

J ~~2/21/44~~
4/1/44 Saturday

1. The Administration from the "Grapevine."

Miller Lately Miller has been the source of trouble. He is always quarreling with Davidson, for instance. The two exchange official memos and send one copy to Stafford just to keep him informed of what they think of each other. Stafford sides with Miller most of the time.

Pomeroy and Miller Recently the Christian ministers on the Project requested that two students come into the center to make a study here. They asked for accommodations for them on the project. Pomeroy said that this was a good project and something that the people should have. He said that the two persons should be allowed to stay in the hospital or in the Caucasian staff apartments. This matter was sent to Stafford, who sent it back to Miller. Miller gave reasons for opposing this project.

Budget According to reports of the results of the conference in Washington, the budget for the coming year is something like \$40,000,000, only a little less than what was requested by the WRA. The administration is said to be pleased to know that the WRA still has the support of the budget committee.

Personnel It is known that the number of Caucasian workers on the project is being increased. At the same time quite a number of the old ones are leaving because of induction. Many of those coming in are old people who won't be drafted. The number on the project now, according to one source, is something like 130 and the quota for the project is about 170. Staff members are saying that for each Caucasian on the project they can cut off 20 evacuees. There was talk of closing down the centers at Washington, it is said, but, the Project Director hastened to explain, there will be jobs for the staff in other fields if the centers should close down.

Reports Officer Acree came down from Washington to take Bigelow's place. The two don't seem to get along very well and seem to disagree on the policy of how the project newspaper should be run. I wonder if Acree is responsible for the abundance of war propaganda articles in the last issue. Feature articles appeared on the front page.

Expatriation A wire came through from Washington recently to advise that the list of people bound for Tule Lake should be revised to eliminate those who expatriated since January 20.

It is said that one person who was inducted had already taken out expatriation papers (Takahashi). ~~in~~

In regards to the induction of Niseis the WRA doesn't seem to know the intentions of the Army.

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Folsom's workers In spite of the fact that Folsom is in charge of the ~~employment~~ Placement Office is looking for two girls. He was going around asking other girls in the Ad. Building for workers.

"Of course," he is quoted as saying, "the girls can't be loafing because we have to keep up a good front. They have to work full eight hours."

It is said that four girls have quit already because they couldn't stand Folsom.

Folsom doesn't seem to get along with the Caucasians in the department, either.

Leave Office Caucasians in the Leave Office don't get along, either. Smith and Moore don't seem to be of much use in there. It's gotten to a point where people insist on seeing "Mac" or Beeson before they'll relocate.

Agriculture Davidson announced his intention of making the farm workers work only six hours a day, instead of eight. In this way, he said, he could get more done. He was told "Nothing doing" by both Miller and Stafford.

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2. Irrigator Cross Reference

Relocation "New Indefinite Leave Regulation Announced"

I. 4/1/44 p 1

Relocation "Myer Declares Evacuees Should Relocate Now"

I. 4/1/44 p 1

War "A Child's Prayer for His Daddy Over There"

A feature story

I. 4/1/44 p 1

Draft "Ft. McClellan Boys Face Army Trial"

I. 4/1/44 p 1

War "War Veteran Healthy at 67"

A feature story

I. 4/1/44 p 1

Draft "April Draft Calls 200 Hunt Men"

I. 4/1/44 p 1

Draft "2 Draft Evaders Under \$2000 Bond"

Also 3 year sentences for nine from Granada

I. 4/1/44 p 1

Red Cross Drive "Residents Contribute \$2285.97 to Red Cross"

The breakdown for blocks can be used later to compare various blocks.

I. 4/1/44 p 1

Council "Council Airs City Problems"

I. 4/1/44 p 1

Draft "Letter from a Soldier"

From a volunteer from Hunt.

I. 4/1/44 p 2

J 4/2/44 Sunday

1. Mrs. Matsubara

(See J 12/29/43 #1, 1/3/44 #1, J 2/8/44 #8, #7)

I hadn't seen Mrs. Matsubara for sometime, and my wife and I dropped in to see her and her family when we went out for a walk. She was now working in the hospital, she said. She talked a great deal, while her husband kept quiet most of the time.

a. Relocation About relocation Mrs. Matsubara said:

"I don't want to go east anyplace because California is the best place in the world. If they let us go back to California I'd go back right away. We'd rather wait till the end of the war to go back to California than to go anyplace else."

When asked whether they had a property in Courtland, California, she said that they didn't because they were leasing a land. But she wanted to go back to a place which was warm. Idaho, she ~~xxx~~ said, was too cold for her. She didn't see how anyone could work in such cold weather, and if they didn't farm during the winter months, they'd miss out that much chance of "enjoyment" (tanoshimi).

b. Draft About the draft Mrs. Matsubara said:

"My eldest son, George, received his reclassification, but I feel sure that he's not going to be accepted (probably because of his health.) George himself doesn't care one way or the other. Do you think that the people in Tule Lake are going to be drafted? The people from Tule Lake write and tell us what a mistake we made but going out. My brother wrote and suggested that we send our two eldest sons to Tule Lake ~~in order to avoid the draft~~ in order to avoid the draft. If it's true that those who expatriated are going to be allowed to return to Japan they're certainly lucky. We were advised to do the same, but we're different from other families. Our children don't have dual citizenship, and if they expatriate, they might not have any citizenship at all. I had a relative who went back to Japan and it took three years for him to get citizenship in Japan for his son. I didn't want anything like that to happen to my family. Also, we didn't want our family to separate. If we were to allow our family to break up, we have have stayed in Tule Lake (The boys wanted to leave Tule Lake and the father was in a sanatorium). I wrote to my friends in Tule Lake that the people here are accepting the draft calmly and are just waiting for it to come along and that they needn't get excited about it in Tule Lake. They probably feel like telling us: 'See what I told you!'"

c. Jerome About Jerome, Mrs. Matsubara said:

"I hear that Jerome is closing down. My sister and my

friends who went there are out of luck because they have to move. I'm the lucky one. I was supposed to go with them (group transfer) and they advised me to go along with them because then they would be able to look after me and my family. But I wasn't going to go to an awful center like Jerome. They turned out to be wrong. They say Jerome is very damp ~~x~~, and now it's so hot that they have to sleep with their door and windows wide open."

d. Seasonal work I asked Mrs. Matsubara whether she was going out to seasonal work this year. Last year she went out in order to make preparations to call her husband out here from the sanatorium. She said:

"I don't think I'll go to work this year because it's was too much hard work last year."

2. Hyosaka's Relocation

Hyosaka's are a family from Sacramento (?) and very religious (Catholic). According to Mrs. Matsubara, they have made plans to relocate through the help of church people on the outside and go to ~~Kokkaka~~ Indiana. Mrs. M. related:

"The Hyosaka's are going out with 5 children with the aid of Catholics on the outside in Indiana. Mrs. H. says that she's sure that they can get along, at least. The husband is going to work as a janitor and the wife has a domestic job, too. The youngest children is 11 years, and consequently the children can take care of themselves. However, she's heard rumors that Japanese were disliked even by church people because they worked too hard. She had a letter sent to find out whether this was true or not. If she does not receive a favorable reply she does not want to take her whole family out there."

3. "Sumotori" on Seasonal Work

I asked "Sumotori" (married Kibei) at the mess table whether he intended to go out again this year to work. He seemed somewhat embarrassed, and said:

"Well, since I went out last year, I might go out again this year. I didn't intend to go out at all in the first place, but there's no sense in just staying in the center, you know. Some people say that if you've been in Japan ~~ix~~ for a long time it's not good to go out to work...But if I went out last year, I might as well go out this year again, too."

I helped him along by saying: "Certainly, if you have a wife and child, you can't get along on what you earn in here."

"Sumotori" agreed with this statement and said:

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"Sure, you can't ~~xxxx~~ get along on \$16 a month. From this month I'm getting paid \$12 a month as a student in the shop. I've been working there for five months already, and then they lower it to \$12. It's all right if they raise the pay, but it's funny when they lower it. They call us students, but we're just ordered around to fix this and that. They want to use Japanese cheaply, I think."

J 4/7/44 Friday

1. Methodology

All this week I have been spending practically the whole day writing up the draft situation. I took my journal ~~xx~~ notes which were kept in one folder under Nisei Draft and classified them before starting to write my report. At first the notes were classified according to reactions of Issei, Nisei, Kibei, Caucasians, but I decided that this would introduce the bias of forcing these concepts on the data. I next hit upon the idea of classifying the data according to the type of reaction, having in mind particularly "loyal" v.s. "disloyal" behavior. I decided that it would be best to write the report in terms of different kinds of reactions in order to avoid bias. Then I could point out what sort of persons were responsible for ~~xxxx~~ a certain reaction. I had first thought of writing a purely chronological account to avoid all bias, but this method seemed to be so confusing that I abandoned it in the beginning. But the problem still remained of somehow showing the change of reaction with the passage of time, and to facilitate this I divided the report into three periods:

Phase I: The initial impact including the ~~xxxxxx~~ latter part of January and the first week of ~~xx~~ February.

Phase II: The developmental period (of the mass resistance movement) which reached a climax on February 23 when the first group of boys went for their physical.

Phase III: The aftermath. The excitement gradually died down, and a large number of boys left the project for work on nearby farms.

I decided that I should attempt to show how typical a certain ~~xxxxx~~ type of reaction was in a particular period, as well as with particular individuals or groups. One other factor that I have tried to bring out was the place or situation in which a reaction took place. For convenience I had the following guide in mind:

National (comparison of inside and outside)

Project (Using the concepts of administration, leader, people)

Block

Home (especially in regards to Issei-Nisei conflict)

One other problem that I had was the incorporation of case history material into the report. Since my best material was in the form of case history, which brought out most of the about points in detail, it was important that the material be kept somewhat in case history form. The case history material was used to illustrate types of reactions, but sufficient identification was employed to make it possible to ~~xxxx~~ follow the case history when material from it was next employed. Whether this imitation of a technique

sometimes employed in the novel is useful or not, remains to be seen.

I say that I have been working on a report, since I wish to distinguish it from an analysis. In the report a minimum of conceptualization and the introduction of bias is desired. The purpose of the report, it seems to me, is to present the basic material gathered in field notes so as to make it available to all those concerned. The emphasis, it seems to me, should be upon complete coverage and the elimination of bias. This does not mean, of course, that the material should not be organized, because, unless it is, others reading the report will not be able to make heads or tails of the material. The organization, however, should be around concepts acceptable to most individuals interested in the material. It does not mean either that certain generalizations--such as to the typicality of a reaction--should not be made. Probably the writer is best able to make any sort of generalization on certain matters, and this may be of importance to others interested in the data. Such generalizations, however, should be identifiable as such.

An analysis of the data should not be attempted until the report is completed, since the former is likely to bias the latter. But how about previous analyses made on related material? one might ask. This probably means that analyses should not be undertaken carelessly.

2. Suicide because of Draft

Reports have come from several sources that Mrs. Funai has committed suicide because of the draft situation. She has, it is said, five boys of draftable age. It is not known how many of them passed their physical. At least one of them seems to be in the Army at present. One report states that he sent back his clothes, showing that he was prepared to go overseas. Another states that ~~the~~ Mrs. Funai declared:

"I've lost all of my boys."

At any rate, she was discovered sitting up in bed, her neck strung from the top of the bedpost. She was rushed to the hospital, and died there.

3. Sick Mother and Draft

There is another report that a mother living in the 20's was sick in bed because she had three boys of draftable age. All three of them, however, failed to pass their physical, and she is now well and happy.

4. Job Prospects for Nisei Engineers

I met Harry Katsuyama in the canteen. He said that he was teaching Japanese with Mr. Makishima under the Recreation Department. The students pay 30 cents a month, and the teachers are reimbursed by the Recreation Department.

I asked him whether he was thinking of getting a job on the outside and he said:

"I think it's very hard. ~~It's very hard~~ You have to get Army and Navy clearance first, and that's very hard to get. Allen Arai tried to get it, but couldn't. I'm an Issei so it's harder for me. Jim (Matsuda) is out in Spokane working on the railroad, but I think he's wasting his time out there. He's qualified (aeronautic engineering), but he can't find a job, either. I think after the war Allen is going back to Japan, I don't know."

Before the war Harry was doing very well, according to his own account. He was in partnership with a Caucasian doing construction work, and when the latter died he took over the whole business. After the war he believes that construction is going to boom. He said:

"Maybe I'll make a lot of money in a couple of years and then go back to Japan."

dr.
J 4/10/44 Monday

1. Mrs. Mori on Relocation

Mrs. Mori's son and his wife went out to New York about a month ago. The son did not want to relocate, but had to go along because his wife began to say that if he didn't come with her she would go out alone. Several days ago Mrs. Mori received a telegram saying that the wife was in the hospital with spinal meningitis. Mrs. Mori was greatly concerned, had someone else take her job in the messhall temporarily. She was trying to get travel grant for a son whom she was sending out to take care of the other son, in case he became confused when his wife died. The administration seemed reluctant to allow this request. Mrs. Mori said to H.K.:

"Nechan, (sister) don't go far away, it's terrible at a time like this."

In the meantime other mothers were reputed to have blamed the wife for having dragged her husband out so far and even to have gone so far as to say that it served her right.

2. Block 12 Mess Trouble

In Block 12 the employment cut of the mess crew has resulted in conflict among the workers. The number of washerwomen was reduced from two to one, doubling the amount of work done by the remaining one--Mrs. Matsumoto. Recently, she was asked to wash the messhall curtains, and she complained that that was too much work for her to do. She asked that the waitresses be ~~also~~ required to do this. Evidently the chief cook, Mr. Hidaka, asked the waitresses to do this work. They, too, had been reduced in number, and complained that they were too busy to take on extra work. They pointed out that the dishwashers had not been reduced in number and there were an excess of dishwashers, when compared to other blocks. When the head waitress refused to carry out the chief cook's order to wash the curtains, and had some words with her, he quit his work, saying that he wouldn't work with such a woman. Mrs. Yamaguchi, the head waitress, is a rather refined lady, and the waitresses have respected her because she has not acted too superior in her position as head of the waitresses. ~~They declared that they would quit if Mrs. Matsumoto~~ She was advised to quit ~~her~~ by a third party, and she did. The waitresses then declared that they could not stand seeing her quit, and threatened to go on a strike. The block council (yakuin-kai) stepped in and demanded whether they meant to make the block people suffer by going on a strike. This served to prevent the strike. In the meantime the chief cook came back to work, and on the surface, matters were settled. The waitresses, however, were not satisfied, and quarreled with the dishwashers who expressed the opinion that there was no need for the waitresses to strike. The latter accused the waitresses of being very unsympathetic, not helping the waitresses when they were busy. One member

of the yakuin-kai was accused of siding with Mrs. Yamaguchi and unnecessarily prolonging the conflict.

One thing that should be borne in mind in evaluating this conflict is the chief cook's position in the block. When the block had a mess trouble before and the old crew quit, there was not one to organize and head the new crew. Some member of the old crew threatened to beat up anyone who took over the messhall work. At that time Mr. Hidaka came forth and offered to run the messhall for the block. Consequently, the block owes something to him, and even if he was unreasonable in dealing with the waitresses, the tendency is to overlook it. Also, chief cooks, it is said, are hard to get, while any waitress can take over the job of head waitress. Consequently, when it comes to a choice between the chief cook and the head waitress, the chief cook, as long as he doesn't have too many faults, would be favored by those who step in to settle the matter.

Now that an extra worker is desired in the messhall, an interesting situation has developed. The chief cook has expressed the opinion that it would be awkward for him to hire the new worker. The block manager has declined to meddle with the matter. Mr. Hata, the Block commissioner, was wondering how the matter should be settled. One suggestion offered him was that the block council (yakuin-kai) should handle the matter for the chief cook.

3. Beeson on Seasonal Leave

Went in to see Beeson today. I was really looking for Kimble, but couldn't find him. Somehow Beeson wasn't in a receptive mood. When I saw him the next time and he was with Kimble, he was friendly-like, smiling and asking I was getting along. I hesitated about seeing him, but went in and talked to him, anyway. If it weren't for my work I wouldn't have gone in just to chat with him. It was awkward for a while until we got to talking about seasonal leave. He said:

"We're having some trouble, but we're getting along. We're getting about 60 out on indefinite leave now, every week ($\frac{1}{2}$), and I expect that it's going to increase for a while yet. (He didn't seem to have taken into consideration the effect of the draft on relocation.) As soon as the people find out that 95 per cent of the people on the outside are getting along, the rest will go out, too. I know that there are some people that will never go out.

"The indefinite leave on trial is picking up, although there hasn't been much demand for it so far. The Stevens Hotel got only three workers. The trouble with that deal is that the fare has to be paid for by the evacuee until he decides to change over to indefinite leave.

"I was ~~not~~ in favor of seasonal leave 6 or 8 weeks ago. I wrote a long letter in to Washington complaining

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about the restrictions on seasonal leave. But I've changed my mind entirely on that. I've talked to many out on seasonal leave right now. A great many of them are saying that they don't want to change over to indefinite leave. I don't know what they're going to do, but I think a lot of them are going to come back into the center when their time is up. After seeing their attitude towards the new regulations, I'm set against seasonal leave. This going in and out, is going to have to stop. Either they go out or they stay in here. If they go out on indefinite leave they can go to any city, and can get most any kind of a job they want. There's no reason for them people not going out on indefinite leave. If they want to come back they can, if they have a good reason. That's clear. They have more privileges on indefinite leave, including that of coming back. If I had the whole thing to do over again I would have only one type of leave: they can either come back or not as they choose. On seasonal leave you have to come back, and people seem to prefer that. As long as they're out on seasonal leave they're considered a resident of the project, and that makes it difficult for housing. Even on indefinite leave their housing is held for a month as a sort of trial period.

"There are three kinds of people who won't go out: those who have too much money, those too poor to go out, and those who just don't care about going out. The rich and the poor won't go out. The rest find this a wonderful situation and they don't want to go out.

