncertainty about the whole program.

2. RELOCATION:

Relocation has decreased to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  points, with 1 point satisfaction and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  points dissatisfaction. Interest in segregation has influence  $\frac{1}{2}$  the decrease somewhat. A factor of keen dissatisfaction was the announcement that Poston had been placed last on the list of outside job offers, due to the segregation program in which Tule Lake residents are being given first preference for outside jobs in order that they might resettle instead of moving into another relocation center. However, seasonal jobs continue to come in. 104 workers were scheduled to leave Poston to work in the farms in the Colorado Grand Junction region on August 9th, but the date of the departure was postponed for the following week. Numerous college students are preparing to leave Poston to resume their education. Quite a number of evacuees continue to leave Poston for resettlement.

3. RELIGION:

Among the Buddhist circles, Manabu Fukuda of Unit II, who is the President of the National Young Buddhist Federation, spoke in Unit I. O-bon dance practice continues with greater interest. Among the Christian circles Rev. Hulet of Los Angeles, California, was the visiting preacher.



Religion increased to 3 points, representing all satisfaction. The increase of  $\frac{1}{2}$  point over the previous week is due to the increased interest in O-bon dance practice as the date of the festival nears.

4. American Amusement:

Interest in this increased to 3 points, representing all satisfaction. The movie, "Lady Has Plans" was received fairly well. The Park 5 concert (Wednesday) was enjoyed by those in attendance. There has been increased interest in baseball as the <sup>current</sup> season draws to a close and championship games are being played. Interest in swimming continues, and it was given an impetus with the announcement of the coming water carnival to be held on August 29th under the sponsorship of the Red Cross.

5. FOOD:

Interest in food dropped to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  points with 2 points satisfaction and  $\frac{1}{2}$  point dissatisfaction. Satisfaction was found in the reappearance of ~~the~~ milk on the mess tables; also the appearance of beef, pork (Poston raised), peaches, apples, vegetables from Tule Lake and other variety of food. There is some disgruntled feelings in regard to rationing and the quality of the food, but this is comparatively small.

6. HEALTH:

Various articles <sup>appeared</sup> in the Chronicle regarding the treatment given by the hospital and various health programs. Sixteen people passed their water safety course given by Instructor Sidney Llambias special visiting representative of the San Francisco Red Cross Office. Several members graduated the First Aid instructor's course. The hospital x-ray program continues. The mosquitos continue to pester the people. Added to this is the heat, which is causing many to become afflicted with heat rash. A light shower during the week eased the

heat wave, although at the same it brought created muddy roads.

7. Interest in health increased to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  points with  $1\frac{1}{2}$  point satisfaction and 1 point dissatisfaction.

7. SCHOOL:

Interest in school dropped to 2 points, with 1 point satisfaction and 1 point dissatisfaction. Slight repercussions from the previous week's announcement of the cancellation of the Forst Apache teachers' training conference were still sensed. Preparation to conduct the conference here in Poston was in high gear, with the date of the conference opening postponed one day to Thursday, August 12th. The construction of some of the school buildings were rushed to accommodate the conference. The completed school buildings have brought some measure of satisfaction as they appear to be first-class buildings and exactly suited for Poston conditions.

8. OUTGROUP:

Outgroup took a big drop to 2 points, with 1 point satisfaction and 1 point dissatisfaction. There was hardly any reports of the evacuees over the radio or in the Times or Examiner. The interest centered on the progress of the war, on the Sicilian front, the Russian front, and the South-Pacific front, with the Allies pushing the Axis back everywhere.

9. SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION:

Interest in school construction remained at 2 points with  $1\frac{1}{2}$  point satisfaction and  $\frac{1}{2}$  point dissatisfaction. In order that the teachers conference may be accommodated there was rush in completing the construction of some of the school buildings. The completed buildings have drawn a good deal of ~~much~~ praise from many of the residents for its beauty and appropriateness to Poston conditions. The block



volunteering program continues with good response. In view of the segregation some dissatisfaction was expressed regarding the volunteering program.

10. LAW AND ORDER:

Interest in Law and Order increased to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  points with  $\frac{1}{2}$  point satisfaction and 1 point dissatisfaction. The focus of interest was the ~~stabbing~~ <sup>issei</sup> stabbing incident in Block 4 in which one/bachelor stabbed another issei bachelor. The circulating report is that these two were life-long friends and that both have wives in Japan. The motive of the stabbing is attributed to the report that the victim had intentions of marrying another woman and that the stabber felt this was not proper and that he was being neglected. This story is creating a good deal of discussion among within the community. Satisfaction is found in the fact that order was restored. The program to combat juvenile delinquency seem to be moving along slowly.

11. POLITICS:

Interest in this dropped to 1 point, representing all satisfaction. The only stir in Politics was the request (published in the Chronicle) by the Project Director to the Community Council to recommend names or residents who would be best qualified to serve on an advisory committee for the segregation program.

12. COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE:

Interest in C.E. dropped to 1 point, representing all satisfaction. Popsicles, ice cream, cold drinks and other heat-combating ~~measures~~ articles brought measures of satisfaction. Also, residents were permitted the purchase of four bars of soap or one box of soap flakes per person.

13. AGRICULTURE:

Interest in this dropped to 1 point, representing all satisfaction. Announcement was made that Poston was being supplied with Poston raised pork.

14. SELECTIVE SERVICE:

Interest in this remained at 1 point, representing all dissatisfaction. The dissatisfaction is traced to the fact that the "no-no" (in regard to Question 27 & 28) segregants were not freed of the draft from the Selective Service. Another announcement which did not bring satisfaction was that <sup>all</sup> departee must notify their draft board of their new address.



