

R2.08

June 12, 1942

Working among the incoming Colonists as a Block Manager, also coming in contact with other block managers trying to solve similar problems under similar condition. One thing, among others, has flushed through my mind. This is an admission of everyday occurrence of the time-old struggle between the Ideal and Reality.

I may site an analogy. One evening at the dining table, a man of around sixty years old was occupying the seat across mine. He looked a bit weak and tired, asked a passing waitress for a cup of fresh milk. The waitress denied him naming a mess-hall rule which forbids milk to the grown-ups. She departed. A boy-waiter who was standing near by, apparently had heard the conversation, came up and said:

"Well, my dad, go ahead drink all the milk you can,-- can't afford to starve, you know," cheerfully and happily he poured milk into a cup and gave it to the man.

This one incident impressed me so much I enthused myself on a conjectural journey awhile.

The waitress adhering strictly to the rule of the mess-hall. The boy-waiter departing from such rule going on his own personal initiative.

Stated in other words, I may say that the former represents the School of Ideal, the latter, the Reality.

The one is Ideal because it considers or tends to consider. Every human conduct would best be regulated according to a set of things -- the pattern of the Bible, pattern of mechanical prints whereby nothing wrong may result. The other is Reality for it proposes to take into consideration the very facts of our human nature which is decidedly unstable, and requires a varied treatment under varied conditions; such, it would necessarily emphasize the initiative and judgment of man far more than the School of Ideal seems to emphasize.

Should such an analysis be correct in a limited sense of the word, surely and emphatically will I cast my lot to the realm of Reality.

Indeed, in allotting apartments to the colonists who have left behind the dear old home and acquaintances, came to this new land, strange land, dismayed by the change, I have appreciated their feelings of sudden change more than anything else. Accepted gladly their request for change or interchange of dwelling quarters. But in so doing, I had to forego some of the hard-boiled rules of the Housing Department.

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I have cheerfully allowed young mothers the privilege of using an electric heater in her room when it appeared necessary to feed her baby, but with a modest caution as to the engineering limitation of employing such appliance in the House.

I can site many more incidents of similar nature. Yet in spite of what I have done, my humble confidence in our colonists and prediction that time alone would automatically solve many heart-ache problems of their adjustment to the new environment, and that desired deviations from the set of rules and regulations may facilitate such adjustment process does now appear to have been born out to be true.

I might add and say that the policy I have pursued did minimize lot of detail work and greatly simplified the routine task I have gone through.

William N. Furuya
(signed)

June 15, 1942

Each passing day has shown a gradual cognizance by the public that the improvement of the community lot is furthered by community effort.

This has been evidenced by the more active volunteer response and the constructive criticism and suggestions I have received the past week. They have begun to show an interest in the improvement of their common lot. Whereas in the beginning individual needs were all engrossing with their demands for personal gratification.

Housing still remains a major problem. There remain a few persons who still request changes in their housing. Insulation of houses and the protection from evident fire hazards is still unsatisfactory.

The expert management of the kitchen has kept the people satisfied as to the quality and the quantity of foods served although the kitchen reports a difficulty in preparing their daily menu with the amount of supplies received by them.

The nomination of representatives to the community council evinced a nominal interest. About 75% of the available votes were cast at the election. George Yuasa of Sacramento, 43 yrs. of age, an Issei was elected.

Ralph H. Shimbo (signed)

June 19, 1942

Community endeavor manifested itself in the construction by the handymen of Block 4 of a sheltered porch for the public shower buildings.

An all out effort to make a community wood-pile has been successful.

One mental case has been reported. No action on it has, as yet, been taken by the hospital or (if any) psychiatric group.

There has been an unhealthy undercurrent of public opinion against delay in the dissemination of information as to the conditions concerning the welfare of the people: i.e. such things as farm emergencies with only 3 days notice; wherein people are appealed to "save" the \$80,000 seed expenditure has been denounced as too short a notice. It is said that the public should have been made aware of the situation sooner of such things as this which directly concerns the people. Publicity for community efforts for the public good has been, in the opinion of the people, slow, insufficient, and in inadequate hands.

Some conjectures as to the why of such delay in the dissemination of such information has come to my attention. They have a note of unhealthy criticism and condemnation of the administration.

The people are further saying that those workers who have enlisted for farm work have enlisted with a sincere and honest desire to work but when the farm supervision and management is so inefficient and unorganized as to permit groups of workers to stand idle with no apparent able supervision to direct their work, or to show them what to do ----- and when they are shown ---- waste half of the working time in unnecessary preliminaries --- it is said to be discouraging, and is conducive to the loss of confidence of the workers for the management.

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A HUMAN TOUCH

An uneasy voice calling, "Hello-Hello". Turning back I saw a woman of past middle age, shabbily dressed, good-sun-tanned, giving an impression that she had come from a far out farm land, where modern culture and material blessings have touched little or none.

"Hello --" she continued, "are -- are you the Block Manager here?"

"That's right," I replied cheerfully and went toward her. As I stood before her and looked down upon her weather-beaten countenance, I saw a sign of worry in her little round eyes. Even the fact of finally finding me, in hour of need, did not seem to brighten her mood. She must have come on an unusual errand. I inquired assiduously, "What can I do for you?"

"Oh,--" she took a deep breath, "you have a house here?"

"Sure, plenty--why not!" I smiled. She became more at ease at this time; still in her casual glances, I detected an undercurrent of fear and suspicion. I went on inquiring, "you want to move in here, I suppose?"

"Yes," she nodded lightly.

"Where are you living now?"

"Over there," she pointed her hand toward the direction from which she had come.

"What's the matter over there -- not 'nough eats?"

" 'Nough eats, of course," she was amused slightly. She paused awhile, and went on, "Pretty cold today, isn't it? So was yesterday, and my baby got cold". So saying, she placed her right hand over the loose blanket around her ailing baby she was carrying in her arms.

"I'm sorry, Hope it is nothing serious?" I tried to comfort her.

"Oh, no," she shook her head.

"Well, -- it's pretty cold out here, too, don't you think?"

"Yes," she acknowledged. Then hesitatingly, "but the house we were forced by our Manager to move in this morning is really very, very cold -- a room without stove, without the roof even, -- I'm just afraid --" she stammered. Casting her anxious eyes upon her child, "and I thought if you will give me a house here -- I have come to ask," she pleaded.

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She pleaded earnestly, as honest as any mother would under the circumstances.

Like so many other rural folks, she was singularly minded, simple and naive. The worry, care, and prayer for the ill-stricken child are all there were in the mind and heart of this wandering woman, which obviously had prompted her to take a risk even fatal to go out in the open chilly air and seek a safe quarter. But this pitiful predicament -- somebody ought to take the blame. Regardless of everything else, the need and want of this woman must after all be met and satisfied.

"Why, most certainly -- glad you have come," I firmly assured her.

"Thank you," she was obliged. She seemed much relieved then, chatted and smiled now and then, became quite free to ask me a lot of things she wanted to know.

As I lead the way toward an apartment she and her baby could occupy, the sun came out behind clouds and shone brilliantly. We reached the house, opened its door, and entered. She seemed rather pleased, "O, this nice room." And this big electric light. By the way --," she paused, looking at me in the eye, "you don't mind if I bring in another light bulb and put it up there -- and you won't take it away from me like my Block Manager over there did one day?"

"Course not," I promised, "Hundreds of them if you like."

She smiled real smiles for the first time. "Well, I must be going now," so saying, she went out of the apartment with her baby rocking in her arms, and hurried along her way.

William N. Furuya
(signed)

June 26, 1942

Gathered around the front entrance of the Placement Center, a sizeable crowd of the colonist farmers, individually, but in common, raised the voice of complaint:

"We can't stand for a couple of baloney sandiwiches for our lunch."

"And, stale dry bread, too."

"Sure, we ain't gonna work with that sort of things in stomach."

"Neither do I," joined in chorus by score of others in a mass protest against poor noon meal. It was more than a protest -- the refusal by enlisted laborers to go and work in the field.

For a moment the situation grew bad to worse, finally beyond control. I saw then a young gentleman, college graduate, rising before the crowd. With eloquent command of language and good reasons he tried his best to persuade the disquiet farmers to go back to the field, only met by hisses and boos, proceeded no where.

At this time, a by-stander, tho' old man with gray hairs, clad in overall, rose before the mass and pleaded in sympathetic manner the reason and sanity in the situation. He made his point: the crowd, satisfied, agreed with each other to return to work. Impression: the age sometimes speaks itself.

It speaks, not because of mathematical accumulation of years merely, but a molding of daily experiences, with other things being equal, years alone would give rise to man's understanding of other people -- the heart of man and woman. In most cases, such understanding will always follow a correct survey of whole situation in which difficulties have taken place and analysis of each and every factor involved therein.

In the particular instance at hand, the surface disturbance had appeared as "baloney sandwiches" the underground forces which have actually precipitated the crisis were something else; the resentment and distrust in the heart of man.

The resentment -- born out of mal-administrations rumored to have existed in previous assembly centers from which the disquiet farmers had come; the distrust -- of the youth-leadership which in those days of social disorganization assumed a general character of "Might is Divine."

June 26, 1942

In the tense and chaotic scene I saw a mere presence of the elder man alone had eased down the tension of the crowd to a point at which anything reasonable would be listened and accepted, the yearning for a matured counseling and humane dealings which the folks from South have been missing for sometime was met instantly by the appearance of "man with gray hairs." For others, where the college grad had failed the old man succeeded and did it handily.

In this connection I would like to express my personal approval regarding the result of recent appointment of new block-managers by the Placement Authority which shows an inclusion of relatively large number of matured along with other lot.

I believe such happy mixture will in time give the Service Department the needed balance in further study and work of our settlement community.

William Furya -- Block Manager
(signed)

June 29, 1942.

There was a light furore caused by the declaration that scrap piled in alley-ways were to be condemned. Action on it was taken by the colonists by hauling some of the scrap to their wood-boxes. The remainder was left as is, to be taken by anyone in the colony who wanted it. All block mgrs. were so notified.

George Yuasa, Block Representative called a meeting to discuss various community problems. The civic spirit was very much in evidence. We had a lively meeting and it was a decided success. There will be more meetings this coming week.

Block 4 is sponsoring a Japanese Folk Dance wherein all and anyone may participate for the 4th of July festivities. I am notifying Mr. Ted Waller of this festival program.

As liaison aide to the administration, this past month has been most interesting. Block 4, I am happy to report is harmonious as can be with all this sectional groups that comprise this block. (Washingtonians, Oregonians, and Californians) It has been interesting to follow the trend and actions of the people as a block, beginning with their first entrance into this new life. At first their prime interest was the comfort of their individual selves, such as preparing their individual apartments into livable quarters. When that problem was fairly solved, they began to take interest in improving the block, such as fixing partitions in the utility houses and gathering fuel as a block enterprise. Now, a month later, their general interest encompasses the community as a whole, which interest is, I hope, with the help of the Administration can be developed into a contributory war effort to make this community productive and a success in every sense of the word.

Through these trying times, I have sensed, more and more, the need of an informative bulletin or pamphlet on the whys and wherefores, and the do's and don'ts. From the backwash of rumors from the newly-opened Blocks and the furthest corners of the tenanted community, I feel the trials, mistakes, and experiences seem to duplicate the trials of our block when we were still new here. I wonder whether such irksome duplications could not in a measure be eliminated?

I have heard that wardens have been flaunted. I should think it wiser if mob situations weren't created where wardens would be necessary to control them. I have in mind the scrap pile in the east end where a minor "Oklahoma Land Grab" is on every evening. Individual persons may be intelligent and understanding, but the mob mind is, and always will be crude and hard to control.

Ralph H. Shimbo (signed)
Block #4

July 3, 1942.

One early Sunday morning I discovered the door of my office wide open. Entering, I found, to my astonishment, two bales of blankets which had been delivered to me the day before have been missing; somebody played a dirty joke.

"Good morning, Mr. Furuya," a voice greeted. My neighbor Block Manager is the early caller.

"Good morning, what has brought you on duty so early -- another Angel in Milky way?"

"no, not this time, sir -- rather, the Devil in Deep Sea."

"Indeed?"

"Yes, yes, a terrible thing --"

"You don't say."

"Yes, the ungodly thing -- a rascal had broken into my office last night and ran away with three kegs of nails and four pieces of ply-wood boards -- the rest I do not know" biting his lips he went on indignantly, "Idiot, a countryman robbing his own countryman, just think of it, 'tis most preposterous," his dear face became red with anger. Having been born and reared in an exclusive religious surroundings, his mental reactions had appeared likewise, too.

"I'm sorry to hear" I answered.

"Some of those folks coming in here these days have no respect for other people at all, bad as Cain was."

"I see."

"Why, think of stealing a tone of building materials, and do it under the very eye of the night patrol -- it surely takes a professional crook to do the job, don't you think so?"

"Perhaps so," I replied, "Yet I'm skeptical as to motives behind the robbery."

"There you go again," he objected, narrowing down his eyelids, "I believe a wrong-doer should be judged, not according to the motive involved, but the act so accomplished. What is a community? Why, it's the sum total of human activities. Any behavior of individual which is not

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becoming to the community standard should be condemned and punished."

"That's true," I acknowledged in part, "but I'd like to reinforce your idea a bit further."

"Yes."

"You don't mind?"

"No."

"Well," I began, "a society as you say is an aggregate of men's activities. But behind the hustle and run of individuals flows the current of feeling and thought which in my way of thinking, form the backbone of their activities."

"Exactly," He acquiesced.

"However, the men's feeling and thought are in turn very often being shaped and formed by the forces of environment in which they are placed."

"Ah, the Fatalistic Idea. I do not like it at all," he interrupted.

"Neither do I, but that's the way I see the world. Now, you may place your emphasis on man's thought and behavior, but I will place mine on power of environment."

"But, Mr. Furuya, I cannot see your philosophy has any bearing on the robbery in my office."

"By the way," I avoided direct answer, "My office was robbed last night, too."

"Yea-h, what did you lose?"

"Two bales of blankets."

"Perfectly wretched, is it not?"

"Wretched or not wretched, there's one thing that we all must recognize," I answered. "After all, these colonists who are coming in now-a-day are not quite so fortunate as you and I were when we came here. Why, look, these people have no nails, no lumber to make stool or bench to rest from their tiresome journey: Not 'nough blankets to keep themselves warm at night. With such limited amounts of accommodations they would naturally feel different than we had felt at the time of our arrival here -- I wouldn't blame them, and you won't either, I'm sure."

"If the raiding of my office was the only way --?"

"Assuming that was the only method?"

"A bad business."

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"But what else?"

"What else you'd say?"

"I'd only substitute a word."

"What word?"

"A vandalism?" I suggested.

"Ah, that's the word I was trying to bring out, sure, sure vandalism."

"And, no moral implication?"

"Well," he paused, "guess I'll have to go home and dig out the Bible," so saying he hurried along the dusty alley.

W. Furuya
(signed)

July 3, 1942.

Weekly Report !!

This week the people of my block has seem to settle down a little. But still there's some who isn't satisfied with their respective barrack and apartment, so few transfers have been made -- mostly for cooks and mess workers.

On Thursday, the condemned wood piles between the utility buildings were divided among the people in the block and rest were kept for boilers.

There was a little misunderstanding between certain party in Block 28 and our cook in Mess 27. Between Blk. Mgr. of 28, Mr. Stults and myself the matter was settled without much difficulty.

Main problem still seems to be the lack of lumber.

Blk. Mgr.

Frank Iwasaki (signed)

July 6, 1942.

Memo

Ceilings and sidings have been put in on all housing units. Only the utility bldgs., messhalls and recreation bldg. are unfinished. The stove pipe protective shields have not been yet put in.

All interest of the block has been centered on the coming 4th of July street dance which they are sponsoring. Every nite there has been a turnout of approximately 2000 people.

Received supplies of brooms and mops and wash boards.

Since the censorship, mail has dropped to almost nothing. There has been grumblings about the censorship. I think such censorship needs explaining.

The community store needs improvements. There is a distinct need for a separate building for fountain services.

July 13, 1942

There was a great trouble when placement officer appointed an officer "Food inspector" without consult both chief cook and myself. Everythings went nice and smoth before this thing happened. But then majority of crew of mess hall dissatisfied with the personality of new inspector they threatened me and chief cook to walk out of kichen, so we take out to Mr. Stults. Then he stepped in to arbitrate this matter which the thing is very much complecated remain unsettled yet.

It is very important to develope the idea of recreation while we are confined in the lonely camp. We have no fund and no pleasure at all. So I would like to help the people of this camp to find something to be more happy. The idea of recreation is too broad and finally we found out what to do.

1st. Vote 3 commissioners of ward.

2nd. Classification

- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| a. sport | e. judo |
| b. music | f. kendo |
| c. theatre | g. shibai |
| d. sumo | |

Suggestion

I wish you officer of administration could notify or give us instruction about new subject what to do so that the thing could take out to the block in consideration then we could perform our own problem. Otherwise it takes a lot of trouble and it takes too long to fix the hurt feeling.

Please remember that Japanese is very funny sometime that so many of them wants to be a boss.

By T. Ito (signed)
Blk. 19

July 17, 1942

A NISEI CITIZENSHIP

The front door of an apartment was opened and a tall young figure entered. "Good evening, Mr. Kato."

"Oh, hell John, come right in", the gray-haired sage of Block seventy-one greeted the college chap who had just returned home from the Community Forum Discussion. Laying aside a Greek classic he was reading, Mr. Kato welcomed his intellectual acquaintance. "You look cheerful; what has brought you here at this hour of the night?"

"A matter of vital importance, sir", replied John Ito. Taking the seat close by, he went on, "The Community Forum, as you know, had discussed a problem of our nisei citizenship -- wish you were there, Mr. Kato."

"That's a touchy subject indeed. I don't know if my presence there would have meant anything at all, John".

"Yes, Mr. Kato, it would have made a lot of difference in the way you'd feel had you heard the man in authority explain the situation than you would otherwise -- say, reading the newspaper --- 'Course, by that I do not infer anything, you know."

"Yes, indeed."

"And, Mr. Kato, as I have been telling you these late days, ---how we young Nisei have been worried about our citizenship rights, the present as well as the future,--- now, it seems somehow, we have found a ray of hope".

"That's good news".