"In one center they've gotten together and decided that that won't go out unless they receive \$5000 per family."

When I pointed out the possibility of making money on seasonal leave, thus giving the poor a chance to relocate, he said:

"They've had a trial for two years now, and it hasn't worked. The people going out on seasonal don't save any money. They just go out and spend ~~xxx~~ all they earn. There's a cook who has been out for 9 months now who is earning 60 ~~xxxxx~~ dollars a week. I bet he hasn't \$100 to his name now."

Beeson did all of the talking. He didn't ask my opinion. He didn't make any particular effort to please me, and I found him unpleasant to talk to. I was surprised to find him optimistic about the future trend of relocation. He expected an increase in relocation for some time. And he didn't seem to be wanting any ~~xxxxx~~ help from evacuees.

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4. Cascade Workers

Concerning the Cascade workers Beeson said that they were out on indefinite leave with the option of coming back if they wanted to after the work was over. They can work around there, he said, and stay with the work if they liked. The work was essential work, too, and he felt that it was important enough to send the men out on the basis they did go out on.

5. Kibeis Organize

The Kibeis held an organization meeting to carry on recreational activities of their own. Whether this movement is the direct result of the draft situation is not known. Among other things they have decided to put on a series of Japanese plays and skits. Some people feel that organization will strengthen the group.

6. Kibeis and Expatriation

According to one report, those who have expatriated in the last several weeks have been largely Kibeis. The accuracy of this report cannot be vouched for, however. It is true that expatriation is not a momentous decision for many Kibeis.

7. Inu and Radio Reports

This story came from a block in the 40's. An Issei wrote down the contents of ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ news broadcasts that he heard, and then took it and proudly spread it to his friends and acquaintances. He was in the habit of visiting a certain boilerhouse regularly, where people gathered to receive his news. There were chairs cattered within the boilerhouse as in a school for people who came to listen to the nightly news. The efforts of this Issei were highly appreciated by the boilerhouse crowd.

Some time back at a block meeting this man was suggested for block commissioner. He got up and said that he couldn't accept the position because in his job he was supposed to avoid all political entanglements. Then another Issei got up and denounced his nightly activities.

"Why, then," he demanded, "do you discuss political problems in the boilerhouse."

Immediately frequenters of the boilerhouse got up and quieted him by calling him /baka (fool).

Since then the ambition self-styled teacher has ceased to visit this particular boilerhouse, although he still visits other places. The frequenters of the boilerhouse are indignant, and has stopped speaking to the man who caused the cessation of the nightly visit. The man is ostracized in his block.

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8. Johnny Izumi on Volunteering

"Johnny" was worried about his having answered "no, yes," in his questionnaire (Form 304A). Recently when it was announced in the Irrigator (4/8/44) that volunteers were wanted for Camp Savage, he decided that in order to make up for his having answered "no" to Question 27 he should volunteer for Savage. He suggested this to his parents, and they argued over the pros and cons. His parents, he said, were opposed to volunteering of any sort. He went to see MacLaughlin and was told that he couldn't volunteer. What would happen, he was told, was that he would be inducted ~~xxx~~ through regular channels. He went home and told this to his parents, and they seemed satisfied to ~~xxxxx~~ let him attempt to get into Savage, since it would not be volunteering. He was disturbed that such a step still might be interpreted as volunteering. The Irrigator article, for instance, had employed the word "volunteers." In writing up the article announcing those who volunteered, the Irrigator might again use the same word.

9. Outside Employment Condition

According to a Nisei who came back to the center recently to take his ~~for~~ parents out with him, all ~~xxxxxx~~ Niseis in defense industry and civil service have been discharged. He brought this news back from Cleveland.

The reaction of one Nisei to this news was: "Why do they draft Niseis for, anyway? Why don't they Niseis complain and do something about it?"

10. Mrs. Miyata on Son's Desire to go out to Work

Mrs. Miyata expressed the wish that the war would end soon. She said about her son:

"My son wants to go out to work. I suppose I ought to let him go out. I don't want him to become spoiled in here. He was doing some sort of night work, but now has been loafing around for two months.

J 4/11/44 Tuesday

1. Talk with Solon Kimball

I talked for over an hour with Kimball, discussing project problems in general, and also discussing social structure in general. I was able to get clarification from him on the following points.

Washington office The Washington office does not think in terms of evacuees because they are unable to visualize them. They do not realize, for instance, that some of the changes they put into effect might have far-reaching effects on evacuees at the receiving end. To people sitting in Washington, many of the changes they propose are of minor concern to them. A person who is in the Washington office would soon find himself under control of the ideas of others. They are no longer able to think in the same way ~~they~~ as they would if they were in face-to-face contact with evacuees.

Employment Cut When I told Kimball that I was curious to know why the employment cut was being made, he explained that a certain amount had been appropriated by the government for certain purposes, and that set the amount which could be spent for evacuee employment. This also accounted for the fact that the number of Caucasians being employed on the project was increasing. However, he admitted that these changes were also due to a change in policy. Before the quotas for ~~each~~ each division was set, several men went out and visited several projects, and watched evacuees at work. They found that there were discrepancies in the number of persons employed to do a certain type of work in different projects. Consequently, with these comparisons in mind they set the quota for each division. That the total number employed on the project was radically reduced was due to such rationalizations as:

1. It doesn't look too good to have people on the outside visit the centers and see people loafing around.
2. When there are too many working, it produces sloppy work habits.

When I mentioned that the evacuees interpreted employment cuts as a means of forcing people out of the projects, Kimball ~~mentioned the~~ said:

3. "That's another one of the rationalizations. They felt that if there wasn't work within the project, people would be more likely to go out.

Kimball, however, did not explain why the number of Caucasians were increasing.

Relocation My conversation with Kimball on relocation is almost ~~xxxxxxx~~ good enough to be classic. He said:

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"You know, there's been a change of policy in relocation since last November."

Myself: "What change is it?"

Kimball: "They decided ~~to~~ not to place so much emphasis on relocation and make it voluntary."

Myself: "I know that both Myer and Stafford made announcements to that effect. The people, however, don't realize that such a change in policy has been made. One reason is that they consider both the employment cuts and seasonal leave restrictions as efforts toward forced relocation."

Kimball: "As a matter of fact, the administration is still interested in getting people out. It felt that by not placing so much emphasis on relocation they would be able to get more people out!"

2. Dentists' Strike

According to one version of the dentists' strike brought by "Pop," the seven dentists struck because their number was going to be cut down to five. Even now they don't have enough workers to take care of more than the emergency cases. Finally a compromise was reached whereby two dentists were to be reduced, but three assistants were to be added. These assistants were to receive \$16, but were actually regular dentists. All of the dentists agreed to pool their wages and divide them evenly among the eight. On this basis they went back to work.

3. Pickling Plant Conflict

Food Committee Recommends "miso" manufacture The following is the first recommendation made by the Food Committee of the Council.

"Recommendation:

3/30/44

1. "That the manufacture of "miso" (mixture of rice and beans), "moyashi" (bean sprouts), "tsukemono" (pickled vegetables), "age-dofu" (fried bean cakes), be made possible within the project, and that the list of the above mentioned foods (listing their food values) be sent to Washington for approval."

4. C.C.-B.C. Joint Meeting

The meeting was opened by Chairman Fujii. Tom Ugawa, secretary, calls the roll. The attendance is fairly good.

Fujii: (In Japanese) "This meeting was called specially to meet with Mr. Kimball. (In English) Today we have Mr. Kimball with us to review our problems ~~with~~ and to hear what is happening on the outside. We appreciate his help."

Kimball: (Makes a speech. The following is a paraphrase of his speech.) "During the past weeks it has been my pleasure to meet with the C.C. and B.C.'s. We have attempted to discuss some of the problems of organization-- How a council goes about carrying out its function.

"I want to review community government and the WRA. As soon as the WRA was set up the Director, Mr. Eisenhower, announced self-government. It was merely an announcement at that time because of lack of example on which to pattern the government. The legal limitations that could be extended was discussed. The Federal Government does not have jurisdiction over the town. Because of this fact it was not possible to incorporate project government as a city government.

"The ~~planned~~ policy provided for a charter, for the establishment of a legislative body, a judicial committee, committees and boards to handle special problems, and licensing of cooperative enterprises within the center, and such other power that would be given from time to time.

"When you come right down to it the authority is not as important as the function it performs. In the handbook are listed 6 functions:

1. legislative
2. judiciary
3. advisory
4. communication
5. planning
6. ceremonial

Organization "The basic organization is laid down in the charter. It is different from other centers in being two-chambered. Councilmen and Block commissioners. This group is elected by the people and represents the people. The Council the entire residents, the block commissioners their block residents. Committees report on special problems to the main body. At other centers boards are established, ^{and} include people not members of the Council-- ~~in~~ e.g. the man-power commission in Gila and the Segregation Committee in Topaz and Rohwer.

"One should not forget block organization. At Gila

the block council consisted of the block manager, the block commissioner, chief cook, and one person from each barrack. In some places they have regular meetings, ~~and others~~. One of the important jobs which the councilman has performed is the organization of the block. He is the one who calls meetings, makes announcements of the Council, conveys the wish of the people to the Council. The Block Commissioner has an important function. A well organized community depends upon the block commissioner! ~~representing the whole of the~~
~~people~~

"The two relationships of the Council should be remembered: With the administration and with the residents. It is sometimes difficult to keep in touch with the problems of the residents. It is important to understand the community point of view.

"The administration relationship is difficult because the administration operates under limitations--money, law, public opinion. They are often interpreted as being without meaning or ~~some~~ unnecessary restrictions. The administration does not always have a free hand. Where hardship is brought to the people, it is the function and obligation of the Council to bring this to the attention of the administration and to suggest concrete means of solving the problem. All recommendations cannot always be acted upon favorably. But a full discussion is possible.

"By the organization of self-government the solving of certain problems should be made easier. One of the most important problems is the future of the Japanese. Tremendous strides have been made. Mr. Myer has fought consistently for the rights of the evacuees. ~~There~~ There are many friends of evacuees in high places and among the public who have fought for their rights. There are thousands of people--Christian organizations and civil organizations. There are also evacuees who helped to solve their own problem.

"The discussion of property owners recently was a step in that direction. There are other problems of the community--food, health, etc., with which you will probably be preoccupied the greater part of the time.

"In other centers the record on the whole is very good. At first discussions were about where they could get this and that. They were important at that time because they worried the people. Later on, producing own food, establishing bakery, etc.--to make the community self-supporting--were discussed.

"The record of community government in the centers is as good as or better than those of cities in the United States. In only one city the type of government we are attempting to establish here ~~has been employed~~ has been employed. This is in Louisville, Ky, where the people take part in advising the administrators. What is necessary is common understanding and the tackling of common problems." (end)

J 4/11/44 #4-3

Mr. Fujii translates in ~~xxxx~~ detail Mr. Kimball's speech, which he does excellently. Ken Yamada, who does not think too highly of the chairman, later commented that he took too much time translating the speech. Mr. Fujii called for questions.

Ken Yamada: "What is the function of the block manager in other centers?"

Kimball: "The function all the centers is about the same. He did a great many important jobs in the beginning. As the project became better organized those services have been better organized. Hi is an employee of the administration. He is responsible primarily for the upkeep of the physical facilities."

C. T. Takahashi: "We're organizing a group on property. There's many infraction of the OPA regulations without the knowledge of the evacuees through their agents. The unscrupulous agents want these properties. They are getting friends in the OPA to put the heat on the evacuee who owns the property. It's hard to give factual data. The next thing that they do is to use the unions. They're making the property so hard to operate to make the evacuees give up their property. How can you stop a thing like that, when it's all done aboveboard."

Kimball: "I think you're on the right track. Get the thing organized here."

Mr. Kimball leaves the meeting. The rest of the afternoon is devoted to regular business.

Fujii: "I would like to introduce Mr. Tom Ogawa, our secretary." (This seems to be a triumph for the pro-evacuee elements. Tom is a former internee, and also a former employee of one of the large export firms.)

Fujii: "Those who do not wish to have matters they say recorded please state: "Off the record."

Parliamentary Procedure

Is discussed.

Licensing of Dogs

Fujii: "There was a proposal to control dogs introduced by Mr. Yamashita, and the health committee wrote the following regulations. (Already mimeographed.)

Discussion.

C. T. Takahashi: "I make a motion that registration of dogs shall be done with the Internal Security instead of the Council. (Motion passed unanimously)

J 4/11/44 #4-4

R. Akyama: "What's the purpose of this regulation.

Discussion.

Chikata: "To avoid rabies infection by stray dogs primarily."

B.C.--B.M. Relationship

Fujii: "A talk ~~with~~ was held with Stafford and Kimball. A statement was issued by Pomeroy. (He translates the text. It states in effect that the block manager looks after the block property, while the block commissioner is the head of ~~the~~ block affairs.)

Hosokawa (who occupies both positions): "How about people who handles both jobs?"

Fujii: "That's a separate problem." (Skillful evasion of the need for answering a question.)

Kuraoka: "This matter should be made clear to the people to avoid conflicts."

General consent to approve Pomeroy's statement.

Ken Yamada: "How about thinking this matter over."

Mihara: "How about changing the name 'block manager.' People are confused over the name. There aren't one block manager to each block."

Fujii: "Kimball says that they are going to change the title to "block clerk."

Mail Situation

Kuraoka: "How about the mail situation?"

Fujii: "Miller sent a memo to Stafford, but Stafford is sick and hasn't taken any action on it so far."

Ken Yamada: "They're awfully irresponsible, aren't they?"
(Zuibun musekininna ne.)

Kuraoka: "Has the Council suggested any concrete plan?"

Fujii: "No, we felt it wasn't necessary." (He's right there.)

Kuraoka: "That sort of problem should be settled as soon as possible so that people won't think bad of the Council."

Discussion Public Property

Fujii: "About 200 met recently. A committee was felt

J 4/11/44 #4-5

necessary. Suggested that the block commissioners recommend committee members. Kenji Ito is expected to work on the OPA regulations as soon as a copy arrives."

Cemetery Board

Fujii: "A Cemetery Board was established by the Welfare Committee."

Hospital Transportation

Fujii: "A passenger car was requested for hospital transportation, and Stafford allowed one passenger car to be used for emergency purposes only." (This is an example where the Council has been able to satisfy the needs of evacuees. Formerly ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ pregnant women were required to either ride on a cargo truck or on an ambulance which they did not like, it is said.)

Nurses' Aides

Fujii: "A lack of nurses is recognized. With your help, we would like to solve this problem. If there is someone in your block who will do the work, please ask such persons ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ to work as nurses aides."

Hospital Party

Chikata: "It was decided that the party would cost 25 cents per block commissioner. The date is undecided as yet." (This is for the benefit of the hospital staff.)

Food Committee

Takeda: "A 14-point recommendation was presented to the Council. Meetings with the chefs was arranged. One thing that I could ask here is what you think about changing the Sunday breakfast to 8 o'clock. The rest of the 14 points concerns the Steward Division." (Explains the 14 points. Seems proud of his accomplishments.)

Discussion on 8 o'clock.

No opposition.

Spanish Consul

Fujii: "When we receive correspondence from the Spanish Consul, it is directed to Japanese nationals. Should we establish a committee or a separate board?"

Ken Yamada: "The Council can handle such matters."

Kuraoka: "A separate committee should be formed."

J 4/11/44 #4-6

Ozawa: "How about letting the public relation man handle such a committee?"

Akiyama: (Chairman of the Public Relations Committee) "All my committee members are Isseis and we don't have much to do. We could undertake the work."

Fujii: "There's a request from the Spanish Consul for a list of nationals and those who repatriated. The WRA requests that such matters be presented through the State Department. But the matter can be handled through the block commissioners."

Akiyama: "I think there's a confusion because of the large number of people who requested repatriation from the ~~WRA~~ embassy directly. We should ask the help of the block commissioners."

Mihara: "This is an important matter. Japan requests a report two times a year from the internment camps. I don't think that we can let a matter of this sort go."

Ogawa: "There's an important problem. A lot of these repatriation forms have not gone to the Spanish Embassy. They ask^{now} that the persons ~~requesting~~ requesting repatriation send in a request separately to the Spanish Embassy, too. There's a lot of problem in connection with a census. Some people who requested repatriation directly to the Spanish Embassy because they did not want to go to Tule Lake ~~may~~ may not want to reveal the fact that they have repatriated."

Fujii: "I think they want only those who requested to the American authorities only, since they would have a list of those who sent in their request directly."

Tom Ogawa: "There's a problem of dual citizenship. Some people would not know, others would not want to reveal dual citizenship."

Mihara (somewhat indignant): "I don't think that people who do not want to clarify their stand would be looked upon with importance by Japan. Let those who don't want to reveal their citizenship alone."

Kanaya: "How about Niseis married to Isseis and have lost their American citizenship. It's got to be left up to the individual."

(At this point verbatim notes were abandoned because an argument arose between Kuraoka and Mihara. Mihara had not sympathy for those who did not want to reveal their Japanese citizenship, ~~while~~ while Kuraoka felt that those who did not want to reveal their citizenship unless such a declaration was requested by ~~the~~ Japan should be given some consideration.)

J 4/11/44 #4-7

Kuraoka: "Is this investigation that we have been requested to undertake by the order of the Japanese government or that of the Spanish Embassy? Some people may not want to reveal their citizenship unless the investigation was ordered by the Japanese Government. Unless the ~~XXXXXXXX~~ nature of the census is made clear we're going to run into trouble."

Mihara: "The Spanish Embassy will not say publicly that they want the information by order of the Japanese Government. When they asked for a report in internment camp, they said that it was for their own purpose, but to a few leaders they said that Japan had requested the report. I feel that the food and medicine sent to the internment camps was a result of the report that we wrote. ~~xxxx~~ I think that if people become suspicious of our attempt to gain the desired information we should explain that Japan really requests the information."

