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FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CONSTITUTION OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH

June 7 1942

S

14 Article I Name

The name of this body shall be known as the Poston Christian Church.

Article II Purpose

The purpose of this church shall be to proclaim the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ in order to bring about God's reign in all human life.

Article III Membership

The membership of this church shall be composed of all who have confessed their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour expressing their decision through Baptism, and who strive to realize His Will in daily life.

Article IV Doctrine

This church shall adopt as it's doctrine the articles of the historic Apostles' Creed.

Article V Sacraments

The Sacraments of this Church shall consist of the Lord's Supper and the ordinance of Baptism, The Lord's Supper shall be observed by believers six times year. The ordinance of Baptism will follow upon confession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and the form of the same will be left to the freedom of the candidates within the limits of the historic practice of the church.

Article VI Organization

The Church Board shall be composed of the Moderator; the Vice-Moderator (Nisei), Department Chairman and Vice Chairman, Ministers shall occupy the offices of Moderator, Vice Moderator and Department Chairmans and the offices of Vice Chairman shall be occupied by laymen.

AUGUST 9, 1942

SOURCE - FILES OF POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH

MINUTES of AUGUST 9, 1942, REC. HALL 305, 2:00 p.m.

The first meeting of Christians in Poston III was open to all Christians interested in setting up the church government in Poston III. It was attended by about 47 Christians of many denominations and many localities.

The purpose of the meeting was to form a temporary Church Council and programs under which the activities of the church would function. Reverend Imai was the Chairman for the meeting which was attended by both Isseis and Niseis.

It was agreed that since the camp was not completely filled, a temporary arrangement would exist in the government of the church affairs until such time as the camp is filled so that all Christians will have a voice.

Mr. Paul Nagano of the Christian Church of Camp I, spoke briefly on the church organization of Unit I.

The Isseis and Niseis then separated to discuss church affairs and elect respective committees.

The results of the Nisei meeting were as follows:

Council: Don Iwahashi, chairman
Lloyd Wake
Haruo Tashiro
Evangelism: Sadao Nakashima
Education: Alice Wake
a. Sunday School, Haruo Tashiro
b. Vacation Bible School, Mrs. Celia Takemoto
Publicity: Takashi Sato
Finance: Mickey Ichiuji

Results of the Issei meeting:

Laymen Moderators: Mr. Kamiya and Mr. Z. Ichimura
Evangelisms: Y. Wake, Mr. I. Kageyama
Treasurers: I. Kitahara, Z. Ichimura
Education: Mrs. K. Imai, Mrs. Z. Ichimura
Music: Mrs. Rokutani, Mrs. K. Imai
Publicity: D. Wyeno, K. Abe
Social: Mrs. I. Kitahara, Mrs. Y. Wake
Sunday School: Haruo Tashiro

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 10, 1942

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTONG CHRISTIAN CHURCH III
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 10, 1942, 8:00 p.m.

K First meeting of the Council. Present at the meeting were 5 ministers and 5 laymen. Moderator Reverend Imai and Vice Moderator in charge.

Business was opened by prayers of 2 members. Chairman, Vice Chairman and Committee Members chosen for each department as follows:

A. Worship Department

Chairman, Reverend Kikuchi; Vice Chairman, Don Iwahashi; Committee Members, Mr. I. Kageyama, Mr. Kenji Abe, Mrs. Nagata, Mr. Denji Uyeno, Mr. K. Shizume, Mr. Yoichi Matsumoto, Mr. Tom Mukai, Miss Alice Wake, Mr. Nobutaro Otsuka, Mr. Masahii Sakamoto.

B. Treasury Department

Chairman, Reverend T. Okumoto; Vice Chairman, Mrs. F. Mukai; Committee Members, Mr. I. Kitahara (Collection Plate Passer), Mr. Nakakiyo Mickey Ichiuji, Mr. David Arata, Mr. Kakutaro Uchida, (Collection Plate Passer).

C. Evangelism Department

Chairman, Reverend Asano; Vice Chairman, Mr. Kiyokichi Umezawa; Committee Members, Mrs. K. Nishimoto, K. Ishimoto, D. Fujita, Y. Wake, O. Kushino, R. Funakoshi, T. Yamagata, Sod Nakashima, Mrs. Celia Takemoto and Mrs. Emma Sato.

D. Education Department (3 divisions)

Chairman, Paul Nagano; Vice Chairman, M. Asakawa; Committee Members, Iwao Ishino, Haruo Tashiro, Alice Sogo; Sunday School Supervisor, Lloyd Wake, Sophie Shizume; Young Peoples, Haruo Tashiro; Married couples, Dr. H. Takao; Committee Members, Mrs. May Iwahashi, Mrs. Ichimura.

E. Public Relations

Chairman, Rec. K. Imai; Vice Chairman, Mr. Z. Ichimura; Committee Members, Dr. I. Takeda, Mr. K. Ichiuji, Mr. K. Tashiro, Mrs. Haruko Endo, Mr. Kamiya, Mrs. Tami Kino.

F. Publicity Department

Chairman, John Miyabe; Vice Chairman, Mary Abe; Committee Members, Yoneko Ezaki, Takashi Sato, Harry Minami, George Tajiri, Mrs. N. Mukai, Mrs. Susumu Togasaki, Mr. Chutaro Kato, Mr. Saichi Nagata.

Appointment of chairman and committee members for September 15 social commemorating organization of church at Recreation Hall 305.

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 10, 1942, 8:00 p.m.

Social Chairman, Mr. K. Umezawa; Committee, Reverend Asano, Buichi Kageyama; Refreshment Chairman, Mrs. Tajiri; Reverend Imai will find others to aid.

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B. Treasury Department

Chairman, Reverend T. Okumoto; Vice Chairman, Mrs. F. Mukai; Committee Members, Mr. I. Kitahara (Collection Plate Passer), Mr. Nakakiyo Mickey Ichijui, Mr. David Arata, Mr. Kakutaro Uchida, (Collection Plate Passer).

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E. Public Relations

Chairman, Rec. A. Imai; Vice Chairman, Mr. Z. Ichimura; Committee Members, Dr. I. Takeda, Mr. K. Ichijui, Mr. K. Tashiro, Mrs. Haruko Endo, Mr. Kamiya, Mrs. Tami Kino.

F. Publicity Department

Chairman, John Miyabe; Vice Chairman, Mary Abe; Committee Members, Yoneko Ezaki, Takashi Sato, Harry Minami, George Tajiri, Mrs. N. Mukai, Mrs. Susumu Togasaki, Mr. Chutaro Kato, Mr. Saichi Nagata.

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SEPTEMBER 8, 1942

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 8, 1942, REC. HALL 305, 8:30 p.m.

Attended by Isseis and Niseis Christians professing faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Short devotional lead by Reverend Imai.

Signing of cards showing membership in Church. Explanation of formation of church by Reverend Imai and Reverend Paul Nagano.

Example of organization as follows:

Moderator, Vice Moderator, Council (Ministers and 4 Isseis and 4 niseis laymen)

Departments:

Publication, Evangelism, Education, Public Relations, Finance, and Worship.

The recommendation of the Nominating Committee were as follows:

Issei: Yasumatsu Manaka
Zensoku Ichiyama
Kiyokichi Umezawa
Mrs. Fusae Mukai

Nisei: Miyoko Kitahara
Haruo Tashiro
Motoharu Asakawa
Sophie Shizume

It was moved and seconded, and passed that the recommendation of the Nisei Council be accepted and that the council member shall serve until the end of the year 1942.

Ministers assigned to the following departments:

Worship Service: Reverend Kikuchi
Evangelism: Reverend Asano
Finance: Reverend Okimoto
Education: Reverend Paul Nagano
Publication: John Miyabe
Public Relations: Reverend K. Imai

Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 6 , 1942

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 6, 1942, REC. HALL 325, 2:00 p.m.

This meeting was attended by a group of 28 laymen and ministers to make preliminary plans for general meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 8, 1942.

It was decided that one Christian Church be organized without respect to denomination but all confessing faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and for the furtherance of His Gospel.

The following recommendations were drawn up to be presented to the general assembly on Tuesday.

1. This church will be known as the 3rd Poston Christian Church.
 2. This church will be a sister church to the Christian of Camp I and in all the respects it shall be an independent organization.
 3. The membership qualification shall be those who have made public confession in the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior.
 4. Organization
 - a. Council - The Council shall consist of all ministers and 4 Isseis and Niseis. The chairman of this council shall be a minister and the vice chairman shall be a layman. (The ministers shall compose the nomination committee, which shall make the recommendation of the 4 Niseis and 4 Isseis to comprise the Council. The first council shall serve until December 21, 1942.
 - b. There will be one Moderator and 1 Vice Moderator. An Issei minister shall serve as Moderator while the Vice Moderator shall be a Nisei minister.
 - c. There shall be six departments as follows:
 - (1) Worship
 - (2) Finance
 - (3) Evangelism
 - (4) Public Relations
 - (5) Education
 - (6) Publication
- The chairman of each department will be a minister and others will be chosen to serve in the various departments.
5. The form of Baptism shall be left the wishes of the candidate and in accordance with the historic practices of his church.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

It was the opinion of the Chairman that as the present organization is on a temporary basis and in experimental stage, any opinion and individual may have should be kept as such and no effort of reorganization should be made until 1943.

Reports:

1. Evangelistic Committee by Reverend Asano. They met two times and decided:
 - a. Special evangelistic services for public with Reverend K. Niisato.
 - b. Committee to make calls for Sunday Service
 - Roku I - Nishimoto, Asano
 - " II - Wake, Yamagata
 - " III - Umezawa, Sogo
2. Worship Service Committee by Reverend Kikuchi met once.
 - a. Decided to form 3 teams of 2 persons each to clear the Church and act as ushers.
3. Treasury Committee - Reverend Okimoto
 - Issei - Balance, \$25.41
 - Young Peoples - Approximately \$61.00
 - Sunday School - \$91.00
4. Public Relations - Reverend Imai
 - a. Plan to open Church Library at 310-7-D
 - b. Public religious work - Mr. Kamiya in charge.
5. Education by Reverend Paul Nagano
 - a. Sunday School
 - b. Young People's Service
 - c. Library
 - d. Bible study by correspondence
 - e. Junior Church by Messrs. Lloyd Wake and Sod Nakashima
 - f. Daily Vacation Bible School
6. Publication by Mr. John Miyabe
 - a. Weekly program
 - b. Church bulletin
 - c. Shortages of material and equipment

There was much discussion on the formation of Sunday morning services in Parish II. It was finally decided that a separate Sunday morning service will be conducted in Recreation Hall 329 for residents in Roku III as Parish II and Recreation 305 for Parish I.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 p.m.

OCTOBER 12, 1942

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III
EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT MEETING

16
Chairman: Paul Nagano

Most of the evening's discussion centered on the Sunday School and the ways of improving it. Suggestions were made to separate the two schools on the basis of blocks, as follows:

Section 1 and north half of Section 2 at Parish 1.

Section 3 and south half of Section 2 at Parish 2.

This will be given more consideration at Sunday School Teachers' meeting on October 19, 1942.

Report was given of the Junior Church; which is coming along satisfactorily. Also, discussion was had of the Library. Discussion was had on appeal for books and a fund. Discussion was also had of the correspondence course----all interested are requested to contact person in charge. Also, discussion was had of the Weekly Daily Vacation Bible School to consider further YMCA need of leaders to stress Christian side of program. It was said to the married couples that there may be a possibility of nursery school. The need for personal work was stressed.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

October 25, 1942

✓ Since attending Bible School, I have found that really and truly I worship the God of love. No matter how sinful we are or what nationality I am, He still loves me.

God so loved me that He gave His son to die on the cross of Calvary to save sinners from death for life everlasting.

As Jesus hung on the cross, the people mocked Him, spit upon Him, and some even said, "If you are the Son of God, why don't you come down from the cross and save yourself?" Jesus could have done the very thing but no, He loved me so much He was willing to pay the ransom for my sins.

This story shows me how much love He had for sinners like me. The least that I can do to repay Him in my small part for His great love towards me is to dedicate my life to His service, bring others to know the joy, happiness and peace that passeth all understanding through Christ Jesus, my Savior.

BW

(The preceding article was composed by an intermediate class member of the Daily Vacation Bible School conducted during the summer in this Center. Other first-prize winners will be printed in the following issues of this paper.)

FEBRUARY 16, 1943

SOURCE - FILES OF THE BOSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III
MINISTERS' MEETING*100 Outgroup Relation*

Hymn: 549, "Blessed Assurance"

Scripture, Timothy 2:1-15, John Miyabe

Prayer, Reverend Kikuchi

Discussion, Reverend Nagano expressed wish to the Young People to purchase a Public Address System, and this will be discussed at Council meeting and a chairman of the head-quarter and Treasurer will be selected.

Public Relations: Reverend Imai

This work originally is to be taken up by the Moderator, who is to be the chairman of Public Relation is to be chosen at the Council meeting. Reverend Imai is to continue work of the Moderator until one is elected.

Reverend Kikuchi suggested that Ministers rotate every Sunday night for the Evangelistic service. No decision made. Will continue as usual.

The Ministers' meeting that was to be held this afternoon will be postponed.

Reverend Asano delivered messages for special Evangelistic service in Camp I on February 21, 19, and 20.

Reverend McKnight and Reverend Stewart wishes to come into the center the latter part of March.

The piano in Recreation Hall 305 is to be tuned---expense will be about \$3.00. Pianos are not to be moved if they are paid by the church in transportation exemption expense.

The coming of Dr. Mayberry this Sunday, the 21st, was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned with a prayer at 12:00 a.m.

