

02.72

67/14  
c

"Aksel" Nielsen

Community Activities

Manzanar



FB  
34

Y'S MENS CLUB

SEMI-MONTHLY MEETING 1st & 3rd MONDAYS

P R O G R A M

AN HOUR'S MOTION PICTURE (COLORED) TOUR  
OF "OLD" EUROPE:

FRANCE

BELGIUM

GERMANY

DENMARK

SWEDEN

NORWAY

ENGLAND

"TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE DUTY  
THAT ACCOMPANIES  
EVERY RIGHT"

KINDLY PRESENTED BY:

"ARCEL" NILSEN

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT ! ! ! ! !

REFRESHMENTS ! ! ! ! !

COME ONE \* \* \* \* \* COME ALL

MONDAY MARCH 20TH 7:30 PM SHARP

Y. W. C. A. BUILDING 19-15

"Aksel" Nielsen  
Community Activities



I B 34

Manzanar  
March 30, 1944

On account of the "America  
in the Making" panel, the Y's  
Men's meeting will be shifted to  
Tuesday, April 4 at 7:30 p.m.

Please be sure to note the  
change of date and set the new  
date aside for a date at the "Y".  
There will be an interesting, ed-  
ucational, and novel program.  
The refreshments will be super.  
Be sure to be there.

Program Committee

MANZANAR YMCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Date: Friday, April 20, 1945  
Time: 3:30 p.m.  
Place: Town Hall  
Those Present: Mr. Abel  
Mr. Fox  
Mr. Takemura  
Mr. Namadzue  
Mr. Sugimoto  
Mr. Nielsen  
Dr. Sakaguchi  
Mr. Simpson  
Mr. Dwight Welch, representing the Southwest Area Council

Mr. Nielsen opened the meeting giving a brief history of recent events including a letter from Mr. John Stone asking about the "Y" and the Board of Directors' meeting held April 4.

Dr. Sakaguchi, secretary pro tem, read the minutes of the last meeting.

The treasurer, Mr. Sugimoto, was called upon for a financial report. It showed a cash balance of \$98.19 now in the Co-op safe. The financial report was approved. Next Mr. Namadzue gave a report on the equipment and supplies now found at the "Y" building, 16-2-1.

Before opening the meeting to general discussion and suggestions concerning the future of the Manzanar YMCA, Mr. Nielsen asked Mr. Welch to give us the reaction of the Southwest Area Council to YMCA program at Manzanar; that is, how they feel about the work being done and whether or not they think it warrants continuation. With the closing date of the camp being so near, the leaving of leaders, the closing of schools, etc., Mr. Stone, Mr. Nori, and he himself felt that perhaps it will be best to discontinue the program. Mr. Simpson asked what would become of the cash fund in case the "Y" dissolved. Mr. Welch said that in that case, he assumed the money would be returned to the Area Council. It was also asked what would become of the equipment. Mr. Welch answered that since it did not amount to much, he thought that the equipment might be absorbed into the general camp activity program.

Mr. Abel suggested that we keep Mr. Namadzue until the end of school rather than cut him off immediately. Before any further discussion on this point was encouraged, Mr. Namadzue was asked to give a brief report on the activities carried on. Mr. Namadzue stated that over thirty boys come to the YMCA building with an average daily attendance of close to twenty. Art lessons are being offered by himself three times a week. The afternoons from 3:30 on are being devoted to such activities as sliding, hiking and rabbit trapping, hockey games, boxing, football, fishing, marble playing and making model airplanes. He stated that over weekends, the boys come early in the morning asking him to take them hiking. A regular meeting attended by twenty some boys are held Saturday mornings.

Mr. Welch inquired whether the "Y" hall might be used for other boys' activities such as the Boy Scouts of America and still keeps its identity as a "Y" hall. Mr. Namadzue suggested that the Boy Scouts use an adjoining room. Mr. Namadzue reported on the Hi Y activities during the summer of 1944 and disclosed

that ten boys graduating from the grammar school to the junior high this spring may form a nucleus for a Hi Y group. One of the Board members brought out, however, that since there will be no school after the first of June, it may be difficult to organize the graduating elementary school pupils into a Hi Y club. Furthermore, it is expected that most of the school children will relocate very soon after the close of school in order to be settled for the opening of the following term.