"Surely is, Mr. Kato. Mr. Ferrell of the W.R. A. had come up here from San Francisco and told us that our citizenship right is unalterably protected by the Highest Law of the land."

"Yes, I believe Mr. Ferrell is right," agreed Mr. Kato, "but perhaps the Supreme Court, like any human being, might change its own mind -- someday?"

"Well, Mr. Ferrell contended that there would be no likelihood of any such change, for the reasons, as he says, that the legal tradition of the country is so long and well-established as to permit any great reversal, especially when only a trifling portion of the entire population is involved.

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Then, too, the social background of our people is such that it may not create any serious disturbance as to influence the Court -- that's what Mr. Ferrell said."

"I agree with Mr. Ferrell", nodded Mr. Kato.

Being encouraged by Mr. Kato's acquiescence on all points, John continued: "I cannot personally think of this big country, so rich in material wealth, so high in cultural attainment, would under any known circumstance, go back to the lawless days of the colonial times -- even the native Indians have their rights, too."

"Quite right, quite right."

"Surely is, Mr. Kato, and as a proof thereof I would say further, that all of those local legislations designed to deprive us of our rights have so far been declared unconstitutional. Accordingly, Mr. Kato, I have every reason to believe the Stewart Bill now in Congress will meet the same fate, also."

"Yes, John, --- and, I sincerely hope that those test cases coming up here and there will, by the reasons you have mentioned, see a happy landing too," Mr. Kato re-emphasized.

"I hope too. I feel pretty sure they will come through all right".

"But I believe you've got to fight your way through -- don't you, John,"

"Right, sir, and we will fight our battle with a weapon of the political Minority Party".

"Sure, sure," Mr. Kato acknowledged. Yet to the matured mind of Mr. Kato, the dire problem of the Nisei citizenship as it affects his immediate livelihood appeared not the question of its legality, but essentially the problem of political arbitration, in which the administrative expediency asserts its temporary supremacy over the bulwark of the Constitution. He knew too, that in existing system of the American Commonwealth, the Court has little or no check upon legislative misgivings sometimes. Laws are there, but the legal sanity has given way to the orgy of economic greediness by which the minority suffers at the mercy of the majority.

Fresh from College, John, too, may have known such

Block 17

Block Manager's Report--3

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facts of our political system, but in a world where the factors of fear and anxiety rule man, even a gesture would look good and promising. Appreciating the situation, Mr. Kato Concluded, "That's the spirit, John. God Speed you."

The door of the apartment was slammed behind and John was gone.

William Furuya

July 20, 1942.

There is a growing need for an organized young people's group (adolescents and undergraduates); organized by and for the young people and governed by the young people wherein they may have free rein to exercise their own initiative.

Please see Mr. Ted Waller about the dance hours. The elders in my block are insistent that 11:30 p.m. is too late for the dance to end.

There is not a single day that passes that some demand is made upon the people from the office through the departmental employees. These demands are generally on supplies that have already been released through the office to the people. This type of "Indian giving" practice is a decided detriment to the morale of the public. If such practices must be made, the whys of such actions must not only be explained but the necessity of such orders must be made clear to minimize any antagonisms on the part of the people.

It must be remembered that the administration is the only authoritative avenue of contact with the outside so it is considered by the people that they alone are responsible for the flow of supplies and see that the "cupboard" does not become bare.

July 20, 1942.

7/20

A representative who is working in the Ad Bldg. came over to my block and picked up some number of blankets from the tenants without my knowledge. I really think that it was not very nice way to act toward the colonists. He should give me an official notice or to have my consent before he makes any kind of action within the block.

7/21

A special meeting was held to discuss whether we have a block manager's secretary or not. Also we held a woman's meeting to discuss several problem chiefly how to conduct the young group.

7/22

I returned a few surplus supplies to the warehouse through Mr. Ota. At noon I conveyed the news concerning the adult education. Also I announced that everyone having interest with Dean O'Brien and Dean Register who came here from the University Wash to contact with them. He gives interview to the people who wish to continue with their college education.

7/23

I suggest that the unfinished job of covering the hole around the chimney and put up the window screen. These job should be done immediately before the winter comes. Seems to me that quite a few family are suffering from the heat and mosquitoes.

7/24

This morning I went to see the transportation division in the Ad Bldg. and inquired whether we can obtain a truck for the people who would like to go out to pick up the mustard green. At 1:36 p.m. I attended a manager's meeting, have exchanged our opinions and discussed several problems of the community here.

7/25

Some people in my block want to have a enough acknowledgement upon repatriation. So I went to the Ad Bldg. to get definite information from Dr. Jacoby. Another thing I did was that I inquired about the case of the people who had already sent an application for relatives to transfer them to this camp.

Tom Maekawa

July 20, 1942.

Following is a resume of my various activities during the past week. I have endeavored to make this report as accurate as possible. In the future, you can rest assured that the various routine such as mail, supplies distributions, request for repairs, etc. etc., will be stricken from the weekly report.

July 14

Received notice of appointment to Block managership.
Organized Janitorial staff resulting in first hot showers in our own block.
Organized carpenter crew for double walling and selected a utility carpenter. Were not able to sign them up.
Registered at post office.
Distribution of supplies.
By order Mr. Elbersen, collected all extra cots in Block 44 not in use.
Announcement in mess of Bon Odori in Ward Four.
Formed Voluntary crew and got Rock Sheet.
Attended Ward Block Manager's meeting.

July 15

Probed the matter with regards block double walling as foreman of crew anxious to go ahead.
Made personal house to house canvass for number of children requiring dietician care.
Notice with regards Nursery. Reported no damage but boxes for seating taken as left outside.
Sick Calls--Two. Both instances requiring taxi as too sick to walk.
Started ground work for voluntary fire fighting crew.
Announced engekai for 16th night.
Attended Block Manager's meeting.

July 17

Asked for Warehouse receipts.
Selective Service change in address.
Handled change in housing.
Sick calls--One.
Mass meeting in Block 47 mess. Mr. Sherrill

July 18

Signed up carpenter crew.
Signed up five farm laborers who could not find their way around.
Discussed Co-op movement with small group.
Presided at Mass Meeting to elect Representative to Council. Minutes forwarded.
Forwarded Inventory.

July 19

Family seating arrangement in Mess Hall.
Introduction of candidates.

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July 20

Distribution of Ballots.
Assigned Mustard Green gang.
Correspondence for person trying to get husband home
from internment camp.

July 21

Held ballot box open from 2 to 3 P.M.
Mass meeting in mess for Recreational Department.
Presided.
Frank Yamamoto elected to Representative.

These are resume of activities. There were many
other incidental matters which are hard to enumerate.

Hoping the above report is satisfactory,

Yours very truly,

Thos. K. Hasegawa (signed)

Block 25

Block Manager's Report

July 24, 1942.

7/20 -- 2:00 P.m.

Attended funeral service of Mrs. Fukuda at Block 29, representing Block 25.

7/20 -- 8:00 P.M.

Sent about 60 children to Kiddies show at Block 25 Mess Hall. They all had a good time.

7/21 -- 9:00 P.M.

Block Manager's meeting at Block 29. Decided that secretary to be placed for each Block Manager.

7/23 -- 2:00 P.M.

Representing Block 25, attended funeral service of Mrs. Kenji Dairiki in Mess Hall #720.

Nobuta Akahoshi
(signed)

7/12

I cleaned around my house to make a good example for the block people. At noon we had a bit of trouble among our block tenants, I sure had a tough time to get them settled. The trouble was that some like to have permanent tables and those people had already 2 or 3 family table set up in the mess hall. But today at noon some one in the kitchen took away their sign board from the table without their consent. That's where the trouble was started. There was much concern within the block.

7/13

Today I went to hear the Community forum speech. The speech given by Mr. Ferguson was very interesting. I think we should have such beneficial meeting as least twice a month!!

7/14

In the last few weeks I was thinking about how to manage to keep the grounds around the house cleared. Finally my work came to an end. That is to let one janitor among their crew to clean within the block.

7/15

I reported the things I found in my block to the bldg. 1808. I attended a mass meeting of the block managers at 2408. We heard that Mr. Sheehan is to be the Constructing authority in this project. He gave us a most impressive speech about how to manage the utility man and the people in the block who are complaining about their slow working to fix the unfinished jobs, also lacking of material. At meeting I also suggested that every family should get at least 3 dollars a month for spending money. I realized that some family (especially) old folks have no money to even buy their own tooth brush.

7/17

We held a block meeting at the mess hall to discuss upon the subject of a wage scale. Some one in the group suggested that there should be a flat rate and have no classification in this cooperative job in this colony. There all should get a equal treatment. Because after all they are doing their suitable job in various way.

7/17

From today our block began to use one of the lady's bath-rooms because in our block censorship shows that there's more man than woman living in this block. I have heard so many trouble in the mess hall lately, concerning lack of food supply. Therefore the chief steward should investigate about the stuff they receive from the warehouse upon request and how they use it appropriately or inappropriately. Also each mess hall should make uniform menus. Then it might prevent a lot of trouble which has been happening at almost every mess hall.

7/18

This morning I informed to the Ad Bldg. about an urgent repair job but probably they did not have the necessary parts and were unable to accomplish the job. I suggest that for urgent matters extra parts should be kept on hand. From now on the wardens be packed carefully because some of them are disagreeable and has no self-discipline.

Tom Maekawa

July 18

Due to shortage of hot water in men's shower during the rush hours in the evening, the block have set certain hour schedule to use one of the women's shower by the men last week. This system doesn't work as good as anticipated. Hesitation by the men folks to go into what is understood as women's seem to get the best of the situation. Colonists fear of the coming cooler weather brings the subject of Japanese Style bath at all neighborhood conversations.

July 25, 1942

The office of the warehouse No. 40 of the W.R.A. has always been a lively quarter with the come and go of personnel of all sorts. Here, the Chief Steward of Administration, the Ward Stewards, the Mess-Hall Managers, and a score of truck drivers who make the delivery of meats, groceries, delicatessen, and other boarding house supplies to all mess halls located within the project congregate. In late days the office has become busier still. In spite of the dwindling supplies and decreasing deliveries, the place become congested with many new faces -- strange faces, even, whereupon Richard Mori, the Chief Clerk of the Supply Department groans, "Good God, what's the matter with those fellows, come up here and tell me, 'I didn't receive the sack of sugar today, canteen of milk yesterday ' and report shortage of delivered items, this and that -- a phony business, or what else?"

It was late Saturday afternoon when Dick Mori was just about to quit the office, when the sound of motor truck was heard outside. Looking out through the window he saw a familiar tall figure in a white summer uniform, coming out of the car and ascending the stairway. He waited awhile. Presently the door of the office was opened and Harry Ko, the ward Steward, entered. "Hello, Dick."

"Oh, hello, Mr. Ko. Pretty late, are you not?"

"Yeah, got to work late these days."

Looking around, "anybody else in the office?"

"Nobody, Mr. Ko."

"I see." Biting the cigar in the corner of his mouth, "Well, Dick, I just returned from my inspection tour of my ward mess halls, and -- heard a queer story."

"Indeed."

"The head waiter in Block 75 told me that his mess hall had no milk today, -- and, begged me to send him three canteens every day instead of one ----".

"That's strange, Mr. Ko, more than strange, my own record shows that he's receiving three daily ----."

"I'm talking, Dick," snapped Harry Ko. "And -- oddly 'nough, he had only a half of banana for each person in that mess hall." He smiled a cynical smile.

"That is outrageous."

July 25, 1942.

"That's just it, Dick; some of the fellows in the kitchen are getting smart, ain't they?"

"Mr. Ko, I do not quite agree with you," Dick replied impartially. "Perhaps, yes, perhaps, some are clever if that is the way you want to put it, but honestly when the men, women, and children are, as you say, without milk, without fruits, without food they have to have, I consider the whole situation is stupid, definitely pitiful."

"Don't squawk, but listen."

"I am not squawking."

"Listen Dick, you and I live in the same block, eat together in the same dinner. Do you hear anybody in our lot grumble about our meals? No, nobody. The reasons are self-explanatory; we have a glass of milk for everybody, breakfast, dinner, and supper. You go to Block 16, you'll find not a drop for anybody except, of course, for the infants. Then, too, we have with us plenty of butter, plenty of fruits, in fact, more than enough. Pies, cakes, or jello for everybody, every day, -- which obviously require an uninterrupted supply of sugar from the warehouse. You go to Block 17, you'll find none whatsoever." A pause, "Now, you ask a benefit for the people, -- that's my answer. Do you hear?"

"Please, Mr. Ko, I do not understand."

"Shut your mouth, and you'll know." Shaking his finger at Dick, "Who do you think are doing all this good for the people in your block?" "Why, you know Tom who lives in our own roof; drives the truck, check-ups invoices, and delivers the groceries. Then, Mr. Masu, our Chef, who gives out orders for kitchen supplies. And, -- I of course, receives the orders and sends them to you. It is these persons, not singly but working together, that can give our people the best treat in the whole project." Lighting his cigar, Harry Ko continued, "I want you to do your part, -- a little more carefully, that's the reason I have come here. Don't say that you don't understand."

"But, Mr. Ko, I still do not under --"

"Do you want me to make you understand?"

"Not at all," Dick retorted, "Besides, this wretched, wanton pilferage, as the head of this office, I cannot permit such brazen scandals practiced right under my nose. I will not --"

"Shut up," Harry Ko rebuked sharply. Clinching his fingers he stood up in a striking gesture.

July 25, 1942

Suddenly the front door opened, and the chunky figure of Mr. Masu, the Chef of the block, entered the scene. "Hello, everybody. So surprised to find you two gentlemen enthused yourself for the welfare of our block. How thoughtful, both of you.

"But, perhaps, you gentlemen might be as well forget the business for the moment.-- Yes, indeed, I have prepared a big tender juicy steak for each one of you. So please, come home with me now?" Pacing toward Dick, "Oh, by the way -- my dear friend, perhaps, I shall take home a sack of sugar?"

"Mr. Masu," Dick Mori protested. "You are not joking?"

"Me, joking? How absurd, I never heard of such a thing."

"You are mad."

"Tut, tut, how ridiculously you talk. I only meant the business, my friend."

"The business of stealing another sack of sugar?"

"My friend, you've gone mad yourself?"

"Please, Mr. Masu, if my memory is correct, it is true that you received one sack yesterday, did you not?"

"Precisely, dear Dick, 'cause, that was for the back order of the month previous. For your entire satisfaction I shall place before your eyes ---" Here, the Chef drew out of his coat pocket, the copy of delivery invoice in question which showed the item of 100 lbs. of sugar was ruled out in pencil, signed by "Masu", oked by "Tom". "This paper will speak for itself," concluded the Chef. Changing the tone of his voice, "Now I feel hungry," turning to Harry, "How about you, Mr. Ko?"

"I surely do, Chef." Harry ko nodded.

"Sure, sure, I already smell the odor of the Klamath stear. Come, come, gentlemen." The Chef ran toward the front door and hollered aloud, "Hello, Tom. Hello, Tom."

"Yes, Mr. Masu," came the answer.

"Say Tom, bring out a sack of sugar."

"I already have one, sir," the reply resounded throughout the warehouse.

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Mr. Masu faced toward Dick, " 'Course, Mr. Ko will fix up the invoice Monday morning. So, gentlemen, please come." He started for the doorway, followed by Harry Ko.

But Dick Mori did not oblige.

The sound of motor truck again roared in the stillness of the evening, and gradually died out in the distance.

William Furuya (signed)

July 27, 1942

The Block is greatly flattered to have uninvited guests to our messhall. We have noticed a sharp increase in the number of these uninvited guests the past week; so much so, that the balance and harmony of the block has become critically jeopardized.

It would be a contribution to community etiquette if all block mgrs. were to request their constituents not to go to any other block's mess without first obtaining permission or invitation from the messhall they intend to dine in.

Please inform the Recreation dept. that baseball players and such are habitually using the showers in Block 4 after their games. Such persons are taxing our showers to the exclusion of Block 4 members and they are also giving the Boilermen extra work especially after the Sunday games.

Everythings are under control in Block 30, however we're having hard times with the chief cook.

The chief himself trying to control the kitchen and people of the block. So we had a meeting last Wednesday with five advices and the chief cook that we discussed and told the chief that chief has got nothing to do with the people of the block. So the advicers and the cook made a clear understanding about the whole situation.

Friday nite the 10th someone walked in mess, and stole 3 doz. eggs, so again chief came to office and made a complain about putting a padlock on Stock room. And to make a door window on a side of the stock room, however we haven't made a clear to that yet.

This week there were several sick persons with high fever, hives, and some typhoid shots, etc., however everyone is okay.

We of this Block formed a old men softball team from age of 45 up. And are doing very nicely. Guess that about all the report from this block, the rest are the same as usual week.

Bill Tamura (signed)

This week there are so many reports to make and yet so little to accomplish the work, due to the lack of assistance. However the headline of this week is Monday evening starting around 10:30 the people of this block both young and old got food poisoning kept me up all night. However, it wasn't too serious on account of that, Chef made resignation as a cook and I have been running around, and finally found a cook next day. Right now, everything is okay.

Every nite six thirty we of this block voluntary help to get the sheet rock at present there are sixteen men as a voluntary carpenter who are doing very nicely.

Saturday afternoon at 4:15 Mrs. Fukuda passed away at local hospital, which their family lived on 29 block however, I have been giving all the assistance to block 29 manager and today at 2:30 there were be a funeral.

So this week report ends with as usual

Bill Tamura (signed)

Since there are very many difficulty about the lumber situation, I requested our advisory committee to go to house to house within our block for few pieces of donation for community purpose (utility building improvement) and after this is done I am to see if I could get some help from other Block managers.

There is quite number of colonists requiring, asking and even much as complaining because of apartments now being insulated by Mr. Sheahn and his carpenters they worked up to our block and then took another system of working. As we were some of the first ones here we are entitled to come before any of the Ward two or so on blocks, I had been asked by the committee to see why this course has been taken.

Also we have been trying to arrange of using the one of the women's utility building for men's purpose of shower room only from the hours of 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. as there is only half enough hot water for men's shower. Appears deal O.K.

Upon request of Fire Chief to organize volunteer fireman for own block, we organized a group of 14 men.

Respectfully submitted

Frank Furukawa (signed)
Block Mgr.

July 10, 1942

A CRISIS AT CANTEEN

"Mr. Chairman, I demand that my voice be heard at this time."

"The chair will recognize Mr. Shinto."