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POSTON ONE  
Poston, Arizona

"SENTIMENTS"  
Week of August 12 to 18, 1943, inclusive

	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Satis- faction</u>	<u>Dissatis- faction</u>
1. WRA policy .....	7½	1½	6
2. Religion .....	5	4½	½
3. Relocation .....	4	2	2
4. American Amusement .....	3	3	0
5. Food .....	2½	1½	1
6. Outgroup .....	2½	1½	1
7. School Construction .....	2½	1½	1
8. Community Enterprise .....	2½	1½	1
9. Selective Service .....	2½	2	½
10. Health .....	2	1	1
11. School .....	2	1	1
12. Japanese Amusement .....	2	1½	½
13. Law and Order .....	1½	½	1
14. Politics .....	1½	1½	0
15. Agriculture .....	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>42</u>	<u>25½</u>	<u>16½</u>

POSTON ONE  
Poston, Arizona

"SENTIMENTS"

Week of August 12 to 18, 1943, inclusive

(Staff meeting on August 19, 1943)

by T.Y.

A staff meeting was held on the morning of August 19th, 1943, (Thursday) from 8:30 to 9:50 o'clock to discuss Poston "Sentiments." Members present were: Yoneo Ono of Block 19, Esther Nakamura of Block 4, Grace Morimoto of Block 27, and Toshio Yatsushiro of Block 35. Yoneo Ono led the discussion while Yatsushiro recorded the discussion.

1. NRA POLICY:

NRA policy on segregation continued to head the field of community interest with 8 points, representing 2 point satisfaction and 6 point dissatisfaction. Hearings on segregations were conducted. It was announced that one-third of those who answered "no" to (evacuee) Question 28 requested changes to "Yes". The members of the Advisory Committee on segregation were announced for the three units. This committee is to assist the administration in carrying out the segregation program. Favorable news and pictures about Tule Lake Center were released. An official pamphlet explaining the policy and program of segregation was distributed to each apartment. More information was released through the Chronicle. It was announced that the Chronicle would be distributed to every family free of charge so that factual information about the ~~major~~ segregation program may be revealed to all. All these brought a good measure of satisfaction, but the program of segregation itself is still causing a great deal of anxiety and even fear. One of the arising fears is that Poston will be closed as soon as the segregants are moved to Tule Lake. Although



this story had been prevalent in the community for quite some weeks and months and emphatically denied by the administration, the great number of the people are extremely fearful that the story is true. Many evidences for its authenticity are pointed as: confirmation of the story by Head when asked by an evacuee, Tule Lake evacuees who are to be moved out of the center are not being shipped to either Poston, Manzanar, or Gila, Poston is last/<sup>on</sup>the outside employment offers, the paving of the roads and rushing of the school construction, the school buildings appear too good for the evacuees and will be used by the Army, and other evidences. (For details of this story, see attached report) Many are feeling that they ought to prepare now for the eventual moving. All this is causing a tremendous amount of dissatisfaction.

## 2. Religion:

Interest in Religion increased to 5 points, representing  $4\frac{1}{2}$  point satisfaction and  $\frac{1}{2}$  point dissatisfaction. The Buddhist "o-bon" festival <sup>dance</sup> over the weekend, especially the "bon-odori"/of Saturday night attracted many thousands of the residents from Units I, II, and III. The dance was stopped about 10:15 p.m. due to a threatening rain, and this may have caused some dissatisfaction. Among the Christian circles Rev. Davidson of Los Angeles spoke at several services. Many were heard saying that Rev. Davidson was the best speaker they had ever heard in Poston.

## 3. RELOCATION:

Interest in this increased to 4 points, with 2 point satisfaction and 2 point dissatisfaction. An official WRA pamphlet on "Relocation" was distributed to every barrack in the community. This helped to clarify many of the problems connected with relocation. There is a good number still leaving. In view of the segregation quite a number are more

anxious to leave Poston. Added to the many restrictions imposed on the evacuees (most recent being in connection with segregation), the recent administration request that all electrical appliances be turned in the block managers office is causing a good deal of dissatisfaction. The evacuees are charging that WRA is attempting to force the evacuees out of the center by clamping down on them. Because of the segregation program has caused a scarcity of employment offers to Poston residents, some of the people (Niseis) are eager to relocate now, before it is too late. It was reported that 3,000 had left Poston for outside employment. It was announced that Santa Fe Railway wanted several men to work for them. This may <sup>have</sup> attracted some. Balancing everything the satisfaction and dissatisfaction remains equal.

4. AMERICAN AMUSEMENT:

This remained at 3 points, representing all satisfaction. The movie "Street of Chance" was fair. The Wednesday night concert was held at <sup>championship</sup> usual. Many baseball games were placed before large attendances. A public dance and a hospital party were staged.

5. FOOD:

This remained constant at  $2\frac{1}{2}$  points with  $1\frac{1}{2}$  satisfaction and 1 point dissatisfaction. Nectarines, peaches, and other fruits made their appearance on the dinner tables and brought satisfaction. The serving of fish and the shortage of bread have brought measures of dissatisfaction to quite a number of the Niseis. In general the Isseis are least affected by this, and in fact enjoyed the fish. Milk was served rather frequently.



6. OUTGROUP:

Outgroup increased to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  points, with  $1\frac{1}{2}$  point satisfaction and 1 point dissatisfaction. Rev. Mitani returned from his extensive tour of the different relocation centers and portion of the country and gave an account of his travels at a public gathering at Block 4 stage Wednesday night. Over two thousand Isseis and even Niseis attended meeting, which brought measures of satisfaction. The American Legion convention was held in the State of California and ~~as~~ they continued their attack on the Japanese in the U.S. Story was given much publicity by the L.A. Examiner, and this brought dissatisfaction.