Mr. Nielsen asked for suggestions on a resolution to be recommended to the Area Council. Mr. Welch was asked that in case the "Y" continued, how much time would he be able to give the Manzanar "Y" to which Mr. Welch answered that he would not think that he would give any time until after the middle of May and that the amount of time he would be able to give after that date could not be stated definitely now. Mr. Welch suggested that perhaps we could discontinue the "Y" as such but retain Mr. Namadzue at least until the end of school and have him carry on the present work with the Friendly Indian Club. In such a case, we might discontinue the term YMCA and change the Board to a Boys' Work Committee, which would work with Mr. Namadzue. The building then could be retained as a meeting place for the Friendly Indian Club, scout troops, and other boys who might be interested in coming to this place. Five of the Board members voted in favor of this suggestion while no one was opposed. It was agreed that all the present Board members will function on the new Boys' Work Committee.

Mr. Abel suggested that Mr. Nielsen or someone else be appointed to assume the responsibility of looking after the work. Mr. Nielsen asked if reports were requested and whether any had been sent in the past. Mr. Welch said that to his knowledge none had been received in the past but that monthly reports should be submitted by the secretary who, in this case, would be Mr. Namadzue. He thought it a good idea if these were approved by Mr. Nielsen before submitted to him.

Mr. Abel suggested the election of a chairman for the Boys' Work Committee. However, it was agreed to postpone this until the next meeting since not all the members were present.

Mr. Namadzue brought up the fact that the building, 36-14, is still labeled as YMCA dormitory. It was agreed by everyone present that inasmuch as we would have no YMCA as such the new Boys' Work Committee could accept no responsibility for the dormitory and that the project administration should be notified to that effect immediately. It was agreed that the YMCA sign should be taken down right away.

It was agreed to turn the cash balance to the Boys' Work Committee so that they would be able to buy equipment and supplies in order to replace old equipment which may wear out.

Obo Sakaguchi  
Secretary pro tem

MANZANAR YMCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

Date: Monday, July 30, 1945  
Time: 9:30 a.m.  
Place: 1-12-1  
Those Present: Mr. Namadzue  
Mr. Sugimoto  
Mr. Takemura  
Mr. Fox

Mr. Fox acted as chairman and read a letter from Dwight O. Welch, Associate Area Secretary from Los Angeles. In this letter Mr. Welch pointed out that most of the "Y" activities in all of the centers were closing down. He also requested that a bill of \$9.13 for a football be paid to Clark Brothers in Los Angeles. He also asked if his presence was needed in Manzanar in the near future. The following bills were authorized to be paid:

\$4.67 for books and supplies  
9.13 for football  
5.00 for the magazine "Boys' Work"  
1.00 for postage and money orders

Mr. Namadzue gave an oral report on the activities of the Friendly Indian Club. These for the past month have consisted of baseball and football practice, story hour, some art work, woodcraft, table games, stamp collecting, and several meetings and parties. He also reported that a Sunday school class at the Christian Church is meeting in the "Y" room. The number enrolled in his group is approximately 30 and attendance at the different activities is from 20 downward.

The desirability of continuing the Friendly Indian Club was discussed and it was suggested that the program be continued for the month of August provided the Area Council approved, the project did not take over the WEA equipment and room, and that there was a sufficient number of boys to participate.

In accordance with Mr. Welch's letter it was agreed that whatever "Y" equipment or supplies remained on hand at the close of the program should be made available to other interested groups at Manzanar and that the balance in the treasury be returned to the Los Angeles office.