"Gentlemen," once again the piping voice reverbrates the assemblage of the weekly meeting of Block Managers, "this discussion which I would like to present before you may not be appropriate but is really very important."

"The chair requests the discussion be limited to the realm of our legitimate activities."

"Right, but 'tis most pertinent. Gentlemen, our Community Stores exist for the benefit and convenience for the whole inhabitants of this Settlement. Yet, due to an indifferent attitude on the part of the management, a large number of our good people have been deprived of this privilege to patronize the stores and purchase necessities of their very existence."

"That's a serious charge" acknowledged the Chairman.

"Precisely," Mr. Shinto continues, "Gentlemen, look, in any hot afternoon like today, when you step inside the Store, you will see a regiment of lazy loafers sitting on the counter far into the building; another regiment down upon the floor. They sit there hour after hour, smoking and spitting, and at best indulging in gossips about this saleswoman and that--"

"I protest," interrupted a new voice.

"State your complaint," the Chairman recognizes Mr. Yamu from Portland, Oregon.

"The charge by the preceding speaker that those good-hearted young men from San Joaquine Valley are indulging themselves in gossips, seems to require further airing. The plain fact is, Mr. Chairman, that all of these sales foree employed in the Block seven Canteen are, like myself, from a land of fragrant roses and clean, clear water -- the land which is famed for its production of maids with school-girl complexion. I'm proud of my Hood Valley, proud of having its admirers -- I wouldn't mind even if anyone sat down there for twenty-four hours---."

"I object," Mr. Shinto jumps up on both feet.

"On what ground do you object?"

"On the ground of parliamentary procedure."

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"You may go ahead, Mr. Shinto."

Whereupon Mr. Shinto takes the floor impatiently. "Gentlemen, we are here to discuss a serious problem. As I was going to explain the presence of those sit-downers inside the store presents not only the menacing moral and social problems, but it drives a good many shoppers away from the premise. The fact proves that I am right. Yes, indeed, yesterday afternoon my wife went to the store to purchase a tooth brush. The front half of the building was so congested that she had to elbow in left to right, like a Columbia River smelt on a hottest run. Then what happened? Gentlemen, a loafer sitting on the store counter kicked her twice on the pants, and she almost fainted. As a result, I am now obliged to go shopping myself -- a grave domestic problem, too."

"Mr. Chairman."

"What is it, Mr. Yamu?"

"If I had the honor like my friend, Mr. Shinto, had, I really don't know how delighted I would feel, -- nobody has ever kicked Mrs. Yamu for the last twenty-three years."

Laughter roared, and the Chairman swung the hammer high. In a loud voice, "The Chair would like to entertain a belief that Mrs. Shinto has come from the land of the purest aqua."

"She surely is; mine ain't," complimented Mr. Yamu.

The laughter again arose, mingled with cry of "order," "order."

"Order, Mr. Chairman," demanded Mr. Shinto angrily.

"Yes, Mr. Shinto."

I protest," Mr. Shinto continued, "This meeting of supposedly intellectual leaders of a community deliberately amuses itself on the crisis at hand. Mr. Chairman, I now move that our Social Committee is hereby directed to call the attention of Mr. Peter, the Supervisor of the Community Store help to redress the grievance."

"I have already called his attention," explained Mr. Yamu.

"What did Mr. Peter say?" Mr. Shinto inquired.

"Well," Mr. Yamu paused, wiping sweat off his flat nose, "he said that the "sitting-down" has become such a universal fashion these days that the canteen itself became a victim

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of the sweeping fad."

"That does not solve anything" retorted Mr. Shinto.

"Neither does the excitement solve anything."

"I demand action."

"Order, order, please," the chairman pounded on the table. "Gentlemen, any further discussion?"

"Yes, yes." Mr. Shinto is on both feet again.

The Chairman overlooking Mr. Shinto went on, "Gentlemen, recognizing the gravity of the situation I now wish, with your approval, to request the Chairman of our Social Committee to reconvey our message to the Authority. Any Discussion?"

"Who is the Chairman of the Social Committee?" asked Mr. Shinto.

"Mr. Yamu is the Chairman."

Mr. Shinto crumpled down upon his chair with a groan, "A-Men."

William Furuya
(signed)

Aug. 3, 1942

SUNDAY 7/26/42

Several people in our block had a chance to go out to the farm and pick mustard greens. I also went with them. There were quite a number of trucks lined up like a regular battle fleet.

By the time we were ready to come home we had a little trouble. Some one in this numerous group had sneaked away for self purpose but came back in time to go home. I wished that they would show more humorism and less self interest.

Monday 7/27

I handed in weeks report to Mr. Elberson. I requested that I would like to have my wife be my secretary. Mr. Fleming said it is better not to because it may help me put in a clearance position and stability. Otherwise I may have more criticism from the block people.

TUESDAY 7/28

I reported to the Ad Bldg. there is some plumbing in the ladies and mens lavatories. I also made arrangements of changed addresses for the people in our block.

My personal opinion of changing the fee for the Notary Public Sealing should be cut down to half price instead of charging the full commission to the colonists.

WEDNESDAY 7/29

I received 10 Colman Lanterns from the supply division. They will be placed in each utility house in case of a black out. In the evening I went to a meeting to get a general instruction about taking the census. It will start Friday 12:00 midnight.

THURSDAY 7/30

I went to every house in my block giving them every detail. about the housing and personal census. Which we plan to take on Friday.

FRIDAY 7/31

In the morning I accompanied a former Walerga Assembly center resident to the Ad Bldg. and showed him how to procure his pay check.

In the afternoon I attended the block manager's meeting. Various problems were discussed and Mr. Furukawa our chairman talked on a few subjects of interest.

At 12:00 midnight the community census began. I was accompanied by Mr. Kuge from door to door. We completed the census around 1:30 A.M. Then we ate a light snack which was prepared for us.

Aug. 3, 1942.

SATURDAY 8/1

Today I inquired about a special talent entertainment to be held for our Block people but unfortunately they are unable to do this because they do not wish one block to monopolize entertainment. They said that shows should be held for each ward people.

After I contacted Mr. Takagishi an arrangement was made between two parties who had conflict in the use of our recreation hall.

Tom Maekawa (signed)

Aug. 3, 1942.

July 28, 1942

As requested by Mr. Don Elberson at Ward Chairman's meeting, contacted all block managers of Ward 4 regarding secretaries and inventory of office furnishings. Regarding secretaries the ward chairman for Ward 4 is very happy to announce that all block managers of this ward have not disobeyed ruling laid down by the administration regarding having immediate relatives as secretaries.

July 29, 1942

Received ten lanterns to be used during black-out in utility buildings.

July 30, 1942.

Attended ward meeting and discussion of different nature were brought forth. The main issue being shortage of lumber in Blocks 7, 8, and 9. However in case that any lumber should be brought to Ward 4, have made arrangements among ourselves that Blocks 7, 8, and 9 will receive a larger portion than the rest. Other business discussed will be submitted to the office by the secretary.

July 31, 1942.

This is one day that Block Manager of Block 10 would like to forget. Very many more days like this day would be the end of Block Manager of 10. We have been having some trouble in the mess. The chef threatened to quit his position because of the fact that some of the people in this block have been making uncomplimentary remarks regarding his cooking. The Block Manager was hard put by questions asked and services the chef requested. However, as block managers are not supposed to have anything to do with mess trouble, squirmed out of the situation favorable to myself. I am afraid this trouble between the chef versus the people will fly up anew in the near future.

2) For the week this is the pet gripe. Due to an order by Mr. Stults' office, a certain Mr. Jimmy Uyeno has collected all of our desks and flat tables made from mess hall tables which were used in Block Manager's office. Due to the confiscation of above mentioned tables, had quite a problem on hand when the people of Block 10 threatened to take back all tables confiscated. However any violence was avoided when Block Manager quietly gave up all desks and tables used by his office. As ward chairman in Ward 4, have received a number of complaints from the other Block Managers in Ward 4 regarding the loss of their tables. Would like an early settlement of this issue.

3) The taking of census during the wee hours of the morning passed without any undue incident. I am glad to state that the people of Block 10 cooperated most whole-heartedly in taking of census.

Block 10

Block Manager's Report--2

Aug. 3, 1942.

August 1, 1942.

The feminine adults of Block 10 have asked the Block Manager to hold a meeting among the older group of women to form a women's club. Will call your office regarding advice in forming a club of this nature.

Block 10

(written in later)

Fire buckets were received at this office, but are being taken care of by the chief timekeeper for the janitors.

WKT (?)

Aug. 3, 1942

7/28--Put in walls for Block Manager's office.

7/28--Went to special Block Managers' meeting at Placement office, Tuesday, July 28, at 2:30 p.m.

7/29--Advisory Committee meeting at Block Manager's office.

7/31--Block Manager went to regular weekly Block Managers' meeting at Block #28, Friday night.

7/31--Took Census, Friday night, July 31, at 12:00 midnight.

Volunteer Carpenter crew working very hard and will finish putting in walls in this Block #25 in a couple of days.

Volunteer firemen all lined up and ready for inspection and orders from Mr. Rhoads.

Nothing unusual happened last week; everything running very smoothly in this Block #25.

Block Manager

N. Akahoshi (signed)

Aug. 3, 1942

Gentlemen:

Following is a resume of my weekly activities: Most of these days were filled with small odds and ends of things to do which I am not enumerating.

Monday July 27

1. Permission to sign up six additional carpenters to increase our double walling crew to 15 men. Now they are functioning quite satisfactorily and are completing three & four apartments a day.
2. Handled a case in social welfare for a block resident, an old lady who could not get around very well. This was for the purpose of securing a permit for her son to join her here from Merced Assembly Center.
3. Acquired two tables for the recreation hall from that department and our recreational leader is planning to start a block shogee tournament.
4. Hauled rock sheet with a voluntary crew.

Tuesday July 28

1. Endeavored to sign up a secretary, however, was informed that the placement office would send five girls which it was determined necessary that I interview for a position as my under clerk.

Wednesday July 29

1. Determined to select one secretary from the five on the basis of their past experiences, undertook what I considered a fair measure in securing a competent girl. All five girls took their individual minutes at the ward meeting held in my office this morning. From this group selected one person for this position and placed her as of Wednesday morning at 9 A.M. Her name is Tonayo Sakuma.
2. At 6 O'clock called a meeting of the block advisory council at which time we received a complete report of the council meeting by our representative Mr. Frank Yamamoto. Various problems were called to my attention which matters will be discussed at the future ward meetings and with yourself. We are functioning very well in this block and have the close cooperation of these men. In the future we shall plan to forward to you all the minutes of this meeting.
3. At 8 P.M. went to the census meeting at the placement office for future instructions on census taking Friday at midnight.

Thursday July 30

1. Seven sheets of sheet rocks were stolen from our block. In this connection made a check on every apartment, took inventory of supplies received and forwarded the entire matter to yourself,

Aug. 3, 1942

Dr. Jacoby and to the judicial department requesting some action be taken to inform the people in this matter. Our representatives have been instructed to take up the matter further at the council meeting. That evening at 7 P.M. a recreational meeting was called to order by Mr. Harry Mayeda from that department. As customary having the meeting in our block 44 mess hall, called the meeting to order and turned over the floor to this gentleman.

Friday July 31

1. Completed the Wednesday ward meeting minutes and the secretary made 11 copies, one for yourself, one for the ward chairman's chairman, and one for each block manager in ward five.
2. Handled the case for a block resident who insisted on a technical point on individual family number owing to the arrival of his wife and child from a hospital in Oroville under a separate number. Housing is checking on same.
3. At midnight, worked on the census. Retired at 4:30 A.M.

Saturday August 1

1. Owing to bad food during the last two days, I was contacted by a person from block 44 requesting the change be made in the kitchen staff. This same person had contacted several other people in the block suggesting such a thing, therefore, it looked as though trouble was imminent. To offset this matter, called four members of the advisory committee and looked into the matter by investigating the condition of the supplies in the stock room and ice box. I was requested to investigate a report that mess attendants had been taking food home also. The mess hall seems to be the root of all evil as far as this project is concerned. Therefore, I ask you to kindly make some investigation into the matter. A very good suggestion was given me which I am forwarding to you. This is that the ward truck supplying the kitchen should be manned by one person in each block of the ward (or 3 men from ward) rather than the cliqueish staff reported in the commissary department. It is impossible to request the cooks to prepare suitable food if the necessary supplies are not on hand and reports of the above nature are truly disconcerting. You will note that I am not entering into any discussion as to the cook's ability or any working of the mess hall crew, but am trying to prevent trouble within my block. I am doing my utmost to prevent this trouble as an intermediary between the mess hall and the people. As a result, I can advise you

not true
(written in)

Aug. 3, 1942.

that this matter is temporarily settled for a period of two weeks by which time, if better food is not available, it will be necessary to take further steps.

2. Made a survey of chamber pots, at the same time informing the people of the necessity of taking typhoid and small pox shots.

Sunday August 2

1. Owing to an illness on the part of my wife, I was unable to attend the gathering of scrap lumber. I have personally expressed my thanks to each block manager for their kind consideration in supplying me with a share of the material.

Hoping the above information is satisfactory.

Yours very truly,

Thos. Hasegawa (signed)

Aug. 3, 1942.

7-26-42

Put up anew bulletin board and had sign put up to indicate Block #48 Office.
Hospital taxi for Mrs. M. Wada at 4801-C.

7-28-42

Called hospital taxi for Toshiye Maruyama.
Turned in various reports.

Turned in the federal Receipts of:

Hoshiro Miyoshi	Hydo Hashimoto
Martin Seiichi Akiyama	S. Yoshimura
Alice Ariyama	Noboru Honda
George Murata	Frank F. Nakamura
S. Yoshimura	Mrs. Masako Sasaki
Katashi Fujiwara	George Hiraoka

Inquired regarding Mrs. Nakahira's daughter Mitoye, who was to have arrived in Tule on July 12, 1942, from Marysville: and did not arrive. With Dr. Jacoby's consent I sent a telegram to Miss Evelyn Whitehead at Marysville regarding this case. The electrical maintenance dept. filled all of the vacancies with 25 watt bulbs. (Outside light.) Previous report stated that every other building was to be lit.
Attended the Ward Chairman's meeting.

7-28-42

Called a Doctor for Miss Kayoko Uchihara.
Went to each Block Manager's office in this ward to check inventory of office equipment.
Together with the entire block, we expressed an applauding vote of thanks to the mess crew and the janitorial staff for their efficiency and endeavors.
Notified Mr. Don Elberson by written report, the new meeting date and time of our weekly Ward meeting.
Loaned Mr. James S. Okimoto, Blk. Mgr. for 56 - six brooms.
Interviewed six girls sent by the Placement Center to apply for the job of Block Manager's Under Clerk.
Okayed permit slip for Mr. Inazumi Shusaku to transfer.

7-29-42

After interviewing all applicants and after due consideration, I selected Miss Fumi Takagi to be the Under Clerk of Block #48.
She was properly placed at the Placement office.
Attended and presided the ward 5 weekly meeting.
To Ad. Bldg. in behalf of Ward 5 for information and requests.
Appointed Mr. George Kawahata of 4519-E to represent the entire camp to the funeral of Shohei Uyeno. (8:00 PM, July 29, 1942 at 4008.)
Attended Housing survey meeting at 1208.
Turned in Federal Reserve Receipts of Mary Tamamoto.

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7-30-42

Had secretary make out answers to requests and information from the Ad. Bldg. in behalf of Ward 5. A copy of each was mailed to each Block Manager in this Ward.

Attended Community Activities Commission meeting at Block 44. Owing to misleading information from the Recreation Dept., the previous election necessitated disqualification. Particularly upon the request of the three (3) elected commissioners who desired a re-election. Election date had been set for re-election on Monday, August 3, 1942. (Two (2) electors from each Block in Ward V.) (Commissioner candidates and Councilman.)

New hospital bus route started today. Put up posters in English and Japanese. Emphasizing no abuse of this service.

7-31-42

Had secretary prepare memoranda schedule on a larger calendar form.

In behalf of Chief Cook of #48, went to see Mr. Stultz to remedy food shortage. (Knowing that every consideration were given us for supplies, I have purposely stayed away from Mr. Stultz for he is busy. Naturally, many requests could have been made. This was my first visit to Mr. Stultz since I became a Block Manager about three weeks ago.)

Phoned Mr. Elberson regarding typhoid inoculation. 1-whether or not smallpox was included. 2-whether or not to consider the Recreation Dept. request which did not come through Mr. Elberson. 3-Mr. Elberson requested that all Block Managers of Ward V to meet at the Ad. Bldg. at 8:00 A.M. to have lumber for our office use.

Answers to the above and the lumber hauling information was forwarded in person to all Block Managers of Ward V. Sat in the Block 48 Barrack Representative meeting; the resignation of Block Representative came up. Reason: Representative felt incompetent and for that reason only, desired to have someone else take his place. After due consideration it was decided to accept Mr. Fred Fukui's resignation. Entire procedure of an election for a new representative was left up to the Block Manager upon approval of the Barrack Representatives.

Decided to hold a meeting of the Fire Prevention and Fighting Crew to discuss ways and means of prevention studies of how to organize ourselves in the event of a fire.

8-1-42

Went on lumber hauling trip. Hauled two (2) loads for Ward V. Equally distributed to each Block Manager. Completed survey and turned in report of number of extra Mess Hall tables in Ward V to Mr. Frank Furukawa as per request.

Had visit from Mr. Elberson and had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Lockliter and Mr. Robert B. Throckmorton. Hospital incident on Saturday afternoon - I was called to call a taxi for one Toshiye Maruyama, age 11, who had an

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appointment with a doctor for draining of appendicitis incision. This party went to the hospital early Saturday morning and waited until 11:45 A.M. and being about twenty (20) patients ahead of her, she returned home for lunch for she did not want to miss her meal. (Being only a small girl she evidently was overlooked to receive her turn while she was waiting and consequently at 11:45, they were still about twenty (20) persons ahead of her.) Being that the bus schedule was only a few days old, this party did not know that no bus was scheduled Saturday afternoons. She waited until the due time of the bus and having no such service she asked the Block Manager to call a cab.