February 21, 1943

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✓
Listening to Dr. Page's message, which stressed silent meditation with God, I was greatly stirred. The next day at twilight I wandered a short distance into the mesquites, hoping that I might attain a more intimate relationship with Him through meditation. There amidst the dense desert foliage I sat silently while irksome gnats buzzed all about.

For the first time gnats were forgotten. I sat alone with Him who had made me, and all the beauty of the world, with its love, and sorrow, and even temptation.

I did not see Him, but somehow I felt the perfect unison of my spirit with His. The ordinary sense of things around me faded, and for the time nothing but ineffable joy and exultation remained. The perfect stillness of the dying day was thrilled by a more solemn silence and it seemed that the evening shadows held a presence that was all the more felt because it was not seen. I was at communion with God.

DA

February 21, 1943

18th Selective Service

FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD, THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY
BEGOTTEN SON THAT WHOSOEVER BELIEVETH IN HIM
SHOULD NOT PERISH? BUT HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE...John 3:16

It has been quite a number of years since I volunteered for the Lord. Since then I have back-slidden quite a number of times, but it has been a blessing to know of God's great Love for each of us.

Since evacuation the fact that the Lord Jesus Christ is the only One we can trust and depend upon has been brought out more clearly. The few months in Poston really has brought me closer to the knowledge of His power to save through faith.

My volunteering for the U.S. Army has been a decisive step, but I would like to say that the fact that my parents are Christians have certainly been a great help. Though I am about to leave there will always be that bridge of Prayer between us. The peace, serenity and assurance derived from God is something that cannot be understood until we accept the Lord as our own personal Saviour.

It is my hope that as we leave, you in Poston will pray for us that we will be living testimonies for the Lord, with courage to tell other of Everlasting Life.

MF

133 Christian
RELIGION

FEBRUARY 22, 1943

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III
SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS MEETING

K
Sophie Shizume presiding at the meeting, the meeting was opened with a Scripture reading and a prayer by Lloyd Wake.

Discussion: Desire expressed to subscribe for the Sunday School Times for each individual teacher from the Juniors up.

Revelation magazine: Each teacher is to look into the back copies and then decide whether they would like to order this magazine or not. Meanwhile, one copy will be ordered for the Church Library for the teachers' use.

Discussion was held on possible meeting plans for individual classes.

It was decided that we get a bell or some device to indicate the close of class sessions.

Send in a order for a set of Adam Clar's Commentary for an ordination present for the Pastor. Sophie Shizume will take the responsibility of the purchase.

The meeting was adjourned with a prayer by Ruth Iwami.

Teachers present: H. Minami, G. Yamagata, S. Shizume, K. Iwami, L. Wake, F. Wake, Keiko Konatsu, May I. Alice W. John M.

Cottage Prayer Circles which were inaugurated by the Poston III Christian Church were held last Saturday evening in three different homes and those who attended these gatherings were drawn nearer to God.

A friendly atmosphere prevailed as these groups met in the homes which were graciously opened for them.

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RELIGION

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH
MINISTERS' MEETING

FEBRUARY 23, 1943. S

14
Hymn, "It Is Well With My Soul"

Scripture, II Corinthians 6:1-10, Sophie Shizume

Prayer, Reverend Imai, and John Miyabe

Members present, Reverends, Imai, Asano, Okimoto, John Miyabe,
Lloyd Wake, and Sophie Shizume.

Discussion: Coming special services. Second Sunday in March
Sunday evening, Friday, Recreation 327, at 7:30 p.m. Satur-
day evening, Recreation 305, 7:30 p.m., Sunday morning 305, at
10:30 a.m.

Issei committee formed to take turn to clean and wash Chruch
every week.

John Miyabe informed the Ministers of Ordination fit of Adam
Clark's Commentary given to Reverend Nagano from the Young
Peoples Church. Young People Council meeting scheduled to be
held tonight in the Church Library.

Church Picnic for the Issei and Niseis before very warm wea-
ther arrives.

Reverend Okimoto dismissed the meeting.

MARCH 1, 1943

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14 Reverend Paul Nagano called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m. Prayer was then held. The Church Clerk gave the resume of the last meeting.

Discussion was had about the loud-speaker system for the church. David Arata is to ask George Suzuki whether he will be willing to rent, sell, or donate his Public Address system to the church. Since Public Address systems are very expensive, it was decided not to purchase a new as previously planned. It was agreed to get donations of hymnals for the Junior Church from Camp I, and will not purchase any as previously planned.

Discussion was had on the pledge system. Mickey Ichiuji is to send in for pledge envelopes---semi-monthly type. Wording for pledge oath to be: "I hereby pledge to give semi-monthly to the support of the Gospel ministry of the Church of Jesus Christ," address and date, signature, and Scripture verse on bottom of oath. It was agreed to purchase 200 sets of pledge envelopes and pledge books.

Discussion was had of the Baptism for the volunteers. Baptism to be held at the river on March 7. Harry Minami and Reverend Nagano to go to river March 2 to locate spot for the Baptism. The following were assigned to look for any volunteers that would like to be baptized in their rokus: Mickey Ichiuji, Roku I; Lloyed Wake, Roku II; Minoru Fujita, Roku III.

Departmental heads gave report as to program within their own groups. Three dollars to be given to George Zaina for each piano tuned. Definite policy regarding the use of the Church piano; it is not to be used in dances. Secretary to inform the department of Community Activities that from now on, Church piano is not to be used for dances.

The Caucasians are to take over the cottage prayer meetings.

It was agreed to purchase Flanel Board.

Possibility of visual education for youngsters discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 p.m. with a prayer by Lloyd Wake.

133 Christian

RELIGION

MARCH 2, 1943

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III
MINISTERS' MEETING

10 Outgroup Relations

Hymn, "He Leadeth Me"

Scripture, Peter 4:10-19 by Lloyd Wake

Prayer by Reverend Okimoto

Dr. F.H. Smith to come on Sunday, March 7, 1943. To join Adult at 305, Sunday morning on March 7, 1943.

Reverend Imai is to investigate for typewriter for the church office.

George Yamagata resigned from the Church office commencing March 7, 1943. Mr. John Miyabe to occupy position vacated by George Yamagata.

Sunday afternoon, at 2:30, Mr. T. Keno, special service at 329.

Recommendation for recognition of worthy members to be submitted by Poston Christian Church to the individuals respective denominational quarters. e.g., usch as exhorters, license, local preachers license, etc.

Monday, April 5, 1943, Ministers Conference, general outdoor meeting with all three camps. Emphasis on Ministers, workers, and families. Speakers: Dr. Takeda, Reverend Morikawa, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Pot luck dinner.

The meeting was closed by a benediction by Reverend Kikuchi,

March 7, 1943

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180 *Selective Service*

✓
"Let the word of my mouth and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in they sight. O Lord, my strength and my redeemer."
...Ps. 19:14

I kneel down in prayer every night as the days go by, and I realize the past and the times before evacuation. I can't compare my life now with my life in thsoe days. I thank God of what He has doen to me.

Since evacuation as I came into camp, I had lost faith in the Lord. I forgot Him maybe because of such a shock as of being evacuated, but now I think its about the bbest place in the world. I'm really thankful for the friends in camp. I've come to know the Lord and accept Him as my Savior. I think now that the Lord wanted me to come here as I come to know Him, but it was the greatest day in my life when I accepted the Lord as my Savior.

My volunteering for the army was a great step, but I know that the Lord is with me wherever I go. I will not fear the future. It is my earnest prayer that I might be a living testimony for the Lord Jesus Christ. And I hope those in Poston will keep up the bridge of spirit between us, and pray that we may be living testimonies when we come back. I was really blest during the short time I was here. And now the verse that I will remember Poston by...

"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within."
Ps. 51:10.

LK

March 7, 1943

The complete schedule for the weekly activities being sponsored by the Christian Church of Poston III is printed in order to familiarize them with each of you, our readers. You are invited to attend any and all of these gatherings.

SUNDAY:

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Sunday School | 9:00 a.m. |
| Morning Worship | 11:00 a.m. |
| C.E. | 7:00 p.m. |
| Evening Worship | 8:00 p.m. |

TUESDAY:

Teachers' Training in Unit I

WEDNESDAY:

Mid-week services (Bible Study) 8:00 p.m.

THURSDAY:

Singspiration 8:00 p.m.

Support your Church by attending regularly. And remember the value of Worship depends not alone upon the quality of the music, the prayers and the sermon, but also upon the attitude of the worshiper.

RELIGION

March 9, 1943

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III

MINISTERS' MEETING

14 No ministers' meeting this morning, Ministers' Council in
Camp III.

March 14, 1943

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"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16.

Oh, how thankful I am that God so loved the whole world, not just certain people, but the whole world that He gave His only begotten Son, that Whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. He didn't say some certain individuals but He said Whosoever. Because He said whosoever, I believed and now I have eternal life, Praise God!

Last year on March 24th I went upto the altar to accept Christ as my personal Saviour, but somehow I really wasn't willing to give up all that He wanted. I knew what he didn't want me to have, but I felt that I couldn't give them up so I said, "Lord, I'm just not ready to give you everything but if you'll let me have these things I'll let you have the rest."

Time went on and Jesus kept knocking until that glorious day in camp when I swung open the door of my heart and said, "Take it all Lord, my life is yours now. I want you as my Lord and Saviour." Now I wouldn't exchange the last six monts of my life for all the 14 previous years.

Oh, what peace, what satisfaction that only Christ can give!! There is such joy and peace in my heart and I don't have to worry because I can cast all my care upon Him.

You who haven't as yet accepted Christ, won't you accept Him today? Don't hesitate! Things of the world are only temporary but the joy and happiness from God is everlasting. You can't serve God and the world. Take Christ; He's your only hope.

March 14, 1943 (2)

"THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH BUT THE GIFT OF GOD IS ETERNAL
LIFE." Romans 6:23

Your sister in Christ,

AT

March 14, 1943

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1C
God in His great understanding and love of beauty created the simple places called the desert where man and his destructive nature might not interfere. God had a purpose in placing on this earth, places where living things must struggle for an existence. Here as nowhere else, the natural beauties which were created for man's eyes can be seen and appreciated.

The desert is a place of reality. It is a place where the struggle for existence develops hardiness, endurance, power, and peace. It is a place where the quiet, peaceful calm fills the air. It is a place where God is present. The serenity and vastness seem to show to us the infiniteness of God. The artwork shown in the sunsets depict a conglomeration of colors all blended in beautifully to form the background for a mighty pageant. The distant mountains silhouetted against that panorama was not the working of man but that of our eternal God.

Though all life on earth may pass away, though all may turn to dust again, we know that these workings of God's hand shall last to the last days of this earth.

In this place of profound silence, the voice of the Lord is heard and one's heart is lifted to the lofty heights of the glorious heaven above. It is here that the Lord comes for quiet and peace that cannot be found midst the turmoil and strife of mankind.

Thus here on the desert man can truly come to know God and God can test the patience of man. It is here where man and God become one. We should take time out, go deep in o the mesquites, away from all men and the products of his labors to commune with God and have that fellowship which only the quiet and peaceful

March 14, 1943 (2)

ness of a desert can bring.

Sadao Nakashima
(Co-pastor of Jr. Church)

155 Christian

RELIGION

MARCH 15, 1943

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SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III

MEETING OF THE C.E. CABINET AND ADVISORS, CHURCH LIBRARY

175 Industry

Meeting called to order by Reverend Nagano with a prayer.

Discussion was held as to the purpose of the Christian Endeavor groups. Agreed that the purpose was mainly two-fold to promote leadership and to further evangelism.

Time for the Christian Endeavor groups was changed from 7:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and evening service changed from 8:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Mr. Harry Minami is to find out if industry would consent to give the Christian Endeavor's room from the Young People's group to meet. Permanent site of Adult Christian Endeavor is to be in the Council Room 310-8B & C.

Presidents of the various Christian Endeavors gave report on the progress of their respective group.

Discussion of Easter program; C.E. to take over entire program for Easter. Miss Ruth Iwami appointed to call meeting of Advisors and Presidents of C.E.s who will plan for the program. Miss Lambert to preside at this meeting.

133 Christian
RELIGION

MARCH 16, 1943

S

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III
MINISTERS' MEETING

101 Other Relocation Centers

Attendance: Reverends Imai, Kikuchi, Asano, Okimoto, Lloyd
Wake, and John Miyabe.

Scripture Reading by Reverend Asano

Prayer by Reverend Kikuchi

Hymnals, 300 hoped to be purchased for Adult Service

Marriages:

Roy Mizakami, 6:30 p.m., 3/21/43

Toru Hirai, 8:30 p.m., 3/20/43 at 329.

Letter to Reverend Yamazaki in Jerome

Meeting was interrupted and dispensed at 11:00 a.m.

RELIGION

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III
MINISTERS' MEETING

MARCH 23, 1943

100 Outgroup Relations

Hymn, "Peace, Perfect Peace"
Scripture, II Peter 5:1-7, Reverend Imai
Prayer, Sophie Shizume
Exhortation: Reverend Imai
Hymn 433
Prayer, Reverend Okimoto

Letter from Dr. Chapman expressing the desire of Mr. Charles L. Duncan, Secretary of Board of Presbyterian Church to conduct Sunday School Teachers' Training course. Reverend Imai is to go to Camp I and discuss it with Reverend Kowta, Minister for joint Teachers' training course to be held in camp 3.

Miss Helen Topping in Center now, and she would like to stay permanently.

Dr. Herron Smith will come into the center on April 28 to interview internees.

McKnight and Stile:

March 26, 27, and 28.

Friday night - (Issei Service)

Reverend McKnight at 305

Reverend Stewart at 329

Sunday Morning Worship,

Reverend McKnight at 329

Reverend Stewart at 305

Sunday Morning Young Peoples' Worship at 329,
11:00 a.m., Reverend McKnight.

