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## Resettlement

Aim-To make choice of best possible future home, and to be prepared to most successfully adjust self to new home.

## Unit I. The Southwest (Including Poston)

1. Decided that Japanese should get acquainted with surrounding territory first....should study geography with idea of learning what industries would support a living///..should study history and literature with ideal of understanding the people better.
2. They knew practically nothing about the Southwest because they had closed the doors of their minds to anything other than California.
3. Desired outcome was to gain an appreciation for something other than California as a result of the realization of the great extent of territory, of the unusual scenic beauty, of the rich natural resources, industrial accomplishment, educational progress and tolerant attitude...which knowledge would bring interest and more understanding.
4. Wrote Chamber of Commerce and students in high schools. Read National Geographics, Arizona Highway and Desert magazine ...newspapers and travel folders.
5. Learned that much of Southwest was still wasteland or better adapted to agriculture which is considered the natural means of livelihood for Japanese, and therefore began more intense study of specific regions...each student selecting what he thought a good prospect for a home. Studied history and literature with the idea of a psychological consideration of tolerance and investigated the possibility of education in general. Emphasized geography, thinking it most important as a prophecy of possible livelihood. Decide to prepare a literary magazine on Poston (of human interest) to mail into the North Central states which was anticipated as the next unit---for their first letters included maps, charts, illustrations, etc. which have been exhibited a number of times.
6. Each student prepared a booklet in which he attempted to prove that his choice of a possible new home was good or bad. These booklets included maps, charts, illustrations, etc. which have been exhibited a number of times.
7. They decided they should sell the idea of resettlement to their parents and brothers and sisters--and help them to go about it properly. They got busy with their literacy magazine (a competition--much of it done one week while I was in California and they had no substitute) to help introduce the Japanese people to the people of the North Central States... for "if the WRA thought those states a better bet than the southwest for the Japanese the Juniors of PHS had better look into it."

## Unit II. The North Central States

In this unit we emphasized history and literature rather than geography//..not confining ourselves largely to one community but to developing a subject that is applicable to the whole territory such as the following:

- History of Minorities
- Humanitarian Movements

Transportation  
Foreign Policies  
Political Parties  
Education  
Lend Grants  
Immigration  
Problems of Foreign Borns

As they read such authors as Sinclair Lewis, Hamlin Garland, etc. This time they did more of their work in groups.

They got the Arts and crafts classes busy doing illustrations for their literary magazine which they called "Poston Highlights". Much of the material was drawn from the Junior Red Cross Album..which they had backed and helped to put over.

Since several had actually left for Colorado, Utah, and Montana, they studied travel etiquette and time tables. They arranged for reports on actual experience and advice on psychological reactions from those who were planning to finish their course by correspondence.

Most of them think, however, that the better plan is to wait until graduation from P.H.S.

71  
11-12-42

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOLLOWING DILLON MYER'S TALK TO THE  
EVACUEES IN WARD 7 - HOSPITAL---

Mr. Myer had spoken outlining the program for outside relocation which W.R.A. is putting into effect. He had emphasized the great demand for labor on the outside and his expectation of working hand in hand with the ManPower Commission and his expectation of draining as much as 50% of the population of the relocation centers into war effort on the outside.

John Maeno had acted as chairman of the meeting which was composed primarily of Councilmen and Blockmanagers and Issei Advisors from the three camps. At the close of his speech Mr. Myer asked for questions from the floor.

John Maeno: As I see it then we are here in a sort of training period for the outside world. That is all.

<sup>F. Kuwahara</sup>  
Block 39: What I want to know, -Mr. Myer, is how the Trust Fund idea comes in in connection with the policy. How about the Trust Fund and what you said about private employment?

Myer: Private industries in the centers has resulted in a great deal of trouble. We will have no more of it. Of course, there are few commitments such as the camouflage nets. I simply hope that you will produce more nets. We have commitments which will be hard not to fulfill, but there will be no private industries. The results are not to indicate all situations. I want to make our policy on that clear.

Now, I want to say one thing in connection with

the army. Maybe I should wait until the army announces it, but I am so sure of it I am going to say something to you. In my opinion this is the thing that will really make it click. The important key stone in fitting in to the war effort is to give you the right to fight for your country. The army is to be opened up so that that right will be given. (There's no reaction on the part of the audience. There's a pause in the asking of questions during which Mr. Maeno introduces "the trouble shooters of the nation Mr. Fryer and Mr. Barrows.)