Explaining fully the situation, I politely called the hospital for the taxi. The reply received was, "its her fault for not waiting, isn't it?" I explained that the party had come home to lunch to which they replied that she could have had lunch at the hospital. This was not known to the patient. I asked whether or not we were going to have a cab for this girl. They replied that unless it was an emergency they could not consider sending a cab. I replied, "do we get a cab for this girl or not?" The reply was that if it is not an emergency they will not send anyone out. Being the second time that the hospital receptionist sticking to technicalities, was very reluctant to consider cases after clinic hour, it disturbed my feelings very much. It stated that it was a helluva service. Received a comeback, "what the hell I was kicking about?" At this point I hung up.

I felt that this patient necessitated attention, therefore, I endeavored to get in touch with Mr. Elbersson. Being that I could not, I referred the case to the party who answered the telephone call, who in turn referred me to Mr. Shirrell. Upon explanation of the case to him he stated a taxi would be sent out. I got the cab and upon their arrival they showed resentment. They did not appear to feel at all sorry for the situation. During the course of conversation one statement made by one of the party who came out was, "after the Block Manager had called the hospital and the hospital did not consider the case, the Block Manager had done his duty and that he should forget about it. To which I replied that technically it may be correct, but as a humanitarian, I could not rest so easily and I felt further than a doctor's duty was a humanitarian one. Furthermore, we would not call for medical attention unless it was necessary. People cannot get sick only on clinic hours and it is a sad state of affairs for the receptionist or the Block Manager or anyone else who has not seen a patient to be the judge of whether or not it was an emergency or otherwise. If this case was passed up according to the desires of the receptionist, and if in the event that this girl's case should turn for the worse, it would be something that I or anyone could never forgive themselves for. I strongly suggest that this situation which

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is a frequent situation be remedied.

A party called from the Recreational Dept. requesting me to announce that the sumo tournament would be indefinitely postponed. Being a minor matter I did as requested. However, being that this announcement did not come through Mr. Elberson's office, I pointed out to this party that though I will announce this one because it was a minor matter, our orders are that we are not to consider anything as official unless it came through Mr. Elberson's office. The party felt that it was a great deal of red tape. I cite several examples of inconvenience. 1-About (10) ten days ago, our Ward had a call from the Recreational Dept. to the effect that they desired cooperation of Ward 5 together with Ward 4 to co-sponsor a talent show for July 30th. This was announced at our Ward meeting and it was decided that we would co-sponsor such. We have not heard anything further on this situation. However, Block 43 assumed that this program was to be held and on July 30th the regular mess time of 5:00 P.M. was advanced to 4:30 so that everyone can attend this show. After the announcement, it was learned that no such talent show was to be held, placing the Block Manager as well as the Chief Cook in a very embarrassing situation. (I realized that it was a mistake for the parties concerned to have made such an announcement without official sanction, but the fact remains that we should have heard from the Recreational Dept. to the effect that plans for said talent show had been cancelled.)

2-Owing to conflicting advice from the Recreational Dept. for the election of a Community Activities Chairman, some Blocks thought that said election was to be held within this Ward by a mass meeting, some thought that said election was to be held among the candidates of one from each block. This conflicting information came directly from the representative of the Recreational Dept. As a result, dissatisfaction prevailed. At a meeting held last week to which the Block Managers, Councilmen and one Recreational Representative from each block of Ward V attended; and under the chairmanship of Mr. Harry Mayeda from the Recreational Dept. it was felt necessary to re-elect the three (3) Commissioners from this Ward. Mr. Hayashi of Block 47, Mr. Ohmura of Block 41 and Mr. Wada of Block 48 requested that re-election be held in fairness to all concerned. Such are the reasons presented to this party who requested the announcement in regard to the sumo tournament. We understand the Recreational Dept. is in the midst of reorganization and we hope that such situations will be remedied.

Noboru Honda
(signed)

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On Monday the election for Block 57's representative to the Self Governing Council was held in this office. Takeo Yoshihara was elected as the representative.

Selection of two representatives to the cooperative council was made by the Block Manager. Yonezo Taniguchi and Yukichi Murai were appointed.

Personal property forms of the colonists have properly stored with the Federal Reserve Bank were collected.

This office was the recipient of three requests by the different recreational departments, none of which had your endorsement. Consequently, I did not comply with their request. Especially irritating was the bulletin posted with regards to flower arrangements. The block manager was not even asked to be responsible for the registration. Subsequently the sign was torn down by this office. May I submit that any bulletins or work done in this block by the recreation department, outside of the recreation building, be cleared through your office and those of the affected block manager.

Miss Mary kano was assigned as the under clerk in this office and affairs have been handled very efficiently. She is capable of typing and taking dictations and any advancement for her in a more practical position will be appreciated by this office although it would be a loss to me.

Numerous fuses have been blown in our block Barracks because of the low amperage fuses. I believe that if 20 amp. fuses were used instead of the present 15 the situation would be relieved. Irregardless of orders the colonists will continue to brew tea or coffee in the evenings.

Ted Nakamura (signed)

Aug. 3, 1942.

July 31 - Continued

(4) X"Complaints on selling lumber at the Canteen."

"Our block manager is big liar" ! Why? (in red)

I explained to the members of the block there was lumber shortage in this camp and that even W.R.A. had no priority to buy lumbers especially the 2x4 variety as explained to me by Mr. Sheehan at one of the block manager's meeting. And since the canteen now sells the lumber I can not see why the W.R.A. cannot buy the lumber to supply our essential needs at least to make one table and chair.

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Fire prevention work occupied most of my time this past week. Earth has been banked around all the barracks by volunteer help. Fire buckets have been properly placed on brackets against the outsides of the utility bldgs. filled with water and ready to go.

A group of the youngest boys have organized a group emulating the Boy Scouts who come around to work odd jobs for merits. This younger boy's group is helping to keep the block clean.

Food still remains the touchiest problem. There does not seem to be an adequate supply of meat and it is my opinion that the distribution is at fault.

A general practice is developing throughout the colony wherein the residents take over the kitchen occasionally and give the messhall workers a holiday, such a movement has started in our block too. Cooperative spirit like this helps to mold a block into a solid community.

I find that special "Rush" requisitions do not get any better service than ordinary routine requisitions. Only urgent emergencies are ear-marked "Rush" by me so I would appreciate any sincere thorough cooperation from your department on these matters.

Since your dept. is now the clearing house for everything as I understand I must hold your office responsible for any delinquencies on such matters.

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Sunday 8/2

I made a survey to check up on the porch lights and utility houses to see if they were all in good shape.

In the evening as a representative for block #5, I attended the memorial services which was held in block #6.

Monday 8/3

I handed in a weekly report and a weekly receipt to the community service dept. I also had an interview with Mr. Stults.

I requested that they deliver some baby food to the block #5 diet kitchen. There is always a shortage of canned foods.

I made a special announcement to the ladies that we were to have a meeting to discuss various problems pertaining to the block people. At this meeting I conveyed a few memorandums which I received from the main office.

Tuesday 8/4

After I came back from the Ad-bldg., my wife and I went to 3208 where they were taking the census.

I also checked on the housing accomodation data today.

Wednesday 8/5

All Block Managers in ward 1 convened on (1707-D) and received instructions on first aid.

An interesting speech was given by Mr. F. Nakanishi on "How to operate and treat the injured people".

I made a special trip to borrow the shovel and pick to blockade the open space between the ground and the floor. After this job --- is completed it will be much warmer inside the barracks during the winter.

Thursday 8/42

The same carpenter crew started working to cover the hole around the chimney pipe.

I found out that the molding job around the ceiling should be done right away otherwise the loos fiber boards will fall from the ceiling.

Friday 8/7

I had an interview with Mrs. Skamatsu who is working in the social welfare dept., about a person in my block who wishes to know about transferring his family into this camp.

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Friday 8/7 (continued)

Today our block manager's meeting was held comparatively longer than the usual time. We had a tough time solving the problem concerning Mr. Nakazawa's case.

At dinner time I announced a few mimorandums which I received from the community service dept.

Saturday 8/8

Right after breakfast I received a phone call from the office to relat a message to each block manager in our ward.

Everyday I go to the Ad-Bldg. for various purposes, help with the peoples needs, attend meetings, check up on things, and see if our block can be improved in any way.

Aug. 10, 1942.

8/3/42

Passed out the chamber pots received.

Block meeting was held at 7:30 P.M. After Mr. Maruyama, block manager made some announcement, Fred Ouye, our block representative took the chair and reported on the minutes of the last council meeting he attended.

Several members of the block wanted to know why locks and lumber were on the priority list for this government project, while we were able to purchase them individually in sufficient numbers. Also why we were not receiving the lumber promised us in the W.R.A. pamphlet to make improvements in the barracks as much as we wanted to.

Complaint against dancing in this block was voiced again. The complaint was not only against the noise, but against the vandalism in the washroom, ironing room, recreation room, and latrines. This entails extra work on the block members too. It was suggested that the only fair thing to us would be to have the dance in rotation in different messhalls even if this is a temporary arrangement.

Discussion of sheet rock insufficiency was carried on. Discard of 10% through breakage and uses in private apartment were not sufficient to account for the shortage. A miscount in the checking department might be the cause it was agreed.

Mess hall problem was discussed -- that there are too many extra mouths to feed in Mess 8, such as time keepers, sanitary corp members, barbers, canteen workers and customers and diet kitchen workers. It was suggested that we be given extra requisition of food, or open mess 7 for this block, or exclude everyone except residents of block 8 and 7 by arranging a family-table system or tag-identification system. As a tentative move Dr. Sato and Mr. Nishimura were nominated to confer with the committee from Block 8. This joint committee is to arrange for either a family table system or a tab-identification system--either system as it sees best.

The matter of food purchasing was brought up--whether it came directly through army purchase or by contract through some middle man. The situation in Marysville was cited to show that when food purchasing was under a contracting system and excess middle man profit exacted we did not have sufficient food.

This led to the question why the milk was soured so frequently. It was explained that the milk was sour before it came into camp. A more through check on the milk situation was requested.

Fred Ouye, councilman, was asked to look into the

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matter of the allowance of \$2.50 per capita a month which we were supposed to receive in the Walerga Assembly Center. Members of the block were of the opinion that we should sue for this allowance even if the administration exceeded its budget by the purchase of food, in view of the fact that we had received less good food at Walerga than here in spite of the comparative costs.

There was a complaint in the lapse of pay (as far back as 3 months) and against the unfair payment of the workers in the administration building while the others were not paid. It was pointed out that it would be better if we be paid every two weeks and within a week.

That we could not get along on the present minimum wage scale of \$12.00 was agreed by everyone. A minimum pay of \$35.00 would be just right, especially in this time of inflation.

8/6/42

Attended the Ward meeting at #1107 from 2:30 to 5:00 P.M.

8/7/42

Attended first aid class as requested from 10:00 P.M. to 12:00 P.M. at #1207-D.

Dr. Sato and Mr. Katagiri attended the co-op talk by Mr. Smith.

Helped check the need of furniture in each apartment with the man from the housing department.

M. Maruyama

August 10, 1942.

The final board was nailed Saturday, August 8th. To me it was a memorable event; no more hiking far for the nails to be carried back, no more grumbling about insufficient lumber for the carpenters, no more worries of plaster board shortage, no more demanding for sheet rock deliveries--no more worries. Thank goodness that's over.

A barren office is quite a desolate sight; a plaster board set upon a pair of carpenter's horses improvise to replace the desks unreasonably taken out of this so-called office. With office desk replacement still out of sight, the thought of having to work under present conditions does not encourage us to put forth our best efforts. The unkind attitude of a few block managers, who are still in possession of their "office" desks, does not in the least improve the situation for us. We, of this office, feel that those who were responsible for this situation cannot be so easily forgiven nor this incidence forgotten without a satisfactory settlement of this unnecessary inconvenience and ill feelings.

The colonists here are past wondering why the W.R.A. overlooks the immediate distribution of initial supplies, but are instead asking why the Block Manager doesn't demand action. Their demands are reasonable. They cannot and we should not be blamed for the insufficient foresight of those responsible for the supplies of this project. We feel that the excuses from the project office of "supplies exhausted" we have them ordered, priority, and "expect shipment any day" are used too often for explanations of the initial supply shortage. We cannot understand why some blocks were fortunate to have received their supplies and why we are kept waiting so long for ours. "If the others can get them why can't you" seems to be the opinions of the colonists here. Why was this project supplied for a few when 16,000 evacuees were expected? We cannot understand.

Block #8 manager
Seichi Tsuda (signed)

Monday, August 3, 1942.

Had to call meeting of block members in regards to mess. Before calling a meeting, had innumerable complaints regarding actions of different individuals in mess, however, before calling said meeting block manager consulted Mr. Elberson regarding situation when said block manager learned that a petition was being circulated. To kill said petition, block manager called the meeting to order of all the head members of this block to settle the issue as quietly as possible. The situation was settled with the resignation of the chef and some of his assistants after a hectic evening.

Tuesday, August 4, 1942.

(1) Happy to announce that mess hall of Block 10 is now running smoothly after Monday's incident.

(2) Attended ward chairman's meeting.

Wednesday, August 5, 1942.

Taking an inventory of cots, mattresses, etc. in each apartment, however due to tenants being absent and am having quite a time of catching up with some individuals expect to have this inventory complete as soon as possible.

Thursday, August 6, 1942.

(1) Have request from Mr. Frank Yasui of 1013-A for steel cots. Filed report with C.A.S. office. Before filing request through C.A.S., block manager told above Mr. Yasui that the quickest and best way for him to obtain the above cots was to get the "okay" sign from Dr. Carson. However, Mr. Yasui requested that the block manager do everything possible to obtain said cots.

(2) The block manager had quite a number of feminine visitors to see him regarding distribution of laundry soap and water softener. It seems the main question brought up by the feminine visitors was the necessity of buying laundry soap and water softener at the canteen. Of course the block manager told them that as far as he knew, they were to receive one bar of laundry soap and one bar of hand soap eventually. But when the initial supply was exhausted he understood that they were to buy or purchase whatever soaps they use thereafter. Being the fact the Block 10 has not received its initial supply, block manager was very hard put to by the weaker sex. Aftermath of the discussion was to the effect that the block manager of Block 10 was to make a request that all laundry soap and water softener should be supplied by the government. The reason is that due to the low scale wages being paid to workers at present,

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it was very difficult to buy all items needed. Yours truly would appreciate very much if your office would take this matter serious.

(3) Block 74 reported that they have no brooms whatsoever on hand. Am trying to make a survey of Ward 4 to see if we could help out in any way.

(4) It seems that each time that there is trouble in the mess hall, the block manager is always dragged in their affairs. Have consistently told the members of this block and also of the mess hall that a block manager has nothing to do regarding the mess hall. In other words have tried to tell the people that it's not the business of a block manager to interfere with mess troubles but this block manager is up to his neck in troubles regarding mess because of the fact that he has been asked to organize Mess #10.

(5) Attended ward meeting at 1107-D

Friday, August 7, 1942.

Attended first-aid class at 2107-D and was instructed on how to save people from bleeding to death (after finishing above mentioned course probably would make a better doctor than a block manager)

Saturday, August 8, 1942.

As requested previously, the matrons of this block held a meeting in the block manager's office for the purpose of forming a Matron's Club. Block manager was requested to open the meeting and to act as temporary chairman until the women folks could get together. However, after permanent chairman and secretary were appointed block manager being of a different gender, promptly left meeting to women folks and went into seclusion until after the meeting. A request was made by the members of above mentioned club to have paper towels supplied in the latrines because at present time the people are using the toilet tissue to wipe their hands. Disposal of paper towels were discussed and it was decided to prevent waste paper towels being thrown in the bowl, mothers were to instruct their children to dispose towels in receptacles. This being the secretary's day-off, block manager had to run around like a chicken with his head cut off.

Wallace Tsuda

Aug. 10, 1942.

Dance: Mr. Perry Saito, Recreational Leader, approached me whether or not the people of the block approved public dancing in our messhall. Which on my part to find out what the reaction of our block people would be, I told him I am willing to experiment. The dance was held on Saturday night, August 8, 1942. I have not as yet received any complaint to date, seems to me it is all right. Checking further with the mess hall helpers, everything was returned back in place as it should be very satisfactorily on the part of the recreational staff.

Sunday night, August 9, Block Managers, Mr. Tsuda (10) and Bob Murakami (9) honored me with a social visit. During our course of discussion, a stranger entered my office to inquire as to whether the Recorded Symphony hour was to be held in 1620 (Mess Hall). I, not being informed of any program sponsored under the Recreational Department, naturally admitted my ignorance to the specific question. Of course, I was quite embarrassed, in the presence of my fellow managers.

This particular incident would have been forgotten as a passing incident had this stranger left with some gesture of appreciation. Instead, he sarcastically remarked, "All good managers should know or have some information of all the activities that are being held." This remark, I felt were "fighting words"----- being accused of something over which I have no control. Moreover, a matter whose fault lies in the inefficiency and negligence of the Recreational Department. (I am sure all Block Managers agree with me on this point.) I replied, "I think you came here with a chip on your shoulder, I may not be a good Manager under your qualification, so if you're dissatisfied, the door is right behind you. I like a good tough argument but I am not here to argue with anyone not up to my standards, so come around some other time when you are in a good frame of mind."

The foregoing ----- poorly described incident, is not intended to inform you of the rudeness of the stranger, but the moral of the story is, "when is the recreational department going to start on the simple procedure they have been promising to inaugurate for the last two weeks, that is to inform the Block Manager of all the scheduled event."

Being that the men are rather careless with their cigarette stubs and matches, we have posted fire prevention signs on the utility buildings, mess hall and other places where it can be seen by all.

Carpenters installed partitions in the men's lavatory which has been deeply appreciated by the men folks of the block.

Frank M. Furukawa (signed)

August 10, 1942

8/2

A baby boy born to Mr. & Mrs. Y. Oda of #2506-D.

8/2

Representing Ward #2, Block Manager attended funeral service of Mr. Iwasaki's baby of Block #6.

8/4

Mr. Oda's baby passed away this morning around 3:00 A.M.

8/5

Attended Red Cross First Aid class at 1707-D, 10:00 A.M.

8/5

Attended funeral service of Mr. Oda's baby at #2508,
2:00 P.M.

8/7

Attended Block Manager's meeting at 2:00 P.M.

N. Akahoshi
(signed)

August 10, 1942.