Discussion/

Fujii: "Let's leave this matter up to the committee."

(Everytime the Spanish Consul is discussed the nature of the Issei identification with their country is revealed. That the stands of different individuals can differ is illustrated by the different stands taken by Mihara, on the one hand, and Tom Ogawa, Kuraoka, and Kanaya. Mihara is strict and stubborn; the others are willing to make allowances for individual circumstances.)

The meeting was adjourned at five. Before it was adjourned, there was a slight discussion as to whether they should hold the regular meeting next week or consider this meeting the regular meeting. Most of these present seemed willing to cancel the ~~next~~ regular meeting next week and to call a special meeting whenever necessary. Mr. Kuraoka, however, stated that regular meetings should be held on a set date for regularity's sake, and he got his way.

J 4/12/44 Wednesday

1. Shopping in Twin Falls
Getting a Pass

Went shopping with Twin Falls with my wife. Since I was on the Stop Order List, I had to make a special effort to get a pass. A girl working in the Ad Building told me that my pass was ~~lying~~ lying on Stafford's desk and he was sick. Anyway, he was not in the habit of signing passes for those who were on the Stop Order List. Since I had requested McLaughlin at the time of my leave clearance hearing whether I could go to Twin Falls or not and he had promised to write a note for me, I was confident that I would be able to go. I went to the Leave Section and asked them to look ^{up} the memo that McLaughlin wrote for me. The boy in charge couldn't find it. I went to see McLaughlin, but he was out. I told a Nisei girl what I wanted, and she referred the matter to Mr. Smith. The latter was a rather unintelligent-looking person, who was doing nothing in particular but munch on pretzels. With the help of a girl he looked through several folders to find my name. He learned that I had had a hearing and that I hadn't been cleared by Washington yet, but he didn't know ~~whether~~ whether I was recommended for clearance or not. He decided that he would go to another office to look up this information, grabbed a handful of pretzels, and rushed off. I waited for about 15 minutes, and he ~~came~~ returned. He said that he had talked to "Mac," and that he could make out a short-term leave for me. So that it was on a short-term leave that I went to Twin Falls.

Clerks The clerks, on the whole were pleasing. This was especially true in the better department stores. It also seemed to be true in the more recently set up stores. My wife heard this story from one of the clerks in Penny's. A woman clerk was with some Caucasian customer, when she spied a Nisei fellow who always bought a large amount of ~~yarn~~ yarn at the store. She left the Caucasian customer and followed the Nisei boy. The other younger girl was angry because, she said, she was supposed to take care of the boy. She attacked the other older clerk on this basis, and the other replied that she hadn't seen the other customer. Whether this ~~is~~ sort of thing is general or not is not known, but Japanese do seem to buy good quality goods without hesitation. ~~One clerk at Newberry's~~ One clerk at Newberry's was exceedingly unpleasant. She was irritated and insisted that we tell her right away what we wanted. My wife wanted to buy several ~~crochet~~ crochet needles. The clerk asked whether she wanted them for herself or for her friends, and my wife said for several friends. ~~The clerk thought that she could have several, but went and asked another clerk.~~ The clerk thought that she could have several, but went and asked another clerk. She came back to say that today my wife could have only one, and it was funny because until yesterday it was possible to get two. My wife was inclined to believe that this was a sign of discrimination, and concluded that it was better to patronage the better stores.

J 4/12/44 #1-2

Eating We ate as usual at Campbell's, where we received very good service. We were looking for a place where Yuki Katayama said she always went, ~~xxx~~ but we didn't have enough time to find it. After I came home some Isseis asked me whether I had eaten at a Japanese place. They would probably have felt uneasy in a Hakujin place.

Resting I had about half an hour to waste, and the only place that I could think of going was to the station. The only other places that I might have gone to was to a show or to the library. While waiting in the station I saw other Japanese sitting in there, too. One Issei lady was speaking in Japanese quite audibly, and the station clerk called out several times:

"You have to speak English in here."

J 4/13/44 Thursday

1. "Pop" on Forced Relocation

"Pop" firmly believes that the WRA is doing its best to try to force people out of the centers. He has made plans to go out on seasonal work, but declares that he is not going out on indefinite at this time. When I told him about the change in policy that Kimball mentioned and also the fact that Kimball admitted that the WRA was still interested in getting people out of the centers, he thought that this was just another proof of the design on the part of the WRA to get people out by hook or crook.

2. "Washington" on Outside Condition

"Washington" went out to work recently on the same orchard as "Whitey" ("White-Collar"). A few days ago he came back to the center for a visit, and I was able to talk to him in the showerroom. He was out on seasonal leave, but was able to come in the project without a permit because he had his physical fitness paper. Even though he was doing the same type of work as "Whitey," his reaction to the work was different from those of "Whitey." "Washington" said:

"It's not so hot working outside. I'd rather be in camp anyway. The boss I'm working for isn't very pleasant. He makes us line up in the morning as if we were slaves. He says that he has thousands of dollars invested in the place and that unless the workers are run like an army they won't be able to make ends meet. He has three Hakujin ~~xxxx~~ and two Japanese foremen, when there are only about 20 men working. It doesn't make sense to have them loafing around and trying to get a lot of work out of the rest of us. He just doesn't trust us, that's all. You don't feel like working very hard for a boss like that. He didn't want me to come back for a visit, but he finally let me come because of the bad weather. He's afraid that if more than two or three come home at the same time we'll leave him, and he doesn't let very many of us come home at the same time. "

He also talked about a radio program put on by some university, probably the University of California, which showed the attitude of the Japanese and other peoples in the Far East. In the ~~Rxxx~~ Philippines, for instance, the natives are supposed to have said that they are satisfied with their present condition. They get higher wages and are working in the defense industries and are being educated. The same sort of condition existed in the other countries, where the natives expressed their preference for the Japanese rather than for the whites. He also mentioned the article about Tokyo Rose in the Time Magazine, stating that American soldiers listened to her quite often because they found out that she gave accurate news.

J 4/14/44 Friday

1. "Nick" Receives 4-F

According to a report "Nick" has received 4-F status without even having taken his physical. He has not told the people in his block this fact, and the reason for this secrecy is unknown. It is known that he has once been in a sanitarium, and he may have requested deferment on this basis.

2. Kibei Program

The Kibei group which organized several weeks ago put on a program all by themselves, and are touring the project this week. The group is centered around the Star Band, the leader of the band evidently the leader of the group. Whether there was any particular motivation in putting in as much effort as they did to present a successful is not known. Since it is said that the majority of the group was scheduled to leave for Tule Lake soon, they may have wanted to leave a good impression before they left.

The program the Kibei group is presenting consists of three comic skits, the Star Band, ~~musical~~ musical solos, a comic dance, and one serious play. One method of classifying the programs is to divide them into comedy and tragedy, in which case the final tragic drama (higeki) alone falls into the latter category. Another method is to classify them as to whether they appeal to the sentiment of the people or merely to their sense of humor. In this case the music played by the Star Band would be included with the tragic drama in the first category. This general division into comedy and tragedy is classic, and the Japanese have two standard words for the two classes--kigeki (comedy) and higeki (tragedy). Comments about the performance by the Kibeis are often made, contrasting the merits of these two kinds of programs.

Compared to programs put on largely by Isseis, the Kibei program is distinguished by an abundance of humor and slapstick comedy. The three comic skits were highly entertaining and kept the crowd roaring with laughter. The comic dance--dojo-sukui--was excellently executed by Mr. Otomaru, a family man. The songs, shakuhachi (Bamboo pipe) solo, and nahiwabushi in comparison to the skits were not as entertaining. On the whole, the comic numbers served to keep the audience entertained and to make them forget their troubles.

The tragic and sentimental numbers produced quite a different effect. The Star Band appeared at the beginning of the program and again toward the end. It's opening number was Aikoku Koshinkyoku, a march. They also played Gunkan Koshinkyoku (Japanese Navy March), Aiba Koshinkyoku (a sentimental song about a horse), and a song about a flower that grows in Manchuria. Most of these songs were familiar to Isseis and were songs which became popular after Japan

entered the present conflict. The remarks made by the band leader in introducing the band or a particular song was equally as appealing to the sentiment of the people. He said, for instance, that ~~unfortunately~~ this may be the last time the band would be able to play on the stage because a number of the group would have to go to Tule Lake, but that they would not forget the support they received from the people. He also made this remark in introducing a song:

"Where will we go?--to the South Seas, to China, to Manchuria."

The popularity of the band was attested to by the applause given it by the audience.

The profoundest effect of all the numbers was produced by the final tragic play. It was all the more effective after a series of roaring comedies. The title is suggestive of the content: "Kono Haha o Miyo" (literally, "Look at This Mother"). All of the Japanese war drama seem to follow a similar idea--the glorification of sacrifice on the battlefield and on the homefront. This play is no exception. The first scene showed half-a-dozen soldiers sitting in front of an open fire, while on the background was painted a tent and a mountain. Obviously the scene was laid on the Asiatic continent. The head of the group of soldiers appear and ask for volunteers to pave the way to ford a ~~river~~ creek. Every soldier shows eagerness to volunteer. The leader reads a letter from a girl which was enclosed with a bundle of gifts, which included a French doll. The girl states that she was too poor to buy much for the soldier and therefore was sending her precious doll, and asked that it be carried on the battlefield.

One soldier steps forward and asks his leader whether he could carry the doll. It was sent by his sister, he explains. The family was too poor to buy very much, and only his sister and his mother remained in the family. His father died just before he was sent overseas, but he was not able to be with him at his deathbed. He received permission to return to his home, but his mother turned him away at the door, telling him that he should not return until he had done his duty to his country. He no longer belonged to his family, but to his country. His father had won high honors (kinshi-kunsho) in the Russo-Japanese War, his mother had told him, and he was not to come home until he had proved equally as valiant on the battlefield. The scene closes with the leader telling the soldier that he has a wonderful mother.

In the second scene the mother of the soldier and his sister are sitting at home. The mother is worried, and says that she's afraid his son is angry at her for her having sent him away. She did that, she says, because she didn't want him to be too attached to his family and be afraid to sacrifice himself on the battlefield. The girl is wondering ~~whether~~ who received her doll, and hopes and prays that

her brother will get it. A messenger brings in a telegram, which states that the son is ~~in~~ back in a hospital and that the mother is wanted at once. The two hurriedly prepares to catch a train to go to the hospital.

The third scene shows a soldier on a cot with his face all bandaged up. A doctor is standing by him, watching. The mother and girl arrives at the hospital and is introduced to the doctor. The doctor says that he didn't want to worry them, but felt that it was best to give them a chance to see him while there was time. He is still alive, he reports, but it was necessary to amputate his left arm. Before seeing the son the mother asks cautiously whether the son carried out any brave deed. The doctor assures her that his deed will be long remembered. He volunteered for a dangerous mission of opening the way to cross a creek in the face of enemy fire, and he was wounded by shell fragments. When he learned that his left arm was amputated he cried that he wanted his arm back to get back to the front. The mother steps up to the cot and tells her son how proud she is of him, and that she need no longer be ashamed to face her ancestors. The doctor explains to her that the patient can not see nor hear, and probably does not know that his mother and sister are there by the bedside. The mother is dismayed, and takes her son's righthand and allows him to feel her face so that he can know that it is she. The doctor announces that the patient is dying, and the scene closes as he announces his death.

Throughout the audience there was shedding of tears and sniffing. One lady with several sons of draftable age said that she looked down and did not look at the scene at all for fear that she might be upset. When she got up to leave, she felt faint, she said. When death was so close to her own son, she could not bear to see people who came back wounded. This experience, however, seems to have been an exceptional one. Most of the Isseis seem to have enjoyed the tragedy. Some of them were boasting later that such plays were never put on in America, where the plays were mostly about boys and girls fooling around with each other.

J 4/15/44 Saturday

1. Mrs. Kakimoto on Minidokans

When Mrs. Kakimoto first came to this center, she was saying that the people here ~~were~~^{were} nice to her. She worked in the messhall, and evidently enjoyed it. Now, however, she is saying that she doesn't like the Minidoka people very well. This complaint seems to have become intense since the draft situation. She says that she doesn't agree with the people here very well and that they are cold to her. People in Tule Lake, she said, was kinder to her. She went on to say that in the messhall all the ladies gossiped about people in the block, and she couldn't very well join in because she didn't know whom they were talking about.

Tuleans on the whole still seem to associate only with other Tuleans.

2. Mrs. Kakimoto on Relocation

According to Mrs. Kakimoto's own account, she is now hoping that her son, George, will not pass his physical because of weak toes. She said that Tom Yego had come to the center to recruit workers, and she was thinking of sending George out with him. George, himself, wants to go to school in the fall. His sister is going to graduate school this year, and Mrs. Kakimoto wants to send her to school, too. She suggested to her husband that they all relocate to a place where they can send their children to college directly from their home, and her husband answered:

"I'm not going to leave the center under any circumstance."

She laughed the matter off, but still is concerned for the future of her children. She says that she hopes that the war will be over soon with Japan now in India, and was disappointed to hear that that might serve to lengthen the war.

3. "Pop" on Resistance to Seasonal Work

"Pop" is working as a carpenter, and thought that it was best to tell his foreman that he was planning to go out to work for a couple of months in Walla Walla. He also plans to work again at harvest time. He was somewhat surprised when the foreman told him:

"I don't know whether it's a good idea to go out right now. The war may^{be} pretty soon. If you've stayed in until now, maybe you should stay in the center instead of going out. If you go out to work, you may not be able to get indemnities, you know."

"Pop's" answer was:

"I'm not going out to work in order to help the war effort, but for my own sake. I have to go out and earn enough money to send my son through school and to pay my insurance. If you go out on indefinite leave, it might make a difference, but I don't think that seasonal leave would make much difference."

"Pop" says that there are two men who do not believe in seasonal leave.

"Pop" is not too sure whether Japanese are going to be eligible for indemnity claims after the war. It would depend in the first place on Japan's winning the war. Even if this were a possibility, which he believes it is, he feels that he should not rely upon it. If money is necessary, he said, it would be much more advantageous to earn the money at the present time than to sit and hope for the payment of indemnities.

4. "Washington" on Draft

The Caucasian farmer for whom "Washington" is working knows that the Niseis want deferment for farm work. He was considerate enough to tell one fellow who left the work to go into some sort of agricultural work. "Washington" told the boss that this other fellow didn't care whether he was deferred or not. He left the work because he was interested in ~~going~~ relocating his family. The boss said that he hadn't reported to the board yet that this fellow had left for work other than agriculture, but ~~he~~ that he would have to do it soon. On the other hand, the boys feel that they are being exploited. They went to work with the hope of being paid 70 cents, but are now receiving ~~xxxxxx~~ only 60. The boss has promised them housing for their families, but these promises have not materialized. In the meantime, hope for deferment keep many of the boys on the job, and the farmer is aware of this fact. However, the boys have gotten to a point where they don't care so much now for deferment. Some of them have not received deferment as yet. They also feel that they can always go to another place. They ~~also~~ feel now that if they are drafted they don't mind serving in the Army. Many of them are still out on seasonal leave.

5. Rumor of Nisei Draftee Protest

The following story was heard in the latrine.

About 600 Nisei soldiers sent to a certain camp revolted because of the unfair treatment they were receiving. Some Kibei among them discovered that they were being given front-line training, whereas Hakujins were training for second-line defense. A few of the Niseis seem to have been hurt.

J 4/15/44 #4

4. Irrigator Cross Reference

Draft "Draft to Affect Farm Labor Supply in Idaho"

~~Item~~ I. 4/15/44 p 1

Draft~~Item~~ "Two Holdouts Ask Induction"

I. 4/15/44 p1

Draft "FBI Arrests 53 Heart Mt. Boys"

I. 4/15/44 p 1

Draft "154 Hunt Draftees to Take Pre-Induction Exams here
"April 22"

I. 4/15/44 p 1

War Loan Drive ~~Item~~ "WRA Goes Over Quota in Fourth War Loan
Drive"

I. 4/15/44 p 1

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
MINIDOKA PROJECT
HUNT?IDAHO

April 15, 1944

Notice to all project residents;

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
BLOCK MANAGERS AND BLOCK COMMISSIONERS

Now that the Minidoka Project has established community government, it would seem expedient to indicate the differences between the functions of Block Managers and those of Block Commissioners.

Since the beginning of the project, in the fall of 1942, Block Managers have been looked upon as leaders in their blocks, and people have gone to them for advice, as well as for aid in material difficulties. Now that the residents have elected a Council and a body of Commissioners, the Block Managers will be expected to devote their entire attention to the problems of block operation and maintenance. As employees of the administration, they will be expected to report such things as broken windows, need for repairs in laundry or washrooms, the lack of coal in the block, or the requirements of the residents in some other fashion. They will be expected to post and make announcements in the name of the Administration. They are essentially representatives of the Administration and are to be concerned only with routine administration and direction.

On the other hand, Block Commissioners are essentially the representatives of the people. They are elected as such by the residents. They will be concerned with social and political aspects of project affairs rather than the material. Questions of human relationships and problems connected with the political life of the project will be their province.

It is also important for the residents of the community to appreciate the fact that the Block Commissioners are the duly elected representatives of the people, and as such, are the leaders in each block. It will be their prerogative to call all block meetings, to assemble the people for any and all purposes, and to carry the wishes of the people in each particular block to the attention of the Community Council, and to convey information from the Council to the people.

Harry L. Stafford
Project Director

J 4/18/44 Tuesday

1. Joint Meeting of B.C. and C.C.

Council Chamber
1.45 p.m.

Roll Call

About 30 b.c.'s and all of the councilmen were present.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

B.C.--B.M. Relation

Fujii: "Please post an extra copy of the printed notice in your messhall." (See later item under this date.)

G. Mihara: "This translation is all right, but the word Ku-chosei iin (for block commissioner or member of the co-ordinating commission) is not very clear. It would be clearer to use the word ku-cho (block chief). I'd like to have this change made when an opportunity arises."