7. School Construction:

Interest in this increased to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  points, with  $1\frac{1}{2}$  dissatisfaction and 1 point dissatisfaction. The volunteer program continued. The construction of the high school buildings (near Block 26) was begun. Many of the buildings were completed and made available for the teachers training conference which has been in progress. The motors for two coolers for the school buildings were stolen and this brought a good deal of resentment from the teaching personnel as well as the community. <sup>A</sup>Unit III school building was damaged by the wind and rain storm. This brought skepticism among some as to the durability of Unit/~~s~~ One's school structures.

8. COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE:

This increased to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  points with  $1\frac{1}{2}$  point~~s~~ satisfaction and 1 point dissatisfaction. A great deal of dissatisfac~~ti~~on has spread due to the find~~ings~~ of the council's investigating committee, which reported excessive ~~charges~~ prices charged the public and unwarranted sum of \$250 appropriated for Rev. Mitani's use in his recent travels. At

Wednesday nights public meeting Rev. Mitani explained the purpose of his travel and the C.E. made a partial report of its financial condition. The C.E. has distributed a report of its financial status to all the blocks. It was also announced that dividends were to be distributed to all sales receipt holders for the second time. All this have brought measures of satisfaction.

9. SELECTIVE SERVICE:

Interest in this has increased to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  points with 2 point satisfaction and  $\frac{1}{2}$  point dissatisfaction. A Lt. House is visiting Poston to ~~recruit~~ recruit members for the WACS from among the Nisei girls. The quota for the nation has been set at 250 Nisei girls for the first group. It was announced that the 5th contingent of 7 volunteers from Poston would leave next Wednesday. Seven ~~reservist~~ reservists were called to active duty by the Army. All this brought measures of satisfaction. It was announced that segregants who go to Tule Lake would still be under the same selective service rules. It is reported that some of the under-aged Nisei boys are disgruntled because they cannot volunteer, and that some of these are finding an outlet by accepting seasonal work.

10. HEALTH:

Interest in this decreased to 2 points, with one point satisfaction and one point dissatisfaction. The hospital program of taking x-ray pictures of all evacuees continued. Instead of the mosquitos the crickets and other insects are annoying the people. Quite a few are still affected with the heat ~~rash~~ rash. The two day shower during the week tempered the summer heat. Cold seem to be spreading in the community.



11. SCHOOL:

Interest in this ~~increased~~ remained at two points with 1 point satisfaction and 1 point dissatisfaction. In view of the segregation and arising rumors regarding the closing of Poston, Dr. Harris revealed in a front page article that "Poston schools will continue." The teachers conference progressed nicely. The Fujinkai expressed their interest in the conference and the teachers by serving tea to all the teachers everyday. The school ~~school~~ construction volunteer program continued. The construction of the high school buildings near Block 26 began.

12. JAPANESE AMUSEMENT:

Interest in Japanese amusement returned with 2 point rating representing  $1\frac{1}{2}$  point satisfaction and  $\frac{1}{2}$  point dissatisfaction. The heralded shibai which was scheduled for Saturday night was postponed due to the inclement weather. This brought a measure of dissatisfaction. A Japanese show titled "Chi-chi" was shown. Rev. Mitani spoke to about 2,000 Isseis and Niseis at a public meeting at Block 4 stage about his travels to the different relocation centers and parts of the country.

13. LAW AND ORDER:

Interest in this remained at  $1\frac{1}{2}$  points with  $\frac{1}{2}$  point satisfaction and 1 point dissatisfaction. The previous week's stabbing case was being investigated. The motors from two cooler ~~makers~~ at the school buildings were stolen and this brought a good deal of dissatisfaction.

14. POLITICS:

Interest in this increased ~~with~~ to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  points/ with all satisfaction. The council was busy circulating petitions to endorse the Marcotonic all house bill in Congress now. This bill would allow/aliens to become naturalized. The council released the names of the Advisory Committee

on Segregation. Thomas Masuda of the Law Department was named the chairman of the committee. Interest in the council's findings (by councilman Ray Ono) of the Community Enterprise was revived with public explanations by the C.E. in regard to the findings and its financial status.

15. AGRICULTURE:

Interest in agriculture remained at 1 point representing all satisfaction. The agriculture department made a report of its plans and its progress to date. It was announced that 1500 acres would be under cultivation by October 1st, 1943. In the week's wind and rain storm 500 two-month old chicks at Unit III were reported to have died. Dissatisfaction in this was not sufficient to be registered.



27  
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8/26/43

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POSTON ONE  
Poston, Arizona

"SENTIMENTS"  
Week of August 19 to 25, 1943, inclusive

	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Satis- faction</u>	<u>Dissatis- faction</u>
1. WRA policy .....	7½	4	3½
2. Relocation .....	4½	3	1½
3. American Amusement .....	4	3	1
4. Japanese Amusement .....	4	4	0
5. Outgroup .....	4	1½	2½
6. Selective Service .....	3	3	0
7. Religion .....	2½	2½	0
8. Food .....	2	1	1
9. Community Enterprise .....	2	1	1
10. School Construction .....	1	½	½
11. School .....	<u>1</u>	<u>½</u>	<u>½</u>
	<u>35½</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>11½</u>

POSTON ONE  
Poston, Arizona

"SENTIMENTS"  
Week of August 19 to 25, 1943, inclusive

(Staff meeting on August 26, 1943)

by T.Y.

A staff meeting was held on the morning of August 26, 1943, (Thursday) from 8:30 to 10:00 o'clock to discuss Poston "Sentiments." Members present were: Yoneo Ono of Block 19, Esther Nakamura of Block 4, Grace Morimoto of Block 27, Akiko Awaya of Block 17, Iwao Ishino of Block 11, Aiko Tanamachi of Block 37, and Toshio Yatsushiro of Block 35. Yoneo Ono acted as scorer and Yatsushiro recorded the discussion.