Sunday afternoon, 2:30 p.m., Miss Topping for
the Fujinkai.

Sunday night, Reverend Stewart at 329

Saturday night, Reverend Stile at 305.

Meeting adjourned.

March 29, 1943

SOURCE: FILES OF THE POSTON III CHRISTIAN CHURCH
MINISTERS' MEETING

K
Hymn: #506 "In Some Way or Other"

Prayer: Reverend Paul Nagano

Council Meeting tonight: Business

Report on the Young People's Council in regards to action in behalf of Mr. John Miyabe. Outside speakers—no remuneration if under Board support; suggest Young Peoples' support through contributions. Reverend Imai expressed no need of remuneration.

Easter preparation to be discussed at Council meeting on April 6; important.

April 6th, Ministers' picnic; invitations.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m. by a prayer by Reverend Imai.

April 4, 1943

So many of us claim to be Christians or "Sunday Church
Goers" because of our personal prestige of leading a moral life
in the sight of the world. Yet, it is only between God and
yourself that the true sin reveals itself.

I used to be a professed Christian, but since coming to
camp, I know that Jesus cares for each and everyone of us if
we only have FAITH. At first, it was just believing John 3:16,
but now I KNOW it is true. It's not only I who may receive
this love, peace, and joy that other brothers and sisters in
Christ have, but you, and you and you, too, may obtain it.

You're really missing something out of this life and out
of eternal life if you pass this FREE offer.

It's my aim to offer what talents I may possess, all to
Him, and to be pleasing in His sight.

CY

April 4, 1943

"Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature"...
II Peter 1:4

What a great gift is salvation and how wonderful is His Keeping power. In times past I was prone to consider the Christian life as one of struggling to keep alive one's faith in God, but I've learned that instead of a struggle, it is one of resignation..not in the sense of defeatism but the resignation of one's will to God's. To me, it is wonderful to know that God, in His infinite grace, makes it possible for finite mortal beings to be partakers of His divine nature, simply by relying on His promises.

Just knowing and believing this I feel a sense of harmony between God and myself which is the source of unspeakable joy and peace.

It is my prayer that Christ might live in me, purifying my motives, aims and desires, that somehow His compassion and love might flow through me.

"With longing all my heart is filled
That like Him I may be,
As on the wondrous thought I dwell
That Christ liveth in me."

AW

April 23, 1943

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16
Seicho-no-Iye is similar to the Unity belief in the United states. It was originated by Dr. Taniguchi about seventeen years ago in Japan and published six years later. Dr. Taniguchi attended Cambridge and majored in Chemistry and had also studied in America. His teaching is that man is the son of God and created in His image and thus man is born perfect, and that there is no born sinner or imperfect. Sin is like disease or filth that affects a person from the outside, thus it is his duty to fight it with his faith. This belief is very practical and applicable to everyday life than other religions. It is easier, down to earth and simple for persons to understand.

There is about fifty members that meet every Saturday and hold services; instead of having sermons they have more testimonies given by the members.

One young Issel commented that it was another of those many modern religions which are short-lived. It's just like any other fad.

April 10, 1943 S

The Nisei Church Council inaugurated a system of tithing in March. It was felt by the Council that more responsibility should be felt by the nisei toward their church.

Pledge slips were passed out to the congregation who were asked to pledge as much as they were able instead of the fixed amount of ten percent of their income. It was decided by the Council that the money obtained in this way would be used to help ministerial students who would be leaving for school from this unit or for helping missionaries.

The March pledges were collected on April 4, 1943, and the amount was given as a gift to John Miyabe, assistant pastor of the church, who left to continue his studies at Asbury College in Kentucky.

April 6, 1943. 5

RELIGION

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III

MINISTERS' MEETING

12 Ministers and workers get-together of the three camps for a little picnic. Reverends Morikawa and Takeda were special speakers for this meeting.

The San Diego piano is expected to be brought into the camp by the Army. If the Army will not bring it up, the church will pay the freight and have it sent up.

Easter and Baptismal services will both be held outside if transportation can be available. Transportation will be investigated early for trucks to bring the people to the river. Sunrise service to be held in either 308 Park or some clearance spot in the mesquites. Communion Service suggested to be performed during Easter season.

Sunday School is confirmed to be under Reverend Nagano in the Education program. Business meeting of each parish teachers may be called by the superintendent. Reverend Nagano will be the chairman of both parishes Sunday Schools.

Baptism, with by sprinkling or immersion will be done under Poston Christian Church under no denomination—but as members of the church of Christ. When the recipients of baptism return to their respective homes, they may join the church they desire.

Reverend Kikuchi wishes rotation of ministers in his parish on Sunday evenings. It was decided to bring this question up in the Council meeting.

The meeting was brought to a close with prayer by Reverend Imai at 12:10 p.m.

April 29, 1943

5

100 Outgroup Relation

The Third Christian Church Library, located at 310-7-D, was first begun in the first part of October, 1942. All of the books and magazines available at that time, which was small compared to the present, were donations from Caucasian friends, church groups, and Theological Seminaries. As the number of books and magazines grew, it was decided to open a Library. The first books recorded was on the seventeenth of October. The period allowed for each book and magazine was and still is for two weeks, and a fine of two cents per day is charged for overdue books.

The Library started out with one shelf of books. However as the number of books grew, several new shelves were added. Today there is a total of six shelves with a fifth contemplated.

Perhaps the one group donating the most books and magazines is the Moody Bible Institute. This Institute has donated many used books as well as brand new books and many magazines among them the "Moody Monthly" which is given to the Library as a free subscription. The Boston II Public Library has lent all of its religious books to this Library.

In addition to these outside groups, many individuals, among them Miss Hemingway, within the camp have donated their magazines to this Library.

The Library subscribes to the "Revelations" and "King's Business". These and other magazines aid the Sunday School teachers in preparing their lessons.

The first Librarian was Mrs. May Iwahashi. Upon her resig-

April 29, 1943 (2)

nation, Miss Aiko Konatsu filled the vacancy with Miss Sophie Shizume, office secretary, assisting her.

The Library has been very popular. The record for one day in books loaned has been approximately 25 or a little more. There is at least one or two books checked out every day. Recently the popularity has been declining. This drop in popularity is blamed on the fact that practically everyone has read all of the books and a few are left for his choosing. Among the types of books are Doctrinal; Reference, like "How to Prepare Messages and Sermons"; Biographies and Fiction. There are also some books on the History of the Church. There are all types of magazines. Some of them are "The Baptist Student", "Advance", "Missions", "Kings' Business", "Revelation", "Moddy Monthly", "The Christian Century", "The Lutheran", and the "Pilgrim Highroad".

The Library receives many pamphlets and tracts which they pass out to various individuals. It is planned to have a pamphlet box made so that they can be placed in it for free distribution.

Plans for the future includes a shelf for children's books of which they have several to date.

To date the Library looks nice and cozy. The chairs tables and benches and shelves were made by Reverend Imai, who is quite an accomplished carpenter. On the walls are pictures of Christ and Biblical Characters. On the west wall is a map of the United States. As a member of the church leaves the center, his name and destination are typed on a slip of paper and by

133 Christian

RELIGION

INTERVIEW - 1046

CHRISTIAN CHURCH LIBRARY III

April 29, 1943 (3)

the use of strings and pins, his position on the map is marked. There are quite a few markings at this writing. The Library is progressing nicely and with the help of interested groups outside of the center, they strive to furnish the spiritual needs of the people through books, magazines and pamphlets.

May 12, 1943

S

100 Outgroup Relations

(Reverend Paul Nagano is the Pastor for the Young Peoples III Ch
Peoples III Christian Church. He was among the first to enter Poston I and became Pastor of Parish II in that camp. When the residents of Poston III arrived in August, there was an urgent need for a Nisei Pastor. Consequently Reverend Nagano moved to Camp III to assume the duties of Pastor for the Young People's III Christian Church.)

Besides his duties as Pastor, preparing and delivering sermons and other duties connected with church, he has taken it upon himself to attempt to assist in the social problems prevalent in camp. There are the usual family consultations as there would be in normal life. Also, he has helped the young boys who have become entangled in trouble since entering camp.

During the early days of the Unit, a certain group of boys gained the reputation of being tough and mean. In reality, however, they were ordinary nice fellows. Nevertheless, in order to live up to their newly acquired reputation, they became involved in fights and were arraigned before the Police Department. At that time, Reverend Nagano intervened and had personal conferences with these boys. He learned that they weren't really bad and that they were only trying to live up to their reputation. Reverend Nagano invited them to attend church where they could come to know God. Many of them did

Interview with Reverend Paul Nagano (M.F.)
Activities of Reverend Nagano

attend church and changed.

In addition to talking with the boys, he took a group already organized into a club and became their advisor and basketball coach. In that capacity, he influenced many of the boys who began to attend church and accept God openly. (This group attended church enmassed just before they left the center for outside employment.)

Many of the so-called "toughies" became law-abiding and regular fellows. They turned in probably the nick of time from bad to good. (Much credit should be given to Reverend Nagano who understood their problems and instead of allowing them to be treated like criminals, he personally supervised them and spoke to them kind-heartedly.)

He felt that the country people were naive and simple, and all they needed was understanding and helpful supervision.

One problems grieves him, however. As the people leave camp, he fears that they may be hesitant about attending church for the simple reason that they may feel out of place in a Caucasian Church. Thus, some of the people may turn to the worse again. He wishes that a Nisei Mission could be set up where the people could feel free to attend at will. Also he believes that contacts should be made with the Caucasian churches on the outside so they may welcome the new arrivals with open arms and make them fell at home.

May 12, 1943 (3)

There are lots of church members going out. Reverend Nagano hears from them and believes that they are living testimonies for the Niseis. Many of them have become adjusted to their new environment and are "doing nicely".

The Pastor believes that there is a real back-to-God movement in Poston. At the Pre-Easter Conference, there were approximately 4,000 Niseis in attendance, thus showing a keen interest on the part of the Niseis for religion. Delegates from other centers brought word that their centers are spiritually dead in comparison with Poston. The reason for this back-to-God movement is based on the facilities of the church and also conditions that are conducive to Church. In Poston III, a good nucleus of true Christians were in camp which also helped this back-to-God movement.

The majority of the various leaders have had no formal Seminary and Theological training but have simply been leaders of their respective churches at home. They have blossomed out into real capable leaders to lead others to God.

Many who have more or less always taken religion for granted have begun to go deeper with God since entering camp. Many of them have said, "Thank God for this evacuation."

Churches on the outside have helped Poston's church considerably. Most of the donations have been in the form of literature which Institutes and Seminars have sent in. In addition to literature, many Caucasian ministers have come to Poston.

Interview with Reverend Paul Nagano (M.F.)
Activities of Reverend Nagano

They have received no compensation from the Poston Church.

Rather they are paid by their boards on the outside.

Only one piano has been donated from the outside, that being from Reedley. The others are privately owned.

Singspiration, presented once a week, is a form of Christian fellowship where everyone may enjoy himself in things of Christ. Many attend these programs who do not attend church. However, by attending these sings, they may receive a fellowship with God and thus begin to attend church.

The exact number of those who have been converted since entering camp is unknown. However 139 people have signed decision cards.

(At any rate, Reverend Paul Nagano is striving to create a better community through religion.) His plans for the future are indefinite. He wishes to attend a Seminar but has made no decision as yet. He lives from moment to moment with anything liable to occur.

May 18, 1943

5

On May 13, 1943, the first early morning prayer circle was held at 6:00 a.m. at Chapel I to remember especially the coming Post-Easter Conference which was probably to be the last of the special Religious Emphasis meetings held in Poston III.

On Tuesday morning the meeting was already begun when we entered the chapel a few minutes after 6:00 a.m. The group of about fifteen was singing a chorus and continued until more came in; about twenty young people were there that morning. The Pastor then assigned various Scripture verses to be read aloud and spoke a few words on each verse--in most cases scriptural promises. Up to that time the group had been sitting on benches in the rear of the chapel. When the time for prayers came, everyone knelt on the floor. Prayers were given by a few of the members--in most instances thanking God for all of his blessings and asking that "lost souls" might find Christ as their Lord at the Post-Easter Conference. The meeting was closed with the singing of the song, "Make Me a Blessing"; the time was approximately 7:00 a.m.

(Kneeling during prayer was first begun by the Pastor at the preceding Wednesday evening prayer meeting in his own prayer circle. Until that time no one had ever knelt during prayer with the group.)

October 25, 1942 S

NAME: Rev. K. Imai
BIRTH: Nagano Ken, Japan, October, 1886.

After graduating high school in Japan, he, as all ambitious young men are, launched out in a business career, his choice being in the silk industry in which his father held a prominent place. In 1905 he came to the United States as an agent of this silk establishment and has since made his home in this country.

His first ministry was in Walnut Grove, California, where he served in the Methodist Church. The initial years of his ministry was marked with many trying times. Rev. Imai's words are that "Walnut Grove was then the worst racketeer town." During his 16 years of ministry there, he was often threatened with pistols and knives.

In 1930 he was transferred to Dinuba where he had been up to the time of the evacuation program. Being an accomplished carpenter, he has done his share in helping many a farmer build his home. His greatest effort outside of his pastoral duties was in endeavoring to promote friendship and understanding between the Japanese and Americans of Dinuba.

A diligent, untiring, always ready-to-help man, Rev. Imai, now Moderator of Poston 3rd Christian Church says "Poston is a very good place to train ourselves to higher character. The Japanese people will be great if we overcome these trials before us.

November 1, 1942

S

Through the untiring and pioneering efforts of the Nisei pastor and Vice Moderator of the Third Christian Church of Poston, Rev. Paul M. Nagano, the Young People's Church has stepped into a significant role in this community.