Mich Kunitani: Mr. Myer, I would like to ask to what extent the policy you outline is going to affect the idea of Poston as a colonial enterprise which was announced to us not long ago?

Mr. Myer: I didn't know about that. If I were you, I'd get it out of your head. This is an Indian Reservation, not a colonial enterprise. If anybody has any hope of an empire developing here, he better change his minds. (general laughter)

Harvey Iwata: We want to know about this fence that is going in, now, down in Camp III.

Mr. Myer: (Interrupts) You mean the fence which is said to be designed to keep livestock in or out? (laughter)  
As I understand it this fence is conceived by the army to satisfy the need of guarding the relocation centers. Perhaps they have some sound reasons for the fence and  
out  
perhaps keeping livestock/is one of them. It seems to

me that all you can do is move in and out and around these fences. We are doing our best at the moment in regard to rectifying them.

Iwata: Is that the one and only reason for the fence? Live-stock?

Myer: We understand that W.A.A. is not putting the fence in. If the army people feel that way, we have to accept it. I hope you won't make a major issue out of the fence.

\_\_\_\_\_ : In going outside of the centers, are we going to be able to go inside or outside of the evacuated areas?

Myer: Only outside of the evacuated area. I hope that many of you will want to go some place else than back to California because it will not be possible to go there.

\_\_\_\_\_ : Does W.R.A. have a set policy in the future as to wages? Is this present system to go on indefinitely?

Myer: As far in the future as June 1st I can't say. If by that time you have no change in your pocket perhaps many of you will want to go out and get some. This policy which I am outlining is going to work.

\_\_\_\_\_ : It is my belief that this system cannot be made to function.

Myer: I realized you thought that. Conceivably there may be other provisions next year. The proposition before us now is to do the best job possible of running a

simplified project.

\_\_\_\_\_ : 100% of us have spent far more money than we have earned. This should be kept in mind in making any other policy.

Myer: I assure<sup>you</sup>/that that will be kept in mind.

<sup>BLK 21</sup>  
Dr. Saito: How much of the operating expenses is going to be charged against us.

Myer: You mean for running the project?

Saito: Yes.

Myer: Nothing is going to be charged against anyone while working on the W.R.A. wage scale. The only possibility which involved charging operation against anyone was in the case of the establishment of the Trust Fund, but that has become obviously too complicated and complex. Now we are going to run entirely on the W.R.A. wage scale.

<sup>BLK 53</sup>  
Harry Kumegae: In regard to Community Enterprise, the expenses far exceed the cash advances.

Barrows: W.R.A. wants the enterprise to be independent private agency. The general policy requires each community enterprise to be able to pay its own way. Under the trust arrangement according to the regulations it makes them an instrumentality of government. Now, I am not sure what that means. I know that we want them to be private enterprises.

Harry Kumegae: Is it your advice that we should be changing community enterprise to cooperatives?

Barrows: I don't know. My personal opinion is that it is

a voluntary thing. If there's a movement out of the centers, there will be lesser delay. My personal opinion is that a patronage/<sup>dividend</sup>system is best.

Iwata: What is the reason for no appropriation of .....

We feel that there should be facilities for that. Is there going to be no appropriation?

Myer: The answer is no and I will tell you why. It's on account of the reaction of Congress against the ..... of our appropriation. I wish it could be personally.

\_\_\_\_\_ : How about the clothing? Is there a deduction for that?

Myer: No, we are hoping to get away from clothing as such as soon as possible.

\_\_\_\_\_ : In W.R.A. relocating, if people is qualified, is there any change for .....

Myer: I think there will be opinions that will develop. We must go step by step on this. There's always a question in any kind of .....

Bob Sakai: Is W.R.A. making any concerted efforts to secure jobs other than housework? (laughter)

Myer: Yes. I am very glad you brought that up. If that was the only kind of jobs we would be able to get I wouldn't be interested. There are lots of openings of various kinds. There are large numbers of works.