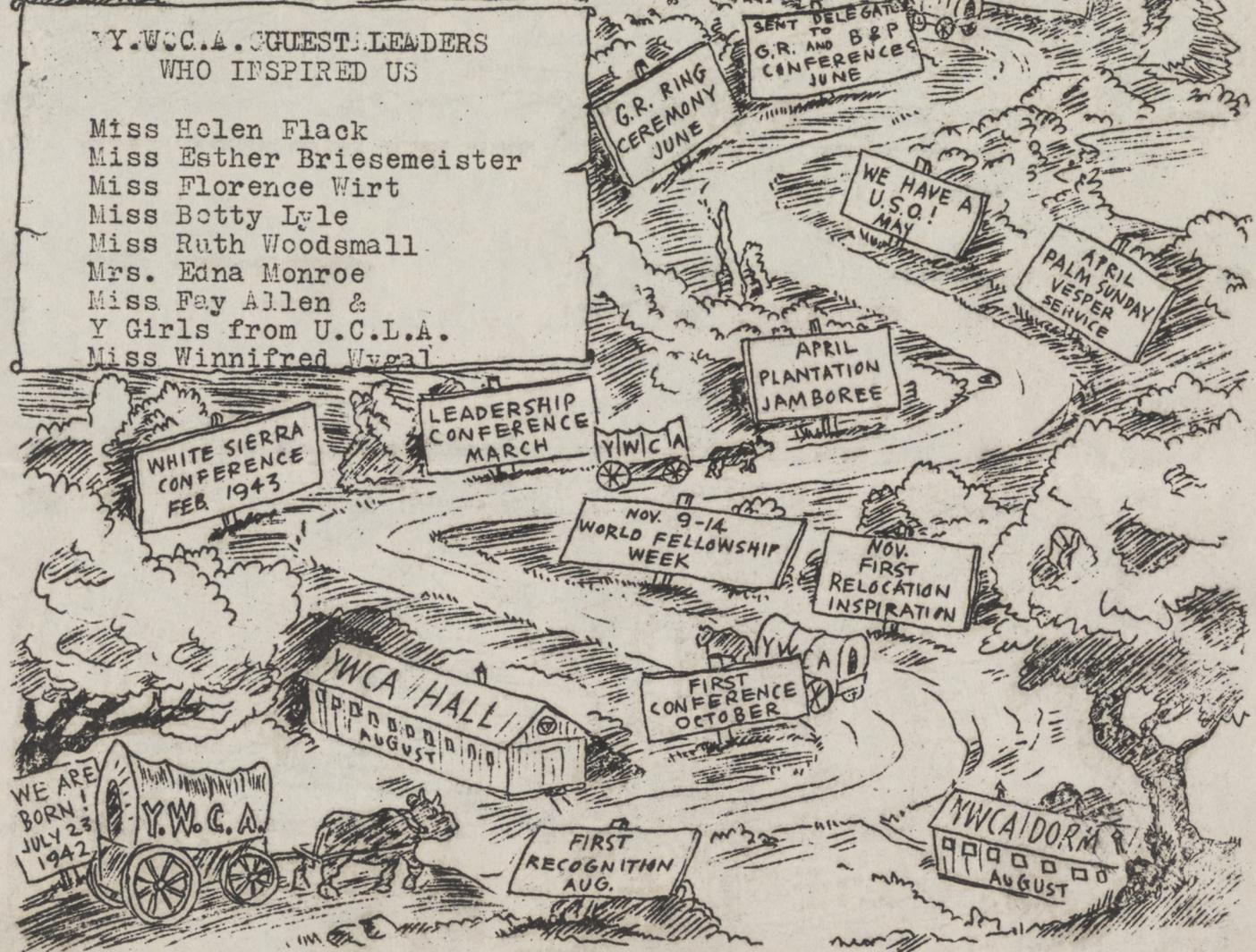
Minutes written by:

*Hollin C. Fox*  
Hollin C. Fox, Acting Supervisor,  
Community Activities



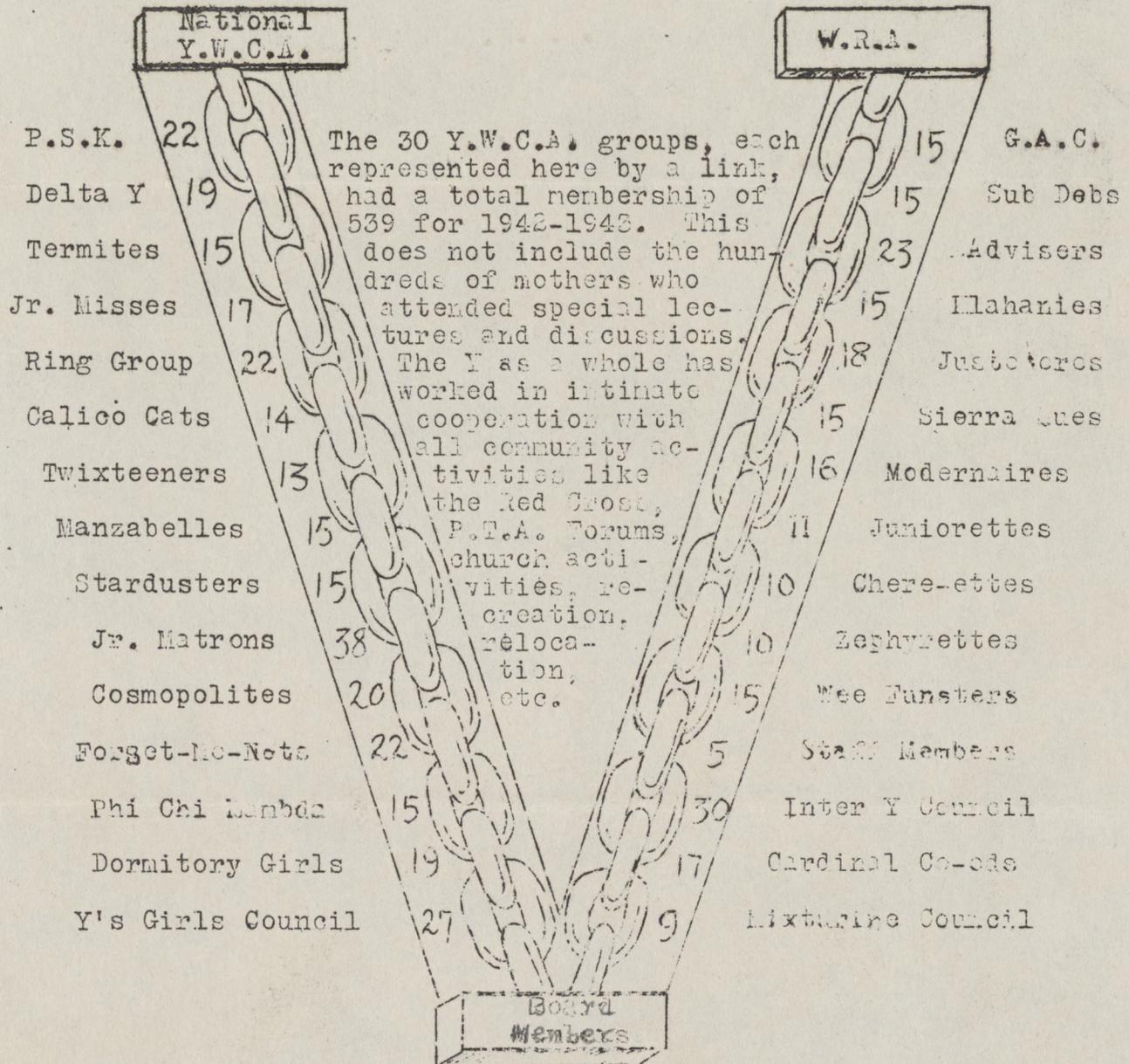
Y.W.C.A. GUEST LEADERS  
WHO INSPIRED US