Rev. Nagano, a native of Los Angeles, received his early education in the public schools of the southern metropolis. Throughout his school days at Roosevelt High, he starred brilliantly in sports. Upon graduation he entered Los Angeles City College as a commerce major--later, attending Los Angeles Pacific College. He finished his college work at Chapman where he received his A.B. degree.

Mr. Nagano has been very actively connected with the Associated Christian Youth movement in the southland for the past several years and has held meetings all along the Pacific Coast. He supervised the young people's work in Wilmington and Gardena and until evacuation had a successful pastorate in the Torrance Baptist Church.

Upon arriving in Poston I in May, Rev. Nagano promptly took an active part in organizing the Poston Christian Church, then served as pastor of Parish II of that community.

Under his infectious leadership, the young people of the Third Christian Church of Poston have launched out on an aggressive campaign to make the Gospel of Christ a reality in this community. To a stranger, Rev. Nagano can be identified as the man with a firm handshake and a sincere smile. The Church counts itself very fortunate in having such an understanding, conscientious minister whose chief interest lies in the personal

November 1, 1942 (2)

spiritual welfare of the Nisei.

RELIGION
SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III
SUNDAY-SCHOOL TEACHERS MEETING

NOVEMBER 12, 1942

Chairman: Paul Nagano

The main discussion of the evening was on the method of strengthening the 329 Sunday School, especially the boys' groups. It was concluded that the following changes would be made:

1. Sadao Nakashima would try to start work among the Junior boys at 329.
2. Aiko Konatsu would transfer, taking class of primary girls.
3. Haruo Tashiro would work among the senior boys taking with him, Lloyd Kurihara.

Christmas:

George Yamagata in charge of Budget Committee to buy Christmas presents for the children.
Candy to be donated by one particular denomination.
Sophie Shizume and Ruth Iwami in charge of Program Committee for Christmas.

Thanksgiving:

Intermediate and Junior classes to have party on November 24, 1942.
Lloyd Wake and Sadao Nakashima in charge.
Mary Takasaki to take charge of party for beginners and primaries.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

PRAYER CHANGES THINGS

This motto has certainly become a reality to those who have been attending the regular prayer meetings, held on Wednesday evenings.

We can truly say from the depths of our hearts, "thanks be to God for the unspeakable joy," which we can have through the medium of prayer and by living in close communion with our blessed Lord.

The evenings are spent in singing wonderful Christians songs, Bible studies and prayer circles. For the past months, we have studied the Epistle of Paul in II Timothy and Philippians, with Mr. Paul Nagano as leader. At the present time, Mr. John Miyabe is giving a series of talks on "Hymnology."

We than God for the many who are faithfully attending, whereby we might learn more about the wonderful works of the Almighty Christ and grow in our Christian lives. It is our sincere desire that we, together with Paul, the Apostle, might say, "Forome to live is Christ, to die is gain."

We urge everyone to attend these fine Christian fellowships and join in together in our prayers for a United Front.

November 8, 1942

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After graduating from Kawagoi Middle School, Shosaku became engaged in a teacher's career which lasted two years. He was still a young man when his father, brother, and sister, the remaining members of his family, passed away within the course of three months. Out of loneliness for those who were so dear to him he sought for eternal values of life and found that Christ was that Person who bridged the gap between himself and that which he felt was the Almighty. Upon accepting Christ, he entered a theological seminary in Kobe and after four years of preparation he launched out in the service of his Lord. Shosaku served for 19 years in various churches in Tokyo.

His missionary zeal brought him to Monterey, California, where he took up the pastorate of the Presbyterian Church and for eight years as their minister won the respect and admiration of those who came to him. Being a family man, he often yearns for his wife and four children in Tokyo.

Early this spring he moved to Reedley, California, with thirty-one families of his church and there too, the fervor of Christian brotherhood moved him to continue his ministry.

We who know Rev. Asano love his congenial disposition, and enjoy his boundless sense of humor.

His hobbies are Japanese literature, drama and music. He at one time voiced his musical inclinations by giving an operatic interpretation of the alphabet at a church social.

H. Tashiro

Following is the second in the series of prize-winning essays written by the students of the D.V.B.S. conducted during the summer months. This particular work was awarded the first prize among the boys.

"WHAT I LEARNED ABOUT JESUS"

Before I went to Daily Vacation School, I did not know much about Jesus' life. But now I know a complete outline of his life and some of the things he did.

I learned how Jesus was born in a manger when Joseph and Mary went to pay their taxes in Bethlehem.

After Jesus grew older the lesson I thought most interesting was the feeding of the five thousand which was one of his first miracles. It is how Jesus feeds a crowd of five thousand people with only five barley loaves and two fishes.

Another interesting lesson was the one of Jesus' temptation. How Satan, the devil, tells Jesus to worship him.

Before, I thought Jesus was more different, but physically, he is just like a human.

I know now clearly why Jesus died on the Cross of Calvary. He died for our sins and if we accept Him as our Savior, we will have everlasting life.

I would like to tell my friends about this good news so they also may be saved.

DK
Age 13

November 10, 1942

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K
Business meeting opened with prayer by John Miyabe and Mr. Yamagata.

Members present: Reverend Inai, chairman; Reverends Okimoto, Asano and Kikuchi; Mrs. Kuaki, Sophie Shizume, Mr. Yamagata, Mr. Paul Nagano, Mr. Y. Manaka, Miyoko Kitahara, John Miyabe.

Discussion:

1. Change Bible Study from Recreational 327 to 317 as it is more centrally located. For evangelistic meetings.
2. Women's Club:
Purpose: Meetings and making gowns for choir. First meeting set for November 21, with Miss Finch as speaker, 2:30 p.m. either Recreational 305 or 329.
3. Cotton Picking:
Church to go on November 12, 1942 with proceeds going to Christmas fund.
4. Thanksgiving Church gathering.
Place: Open place near Block 330
Time and Date: November 27, 1942, 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Program: Y.P. responsible for devotional and program.
Refreshments: To be purchased from Church treasury.
5. Introduction of religious pictures: To investigate financial expense before it's promotion.
6. Christmas Fund: 400 students to expend \$.15 apiece.
Calendar - Present to each family, 150 to 200 calendars.
Appeal to outside for donations and pledges.
7. Meeting: All meetings to begin at 7:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER 10, 1942

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III
MINISTERS' MEETING

K The meeting was attended by Reverend Ukimoto, Reverend Asano, Reverend Kikuchi, Reverend Imai, Reverend Nagano and Mr. Miyabe.

It was decided that a record book would be kept in both English and Japanese; the council meetings are to be attended by the secretary. The record books are to contain official business of Council in first half and the last half is to contain record of all meetings.

It was said that a need was felt to arouse interest in the Fujin kai; that they should get speakers such as Miss Finch and others.

Thanksgiving: Discussion as to a dinner. It was decided to have an outdoor gathering of all church members on Friday afternoon from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Christmas: Suggestion made for small children to sing and recite in Japanese. Mrs. Imai, Mrs. Umezawa and Mrs. Ishimura to take care of program in Japanese.

Visual Education: Discussion on sponsoring Christian film such as "King of Kings" or of the "Cross". Will raise this question to Council of 3 camps. Will investigate through various denominations.

Location of churches: To cancel 327 reservation and change to 317.

Piano: Piano at 329 donated by Reedley friends. It is to be transferred to 305 when one arrives for that church. Reservations to be made before playing. Approval of Junior Church party.

Secretary: Need for another secretary seen; Sophie Shizume suggested to help. Reverend Imai to investigate possibility of employing another worker.

Signs: It is to be made for the library and also the office hours.

NOVEMBER 24, 1942

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III
MINISTERS' MEETING

Present: Reverend Imai, Chairman; Reverend Okimoto, Reverend Asano, Reverend Kikuchi, Reverend Nagano, John Miyabe and Sophie Shizume.

Devotional: Hymn "It is Well With My Soul"
Scripture, Ephesians 5.
Prayer - Sophie Shizume

Discussion:

1. Can ministers do anything to stop strike? Reverends Imai and Paul Nagano to visit Camp I and get the first hand information.
2. Sunday morning service in 329. As to time, it was suggested that everyone be more prompt. (Will purchase electric clock after Christmas.)
3. Sunday worship; Morning worship by Reverend Okimoto, and Reverend Kikuchi in charge of the evening worship.
4. Schedule for the month of December:
 - December 6 - Morning, Rev. Asano, 305
 - " " Rev. Kikuchi, 329
 - Evening, Rev. Imai
 - December 13 - Morning, Rev. Imai, 305
 - " " Rev. Kikuchi, 329
 - Evening, Rev. Okimoto
 - December 20 - Morning, Rev. Kikuchi, 305
 - " " Rev. Imai, 329
 - Evening, Rev. Asano
5. Personal Work. Evangelistic team to make visitation. Adult and Young Peoples team.

Meeting started at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 12:00 noon.

November 29, 1942

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K
Arriving at the age of twenty-one Tameichi Okimoto began serving in the Army in Japan for one year when illness befell him. Feeling depressed and sad at his shattered future, he began diligently studying the Ten-ri-kiyo church. In it, however, no satisfaction was acquired. He then was led to a Holiness Church in Formosa where he heard of Jesus Christ, who came to earth to redeem men from sin. Believing Christ was the answer to his desire, he accepted His Salvation. There and then joy and peace came to his heart--and his life was completely changed! Thus triumphantly he passed from darkness into light; from the bondage of sin into the glorious liberty of a child of God! In conjunction with this spiritual victory, his body too had been healed--this was the crowning victory!

Shortly succeeding this memorable experience, the love of God constrained him to dedicate his life to the service of God and thereby entered a Bible School in 1928 in preparation for the ministry. Upon graduation he labored in the Korean Mission for two years that souls might be brought to the saving knowledge of Christ.

He was Pastor of the Tokyo Holiness Church, when he was called in 1937 to the United States where, prior to evacuation, he has been minister in San Diego. Rev. Okimoto is a scholar in Hebrew and Greek, and has endeared himself to those who know him by his sympathy, understanding, and as a pastor with a broad smile.

by Sophie Shizume

DECEMBER 1, 1942

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH

MINISTERS' MEETING

RC 100 Outgroup Relations

Devotional Hymn

Prayer by Reverend Kowta

Exhortation by Sophie Shizume

Special service for Adults, Reverend Imai, Chairman.

Altar services, Reverend Okimoto.

Gowns for choir: All black uniform for the mass choir;
maroon robes may be ordered after expenses
paid.

Christmas gift: American Church Federation, Free Methodist
Church; candles for 400.

Program:

December 20, 1942, Morning Worship
Sunday School program
December 21, 1942 Mass Choir
December 24, 1942 Junior, Primary and Beginner
programs
December 25, 1942 Intermediate, Senior and Young
Peoples' programs.

Present: Reverend Imai, chairman, Reverend Kowta, Reverend
Asano, Reverend Kikuchi, Reverend Okimoto, Rever-
end Paul Nagano, John Miyabe and Sophie Shizume.

Meeting started at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING

DECEMBER 1, 1942

S

RC 100 Outgroup Relations

Present: 24 members

Arrangements of dates for Evangelistic meetings:

Young People - December 1 and 2 - Hall 329

Issei Service - December 3 and 4 - Hall 305

Issei Service - December 3 - Hall 305

- December 4 - Hall 329

Remuneration to be given by Reverend Niisato

Ushers for services. (Special meetings)

Members to bring own benches

Lighting - Maintenance Department to be requested to readjust lights.

Christmas Calendar:

December 20 - Christmas message, Adults, A.M., 329
" " , Young People, P.M., 329

December 21 - 7:30 Mass Choir, 310 Shibai Stage

December 24 - Juniors, Primaries, Beginners; program held at 324 Mess Hall.

December 25 - Intermediates, Seniors and Young People; program held at Mess Hall 324.

Christmas presents:

2,000 gifts allotted to Camp III

1,000 gifts to be distributed to Mess Halls

1,000 gifts to be used on December 24 and 25 programs.

Christmas candies, \$50.00

50 lbs. raisins

Paul Nagano to write Ration Board in Washington for permit to buy candy in large amounts.

Mass Choir Gowns, \$30.00

Black robes to be sent from San Diego Congregational Church.
May buy maroon robes after Christmas.

Christmas

Decorations - Cut down trees

Presents - To be given to all enrolled Sunday School students at 24th and 25th programs.

To be given to Sunday teachers - \$10.00

K Offering, December 20, 1942. Free will offering at box
at the rear of the hall.

Young Peoples' new converts to be baptised and welcomed.

George Yamagata to be employed as custodian.

Santa Claus costume, \$3.00

Meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

December 6, 1942

S

He was born the son of a Free Methodist minister some twenty odd years ago in southern California. His prep days were spent in Hollenbeck Junior High School of Los Angeles and Downey High School. He then matriculated at the Pacific College of Los Angeles where he was a third year student. Here he starred in athletics, receiving many awards and distinctions. His love of music was borned out in that he was a member of the college Aca-pella choir and other music societies.

His interests are from the sublime to the ordinary. Strange to say, although a lover of such fine arts as poetry, music and art, his hobby is breeding pigs and hogs. This proves his versatility and adaptability to any situation.

His aspirations are to follow the footsteps of his well-known father, and attend a seminary to enter into the ministry in full time service for the Lord.

A quiet, likeable, modest, and some times timid person, yet in the presence of close friends he forgets his reserve and brings forth much humor and wit.

A talented young person, a man of God, we salute our Personality for this week.

(This week's sketch is of our genial and capable Director of Music and Publication Chairman, Mr. John Miyabe.)

December 6, 1942

"....and it fell not: for it was founded upon a Rock."
Matt. 7:24-29

One Sunday morning, a never-to-be-forgotten day, an unsatisfied sould entered a small country church. It was a little late and the minister was already giving the morning message.