1. WRA POLICY:

WRA policy on segregation continued to top the field of community interest with  $7\frac{1}{2}$  points, representing 4 point satisfaction and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  point dissatisfaction. Interest in segregation of those scheduled to go to Tule Lake Center declined somewhat. Announcement was made that 1468 would be segregated to Tule Lake from Poston. It seems that interest in segregation is settling down as the list of those who ~~are~~ <sup>more</sup> to be segregated is/definitely established. The focus of interest was the sudden departure of 44 repatriates from Poston on August 24th and 25th. It was announced that these repatriates along with many others from other centers would leave New York harbor for Japan on September 1, 1943, on the exchange ship Gripsholm. This probably brought more satisfaction ~~than~~ than dissatisfaction to all. Numerous parties were held in the various blocks for the repatriates. There were repercussions from the previous <sup>week</sup> that Poston would be closed very soon in view of the segregation and other factors. The Chronicle carried several articles denying Poston's closing, quoting even Dillyon Myer. Rumor to the effect that blocks 21 and 42 were to be closed in view of the segregation



was given some circulation.  
which will reduce the center's population/ Anxiety is indicated in  
# this. The announcement that congress passed WRA budget for the 1943-  
1944 fiscal year brought some measure of satisfaction.

2. RELOCATION:

Interest in this increased to  $4\frac{1}{2}$  points, with 3 point satisfaction  
and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  point dissatisfaction. Outside job offers continued to come.  
One offer called 100 workers to work in a Fruit Exchange in Michigan;  
this was given much publicity. People were leaving at the usual slow  
rate. Rev. Mitani and Rev. Morikawa spoke to various groups about  
their travel experience in the different parts of the country. On the  
whole, this brought greater satisfaction than dissatisfaction, although  
some people were discouraged to relocate when they were told of the  
difficulty of getting housing accommodations.

3. AMERICAN AMUSEMENT:

Interest in this increased to 4 points, representing 3 point satisfac-  
tion and 1 point dissatisfaction. The movie "Moon Tide" was fair, many  
saying it was poor. The Tuesday night Talent Show, featuring talents  
from Units I, II, and III, attracted about 3,000 issei and nisei. Base-  
ball continued to reign in daily interest. Rev. Morikawa spoke about  
his travels East. Various block parties were held for the repatriates  
who were leaving and for the army volunteers.

4. JAPANESE AMUSEMENT:

Interest in this soared to 4 points, representing all satisfaction.  
The Saturday night "Shibai" brought keen enjoyment to thousands of  
issei. The Tuesday night Talen Show, which featured issei and nisei  
talents from the 3 units, brought a good measure of satisfaction.

Rev. Mitani spoke to different groups about his travels. It was an-  
nounced that \$75. had been appropriated for Japanese amusement.



5. OUTGROUPE

Interest in this increased to 4 points, with  $1\frac{1}{2}$  point satisfaction and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  dissatisfaction. The L.A. Examiner carried some unfavorable publicity about the evacuees. Over the radio there were several news broadcasts about the evacuees which were favorable <sup>✓</sup>unfavorable. A minority member of the Dies committee investigating the WRA and evacuees denounced the committee's report (made by Costello) which attacked the WRA And evacuees, as prejudicial. The reoccupation of Kiska by Allies troops and the Quebec conference attended by Roosevelt, Churchill, and Soong of China created a good deal of interest. The recall of Litvinoff, Russian Ambassador to U.S., brought a good deal of speculative discussion.

6. SELECTIVE SERVICE:

Interest in this increased to 3 points representing all satisfaction. Lt. House of the WACS visited Poston for 3 or 4 days recruiting Nisei girls for the WACS. The 5th contingent of ~~xxx~~ army volunteers left Poston on Wednesday night. Parties were held ~~in~~ for the volunteers in their respective blocks.

7. RELIGION:

Interest in this returned to normalcy and it was rated  $2\frac{1}{2}$  points representing all satisfaction. The return of Rev. Morikawa and his numerous public addresses stirred a good deal of community interest, especially among the Christians. The Buddhist held their usual activities.

8. FOOD:

Interest in this decreased to ~~2 1/2 points~~ 2 points, representing 1 point satisfaction and 1 point dissatisfaction. Tokay grapes, peaches, milk were factors of ~~satisfaction~~. Beans, squid, and other foods brought measures of dissatisfaction.



9. COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE:

Interest in this decreased to 2 points with 1 point satisfaction and 1 point dissatisfaction. The council had some discussion regarding the C.E. There was a full page article on "Co-op".

10. SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION:

Interest in this sagged to 1 point representing an equal amount of satisfaction and dissatisfaction. It was learned that the block volunteering program had been discontinued since about two weeks ago. Following the previous week's damage done to the Unit III school building (as a result of a storm), Dr. Harris, school director, announced that he had confidence in Poston's school buildings to withstand future disturbances.

11. SCHOOL:

Interest in this dropped to 1 point with an equal amount of satisfaction and dissatisfaction. The teacher's conference continued. ~~It~~ The report was circulated that the opening of the school might be postponed a week till September 20th, 1943.



Block #6

Family #1.

August 24, 1942

## IMPRESSIONS OF THE FIRST JAPANESE ARRIVALS IN POSTON

### I

"I was the first Jap to knock at the gates of Poston," so said Shig Nakashima who came together with his wife and two other families as volunteers of the West Coast. They checked out of El Centro, California. The three families, numbering eleven people, arrived on a dusty and warm, wind swept afternoon on May 8 and took the administrative staff by surprise--for the W.R.A. had not yet wired ahead of the arrival of the vanguard of thousands of Japanese who were eventually to be shipped to Poston. The first of the three families was Mr. and Mrs. Shigeru Nakashima. The second family of volunteers was Mr. and Mrs. J. Maeda and their five children Marvel, Alike, Grace, Edith, and Robert. The third family was Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ota.