M. Mihara: "I don't think that kucho is the right word. We were elected as the representative of the people to work with the council. It would be a mistake to use the word cho (chief or head)."

Kuraoka: "When Dick Kanaya and I translated the charter we took care to do it correctly. Kucho was not very appropriate because it was usually applied to the block manager. We tried to translate the word "coordinating" as accurately as possible. Has Mr. Mihara a good word for "coordinating?"

M. Mihara: "I only made the suggestion because I read that Poston called their commissioner /Kucho."

Kuraoka explains.

G. Mihara: "I didn't want people to think that the block commissioner was under the block manager."

Fujii: "Since the charter employs the word "coordinating," we should leave the translation as is until the charter is amended. I think we can go on to some other problem."

(Comments For some time now the Council and the block commissioners have harped upon the block commissioner-block manager relationship. S. Hara was also attacked indirectly. The notice issued by Pomeroy on the b.c.-b.m. relationship constitutes a death warrant for the old leadership which was fast losing its power. It should be noted that if the administration had its own way, this death warrant might not have been signed so quickly, and a conflict between the two possible heads of the block might have developed. The Council also might not have been given as

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much ~~power~~ recognition as it has today had it not been for the not too subtle pressure from Washington. Kimball, the Washington representative firmly believed that the way to avoid trouble within the project was to have a fairly strong council which ~~will~~^{would} be able to deal with the administration and be able to satisfy the people to some extent. He wants a constant adjustment between the residents and the administration, and he sees that this is not possible unless the Council is given some recognition and the people learn to rely upon it. A weakly organized community is difficult to control, as he has pointed out with examples from the African tribes. Undoubtedly the position of the councilmen and the fate of the block managers would not be what it is today if it were not for Kimball. The administration has been given the "squeeze play" by the Washington office and the residents, a situation which is common in the grandfather, father, son relationship or in any series of super-ordinate, subordinate relationship. And the ones to suffer the most from this "squeeze play" were the "old leaders" who were so faithful (?) to the administration in the beginning. Kimball was present to advise Pomeroy when he wrote the clarification of the ~~relative~~^{respective} duties of the block managers and the block commissioners.)

(In spite of the fact that the representatives (councilmen and block commissioners) have won a definite victory over the block managers, they seem to want to show off some more. Fujii wants the block commissioners to post the death warrant for the block managers on the messhall bulletin board. Worse than that, however, is G. Mihara's insistence that they block commissioners be given the title of "block chief." At the last meeting he wanted the title of the block managers reduced to "block clerk." G. Mihara is revealing himself more and more as a "big show-off," something that didn't take too much insight to detect from the very first speech he made in the Council meeting. In spite of the fact that he demands action, he has incurred the anger of several block commissioners, including Kuraoka and M. Mihara. One obvious cleavage here is that G. Mihara was a former leader in the community in Seattle and was interned. He seems to rely upon his ex-internee status heavily to maintain his prestige at council meetings. Consequently, he shows a lack of insight into the problems of the community here, but still insists on putting forth his views quite strongly. Thus far G. Mihara seems to stand alone in the defense of his own ideas.)

(Notice Fujii's skillful, but somewhat firm method of closing a controversy. He watches which way the wind is blowing, and then makes up his mind.)

Cemetery Board

Ozawa (Chm): "We have plans. Mr. Kubota can explain."

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Kubota: "We visited the cemetery. There are 19 graves, and the cemetery occupies a space 120 x 100 feet, surrounded by rocks. Rather than spend money, we thought that it would be a good idea to make a stone fence and gate, with poplar trees at the four corners and shrubs along the sides. I also suggested the erecting of a stone monument on the mount near the cemetery. We want to complete this on a voluntary basis by Memorial Day."

Fujii: "Although this is voluntary work, people are concerned about their cemetery and may not mind volunteering their services."

Doi: "We can't let our trucks be used to carry so much rocks. It would ruin the trucks. The only truck that they'll let you use is the dump truck. It would ruin the dump trucks."

Fujii: "Let's leave all the detail up to the committee."

(Comment Notice the way in which Fujii sidestepped Doi.)

Red Cross Drive

Ozawa: Reads figures. "\$1400 is going to be used on the project."

Ken Yamada: "How are the funds going to be used."

Ozawa: "We can send some things to the Japanese prisoners as some other centers did, have classes in first aid and swimming, etc."

(Comment More than once the Red Cross Drive has been justified on the grounds that people have received shoyu as well as messages from Japan. It is much easier to get support for a drive of this sort when it is connected with benefits to the Japanese themselves than with the allied war effort.)

Fujii: "I believe that the Red Cross should be reorganized under the Council. We can supervise it closely. If there are no objection we can ask Mr. Kipp to reorganize it under the Council. What is your opinion on this matter."

(Comment This rather harmless suggestion can also be construed to be a means of striking at Seiichi Hara. Hara, as chairman of the fathers of draftees, seems to have been controlling the Red Cross. This was evident from the way in which he tried to take the dependent's affidavit work away from the Social Welfare Department and place it under the Red Cross. Now the Council proposes to place the Red Cross under its own supervision.)

G. Mihara: "What connect^{ion} has the Red Cross with the outside organization."

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Ozawa: "It is recognized by the San Francisco Red Cross. It is a branch."

Ken Yamada: "Why not leave it up to the Welfare Committee."

Fujii: "We'd like to know whether you are for or against it."

Voices: "We're for it. "(weak)

Fujii: "This is decided upon."

PTA

Fujii: "A memo to Pomeroy from the PTA/ asks for approval of contributions from the community to honor patrols. The advisability of setting up a community fund comes to mind. What do you think? Instead of asking for small contributions for separate occasions, we might ask for one contribution of about 50 cents per family and handle such matters on a project-wide basis. (silence) We can table ~~xxxx~~ this matter until the next meeting. (silence)

Roy Akiyama: "How about the Council making a definite proposal first?"

Fujii: (Dropping the matter) "We shall think it over."

(Comment The representatives are not anxious to burden the people with taxes.)

Student Relocation

Fujii starts to introduce Tom Bodine who arrives at the meeting without any particular appointment.

Kuraoka: "About how much time will it take? We have a lot of problems to handle. I think that a separate meeting should be held for a problem of this sort. I've heard that there's trouble at the warehouse."

Fujii: "It won't take more than 30 minutes."

X: "How about having him come after the meeting is over."

Fujii: "Then we shall have our discussion first."

Tom Bodine waits for a while, but after Tom Ogawa explains something to him, he goes out and returns later.

(Notice how Kuraoka takes his duties seriously.)

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Warehouse Strike

Fujii: "13 members of the Warehouse #10 came and said that they were terminated. They were asked to do extra work. They were willing to do the work as a crew, but they (Wilder of the Steward Division) requested only 5 workers. Since they were not willing to do the work the whole crew was terminated. The workers of Warehouse #7, 39 workers, quit in sympathy to workers in Warehouse #10. I went to see Pomeroy and Stafford, but was only able to see Mr. Miller and Mr. M. (Mundt?) They called in Mr. Wilder to discuss the situation. In my opinion there are two sides to the question and we should listen to both sides. The administration intends to carry on the work of the warehouse without the workers in some manner. (strong attitude) If the workers have a good reason for complaining we must approach the problem in another way. (Implies that mere request is not sufficient.)"

Kuraoka: "Won't it interfere with the food supply?"

Fujii: "That's the responsibility of the administration. They said that they would be able to carry on the function in some way."

Ken Yamada/ asks a question. (He always does. He wants to bring matters out in the open.)

Fujii: "The boys said that they were asked to unload a caroad of fruits. They ~~thought that Wilder~~ thought that it was too much work for 5 persons. They (Wilder) insisted on 5 workers. The boys decided to refuse to work. They were asked to quit. They (Wilder) went to Warehouse #7, but they boys refused to work, and so did the swamper. According to Wilder, there wasn't work for more than five workers. With 400 crates one worker need carry only 80 crates, he is said to have claimed. If all of the workers went, ~~the boys claimed that~~ they would not be able to do their regular work. Wilder said that all of the unloading of the Steward Division merchandise would be the function of these warehouse boys. The boys were afraid that it would be additional work for them. The work in Warehouse #10 is considered easy. Wilder claimed that a hearing was not necessary because they didn't demand anything excessive. He has put in a request for more workers to replace those who were terminated. The Property Control boys are unloading the oranges."

Ken Yamada: "It's the same thing as the maintenance worker trouble (boilermen walkout)."

Takeda: "Isn't Mr. M. the personnel supervisor? He promised to handle the matter, since Wilder was under investigation."

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Fujii: "Wilder claims that the warehouse workers should handle all work related to the warehouse. Miller is backing Wilder up."

Tom Ogawa: "Then it's actually a sympathy walkout, isn't it?"

Doi: "This isn't a new problem. On April 1 the Central Service was closed up and transferred to the Property Control. Out of 21 workers 17 were immediately terminated. They had a quarrel--they were ordered around by the Caucasian in charge (), and the boys told him that they didn't have to take orders from him like that because they were 1-A."

"Two carloads of cement came in. The Property Control could not handle the crew to do the job of unloading. The lumber crew were asked. They refused and were fired. The utility crew in Warehouse #5 were asked. They refused and were fired. The Property Control foreman (evacuee) came to ask me for a couple of workers, and I told him: 'Hell with you.' The concret is not unloaded. The trouble started before. The actual termination papers, however, have not come through. I don't think we can leave this matter like this. Tomorrow is the day to deliver rice (rice is delivered once a week.). This matter affects ~~the~~ our own food problem. The meat crew came to us. I told them that they weren't expected to do extra work. Those who were handling food should continue to work, I told them."

Hatate: "Doi is right. It was the same at the beginning of this year (boilermen walkout). We should have a labor board, but if we can't have that we should have a committee to settle this. Wilder is under investigation and all matters are supposed to be handled by M. _____."

Fujii: "We're still discussing the Fair Labor Practice Board. It seems that the board might be independent of the Council. We would like to have it under control of the Council, and for that we may have to get Washington approval. For the present we should have a special committee, taking up Mr. Hatate's suggestion."

Ken Yamada: "I'm in favor of such a committee. The disbanding of the Fair Labor Board was hasty, and we were placed at a disadvantage."

Sawada: "Will the Fair Labor Board take time to create?"

Fujii: "It might, if we are to have a Fair Labor Board which we desire." (under the Council)

Tom Ogawa: "According to administrative instructions the board is separate from the Council. Kimball suggested a board under the Council since a Fair Labor Board would have

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to deal with the administration."

Fujii: "How about seven members from among the block commissioners and the Council. Or is it better to have seven in all."

Kuraoka: "I think that the Council members should be included."

X: "Three of the seven should be councilman."

Kuraoka: This is an important problem. The larger the committee, the better."

Fujii: "How about the Council and 7 block commissioners? Is it all right to take a written vote?"

Election held. Each person votes for seven block commissioners to sit on the ~~newly formed~~ labor committee. Some discussion is carried on while the votes are being counted. Results of the election; in the order of highest number of votes:

Hatate
Doi
Kuraoka
Takahashi
Ken Yamada
Kanaya
Hayasaka

(M. Mihara)
(Ota)

Hatate: "Just this week I'd like to be excused because I'm busy making a report on the co-op conference."

Doi: "I can't come either, because I have trouble in my own department. They bring work to my division."

~~Kuraoka: That is all right.~~

Akiyama: "We need facts, and Doi is the person."

Kuraoka: "That's right. We should have people who knows the problem."

Fujii: "Should we accept such reasons? We can ask Mr. Hatate to attend after this week. The same with Mr. Doi. They can come when they have the time. (approval) We shall meet at two p.m. tomorrow."

Takeda: "A warehouse fellow came and said that the whole foodstuff section closed down."

C. T. Takahashi: "Mr. Ford of Warehouse #2 and Mr.

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Cox are the basis of trouble. They think that all Japanese are thieves. They are irresponsible and like beasts. I'm worried because Mr. Cox was asked to take over Mr. Linville's position. They don't care at all for Japanese.

"Everytime their excuse is budget. Why don't they ask for Japanese advice some times. There are Japanese who knows the business better than these keto. We should investigate the project budget next to eliminate trouble on the project."

(Comment Note his highly anti-Caucasian stand. Note also his concern for the safety of evacuee property.)

~~xxxxxxx~~

Excused Absence for Representatives

Fujii: "Stafford offered to excuse councilmen from work and would like to make some sort of card for each one to carry."

Food Committee Report

Takeda: "We had a meeting with the chefs, pantry clerks, food committee and a few councilmen. The first problem we presented to the chefs was that of improvement of breakfast. They approved this, as well as the matter of fish (improved variety). They o.k.'d the matter of more knives, and also asked for uniforms, irons, aprons, gloves. Silverware was just being delivered, and so was crossed off the list. They claimed that the use of hashi was unsanitary, and was cancelled. They approved rice twice a day, stating that they didn't mind if the amount of bread was cut down. Sunday morning breakfast at eight they turned down, unless they were allowed to serve only two meals a day. It was decided that this should be settled on a block basis. Complaints about the use of dirty milk bottles were made at the meeting, and the delivery of milk in the morning instead of in the afternoon was requested. We made the request that the WRA be asked to serve the full amount of the quota to the residents and that the cooks do the same thing. We didn't bring up all of the complaints this time, such as the posting of the daily menu in a conspicuous place. The chefs complained about the menu-maker. ~~xxxxxx~~

Hatate: "How is it that they can't serve meals at eight."

Takeda: "The cooks refused to serve 3 meals if they start at 8."

Sawada: "The past movement to have those terminated returned was stopped, wasn't it because the move seemed to be hopeless."

Takeda: "That's what I understand."

Fujii: "This is all the Council problems. Have you any problem to present?"

Kanaya: "People are worrying about the coal. We should start laying in coal. The distribution of wood is unequal, too. Boys distribute to their own block, but not to others. Standardization of kosaihi (social obligations) is desirable. We should simplify living expenses."

Standardization of social obligations

Fujii: "The last problem has been on our minds. Is there any opinion on this?"

Akiyama: "In Poston they agreed not to spend over 25 cents."

X: "At some wedding they send about \$10 per person."

Akiyama: "It's becoming worse and worse."

Kuraoka: "This is a matter of individual discretion, and not a thing that a council can determine."

Voices: "It's too late."

Fujii: "How about a simple recommendation. Any opposition?" (none) Let's leave it at this."

Keirokai

Fujii: "The Adult Ed. Dept. is going to put on a Keiro-kai (honor the aged celebration) for those above 70 years of age. This matter is important for young receptionists who think they are so important that they show lack of respect to their elders."

G. Mihara: "Who's handling the Adult Education Department?"

Fujii: "It is being handled by the WRA, and I think the expense is going to be paid by them, too."

M. Mihara: "Aren't we going into too much detail. We should handle a few problems with the administration very strongly. I'd like to see a hand-off policy on small matters like keirokai and living expenses."

Ken Yamada: "I agree with him. We should handle matters such as mail-carrier problem."

C. T. Takahashi: "Our main business is to deal with the administration."

(Comment Akiyama and Kanaya inadvertently find themselves under fire from those demanding action on "important"

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problems. The request for retrenchment indicates a rather passive attitude.)

G. Mihara: "Leave the keiro-kai matter up to the WRA."

(Comment Once again he has had to retreat.)

Coal Worker Shortage

Doi: "At present the coal won't last beyond May or the middle of June. Why don't they deliver coal?--it's because of the lack of workers. People won't work. Mr. M _____ is going to buy the coal for next year. We actually want workers. A few Isseis came for half a day, but didn't show up after that. At present high school kids are working half a day."

Meeting of Labor Committee

G. Mihara: "We'll have to meet sooner than tomorrow afternoon to get food delivered tomorrow."

Fujii: "How about 9 a.m. tomorrow."

(Comment Compromise, always compromise.)

G. Mihara: "How about tonight."

we

Takeda: "Since ~~xxx~~ want to reach a thorough settlement, we'll have to get a knowledge of the trouble first. I think tomorrow morning is more convenient. Supplies are sent two days ahead of time and we don't have to worry. It's good to let the people know of the trouble."

G. Mihara: "Rice is delivered tomorrow. If it's better to make the people suffer, that's all right."

(Comment Takes a punch as he retreats.)

M. Mihara: "We shouldn't get excited over a matter of this sort. We can get by in some way. The Hakujiin can't afford to let a trouble of this sort occur. They know that this sort of trouble is going to occur when they took their stand. Well, let it happen, then."

X: "How about getting the important people in the warehouse to come to the meeting." (This is approved)

~~xxxxxxx~~

Mail-carrier Problem

X. "How about the mail-carrier problem?"

Fujii: "Pomeroy and Miller want us to wait until Stafford comes back. (He's sick.) I don't know whether they are scared or what."

Hospital

X. "There were two incidents in our block and two persons could not get care because the doctor could not visit the patient personally. In emergency cases I'd like to see it made possible to have the doctor come to the block. As in other centers our block desired to compensate the doctors specially for their service."

Nisei soldiers

Sawada: "Niseis are waiting to be called on 24 hour notice. They can't even do what they want to. Is it possible to ask for financial aid?"

Fujii: (Ignoring these problems) Are there any other problem? If there isn't I would like to introduce Mr. Bodine."

Student Relocation

Mr. Tom Bodine speaks for a short while about student relocation.

Ken Yamada: "Can students in high school be deferred?"

Bodine: "I understand that there is some possibility."

Meeting is adjourned at 4.45. No special transportation is available, and representatives hurry to catch the regular convoy.

2. ^{Johnny}~~Jimmy~~ Izumi on Volunteering

^{Johnny}~~Jimmy~~ received some application forms from Camp Savage. The letter to him stated that he could speed up his induction if he were found linguistically capable. Enclosed in the letter were language tests and also Form 304-A, transfer form from one board to another for delivery, and also a form for application for voluntary induction. ^{Johnny}~~Jimmy~~ was stumped because he was requested to fill out a volunteering form. He said:

"If I fill this out it means that I'm going to be volunteering. I'd just as soon volunteer, but if I do I won't be able to stay in the house any more. If I were on the outside it would be all right. Why can't they arrange for my induction without my volunteering?"