Suddenly a realization came to me that the deepest and inmost desire of my heart, a joy and a peace which I longed for, was lacking in my soul. And I saw the life which I now led was aimless, drifting about without any definite goal.

"What was my highest goal for this life of mine?" "What about my foundation?" "...Won't you accept Christ as your Savior?" So pleaded the speaker with that congregation. Immediately my soul reached out to grasp God's promise.

What a thrill of joy must have been experienced by that lonely figure on the decks of that ship when he saw the distant lights of land way off in the distant horizon. And as Christopher Columbus experienced un-utterable joy when he beheld the distant lights of America, so an equal, if not greater thrill of joy swept through my heart in my discovery of Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour, my personal Friend.

It was life revolutionized! Transformed into newness in the Prince of peace, even Jesus Christ our Lord.

HA

(From that day to this, the writer of the preceding article has lived a life of devotion to our Lord. Mr. Hideo Aoki, serving as nisei pastor in Parish IV in Camp #1, gives the above testimony as expression of gratitude and thanks to Almighty God for the victory he found that Sunday morning when God met the innermost needs of his heart and set his feet upon the solid Rock.)

DECEMBER 8, 1942

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III
MINISTERS MEETING

Present: Chairman, Reverend Imai, Reverends Asano, Okimoto,
Kikuchi, Nagano, and Sophie Shizume and John Miyabe.

The need was stressed for more coordination between Isseis and Niseis. The issei pastor should take more interest in Niseis and their doings, while the young people should respect issei pastors. An ideal inter-denominational and inter-age church should be formed.

How to unify Issei and Nisei:

1. Issei and Nisei Ministers to go calling together.
2. Issei ministers to help Young People's services by sitting on platform and taking part in service.
3. Nisei ministers to attend adult worship or meetings and also speeches.

The need of more respect for the pulpit and the altar was stressed. More sense of church consciousness. Opportune time for real Christian service.

Discussion was had as to changing time of weekly ministers meetings to afternoons, but decided to retain in the mornings. Reverend Imai to be at office Fridays in place of Paul Nagano.

It was decided that the minister preaching at 305 would be in charge of devotional at ministers' meeting. The use of Dr. Takao and Miss Finch for Sunday School.

The meeting was closed with a prayer by Reverend Kikuchi.

MORNING SERVICES:

Chapel 1, #305 10:30 a.m.

Chapel 2, #329 10:00 a.m.

EVENING SERVICE:

Chapel 2, #329 7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY:

Prayer meetings,
Chapels 1 and 2. 7:00 p.m.

FRIDAY:

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
Rec. #327

MORNING WATCH:

Every day at 6:30 a.m.

December 13, 1942

S

The bright sun hesitates no longer to send forth its last gleam of sunlight; and millions on millions of beautiful stars, like a silver net, are lightly cast over the entire universe. The end of another day is come. Like one of these glittering stars ever illuminating my mind is the precious thought of an evening not gone long, when I, sinful as I am, proudly marched forward to accept Jesus Christ as my Saviour. As I walked forward, and felt that warm welcome grip of our Pastor's handshake; there surged throughout my body and overswelled in my heart a grand, victorious feeling, the happiness of being so near to my Saviour.

These years have I spent in an entirely different world, a world knowing nothing of the rich, glorious meaning of true "Christian life."

To those who have not already accepted Him--"Hesitate not--there is no other choice!" To me the date, November 29, 1942, soars high, out-shining all others. Another stray sheep had been carefully set on the narrow, true path of life.

MT

"..By their fruits ye shall know them." Matthew 7:20

It was but a year or two ago that I was able, upon being asked whether I were saved, to answer with only a puzzled and very embarrassed "Huh?" The interrogator, a dear friend and a good Baptist, then gently asked me if I knew what the word "saved" meant. Yes, what does it mean? The question aroused my curiosity and interest--no, not ever since then as I should be able to say, but in all truthfulness, for just a few days. Then, after the lapse of time between then and now, after that interval of indifference and careless ignorance, I have found what it does mean to be saved. I am yet but a babe in Christ, with much to learn, study, and experience, but the fullness, the richness, the glorious beauty, satisfaction, and joy of being a Christian is assuredly mine. The peace, comfort and hope found through knowing the Lord is incomparable to that sought through materialistic gains.

I recommend, highly and with deepest sincerity, God's way, to him who has not accepted Jesus Christ as his own personal Savior.

IT

December 13, 1942

S

Until a few Sundays ago I was never quite willing to give my life wholly to Jesus. Worldly pleasures seemed to hold more glamor for me than following Christ's way of living. But with each message I heard and through fellowship with those who live close to God, the teachings of Christ and His great sacrifice began to take on a real meaning.

Since accepting Christ as my own personal Savior, each passing day has revealed the satisfying joy, peace and happiness which He has promised. Rather than being a narrow, straight-laced type of life, I have found this Christian life is boundless and evergrowing, with each day bringing new experiences to which we look forward expectantly.

Truly, God is blessing us daily as He gives us the privilege of walking with Jesus, who has said, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life."

KU

133 Christian

RELIGION

December 15, 1942

S

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III

MINISTERS' MEETING

RC

16

Women's Club

100

Outgroup Relations

Present: Chairman, Reverend Imai; Reverends, Asano, Okimoto, Kikuchi, Nagano, Mr. Miyabe and Miss Shizume.

Prayer by Reverend Asano.

Miss Starkey, one of workers to take over Women's Club on December 20, 1942 at 2:00 p.m. Miss Starkey and Miss Finch to act as Sunday School teachers. Miss Finch to work on young married couples' group.

Morning Worship for Isseis, December 20, 1942.

Chairman: Reverend Kikuchi

Message: Reverend Imai

Scripture: Reverend Asano

Prayer: Reverend Okimoto

Reverend Cuthbertson - special speaker for middle of January. He will speak to us before the special evangelistic meetings in Camp I.

Mr. Nagano to write and find exact date of his coming.

Meeting started 10:45 p.m.

Adjourned at 12:00 noon.

December 27, 1942

S

14
Before coming to Poston, I had never known who Christ was, or what he meant to me. Never attending church because our family was against it, I spent all of my time working for money but never was satisfied. Blind and not having anything to lean upon, to look forward to, my need was a treasure that I did not know anything about.

Since then, I have found the Treasure, Jesus Christ, by attending the House of the Lord and listening to the messages, prayers, and hymns of our Christian group. I began to realize what a sinner I was. Thinking all along that I was right, I had never stopped to think of what Christ was trying to reveal unto me. I was following the wrong path which would lead to my ultimate destruction.

Today, turning to the Way of the Cross, the Way of the Lord Jesus Christ, He has taught me to follow Him, to accept Him as my Guide. He has given me peace, filled my life with joy, and calmness, taking away all my sins. I am glad I accepted Christ as my personal Saviour.

FT

December 27, 1942 S

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING, DECEMBER 27, 1942

RC 100 *Outgroup Relations*

K Present: Chairman, Reverend Imai, Reverend Asano, Reverend Kikuchi, Reverend Okimoto, Reverend Nagano. Messrs. Miyabe, Managa, Ichimura, Umezawa, Mrs. Mukai, Misses Kitahara, Shizume and Mr. Don Iwahashi.

Reports:

1. Reverend Imai, (result of last Ministers' meeting)
New Year's Eve meeting of Young People at outdoor bowl.
New Year's meetings on January 1, 2, and 3.

Adult meetings as follows: (Indoors)

January 2, 3, at 329 (Morning worship at 305, Reverend Cuthbertson, speaker.)
December 31, 1942 - 11:00 p.m. at 305.

- a. Arrangement of program left up to ministers
- b. Publicity - Posters
2. Mrs. Mukai - Treasurer's report.
 - a. 67 dollars in Christmas offering received.
 - b. Expenses - detailed report not completed. However, not far from budget including gifts for Sunday School teachers and decorations. \$36 for nuts and \$5.48 for express to be paid by treasurer to Reverend Imai.
 - c. Christmas gifts for Mr. Yamagata, Miss Shizume and Mr. Iwahashi.
3. Mass meeting Tuesday January 12, 1942. Preliminary meeting on Tuesday January 5, 1942 for Committee members.
4. Receipts for special offering to be printed.
5. Thank you letter to outside donors.
6. New Years and Christmas greetings from Topaz.
7. Explanation of gifts from San Diego from Reverend Kikuchi.

133 Christian

RELIGION

DECEMBER 22, 1942

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III

MINISTERS MEETING

Present: Reverends, Imai, Okimoto, Asano, Nagano, Mr. John Miyabe, and Miss Sophie Shizume.

Sentence prayers were given by 6 members.

Discussion of New Year meetings were held.

Discussion was hold on the new church organization for 1943.

Council and committee meetings set for Tuesday evenings, January 5, 1943 in Minister's study, when new organization will be discussed and appointments will be made.

December 27, 1942

S

It seems singularly appropriate to me that in an apparently barren outpost of civilization, I should be preparing to celebrate this year with great joy and happiness in my heart." And I have a reason. Besides having been richly showered with friendships and many happy associations since coming to Boston, I have been given one matchless blessing that transcends all earthly expression.....I have come to know Jesus Christ and to accept Him as my personal Saviour.

He has brought me a serenity of mind and a calmness of spirit I had never known while I was struggling in the darkness by myself. Now, I have come into His fellowship and love, and have accepted Him as my Saviour; for I know He is the Way and He is the Life.

"Amazing grace!
 how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost,
 but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

GT

CHRISTIAN
SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III
MINISTERS' MEETING

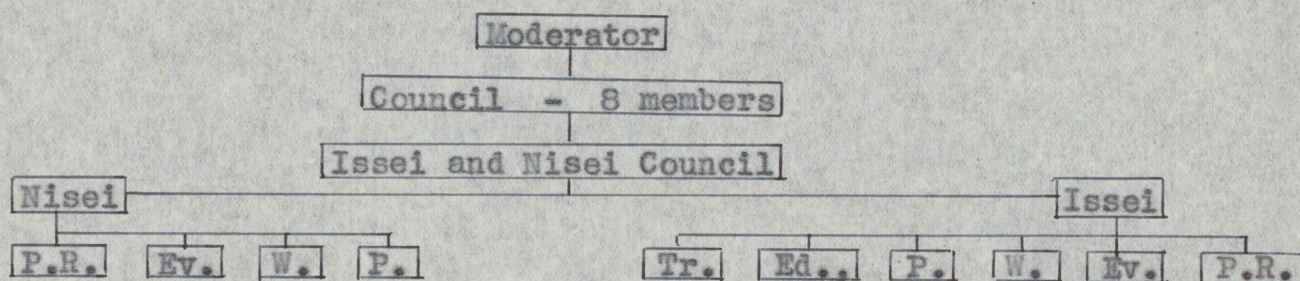
JANUARY 5, 1943

S

Meeting commenced with Seritpure reading, John 20:24, and two hymns. Before the business was taken up, Reverend Iami, Moderator, asked that there be more coordination, system and unity in our meetings.

A. Discussion:

1. Reverend Okimoto suggested that donated Japanese Bibles and the "Secret Place" be given to anyone who wished a copy without any charge. Also, Japanese Bibles be given to the recent converts if they already donnot have one.
2. All attendance record of meeting are to be handed in for a record chart.
3. Discussion of the church organization was presented by Reverend Okimoto and disussed. The tentative plan of new organization as was presented is sketched below.



P.R. - Public Relations
Ev. - Evangelism
W. - Worship
P. - Publicity
Tr. - Treasury

Education - Education

The remainder of time was spent in making the shcedule for the following week in Issei services.

The meeting was dismissed with prayer by Reverend Iami at 12:15 p.m.

January 10, 1943

S

It is really a privilege to be able to confess Him before men as my personal Savior.

It was many many years ago that a certain minister took interest in me and taught me about Christ. I have never regretted that decision of accepting Him to this day. He has given me a joy and a peace that this world could not offer. True, I have failed many times, and I hang my head in shame for it; but He has always forgiven me and has encouraged me to live gloriously anew. Words cannot express my feeling, for after that, I have nothing to fear.

I have many things to be thankful for even here. The blessed privilege and opportunity to worship Him, the many new acquaintances with Christian brothers and sisters, and the hundred and one items which we are able to receive for our better health, joy, and comfort.

I do not wish to look back to my sinful, dark days; but look to the bright and glorious days which lie ahead. I have one request to make here and that is this, that we might all be faithful and kind to our parents during the remaining days of their lives; that the days ahead might be happy ones, ones of real joy. They have been good to us making it possible for us to grow as we have. Surely we owe it to them.

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

John 3: 16.

L.S.

January 12, 1943

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III

MINUTES OF THE MASS MEETING, JANUARY 12, 1943

8:30 p.m., Recreation 305

After the report by various committee of the past year were made and accepted, the following were chosen to proceed with the remaining part of the meeting.

Chairman - Reverend Asano

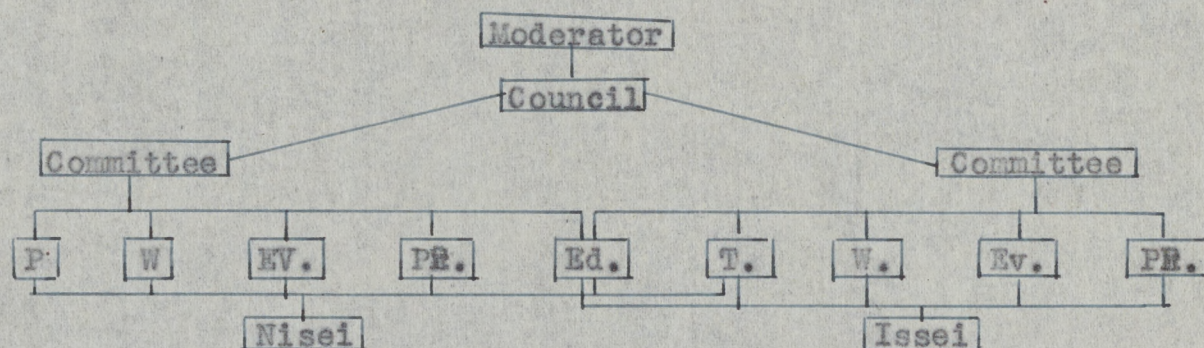
Vice Chr.- Paul Nagano

Secretary- Don Iwahashi

A. Organization

1. Report made of the last council meeting held on January 5, 1943 by Chairman.
2. Explanation of 2 proposed plans of the organization by the Council.
 - a. First plan by Reverend Imai in the absence of Reverend Okimoto. (Interpreted in English by Paul Nagano.