In three passenger cars they arrived, with Shig Nakashima's car arriving four hours ahead of the other two cars. The vehicles were packed to capacity with the personal belongings of the volunteers. Three Caucasian friends of the volunteers accompanied the group so that they could drive back the three cars, which the W.R.A. said the Japanese could not keep in camp. Mr. Nakashima and his Caucasian friends drove ahead in the first car, the other two cars being impeded by trailers and heavy luggages, and arrived around 2:30 p.m. Mr. Nakashima was challenged at the entrance to the camp by sentries on duty, and was accompanied to the Administration Building by a sentry who



was equipped with a tommy gun. [On presentation at the Administration Building, there was at once a great amount of flurry and excitement, for no word had been served the administration of the arrival of the volunteers. <This was made quite evident by Mr. Wade Head's absence from Poston, he being in Parker at that particular moment. Mistern John Evans, Ned Campbell, Gelvin, Crawford, and Dr. Schnur and Misses Mann, Hosmer, and Ellis were among the then present of the administrative staff.>

Registration of the volunteers was conducted on a make-shift schedule, as no registration staff had yet been set up. *(Assistant Project Director)* Mr. John Evans personally took charge of the eleven volunteers, typing out the registration data without the aid of a secretary or a typist, and he typed the necessary information with his "pick and punch" system. The volunteers were assigned to their quarters by Mr. Evans and given their work assignments, effective the following day. Shig and his <sup>they</sup> volunteers were assigned to Block 6<sup>1</sup> where throughout the night four sentries with tommy guns stood on guard. <sup>2</sup> The volunteers chatted with the sentries during the early evening and both the sentries and volunteers jokingly agreed that there was no actual need for any armed guards, "but yet both felt that the army was like a mule anyway and that orders were orders." The following night, however, the guards were stationed around the block and not around the barrack for seventy-five additional volunteers had come in the next day, and still on the third night the guards were placed only on the main road that passed through the center of the camp. Today only the guard house on the main highway serves as a memento to the Postonians of the part the armed guard had in



the evacuation process. Mr. Nakashima states that during the first two weeks there was a very close harmonious relationship between the volunteers and the administrative staff. The staff members knew and recognized each and every volunteer by the first name. However, with the influx of new evacuees and the accompanying increase on the various duties on the part of the administrative staff, this close harmony in relationship began to lose itself in the mailstrom of the new community activities engaged in its own organization.

(J.F.)



Family #2 6 + a.

II

Miss Marvel Maeda, eldest daughter of the second volunteers, arrived in a car which toed a trailer and therefore reached her destination several hours later than did Mr. Nakashima, although both left El Centro at 6 a.m. They wanted to get an earlier start but could not do so because of the curfew regulations that the army had set down on the West Coast. When Miss Maeda's group arrived at the sentry post, Mr. Nakashima had already gone on ahead with another sentry, and so Miss Maeda and the balance of the eleven volunteers were compelled to wait almost an hour at the sentry post amidst dust and heat. From where they were waiting they could not get a view of the camp proper, but once in camp they were very pleased with the barracks, the latrines, and the general construction of the camp. While waiting at the sentry post they had gathered the impression that camp life here in Poston was something of a kin of what was in view--the make-shift construction workers' cabins and tents, "privies" and the lack of plumbing facilities. Miss Maeda said that her heart fell out when she saw the "privies" with which the construction crew was providing, thinking that she had to use the same type of structure and was very much relieved and thankful when given her first view of the evacuee camp set-up i.e. the neat barracks row in row, the neat latrines and washrooms, and the spacious dining rooms.

The eleven volunteers were called for at Block no. 6 at dinner time on the first evening, and were driven to the personnel mess hall where they were served an evening menu consisting of fresh vegetable salad, Virginia baked ham with candied yam,



battered carrots and peas, and piping hot apple pie with melted cheese with plenty of milk. However, all were too fatigued after the long hot desert trip to fully enjoy the dinner that evening. Miss Maeda thought at the time that if such were the menu at camp, she had made no mistake in volunteering in coming to Poston. However, she discovered the very next day that the menus for the evacuee kitchens were to be slightly different and somewhat disappointing in comparison with her first meal in Poston. Miss Maeda recounts an amusing and yet an embarrassing incident which occurred on the first evening. The soldiers had been ordered to examine all baggages with respect to contrabands such as weapons, flashlights, and etc. but were very, very embarrassed by the femininity of the contents of the women's baggages. After this incident, Mr. Evans reassured the group, both men and women, that hereafter no baggages will be searched piece by piece either of the several hundred volunteers who were to come during the week or of the evacuees who were scheduled to arrive at later dates. The morale of the volunteer group was very high and still is Miss Maeda claims. "We left everything behind us and volunteered to come here with the idea that we had everything to gain and nothing to lose. General conditions were pictured to us as being very poor, but knowing this we came anyway as volunteers to make the choice of a none too cheerful situation."

(J.F.)



Family #3  
III

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ohta comprised the membership of the third family of volunteers who came on May 8th. Mrs. Ohta had signed up as a volunteer; Mr. Ohta came as a member of the family, but nevertheless was immediately given an assignment upon arrival.

Mrs. Ohta is a graduate of U.C.L.A. as a sociology major, and had volunteered as a librarian, that being the position she held prior to evacuation. She recounts of the difficulty the auto party encountered on the way to Poston. The party only vaguely knew where the relocation site was located. They did not know that the name "Poston" was given to this camp. Upon arrival at Parker, all inquiries about "the Japanese relocation camp" brought only vague descriptions and directions for response. The auto party did the best it could under the circumstances and wormed its way through the soft pulverized dirt road through the Indian Reservation. Half way to camp the party stopped at a small general merchandise store and inquired, but again only a vague general direction was given. Finally, in desperation Mr. Ohta flagged a Diesel truck loaded with lumber, and this time their inquiry was rewarded with a "follow me". The auto party trailed the huge truck, constantly enveloped by the dust stirred up by the lumber truck and finally reached "the promised land".