Aug. 1 Ever since when did the block manager have to take up the duties of the Housing Division. Is that division so lame that it cannot accomplish its own duties? Why did they pass out a second batch of brooms to some blocks and to others none? It's a fact--I have the block manager's word for it. Must I embarrass someone by mentioning names--those who helped me to get same and others who helped me deliver it.

Aug. 2 First Sunday which seemed like a Sunday. Saw some people flying kites. One person lost hold and the line caught on the power line. Don't you think it is dangerous? It might be wise to have some regulations to fly kites.

The messhall complications, which seems to be endless, has begun to show signs of life again. This time it is not only internal but external as well. If things cannot be brought to a head, I fear for the worst. There is just so much that a person can do to check it. Unless I can have allied help, I will not be able to hold the line.

Aug. 3 Mess Hall trouble continuously. What steps are being taken by the Chief Steward? Has it come to the point where it is being handled like "To h--l with the colonist. They can't get out so they will have to take whatever I dish out to them." The trouble seems to be general for the entire camp and not only 51 and 50. What is the cause? Can't the party who is responsible for the food supplies show in black and white, why the shortage, thereby the chefs can be advised to take the next best course possible. Why is there shortage of supplies in the first place? Weren't we assured of supplies at all times? It is my belief that the colonists can be calmed if the cause were explained properly and if they were assured that after a certain amount of time that it will be normal again--certainly all people are not dumb. Why this uncertain tension? Is it to break the moral and spirit? Let's not come to that. Nothing good ever comes out of such measures. Absolutely not. Lincoln once said, "You can fool some people all of the time, you can fool others sometimes, but certainly not fool all of the people all the time." However, I realize that if we stop to think of the valiant boys "over there," we should not think of ourselves only.

Aug. 4 I need not mention again what happened today. It is ridiculous. The chef, steward, advisory council, and I visited Mr. Luther Stults. He was kind enough to work out a schedule.

For better combustion and for better condition in the

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block, I request that you see the proper authorities for the extension of our utility building chimneys. I know for sure that it is urgent.

There are only two bridges over the canal in Ward 6. I am sure that there exists a great necessity to have one more between block 56 and Block 54. Many people are cutting across the canal, thereby breaking down the levee which eventually has to be fixed. Rather than that let's have a bridge.

Afternoon--ward chairmen meeting at 16.

Aug. 5 With the assistance of neighboring block manager 50 and kitchen crew, I was able to delve further into this unholy mess of a mess trouble. Many of the uncalled for distribution trouble seems to lie with the ward supervisor. If I can produce enough light to this end, I shall see to it that this particular supervisor be brought before Mr. Luther Stults for inquisition and be penalized for utter lack of responsibility. Absolutely.

Afternoon--Ward 6 block managers meeting. Very few showed up. What happened? Nobody received any notices. What happened to my request two days ago? --to have the notices sent to Ward 6. Tabled? Please advise me from now on when you wish to change schedule. Don't you think it so confusion and embarrassing when I know and you can't or viceversa? We held the meeting nevertheless.

When is this ward to receive its share of ironing boards? Soon, I hope.

Received late this afternoon about the ward meeting. Dr. Carson and Kendall Smith, speakers.

Aug. 6 Went to 5607. No one showed up from the office. Held another meeting nevertheless. What happened again? Let's not create this type of house sitting habit. Speaking of meeting--the central committee meeting of which I had the pleasure of attending twice is sometimes like the second one which I had the honor of conducting in my ward. Don't you think the parties who carries the "personal toss backs" is carrying it a little too far. Sometimes I think it is not even funny.

Received 16 ironing boards. It certainly is heaven-sent

Just a suggestion from Ward 6. The cast iron stoves which came in just recently should be distributed to the blocks which has not stoves. In other blocks where there are some kind of heating facilities they can break the chills, but those who haven't any well--they aren't supermen.

August 10, 1942.

Aug. 7 Mr. Robert Ota dropped in late last evening and mentioned about the census which is to be taken over again on account of some certain block's misconduct. It is to be held from 6 a.m. Hope the Housing Department will finish it at a reasonable time.

I had the opportunity of visiting many blocks of various wards and found to my utter amazement the piles after piles of lumber (if you term the splinters we have received couple of times as lumber, the piles I refer to is Al lumber) against their barracks and still, mind you, they are getting pieces which can be utilized for making benches and shelves. What in the h--l is the matter with somebody who takes care of the distribution? Let's make a chart showing which blocks really need some small pieces of lumber to make their apartments more comfortable places to live in. Then you can give splinters for firewood to blocks which has a good substantial supply of lumber against their apartments. Pan me if I am absolutely out of order.

Visited canteen at 41. Was I dumbstruck. Very charming clerks and manly personnel, but what really struck me like a lightning bolt was that there were counters, shelves, and so forth. After hearing all about the lumber shortage, priority and No. 1 lumber and all that sort of blah-blahs. We still see shelves, counters, and so forth in canteens. Is the canteen more vital for home comforts or making small household necessities for the apartments? Please to give me some sort of light on this subject. You may say the canteen is for the colonists' benefit. Yes, but did you ever stop to think that the administration can hold it off for a while at least? This is my understanding and I believe it could be worked out.

Attended Red Cross mass meeting at 5108.

Received more complaints. This time from both sides. More Power to you!

Aug. 17, 1942.

The thoughts of the people are turning towards winter. The demands for winter's preparation will mount. If the office can be one jump ahead of the people in preparing them for winter, everything will be peaceful. As it is now, I am receiving polite queries concerning their welfare for this winter, which, rumor has made, is near-Arctic. These queries will become polite requests and eventually into insistent demands. Please forestall.

How? By giving them the things now! (i.e. fuel, stoves, etc.)

A Block Mgr.'s position is becoming more and more disagreeable to me and at times becomes almost untenable. I feel that I am incapable at times.

I need a much more tangible and prompt support from the office. Sometimes I feel as they're letting me down.

I am teaching my secretary to do most of the routine mechanical jobs connected with my office and I am occupied mostly with public relations. As time passes this will become more and more evident.

Such being the case, I shall come to you for advice, and I shall expect a sincere, closer cooperation; even if you have to go out of your way. Dealings with people at its best is a touchy problem.

I don't want to feel I've been frustrated or side-stepped when I come to you with these problems.

Sunday 8-10

Due to a huge cyclone, several windows were broken.

I suggest that the construction dept. place foot-rests on each utility house. Otherwise it is very dangerous for the chimney sweepers.

Monday 8-11

I followed the usual routine of going to the Ad-Bldg. in the morning. After lunch I informed our block councilmen that we were having a meeting at the block manager's office to inform them about things of interest which were heard at the main council meeting.

One of the chief topics were about the cloth supply for the people, especially the larger family.

Tuesday 8-12

First thing I did today was to collect all the immunization cards, which have not been turned into the hospital. At the same time I turned in my requisition to the Ad-Bldg.

I suggest that water be sprinkled around the barracks to prevent the dust from flying around into the house and on the clean clothes on the lines.

Wednesday 8-13

I asked the utility man to help barricade the house of those who were unable to get any help to do this.

Today I attended the second lesson in First Aid Class. I enjoy this compulsory act because there is much to be learned.

Thursday 8-14

Today I made a special trip from house to house to see if there was anyone in trouble, sick, or if they needed any special attention.

At night I attended our first get together party for the block managers. The party was a great success and I really enjoyed it to the full extent. I hope we can have more get-together parties often.

Friday 8-15

This morning the screen-put-up crew started work on this block. In order to finish their job quickly and easily to get along their job, I went from door to door and told the residents to put away the things that are in the way. Then they could accomplish the job that much faster.

Also I called the hospital for a emergency case for a pregnant woman who had started to feel her pains.

August 17, 1942.

Saturday 8-16

Mr. G. Yamumuro and I went to the hospital to have an interview with Dr. Harada who is in charge of the Base Hospital at the present time, as Mr. Yamamuro lost a new borne baby which died instantly right after she delivered her baby. Also we went to see Mr. Nojima who is working in the Ad-Bldg as the Social-Welfare Dept. From this interview we made some arrangement for the funeral.

Today all block manager were called by Mr. Paul Fleming to be his advised on the problem concerning the labor despute. This involved the farmers and construction workers, this occurance was the first incident in this center.

Blk. Manager Tom. Maekawa

Aug. 17, 1942.

Saturday, August 8, 1942.

General assistance. I have made an emergency call to the hospital in the morning. There has been continuous trouble in our mess hall concerning movement of people from one mess hall to another. Although the Block Manager were advised to stay clear of the mess hall problems, I found it concerning the block members and repeated pleas to adapt some method to prevent other block members from coming to our mess hall; therefore depriving our block members their share. I went about gathering materials to make tickets and issued them to each members of our block in numerical order. Survey of this system proved to be very satisfactory.

Sunday, August 9, 1942.

General Assistance. Being Sunday I found it my opportunity to mingle among the block members and discuss different things. Judging from my observation our councilman and I have decided to hold a block meeting for general discussion on Monday, August 9. For the reason that there seemed to be much questions upon the unpaid cash advance and acute clothing necessities.

Monday, August 10, 1942.

General assistance. A problem of one member of my block living with relatives continues to be a matter which caused discomfort and irritation. So I have made special efforts to make an early adjustment by arrangements through the cooperation of this particular member to make a change of address. I reported this to the Housing Department and received acknowledgement and hoping that this adjustment will cause no further ill feelings. At the block meeting I presided to the best of my ability in Japanese for the simple reason that all the attended were Isseis. The question that were brought forth by members concerning regular matters were as follow: (1) The dire need of cash advances and allowances of W.R.A. and W.C.C.A. (2) The dire needs of clothings. (3) The food problem. (4) The supply of soaps both toilet and laundry. (5) The necessary need of lumber for furnitures. These are the important factor which we discussed. Between the councilman and I, we managed to answer and explain the delay to the best of our knowledge. Several requests and demands were very strong with heated discussions. As a block manager I did my best to uphold their confidence and patience toward receiving these dire needs. As my personal statement this situation must be adjusted and taken into consideration in every way and taken care of immediately. The great majority of the block members are in dire needs of cash advance and clothing are wearing out rapidly.

Aug. 17, 1942.

Tuesday, August 11, 1942.

General assistance. There had been previous discussions and requests made concerning privacy in the men's toilet. Many request were made to have partition of some sort constructed between each bowl. Regarding this matter I have sent a letter to the administration building inquiring about the possibilities of its construction.

Wednesday, August 12, 1942.

General assistance. Made an emergency call to the hospital and found that system has greatly improved as a whole. Some kindling wood was delivered to our block to be used for the showers and laundry rooms, but some of the kindling wood was usable; therefore we had some difficulties in keeping the members from walking off with them, but finally persuaded them to leave the pile as it is until it was chopped and repiled.

Thursday, August 13, 1942.

General assistance. My constant checkup on the bath rooms and toilets has proof that their is necessities of use of some sort of disinfectant. I have suggested in my previous report that such condition existed, but nothing has been done as yet. At first, it did not affect so much, but the constant use of the facilities has add to the discomfort and possibilities of disease development from these neglected areas. Some possible step toward further sanitation would be greatly appreciated. There was our regular ward meeting held this afternoon with discussion concerning our block of ward IV.

Friday, August 14, 1942.

General assistance. Attended First Aid class in Building 2107-D from 10:00 A.M. to noon. As we go on our lessons I find that such lesson will prove very useful to the entire public.

Jack Takahashi (signed)

Aug. 17, 1942.

8/8--Held meeting of Ladies' Club at Block Manager's office after lunch about giving Mess workers a chance to take a hike Sunday.

8/9--#25 Mess workers went on hike today. Everybody pitched in and helped at the mess, things turned very smoothly.

8/11--Block Manager went to Blk. Mgr.'s meeting at 2:30 P.M.

8/13--Went to Red Cross class at 10:00 A.M.

8/14--Went to Block Manager's Meeting at #26, Friday at 2:30 P.M.

8/14--Had an advisory Committee's Meeting at Block Manager's office, Friday night, at 7:30 P.M.

8/14--Went to Special meeting in the morning at Administration Building.

8/12--Attended Block Managers' get-together Party with family and secretary, at #23 Mess Hall, Wednesday, at 7:30 P.M. Party a huge success.

8/15--Mr. Kazuo Ueda came back from New Mexico to join his family at #2503-A.

N. Akahoshi (signed)

August 17, 1942.

Aug. 8 In the morning, I paid the administration a visit. Afternoon--went around with the Ward Secretary, Hiroshi Nakayama, to get some brooms; four brooms from William Teramoto--a good start.

The long awaited sheet rocks came at last. The smiles on the colonists' faces are enough to make your tears roll; but this is only one side of the story for us block managers. Boy, I can feel the headaches coming--nails, 2x2, sheet rocks, carpenter efficiency.

Aug. 9 Sunday, or is it? Missed the Service again.

Aug. 10 Do not recall--blank.

Aug. 13 Exactly one month since the first heartache day. Meant to celebrate in my own way, but very fortunately our block managers' Get-together took care of it very nicely. Such coincidence--what do you think?

Aug. 14 Most of the activities through this week I cannot recall. Sheet rock griefs, 2x2 shortage, plaster board nails kept me on its points. No pains, but a bunch of nuisances--headaches. Carpenter crews forgetting to leave surplus nails, making it difficult to obtain same because of block quota. I believe leaving of plaster board nails and other sizes with the block manager is taboo. If three pounds is the amount required to finish one apartment, have the nails conveniently weighed so the block manager can ration out same, morning and noon shift to each crew. Try it once. It worked out fine these last two days. However, I am at a loss as to how to discourage carpenter crews from conveniently borrowing our share of 2x2. They seem to take it home and forget to bring them back. Possibly, the best way is to ration out the 2x2 to each apartment and let the tenant be responsible for same. This means a hell of a lot of work for yours truly.

After seeing several fires, I am beginning to feel the necessity of fire drills. Yes, very urgently. The best time for a drill is right now when the recent fire is still fresh in the minds of the colonists.

Aug. 17, 1942

I received a memorandum from you stating that Mrs. Goto was hospitalized and that her illness was confirmed, but early last week she was back home. I immediately went to Mr. Jacoby for the people were on my neck and coming in with more complaints. About three days later, she was called back to the hospital, but why did they send her back home after telling me that she was hospitalized? After all, for a bad case of T B it is better for the patient as well as the protection of the people that Mrs. Goto is hospitalized.

A report was in from Sheehan's office asking how much lumber we needed, and as far as 58 block is concerned, we need all the lumber we can get for the comfort of a home. Most of us have no tables or chairs or even shelves, partitions, closets, etc.

Mr. Sheehan's department has stated that Ward 6 will be finished before they start on Ward 7 in regard to the sheet rocks for the apartment. We know that they are out of sheet rocks so as soon as they get them, I hope they will keep their promise, for out of 260 people in Block 58, 61 are under ten years of age, and the average age is 4 years old. Many of the parents are worried for the cold spell is coming, and they know that there aren't any sheet rocks.

The mess hall in our block is doing very nicely since 57 mess opened up, and no one can complain about the service, although we could stand some more food.

Yours truly,

Kaz Yamane (signed)

Aug. 17, 1942

The week-end, Saturday and Sunday was uneventful except to answer inquiries and go thru the routine work. However, from Monday the faint rumbling of a mess hall trouble started to loom in the horizon.

The climax came on Friday night when the block held a meeting and asked that the crew in the mess hall be changed from outsiders to those who live within the block. They said that since only enough food was appropriated for those living in the block, the crew was cutting in on the block's share of food. Also, the members of the crew bring their friends to eat which doesn't alleviate the situation any. Another thing was that the preparation of food was poorly done and the waiters and waitresses were negligent and careless in their duties. In other words, the whole crew should be fired for incompetency. A committee was formed to bring up charges.

Another thing that was discussed was serving refreshments to the sheet rock carpenters. A 50¢ per apartment fee was voted on. The meeting ended with a hub-hub of nothingness.

M. Hashiguchi (signed)

Aug. 24, 1942.

The only eventful occurrence was the cooperative meeting held this past week. The people were very much interested in the functions and management of "co-ops." The queries the people put to the two representatives of the "Co-op" were indicative of a very vague knowledge of "Co-ops" and corporations.

But on the whole, the active interest and voice they had in the meeting was very encouraging.

There are now very few complaints. The people are at present quite tolerant of conditions concerning pay, food, etc., and other grievances they have had.

The requisitions are still too slow in its execution.

Aug. 24, 1942.

The problem of banking dirt or sand around the barracks were discussed at a block meeting held Wednesday, August 19. A foreman working on the farm project suggested that all block members of Block 10 get together on Sunday, August 30 and do the above mentioned job. He also said that due to the Block Manager's inability of obtaining shovels, he would try to obtain 10 or 15 shovels to do the work with. The head janitor also stated that a number of shovels could be obtained from the fire department for use in banking dirt around the barracks. It was finally decided that both above mentioned persons try to obtain the necessary shovels and that the work would be started and finished Sunday, August 30.

Have a very nasty problem on hand; due to the inability of the Block Manager in obtaining toilet soaps and laundry soap, a few women of this block brought their problems to the Social Welfare Department and they were advised to petition for the supplies needed. This petition was brought to the attention of the Block Manager when it was brought to the Block Manager's wife for signature. Block Manager, however, decided to dissuade using petition in obtaining above articles but due to the fact that petitionists were so set in following through, Block Manager did not forcibly refrain them. The Block Manager sincerely regrets that this incident had to take place, however, in all fairness I am hoping that the petitioners may get their wishes fulfilled so that the Block Manager may be able to have pleasant dreams instead of nightmares.

Am wondering what became of the issue regarding paper towels. Women using latrines are still using toilet tissue to dry their hands.

Have very urgent requests from block members for mop heads. If humanly possible, kindly rush 30 mop heads to Block 10. Have distress flag flying high.

Wallace Tsuda (signed)

Aug. 24, 1942.

Aug. 15 - Saturday:

1. Mr. Watanabe's housing problem finally solved.
 - a. At first the hospital would not take up the case stating that he is not a medical case.
 - b. Social Welfare would not take up saying if hospital can not provide, there is no facility set up in the project to take care of such case.
 - c. After three weeks of "run around" it is found that such case is taken care at the base hospital.
 - d. In order to get action on this case, the block manager had to go as far as to act as a messenger boy to get any results.
 - e. Why couldn't the staff at the administration cooperate or, at least, get together.