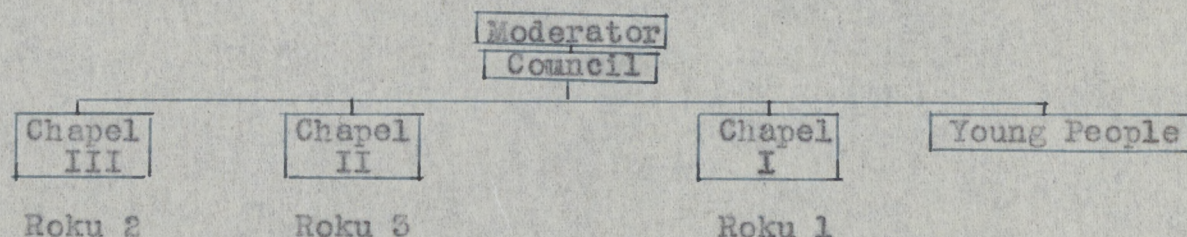
Diagram



P - Publicity Department
W - Worship Department
Ev.- Evangelism
PR - Public Relations

Ed. - Education
T - Treasury

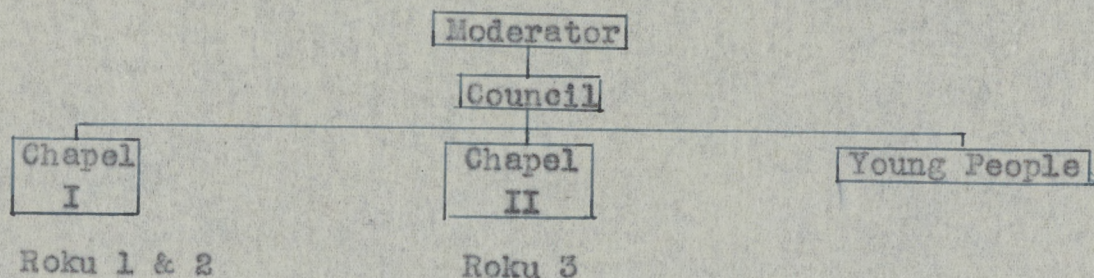
- b. The second plan by Mr. Umezawa (English interpretation by Paul Nagano.)



After much discussion and expression of opinion, Reverend Asano proposed a plan as illustrated below which might be called the 3rd plan.

MINUTES OF THE MASS MEETING OF JANUARY 12, 1943

Third Plan:



3. Results of votes:

- a. 1st plan - 4
- b. 3rd plan - (revision of 2nd plan) 51

4. Decision

- a. The 3rd plan will be adopted
- b. The details of the physical side of the organization, such as members of committee, council members, etc., will be studied and a plan will be drawn up by the old committee on January 19, 1943 and presented to the following mass meeting for approvals.

B. Gift for Ministers in appreciation of their services. It was suggested that the Church pay ministers for their services. Suggested by Mr. Kushino. However, many had left the meeting so it was decided to have the committee take up this matter in the next meeting. The meeting was closed with prayer by Messrs. Wake and Sogo, and the Benediction was given by Reverend Imai.

133 *Christian*
~~RELIGION~~

January 12, 1943

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III
MINISTERS' MEETING

c.2. 100 *Outgoing Relations*

Members present: Reverend Imai, Reverend Asano, Reverend Nagano, Mr. John Miyabe, Mr. George Yamagata, Miss Sophie Shizume.

The business meeting was opened with a prayer by Reverend Nagano, and the Scripture, Acts 4:1-22 was read by Reverend Asano in Japanese and by Miss Shizume in English, with a brief exhortation by Reverend Asano.

Discussion: Reverend Kikuchi, in behalf of his members, suggests, a 5 parish system. Reverend Asano wishes a 2 parish system with a treasurer from each parish and one treasurer from the Nisei represented. Overall, the treasurers' a chairman elected to coordinate these groups.

Christmas presents received into this center. (600 persons in all) were acknowledged and thank you letters sent.

Schedule made for the coming special services.

January 23, Dr. Roy Smith, 25 years in Kobe, Saturday night, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. for the Young Peoples!
8:00 to 9:00 p.m. for the Adults at 305 Recreation Hall.

January 30-31, Reverend William C. McKnight, Phoenix Congregational Church, Missionary to Japan. He is to speak both in English and Japanese.
Reverend Stewart, Methodist Church Missionary to Japan, at 329 Parish. 10:00 for Adults, and 11:00 a.m. for the Young People.

February 12, Reverend Kirby Page will accompany Reverend Nicholson; the time was not set.

January 17, 1943

S

Yes, it is true that I was reared in a Christian family, but I regret to say that, when asked by my friends, both here in Poston and back home, I classified myself as a Christian. Why regret? you may ask. I regret because I had made use of the word "Christian" so cheaply. Without attending church regularly, or studying the word, without knowing Christ as a Saviour, I called myself a Christian.

We all know what an unforgettable year 1942 was. It not only brings to me the thought of evacuation, but something far greater than that.

Shortly after coming here, I attended the Christian Church after it was organized. The first sermon delivered was by our pastor, Rev. Nagano, and this message so inspired me that I found myself attending regularly, eager to learn more about God and His wonderful word. The climax came one evening when Rev. Jitsuo Morikawa came here for the special meetings. To this very moment I can picture myself singing, "Just as I am without one plea," and walking up to the altar to accept Christ as my personal Saviour. The minute I made my decision to become a member of God's family, I felt like a new-born child. I can assure you that I felt good as I sang the remaining lines to that hymn.

As I entered into this new year of 1943, my resolution was to make up for my spiritual negligence in the past. My aim is to study more about God by attending the mid-Week Fellowship hours.

I am happy that I can now say, that I am a Christian with the true meaning.

January 17, 1943

As I look back at my old past, and picture myself continuing the same old sinful life, I cannot help but repeat, "Thank you, thank you!" to my Saviour for saving me from that spiritual death and eternal destruction for which I was headed. Truly it is only thru the wonderful grace of God that I was able to live my life in its full sense for the past few years. How else could a sinner like me deserve all these wonderful gifts! He has given me a home, loved ones, brothers and sisters in Christ; and spiritually, the peace and assurance which enables me to live through all trials and temptations. But above all, the gift of the blessed knowledge of sins forgiven and the hope of eternal, everlasting life through Jesus Christ, my Saviour and my Lord.

So it is my prayer that with all my shortcomings and awkwardness, I may bear my Cross daily and live for Him. And that through my very living, some souls may be drawn closer to Him who saved me so wonderfully. This is the least I can do for Him.

"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it."

Matthew 16:24-25

DI

January 19, 1943

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III

MINISTERS - COUNCIL - COMMITTEE MEETING, JANUARY 19, 1943

Present: 25 persons
Opening time: 7:52 p.m.

Hymn - "I Need Thee", Scripture by Reverend Asano
Prayers - Mr. Yamagata, Mrs. Sogo

Chairman: Reverend Asano

- A. A Young People's organization chart presented by Reverend Paul Nagano. See file for the diagram.
- B. Issei Parish Organization - Passed at mass meeting that for the present there will be two parishes, thus 2 councils.
- C. Moderator - To be chosen by the newly elected Council.

Council:

- 1. The representatives of the Council shall be from the parishes - three from each parish and Young Peoples making a total of nine. Within the representative group, there should be the treasurer. Including the ministers will total 14 in all.
 - 2. The Treasury Department consists of the financial representative to the Council.
 - 3. Sunday School. Supervisor is to be chosen by the Parish Council. Each Parish has its own Sunday School Board with the Supervisor in charge and one representative sent to the Education Board.
- D. Mr. Kushino suggests rotation of ministers for the Evangelistic services with the morning services to have the Issei Evangelistic service Sunday evening in Recreation Hall 327 for Parish I members.
- E. Reverend Okimoto suggests that the Treasurer of
- 1. Parish 1 and 2 be represented in the Council
 - 2. Suggested also that Treasury office be formed, composed of all the treasurers for the convenience of deciding and agreeing together on small financial expenses that can be settled in this office without having to call the whole council. For large amounts of money the council shall together with the Treasurer's decide together.
 - 3. He also desires that Treasurer of each Chapel, Young People's Treasurer of each society, Sunday School Treasurer, etc., will put $\frac{1}{3}$ of amount of their total offerings into the Headquarter Treasurer. This, however, will be decided by the new council.

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III
MINISTERS - COUNCIL - COMMITTEE MEETING, JANUARY 19, 1943

- F. Issei Bulletins - Decided that each Parish will print its own bulletin for each week and distribute them.
- G. Reverend Kikuchi suggested that a Mass Parish meeting be held Sunday, January 24, after 2:00 in each parish to elect new Council members for their Parish organization. New Sunday School Supervisor will be selected.

As no other business brought out, the meeting was adjourned by Reverend Asano. Prayer was given by Reverend Imai and Mr. Ichimura. The meeting was closed with the benediction at 9:40 p.m.

JANUARY 19, 1943

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III
MINISTERS' MEETING

100 Outgroup Relations

Hymn 543, "I Need Thee, Oh I Need Thee"

Scripture, Ephesians 3:14

Prayers were given by Reverends Asano and Nagano

Hymn - 548

Prayer given by Lloyd Wake

Definite plans for the coming special services:

Reverend Roy Smith, Saturday, January 23, 1943,

3:00 p.m. at Recreation Hall 329.

Reverend McKnight, Friday, January 29, at 7:30 p.m. at
Recreation Hall 329

Reverend Stewart, 7:30 p.m., Recreation Hall 305

Sunday, January 31, 329, 10:00 a.m.
for Adults.

329 at 11:00 a.m. for the Young People

305, at 2:00 p.m. for Fujin Kai

Reverend McKnight, Sunday January 31, at Recreation Hall
329 at 7:30 p.m. for the Adults.

Need of a piano brought up the discussion of asking Reverend
Nicholson if he would be able to bring the piano belonging
to the San Diego Congregational Church, when he comes into
this center February 10th.

Ministers responsible for parishes:

Recreational Hall 305 - Reverend Imai

329 - Reverend Kikuchi

327 - Reverend Okimoto

Japanese bulletins - Each chapel publish a copy:

Roku III, Parish 2, Reverend Kikuchi to write it.

Roku I, Parish 1, Reverend Okimoto to write it.

Decided that Treasurer's of both Adult and Young Peoples'
Treasurers will be a member of the Council.

Young Peoples' Council - Composed of one member from each
department plus four Advisors and Nisei workers.

Sunday School - Each parish is to have its own Superintendent
and its' board, with one representative sent to the Board of
Education Department.

Suggestion was made to form a Ministerial Council.

John Miyabe--- expecting to leave for Greenville, Illinois
to Bible School as soon as his permit arrives. Lloyd Wake

133 *Christian*
RELIGION

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III
MINISTERS' MEETING

JANUARY 19, 1943 (2)

and Sadao Nakashima may go to Camp in exchange for another worker Tsujimoto Yoshiya to take John's place. A farewell gift will be given to him----a special offering to be collected by the Young People.

Meeting adjourned with prayer by Reverend Imai.

JANUARY 26, 1943

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III
MINISTERS' MEETING

14
Song, "Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone"
Prayer was given by Paul Nagano.
Scripture, II Timothy 4:1
Devotional thought, Reverend Okimoto
Prayer was given by Reverend Okimoto

Attendance: Lloyd Wake, Paul Nagano, Reverend K. Imai,
Reverend S. Asano, Reverend T. Okimoto, John
Miyabe, Sophie Shizume, (engaged in mimeograph
work.)

Date for general meeting, (Issei)
Tuesday, February 2, 1943 evening
Thursday, February 4, 1943, (Nisei)

Schedule for office attendance in mornings:
Monday, Reverend Asano
Wednesday, Reverend Okimoto
Thursday, Reverend Imai
Friday, Lloyd Wake
Saturday, Reverend Imai

Schedule drawn up for Issei service in Chapel I, 305, for
February, 1943.

Friday, January 29, Reverend McKnight
Saturday, January 30, 305, Reverend Stewart
Sunday, January 31, Reverend McKnight (Issei)
at Block 329, and also Reverend Stewart
Recreation 329, Reverend McKnight (Issei)
Reverend Kirby Page, Scholar of World
Problems, World Citizen, Traveler,
Speaker and Author.

Monthly calendar of church suggested to be made.

The meeting was dismissed with a prayer by Reverend Asano at
12:00 noon.

February 6, 1943

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III
YOUNG PEOPLE'S COUNCIL MEETING, FEBRUARY 6, 1943, CHURCH LIBRARY

Meeting was called to order by Reverend Nagano.

Scripture read by Reverend Paul Nagano

Prayer given by Harry Minami

Explanation of organization chart of III Christian Church
by Paul Nagano.

It was agreed that if John Miyabe does not leave, he will take
over all duties pertaining to music.

Paul Nagano emphasized the need of revising Church Constitution
since this constitution was originally drafted for Church in
Unit I. Since we do not have as many ministers here as in Camp
I, Paul thought it advisable to revise it.