\_\_\_\_\_ : Maybe I am looking too far ahead on this thing, but now W.R.A. helps to ~~limit~~ locate people on the outside. That is fine, but I am sure that many are

will stay. Now, are they going to decide that people who left are slackers or unloyal people?

Myer: That is an interesting point. The conception that the American people have of the Japanese is very peculiar. It was thought for instance that there would be 110,000 top beats. They didn't realize that there are children, old people, and invalids among the Japanese children. That is the kind of rumors that we are facing. Rumors of that kind. We are rectifying that, but we can't do everything. Those who stay in the centers must do the best kind of job of it. Those who stay may be older persons and those who stay will need the counsel of the elder statesman.

\_\_\_\_\_ : How long will it take to get a pass?

Myer: We have gone through a nebulous stage on that. Now it's clear that it will take around 10 days.

\_\_\_\_\_ : How about civil service status?

Myer: I hope and believe that that will be clarified. There's no question as far as civil service commission itself is concerned, but there are complications.

\_\_\_\_\_ : Who will be permitted to make applications?

Myer: Anyone can apply. I am not going to generalize. Each case will be considered on its merits. In regard to kibei we will be more cautious. I don't think we will have any permit lags.

\_\_\_\_\_ : Do we understand that everyone who makes applications from this camp?

Myer: Nods head.

\_\_\_\_\_ : Suppose you owned property in California.  
Should a person sell his property there?

Myer: That is hard to say. We don't know what California is going to do. What they do is dependent on how we conduct ourselves during this war.

\_\_\_\_\_ : Can you tell us anything about houses?  
We understand that it's better in other centers. They have stoves in other centers.

Myer: We are doing all we can. We were able to get coal in Minidoka. Conditions here are on the average as other centers.

\_\_\_\_\_ : Even if we get stoves, stoves are no good if we have one inch cracks on the floors.

Myer: We are doing something on that too. There's linoleum. We are thinking about that sort of thing all the time and working as hard as we can.

Mr. Tachibana of Camp II: Mr. Myer, your honor, (laughter) I wish to say that we in a sad condition. Salaries and clothing are all behind. When we came here, we were all broke. We are ~~always-as-~~ lost as we have been forced to depend on money, but money is hard to get. (laughter) All my friends are in the same tub. Your honor, W.R.A., we are in a serious condition. We wish to ask you that you do all you can for salary and clothing. You must understand we are not like soldiers. We are composed of families. We have to have things for children and for wives. We have to have these things. The people say, Mr. Myer,

please help us by giving money first. (laughter)

Myer: We will do our best.

\_\_\_\_\_ : What about doctors? Mr. Myer, doctors are working here on \$19 a month. That is nothing to live on. There are special things that they need. It doesn't look nice for doctor's wives to work. There are many things we have to buy-books. Books cost a lot of money. Do you think it's just for doctors to work as hard as they do and still receive only \$19 a month?

Myer: You bring up a very serious point. At present I can only answer this. That I hope you doctors will look at your work from several angles. I hope that you won't feel that it's just a matter of being stuck here for the duration you have a special job as well as special needs. One of my middle names Justice and I am trying to put justice into your situation. You must remember always that there are a lot of people on the outside feeling just as frustrated as you are in the inside. (EHS)

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70-A

RESETTLEMENT

6-4-43

Interview with Dorothy \_\_\_\_\_, the maid in personnel barracks "E" by EHS.

Subj.: Attitudes towards resettlement.

I went over to barracks "E" to get my laundry from Dorothy who has been doing it for the last couple of weeks. She was in a rather agitated mood and began talking about an offer which she had had through the Employment Office to go to Chicago. "I am sure in a stew. I just don't know what to do. I can't seem to get my mind made up to go out and I don't know whether I will ever go out. I just wish they wouldn't talk about things they way they do. Like my aunt has been talking for two days about people who got killed outside just as soon as they went out to work outside. I just wish they wouldn't talk about rumors that way. I am a little orphan girl, you know. Don't have any parents and the way my aunt talks it just makes me not want to go out. I always say that if you go out thinking about getting killed something is going to happen, but it won't happen if you won't think of those things.