Mrs. Ohta's version of the armed guards that were placed



about the barrack the first night is that it was so done not in the belief that the volunteers needed to be guarded from escaping or from committing any act of sabotage, but in the belief that the presence of the Caucasian construction crew might possibly be a potential threat to the lives of the volunteers. This precautionary step was taken to protect the Japanese from any physical violence outcropping from the possible antagonism of the white workers.

Mrs. Ohta says that the first meal here in the personnel mess hall was one she really enjoyed, for she says she was famished, not having had any thing to eat since an early breakfast. At Blythe, the auto party of Japanese volunteers was refused admission at the various restaurants, and the party had not eaten lunch that day. At Blythe, the proprietors were willing to serve the Caucasian friends of the party, but flatly refused service to the volunteer Japanese. Rather angered and dismayed at this incident, they drove on to Poston, and were relieved to discover the pleasant expression of surprise on the faces of the administrative staff members.

(JNF)



## SENTIMENTS

The police force, composed of Japanese, is finding itself disliked by the community because it tends to be too officious and "man-handle" people. They are too free with their clubs.

S. J.  
6-29-42 - 1

A meeting held last night was attended by Blocks 1, 2, 3, 11, 12 and 13. About half of the audience were Niseis and half Isseis. Most of the Isseis were bitter about the relocation and resentful and uncooperative. They didn't see why they should work - government had brought them here and it was up to the government to take care of them, feed them, clothe them and put up the schools. Some questions showed they misunderstood the intentions of the government. One asked, "Would they be kept forever on the reservation like the Indians?" The Niseis were inclined to be highly annoyed by the Isseis' attitudes during the meeting. A number of them stood up to point out the benefits they themselves had received from working. They felt that the only thing to do was to make the best of the bad situation.

S. J.  
6-30-42 - 1

Mr. Beatty said that in general, he had noticed that the Niseis are especially resentful against the American-born Japanese who have been educated in Japan. They feel they are subversive and it is their activities that got all the American Japanese into the present difficulty.

S. J.  
6-30-42 - 1

Late last night, the contractor used up a lot of water to settle the ground around the new laid pipes with the result that hardly any water for the town. This came after the people had responded to a plea by the Block Managers to save in the evening to build up the pressure. The national reaction today is to ask - "what is the use?".

S. J.  
6-30-42 - 1

S. J.  
6-30-42 - 2

At a meeting this morning, the Block Managers said they didn't think they were doing enough for the new people arriving. They urged each other to make more effort to make them feel at home.

S. J.  
6-30-42 - 2

Visited the cemetery with Dr. George Kawaichi and Mr. George Kido. Both pointed out that the city trash dump was along side of it and felt this was a bad thing.

S. J.  
7-1-42 - 2

Several of the girls working at the reception center told me that the group from Salinas is very well organized and spoke highly of the treatment they received there.

S. J.  
7-2-42 - 1



Walking back afterwards, I passed a woman at the door of her house - apparently just arrived - saying with anxious expression to a man, "Don't let them unpack our baggage, we must move to a different place".

S. J.  
7-2-42 - 1

Hawaiian party in honor of Mr. Cary showed respect and affection for him and great longing for Hawaii. Decorations and entertainment showed resourcefulness in adversity, and paying themselves for refreshments showed independence.

S. J.  
7-2-42 - 1

At a recent meeting of the Ministers of the Poston Christian Church, they agreed not to receive any remunerations for wedding, or funeral

S. J.  
7-3-42 - 2

Don't spread rumors. Although there has been rumors of deaths resulting from the extreme heat, the hospital denies any such stories. At present, there are eleven from the Salinas Assembly Center hospitalized; all elderly persons.

S. J.  
7-3-42 - 2

They at once wanted to know all the news of Hawaii from Mr. Cary and what chance there was of going back there. Mr. Cary and Miss Findley told them that Island-bound convoys carried practically nothing but freight and soldiers, but those coming east were practically empty. The girl's faces fell several feet at this news. Said a lot of army wives had managed to stay in spite of orders that they be evacuated, and that a few civilians were leaving. Said money was to be evacuated and scrip substituted.

S. J.  
7-4-42 - 1

Mertrude said one of the Hawaiian girls had not been at the party the other night because she had had to write a theme in order to get credit for her year's work. They had had to leave school a week early and were to get full credit if they finished the work when due. The registrar had written asking where hers was, so she felt she had to get it done right away.

S. J.  
7-4-42 - 2

Miss Findley said she first met the girls the night of their arrival; when they reached their apartment, they found only one cot in it, and all six sat down on it and began to weep. Dr. Sumida told Miss Findley about it and she went right down to see them. When they heard she had just come from Hawaii, they began to cry all over again and felt very homesick, but she has had them more or less under her wing ever since.

S. J.  
7-4-42 - 2



8:25 a.m., I went to watch the Founder's Grove Dedication. Here lay thirteen little mulberry trees and about sixty people gathered. Twenty-five of those were boy scouts and five or six were administrative officials. Each tree, according to Mr. N. James, was purchased by a group with its own funds. These groups were as follows:

- |                          |                              |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Community Enterprise  | 7. Press Bulletin            |
| 2. Police Department     | 8. Fire Department           |
| 3. Kamaaina Club         | 9. Issei Information Service |
| 4. Intake Center         | 10. W. R. A. Work Corps      |
| 5. Recreation Department | 11. Community Services       |
| 6. Medical Department    | 12. Blocks Managers          |
|                          | 13. Sign Department          |

S. J.  
7-4-42 - 3

In the crowd, there was a marked preponderance of people in their twenty's and boys younger. At first everyone was rather quiet, but a good deal of laughter was stimulated by Jim Oku, a nursery man from Los Angeles. He said some of the holes for the little trees were deep enough to bury a dragon.