The stand of ^{Johnny}~~Jimmy~~'s parents was that they did not want him to volunteer, but that they thought it was all right if he were drafted. After considering this viewpoint, Jimmy said:

"I suppose that if I were to volunteer before the others or even called before the others my parents wouldn't like it. I don't know what to do. Maybe I'd wait until I'm inducted. If I do that though, I may not be able to get into Savage, because there'll probably be a great many applying for it."

^{Johnny}~~Jimmy~~ was very anxious to get into Savage. He wanted to do his bit. When asked whether the other youngsters were like that, he said that a few of them didn't care about being inducted, but that most of them wanted to get into the Army. He thought that it was his parents' ~~fault~~ fault making him so disgusted that he wanted to leave home. However, he finally decided not to hurt his parents and wait until he was inducted first.

J 4/19/44 Thursday

1. Elmer Smith Arrives

Elmer Smith arrived last night, and this morning was at his office already, getting leads on the warehouse strike. He said that last night he would have been eating alone ~~sk~~ in the personnel dining hall had it not been for Tom Bodine. He feels already that the Caucasians on the project don't like him. Some of them, he said, didn't like Kimball, and the latter went to bat for him in getting the community analyst job. He also had Province and others in the Washington office behind. The Salt Lake City FBI seems to have given him a clearance.

Mundell
The community analyst at Topaz gave Smith three months in Topaz. According to him, the analysts in every center are getting tremendous pressure from their respective administration to get them out of the project. In Heart Mountain, for instance, the community analyst had to report the fact that the Fair Play Committee asked for Robertson's resignation. He hoped that the analysts could have a conference in May in which they could organize sufficiently to avoid being kicked out. At the present, however, they have the backing of Spicer, Province and others in Washington, which makes it relatively safe for them.

In regards to the administration here Smith, according to his own account, has laid his cards on the table. If Stafford requests certain changes to be made in his report, Smith said that he would send in the original ~~xxxxxxxx~~ on his own. Stafford is said to have replied that he thought Smith would do that. Kimball was with him when he was told that he could go anywhere he pleased in the project and write what he thought was the truth. Smith, at the present stage of the game is determined to write up matters just as he finds them.

2. Smith on Warehouse Strike

Smith has talked to several Caucasians already about the strike. Two of them have already mentioned to him that the basic cause of the strike ~~was~~ were certain Caucasians. So far he's gotten the names of O'Connor (former head of Central Service, I believe), Ford, and perhaps Cox. Miller has asked Smith whether he wants to worry about labor problems for him, and Smith said that he might take Miller up on that offer. Smith said that most of the top men in the WRA had been connected with ~~the~~ labor ~~movement~~ conflicts and were aware of the fact that there were two sides to the question, and that usually the workers had more grievances than the employers.

3. Smith on Washington-Project Relationship

I mentioned to Smith the role that Kimball had played in giving the council a good start, and the manner in which the block managers were ~~xxxxxx~~ deprived of power. Smith said

that he had talked with Kimball and had found him to be an understanding individual. He remarked that Kimball was close to the top men in the WRA.

4. Tulean Reaction to Warehouse Strike

One Tulean Issei who was working with one of the groups which was told to quit was discussing the strike ~~xxx~~ at the messhall table. He said that the cause of the whole affair was the unloading of cement and other articles ~~x~~ from the car on the spar. There were so many cars in at once that they didn't have enough men to do the work. Consequently, they asked men in other departments to undertake the work of unloading. First they asked the lumber crew. The men would have gone to do the work had it not been for the attitude of their superiors that they were expected to this sort of work all of the time. They workers didn't want extra work to become a habit, and refused to do work that was not their own. The Hakujiin--he said that it was Ford and not O'Conner--told them ~~xxxxxx~~ that they were fired, and so they ~~xxxx~~ workers came home. This particular Tulean described the state of affair as due to the workers being told to quit and not to a strike. He said:

"The people around here are no good because they always give in. Now if this were in Tule Lake they'd start with the messhall and serve only two meals a day. They have a good reason because they messhalls are not getting in any food now. If it were in Tule Lake the people would know how to handle a matter of this sort."

5. Miyata Boy on Draft

I talked to the Miyata boy in the showerroom. He's the son of the mother who was so anxious to have people protest against the draft. I asked him whether he had had his hearing yet or not, and he said that he had, and that it hadn't taken more than 15 minutes. MacLaughlin interviewed him alone, he said, and he didn't find the hearing difficult at all. Of course he had to explain why he had changed his answer to Question 28 from "no" to "yes." I asked him how he had answered when he was asked about the draft. He seemed somewhat uneasy, ~~xxxx~~ probably because he didn't know on which side I stood. He said:

"I told him that I didn't like the idea, but that there was nothing that I could do if I were drafted."

The chances are that he told MacLaughlin that he was willing to be drafted. He explained his position thus:

"You have to take your chance along with the others."

I agreed with him, saying that protesting against the draft would be misunderstood. It would have been better to protest against ~~the~~ evacuation. He said:

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"Yeh, the JACL shouldn't stuck their nose into the business."

I asked him whether he was going out on seasonal leave, and he said that he was, since he would be allowed to go out on seasonal leave until he got his clearance. We parted on very good terms.

One gets the impression that with the tension or pressure from Isseis released the younger boys feel more free now to express their views.

J 4/20/44 Thursday

1. "Roman-Beauty" on the Warehouse Strike

A notice from the administration was posted on the messhall bulletin board which stated that warehouse and agricultural workers would be given priority in employment. "Roman Beauty," talkative Minidoka from the valley, said:

"There's no use putting up a sign like that because nobody is going to work until the matter is settled. Any one who goes to work in the warehouse ~~xx~~ is going to be beaten up this time."

(He seems to be conscious of the fact that in the past this has not been the case.)

2. Kibei on Punishment of Kibeis in the Army

Evidently a discussion of the punishment of the boys at Fort McClellan was being held in the latrine. A quiet married Kibei was saying:

"...I don't see why they had to be so strict. After all, they're not like American citizens. They're only Kibeis."

3. Progress of Warehouse Strike

This morning in spite of the snow a meeting of the representatives of the Labor Committee (Fact Finding Committee) with Stafford was held at nine a.m. Discussion seems to have centered around the possibility of having the men who struck or were fired go back to work pending further negotiation. Stafford issued a rather ambiguous statement following the meeting, stating that the men were to go back to work with the ~~the~~ understanding that "mutiny" or insubordination would not be tolerated irrespective of the division in which they were required to do the work.

According to one report in the afternoon the foremen went around ~~gathering together~~ ^{telling} all of the workers ~~to tell~~ ^{them} to come back to work. Their understanding was that they would go back to work on the old basis. Talk with Ford and Cox revealed, however, that the supervisors had the right to shift the men to any division that they desired. The men claimed that this was not their understanding, and representatives went to see Stafford once more. Stafford is then said to have ~~known~~ agreed with the men that they were to go back to work on the old basis. In the meantime among the workers tacit understanding seems to have been reached that they will keep the food moving, but will not do the other work as long as the trouble is not settled. The food warehouse workers seem to have understood that they were to go back to work, whereas there was a difference of opinion as to whether the other workers were to return to work or not.

4. Mr. Yama and the Warehouse Strike

A somewhat interesting sidelight is thrown on the warehouse trouble by the predicament of the foreman under Ford and Cox. He is an Issei, Yama by name, with several children of draftable age, and a former market owner from Washington. One peculiar quality that he possesses--and this is ~~xx~~ from a substantial source--is the desire to parade himself in front of others when he does not have leadership qualities. Consequently, he is heartily disliked by many residents in his block. Since he has become the head foreman, he claimed to have done some work around the warehouse in one-third the time it took other foremen to have accomplished. This, it is said, was some time ago, and was suspected as being a source of trouble. As one Issei who was close to Yama said, "I was afraid that he might get into trouble. Some Japanese are really fools (baka). They get patted on the shoulders ^{by Kato} and get called 'Charlie' and will want to work hard for them, and show off." Yama's character is somewhat revealed by the fact that he sent extra loads of firewood to his own block because he expected to quit his job. He was not always fair and straight in his dealings. When trouble started in the warehouse area and men refused to work, Yama was placed in a peculiar position, and was talking about quitting his work to visit his sons on the outside. However, since he was responsible for some of the trouble and was the head foreman, he was persuaded by a block commissioner to attend the meeting of the Fact-Finding Committee.

5. Block Mess Employment Trouble

Some time ago (4/10/44 #2) the mess trouble in the block was reported. On the surface it seemed like a quarrel between the Chef and the Head Waitress over the washing of the mess hall curtains. The wash woman, it will be remembered, did not want to do this work because her work was doubled by ~~xxxxx~~ the other wash woman being discharged in the employment cut. The block commissioner explained the ~~xxxxx~~ inner movements not so evident on the surface in the following manner.

Terada, a cook, never got along with the chef. He was married, but did not have a child. He was a frequenter of the boilerhouse, and ^{was} described as a troublemaker and someone to be watched out for. He was in the habit of drinking, even in the ~~xxxxx~~ kitchen. Terada quit his work some time ago, the reason for this was given as his health. The real reason, however, ~~x~~ seems to have been the fact that he did not get along with the chef. He went secretly to the Steward Division, it is said, and reported that the chef was not liked in the block, and the people would prefer Suko, a ~~xxxxx~~ Kibei, as the chef since he was more skilled in making Japanese dishes than the chef. He himself had designs of getting back into the kitchen crew when the chef was ousted. He

is said to have been on good terms with the head waitress. She was married, had several children, and had the reputation of being a well-mannered lady. She was attractive and dressed well. The waitresses liked her because she did not act bossy. Usually she disliked to take part in the gossips and the dirty stories told by the Isseis in the mess-hall. She used to work in Jackson Cafe, frequented by the lower segment of the Japanese population, it is said, and she was skillful in the handling of men. The rumor has gotten around that she entertained Terada now and then with spirits, and some people suspected Terada of having designs on her. He seems to have assured her that the chef would soon be ousted. Terada is a yakuin, has gotten the support of Shibata, another yakuin and a boilerman.

The head waitresses' attitude toward the chef has been a cool one, and it is claimed that she often refused to obey him. The actual trouble was started by one of the waitresses, Mrs. Momoda, who is talkative and disliked as a trouble-maker. She was the one who talked back to the chef over the washing of the curtains, and who caused, it seems, the resignation of the chef. At the yakuin-kai (meeting of the block council) it was decided that the chef would be retained and the head waitress would be asked to resign. Instead of telling her directly, they decided to get a ~~xxx~~ friend of hers to ask her to withdraw from the scene. The block manager refused to carry out this task, and showed that he was desirous of keeping out of this entanglement. Before they could get someone to tell the head waitress, Terada went around on his own saying that the chef was going to remain out and the head waitress was going to be retained. He seems to have figured that the majority of the people and the cooks would be against the chef, but this he found was not true. He was in the habit of loitering around the kitchen and was told by several of the cooks that it was wrong of the yakuin to retain the head waitress and sacrifice the chef. One of them brandished a knife and declared that he wanted to cut up some of the yakuin. This seems to have scared Terada, and he went to the block manager to tell him that it was best to have the chef come back and to have the head waitress quit. In this manner the trouble was settled. Terada and Shibata and their wives, however, are saying that the trouble was prolonged unnecessarily by the mishandling of the matter by the yakuin.

The block commissioner is thinking of reorganizing the block council to include the chef, the block manager, and one representative from his barrack to stimulate interest in block affairs.

J 4/31/44 Friday

1. Warehouse Strike

Thus far I have not had the opportunity to probe deeply into the negotiations going on between the Council and the administration in regards to the warehouse strike. From an indirect source, not too reliable, comes the report that the negotiations with Stafford was a failure. Stafford is said to have employed such words as "mutiny" and "insubordination," and to have told the negotiators that if the men didn't go back to work ~~they~~ ^{the residents} wouldn't be able to eat. It is definite that all of the workers who were discharged or who quit of their own accord have not gone back to work. The workers connected with the food warehouse alone seem to have gone back to work. From several sources comes the report that several workers were fired for insubordination again. According to one report seven (another said 15) workers went to unload food from cars on the spar, and were asked to unload furniture, too. This the workers refused to do, and were fired on the spot.

Within the project there is very little excitement over the strike. Food is now being delivered to the block, and fear of lack of food is not present. ~~xx~~ During the first two days of the strike in one block the messhall was short of rice, and had to borrow some from residents. ~~xxxx~~ ~~xx~~ Also, they were required to bake their own bread. Meat and milk, however, never ceased to be delivered to the kitchen, and it was possible for the residents to be served decent food. At any rate, very few people showed signs of fearing a food shortage. Most of them seem to be convinced that the administration cannot starve the people. This is probably one reason why so little interest is shown in the strike.

Some are saying that the Japanese can't "take it lying down" (naki neiri) all of the time. Caucasian supervisors and sometimes Stafford are pointed out as being mean. Very few people seem to recognize Miller's existence. The anti-administration feeling is not strong, but recognizable.

Elmer Smith, community analyst, according to his own account, was asked by the project attorney how he sized up the situation. Smith is supposed to have told him that he thought that the problem was simple. It was a trouble ~~xx~~ between supervisor, foremen, and workers. The attitude of the workers was such that the workers did not like to work with him. A superficial adjustment of the problem, he thought, would not do any good because trouble would be cropping up all of the time in other form.

2. Isseis on Japanese Victory

I mentioned to "Pop" that an internee was heard saying that he was sure Japan would come out victorious in this war and that the time would come when the keto would look up to a Jap face. This person had pointed out that Japan was about to conquer India, and that most of the South American countries were against ~~xxxx~~ the United States. "Pop" said:

"We're enemy aliens, and our stand is naturally different from those of Niseis. I can't believe that Japan will lose--I just can't ~~believe~~ imagine ^{it} ~~then~~. My children used to argue with me when I used to tell that Japan was going to win the war. They would say that the war wasn't over yet, and there was no way of telling who was going to win. I tried to explain to them, but found that I couldn't make them understand why Isseis thought that Japan would ~~xxx~~ win. You might call it yamato-damashii. If Japan really loses, it means that Japan is no longer existent, and I'm prepared to face the consequence in such an eventuality. We may be treated like Indians, you can't tell. If even if Japan must fight until she is all torn to pieces, I don't think that she would lose. The struggle may reach a point where both sides will be desperate and it becomes necessary to sacrifice one's flesh to crush the opponent's bones (mi o kirashite hone o kudaku). But still I can't imagine that Japan will come out the vanquished from this struggle."

J 4/22/44 Saturday

1. Assault and Battery on Charlie Ito

According to Smith, yesterday morning in the messhall in Block 17 the pantry clerk, I believe it was, attacked Charlie Ito, a foreman in the warehouse area. According to his version of the story, Charlie Ito had complained to the pantry clerk (or was it the chief cook) a countless number of times that he should not hoard food in the supply room, but serve it all to the people. This situation exploded yesterday morning when the two argued about this matter once again. The pantry clerk told Charlie that it was a good thing that he had saved some food because his own block was the only one which had food to serve in spite of the strike. After some exchange of words, the pantry clerk hit Charlie. The latter went to the Internal Security and reported the incident, charging assault and battery. The attacker was picked up for questioning, and given five days in the Jerome jail.

The full significance of this incident is not known. It is possible that ~~the implications are~~ it is merely personal. On the other hand, it is possible Charlie Ito is ~~xxxxxx~~ considered somewhat of an administration stooge. The following facts can be used to substantiate this view.

Charlie Ito evidently is not on good terms with his warehouse crew, and is unable to control them.

Charlie Ito took orders from Wilder and ordered the warehouse crew to report for the unloading of the oranges when the strike broke loose.

Charlie Ito reported the assault and battery to the Internal Security, thus asking for the support of the administration in punishing the guilty party.

A rumor has been heard to the effect that the administration, in an effort to break up the strike, has jailed an individual. While this seems to be merely a rumor, judgment as to whether this incident should be tied up with the strike or not should be reserved until Charlie Ito's position with the administration and the evacuees is definitely determined.

2. Progress of the Warehouse Strike

From Ken Yamada I was able to get the reaction of the members of the Fact Finding Committee who did not attend the meeting with Stafford. The Committee was composed of Fujii, Takeda, Mihara, Kuraoka, and Takahashi. When they came back from the meeting with Stafford with the memo stating that the workers were to go back to work and accept any "relative assignment," several members of the committee showed definite signs of displeasure. They included Ken Yamada, himself, and also Hatate and Doi. Ken pointed out some of the points of the memo with which they were dissatisfied:

1. The Fact Finding Committee, in the first place, had accepted a memo which was not acceptable to the workers.

It stated that the workers were to go back to work and accept any "relative assignment." This was the very reason that they were fired and the point which had to be clarified. They were being asked to go back to work, not on the old basis pending further negotiation, but on a new basis which was desirable to the administration.

2. The negotiation group compromised with the administration. Stafford, according to Ken, told the group that if the workers did not go back to work he would get the M.P.'s to do the work. The group allowed themselves to feel obligated to solve the problem on this basis. They should have dared the administration to carry out their threat. After all, the responsibility of delivering the food to the messhalls lay with the administration and not with the Council.

3. The negotiation group accepted a petition which was highly insulting to evacuees. The refusal of the workers to do work which they were not doing until now was called "mutiny" and "insubordination."

I saw Takeda, too, but it was difficult to get much information at this point. He said that Stafford was "sincere," and had asked the workers to go back to work and carry out any emergency work necessary. They were to go back to their old job, it was stated. When asked about the firing of several individuals yesterday for refusing to unload furniture, he thought that the administration was at fault.