So I think maybe my aunt is telling these stories on purpose. I don't think she wants my cousin to go out. That's her daughter, you know. And I have always said that if my cousin can go out, then I can go out, too. But my aunt doesn't want us to go out. You know I can't stay on here forever, but when they talk about people getting killed, even if I don't believe it, I won't go out because I am afraid I will be thinking about somebody getting killed and then I will get killed myself because I say that if you don't think about it it won't happen, but if you did think it's going to happen and I can't stay here because I don't want to get married. I mean I can't get mar-

ried here because I have somebody across, you know. I have somebody waiting for me. So I don't know. Maybe I won't ever go out.

10-8-42

## ISSEI, NISEI ATTITUDES ON LEAVING CAMP

via John Fukushima:

I think the feeling of the Issei is that they want to stay in Poston. They don't want to try to go out. I know how it's with my relatives. They say, "Well, here we can see a shibai, like the one last night at least every month. We hardly ever say those things on the outside, so life is lots better in that respect here. Then we have our friends and outside we would be separated from them. But with the Nisei, like myself, it's different. Young couples like myself don't want to waste time getting started again. We have just bought houses and we are getting ourselves established. We ought to get out and begin doing that as soon as we can. That's why I am going out now. I am hoping that I can get located permanently outside, maybe in Denver. That's why we chose beet topping in Colorado so that we would be near cities where we could look for work during the one month that we can stay out finishing the job. I have noticed that in the last week there's been a big change on the part of couples of about my age. They want to go out now although they didn't a few weeks ago, but the Issei want to stay in camp more than ever and I can understand how it is with them.

(EES)

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EVENT: Public meeting on "Resettlement" with Dr. Powell speaker.

SUBJECTS: Resettlement

DATE: 5/12/43

on the subject of "Resettlement"  
A general public meeting/was held in Block 36 mess hall on Wednesday night, 5/12/43. The meeting was scheduled to start at 8:30 p.m., but I didn't arrive until 9:00 p.m. and consequently much of the meeting was missed. There were roughly about 130 people present, representing exclusively the niseis and few caucasian teachers. When I arrived Dr. Powell was just about winding up his prepared speech. However, from 9:00 to 10:00 p.m. a question period was conducted in which various members from the audience raised questions and expressed various opinions on the different aspects of the resettlement problem. It was very apparent that Dr. Powell was encouraging all evacuees to move out of the centers and to settle on the outside as fast as possible. He did not make any attempt to hide his real intentions for at the conclusion of the meeting he stated: "I hope I don't have to see your faces any longer than I have to."

He stated that he visited some five cities, including St. Louis and Chicago, and had occasions to talk with various people, many of whom were totally ignorant of relocation centers and the problem of resettlement of the Japanese.

He stated that Sherrill (?) of the Chicago WRA office had expressed the opinion that the evacuees are taking domestic jobs too seriously. Still quoting Sherrill, he said that domestic jobs have several advantages that outweigh the disadvantages in the immediate problem. First, it provides a secure home for the evacuee and eliminates the almost grave housing problem. Second, the evacuee receives a direct income. Third, it provides an opportunity to the evacuee to look the city over familiarizing himself with the geography and the job opportunities of the

city as well as other aspects of the city. And fourth, it might be a period for training oneself in certain vocation that one is contemplating on entering.

Dr. Powell explained that the present WRA leave clearance policy is drastically different from before. Formerly one had to have a job assurance before he was permitted to leave the center. Under this policy the evacuees desirous of leaving accepted any menial job as domestic work, hotel work, etc. just so they could get out. Once having left the center and situated in the contracted job, the evacuee would quit this job and look for a more attractive job. This created <sup>a</sup> bad impression on the employers and only aided to jeopardize the successful resettlement <sup>still</sup> of those/in relocation centers. However, under the present set-up the evacuees are permitted to select the job of their choosing and those who are anxious to get out but are without job assurances could get out first and temporarily establish themselves in hostels while they go out to seek for jobs they prefer.

Dr. Powell stated that there is a wide range of jobs in the Minneapolis and Chicago region.

Dr. Powell touched on total relocation. He said that without question after the war skilled workers in various fields of occupation will be greatly needed. He pleaded that people should now train themselves for the future reconstruction period. In Poston, he said, it doesn't matter how long the school building construction takes. The important thing is the number of youngsters that get practical training in bricklaying, carpentry, and other trades and work. This will be very important in the successful relocation of all Japanese evacuees. He stated "Poston should not be an end in itself, but a means to an end." Poston should be a rich training ground for the up-and-coming generation.