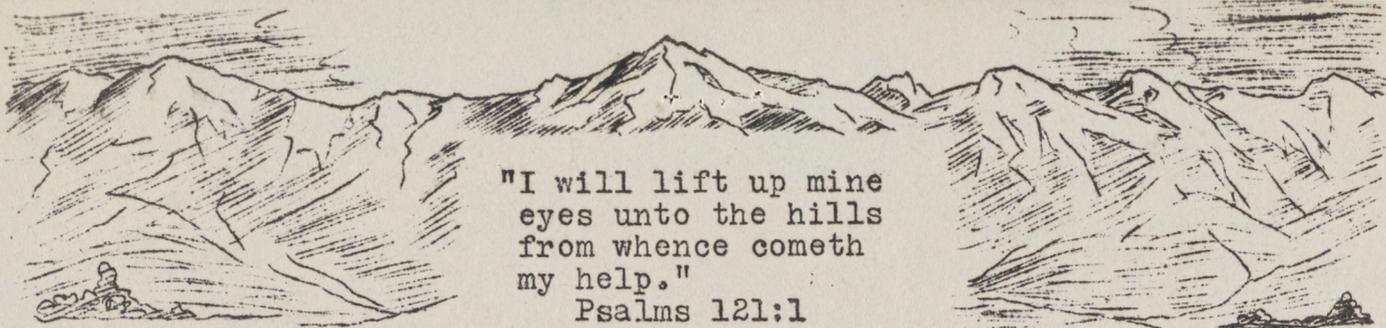
- Miss Helen Flack
- Miss Esther Briesemeister
- Miss Florence Wirt
- Miss Betty Lyle
- Miss Ruth Woodsmall
- Mrs. Edna Monroe
- Miss Fay Allen &
- Y Girls from U.C.L.A.
- Miss Winnifred Wyeal



## MANZANAR Y CLUBS

### Organizations and Membership Chart





"I will lift up mine  
eyes unto the hills  
from whence cometh  
my help."  
Psalms 121:1

---

MANZANAR YWCA  
July 23, 1943

---

*Dear Friends,*

The Manzanar YWCA is one year old today. You have dreamed, worked, played, laughed and sometimes sorrowed with us for the last year. You not only believed in our work, but you guided and strengthened us in our groping search for the true road. The days of pioneering are not over. Though the covered wagon, drawn by oxen, did not bring us to the foot of Mt. Williamson and the high Sierra range, we did come to a camp of barracks on a desert floor and set up a city of 10,000, and first of all, on this, our anniversary, we turn to you with our grateful thanks. We thought you would be interested in our milestones.

Our YWCA was born in the midst of heartache, bewilderment, and suffering following our sudden evacuation to the Manzanar Relocation Center. Spirits were low and faith was dim when we began, but our first little flicker of hope was fanned by many kind friends. The National YWCA and the YWCA of Los Angeles and many other cities reached forth helping hands. Friends here in Manzanar, both among the Administration leaders and the evacuees, encouraged and led us on.

Today, our membership totals 539. In our 30 clubs, our girls and women are taking part in various activities with renewed faith and vigor. Our torch burns with increased light and steadiness. Truly, our clubs have forged a chain of V for Victory over despair.

The YWCA has come a long way and there are many happy milestones on our sandy trail up-hill. Today, we pause to look up towards the towering mountains above us and see written on every peak, canyon, and valley the promise of higher, nobler qualities towards which we shall strive in the coming years. On this day, we offer thanks to God for His many rich blessings and gratitude to our hosts of kind friends.

You saw the vision with us when the peaks beyond were dim and you helped us. We shall look forward to having you with us to help us as we work towards our goal and as the vision grows brighter.