S. J.  
7-4-42 - 4

Walked through the adobe brick factory. It was very cool under the shade but a man working there said we should come back in the afternoon. He spoke about the lack of equipment and how heavy the blocks were to lift. He said they were pretty good quality. He seemed to be the timekeeper.

S. J.  
7-4-42 - 5

He (Mr. Shigekawa, Chief of Police) asked me what I thought of this place and then went on to say that one-third of the people are depressed, one-third are inbetween and one-third are full of hope and energy, but they keep changing around - the down go up, and the up go down. Wouldn't it be awful if everybody got that way at once - "you and me and all of us, said to hell with the whole thing and quit?" He said a lot of people were more depressed by the dust storm last night. Agreed that the situation was a challenge and we had a lot to work with. Told of a man who went fishing a few days ago and got lost. He was away for about 24 hours. Clothing were all in rags from climbing through mesquite. Had found one little pool of water and drank it completely dry down to the mud. The Police chief put him in jail for going out of bounds. He says the police have to work long hours and don't get much sleep. Last night he was up til 3:00 a.m. That sort of thing makes the force depressed and nervous and quick tempered and then they get accused of "man-handling people".

S. J.  
7-4-42 - 5



Along the irrigation ditch, passed the swimming pool - still dry, along canal with water where several children swam in muddy water. Paused for a drink at the canteen. No ice for today had arrived but the crowd there were buying lukewarm drinks. The boy who waited on us was very conversational. He came from Salinas only a few days ago. Said this is a terrible place with the dust and heat. Felt so depressed at first he could do nothing, then got very restless and began working and feels a little better. Chose the canteen job so he could get his hands down into the ice. "Ranching is all we know" afraid there will be no jobs open in place he came from by the time the war is over. In addition to race prejudice, ranchers will be brought in to take the place of evacuees and these will not want to give up when the war is over. He hopes we will lick these bastards in a hurry. Said the Californians after the war would feel about Poston-ites just as he did about the newcomers from Japan - wouldn't want to see them come.

S. J.  
7-4-42 6, 7

7:00 p.m., went to the furniture exhibit with Mrs. Leighton, Miss Findley and Miss Cheney at Recreational Hall 22. Two elderly ladies greeted us, many smiles and polite bowing. The furniture was extraordinary. Nearly everything was made from scraps available in and around Poston and the fact proudly commented on with labels. There were screens covered with muslin and chintz - one with rough cardboard on which had been painted wonderful, delicate plants and landscapes in color. There were massive chairs and little ones, closets, stands, and Christian and Buddhist alters. A number of the people had utilized sections through knots for the decorative effect of the natural grain in the table tops and panels. Gnarled roots had been beautifully polished. One old bentstump with a few twigs had been converted into a Japanese Plum by the addition of pop-corn blossoms. A number of drawings by the vacation Bible school children. A model of the future city of Poston was made with soap. One Japanese garden with flowing stream and lake was made with jars on a board over a bucket and earth and green plants. There was a large number of religious notes inscribed on pieces of wood. These included "God Bless America", "God Bless our Home", "Jesus is Coming". One stood out from the other with its message, "God, don't forget Poston".

S. J.  
7-4-42 -7,8



The crowd was composed mostly of women and children, but a few young men came through commenting on things in a boisterous fashion. The Japanese garden attracted most attention.

S. J.  
7-4-42 - 8

About 8:00, went over to the bank by the swimming pool to watch the pageant. It was about 9:00 by the time it started. Crowd of about 2,500 was present, mostly women, but about one-fourth men. Very dusty. I stood with Mr. Cary and Mr. Haas. The ladies sat on chairs in the front. Ushers repeatedly urged us to take seats too, but we urged them to give the seats to the ladies. Finally, Mr. Lawrence Sasano who directed the Festival came and insisted we take the seats. Said they were reserved for the "administration".

S. J.  
7-4-42 - 8

The pageant was pleasant, but the performers had a tough time struggling with the dust, the open space where their voices didn't carry and a somewhat noisy audience that talked to itself, called out humorous remarks and made whistles and cat calls. The performers themselves were inclined to laugh from time to time. There was very little applause from the audience in spite of attempts by Mr. Cary, Miss Findley and Mr. Haas to set it off.

S. J.  
7-4-42 - 9

The tableau showing the arrival of the Japanese was accompanied by music and song of "Chattanooga Choo Choo". It showed the doctor and nurse examining the incoming evacuees. At the end, the doctor himself collapsed and had to be carried out by the evacuees. They also showed people running like mad with cramps.

S. J.  
7-4-42 - 9

It was noticeable in the crowd that the girls are very neat and fresh-looking as if they had just stepped out of a cellphane wrapper while the men with a few exception, don't seem to care how they dress. Mr. Cary said this is very noticeable in Hawaii.

S. J.  
7-4-42 - 9, 10

Miss Findley, on the way home, said that at a house she visited today, the girls (about 22) were calling each other rats because they had read in the paper that the Governor of Idaho said all Japs were rats.

S. J.  
7-4-42 - 10



"Marching Through Georgia" and other songs were followed by a modern dance. The first dance had been some country dance. The second, in which the dancers seemed more self-conscious, was reminiscent of Martha Graham. Occasionally, there was a delayed action on the part of one of the dancers, but on the whole it was done fairly well. At the end the dancers ran down the embankment to our left. They are glad that it went over all right. There is now a background of music, "Down Mexico Way", etc. The chorus master gesticulates. The song by the chorus, "Aye, Aye, Aye" (?), causes great laughter. An occasional Indian whoop is interjected. "Chattanooga Choo Choo" is sung throughout the crowd comes recognition that their journey to Poston is now being depicted. Three man and woman come on the stage. Some carry suitcases. A young men with a bag comes up. One nurse arrives with a black suitcase on which she sits. She assumes a nurse's headdress. A doctor in ordinary costume is by her side. Another girl is a passenger. Quickly they are examined by the doctor. One is given water. All open their eyes very wide and the doctor ruffles the hair of some of the children and looks askew at their eyes. One family with eight children arrives. At the first one yells, "Ah, ah, ah!" as the doctor gesticulates. Later two, and finally three shout the "Ah," with increasing volume, in inverse relation to size. Finally exhausted, the doctor falls down and first aid is administered, followed by the throwing of a glass of water on him. He is led off staggering. Two youngsters in cramped positions run across the stage followed by another who, though not cramped, is in a greater hurry. Good humor prevails despite the fact that all realize the scene is satirizing an uncomfortable initial period.