A Miss Chizuyo Imoto, a newly-arrived school teacher from Manzanar (?), related an interesting account of her sister's experience in getting a job in Chicago. She told of how her sister was turned down for employment by Sears, Roebuck & Co. and her offers for employment by the W.R.A. as stenographer and by Carl Sandburg (poet) as domestic help. She emphasized the fact that her sister was undismayed by the many unsuccessful attempts to get a job, and that finally she had several possibilities. Because of her interest in writing she accepted the job with Carl Sandburg.

Dr. Powell touched on the conflict which exist between the Chicago WRA office and the Friends group. Sherrill (?) of the Chicago WRA feels that the Friends group is placing the issue on a too sympathetic level in attempting to secure jobs for evacuees. It was explained that the Friends group feel that because the Japanese have been evacuated they should be given some form of employment to maintain their livelihood. The Chicago WRA feels that such emphasis is not necessary in securing jobs for the evacuees, and that the emphasis should be on the natural ability and skill of the evacuees. Chicago WRA feels that there is need for workers, skill and unskilled, in various trades and occupation and the evacuees could be placed in these places which need workers.

Speaking about domestic work, Dr. Powell emphasized the fact that in many ways the evacuee domestic workers who left the centers earlier opened the way for better jobs for themselves and others that followed.

The meeting adjourned at about 10:00 p.m. A few remained to talk with Dr. Powell personally. Among those who were present there seemed to have pervaded a keen interest in resettlement. Some told me that they had expected only about 35 people that night, and that they were surprised to have a large crowd as 130 or so people.

*ey*

71  
~~71~~ Resettlement

Date of Event: 7/17/43  
Writing: 7/19/43

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Supplement to TY's write-up of Forum on "Resettlement" by I.I.

This is a short write-up of the questions asked by the audience and my reaction to the group of Isseis who rudely walked away from the Block 4 stage area while a speaker was talking.

After the fifteen minute talks by each of the four speakers (see TY's report, dated 7/18/43) the chairman, the ushers went around the audience gathering questions to be asked these speakers.

The first question asked was pertaining to what the speakers considered the greatest factor in the slow resettlement process. Mr. Satow took the cue and said that the impression that he got from his visits to the various centers (all six of them), was the "business as usual" frame of mind everywhere. He stated further that if the WRA policy is the resettlement, then everything in the centers must be "geared up to that key". Dr. Ishimaru gave financial reasons as the explanation as the greatest factor in people not relocating, and he reiterated the aspect of finance read in his speech.

The second question asked was what was being done to help farmers relocate. Zimmerman answered this and explained that 7 men from the Agriculture Department left this morning to investigate a place in Presidio, Texas where some irrigation type of farming was done. He explained that Texas and California was not the only place where irrigation farming was done. He pointed out Missouri had some of the richest soils in the world.

Mr. Satow asked Mr. Zimmerman, then, if he would recommend to the people that still have property in California to sell their property and go back east. Zimmerman said that he just wanted to make the evacuees

cognizant of the fact that there were many farming land in other states than California.

A question was asked from the audience concerning the clearance papers for the Eastern Defense Command. Mr. Zimmerman answered this question by explaining how a joint board made of various officials representing the FBI, the Army, and the Navy (?) passed upon these cases individually.

The third question was asked about the businessmen's chances for the outside. There was a rather vague answer made by Mr. Satow. He said that at Gila there was a resettlement committee made up of evacuees appointed personnel which studies the problem from four phases: 1) Business opportunities, 2) Farming chances, 3) Opportunities for those seeking jobs, and 4) Student relocation. This kind of thing may be done in all the centers to assist the resettlement program, Satow said.

The fourth question was about how one could get more information about the jobs that are listed on the tri-weekly job offers sheet. Zimmerman, after commenting that he was on the spot tonight, explained that these jobs are often teletyped to Poston, rather than sent in my mail because of the long distance between the place of employment and the Project. This made it necessary for the job offers be as brief as possible. He suggested that if more information was needed a special delivery, airmail letter be sent to both the WRA field office and the prospective employer.