Aug. 16 - Sunday:

Aug. 17 - Monday:

1. To avoid family trouble anticipated if he stayed at his present place, Mr. Hashimoto has requested to move. His wish was fulfilled after approval by the Housing Department.

Aug. 18 - Tuesday:

1. Mrs. Osada requested to be moved to his friends' "home" in the other ward. Reason being that all his room mates (being batchelors) are young and can not get along together aimiably. Request granted by the Housing Department.

Aug. 19 - Wednesday:

1. As usual, report from the block councilmen was heard, and the requests of the colonists of the block given to him.
2. Again, the people expressed their anxiety of their winter clothing and food storage.
3. The people felt that the councilmen's action in taking such measure as to vote to divorce itself from taking over the coop etc., should be consulted to the people first.

Aug. 20- Thursday:

Aug. 21 - Friday:

1. As for request by the Placement Office, the employable^{up} employed survey of the block was made and reported.

William Teramoto (signed)

Aug. 24, 1942.

- 8/17--Block Manager attended funeral service of Mr. Buichi Kaihara, 2:00 P.M. at #2808.
- 8/18--Formed a softball team for men, 40 years and up, from Block #25, named Akahoshi All Stars.
- 8/18--Had Central Ward's meeting at Block Manager's office, Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 P.M. Mrs. Halle attended.
- 8/19--Went to Red Cross class at 10:00 A.M.
- 8/19--Had Advisory Committee meeting at Block Manager's office, Wednesday night, at 7:15 P.M.
- 8/21--Went to Block Manager's meeting, Friday at 2:30 P.M.

N. Akahoshi
(signed)

Aug. 24, 1942.

Sunday 8/16

When I surveyed around the houses I found out that the broken windows were still unfixed. I cannot figure out what causes the delay of fixing them.

I suggest that the maintenance dept. should keep few material on hand for urgent repair jobs.

Monday 8/17

This morning on the way back from the Ad-Bldg., I stopped at the hospital. I visited with a few patients who were confined in special wards. It seems to me that they are all receiving very good care from the hospital staff.

Tuesday 8/18

The maintenance dept. should carry through our requests without delay. Otherwise we have more trouble. One example of this concerns the ironing boards which has been put up some time ago, but they are still unusable because they are not padded.

Wednesday 8/19

Today I attended the first aid class which is a compulsory education. We learned a lot of complex lessons (bandage-applying tourniquits, etc.)

I understood that an operator was at the switch board 24 hours daily. But today I found out that no one was on the service at the time I called. It was about 8:00 O'clock P.M. What could I do without telephone service in case of fire. By the time I reach a fire station to report a fire the house will burn down to the ground.

Thursday 8/20

I made a proposal to the construction division that window holders should be placed in each individual apt., because we have so many cases of broken window glasses. This is caused by wind-storms. If we have adequate window holders then it would not happen so often. I presume it will stop entirely. Today I received a few deodorants from the maintenance dept. to be placed in the womens and mens lavatories. It seems to me we have very sanitary wash rooms now.

Friday 8/21

Our usual block manager's meeting was held at Frank Furukawa's office. The main topic pertained to have the W.R.A insure the colonists property in case they meet up with fire disaster. In the evening we held a block massmeeting. The purpose of this meeting was to get full explanation of the coop system, which will materialize in the near future in this city. After Mr. Nojima the co-op leader stated this co-op question clearly and plainly, the majority of people in my block were in favor of this plan.

Tom Maekawa (typed)

#40 Block Manager 's Report

August 24, 1942

Block Age Census

Below 1.....6	35.....1
1.....3	36.....2
2.....2	37.....2
3.....1	38.....2
4.....3	39.....3
5.....3	40.....7
6.....1	41.....3
7.....1	42.....2
8.....1	43.....1
9.....5	44.....
10.....3	45.....4
11.....3	46.....2
12.....4	47.....4
13.....2	48.....1
14.....3	49.....2
15.....3	50.....3
16.....7	51.....2
17.....12	52.....5
18.....10	53.....1
19.....6	54.....4
20.....9	55.....6
21.....16	56.....5
22.....6	57.....1
23.....6	58.....2
24.....4	59.....1
25.....5	60.....3
26.....6	61.....4
27.....7	62.....6
28.....2	63.....4
29.....2	64.....1
30	65.....1
31	66.....1
32.....1	67.....1
33	
34	

Block Age census.

Below 1. \square 1

1 \square
 2 \square
 3 1
 4 \square
 5 \square
 6 1
 7 1
 8 1
 9 \square
 10 \square
 11 \square
 12 \square
 13 \square
 14 \square
 15 3
 16 4
 17 12
 18 10
 19 6
 20 9
 21 16
 22 6
 23 6

#40 Bm Rpt
 8/24/42.

24 4 50-3
 25 5 51-2
 26 6 52-5
 27 7 53-1
 28 2 54-4
 29 2 55-6
 30 2 56-5
 31 2 57-1
 32 1 58-2
 33 1 59-1
 34 1 60-3
 35 - 1 61-4
 36 - 2 62-6
 37 - 2 63-4
 38 - 2 64-1
 39 - 3 65-1
 40 - 7 66-1
 41 - 3 67-1
 42 - 2
 43 - 1
 44 - 4
 45 - 2
 46 - 4
 47 - 1
 48 - 2

August 31, 1942

#4 Block Manager's Report

MEMO

To: Mr. D. Elberson
From: Ralph H. Shinbo #4
Subject: Weekly report ending August 28, 1942.

Day after Mr. Shirrell's talk to the Block Managers, I held a mass meeting in our messhall. I conveyed to them the essential points of Mr. Shirrell's informatio; also Mr. McEntire's explanation on work apportunities.

For the first time a mass meeting did not release heated arguments, pro nor con. The information I passed on to them was very well received.

This week we experienced a toilet paper shortage. To permit such shortages to occur is indicative of a lax maintenance department. Please see that it does not occur again.

WEEKLY REPORT

8-24

I made suggestion that the maintenance dept. should supply matches for each boiler-man.

I attended the community forum. Topic was "Should be married or should not be married".

8-25

I visited a patient at the hospital. I gave first-aid to the patient.

I attended a special block manager's meeting summoned by Mr. Don Elberson to hear Mr. McEntire's speech. Subject was to encourage the people who wishes to work in the sugar-beet field.

8-26

In the morning all block managers were called by Mr. E. Shirrell in order to give us new results. Which were discussed at recent all project director's conference held in San Francisco.

8-27

Sent in a requisition for repairing roof leaks and window pane jobs.

Some resident in block #5 caught a porcupine this morning. This rare animal sure is making a popular place of our block.

We held the block advisory meeting in my office.

8-28

I attended a weekly block Manager's meeting and we consulted several new problems.

I made a special arrangement for those who are working in the mess hall so they could go out from this camp for hiking and sight seeing.

8-29

I announced several subjects to the block people in our mess hall.

A-Mr. Shirrells' speech at the out door stage.

B-Changed address of mass meet for health education.

C-Changed schedule of meal hour.

I suggest that since we burn coal I feel it much necessary to have a coal bucket and shovel.

Manager Block #5

Tom Maekawa.

WEEKLY REPORT

It was a great shock when we heard that one of our residents had passed away. For a few moments I did not know what to do. I went to my Advisory Council first to inform them about the sad news and then consulted them as to what to do about the funeral. They all expressed their deepest sympathy to the family that lost their grandfather.

Next morning before the Administration office opened, I went to ask what the Social Welfare Department will do for us. It was a big surprise to me that they are very polite--expressing their regret to the family and willing to help us with the arrangement of the funeral.

Funeral arrangement is a very difficult task for anyone to prepare. For instance; to arrange the Hall and the time of the funeral, ordering the flower for the family and friends, and transportation for chairs, benches, tables, and a piano. The above things mentioned were easily done with the cooperation of the Social Welfare Department and I want to express my sincere gratitude to them.

Then we appointed a head of the funeral service through the aid of the three advisory councilmen, the block councilman, and myself. The head of the funeral service, the four councilmen, and I worked together as a committee. We fixed the Weake Night Chairman, Funeral Chairman and programs accordingly.

For the funeral service we had a lot to do even after we got the chairman; we discussed about the program to set the people at a certain place so that the program can fit to a regular form. It was a great surprise that the Hall was filled with the people who expressed their sorrowness. This shows how much the people of the block will cooperate with us and support us when some unusual thing happens.

I again want to express my deepest thanks to the workers of the Social Welfare and to the residents of my block for the cooperation and sincere attitude toward me in order to make the funeral service a great success.

I regret that I was unable to attend for the special meeting which Mr. Shirrell called for us concerning the report from the Regional Conference at San Francisco.

Fortunately I found some news concerning about it through our Daily Dispatch and especially Saturday afternoon when I attended the mass meeting of all the colonists at the outdoor platform. It was great news for all the colonists to know that we will receive subsistence free of charge, improvement of wage scale for the common laborers, clothing allowances granted to each member of the family, allowance for disabled person, opportunities for ~~nisess~~ to work outside of the Western Defense Area, and opportunities for Isseis to go out as a group. I wish we could help the shortage of labor to our fullest capacity so that we will do our part to win the victory in this desperate war.

#25 Block Manager's Report

August 31, 1942

8/25--Went to Managers' meeting at 2.30 pm.

8/26-Attended special meeting called by Mr. Shirrell, at #2307, Wednesday, at 8:00 A.M.

8/26--Went to Red Cross class at 10:00 A.M.

8/27--Held ad Advisory Committees' meeting at manager's office, Thursday, at 7:30 P.M.

8/29--Selected Grace Matsune of #25170C for our representative as queen, from Mess #25.

#25 Block Manager

N. Akahoshi (signed)

September 7, 1942

2.08

To: Don Elbers on

FROM: Ralph H. Shimbo #4

SUBJECT: Weekly report ending September 4, 1942

Coal became the topical football thrown into the block managers' hands by Mr. J. O. Hayes to be kicked around from the block managers to the people and into the council's laps.

The goal, the delivery of the football, "coal"; at this writing, was only partially gained.

The colonists are not clear as to their status in this camp. The minds and thoughts and actions of the people has become fraught with the influence of certain types of the first generation whose intelligence and understandings are biased.

From such dangerous ground has sprung a poison oak whose branches have spread out and cast shadows over all and have subsequently dropped acorns from which have sprung saplings of poisonous doctrines.

Any all out war effort must spring from a sincere heart for all out support and cooperation.

A people foundering in a quagmire of uncertainty, engendered by rumors and counter-rumors, watered with indecisive actions of the administration and the responsible internees cannot be expected to be spontaneous with their cooperation.

A nation conceived as ours is; yours, mine, the negroes, Indians, Chinese, and all the nationalities which comprise the conglomerate mass that is the American people; conceived upon the principles of freedom, of democracy must voluntarily, not forced, take upon his individual self the sacrifice which this war requires.

Each one of us here in camp must mobilize his person for an all out war effort--and to this end, each and all of us must be informed. Informed so that we may understand.

That is where I feel that Mr. Hayes and the administration has failed. Thus the situation "Coal".

We, Japanese-Americans, are a minority. We wish to show our earnest desire to contribute our help.

Those few of us are becoming overwhelmed by those whose faith has become colored. The democratic government of a colony such as ours can be overwhelmed by a majority whose ideas are tainted or

associate the idea that the "American Way" is a repetetive action of a nature of the forced evacuation and uprooting of their American way of living.

To put it in the words of the lay-man, "Come out and tell us in front what our part is in this war."

You and I and the others who have the interest of the nation at heart have a job cut out for us. Let us educate and inform so that the people may fully understand.

WEEKLY REPORT FROM BLOCK #5

8/31

I filed my weekly report in Mr. Don Elberson's new office, which is located at 1608.

I spent some time campaigning for our queen candidate, Toshiko Namba.

I went to the public health meeting, which was held at 1720. Dr. Carlson spoke on (How to prevent Tuberculosis.)

9/1

I made a request for clothes for the block utility man through the construction division.

An urgent block meeting was held to discuss the labor dispute which concerned the shoveling of coal. We had a very tough time to settle this matter.

9/2

This morning I attended the coal discussion group meeting. It was really a complex session. Finally we all decided to recruit volunteers to shovel coal. We had a pretty tough time to disclose the seriousness of this question. As leaders in this movement all block mgr. showed their cooperation and shoveled coal the first night.

9/3

I made a schedule of the coal crew for our block. At night I went to the coal shed with the coal workers and checked the trucks to where they were to unload the coal in order to have equal distribution within our ward.

9/4

I spent almost all day in surveying housing accommodations. I found out that some people need more blankets for the coming Winter season.

I suggest that the laundress should have boots supplied to them from the warehouse in order to keep their feet dry and comfortable.

9/5

I made a suggestion that the coal crew should obtain proper eye protection, because so many workers are suffering from coal dust in their eyes.

I applied first aid to a boy who received a head injury and took him to the hospital.

I would like to make a suggestion pertaining to the laundry room. If possible could the maintenance crew put clothes wringers on couple of the tubs to make clothes wringing easier. (Especially for old folks.)

Block Manager
Tom Maekawa

#8 Block Manager's Report

~~August~~
September 8, 1942

To: Mr. Don Elberson
From: Block #8
Subject: Weekly Report

Within the next few days we are hoping the "coal situation" will have fizzled itself out. The colonists have given us their full support and cooperation on this vital issue but the feeling seems to be of expecting better cooperation from the WRA. Many feel that a little foresight on the part of those responsible might have avoided this situation. But to right the wrong the colonists are willing to help if they are assured of undivided cooperation from the WRA. This is not the first instance that demnaded the colonist's aid and cooperation. We hope the WRA will attempt to foresee and prepare for situations which are undoubtedly bound to come up.

On August 29th the colonists heard from Mr. Shirell of the new plans and proposals which were submitted at the meeting in San Francisco- mainly clothing allowance issue for each evacuee. The colonists were pleased to learn of the proposals but are now wondering if this will turn out to be another WRA "promise". We have not as yet received words of the new proposal for clothing allowance being in effect. They wish to be notified by M. Shirell the date which the clothing allowance will take effect and how soon the scripts will be issued. No doubt the preparations are being carried on, but we would wish to be advised of the progress and accomplishment. With so much unrest among the colonists we feel that there should be every effort made to bring into effect the proposed plan. They do not want WRA "promises," but they want justified action.

The coloists here have been receiving news from other relocation and assembly centers that they are enjoying movies quite regularly- movies that were released within the past few years. They are asking why we are not afforded the enjoyment of movies when the other centers are able to obtain films. Is it because this administration does not want us to enjoy movies? Could it be that Tulalake WRA did not try to obtain films and projector for us? Regardless of excuses, we know the colonists would enjoy and appreciate whatever movies you may be able to obtain for them. A speical effort now and then may go a long ways in uplifting the spirits and morale of the colonists.

Block 8

S. Tsuda (signed)

September 8, 1942

#9 Block Manager's Report

TO: Mr. Don Elberson

DATE: 9-7-42

FROM: Block Manager #9

SUBJECT: Weekly Report Ending September 5, 1942

On Tuesday afternoon, at 1:00 p.m., a special meeting was called for all Block Managers of Ward IV at 1007-D. Mr. Wallace Tsuda, our ward chairman, came back from the ward meeting with a message saying that, beginning Wednesday night each block is to send three volunteers each night to help unload coal until something is done about the shortage of coal workers. At 4:00 p.m. I called a meeting of the advisors of Block #9 and after discussing the situation with them, we all agreed to cooperate with the administration and do what we could to help out in this emergency.

On Wednesday morning attended the Block Manager's special meeting at 1609 and was informed by our chairman, Mr. Frank Furukawa, that the council committee is asking the administration to get some mechanical means to unload coal, and is also asking for more money and shorter hours to the coal workers in order to get more men to work in the coal crew.

Since the coal was here and it was up to us to unload it, we all agreed to hold a block meeting and try to get the cooperation of the people.

I called a block meeting at 6:30 p.m. of all the people capable of coal work and everyone was willing to help out for the next four nights as set by our council committee. We drew numbers to determine the order by which we should volunteer. The Block Manager and the Councilman volunteered to go the first night as suggested by the central committee.

At 8:00 p.m. went to unload coal and found most every block managers and councilmen there. Mr. Don Elberson and Mr. Joe Hayes were also there to help us out with the truck problem.

On Thursday attended the regular Ward IV Block Manager's meeting at 1107-D.

Friday, 10:00 a.m. went to First Aid class in 2107-D and waited until 10:30, but the instructor did not show up. I wonder if he went to shovel coal the night before?

Friday night at 7:00 p.m. went to help unload coal.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robert Murakami

#10 Block Manager's Report

September 8, 1942

To: Community Service
From: Block 10
Subject: Weekly Report (From Aug. 31 to Sept. 5)

Due to an emergency coal situation, report for week previous was neglected because Block Manager had to report to work on coal duty.

Regarding the coal situation, Block Manager of Block 10 along with the rest of the managers got into hot water through a misunderstanding of details regarding acceptance of voluntary work. This situation was cleared up by holding a block meeting with the assistance of block Councilman. The situation was clearly laid before the members of this block and explained to them the necessity of unloading the coal cars as soon as possible. It was further explained to the block members at this meeting the relationship between the people of the block versus the block manager as there was some misunderstanding on the part of the people regarding the acceptance of any plan by the block manager. The relationship between the people and the councilman was also fully explained so that hereafter no misunderstanding of this nature would occur again. After a heated session, the people of this block realized the full importance of the coal situation and offered to cooperate in the best way possible. Both the councilman and block manager asked for volunteers with the understanding that younger persons answer the roll call first. The cooperation showed by the younger members was 100%. They themselves requested that even though they had to work more than once a week, they would be willing to do so if their fathers or other older members of this block be excused from work. After the work was started, it was rather a problem for the block manager to keep the younger members from going to work every night. As you can see by the number of workers on the volunteer coal crew, it was impossible to regulate the number of workers to three. However, to keep peace in the family, the block manager had to compromise in the best possible way. Block manager also went out to work every night in coal detail.

The monthly meeting of the Women's Club was held September 5, and again the committee from this organization requested that the block manager do his utmost best in obtaining paper towels for the latrines and also a wind-break be put up in front of all latrines. The purposes of both a shield from the storms and also plain decency. Also that hand basins be supplied to this block.

....