S. J.  
7-4-42 - 12,13

Meanwhile the trek home began. A few cards started pushing up some of the Poston dust. I note, on walk home, that some of the people, particularly the older ones, are busy doing laundering work. A few of the dancers are showing their costumes.

S. J.  
7-4-42 - 13



Reflecting on the show, I note that no references were made to the heat, dust or barrenness, lack of vegetation and trees, delays in transportation and other initial hardships. Was this cut out by Mr. James?\*

\*Mr. James informs me that he did not.

S. J.  
7-4-42 - 13

These people cannot remain permanently on these inalienable lands, title to which are in the United States in trust for Indians. Even though from the seat of their brows they are at present working by making the desert blossom and by helping to build beautiful adobe schools, their Poston of the future, which probably will be a modern American city, will not be inhabited by them after the war. They will not be able to carry away the permanent improvements. Yet a few, including the assistant block manager of Block 45 states that he believes that the residents have received a good break since the government is spending millions of dollars on them.

S. J.  
7-4-42 - 13,14

Some of the earlier residents have done wonders to the grounds adjoining their homes and to their apartments. Corn, radishes and flowers are growing--sometimes, perhaps, by virtue of water, the use of which has been prohibited in order to avoid flooding. Great ingenuity has been shown in lessening the torments of a hot climate by the erection of homemade coolers. Some have taken their cots out to sleep under the open sky and others have slept on the ground with special mattress brought from the community store.

S. J.  
7-4-42 - 14

Without work to do, many of these people have turned to the pursuit of the beautiful in this barren, dusty, warm land. With plenty of time at the beginning, did they seek handicraft in escape from their present life, caused by international and global events over which they had no control, occurring while they were busy building a life for themselves amidst many difficulties.

S. J.  
7-4-42 - 14



Evidently they had a nice home in San F. and beautiful Japanese things. The mother is a real old type Japanese lady, still wearing kimono, and keeping up Japanese ways. However she is a very gallant spirit saying, "I've lived through many wars, already."

She told me, with an attempt to cover up her pride, that he was very busy straightening things out in the block and that he had been made sort of head for the older group. "You see there is this matter of the payment of fines of \$20 a month. Many of the women are too busy at home to work....."

We must stop all this talk about issei and nisei and think of ourselves as one family. I say it this way - Mr. Collier is our father and Mr. Head is our mother." It is rather funny to talk of a man as a mother but as Mr. Head must do many things for us and care for us I think of him as our manly mother."

"You see when we first came the nisei signed one kind of paper. We signed something as enemy aliens that we would abide by the laws. That is not right. Here we are all one. There should not be this difference. We have lived in this country and our children are still our children. We are all one family. Here in this camp we should not talk of issei and nisei but of fathers and mothers and children."

Later he said, "This announcement of a fine of \$20 if people will not work is a mistake. I want to take it from the spiritual side and am urging people to work for the good of the community. If they will not work they should be fed anyway. They are really sick, spiritually sick and the remedy is not to punish them."

"Just give them time and go at it the right way and then if there are one or two who won't work and say that the government must feed them here as it feeds men in the internment camps just forget about them. They are bad eggs but don't spoil the good eggs by mixing them all up." "Mr. Head said that he did not write that order but he



had to admit that he signed it. He told us that if we did not cooperate he would pack up and leave and turn us over to the army. But that is not the thing for a mother to do. That is like a stepmother."

There followed a talk about kitchen thefts, favoritism in distribution of food by the truck drivers etc, which he is taking a hand in straightening out. I didn't get the connection with Mr. Head except that perhaps it illustrated the fact that the older generation were needed to see that things go right.

I remarked that I had found the administration very eager to carry out the wishes of the people and do the very best possible in their power but that they were very busy and though they worked hard mistakes did happen and people would have to be patient.

"I understand all that and we know they are our good friends. We just want to have a clear understanding of things. I don't want to bring things up but if a child is sleeping his mother thinks he is all right. If the child begins to cry then the mother knows something must be wrong."

There was also talk of the good effect of wages being paid with the Salinas group as an illustration. "But we want the accounts to be right Mr. Head should wait till everything is accurate. It isn't the money so much as the satisfaction of being paid."

I replied that I felt sure some people were short of money.

"Yes, they are. We must buy some things and have money for children to have sodas sometimes. Of course the money we are to receive is very little but it will help people's feelings."

I suggested again that Mr. Head hoped to see him but he said there was to be a meeting of a few that evening, "To thrash things out. Some wanted a mass meeting but I said no, there must be only a few so they can talk heart to heart. There are to be representatives and it makes about fifty. I said there must not be more. That is to be tonight so I will not



trouble Mr. Head before hand."

As I started to leave the old lady who had been plying me with cold tea was rather apologetic. It was so hot and evidently she thought her son had been arguing. His earnest tone in English which she does not understand would give her that feeling. So I assured her that I was very glad to have had the talk and left with the usual courtesies.

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Everyone realized that a job of cleaning up had to be done, not only in their homes but also some of the public places, including the dining hall. The kitchen help very courtesously indicated that they would appreciate assistance in cleaning up the place and the dining hall at 10 o'clock that evening.

S. J.  
7-6-42 - 1