The fifth question was about the chances for girls leaving on seasonal jobs. Zimmerman said that something was being done along this

for girls to work in canneries, but the few opportunities proved to be too low in salary to be accepted by the WRA.

The last question was about parolees, whether or not they were permitted to relocate. Zimmerman said that it was not altogether impossible, but it was certainly more difficult to do than non-parolees. These people have to have permission from Washington and have a sponsor in the city in which they are to reside. Zimmerman said that he would like to push through a test case on this and see how far he could to with it.

In reference to the walk-out staged by about one hundred Isseis when Ishimaru started his speech, my immediate reaction was to say to myself, "Oh, oh, something is going to happen. A demonstration-a riot?" These hundred or so Isseis weren't satisfied in rudely getting up while the speakers were talking, but they were actively urging other people to go home. Probably out of fear and threat other Isseis and Niseis both, conformed to these outspoken individuals and meekly participated in the walk-out demonstration.

Ishimaru didn't know exactly what was happening for awhile. He stopped his reading of the speech for a few seconds and then continued. His voice faltered and the volume was weak. It didn't get back to normal for sometime, but nevertheless he continued talking.

It seems to me that this demonstration was largely directed at Ishimaru, especially for the known dislike certain groups of Isseis for him. However, there might be two other factors.

One is the possibility which Mr. Satow, one of the forum speakers explained as the cause. He felt that this was demonstration mostly against meeting not being conducted in Japanese. The moderator and the Chairman of the forum added that this may be one of the reasons because the Poston Chronicle publicized the forum in Japanese, but didn't to it in English. Perhaps, it was written that the meeting would be held in Japanese as well as in English.

The other is the possibility that these Isseis were protesting against anyone, especially any Niseis, who were making speeches and wholeheartedly endorsing the WRA policy of relocation. My room-mate half-jestingly said to Mas Satow when he came back from the forum, that Mas better go sleep in another unit than ours because there might be some Isseis coming after him tonight.

My personal feeling is that all of these factors had a part in this, fortunately mild demonstration. However, it was widespread enough to cause considerable interest and conversation in various parts of the camp.

7/ Resettlement

70-a RE-RELOCATION

Observation by T.Y.

Subject: "Resettlement"

Date of event: 7/17/43

Typing: 7/18/43

I attended a public meeting at Block 4 stage Saturday night, 7/17/43, in which the topic of "Resettlement" was discussed by a panel of four speakers, namely, Mr. Zimmermann, Dr. T. G. Ishimaru, Dr. Walter Balderston, and Masao Satow, visiting YMCA leader. Tom Sakai, Block Managers Supervisor, was chairman for the meeting. In all there were about 600 people in attendance, about half of whom were isseis and the other half niseis. The meeting was conducted entirely in English; and consequently/the majority of the /isseis missed much of the discussion. According to some conversations it was learned that many of the isseis had come with the impression that the ~~xxx~~ talks were going to be in Japanese. Therefore they were disappointed.

The meeting began about 9:15 p.m. and ended about 11:30 p.m. Tom Sakai, chairman, opened the meeting with a brief explanation of the purpose of the meeting. He said many of the evacuees were becoming more and more interested in the problem of resettlement and wanted to find out the facts about it. He even stated: "According to a recent public opinion survey 66% of the English-speaking residents indicated that they want to resettle on the outside." (66% is incorrect; it is 63%)

He first introduced Mr. Giles Zimmermann, Chief of the Employment and Leave Office. Zimmermann gave a broad outline of the policies and program for resettlement according to the Washington and Boston levels. He proudly stated that Boston stood highest among the ten relocation centers in the number that has left for the outside. He said over 2500 had already left, and that 1500 had left since February of this year. He said there hundrede of wonderful opportunities coming to the Relocation Office in Boston, ~~xxxx~~ but added that the evacuees were not taking advantage of these offers. He said in the previous month there