September 8, 1942

August 30,--September 5, 1942

DON ELBERSON
WEEKLY REPORT
Frank Furukawa, Block #16

During the week we have concentrated on the coal unloading crew. At the first meeting of the block to organize a voluntary group of permanent coal crew of three men, there have been quite a bit of discussion. During the discussion of voluntary crew, people requested for each member at work on the coal crew during the night once, take a day off prior and a day off after the date of the night they get on this coal crew. Since, if three permanent crew could not be hired or selected, it was decided that the voluntary crew of three men will appear to work in turns. On the same night our meeting was held, since the request of the people, I forgot it was the Council Man's problem I reported this to our block representative. At the following meeting held in our block, these same persons asking for the two days off for one nights work, demanded an answer. Since the committee of the Council members are still in the midst of trying to get together with the WRA staff to work out this problem of coal unloading, these above mentioned request, I could not answer. Therefore, I explained to the people that this subject is being worked out by the body of the Council and Mr. Joe Hayes. Just a few of the people jumped on my neck, saying if the people of the block request the Block Manager to take up a certain problem, not only this coal situation with the WRA or if the Block Manager should call the meeting and preside at the meeting, they insisted that it was the duty of the Block Manager to make this his personal obligation to the people that it is taken care of personally by the block Manager. Otherwise, they even remarked that if the Block Manager ~~is not quite obligated that far~~ could not full-fill this, he is not the person the block could respect or depend upon. Being a Block Manager, it seems to me like the duty and the function of the Block Manager are not quite obligated that far. The Nisei people understands the duties of the Block Manager but the Issei, not all but a larger per cent figures Block Managers as being as much as Mayor of the block. Of course in the event that I should full-fill my duty, all I have to do is to explain the duties of the Block Manager and be done with it. But since the people requests this and I am still holding this position, it is my duty to help them along, even at sometimes it should be beyond my official manual of the Block Manager. Thinking the thing over, in ~~in~~ the event that I wish to hold a block meeting the subject should be the problem by the block representative and the Block Manager or even as far as any subject, I have finally decided to be more

September 8, 1942

cautious, I will hold no meeting unless my block representative should preside at the meeting with me. So the only answer to the people I made at that time was, "I understand you all". At the third meeting of the block after three permanent men have been found for the coal crew, which eliminates the voluntary crew at night, meeting was very smooth and satisfactory. This shows these few people that raised the rumpus was not only interested in be-half of the block, just brought out the point that they argued with a bum beef just because they did not want to go to work on the coal, not even once a month. Seems to me like these few people that raised the rumpus at the second meeting felt guilty or thought the matter over or saw the different point of view of what they demanded, they walked up to me several times to talk to me and pat me on the back. Even so, they won't catch me on the limb, If I can help it.

Since the change of meal schedule in our messhall, we are having a little difficulty in our block. Mess workers for some reason or other close the side doors so the only entrance could be from the end. Elderly people are complaining because three times a day they are walking double distance full length of the building, where they can see no reason they should be forced to walk to the end doors, of what use are the side doors? Talking to the Chief Waitress, as yet, the reason for closing the side doors, I can't see it. But at the same time the people is hollering at the senior steward and the chief waitress, I am stepping out of the picture.

September 8, 1942
Blk. #19
Ted Ito

WEEKLY REPORT

It was September 1 when we were told to have a special ward meeting. Our Ward Chairman said, "This is very important so may I have everybody's attention, please?"

The coal situation is very critical without saying in further detail about the carloads after carloads of coal which are left behind for us. We understood that the hauling of coal is way behind. He said, "We do not have enough coal workers so we have to get a volunteer coal crew."

He told us to go home and have a block meeting to decide what to do about the situation. So we had a block meeting concerning this matter.

We all had different opinions, some said "no" and others said "yes". The meeting almost seemed uncontrolled; finally, our councilman stood and emphasized that this is a critical emergency case and carloads overstocked should be unloaded no matter what it is in order to cooperate with the transportation facilities and to help the national defense.

Then the watch said seven o'clock at which time we promised to start hauling the coal. We three boys went to work till late at midnight. As you know we made a very good record that you officers enjoyed very much.

The next night we had another meeting to line up a regular schedule for a temporary coal crew. We had a few objections to sent out voluntary crew but the majority of the people consented in sending out men for this work. The three persons to be picked were to be taken from barrack to barrack according to the number of men in each apartment.

Of course this is a temporary measure and if it continues longer than the people expect, then it will be impossible to continue this job unless the WRA will provide a certain opportunity for the crew, such as using coal-hopper or a conveyor which is a mechanical means. This is war time. All these instruments are not available due to priorities. But we are not accustomed to work without machine. The idea does not clear away from our minds yet that it is our country that we have plenty of money, machines, and natural resources but we must conserve them. So it is natural that the coal crew would expect some kind of mechanical device to shovel coal from the train to the truck.

September 8, 1942

If the army cannot prepare the machines, then we all have to recruit at least three men from each block. Since we could not get at least three men from each block, we automatically had to get a voluntary crew.

I think that it is a good idea to let the group of workers come home whenever they unload their assigned carload.

September 8, 1942

#21 Block Manager's Report

TO: Mr. Don Elberson, Supervisor, Community Services

FROM: George Muraki, Block Manager #21

SUBJECT: Weekly Report, August 29, to September 4, 1942

A rather unusual situation arose this week which was the basis of a complaint coming from several persons in my block. Mr. Bob Ota had obtained the permission to use Mess Hall #21 for a dance for the Block Managers' candidate for Queen which was scheduled for the evening of September 4.

Later in the day one of the women residing in the building next to the mess hall received word from a camp in Arizona that her father had passed away. She immediately requested if I could arrange to have her husband, who was working on the farm, come home as soon as possible. The arrangement was made with the Farm Superintendant and he returned immediately. He tried then to secure a permission to leave the camp that evening to attend the funeral service.

The permission was not granted; therefore, I went directly to the family concerned and explained that a dance was scheduled that evening in our mess hall. I offered to try to arrange to have the dance postponed or the locale changed if they wished it; however the family was understanding and said that inasmuch as the notices, plans, and arrangements for the dance have already been made, they did not wish to cause any further work; so the dance was held as scheduled.

Not knowing of my conversation with the family, several persons concerned with the family's situation suggested to me that the dance be called off. I thanked them for their suggestion and explained to them that this matter was discussed with the family, and they did not feel it necessary to call off the dance.

I explained the situation to Mr. Bob Ota and he cooperated by closing all the windows near the building in which the family resides, as well as keeping the door closed and closing the dance earlier.

Immediately upon return from a meeting held for the purpose of obtaining coal workers, a meeting of the Advisory Council of this block was held. I explained the coal situation to them. The Advisory Council suggested to the Councilman, one of the member of the Advisory Council, that this matter be brought up at the Community Council Meeting.

September 8, 1942

#21 Block Manager's Report--2

A block meeting of all eligible coal workers was held next evening and the acuteness of the coal situation was explained to them, and that volunteer coal crew will be necessary from each block.

September 8, 1942

WEEKLY REPORT ON BLOCK 24

September 5, 1942

COAL CREWS: At the first block meeting called to explain the coal situation, my people misunderstood the idea behind the volunteer crew system which was requested. However, at the second meeting, with the help of our block representative, I was able to clear the matter up with the explanation that this was an emergency situation lasting only for four days while the committee from the Council used that time to investigate and find a solution to that problem. We also mentioned the fact that the people need not sacrifice their own clothes for this work since the clothes would be completely furnished. Four volunteer crews of three members each were decided upon, although actually only three crews were used.

At the time the coal crews went out to work and on other occasions before that, much inconvenience and ill feeling were created when conditions as promised by the administration were not met promptly or not at all. Promises made and then broken destroys confidence. Why not make promises after it has been made sure that they can be carried out at any definite time--for only then are promises of any value.

MEMORANDA: Memoranda that is issued to Block Managers' office are often written in such a way that it is difficult to understand the message. For example consider the memorandum of August 31 from S.D. Friedman concerning the block census. Quoting from it: "to be especially careful of the firemen"--the question arises, "In what way?" The exact method for taking the census nor the information wanted was not included in the memo. A lot of unnecessary trouble and misunderstanding could be saved if ALL memoranda were accurate, detailed, and clearly worded.

Respectfully submitted,

James Matsushima
Block Manager #24

#25 Block Manager's Report

September 8, 1942

BLOCK MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

From August 29 to September 4, 1942

To Mr. Don Elberson:

September 8, 1942

The "Deltan Peps", #25 block girls' softball team, took title of Western league, and won championship by defeating the Tri-State champs, thus claiming title to girls' softball teams of Tule Lake.

The newly organized ole men softball team of Block #25 is very enthusiastic in their new venture and are doing their utmost to have a strong and clean team.

- 9/1--Attended block managers' meeting at #2707, at 1:00 P.M.
- 9/2--Special Block Managers' meeting at #1608 concerning coal problems. No time to attend Red Cross class.
- 9/2--Put out first volunteer coal crew to unload coal for winter use, from 7:00 P.M. to 3:00 A.M.
- 9/3--Special Block Manager's meeting at #26 concerning coal problems. Colonists not satisfied with the program for unloading coals.
- 9/4--Regular block manager's meeting at 2:30 p.m.

#25 Block Manager

N. Akahoshi

September 8, 1942

#34 Block Manager's Report
DAILY REPORT

TO: Don Elberson

FROM: Mgr. Jack Okumura #34

From August 29, 1942
To September 5, 1942

- Monday: Not much of a day. Went to the Post Office to get stamps. Went to the Hospital, also.
- Tuesday: Had a special meeting and what a meeting it was. Telling us managers to go coal shoveling. But as for us, we did not care; but the people became mad about it. People in my block was mad, also.
- Wednesday: Having a hard time telling the people to go to work on the coal. We thought we were to have a day off today, but no, we have to work just the same. What a life!
- Thursday: Still having coal trouble, and the people are very mad because of misunderstanding. We are all hoping that it's all over with coal.
- Friday: Went to First Aid, but came home because the teacher did not come. Went to the Ward meeting. I am to go to the coal loading as a checker. We got through at 9:45 P.M. That's speed!
- Saturday: Still had a headache on the coal business. But was very glad when your notice came. I got about four people that are willing to work on coal. Had a hard time getting them to work.

September 8, 1942

Block Manager's Weekly ReportCoal Situation

In the past week or so, the coal situation was very interesting and yet very impressive. In our block the problem was an issue for sometime and many points had to be strongly brought out to light by the councilman before clarification and understanding was brought about to the people. We had meetings after meetings in thrashing out the problems at which time our councilman brought home reports of new developments on the situation, and in many respects I can not help from admiring the people sticking up for their rights and principles involved. However the problem still remained that we were not able to put out three permanent coal shovelers from our block due to the fact that all were working and those that were not could not because of poor health. On Sept. 9, Wednesday a block meeting was held at which time an understanding took place with a unanimous backing that we the block shall put forth three volunteer coal shovelers until such time when three permanent shovelers can be had. Their decision was based on a practical view and their pride and honor for which they had voiced as individual and organized body had ultimately brought about a closer understanding and cooperation--an essential factor for the betterment of the general welfare.

Utility Man

Since the installation of the utility man, he has become a very popular personnel of our block. He has taken a natural interest in this block and in turn the people of our block are taking much interest in what he does with much respect. Being fortunate in having a personnel with much experience of the past in many fields such as mechanics, electricity, carpentry, etc., he is very fitting in every way. With utmost skill and efficiency and with much thought in the things he does, he has won an important part within the block.

I realize that being wartime, many things are hard to obtain. I also entrust that everything is being done to hasten the supplies in every departments to substantiate the ever increasing necessities with supplies. However, it is a known fact that the utility man with an important role within the various blocks are at present without adequate tools and without materials and supplies to work with. In view of present condition, I believe everything possible should be done to hasten up supplies and tools for project efficiency, economy in many of the things the utility man can do.

September 8, 1942

Signs

Of late we have been posting signs in the utility buildings and on bulletin boards. We have found that various signs are very effective and a means of holding interest if written both in English and Japanese. Signs to the effect of "Lets keep the Utility Room Clean", "Lets Help Prevent Fire", "Lets Have Pride in Our Community", "Beware of Scorpions" etc. have become more or less a common motto on the people who read them often. We believe that to some extent it can help to upkeep our morale by trying to hold our interest in common.

Stoves

To many of us who have come from the warm regions, the burning of coal stoves as we now have, is a new experience. When we had the first cold mornings sometimes ago after the stoves were installed many of us had new experiences. Some found out that they had put in too much coal in the stoves and as a result they did not know what to do because of too much heat. One gentleman had the stove going and had forgotten to keep open the windows and as a result in the morning he was found in a weak state of condition. I believe that with things as they are, little things which sometimes count a whole lot should be informed to the people.

Ashes

With the advent of a cold winter season every stove will be burning throughout the day. I do not know if there are any set specific regulations here in this project or not but I believe that the disposal of ashes will be a concern to all in due time. Unlike home, being so close together, everything possible should be done to prevent fire hazards.

Chimney Poles

I might also add that chimney poles should be provided to guarantee the cleaning of the individual chimneys. It is the belief of all those concerned that such similar measures should be taken throughout the camp to insure our safety.

Wiener Roast

Under the sponsorship of the Young Peoples Club, recently organized, the first wiener roast outing has been scheduled for the people of our block. All interested have been asked to stand for the nominal cost of the expenses as they sign up. The Councilman, Recreational

September 8, 1942

Leader, a warden, members of the Advisory Board, and the Block Manager were requested to attend and act as chaperons for the particular evening, Fri., Sept. 18, 1942. We believe that such an opportunity can serve as a means of coordinating a closer understanding and harmony among both the young and old and act as an outlet for something different.

Hozumi Takaki, Block Manager #43

September 8, 1942

#44 Block Manager's Report

TO: Mr. Don Elberson
Mr. Robert Ota

FROM: Tom Hasegawa
Block Manager #44

SUBJECT: Weekly Report

Following is a resume of my activities during the week of August 31 to September 5.

Tuesday September 1

3. The young girls in my block contacted me with regards their desire to hold a dance in our recreational hall. Permission was granted and I also attended for a short while as a sort of chaperone and engaged actively in their desire. The dancing class is expected to be held once each week, however repercussions arise from those parents who are very strict with their youngsters. As a block 44 enterprise, and if the block boys and girls could hold this dance instruction group by themselves, such repercussions could be averted, however what the main trouble seems to be is because of owing to the fact that we are centrally located in our ward, a great majority of those who barge in on that session are from the surrounding blocks and out number the girls 6-1. In the future if such dance instructions are to be held, it will be necessary to close the doors except to those from our own block.

4. The young group in my block are not big enough to cope with the competition from the surrounding blocks therefore they have advised me that although we have ping pong facilities consisting of two tables, and a basketball court, they do not have much fun with that equipment. It is indeed a shame to walk into our recreational hall and see the boys and girls from the surrounding blocks occupying the ping pong tables and those from block 44, who with their own initiative constructed these tables, stand around watching. Also the people from the surrounding blocks use our equipment very badly, and as an example, in one day smashed two ping pong balls. Owing to this type of misuse and a gang up on our equipment, I have placed within our hall a sign saying block 44 use only. I hope this will be satisfactory with regards the ping pong equipment for the time being until some unified system can be arranged by the recreational department which, in my estimation seems to be sadly in need of better coordination.

#45 Block Manager's Report

September 8, 1942
Block 45 Manager
Shig Yamane

WEEKLY REPORT - Aug. 29 through Sept. 4

To act as arbitrators the block manager and the councilman attended the block meeting held for the purpose of settling disputes in the messhall among the cooks. The dissension was adequately settled by establishing a system of two separate cooking crews.

The coal worker's situation was explained to the people at the block meeting held on Thursday night. It seems that the people in this block were misinformed as to the true facts of the situation, and consequently this block was the only one with no workers appearing for duty on the first night. The opposed ones were convinced of the need for cooperation and agreed to help after the situation was clarified to them.

Suggestions:

1. Problems like the coal situation should be brought up to the council and not to the Ward Chairmen. The responsibility that was placed upon the block managers did not promote to any extent the harmonious relationship between them and their people. The general feeling of the people was unfavorable toward the block manager not because of the coal situation but for the reason that its presentation was not properly instituted.
2. The utilityman stresses the need for ladders, because of impending fire hazards from chimney sources.
3. With approaching cold weather making outdoor play impossible, the people would greatly appreciate an indoor recreational plan within the block or reasonably nearby.
4. We would like a telephone in this office; if not for this office, a telephone for Block 48 or 46. Those offices are most conveniently accessible from points in this ward.

#48 Block Manager's Report

September 8, 1942
No. 14

TO: Mr. Don Elberson

FROM: Noboru Honda, Block Manager #48

SUBJECT: Weekly Activities Report - Week Ending Sept. 5, 1942

8/31/42 - Goh and Shogi (Japanese checkers) group has been started in Block 48 and a portion of the Community Activities Hall in this Block is being utilized by quite a number of elderly people.

Housing Divn. sent KUSUTARO KATO from Block 39 into Block 48. He is to cook for Mess 47. This made our Block population exactly 290. RUBY & EUNICE KAMINAKA were transferred from Block 26 to Block 48, 4814-D to join their father, swelling the total to 292.

Block 48 received a compliment from the Fire Prevention Man of the Fire Dept. as being the outstanding Block on the Project for being well organized to prevent as well as to fight fire.

The possibility of organizing a youth group has been considered. Hope to have such an organization in the very near future for the purpose of planning organized youth activities for educational and social purposes. At the present time, having no such group, community interest of the youth is lacking. This may be the solution to such a problem. This organization could be used also to assemble youth for imparting important news and announcements, for the gathering of the older and the younger generations into one group for a meeting is not always too satisfactory.

We feel that we are very fortunate in this Block for thusfar no major problems or trouble have occurred. This is due largely to the wholehearted cooperation of the residents as well as the various representatives' capabilities in presenting various items to the residents here. Thus receiving understanding and voluntary cooperation.

Relative to the voluntary coal crew, though many contrary opinions have been received in other parts of the Project, this Block has received an understanding reception of our problem and we are enjoying wholehearted cooperation in having our nightly crews recruited.

The above reaction relative to the coal situation has been similarly received throughout our entire Ward and we feel very fortunate. (Ward V had been endeavoring to work as a unit and not be too individualistic about it. As a result of close cooperation of all the Block Managers', we are enjoying a closely knit unit in doing our work.)

September 8, 1942
No. 14

During the week, live scorpions were displayed for the benefit of the public.