Takeda, while not revealing very much, said that the problem was very difficult because of politics within the administration. Stafford, he said, was willing to listen to both sides, and was wary of the steps he took. Miller and Davidson were battling with each other, while ~~Komeroy~~ Pomeroy remained neutral. Davidson, he said, was ~~was~~ trying to keep out of this matter as much as possible, which seems to leave Miller the major bottleneck.

Smith said that the administration had asked for his opinion, and that he was going to give it to them. He had ~~talked~~ talked with Pomeroy, and said that he now respected him. Pomeroy is said to have expressed the opinion that there was a necessity for getting more cooperation among everybody, and he was on "this" side.

I went into the Community Council Office and was going to talk to Tom Ogawa, the secretary, whom I had met through "White-Collar," but he was busy. A man came from the lumber section and testified against Ford. A meeting with Stafford was planned for Monday afternoon. Tom said that

J 4/22/44 #2-3

he had really gotten into something when he took the job as community clerk, although he didn't have any responsibility.

Went to talk to "Bishop." He was anxious to get news of the warehouse strike. He wanted me to get together a few important persons to talk the matter over, but I made it clear to him that it was best to leave action to those who were directly involved and that my interest lay primarily in observing what went on. "Bishop" said that he was more interested in "solving the problem." He observed that anthropologists were more likely to be active than sociologists. "Bishop" strikes me as a one-man pressure group.

J 4/22/44 #3

3. Irrigator Cross Reference

Draft: "48 Hunt Men to Report for Induction April 27"

I. 4/22/44 p 1

Draft: "180 Draftees Undergo Physical Exams at Project Hospital Today"

I. 4/22/44 p 1

Also from ten projects:

1898 called, 544 accepted, 384 rejected, 44 inducted, 86 holdouts with 77 arrested. 13 volunteers.

Draft: "73 Men to Report From Tule Lake"

I. 4/22/44 p 1

Draft: "Army Court Convicts Six Soldiers"

I. 4/22/44 p 1

Draft: "T-SGT. Ben Kuroki to Visit Here Next Month"

This will constitute a meeting of the 2draft-is-an-opportunity school of thought with the opposite one. It will be interesting to watch the Issei's reaction to Ben, and Ben's attitude toward them. Embarrassing questions undoubtedly will be asked.

I. 4/22/44 p 1

Relocation "New Board on Relocation Formed Here"

About six months after an instruction was received from Washington a board is finally formed. It will not be able to function, however, until the present defunct Relocation Planning Commission is replaced by a more active one.

Public Relation "Nisei Discharged from N.J. Farm after Protests"

I. 4/22/44/ p 1

Relocation "Salt Lake Area Open to Limited Relocation"

For draftees only.

I. 4/22/44 p 1

Warehouse Strike "Men Return to Work in Mess Division"

I. 4/22/44 p 1

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~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Employment "Three Units Have Priority on Workers"

I. 4/22/44 p 1

Community Analyst "Professor Smith New Analyst"

I. 4/22/44 p 1

Drafts "ACLU Disagrees with Heart Mountain Fair Play Group"

Notice the theme: "you fellows certainly have a strong moral case, but it is no legal case at all," which is in sympathy with the protest against the draft. Contrast this with the declaration on the part of the JACL editorially that the same boys are out and out "draft-dodgers." It is this sort of stand that makes the JACL unpopular within the center and among Niseis in general. One would suppose that such an important article would be played up on the front pages or editorially.

Segregation "Segregants Leave for Tule in May"

I. 4/22/44 p 1

4. H. Yama and the Draft

"Curly" (J 2/17/44 #2) came back to the center to see about a misprint in the Irrigator. He was out working for a Hakujin in Caldwell who claimed that there was no use in hiring any Mexican, because they weren't worth a damn. He was ordered to report for his physical on March 18, but when he came back to the center for this purpose, his parents chased him back, telling him to take the physical outside of the center. In this manner, he was able to delay his physical one month. He asked for deferment for agricultural work from the Jerome Board, but this was refused him on the ground that they could not afford to defer anyone because of the excessive number of rejects and that they were not able to fill their quota. The farmer had signed all of the papers for him, but without avail. His last remarks were:

"I guess I'm headed for the Army."

5. News of the Physical

The news is going around that the results of the physical was very ~~skript~~ unfavorable. One person claimed that 90 per cent were taken. One person who was in the T.B. ward of the hospital was accepted with the word: "You'll be all right soon." Those with poor eyesight were taken, too, unless ~~they were very poor~~ their eyes were very poor, it was said. Jack Takahashi had broken ear-drums. The doctors cleaned his ear out with water to take a good look at the drums. They told him to come again, even though they said that he had perforated ear-drums. They should know that it can't be cured. The results of the physical hasn't caused too much excitement, and seems to be limited largely to people with sons and relatives involved.

6. Second Front

When the possibility of the second front is brought up for discussion Isseis say:

"America doesn't dare attempt a second front. They may put on a little commando raid just to keep their promise to Russia. But if she fails in Europe, it's going to mean that she is open to attack from Japan. Britain is going to go down, anyway. You can't tell which way Russia is going to turn."

or "They just say that--they won't really carry out the second front."

These opinions seem to be quite general among Isseis.

J 4/23/44 ~~#2~~ Sunday

1. Married Kibei, Expatriate, 1-A

A married Kibei who asked for leave clearance began to say after the reinstitution of selective service that he would prefer to go to Tule Lake or to jail than to the Army. (J 3/3/44 #1) Yesterday he was required to report for his physical, and was accepted. He is quitting his work in the messhall with the excuse that he will be going to Tule Lake eventually. He seems to be quite depressed about his having been accepted.

2. Relocation and social security

"Pop" said that he hadn't known that it was possible to get financial aid if Japanese become stranded on the outside. He said:

~~"That's the first time I'm hearing this. If it's true, then it means that there's no worry even if we go out on indefinite."~~

3. Report on Outside Condition

According to a report, Mr. Yoshihara visited his son in Nampa and had occasion to visit ~~the~~ his friends in that area. He is ~~said~~ said to have stated:

"Everybody that I know is getting along well. There's plenty of jobs, and there's nothing to keep persons from getting along on the outside. If a person works for six months, he can live comfortably for a year. If he's lucky enough to work longer than that, he might be able to save some money. You can't expect to save too much money, but there's no worry about not being able to get along."

4. Issei Attitude toward Postwar Adjustment

I was trying to explain to "Pop" why Isseis worried about the future so little. He stated that after the war the Government will have to take care of people who can't take care of themselves. Even if this camp is closed, they government will have to take care of them in some way. I said that in that case they will become like Indians. Then ~~he said~~ ^{said} that Japan ~~would~~ ^{would} take care of her own citizens. We agreed that most Isseis believed that Japan would take care of them in some way. Many of them half hoped for \$10,000 indemnities. Others seemed to have a vague hope that something would happen and that they would be well taken care of. "Pop" said that this rested on Japan's winning a victory, and that most Isseis did not doubt that Japan would come out of this war the victor.*

~~Ex~~

5. Mrs. Katayama, Issei Views

Mrs. Katayama is a former farmer from Hood River. She is a regular Buddhist Church attender. Many of her views can be called typically Isseish, and they are summed up here briefly.

a. Kibeish returning to Tule Lake Mrs. Katayama said that there were some Kibeis in her block who came from Tule Lake, and were now returning to that center because they did not want to be drafted. She said that she didn't think that they were very manly to go back to a center they had once left as a "loyal" individual.

b. Relocation Mrs. Katayama mentioned that she was thinking of working because she was getting so fat. When asked whether she was going out to work, she said that she couldn't go out because people would talk bad about her if she did. She laughed and said that people were talking about the possibility of getting \$10,000 if they stayed in the center. She didn't seem to believe or to disbelieve this. Possibly she didn't care too much because she has money of her own.

c. War She brought up the subject of war herself, asking whether it was true that the war might end in two months. She didn't ~~think that~~ seem to think that the second front was a very great possibility in the near future. She referred to the pictures of dead Japanese soldiers with their stomach exposed ~~and~~ on Attu, and said that she thought that the picture was "made" using Chinese. She said that Japanese soldiers didn't die in that way. When I explained that the soldiers had committed suicide with hand grenades, she began to see the possibility of the picture being a photograph of real Japanese soldiers. To many Japanese it is incredible that Japanese soldiers should die or lose a battle.

d. Christians Mrs. Katayama said that she had heard that some Isseis hoped that America would win. When it was mentioned that such an Issei was rare, she said that she had heard that among Christians there were some who were heard saying this.

e. Return to the Coast I asked Mrs. Katayama whether she would rush back to her farm once the Coast was opened to Japanese. She said that she wouldn't. She'd wait until some of the others went back first to find out whether it was safe to return or not.

J 4/24/44 Monday

1. Mrs. Matsubara on Draft and Future

Mrs. Matsubara came to return some books that she had borrowed. She's working at the hospital now, and seems to be fairly happy in her work now. Concerning the draft she said:

"There's no sense in getting excited about anything. You've got to let nature take ~~xxxxxx~~ its course. Young kids don't seem to care very much whether they are taken for the army or not."

Mrs. Matsubara's outlook toward the future undoubtedly influences her attitude toward the draft. She said:

"We could have returned to Japan, but Matsubara didn't want to because it was too much trouble living in Japan. He's the eldest in the family, and can return to a home and property. For the sake of the children we'd like to stay in America if possible. But if it's too difficult to get along here or if the Hakujin are too nasty, we'll have to go back. We used to lease a farm, and the owner told us that if we came back we could start right in again. We let him use a couple of tractors, a couple of automobiles, a truck, and household goods. If we can't go back there, we could go to our sister's place, since they bought their land. Our owner sent us money for the use of machinery last year. If he does the same this year, it means that he's honest. We asked for some books for the children, and since it didn't come, we were saying bad things about him. But it did come finally. He sent it from San Jose rather than from Isleton, possibly because the people there are against the Japanese."

2. Mrs. Sako on Drafting of Young Kids

Mrs. Sako was complaining in the messhall that it was unfair for young kids to be drafted before older ones. She has a son and a son-in-law in the Army already. The son-in-law is a Kibei, and was sent to Alabama, but, to her relief, was sent back to his original camp once again. She remarked that he's been in the army for three years now but is still a buck private.

3. "Pop" on Soldier's Benefits

"Pop" asked some young kids in the carpenter crew how much a parent received if the son died in battle. The boys didn't know. He said:

"I'm not entitled to receive anything because my son is not supporting me, I understand. In fact, it's the other way around because we're sending him to school. But I'm not going to send my son to the Army before I find out how

much help I'm entitled to from the Government in case I lose my son. I'm sending him through school now, but eventually he's supposed to start working and look after us. If he's drafted and is killed, and we have no means of support, it's going to be a funny situation."

4. Progress of Warehouse Strike

Talked to Mr. Yama in the shower, and asked him how the strike was coming along. He didn't hear me well at first and thought that I was talking about his son. Perhaps the use of the word "strike" confused him. He said that all of the workers had gone back to work on what they understood to be the old schedule. When I mentioned the memo from Stafford, he said it hadn't been announced as yet, whatever he meant by it. I received the impression from him that all was ~~well~~ well in the warehouse area. Hardly anybody talks about the warehouse area trouble anymore.

J 4/25/44 Tuesday

1. Warehouse Strike Progress

Went to the Community Analysis Section office, where I had coffee with the staff. Smith went out to see the baseball game between Hunt and Eden, and didn't say anything about the warehouse trouble. I was going to go see Tom Ogawa, the secretary of the Community Council, but he came in for a cup of coffee. He revealed some of the latest developments, but I went outside with him and talked to him more personally about the matter. He was willing to tell me some of the trouble he was having, and the real dope on the movement within the administration and the council. K. Takeda came along and intruded in the conversation, and didn't seem anxious to have Tom talk to me. Tom suggested that I come to see him at his home sometime, and went off with Takeda. From him I got the following story.

I asked Tom where Stafford stood. Evidently he had done and said things that were incriminating, because Tom said that with the facts that they had on him they could attack him if they wanted to. Concerning the memo, what he meant when he wrote the memo was that the men would go back to their own ~~division~~ division and do work in other divisions, if necessary. He did not intend that men should be shifted around. When the men first went back to work, it was the desire of the Caucasian supervisors to shift them around as they saw fit in different departments and divisions. They ~~had~~ committee had to see Stafford once more and straighten this matter out. While Stafford did not issue any memo, it is clearly understood, he said, that he did not intend that the men should be shifted around.

Stafford, Tom said, was discovering that the cause of trouble now was insubordination on the part of the workers, but on the part of some of the supervisors. In Tom's opinion, they are attempting to fire as many workers as possible and to break the temporary agreement. Miller is suspected of being the real source of trouble, but there is no ~~concrete~~ concrete evidence against him. Tom believes that Stafford intends to do some "housecleaning" within his own staff, and seems to be after evidence against some of the supervisors.

Further developments seemed to carry out part of Tom's general view. Since 7 men of the ~~original~~ original Ito crew in the food warehouse were fired, this left only 6 working. Of these two were sick, thus leaving only 4. These four were working as hard as possible, attempting to keep the messhalls supplied with the needed food. Requisitions were piling up on them, and they could not possibly do all of the required amount of work. The workers were mostly close to sixty, according to Tom. Powers came to the warehouse this morning and asked the four workers to unload the produce in the car on the spar. The workers asked that they not be asked to do this because they had so much other work to do. Powers then asked for two workers, and went to

J 4/25/44 #1-2

another warehouse to ask for two workers. He was refused at the latter place, but no one was terminated. He came back to the Ito crew and asked the four to unload the produce. The crew refused, and they were terminated.

Wilder then sent a messenger to the Council asking whether the four men were willing to do the work of unloading the produce. Stafford got wind of this, and ~~thereafter~~ asked that the messenger be sent up to him. He asked that ~~thereafter~~ Ito's original crew be gotten together because he desired to talk to them.

Tom himself is having trouble with the committee/
(Fact Finding Committee). He wrote up a report, and this was discuss^{ed} by the committee on Saturday. They disapproved of many parts of the report. Included in the disapproved category was the hint that the foremen (evacuee) and workers may have been somewhat at fault, and the statement that the Japanese were willing to back up the discharged workers 100 per cent right or wrong. He said that the reason he couldn't write a report was ~~because~~ that the committee could not agree on what they wanted. He himself felt that the committee ought to be as objective as possible. He felt that with the material on hand the committee might prefer to go after Stafford's neck. There wasn't enough evidence against Miller, but there was enough against Ford. He had been caught drunk on the project, etc. He himself felt that it was best to give Stafford another ~~try~~ chance and to spare him this time. Mujii seems to be of the same opinion, but he is trying to fix matters up personally between himself and Stafford, Tom feels.

J 4/25/44 # 2

Warehouse Conflict

Minidoka Project
Hunt, Idaho

April 25, 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. Y. Fujii
Chairman, Community Council

Whereas confusion and chaos exist concerning recent terminations on the ground of mutiny and insubordination and to date, 4:00P.M., we have not been successful in getting a solution, I recommend that you designate an emergency labor supervisor with whom I may negotiate assignments of necessary work that may involve the utility men, the Steward Service Warehouses 7 and 10, and such men as were involved in terminations from the Property Control Section.

Conditions hereinabove are resorted to for the purpose of keeping miscellaneous jobs current until joint sessions of the Council representatives and project staff can clarify and establish settlement of difficulties.

Harry L. Stafford
Project Director

J 4/26/44 Wednesday

1. Progress of Warehouse Strike

Went to Tom Ogawa's home to talk to him about the warehouse incident. It's no longer right to call it a strike, although it started out to be one. Until some sort of adjustment could be made between the Council and the administration a temporary set-up was worked out. Stafford came out rather strongly in this first meeting, stating that he is not going to tolerate insubordination. Then it started to become evident even to Stafford that he was getting insubordination from the workers but from the appointed personnel. Recent developments brought this out very clearly.

Ito Crew The remaining four members of Ito's original crew of thirteen were asked by Powers to unload a carload of produce. The four refused to do this because they had too much work of their own, trying to do the work of 13 to keep the messhalls supplied. ~~Wilder~~ Powers told them that they were fired. Words reached Stafford of what had happened. Evidently he ordered Wilder to hire the whole of Ito's crew back again. Wilder's messenger brought word to the Council that Wilder requested the four workers to come back to work. Stafford phoned up the Council to find out whether his order to Wilder was being carried out or not. He found out, however, that Wilder had not carried out his orders. He had the messenger come to see him, and told the Council to call all of Ito's crew together and wait for him. This was yesterday afternoon about ~~xxx~~ three o'clock.

Temporary Solution Evidently it became necessary to change the temporary set-up in order to keep the food flowing smoothly to the messhalls. Since ~~Rx~~ Wilder and Powers seemed intent on interfering with the temporary arrangement made by Stafford, their work was taken away from them by Stafford and entrusted to evacuees. Stafford himself and Fujii were to be responsible for the emergency arrangement. Kintaro Takeda was placed in charge of supervising the food warehouse. C. T. Takahashi was made coordinator of all the workers in the warehouse area. The idea of a motor pool was revived again temporarily to take care of emergency matters such as the handling of baggages for the segregees to Tule Lake. Doi was placed in charge there. G. Mihara was handling the dispatching of food in the Steward Division. While the functions of different individuals may not have been recorded accurately, the general arrangement was to take Power and Wilder's jobs away from them and entrust them to members of the Council.

Fujii * Fujii, the president of the Council, desires to compromise with Stafford. He does not seem to be willing to trust the judgment of the majority of the members of the Fact Finding Committee, who seem to be willing to attack Stafford, as well as the other appointed personnel. Evidently, ~~xx~~ ^{Fujii} has taken upon himself the task of settling matters personally between himself and Stafford, and is

said to have gone to see Stafford on the sly by himself. This is a direct violation of a Council ruling, which states that representatives of the Council must include at least two members.