Yours very gratefully,

*Sally Kusayanagi*  
General Secretary

STATISTICAL REPORT OF THE Y.W.C.A.

for the period of April, May, June, 1943

*copy this sheet  
best of the  
3 sheets* 4 ✓

Girl Reserve clubs - 8	Members
Stardusters	15
Jr. Misses	17
Wee Funsters	15
Modernaires	16
Sub Debs	15
Twixteeners	13
Juniorettes	11
Total	<u>117</u>
Ring Group	22
Inter Y Council	24
Junior Girl Reserve Clubs - 3	
Phi Chi Lambda	15
Forget-Me-Nots	22
Zephyrettes	10
Total	<u>47</u>
Jr. Girl Reserve Council	9
Older Girls Clubs - 4	
P.S.K.	16
Delta Y	13
Calico Cats	13
Sierra Sues	11
Total	<u>53</u>
Y's Girls Council	12
Junior Matrons	38
Issei Mothers	no membership
Dormitory Girls	6
Advisors	14
Board Members	22

SPECIAL EVENTS

April

"Plantation Jamboree" was sponsored by the Y's Girls Council and Inter Y Council to raise money for a conference fund. Both groups helped in the food sale, dance, and entertainment "The Silvah Slippahs." Due to everyones fine cooperation the benefit was a huge success.

A Palm Sunday Vesper Service was presented to the community by the Y. P. Fellowship and the Y.W.C.A. The Older Girls, Girl Reserves, and the Fellowship groups participated in the very impressive program which was witnessed by 200 persons.

During this month the Girl Reserves began their Flower Making project. They learned how to make red roses and baby roses.

The second Girl Reserve Ring meeting was held in April. At this meeting, Helen Ely, a civics teacher, spoke on Relocation.

The Older Girls devoted one of their meetings to learn folk dancing from Mr. Nielsen, Supervisor of Community Activities.

The staff members cooperated with the Red Cross by assising them in their Membership drive.

May

One of the big events during the month was the party which the Older Girls clubs and the Y.W.C.A. Mothers gave to the visiting soldiers. Approximately ten soldiers accepted the invitation and spent the afternoon in playing games, singing songs, and relating to us about their army life.

In conjunction with the "National Boys and Girls Week", the Girl Reserves had a May Play Day on the day which was designated as the "Day Out-of-Doors." Volleyball and baseball were the main games played. The ten Girl Reserve and Jr. Girl Reserve clubs vied for championship.

## Special Events

- 2 -

At the third and last meeting of the Girl Reserve Ring group, Mrs. D'Ille, Counselor of the Community Welfare Division, spoke on Service and Leadership."

It was also during this month the Y.W.C.A. Board began to function. Each of the members was assigned to a specific committee.

"Preparation for Marriage" was the topic of Dr. Kazue Togasaki's talk to the Y's Girls. Over fifty girls were present.

### June

The most important event for the Girl Reserves is receiving a ring. On June 6, twenty-two Girl Reserves were presented Girl Reserve rings by Mrs. Merritt, vice-president of the Y.W.C.A. Board. As special guests the Lone Pine Camp-fire Girls were invited. The sixteen Lone Pine girls who were able to come participated in the community singing and games which followed the ceremonial. This gathering enabled the Girl Reserves to make new friends and also to hear about the activities of the neighboring communities.

In order to have the club presidents and advisors get acquainted with the Volunteer Leaders Training Committee, a picnic supper was held at the new picnic grounds. Through this informal gathering the club leaders and Board members were able to talk together and discuss about their clubs. Tom Bodine, field director of Student Relocation told the girls about the possibilities of relocating in the New England states.

As June seemed to be the month when many soldiers were in camp two parties were given in their honor by the Older Girls. The Red Cross unit has been of great financial assistance.

Our Y.W.C.A. was very fortunate in being able to send three delegates to the National Y.W.C.A. conferences. An active Older girl was sent to the Business and Industrial Girls Conference at Alta Lodge, Utah, while a Girl Reserve and

4

Special Events

- 3 -

an adviser represented us at the Girl Reserve Conference in Lookout Mountain, Colorado. All the Y.W.C.A. girls are anxiously awaiting to hear their reports.

Many of the Y.W.C.A. clubs are planning to have a booth in the Community Activities Carnival to be held on Uly 4th and 5th.

Delegates to conferences

name & place of conf.

" of girls sent.

Marywada to Alto Lodge Conference, Utah  
Ritsuko Masuda to Lookout Mountain, Colo.  
Lillian Igarashi "  
George Furuyama "