Discussion on proposition: Should we give the Issei half or
part of money that we desire through offerings, Young Peoples
Societies etc? Agreed that we hold on to our own money; if the
isseis need any financial help, they can assess us up to but
not over fifty percent of the money we have.

Agreed that Council should agree on all financial matters, but
for the purchasing of small items only Mickey Ichiuji's consent
be necessary.

Agreed that a pledge system be inaugurated. Pledge to be 1/10
of individuals earnings (\$1.60) and to be voluntary. This
system to begin 3/6/43.

Discussion on whether we should buy all our own publication
materials, and keep such supplies separate from that of Isseis.
No final conclusion.

Agreed that all magazines and pamphlets that we have been
receiving from our Caucasian friends shall be terminated.
We do not want to be parasites. If we can afford to buy our
own printed matter, we should do so.

Agreed that Reverend Kikuchi be Issei representative who will
be invited to sit on the Young People's council meetings.

Agreed to purchase 100 Hymnalf for the Gr. Church.

Agreed for a Communion Service to be held on the morning of
February 28th. Mass Baptism to be held on Easter. Discussion
on possibility of all day picnic on Easter at the river.

Agreed to purchase Public Address system for the church if the
Issei would be willing to share half of the cost.

Discussion on whether offering plate be passed around at the
various Young People's services. Agreed that at the morning

OLING PEOPLE'S COUNCIL MEETING, FEBRUARY 6 , 1943

sorship in Recreation 329, the plates be passed, but the offering to be free will at the evening service.

Discussion on possibility of wall papering the Church Recreation Hall 305. Agreed that Church Library should be wall papered.

Agreed to purchase paint to beautify the church.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:50 p.m. with a prayer by Lloyd Wake.

FEBRUARY 2, 1943

SOURCE - RILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III
MINISTERS' MEETING

100 Outgroup Relations

Chairman: Reverend Kikuchi

Ministers present: Reverends Imai, Kikuchi, Okimoto, Asano,
Nagano, John Miyabe and Miss Sophie Shizume.

Hymn 128, "In the Cross of Christ"

Scripture, Mathew 25: 1-13

Prayer, John Miyabe, Sophie Shizume

Exhortation, Reverend Kikuchi. Basing his words on Mathews 25:1-13, he exhorted to watch, pray and wait lest we be caught unawares when he comes.

Discussion: Dr. Smith is compiling a song book of hymns and Gospel songs. He asked for a contribution of a hymn and gospel hymn to be published in this book.

Guest speakers of February and March:

Kirby Page, February 15, Monday evening, English service in outdoor bowl. Japanese translation at end of the service. About 15 minutes for Adults, Reverend Imai.

Miss Toppings, February 9-10.

Reverend Kennedy, tentative date, February 20-21

Dr. Chapman, March day unset.

Remuneration of visiting Caucasian Pastors. Will be decided by the Council of the 3 camps as to set amount to be given.

Camp II trouble: Desire expressed to further the spiritual growth of the young people there.

Plants and flowers planted around the church and office premises. Flower plants for both parishes.

Young People who members of Issei-Nisei Council, (6 members), are Mickey Ichijoji, Sod Nakashima, Lloyd Wake, David Arata, Paul Nagano, and John Miyabe.

Council meeting tonight, February 2, 1943 at 305 Rec. Hall at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting dismissed with prayer by Reverend Imai.

JANUARY 31, 1943

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III
YOUNG PEOPLE'S MASS MEETING, JANUARY 31, 1943, REG. 305

Chairman Paul Nagano explained the temporary plan for young people's organization.

It was moved, seconded and passed that a Secretary be appointed to take official notes of this meeting. Mrs. May Iwahashi was appointed. Paul Nagano, who was chosen for chairman explained that the Young People's Council was to be composed of the six departments' heads and one church clerk.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed that this submitted plan be adopted.

Election of heads of departments:

Education: Paul Nagano (moved, seconded, and passed that nominations be closed thus automatically elected.)

Finance: Mickey Ichijui (moved, seconded and passed that nominations be closed thus automatically elected.)

Publication: Sophie Shizume (same as above) Resignation of Miss Shizume after reconsideration it was moved, seconded and carried that her resignation be accepted.

The following nominated: Tsugi Ieri, Alice Wake, Iris Tanaka, May Iwahashi, Nominations closed. Miss Ieri elected.

Evangelism: Sadao Nakashima, David Arata, Don Iwahashi; nominations duly closed and Mr. Nakashima elected.

Public Relations: Lloyd Wake, Ruth Iwami, Harry Minami. Nominations duly closed and Lloyd Wake elected.

General Arrangements: Harry Minami unanimously elected through closing of nominations.

Clerk: David Arata, Sophie Shizume. Nominations duly closed and David Arata elected.

The Deacons of the Young People's Church will be as follows: Paul Nagano, Mickey Ichijui, Tsugi Ieri, Sod Nakashima, Lloyd Wake, Harry Minami and David Arata.

Following chosen to be on the Senior Council: Paul Nagano, Lloyd Wake, Mickey Ichijui, Sod Nakashima, and David Arata.

February 14, 1943

5

BUILDERS OF HIS KINGDOM

Christian Endeavors meet on Sundays at 7:00 p.m. Last week's program is outlined below.

JUNIOR Y.P.

Ruth Iwami, advisor, spoke on the "Beatitudes" explaining it in detail to those present. Songs were led by Betty Wake during the course of the gathering which was brought to a close with a short business meeting.

SENIOR Y.P.

Sumi Kitahata was in charge of the program during which time she spoke a few words of testimony. Songs were sung under the direction of Florence Wake and a business meeting conducted by George Yamagata concluded the evening's program.

YOUNG PEOPLE

"Habits of Life" by the advisor, George Takaoka, was the main message. "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you" was the theme of his talk which he illustrated with experiences from the life of Abraham Lincoln. Mr. Takaoka advised the group to refrain from forming bad habits while in camp. Carl Yoshimine was chairman for the evening.

ADULTS

Discussions by the group was the main item on Sunday evening, with Reiko Konatsu, Devotion chairman in charge. Questions written on slips of paper were distributed and these were read and discussed.

February 14, 1943

Included as one of the newest among the activities of the local Church is the recently organized classes for those interested in teaching Sunday School and courses in leadership training. These study classes are held every Tuesday evening in Camp I and about 15 young people from Camp III attended the first gathering last week.

A number of Church leaders and ministers are in charge of these classes which are divided into three parts; namely, Bible Study, lecture and departmental. These courses are expected to last six weeks and young people from all three units are attending these classes.

February 14, 1943

16
St. John 20:29

"Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou has believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed."

I was truly like Thomas, the disciple, who had doubted Jesus. I had been reared as a Christian and have attended various Protestant churches since the age of six. But it was not until my relocation to Poston that I was really able to testify for Christ and actually believe in Him. As it is written in his Word, "who soever believeth on him shall not be ashamed."

My earnest desire is that I will not be ashamed of my faith in Christ and that this faith shall grow stronger through daily communion with the Lord in Prayer and the reading of the Bible.

TT

February 14, 1943

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14 I realize, as I look back upon my past, that my eyes were filled with the blinding dust of false ambitions and idle dreams, and that in the swift pace of living I almost lost my own soul. But how thankful I am for that memorable night when I surrendered my life to Jesus Christ...the night I was, for the first time, brought to realize my own weakness and acknowledge my dependence upon God.

I never really knew what true Christians meant when they would say that the Lord had given them a "joyous and peaceful feeling" and I thought they were just some choice words to put in to make a beautiful testimony. Yet, as I watched these Christians daily I began to see peace and rest revealed in them. They seemed so content and happy in the Lord that there must be something wonderful by living true Christian lives.

So I turned right around taking up the Cross and following Him all the way. To this very day I have never regretted it in the least. He has truly been a source of inspiration and goodness and has flooded my soul with unspeakable joy. I am very thankful to know Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour and to have him as the directing light of my life.

My sincere and earnest prayer is that I may be able to live in closer fellowship with God.

SK

133 Christian
RELIGION

FEBRUARY 9, 1943

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SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH III

ISSEI - NISEI MASS COUNCIL MEETING, CHURCH LIBRARY, 7:30 p.m.

100
92 Outgoing Relation
W.D.F.

Meeting called to order by Reverend Asano. Reverend Kikuchi gave the prayer. Discussion was held on how the money of the proposed parishes and the Young Peoples be divided. After much controversy, agreed that Issei and Nisei keep separate accounts. The Niseis are not to give up any money unless the Issei become in dear need of it.

A vote was taken for the church Moderator. Reverend Shiozaki Asano was chosen. Reverend Kikuchi is to be the Secretary or the spokesman.

Discussion was held on whether to give the visiting Caucasian Ministers a few dollars compensation. Heated controversy was had and no definite conclusion was reached. The majority seemed to be against any aid to visiting Ministers.

Discussion was had whether the Church Treasury (Y.P.) should compensate Mr. John Miyabe for his services or whether he should be paid by the WRA. Agreed that the Ministers appeal his case to the WRA or else get him on the pay roll as a Church Secretary or Janitor or under Adult Education.

It was agreed that the fiscal year will begin February, 1943.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

FEBRUARY 9, 1943

3

SOURCE - FILES OF THE POSTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH
MINISTERS' MEETING

100 Outgoing Relation
101 After Relocation Centers

14 All members present except Reverend Kikuchi.

Hymn, 127, "Alas, and Did My Saviour Bleed"

Scripture, John Miyabe, Acts 4:31

Exhortation, Reverend Nagano, "that we go forth with holiness when are filled with the holy spirit."

Prayer was given by Reverend Asano.

Discussion:

Presence of Dr. Kirby Page, is to be February 14 instead of February 15th.

Program: Sunday, February 14th, 4:00 p.m. College graduates and older young people to have a Forum, at Rec. Hall 305. Pot Luck evening lunch. Tea to be provided by the church at 310.

Letter of transfer of Reverend Asano to Rivers Relocation for Japanese Church work there. Ministers desire his stay here as the work has just begun in Poston. Letter to be sent by Secretary to Dr. Chapman to that effect. Discussion of a Church social to be held sometime before warm days come. No decision made.

Report from the Young People's Church Council:

1. Requested Reverend Kikuchi for Issei representative to their council.
2. Financial status
3. Tithing and pledges. ~~Business meeting~~

Business meeting dismissed with a prayer by Mr. Lloyd Wake.

March 23, 1943

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August 9, 1943! Long will that day be remembered in the hearts of those who were present at the initial meeting of the temporarily organized III Christian Church of Poston. Meeting in Recreation Hall 305, which was just a barren hall with no chairs, tables, or any equipment whatsoever, the first Sunday School, church service, business meeting were all packed into one busy day. Children and adults alike, either sat on the floor or stood up, while a fortunate few brought folding chairs. In spite of the almost intolerable dust and heat, conscientious Christians flocked to the so-called "church". "T" shirts, levis, and boots for the young men - light cotton, dresses, sockettes, and low-heeled oxfords for the young ladies were the garb most appropriate for the occasion. As the weeks passed, benches, tables, and other necessities were built by the men and gradually the recreation hall took on the semblance of a church. At the present time improvements include chairs, benches, tables, curtains, and pulpit. The grounds surrounding the Church are beautified with lawns and flowers. As the physical changes took place in our Church, so did the church-goers change their appearance. (clothes are meant in in this case.) The men began to don their ties and suits, just recently removed from the trunk and still smelling of moth balls, while ladies delved into their precious supply of silk hose. Now, one observing the congregation during the service, would almost think he had been transplanted in his home-town church were it not for the rustic interior of the Church.

The first group of evacuees arrived Central California on August 4, 1942, while the last contingent was from the Santa Anita Assembly Center on August 29, 1942. This latter group, comprised of about 1,500, mostly from San Diego, brought the total population of Unit III to about 4,500. It was not until this last group arrived that the actual organizing of the Church began. Unit III, representative of so many cities and sections of California, naturally had many denominational bodies of believers in Christ. With the well-known truth in mind, "United we stand; divided we fall", the pastors and leaders of the represented denominational groups thought it the wisest step to unite as one body of believers in Christ. The pastors of Units I and II, - these two units having been filled before Unit III, - had their respective Churches organized and were functioning successfully as one Church, uniting all Protestant denominations. Therefore, it seemed very advisable that the Protestant Church in the Unit should also unite as one body and present a united Christian front in this community. The plan was adopted. Thus, the newly-born III Christian Church of Poston made its debut into this hot, dry, and dusty desert land.

The next step was to lay the groundwork on which the Church was to function. To serve the church as pastors are four Isseis and two Niseis. The Issei ministers are Rev. K. Imai, former pastor of the Dinuba Methodist Church; Rev. S. Asano, former pastor of the Monterey Presbyterian Church; Rev. T. Okimoto, former pastor of the San Diego Holiness Church; and Rev. K. Kikuchi, former pastor of the San Diego Congregational Church. The Nisei Pastor and Assistant Pastor are Rev. P. Nagano, former pastor of the Baptist

RELIGION
INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN
HISTORY OF III CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF POSTON

2

Church in Los Angeles, and Mr. J. Miyabe, formerly of the Free Methodist Church in Anaheim, respectively. These six men, with four Issei and four Nisei laymen, comprised the first Church Council of the III Christian Church. From this council various committees were formed, headed by the six ministers. The committees formed were: 1.) Worship, under Rev. Kikuchi; 2.) Finance, under Rev. Okimoto; 3.) Evangelism, under Rev. Asano; 4.) Public Relations, under Rev. Imai; 5.) Education, under Rev. Nagano; 6.) Publication, under Mr. Miyabe. Rev. Imai was chosen as moderator of the Church and Rev. Nagano as vice moderator.