C. T. Takahashi Fujii is said to be under the influence of C. T. Both of them seem to be in favor of upholding Stafford against the other Caucasians. C. T. has made mistakes in the past, when he made speeches encouraging volunteering. He seems to be watching out for himself. (Tom and I agree generally on the roles being played by Fujii and ~~xxx~~ Takahashi. Fujii is taking a middle course between the administration and the residents, while Takahashi plays up to both sides and attempts to show that he for their side. Tom seems to be surprised why more people don't catch on to Takahashi. He agrees with Fujii's stand that it's best to give Stafford a chance this time and try to attack the other Caucasians, but he agrees ~~xxxx~~ that Fujii is opening himself to ~~xxxxxx~~ trouble from other Council members.)

Miller Miller came to replace Shaffer. He is from Idaho, and is said to have some political backing in this state. He is suspected of wanting to cause trouble for Stafford and possibly to get his job. However, there is little evidence of such intentions or of his having been the cause of trouble in the warehouse area. He is said to have told a crew of workers that they should take orders from "these men" (appointed personnel), no matter what Stafford said. He is also said to have accused the members of the Fact Finding Committee of being agitators, because some of the warehouse workers weren't willing to work until the committee clarified the conditions under which they were to go back to work. Stafford is said to have praised Miller for being an efficient man, and that he was fortunate in having such a man work for him. They have in common a firm attitude toward those underneath them. (Tom and I agree on this point.)

Ford "there is very little evidence against Cox, but plenty against Ford. There are complaints to show that he has been inefficient on the job. Also, he took some boys out to Spokane to bring in some cars, and he was irresponsible, and drunk most of the time.

Analysis For a while it seemed as though Stafford was going to back up the administration 100 per cent and that the Council was going to do the same for the workers. This would have brought about the sort of set-up that Tule Lake had. ~~xxx~~ Now, however, it seems that both Stafford and the Council (especially Fujii and Takahashi) are willing to play ball with each other against the "bad" elements in both the administration and the ~~xxxxxxx~~ residents. While the more trouble-making elements among the residents are held down by the leaders, Stafford can go ahead with his

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housecleaning. To make this set-up effective it is necessary for Stafford to recognize the Council and give in to some of its demands.

2. Tom Oyama

Tom Oyama was born in Canada, and graduated college in forestry engineering. He was hired by Mitsui in the lumber department, where he worked with an assistant and two girls. He visited Japan several times, and in 1937 was hired in Japan, where he worked in the Tokyo office for several weeks. He declared that he could not stand the "kaisha" system employed in Japan. A person knew exactly where he stood in the company--who was above and below him. When he wrote a letter, he had to get half a dozen ~~signatures~~ o.k.'s before he could even sign it. It was so inefficient that he did not like it. Also, for every little detail he was required to get the approval of some superior. Also, there was a great deal of competition for position, which meant back-stabbing each other within the firm. Those in the managing class were receiving about 220 yen a month, including bonuses, and was very difficult to get along on.

Tom was working in the United States on a treaty merchant passport. After he was interned, he was served with a deportation warrant, meaning that he would be deported to Japan after the war. This meant that so far as his future was concerned his mind was already made up for him. Nevertheless, he said, he did not give up the possibility of being able to live in this country. He felt that it was better to be a grocer, than to be a white-collar worker in Japan, if the person did not like the living condition over there. Over here, he said, it was possible to enjoy daily life. He could not help but feel that life in Japan was too artificial.

He had a brother who returned to Japan because he could not find a job over here as a pilot. In Japan, however, he was grounded because he was a foreigner. He found a job in the Ford plant over there, but became sick and died. Another brother had returned to Japan and had gotten a job as a civil engineer. However, he did not feel that he had much of a future over there and was not happy at all.

Tom seems to typify the attitude of a Nisei who has gotten a glimpse of life in Japan, and has enjoyed his life in this country. Even if Japanese in this country are mistreated as a racial minority, he feels that there are great advantages to living here. If one cared for prestige, he said, life in Japan was all right. But a person in a high position, he thought, was not very happy. He feels that Isseis are mistaken in their concept of life in Japan, and in urging their sons to make up their

minds to seek their future in Japan. He also does not believe that the Isseis are right in believing that Japan is going to win a sweeping victory over the Allied Nations.

3. Tom Kuge on the Draft

Tom Kuge is 21 years old, from the northwest, not highly brilliant, and looking somewhat like a Nisei of the zootsuit variety. He passed his physical while working in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and was inducted, too. He came back to Minidoka to see his folks, expecting to be drafted soon, but it is taking longer to be drafted than he expected. He was willing to be drafted, he said, and was anxious to pass his physical. He said that it was "funny" being deferred when everyone else was being drafted, and to be asked by Hakujins why he was not in the Army. His married sister-in-law and his parents, however, were surprised to learn that he had passed his physical, since they felt that he had too many defects to be able to pass. He used to quarrel with his father, taking his mother's side whenever there was a family quarrel. During registration he was going to relocate, and neighbors put pressure on his father to oppose his going out. Even now, he said, he doesn't ~~at~~ talk to his father very much. One of his brothers, a doctor, volunteered from Tule Lake. Another, Yutaka, married and with one child, passed his physical and is going to be inducted tomorrow.

4. Charlie Ito

Charlie Ito's quarrel with the pantry clerk in his block, which put the latter in jail for several days, is ~~isn't~~ not entirely unconnected with his role in the warehouse strike. Ito is said to be the sort of person who likes to take his authority seriously. Also, he was in the habit of acting big even within his own block. This was indicated by the story that he would fry bacon for himself in the messhall and eat it all by himself when others did not have bacon. The people in general are indignant toward him, it is said, because he went to the Internal Security directly when he had the fight with the pantry clerk. He is said to have defended himself in front of the Council by claiming that he did not see any need for a third party to intervene in a personal fight. Ito is an Episcopalian, and it is said that Father Joe is making an effort to get him relocated, in order to avoid further trouble. (This was what happened to Taniguchi in the pickling plant conflict.)

In ~~the~~ the warehouse conflict Ito sided with his crew when it decided that the whole crew should be allowed to unload oranges. Tom Ogawa, in his report for the Fact Finding Committee, wanted to indicate that Ito might have been at fault. The rest of the committee, however, are for white-washing Ito and backing him up 100 per cent.

5. Expatriates

This story of an expatriate seems to illustrate well the desire to avoid the draft and at the same time to postpone having to make decisions as long as possible. A certain individual expatriated, but was called for his physical just the same. When he took his physical examination, he was rejected. He then went back to the office to cancel his expatriation.

Tom Oyama believes that if it weren't for Myer's statement regards expatriates as being draft dodgers, more Niseis would expatriate. That is, if they are certain that they would be sent to Tule Lake and not be drafted, and not be punished for draft-dodging.

He believes that the expatriates are free from the charge of draft-dodging, except for one thing. When they expatriated, they were asked to fill out Form 304-A, too. At the bottom of this form was typed the ~~statement~~ statement to the effect that ~~he~~ a person desired to expatriate rather than to serve in the armed forces. Some of the boys, it seems, have refused to fill out the second form. Tom expressed the opinion that it was not wise to fill out both forms.

6. Iwatsukis on Relocation

Mrs. Iwatsuki came back the other day to clean out her room, which she could not keep forever. She wanted to stay out a little while longer on seasonal or short-term leave, and seemed to have had some difficulty at the office until a Hakujin from Boise helped her. She feels that she can stay out on seasonal or short-term for several months more. The husband is earning \$200 a month, and she is getting \$60 a month. Her son caddies, and earns enough for pocket money. Their room and board is free. She seemed to be very satisfied with the arrangement.

J 4/28/44 Friday

1. Special Joint Meeting

Meeting called to order by Chairman Fujii at 10.15 a.m. The roll is called, and some of the representatives found absent.

Fujii; (In Japanese) "The purpose of the meeting today is the labor situation. At the last joint meeting there was a report of the problem, and a committee of 14 was formed as a Fact Finding Committee. This committee has been meeting everyday and is investigating the situation, but the report of the committee is not ready yet, and a formal negotiation with the administration has not been possible thus far. But to delay the report to you (block commissioners) might cause misunderstanding, and we decided to report the progress thus far, and have you inform the residents of the situation. The discussion today will be limited to this problem.

"On April 14⁷ labor trouble broke out when the crew of 13 men of Warehouse 10 belonging to Mr. Ito were discharged. The reason for this was the ordering of five of the crew to unload a car of fruit. Ito asked the crew, and they agreed that they preferred that the whole crew go and finish the work, rather than have five take the whole day to do the work. The other side replied that 13 workers were too many for the job, and stated that unless the five went, the whole crew would be discharged, and they were.

"On April 16th at 9 a.m. the committee met and discussed the problem. The committee decided that the people would suffer if the supplying of food to the messhalls were stopped. Therefore, delivery of food should be assured pending the settlement of the labor situation.

"Five representatives met with Stafford and decided that all the workers should return to work pending further settlement. The following morning we received the following memo from Stafford. (Reads memo and translates into Japanese.)

"We came back to the office a little past nine. After studying the memo the committee and some of the workers decided to return to work. ~~xxxxxxaffairxxxxxx~~ This notice was sent to all of the foremen concerned. The workers came back to work. In the afternoon in Warehouse #10 Wilder interviewed each worker as he came back to work. They were asked if they would obey his orders irregardless of work. They saw that this differed from the agreement. Reassignment and readjustment were not allowed in the memo. The workers contacted this office, and I called up Stafford, and protested. I asked Stafford to clarify matters to Wilders. I pointed out that there should be no temporary adjustment--that everyone was to return to their original job and under original working condition. Stafford replied that he made it clear to his staff that only minor adjustments would be possible under the agreement.

"The workers telephoned that Wilder insisted on carrying out his plan. I phoned Stafford. Stafford said that he would send Miller, and asked me to go to the Warehouse. I took Ozawa (councilman) and G. Mihara was there at the warehouse. We saw Wilder first. He said that this minor adjustment was necessary. His 26 workers, he said, were too many, and that some should be transferred to Property Control. In Warehouse #10 the three of us talked, but came to no conclusion. Wilder ~~it~~ did not change his position. We decided to see Stafford. Wilder hesitated, called Ford, Power, and Cox, and did not let us know what they were going to do. Miller and Minnesang came to the warehouse. Miller, I thought, was sincere in settling the matter. I asked him for a solution. He said 'no alternative.' We maintained that return to work should be on the original basis. Ford said, 'Let's discuss this tomorrow.' His attitude was very cold. Messhall food was becoming low. He certainly knew our position. We became angry, and decided to go to see Stafford.

"The three of us went a little past three to talk to Stafford. We asked for further clarification. We offered to return all workers to their original position under former working conditions. Stafford agreed on this point. He decided to call Miller in. Stafford told him that Fujii had a point, and that he was one step ahead. Miller's attitude changed. He said: 'If that's the case does the administration have to listen to everything the Council says?' I told him that the Council had the power to recommend matters to the project director. He did not reply to that, but he said: 'I think there must be agitators behind the whole trouble.' This was directed at me. I realized that Miller was not sincere, and what sort of person he was.

"Stafford said: 'I agree with Fujii. You change your way.' Miller phoned, and then left. His actions since then is unknown. We understood that all workers would return to their original positions. I told the warehouse workers to wait until we came back. They were waiting. We went back about 5.30. I told them that we had a good chance of fighting if they cooperated. Please go back to work, I said. They were in agreement to trust the committee and go back to work.

"On the 21st all workers were asked to come back to work. The lumber crew foreman, Mr. Matsuda and Mr. Yamamoto came and reported the following. The workers were refused their former positions because the lumber yard had already hired two workers. The workers were asked to go to Property Control. I told them that they were not required to go back to work under those conditions.

"We had a meeting of the Fact Finding Committee, and the Warehouse #7 crew came to to tell us that they were fired. I was surprised at this turn of events.

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On the 22nd, Saturday, we decided to hurry up with the report. On the 23rd, we had another meeting.

"On ~~22~~ the 24th, Monday, the utility crew foreman, Mr. Ono came. We discussed the matter of returning to work. There was a phone-call from Miller to Ono, telling him that there was no use for the utility crew and that the men should be transferred to Property Control or be fired. Ono refused to return to work.

"On the morning of the 25th Stafford phoned and asked about the ~~xxx~~ utility crew. I told him how matters stood. Ford had~~nt~~ asked that the evacuee property ~~xxxxxx~~ needed unloading. Also the problem of handling segregge baggage was coming up. Discussions had been held with Davidson, the agricultural crew was too busy with their own work. The utility crew, therefore, was necessary, Stafford said. I talked to Ono. We decided to see Stafford directly. I talked to Mr. Connor (Equipment and Maintenance Supervisor, October 1, 1943--). He said that he thought he could handle the utility crew.

"At 9.40 a.m., however, the remainder of Warehouse #10 workers came to me. There were only four workers and Ito remaining from the original crew of 13. Two had been asked to ~~xxxxxx~~ help unload a car by Wilder. The workers felt that they could not carry on the work of 13. They refused. Wilder terminated them. I felt that the agreement was clear, but the matter became very confused. I was looking for a clear-cut road of action. I learned that the workers consisted of:

Ono	53 years
Takenaga	58 years
Iwasaki	58 years
Nakashima	48 years.

They were doing the work of 13. Lack of sincerity on Wilder's part was noticed. After eating I asked the whole Ito crew to come back here to the office. I asked Stafford to take back terminated workers, according to our work agreement. I said that unless all of the workers were allowed to go back to work, it was difficult to carry on the work. Stafford said: 'I thought the seven came back to work. I didn't know of the four that were discharged.' He said he wanted to see, and so I went. I asked that he issue orders in my presence to allow the workers to go back. Stafford called up Miller. He ordered him to take back the seven who were terminated before and the four who were terminated today. Miller said: 'The seven held a meeting and decided not to return to work.' They were sitting in my office. Stafford said that the workers were waiting in Fujii's office, ready to go back to work, and to send word there. Ogawa was asked to see what sort of message would come through.

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About 20 minutes later Ogawa reported: ~~'This morning xxxxxx'~~
'The four persons who were terminated this morning should reply yes or no whether they will go to unload the produce or not.' Stafford clearly saw that his orders were not being accepted and that something was wrong. I felt that a big problem lay in this. He realized the problem, too. (Referring to the part played by Miller) Stafford was urged to find out what Wilder was told by Miller. Wilder said that he was doing what he was ordered to do by Miller. Stafford told him that he should take back all of the eleven workers who were terminated. Wilder balked and said that on the 11 people he would have to receive orders from Miller. Stafford told him that he understood where he stood.

"Stafford said that he would handle the warehouse crew directly under himself and Fujii. He issued a memo to this effect, giving me the power to appoint a emergency labor supervisor. (Reads and translates the memo.)

"On the morning of the 26th all workers who were discharged were called together. The new set-up was explained to them. Please trust the supervisor the council choose, I asked. Everyone agreed wholeheartedly to this plan. For the emergency labor supervisor Mr. Takeda was chosen. Mr. Doi said that he would accept the unloading work. He completed the back work on the 26th and 27th. Everyone carried out his work cheerfully. All this was necessary to pave the way to carry on a negotiation with the administration. It was mere patchwork. The real problem must await a report of the Fact Finding Committee, which may take a week or so yet. This is my progress report." (A few applause.)

Takeda: "Please explain about Mr. Takahashi."
Mr.

Fujii: "Since/Takahashi is in the Fact Finding Committee, he is working as the coordinator of Takeda, Doi and others."

(Comment Note the awkwardness of this arrangement, and the reluctance with which it is explained. It would be interesting to find out how Takahashi wormed into his position.)

Takahashi: "Miller said to Fujii and called him an agitator, thus showing his insincerity. We as representatives should consider such a charge an insult. I think one of us should make a motion and go on record in view of Myer's congratulation and desire for cooperation and promotion of harmony. We should ask for an apology or retraction from Miller. There's too much of that name-calling going on around her. Miller's position has nothing to do with it. It's a matter of principle."

(Comment Note his public anti-Caucasian stand. He manages to get one in at every meeting.)

G. Mihara: "Everyone makes a slip of tongue, and we shouldn't jump on chance remarks. But one notices a lack of sincerity. We were three days behind in distribution of food. When seven unloaded food from the car, they were asked to unload furniture. This seemed to be an order lacking sincerity. They refused to work, and were fired by Powers. The other six said that they would quit too, but I asked ~~them~~ Ito to continue. Only four were working, and then the administration demanded that two of them work elsewhere again. There's something that can't be understood. There's someone up there pulling strings. (Meaning Miller, of course.) Kimball came from Washington and said that we should take recommendations to Stafford. The other staff members don't like this. We were seriously discussing the matter. He insulted us, and he's an assistant project director. I agree with Mr. Takahashi's motion."

(Comment Notice that G. Mihara, too, manages to get in his two-cent worth.)

Akiyama: "Before this matter is taken up, there's a man higher up who called a person an agitator. I would like to have that taken up first."

(Comment This seems to be the important difference in the policy to be taken by the Fact Finding Committee. Should Stafford be attacked along with the other Caucasians? Some of the more hotheaded individuals probably would like nothing better than calling spade a spade, no matter who the opponent is, as long as he is a Caucasian. Some undoubtedly do like the compromising attitude of Fujii. This question brings in clearly Fujii and the Council's attitude toward Stafford.)

Fujii: (Rather excitedly) "That's a different matter. It's a personal issue, while this one is against the Council, since I was representing the Council."

A few block commissioners say "that's right, that's right," as if in opposition to Akiyama. Takahashi upholds Fujii by shaking his head. Kuraoka does the same. No one offers to back Akiyama in his attack on Stafford.

(Comment Notice the position that Fujii takes. He is actually shielding Stafford negatively by not pointing out his faults and concentrating on the faults of others, especially of Miller. In this stand he is able to swing the whole body of representatives. He seemed anxious to suppress Akiyama, disposed of his suggestion very quickly.)

M. Mihara: "How would you prove that Miller said what he is claimed to have said. Could we get Stafford's signature on that? And wouldn't this create a sideshow which would divert the main interest of the Council?"