were over 400 offers that had come in, but only about 27% of the total offers received applications from the evacuees. He said at least 75% of the offers should receive applications, and that at least 50% should receive acceptance. He warned that conditions on the outside are hard, and that it is getting worse and worse with time. He urged that the evacuees get themselves out of the centers as soon as possible in order to minimize the difficulty of adjusting to the outside conditions. He said numerous WRA regional offices on the outside are working very diligently and successfully in soliciting job offers. He said that some of the evacuees who leave Poston to accept jobs on the outside are somewhat lax in their work habits and have created embarrassing ~~and~~ situation for the WRA regional officer and the Leave Officer. More than that it is jeopardizing the success of the resettlement program. He said some people have not reported to the jobs that they contracted themselves to, and the respective employers have thereby refused to hire any more evacuees. He said within the Poston Project there are programs being instituted to prepare the evacuees for the outside. He said the reduction in the work corps and the greater restrictions on ~~the~~ the work habits of the evacuees will stimulate better work habits. He said "These WRA policies should have been instituted long ago." He announced that an advisory council composed of appointed personnel and evacuee members will assist the prospective relocatees in their leave. He announced the opening a relocation library at Block 27, in which the evacuees can acquaint themselves with the problems of leave and of the outside. Mr. Zimmermann spoke on various points of interests, but in the main his talk centered around the efforts of the WRA and the project leave office in assisting the evacuees to resettle on the outside. He left the impression that the evacuees should leave the relocation centers as fast as possible, and that the longer they delay the more difficult the leave would be.

The next speaker was Dr. Balderston and he spoke on the program of education carried on in the project to prepare evacuees for the outside world. He said much of what he had to say would be a re-emphasis of what Mr. Zimmermann had stated. He mentioned the opening of the relocation library which would furnish the evacuees with much information concerning resettlement. He mentioned various vocational guidance and training program carried on by the adult education group and other agencies in the project. His whole talk centered about the proper preparation of the evacuees in the resettlement program. His talk was relatively brief.

The next speaker was Masao Satow, YMCA leader from Salt Lake City, and a former resident of Los Angeles. Mr. Satow stated that he was a resettled evacuee in Salt Lake City but that his travels throughout the country had allowed him to stay in Salt Lake City but for two weeks or so. He said he travelled extensively and visited the numerous relocation centers and cities in the midwest and East, and that public opinion on the ~~man~~ outside was very good. He said throughout his entire travel experience he had not had one embarrassing experiencing. He stressed the fact that the entire success of the resettlement of the evacuees on the outside rested with the individual evacuee. He said if one went out with the idea of expecting discrimination he was bound to find it. However, if one went out with a healthy attitude and a determination to adjust himself to the outside condition he was going to have no trouble at all. He said there is bound to be some discrimination, but that these were relatively insignificant. He said the evacuees leaving for resettlement were ambassadors for the evacuees in general in creating good impression and friendly feeling with whom they come in contact with. He said the general attitude, general behavior, mannerisms and even

the dress of each individual evacuee resettled on the outside are the factors by which the American public is going to judge all evacuees. He urged that all evacuees leaving the centers be fully prepared for the outside world. He cited examples in Gila and Tule Lake (?) in which there ~~is~~ <sup>are</sup> set up advisory councils which <sup>thoroughly</sup> prepare the evacuees before they leave. Throughout his talk he reemphasized the importance of the proper preparation for evacuees leaving the centers time and time again. He urged very strongly that Poston should have such facilities available to prospective relocatees. He said there are good reasons why evacuees want to go back to California, but reminded the group that California is not the whole U.S. but that there are 47 other states to which they could go. He ~~said~~ ~~stated~~ criticized the evacuees for allowing themselves to read only the Los Angeles Times and Examiner and creating a general impression of the public sentiment on the outside therefrom. He said there <sup>were</sup> dozens and dozens of newspapers in the midwest and East which are giving the evacuees good publicity. He said these newspapers are creating favorable public sentiment on the outside. He strongly urged that the WRA make use of <sup>capable</sup> evacuees in the resettlement program by appointing some of them to act as field representatives on the outside and <sup>to</sup> shuffle ~~back~~ back and forth ~~between~~ between the centers and the outside in an endeavor to keep the evacuees thoroughly informed as to conditions on the outside. He criticized the WRA for making policies and programs without consulting the evacuees, and then requesting that the evacuees follow these arrived-at policies and programs. He said the WRA is treating the evacuees as "guinea pigs", and that it might be advisable for the WRA if it consulted the evacuees as there some "smart guinea pigs" among the evacuees. (This brought a laughter from the audience)

The next and last speaker was Dr. Ishimaru who made an evaluation of the resettlement program carried on by the WRA and made suggestions for improvement. Just as Dr. Ishimaru began to speak, about 50 or so isseis abruptly stood up and began leaving, yelling derogatory remarks as "a-ho" "yame-yame" "gan-ba-le" and the like, which were seemingly aimed at Dr. Ishimaru. The impression gathered was that there was strong antipathy toward Ishimaru from among some of the isseis and that this was directly traceable to the time Ishimaru had served as chairman Temporary of the/Community Council. However, a large number of the isseis remained and listened to what Ishimaru had to say and even heartily applauding at one point of Ishimaru's talk.