On September 3rd, Federal Reserve Receipt of Tom Taketa has been forwarded to Mr. Elbersen's office.

On September 2nd, clothing for the coal workers for the entire Ward was received by this office and equally distributed to each Block. Also on September 3rd, seventy-two (72) pairs of shoes were received by Ward V and were equally distributed to each Block.

Suggestion: With regard to the minor supplies for the Block Utility or Maintenance Man, we strongly suggest minor repair parts such as hinges, hooks and screw eyes, plumbing parts, window panes, putty and other minor items to be distributed to each Block so that the Maintenance Dept. will not have to be called for such small repairs. This will save time and fuel as well as wear and tear on the automobiles and trucks for the Maintenance Dept.

It appears that everything is rolling along very smoothly and the general reaction of the public here is on the favorable side for which we feel very fortunate. We realized a very hectic time during the week in endeavoring the realization of a smooth-working unit.

Noboru Honda, Blk Mgr #48

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Block Manager #53: Hiroshi Nakayama

Aug. 31/42

Called a meeting of our block and we discussed food proposition. According to the report by the Steward we were getting some of the food, namely; butter and vegetables are still distributed equally. The colonists do not approve of this plan, of the block with only 180 personnels receiving just as much as food supply as the block with 290. They want everything distributed on the percapita basis.

I know I should not be involved in the mess hall problems but it seems that colonists feel that they cannot get the desired result when taken to the Steward. Consequently, I must listen to all the complaints.

We also discussed about the Advance Cash payments. The people are well aware of the importance of claiming their payment so as not to delay the payment of the coming month. Suggestion was made that the Block Managers announce in the mess hall the exact date and time the payment is made. And it was decided that it was just too bad for anyone not claiming their pay.

The employers of Finance and Record Dept. are misinforming the workers of the date the payment will be made. I think all employers should refrain from giving out such information.

Distribution of Clothing to Hard Workers: The workers wants the officials to announce the date of distribution only when a definite date has been set. Many of the workers have gone there 2 or 3 times only to find out that the clothing is not being distributed.

Sept. 2/42

The attitude of the majority of the colonists are in favor of delivering coal in rotation. They admit that hauling coal is not too appealing and they would not like that job as permanent. And as we must have coal to keep ourselves warm this winter, everybody consented to cooperate in this matter.

Twelve workers have already done their part. They all say it is rather fun for about couple of hours and after that they feel tired and think it is a hard work.

September 8, 1942

Sept. 3/42

I think the Recreational Dept. do not cooperate with us. I have requested the Recreational Dept. for the use of Recreation Hall 5308 for Issei recreational activity. I did not receive any reply for weeks and finally I went personally to the office. I was told then that since the recreation hall requested is being used for other purpose, the people of this block will have to use recreation hall 5408. I notified the people about this but as there isn't any tables or benches in there, they are not using it for that purpose. Instead they are playing "go" and "shogi" in the boiler room, in the laundry and ironing rooms. The janitors are complaining that they are constantly in their way.

I want to emphasize that the recreational Dept. cooperate with us by giving us a prompt reply whether a request is granted or not. We definitely do not like the idea of them ignoring our requests.

WEEKLY REPORT
August 30 to September 5

A special Block Meeting was called to discuss the volunteer coal shoveler's situation on Sept. 2. Although the whole Block agreed to cooperate in this work until such a time when the regular crew can take care of it, the Colonist believed the reason why this emergency occurred is entirely the unpreparedness of the Administration's part, therefore wanted the Councilman and the Block Manager to see to it that something is done as soon as possible.

SUGGESTIONS:

I have heard from the farmers the following:

The department has agreed with the farm workers that on a certain morning they would furnish them clothing for work. When the group of farmers went over to receive the clothing on the promised date and time, they were asked to come in the afternoon. The farmers asked for a verbal guarantee from this person that they will receive the clothing in the afternoon but this person said that it cannot be done. Then the group decided to go to the warehouse whether they got their clothing or not.

When they arrived there, the same person who was following the group unlocked the door and issued the clothing that morning. The farmers said, "From now on we cannot believe what the department promises. It seems like if we want something, we almost have to use force. If we remain gentle and ask for things gentleman like, the department will take advantage of us, and even if they are suppose to issue certain things they will hold back."

The farmers also said if the department had any sincerity, they should have notified the group in advance why they cannot issue the clothing on the date promised and also the date they can issue them.

There seems to be quite some trouble between some of the department and the workers. Everytime trouble starts and gets worse it looks like the Block Manager almost has to step in and try to help straighten things out, therefore I am very much interested in the department using more sincerity and diplomacy in handling these things. If a person in charge is not capable, he should be replaced with a better qualified person. By doing this it may help the Colonist's morale a great deal.

Dan Sakahara
Block Manager 67

CENTRAL WARD MEETING

September 8, 1942

The weekly meeting was called to order by Frank Furu-kawa, chairman, at 10:00 A.M., on Tuesday, September 8, 1942, at 1607-D. The reading of the minutes was dispensed as usual and approved. William Mayeda, Chairman of Ward III, was unable to attend this meeting because of a funeral in his block.

The meeting was opened with Mr. Kobayashi's talk on handyman of each block. He stated that there seems to be a confliction about having handymen under the pay-roll of the Construction Department. The Public Works Division is planning to turn these handymen to the Maintenance Department. He stated, "We are placing under the Maintenance Department, a supervisor to take over the handyman from the block managers. Whatever the minor repair should be, each block manager should report to the supervisor. Send handyman's requisitions in to Maintenance Department through Don Elbersen. Handyman is not performing eight hours' duty. The maintenance suggested that three handymen work for a Ward." This auestion was open for discussion.

All favored having the present set-up of one handyman to a block and getting more equipment for them. Mr. Kobayashi was requested to take this back to the Department.

A suggestion was made that a uniform statement be made for chimney sweepers' duties. Another suggestion was made to have a boilerman working later than 10:00 P.M. for the garbage crew, coal crew, etc. A check will be made on this.

At this time, a letter from Harry Mayeda, Assistant Supervisor of Community Activities, was read. He stated that the department would gladly be of service to the block managers whenever the occasion offers.

A move was made and seconded that the meeting time be changed from 9:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. on Tuesdays.

Since there were no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 o'clock noon.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Mary Hosokawa

Secretary

#4 BlockManager's Report

September 14, 1942

To: Don Elberson

From: Ralph H. Shimbo #4

Subj: Weekly report ending Sept. 11, 1942

The most prominent thing on everyone's mind and subject for speculation this past week has been the prospective jobs outside of the project.

Tentatively assigned workers have been royally feted by the block with farewell gatherings. Otherwise the block has been unusually quiet.

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#5 Block Manager's Report

September 14, 1942

9-7

In spite of the holliday I tramped here and there and made specially arrangements with the chef for a dinner, in order to let the whole mess crew take an afternoon off.

9-8

It seems to me that the requisitions do not go around fast enough.

We had some interesting discussions at our special meeting in our ward chairman's office.

9-9

I found out that the utility man and the block janitors are still annoyed at the insufficient supply of material (mop-head, broom, plumbing, minor-repair.)

I made a requisition to Mr. Peck that the laundresses should have boots due to the wet floor (especially during this cold weather.)

I attended our weekly first aid class and had our first examination since we started learning this.

9-10

Today in our block we elected two perminant co-op representatives.

I made a requisition today for ash pans, since none of the new stoves in my block haven't any.

9-11

I went to see a recreational leader and made arrangements for our hiking group.

9-12

I finally recieved two sheet rocks, which I have been asking for ~~so~~ quite a long time. This material is going to be used for fitting the hole around the chimney. This will stop that draft and keep the room warmer.

#10 Block Manager's Report

September 14, 1942

To: Community Service
From: Block 10
Subject: Weekly Report

A number of people have forwarded a suggestion that all the canteens refrain from selling articles that are not considered a necessity. In other words, the management of the canteens are requested not to sell articles that are not really needed by the colonists and have a special appeal to the children. The reason for this suggestion is that many small children are hanging around the canteens and also groups of larger children are bullying the smaller ones to obtain money from homes to buy candies, pops, ice creams, etc., for the benefit of themselves. There have been many cases of small children obtaining money from homes without the parent's knowledge. It is hard for the parents or guardians of small children to watch their every actions at all times and also that the continuation of this practiced bullyism or rowdyism could be encouraged among the older children. With this in mind the people in this colony are asking both the Administration and the management of the canteens to give this situation their very utmost attention. There have been rumors that ad-

ditional luxuries are to be sold at the canteens during the winter months to off-set the decrease in sale of pops and ice creams. The people feel that any such actions on both the management and the Administration's part would only lead to increase the above mentioned condition.

Subject: Mop-heads

Am still waiting for an answer of request for 30 mop-heads.

#25 Block Manager's Report

September 14, 1942

Sept. 4 to Sept. 11

September 8 -- Had block meeting of persons of 18 years and up to elect cooperative leaders. Mr. J. Sakamoto and James Sakoda elected.

September 9 -- Attended Red Cross class at 10:00 a.m.

Nothing else of importance has occurred during the week.

#25 Block Manager

N. Akahoshi (signed)

WEEKLY REPORT
Block 46
September 12, 1942

September 8, The residents were very inquisitive about the possibilities of sending messages to Japan through the International Red Cross. Cosma Sakamoto, the temporary chairman of the local chapter of the Red Cross in Newell, was approached for the information and the procedure necessary for sending the cablegram. Fred Okimura of block 41 who was very much interested in communicating the relatives in Japan was informed about the possibility. As a test case, for the benefit of the community, he has sacrificed the expenditure incurred on the cablegram message. The people are anxious to hear the result, which will be returned within ten days according to the chairman of the local chapter.

S. Kubo of 4603-C received ten boxes of peaches sent by his friend in Placer County. Due to the fact that the fruits were left too long in the warehouse on account of previous holidays, unfortunately almost every one of them were spoiled. If the warehouse should be kept closed for few days, the perishables should not be held during that time. The suggestion was made by the residents to distribute such articles before the week-end and clear out the perishable stock which would otherwise be useless.

September 9, Bath tubs needed for the babies has been surveyed sometime ago but nothing has been heard of as yet about being distributed. Residents requested for information if the tubs are to be distributed. Because of the urgent necessities for the newly born babies, few families were unable to wait for the coming supply and were forced to purchase individually through the mail orders.

Made an announcement that the stove crews are coming in the afternoon to replace the wood stoves. Everyone was requested to cooperate in making less difficult for the crews removing the stoves.

September 10 Due to commencing of high school, September 14, 1942, the former coal crew from this block must be terminated. The residents were made to realize that unless someone cooperate in settling the situation, the people in this community must experience a very uncomfortable winter. After searching among the elderly group within the block, four men, who are now on the constructions, promised to start in as regular coal crews from Monday, September 21, 1942.

The entire members in the mess hall had applied to go on a hiking trip Sunday, September 20. In order to recruit their absence, all the available helpers were asked to serve in the messhall for the day.

September 14, 1942

September 11, There has been a understanding among the colonist that Dr. Harada of the Medical Staff will be transferred from this project to another re-location. Practically every individual in block 46 clamored that Dr. Harada be kept at this project. Because of his untiring and sincere efforts and kindness in giving aid to so many people in the past, one who know Dr. Harada does not hesitate to request that he retain his present position at the Base Hospital. The faith in the doctor is great remedy in itself for the patients, and a man like Dr. Harada is highly recommended by everyone. The sentiment in the community is very ardent in the effort to retain him in this camp. Knowing that some step should be taken in order to keep harmony within this camp, the people has drawn up petition to be sent to Dr. Thomas at the Regional Office in San Francisco, and also to Dr. Carson, who heads the Medical Department and Mr. E. Shirrel, who is the Director of this Project in Tulelake.

The maintenance crew was sent over to 46180B to investigate faulty chimney jack. Since it was found beyond repair, Miss Yat u was contacted for further requisition for replacement by the Housing department.

A request was made by the utility man as for the source of clothings obtained. Mr. Kobayashi, supervisor of the public work, informed that the matter will be taken care of promptly since no clothing will be allowed to be distributed without the signature of the proper authority.

In order to avoid the existing congestion during the shower hours, it became necessary for the janitors to arrange the shower 4621 so that it can be utilized by both men and women at different intervals. The ruling was set as the men occupy the shower from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and the women were allowed after 7:30 p.m. The announcement was made in that effect and the sign of regulation was posted as announced.

September 11, To satisfy persistent request of the residents for "sashimi", a rawfish prepared in the manner of Japanese delicacy, Mr. M. Goto, through the permission of Mr. Pick, purchased a box of tuna and sea bass. One hundred pounds of fish was not quite enough to be divided among everyone. It was enjoyed immensely by the person whoever was able to acquire some. If such fish are procured through the project, it should not vary much in cost than that of the cod fish now being served in the mess halls, and we appreciate it very much if such a dainty food as "tuna and sashimi" can be seen on our dining tables once in a while.

September 12, The complaint was put in by the janitor of mess hall 4620 that his old clothings are wearing out fast and that he lost his only jacket in possession. The request was made at Mr. Peck's desk for a supply of clothing but due to the regulation that the clothings are to be issued only at the designated time, the attempt was futile. When Mr. Hayes was contacted next, he had requested Mr. Cook to release

#46 Block Manager's Report - 3

September 14, 1942

requisition for the necessary clothings attached with memorandum stating the matter should be considered as a special case. Next it was necessary to have Mr. Clark's signature. Until this person actually received a part supply of his clothings, I had spent about two and a half hour going back and forth the administration building and to the warehouses.

Blk. Mgr. 46

(signed)

#48 Block Manager's Report

September 14, 1942

To: Mr. Don Elberson
From: Noboru Honda, Block Manager #48
Subject: Weekly activities - week ending September 12, 1942

We were very fortunate in obtaining three (3) permanent coal workers. This is in addition to the four (4) we had.

On Labor Day - the Tulean Dispatch's report to the effect that a furniture exhibit would be held at 4808 brought many exhibitors as well as interested visitors. For some reason, the said exhibit did not take place. Consequently, many were disappointed.

I called the Recreation Center; but having been unable to get in touch with them, the case was referred to the Warden's office. Very shortly afterwards, an official of the exhibit comm. came over and placed a sign at 4808 to inform the people that the exhibit had been cancelled.

Owing to the fact that all block managers were out of supplies; and also to check into our previous requisition of clothing for block managers, I together with others of the committee contacted Mr. Fleming and also Mr. Shirrell. We were assured that every effort will be made to clear same immediately.

9-11-42 - We lost one resident from Block #48. One George T. Murata of 4805-D who left for outside labor to Utah, reducing our population to 291.

Owing to the fact that our new chief cook is serving very satisfactory food, it resulted in having many neighboring residents migrating to our mess hall. This necessitated attention.

We called the Barrack Representatives meeting of this block at which time a decision was reached to the effect that a ticket system will be employed as soon as the tickets could be prepared.

Visitors are required to notify the chief cook one hour prior to any meal.

Own residents are to be requested to refrain from going to other mess halls.

It was decided to carry our own dishes to the dishwasher's table. This will avoid hurried gathering of dishes and consequently avoid a noisy mess hall while many are still eating. It will save the waiters and waitresses that much, enabling them to give better service for they can give the diners more attention rather than the used dishes.

Seating will begin from the rear instead of from the entrance. Thus incomers won't walk past those who are already eating. This, we have been informed is in practice by many mess halls.

#48 Block Manager's Report - 2

September 14, 1942

New shower hours were set. Daily - 3:00 PM to 9:00 PM.
After 9:00 PM the hot water is to be reserved for night workers.

NOTICE - Sometime ago, this entire Ward (V) requisitioned for door between the shower room and the lavatory. This is vitally essential, primary to shut out cold draft. Cold draft from the outside is detrimental to health. It necessitates use of extra amount of hot water which is not too plentiful. Furthermore, visibility from the outside is 100%.

Please investigate this requisition and forward us a reply. If the doors are not available, we request hinges and material to make same.

Respectfully submitted,

Noboru Honda, Blk Mgr #48 (signed)

NH:FT

September 19, 1942

TO: Don Elberson
FROM: Block Manager 51
SUBJECT: Weekly Activities Report

For the past two weeks I have not made any weekly activities report--just two blank papers. There are many, many things which prompted me to take such an action, not for malice or for sarcasm. If you were to misinterpret my action as nothing but sarcasm for the purpose of making fun of the administration and the staff, I am very, very painfully hurt; indeed, I am.

There are times in life when a person is in a trance. Some of you who may take this sheet and read such a statement might be led to believe such nonsense. He must be a little "tetched in the haid." Sure, you are at liberty to draw your own conclusions. Why not? Freedom of thought, freedom of speech, etc. More power to you if you can think up more.

School has started. What a school! Yes, I can appreciate the efforts made by the WRA, but--I oftentimes wonder. Do you know the real existing conditions? How, I wonder, how are we going to make real Americans out of these innocent young children. Teaching them the principles of Democracy, "I pledge allegiance to the flag. One nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice to all," while ----they are penned up. Barbed wire fences, guard towers all around playing their search lights on us at night, guards with tommy guns, pistols, and other contraptions and weapons standing over us. I open my arms and cry out in despair--God! Oh, what is this? We who were born here, reared here, educated here, we are bewildered. Can you give me an answer. It can't hurt me much more than it what it has. It's similar to the case of a small child who loves and in return is loved by his mother. The child is given a dose of good whipping and is placed in a closet. For what? He does not know; all he hears is that he is bad. Bad, why? What did he do?

My dear sir, my voða bulary is so limited that I cannot reveal more fully my feeling and thoughts. I am only sorry. Another thing too which hurts me and it hurts me like something awful, and I sincerely believe it is the same with other parents, is that my children ask me: "Daddy, why can't we go home? Why do we have to stay here? I don't like it at all; I'd rather go back to that little schoolhouse even if it is small and broken down. Daddy, why can't we?" What can I tell them--tell them because we are Americans but of Japanese ancestry. No, heavens, no! Then what are we to tell them? Their replies would be: I didn't learn anything like that in school, where one type of Americans should be put into a camp. Minister didn't preach such sermons. Where God made such distinction-- I honestly don't know what to say, Don, so help me.

Keep our respect, be honorable--sure, more easily said than done. But remember, it takes cooperation on both sides. Here we colonists look upon you staff members as our leaders. We