(M. Mihara is one of those who demands action. He is

wary of what seems to be a diversionary attack on Miller.)

Fujii: "There's something that's difficult to explain. If there's someone who would kidnap me it's not Stafford or an evacuee. If a reporter comes in here, Stafford says he'll say, there's no labor trouble, but an administrative trouble. You'll have to understand this to understand the problem."

(Comment Fujii finds it necessary to explain what is going on behind the scene in order to justify his ~~own~~ stand. He has to accuse Miller, but knows, undoubtedly, that the evidence is only circumstantial. He is undoubtedly afraid of being attacked by Miller later as a liar and agitator. Note that he has come out in the open to defend Stafford.)

G. Mihara: "The cause of the trouble is elsewhere. We should act on ~~the~~ Mr. Takahashi's motion and give Myer an idea of the underlying cause of the trouble."

Kuraoka: "The first problem is to settle the labor dispute. If Mr. Takahashi's motion helps to solve the problem, we should go ahead with it. But if it's to confuse the problem, we should place it on record, but wait for a better time to put it into effect."

(Comment Kuraoka takes his job seriously. He is against confusing the issue.)

Takahashi nods to him and says that that was what he meant--to place their stand on record. Takeda says that he seconds the motion, but is told that it was not a motion.

Fujii: (Summing up the situation) "We should make motion so that we would go on record only protesting against Miller's statement."

Hatate: "The wording is important. The point is that when we have been showing sincerity, we were called such a name. Isn't that the idea?"

Shigaya: "All those present should say that they heard Miller say so. How about such a statement?"

Takahashi: "I'll make the working of the motion later with the help of Kenji Ito."

Fujii: "Assuming that we'll consult Kenji Ito for the working, I would like to take a vote on the motion."

Passed unanimously.

Doi: "The day before yesterday I was asked to unload outside the gate. Our division and Miller is having friction. Yesterday, possibly through Mr. Stafford, we received a complaint. We unloaded the cars on the spar in no time, but

when they (Miller's men) are doing the work they don't get any truck. Therefore this trouble arose. This was what we were accused of. However, the number of trucks sent to the Steward Division is set, and we send extra trucks when necessary. This is true of all divisions. We asked each division whether we had failed to comply to a requisition for a truck. Thus far we received an o.k. from heads of all the divisions except the Steward and Property Control. I asked Wilder and Powers, and they said that they were satisfied with our service. There's no use asking Ford and Miller. We asked Yamamoto, Ford's foreman for an o.k. Trucks are sent there, but sometimes they come back empty because they don't have swamper. Also, when there are workers oftentimes the drivers have to wait for them. They are the ones that hold one the work, and still they accuse us of this.

"The coal crew and garbage crew were supposed to transfer to Property Control, but they were sent back to Connor (Equipment and Maintenance Supervisor, from 10/1/43). The hospital said that it had only a day's supply of coal left. Since it was raining this morning, I asked Olson (Motor Pool Supervisor from July 1, 1943) for raincoats for my workers. Mr. Olson phoned Miller. He answered that he didn't know whether there were any raincoats in the warehouse or not, and that he couldn't give any out. We went to Davidson, but he couldn't get us any raincoat. We decided not to work until we got raincoats. Since ~~xxx~~ it has stopped raining, we'll work in the afternoon, but there's no sign of cooperation on their (administration) part.

"Since the reorganization (disbanding of the motor pool) we've lost our living room. The coal crew and garbage crew boys have to stand out in the rain. The boys are willing to work until the trouble is over. They asked for the key to the warehouse on the spar since a stove is in there. I don't think that we can be too optimistic about this matter."

(Comment Note the amount of patience the ~~xxx~~ workers are showing, and the lack of mob rule as in Tule Lake. They seem to have become accustomed to taking orders from the top. Also note Doi's appeal to Davidson, who is considered one of the few friends of the evacuees in the administrative staff.)

Fujii: "I have one request to make. I think you understand the source of trouble. If the problem is not solved, what would happen? If we push ~~through~~ matters through, what would happen. They'll ~~xxx~~ discharge everyone, they say. I don't think you would be satisfied with slave treatment. But in a final showdown the people may suffer for weeks. This is what I fear. I want to see a settlement

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before then. Some people want to take this matter to a show-down, and it is not Stafford. Stafford wants to get rid of the M.P.'s. He is willing to join us against the "Firecracker." Three persons want to leave on shortterm, but have been hindered because of _____. The end of the month is approaching, and the payroll section is confused. But Stafford's stand is that he ordered the workers to go back to their jobs. It's not the fault of the Japanese, but due to a fault in his own management. He is willing to give the workers full pay. A final showdown would be whose responsibility? The project director's, of course. What is his position? Who has a design on it? I can't reveal everything. But I want you to understand this problem."

Applause as the meeting breaks up.

(Comment This final appeal was somewhat emotional. Fujii made just such a speech when he asked the boilermen to go back to work. His position is clear here. In effect he says that Stafford is o.k. and is willing to play ball with us. A final showdown will hurt Stafford. The real culprit is elsewhere, and he has a design on Stafford's job. Fujii has laid his cards down--he sticks with Stafford against Miller. He seems to have convinced the representatives of the wisdom of his judgment.)

2. Cause of Warehouse Conflict

At a block meeting Mr. Yamamoto, foreman of the Property Control Section under Ford, gave the following account of the cause of the warehouse conflict. It began on April 1 with the disbanding of the Central Service and the idea of a motor pool. All of the unloading of the cars and odd transportation work was ~~originally~~ done by the crew at Central Service. On April 1 a reorganization of this system took place, and the trucks in the Central Service with the crew were ordered to various divisions. This move was done without notifying evacuees in general. Consequently, confusion was caused the ~~next~~ morning this change was made. It happened to be Saturday morning, and the workers who came to work late to Central Service did not know where they were assigned. Sixteen boys were sent to Property Control, but many of them did not know until Monday morning where they were to report.

On April 3 Ford terminated 12 of the 16 transfer workers for not reporting to work on time. Other boys refused to work under Ford. To carry on the work ~~at~~ newly assigned to Property Control, such as unloading cars on the spar, men ~~from~~ were requested from other sections and employed to do the work. For these men it was extra work and hard. When Yamamoto, the foreman, under whom this new work was placed, requested Ford for more workers, Ford's reply was that he had placed requests for workers ~~in~~ at the Placement Office and he

would have to wait until they send him workers.

One morning cement came in in carloads, and hardly any worker came to help from the other sections. Ford went first to the lumber crew and demanded workers. They refused to help, and Ford fired them all. He then went to the utility crew, and in the same way fired them all.

After that Ford declared that each division would take care of its own unloading. This was seemingly a decision reached at a staff conference. When a carload of oranges came in, Ford told Yamamoto that he needn't unload that--he would only have to unload the firewood that came in at the same time. Yamamoto called up the Steward Division and told them that they would have to unload the oranges, and he received the reply that they would take care of it with their own truck. Powers ordered five of the Ito crew to go. They all wanted to go and deliver food later in the morning. They refused to allow only five to go, and were all terminated. The workers in Warehouse 7 were asked. They refused and were terminated. The crew under Yamamoto was unloading firewood, when Ford, Cox, and Powers came and ordered him to start unloading oranges. Yamamoto told them that they didn't have much time in the morning left, and that he would have the crew unload oranges in the ~~xx~~ afternoon. Yamamoto then decided to resign from his position, and his crew decided not to go back to work until they had more workers.

Yamamoto was planning to leave the project on a vacation to visit his sons, but was asked to come to a meeting by Fujii, ~~xxxx~~ to which he finally consented.

Yamamoto stated that Ford was aware of the fact that those who were terminated could not work for one month or receive clothing allowance. He thought that this was one means of getting boys to leave the center and seek work on the outside.

3. Block Meeting on Warehouse Conflict

In Block 12 a meeting was called after dinner by the block commissioner, Mr. Hata, to report on the progress of the warehouse conflict. Only about 20 showed up for the meeting, and included most of the boilerhouse crowd and only a few of the quieter men. Aside from two Kibeis, no young persons were present. The chief cook and the block manager were present. Mr. Hata's report was somewhat sketchy and confused, especially in regards to the exact persons who were involved. He made it clear, however, that it was Miller who was behind the whole trouble. He called upon Mr. Yamamoto to add details to his report, which he did ably, although he might have gone into too much detail for some. Mr. Hata spent some time explaining plans in the Council to make recreational facilities for the children in the block.

J 4/29/44 Saturday

1. Death of Knox

The news of the death of the Secretary of Navy Knox was received at first with some doubt. Later, however, everyone learned that it was true. From the Isseis the following comments were heard in the block:

"Maybe President Roosevelt will die next."

"Do you think that it will cause confusion in the American Government?"

The hope among Isseis seemed to be that Knox's death will hasten the end of the war/

2. Tenchosetsu

Most Isseis seemed to have remembered that today was Tenchosetsu, the birthday of the Emperor of Japan. Some of them mentioned this fact in public, and others joked about having a ~~xxx~~ celebration, along with Knox's death. In some blocks, according to rumors, plans were being made for a drinking party. ~~xx~~ In one block such plans were prevented by a death in the block. Some of the ladies in the laundry room were saying that in about a week some very good news should come from Japan, since it was Tenchosetsu. Such interest, however, was limited, and there was no general excitement.

The most interesting thing about the attitude of Isseis ~~about~~ toward Tenchosetsu is that they are becoming more and more bold about expressing opinions along this line more openly than they have been doing in the past. When Tuleans first arrived on the project everywhere people were looking around furtively and warning each other about the presence of inus. While their existence is still acknowledged, the people do not seem to fear them as much as they have in the past.

3. Residents on Warehouse Conflict

Isseis who have heard reports of the warehouse conflict through block commissioners are all saying that the real cause of the trouble ~~is~~ is Miller, who is after Stafford's job. This interpretation has been accepted readily, without detailed ~~proof~~ evidence that Miller has such designs. Some Isseis also mention the fact that all of the Hakujiins should be kicked out, since a lot of them are not doing anything. The feeling that the increase of Caucasian workers is entirely unnecessary is prevalent. One foreman, for instance, says that he uses the Hakujiins in his department as messenger boys ~~xxx~~ or drivers because they have nothing else to do.

At the barber shop I talked to the block commissioner from Block 16. He was not present at the jointmeeting, but he felt that Fujii was doing the right thing by shielding Stafford this time in order to get Miller.

4. Warehouse Conflict Through the Grapevine

Depending on where one hears of the warehouse conflict, the story is different. In the Washington office, for instance, the story would be different from that heard on the project. Within the project the story told among the administrative personnel would not be the same as the one understood by the Fact Finding Committee. The official announcement made ~~the~~ by the Council is certainly not the same as the inside story that Fujii and Ogawa would have. The block people also get a very simplified version of the story, which ignores concrete facts and plays up hunches. There is much that goes on behind the scene, however, which only a few will detect. Stafford, for instance, sitting in his office does not always know what is going on within his staff. Residents and even councilmen think Takahashi is highly anti-keto, but are not acquainted with his behavior in front of Caucasians. Fujii's habit of seeing Stafford alone now and then is not known by a large number of people. The view of the warehouse conflict through an innocent ~~worker~~ worker in the administrative area gives some inside details which does not become public.

Staff Stafford was very angry after his meeting with Fact Finding Committee. He wrote a mean memo to the committee. A few days ago, however, he seems to have caught on to Miller. To others Miller's control over Ford, Cox, Wilder and Powers was evident, but Stafford didn't seem to know about it. The staff members were able to put up a good front and keep Stafford ignorant. Also, Davidson has come back a little into Stafford's favor again. Davidson is sympathetic to the evacuees and was not in favor with Stafford for a while. Pomeroy is somewhere in between Miller and Davidson. Miller doesn't like anybody else except those who take orders from him. For a while Beeson used to be called in for odd jobs and for consultation. He used to be just as good as an assistant project director because he was always called in for consultation. Lately, however, Stafford has relied most on Miller for consultation.

Recently the staff has conducted its own inquiry into the trouble in the warehouse area. A committee of three was set up to look into matters. The committee consisted of Beeson, Minnesang, and Acre. They called in each person involved in the trouble in order to determine where the trouble lay. Most of them seem to have been able to convince the committee that the evacuees were at fault. The committee produced a memo recommending certain policies to be maintained. They included the one about keeping relationship between A.P. and evacuees on an "institutional level."

C. T. Takahashi The biggest stooge still seems to be C. T. Takahashi. At the first meeting of the Fact-Finding Committee with Stafford he did not seem to have said very much. That afternoon, however, he went to Stafford's office and laughed with Stafford, pointing out how the members of

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the committee were trying to say this or that. It is also said that when Takahashi talks with Miller he tells him some of the things the Japanese say and do, pointing out their bad points. It is surprising why the people doesn't catch on to Takahashi. He's out in Twin Falls on a short-term leave and is not supposed to come into the project until his leave is over. However, when he did come in and was stopped at the gate, he called Stafford up. Stafford is said to have joked with him about not letting him in, ~~xxxx~~ but saw to it that he did get in.

Y. Fujii Fujii has gone to see Stafford personally since the incident began at least two or three times. He is invited by Stafford to a dinner on Sunday, it is said. His behavior is probably a natural thing to do.

5. Irrigator Cross Reference

Kuroki: "Gala Welcome Mapped for Kuroki, Nisei Hero"

I. 4/29/44 p 1

Draft "114 Men Pass Physicals"

I. 4/29/44 p 1

Draft "Huge Sendoff Given Minidoka Inductees"

Six failed to report. (5 of these were expatriates.)

I. 4/29/44 p 1

Warehouse Conflict "Mess Division Workers Go Back to Work"

I. 4/29/44 p 1

Relocation "Beeson Back From Parley in Chicago"

I. 4/29/44 p 1

J 4/30/44 Sunday

1. Takeda on Warehouse Conflict

Dropped in to see Takeda on Sunday afternoon. He was having furniture made by Mr. Makishima. Takeda stated that he didn't to move from this place until the war was over. Mr. Makishima asked me if I wouldn't teach Japanese, which he was teaching with Harry Katsuyama's help. He said that he was so busy and students kept increasing so that he couldn't open any more new classes.

Concerning the warehouse conflict, Takeda thought that the turn of events was very interesting. He said that the worse offenders among the administrative staff were Miller, first, then Ford, Powers and Wilder. Wilder was about to be drafted, anyway, and didn't care so much about what went on the project, but still seemed to be under the influence of Miller. He said that there were some faults among the Japanese, too, and agreed that there were always two sides to a question.

C. T. Takahashi I asked specifically about C. T., and asked Takeda where C. T. stood. Takeda answered, "about half and half," whatever he meant by that. I asked him more specifically whether he would trust Takahashi, and Takeda replied that he wouldn't. He said that most people thought that C. T. was against the Government because he was in a trial. He had \$180,000 tied up because of this trial. But, he said, people didn't know the other side of the story. C. T. was watching out for himself by doing certain things. The amount of \$180,000 was reduced the last time to \$130,000. Perhaps the next time it might be reduced to \$70,000, and then later he might not have to pay anything at all. He was out on shortterm leave, Takeda related, and wasn't supposed to come in in between leave, but Stafford gave him a special pass to come in and out. He leaves with his wife in the FSA camp, and comes in here every morning. When I asked how Takahashi got his job as coordinator, Takeda said that it was necessary to have him around to handle the men there. But actually, his job was not provided for by Stafford's memo. He wouldn't say, however, just how Takahashi came to get the job.

Y. Fujii About Fujii Takeda said that he did admit that he went to see Stafford alone, and Takeda thought that this was not the thing to do. He himself, he said, had told Fujii not to do this. Takeda thought it funny that a person would break the ruling that a person representing the Council should not go to see Stafford alone and also because the Fact Finding Committee chose a committee of five to negotiate with Stafford. Fujii omitted to say at the last meeting that Takeda had gone along in the afternoon with Fujii, Mihara and Ogawa, but he said that he didn't care about that.

Northwestern People Takeda said that Northwestern people were funny and couldn't be trusted. Those that had been in Tule Lake were all right, but the others had to

be educated the Tule way. Going up to see Stafford personally, he said, was common among them. Consequently, he said that he was watching his own step in order not to be involved with the others too much.

His Own Position Takeda said that he was willing to quit his position in the Council anytime. He never did want to become involved here in the first place. He was thinking of quitting some time back, and was still thinking of quitting. He was careful of what he said at the meeting because he knew that he couldn't trust the people there. He said that he and Doi were the only ones who hadn't had any college education in the councilmen and block commissioner group, and both of them were selected to carry the burden of the work at present. He himself didn't spend more than an hour on his new job, but Doi was doing a great deal of work. He couldn't help feeling that they were being suckers for the others.

G. Mihara Takeda thought that G. Mihara bragged about himself too much at public meetings. It was all right, he said, privately, but he shouldn't talk about himself so much in public.

Roy Akiyama Takeda thought that Akiyama got off the main point when he talked about someone calling him an agitator. Akiyama didn't like being suppressed by Fujii, and was angry about it, saying that this matter ~~has~~^{must} been settled.

New Developments According to Takeda, yesterday a new development occurred. It was discovered that Miller had taken over a function which rightly belonged to Davidson and his personnel. Miller had taken over the function of assigning passenger cars. A protest was made to Stafford.

Minidokan Attitude Two Tulean doctors, Drs. Ito and Akamatsu were scheduled to leave the project, Takeda said. The people here didn't seem to care too much about matters of this sort. There was a discussion for months about forming a koenkai for the doctors to give them extra compensation, but thus far nothing has been done about this matter. Takeda feels that the attitude of the people is that since they'll be leaving the center eventually they don't care much about what happens here. In Tule Lake, he said, the men appointed to their positions carried out their duty until the very day they left. It was also no trouble at all to form a system whereby each resident would be assessed five or ten ~~cents~~ cents for the benefit of the doctors.