Dr. Ishimaru read his carefully prepared speech. He criticized the WRA program of granting financial assistance to some and denying this to others. He proposed that all evacuees, irregardless of their status, who leave the center should be given financial assistance. He recommended that the funds of the alien Japanese and citizens, which are frozen with and formerly in deposit with the Sumitomo and Yokohama Banks, be made available to the evacuees immediately so that they can go out of the centers and start life anew on the outside with adequate provisions and a sance of security. He spoke briefly of his travels to the various cities, which covered some 8,000 miles. He expressed concern that many of the evacuees who leave the centers are still under the impression that they are living in relocation centers and are acting and dressing like "pabhuko" gang members and are displaying poor work habits. He said all this is an impediment in the program of the resettlement. He recommended that the WRA appoint some competent and qualified evacuees to assist in clearing the properties and holdings of the evacuees on the Pacific Coast.

*Another impression was that there was evidence of feeling of disgust and dis-*

*apprehensions that the majority were being excluded entirely in England.*

The second hour of the meeting was devoted to an open discussion among the panel members with questions coming from the audience on slips of papers. The butt of most of the questions was Mr. Zimmermann, who jokingly remarked at one point that "This is my night of confession." Masao Sato rifled several questions to Zimmermann, criticizing the program of resettlement carried on by the WRA and especially within the project. He stated that WRA and leave officers are too concerned with figures and statistics as to how many are leaving the centers, and are not paying enough attention to the program of preparing the evacuees for resettlement on the outside. He said it is becoming a race between the various relocation centers to see which center can produce the largest number of evacuee leaves. He said more attention should be given to the quality of the leaves. He said ~~maxx~~ not enough information is being passed on <sup>to</sup> the evacuees leaving and suggested a counselling program for the latter. Zimmermann apologized that sufficient <sup>attention</sup> had not been paid to the qualifications of the evacuees leaving, but defended the WRA and himself by saying that the WRA policy of resettlement had ~~h~~ come very unexpectedly and that they had to work fast with what they had. He said, however, he ~~maxix~~ heartily endorsed all that Sato had said, especially his suggestions, and that steps are now being taken to improve the condition.

Ishimaru brought up the point about the difficulty of issei and older niseis with families leaving the center, and that so far the leaves have been largely among the ~~nixix~~ unattached young niseis. A question as to the possibility of girls leaving on seasonal leaves was brought up. To both of these problems Zimmermann made comments, but left no definite understanding in the minds of the people.

In regard to the stoppage of leave grants at the present, he assured the people that the money had already been appropriated by Congress

and that it would be a matter of two or three weeks before the money will be forthcoming to the project.

There were several questions raised, but they were reiterations of what had already been covered by the speakers.

It was about 11:30 p.m. when the meeting was adjourned. ~~xxxxxx~~  
~~xxxx~~ Only about half of the original group remained till the end of meeting. The other half had petered out gradually, most of them being isseis. However, many isseis remained till the end. They/ isseis were very interested in the meeting, but were disappointed that it was conducted solely in English, which they could not understand very well. At one point of the discussion, one of the audience yelled out "Why don't you talk in Japanese?" To this Ishimaru replied "You'll have to excuse us from using Japanese tonight." I heard some of the nisseis about making oral interpretations of the talks and discussion into Japanese to some of the isseis. Speaking to several of the isseis and nisseis, I got the impression that the meeting was very stimulating and interesting and <sup>such</sup> should be conducted again. It was felt that the next one should be conducted in Japanese for the isseis.

My personal impression was that the meeting was most illuminating and that it is a most effective means of educating the evacuees in regard to the resettlement program.