As the weeks went by, the Church began to breathe and pulsate with life as various activities were undertaken and organizations for both children and adults were formed. The first outstanding project was the Daily Vacation Bible School. Consisting of about 200 pupils, whose ages ranged from about 5 to 16 years of age, the School was held for five or six weeks, beginning at the end of August and continuing through September. Under the guidance of trained teachers from Unit I and several teachers from our own Unit, these children spent many happy and profitable hours learning to use their hands and minds in a constructive way, at the same time studying the Bible and learning more about the life of Jesus Christ. Much of the credit for the success of the D.V.B.S. is due to the untiring efforts of Mrs. Celia Takemoto, superintendent.

With the nucleus of D.V.B.S. students, the Junior Church was organized and the first service was held on October 18. This is a unique body of young Christians who meet every Sunday, holding their own services apart from the older folks, having their own musical organizations such as the choir, girl's trio, boy's quartette. This Church has grown from merely 50 members to over 100 at the present time. Serving as Pastors for this Junior Church are Sod Nakashima and Lloyd Wake.

Sinspiration is another activity which the Church has undertaken. This is held weekly and has come to play a very significant part in the lives of many young people, Christians and non-Christians alike. Once a week a fun-loving, music-loving crowd gathers in the Church for an hour or so of fun and fellowship, singing old favorites, Christian choruses, and hymns. Often they are entertained with some very hilarious stunts and skits presented by some talented members of the group.

Realizing the need for several chapels within a community as large and extensive as this, a second chapel was opened in Rec. Hall 329 to meet the needs of the church-goers. On October 4th, Chapel II held its initial service with the appropriate theme "God's Masterbuilders". Generally the morning worship service is held in Chapel II and the evening worship service is held in Chapel I. Both services draw capacity crowds.

Another sign of life within the Church is the publishing of

a weekly church bulletin. The Publication Department headed by J. Miyabe printed Volume 1, Number 1, of the church bulletin on October 25. Since then, a church bulletin has been published every Sunday. In addition to this task the Publication Committee has the responsibility of having the programs for the worship services printed for the congregation. This department surely has done much in carrying on the work of the Church in this community.

The Chapel Choir made its debut also on October 25, 1942, at the evening service. Under the capable direction of J. Miyabe, this choir composed of about 25 voices has been a very important and integral part of the Church. Their singing has added much to the services and the spirit of worship is very prevalent when they send forth the message of Christ on wings of melody.

Contrary to expectations that the farm labor shortage on the outside would affect the residents of the Center in any way, the Church members spent a day in the near-by cotton fields to help the farmers harvest their cotton. On November 11, some 150 of the more adventurous people of the Church set out for the near-by cotton fields on trucks. Their purpose was to earn money for the coming Christmas season. From the tabulation of the number of pounds picked by the individuals, one could not help but suspect that many had gone out to work just to see what the outside world looked like after several months of being kept in the Center. The more serious-minded Issei out-picked the Niseis that day and, stranger still, the so-called weaker sex out-picked many of the fellows. The spirit of an outing or a picnic prevailed throughout the day. At the end of the day everyone, despite the sore muscles and tired bodies, seemed to be happy that he was able to spend a few hours of "freedom" outside the Center.

One of the outstanding events in the life of our Church was the "Religious Emphases" services held December 2 through December 5. Rev. Morikawa, well known Southland preacher, at present in Unit I, brought a series of vital and heart-searching messages. These services proved to be of great spiritual up-lift and power to those attending the meetings. It was the turning point in the lives of many Nisei who came to a deeper knowledge and realization of what life was all about - philosophy of life, as some might term it. These meetings did much for the III Christian Church in uniting all the members of the Church as one - tying them together into one body with that unexplainable, intangible bond which is the result of a common belief in the Almighty God.

The First Christmas day in Poston will long be remembered by many Postonians. Not only because it was the first Christmas, but because of the terrific dust storm and the 40 or 50 mile gale which accompanied that day. The Sunday Schools of both parishes combined to present the Christmas programs held in Mess Hall 324 on the nights of December 24 and 25. A great crowd filled the mess hall to capacity on the 24th, but on the 25th just a mere handful of the less timid souls who braved the storm were present to watch the performance. Much of the success of Christmas in

Poston is due to those Caucasian friends and organizations on the outside who contributed so generously with gifts and bags of Christmas goodies which the children ordinarily received back home. Christmas in Poston with its violent storm put the finishing touches upon another year. Woven into another year of the lives of Postonians, are the bright shades of gladness, the gloomy dark shades of sadness, and the violent colors of storms and upheavals.

One of the outstanding speakers that the Church has had the privilege of hearing is Rev. James Cuthbertson. The Church ushered in the New Year of 1943 with an outdoor Watch Night and Faggot Service at which Rev. Cuthbertson delivered an inspirational message to the chilled and shivering crowd. Rev. Cuthbertson is formerly of the Japanese Evangelistic Band, having spent 30 years in Japan, preaching and ministering to the people there. He has established himself as one of the most inspirational and heart-warming speakers that the Christians of Poston have ever heard.

With the first Sunday of the New Year the Church launched out into a wider campaign and program for the young people of the Church. Christian Endeavor Societies were organized and the young people were divided into four divisions according to age. These Societies were organized for the purpose of developing leadership and to fellowship together for a richer and fuller Christian life. As the weeks roll by, the Societies are truly accomplishing the purpose for which they were organized.

In the first week of February the newly-elected members of the Nisei Church Council were inducted into their responsible positions, as deacons and deaconesses of the Church. Council members and the committees they head are as follows:

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| Education..... | Rev. Paul Nagano |
| Finance..... | Mickey Ichijui |
| Publication..... | Tsugi Ieiri |
| Evangelism..... | Sadao Nakashima |
| Public Relations..... | Lloyd Wake |
| General Arrangements..... | Harry Minami |
| Nisei Church Clerk..... | David Arata |

The reorganization of the governing body of the Church took place at the first council meeting of the year. Until now the accomplishing of any kind of business for the Nisei Church was complicated and took a great length of time because the structure of the Church was so cumbersome. Therefore, it was decided to revise the constitution, drafted in Unit I, to suit the needs of the Church in Unit III. This has been another forward step in the progress of the Church in this community.

Cottage prayer meetings were inaugurated on the Saturday night of February 13. Every Saturday night in one block of each Roku the prayer meetings are held in the apartments of Church members who act as hosts for the evening. These small gatherings of young people for the purpose of studying the Bible and prayer have been a source of much inspiration and good Christian fellowship.

HISTORY OF III CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF POSTON

The fellowship possible in these small groups is reminiscent of the "good old times back home" which Postonians are so likely to talk about.

On the Sunday afternoon of March 7, many members of the congregation witnessed the first Baptismal service to be held in Poston. The locale of the Baptismal was the picturesque Colorado River. Everyone made the long, hot, dusty trek down to the River on foot where the beauties of the outdoors were enjoyed for a brief hour or so. The setting was ideal for the sacred and impressive ceremony of Baptism. Three of the volunteers for the Army were the candidates for Baptism.

One of the pride and joys of the Church is their library and office. Recently wall paper was tacked up and the room has been beautified and made into as cozy a den as the limited materials would permit. The library is a gathering place of many Christians who want to relax with a good book or to have a tete-a-tete in their leisure time. Books are continually being received by the library from various outside sources and have provided much spiritual and mental food for the public.

As one reviews the past few months of history of the III Christian Church of Poston, one cannot help but see that the Church has come a long way. Starting with about 75 young people, the Nisei Church now has a membership of 400 members. The Issei Church started with about 50 and now boasts a membership of 300. The Sunday School started with about 100 pupils and now has a regular attendance of 350. However impressive the figures in growth of membership and attendance appear, the most important basis on which the success of the Church program can be judged is the fact that it has led multitudes of people to a deeper faith in something that is solid, a faith in God himself. The Church has presented to this community a citadel, a bulwark of strength wherein it can find a source of comfort and help in this troubled world.

April 23, 1943

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The Poston 3 Christian Church observed Good Friday with a Communion Service at Chapel I. Because the weekly movie was to be shown in the adjoining block, the time was moved up to 7:30 p.m. in order to avoid distraction by the movie goers. By the time the group had assembled indoors, a large crowd was at the movies, but the noise was not too great.

The impressive service was opened with a prelude by the pianist. A hymn, "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross", was sung by the congregation. A prayer by one of the Deacons was followed by responsive reading by the group. The Assistant Pastor read the Scriptures referring to the Last Supper. The actual partaking of the bread and wine (in this case grape Kool Aid was used in place of grape juice which was unobtainable) followed the reading and explanation of the Scriptures by the Pastor. A dedicatory prayer was then offered. The congregation joined in a hymn, "Break Thou the Bread of Life." The service was closed with a Benediction by the Pastor.

May 2, 1943

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A short business meeting was held after the evening service to elect a deacon to take the place of the treasurer who had recently left for Denver, Colorado. The choice was between the Vice-Principal of the high school and an elementary school teacher with the Vice-Principal winning the position by a close vote.

The Pastor then spoke a few words in regards to the new deacon who was not present at the election. He said that he felt that the new deacon was called to the ministry, although he was preparing for a career as a lawyer. On many occasions he has spoken to various groups and has given servons in the absence of the regular pastor. Other church members feel too, that he has the makings of a good minister.

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May 23, 1943

CABINET MEETING

The Cabinet and Block Representatives' meeting on May 23 at 11:15 p.m. was called to order by Advisor Roy Yoshida.

The purpose of the meeting was to clarify the reason for the result of the vote on "which 'nenbutsu' to be used by the Y.B.A. at the services.

As Mr. Yoshida was not present during the early part of the general Y.B.A. meeting, not having a clear understanding of the question at issue, he feared that the result of the election indicated a desire of separation into the various sects, among the Young Buddhists.

Considerable discussion took place, during which time Mr. Yoshida spoke to the group present as an advisor to the organization.

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Copy
May 23, 1943

Y. B. A. MEETING
(General Meeting)

The meeting of the Y.B.A. in Mess Hall 30, May 23, 1943, at 9:30 p.m. was called to order by Chairman Henry Fujiura.

Mr. Fujiura announced that the Salt Lake City Conference a National Buddhist Federation was established. It was decided there, that American Buddhism, fostered by Reverend Goldwater, would prevail.

Chairman Fujiura revealed that, at present, there is a division among the Issei Buddhists, into the various Sects. As the Y.B.A. would be required to come to some definite understanding, it was decided that a vote should take place on whether to continue using the 'Nenbutsu' as at present or to follow the practice of the other relocation centers with the Nenbutsu of the Shinshu Sect. There was some discussion on the foregoing which was followed by a vote by secret ballot on the issue.

The outcome was a large majority in favor of using the Shinshu Nenbutsu.

Regardless of any change in the Nenbutsu, the service would be conducted in the same manner, it was announced.

Next, nominations from the floor for the various offices were in order. The following is the list of the nominees nominated by the nominating committee and the members at large:

| <u>President</u> | <u>Vice President</u> | <u>Second Vice President</u> |
|---|--|---|
| Henry Fujiura Takeo Isobe Takeichi Kadani * George Yamaguchi | * Takeo Isobe Takenori Nimura Masao Nishida | * Kay Ishikawa Takeichi Kadani Hattie Okabe |
| <u>Secretary</u> | <u>Treasurer</u> | <u>Assistant Treasurer</u> |
| Marian Masui Aiko Tanamachi * Toshi Awaya | * Masako Deguchi Kay Iizuka Takeichi Kadani | Henry Hiraki * Tom Tanamachi |
| <u>Music Chairman</u> | <u>Publicity Chairman</u> | <u>Research Chairman</u> |
| Hedy Kimoto Ruth Kodama Ruby Miyanaga * Kimi Nishimoto | * Henry Fujiura Takeichi Kadani Sue Yamashita | Masao Kurisu * Tony Matsuda Takenori Nimura Takeshi Sato Setsuye Sadakane |
| <u>Devotional Chairman (18)</u> | <u>Devotional Chairman (22)</u> | |
| * Mas Kurisu Louise Koike Henry Hiraki | Natsuko Nishimoto Skip Sato * Laurie Yamaguchi | |

* Those who were elected

All new and old cabinet members were asked to remain after the meeting for a special meeting.

As there was no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

s/ Toshi Awaya
Secretary

131
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July 23, 1943 52

CABINET MEETING

A meeting of the cabinet members with First Vice-President Takeo Isobe presiding took place at Rec. 13 on July 23, from 8 p.m.

Reverend Izumida presented a rough plan for the 'kangeikai' to be held in honor of Reverend Kumata and Mr. Maruyama who were here from Topaz, Utah, on an official visit.

It was decided that the reception should be held in Rec. Hall 13 after the forum which we decided to have at Rec. 13 on Saturday evening, July 24, from 8:30 p.m. Announcements of the Forum would be made to the Y.B.A. members through the Block Managers. Approximately 25 people would be attending the reception. Tony Matsuda took it upon himself to notify all those who should be present.

Refreshments to be obtained for the 'kangeikai' are:

Punch --2 gallons
Ice Cream--20 pts.
Cake--to be made by Kitchen 15
Jello--to be made by Kitchen 13
Cookies

Bert Fujii undertook to take care of the purchasing and obtaining of the above refreshments.

It was also agreed that we should have entertainment. Takeo Isobe, Tony Matsuda, and Bert Fujii volunteered to furnish some of the entertainment for the evening.

It was agreed by all that Reverend Nagafu i be the 'komon' for our organization.

Reverend Kumata's program until his departure Monday morning is as follows: Saturday, Camp II; Saturday evening, Camp I forum and Reception; Sunday morning, Block 17 Sunday School; Sunday morning, Block 17 Issei Service; Sunday afternoon, Rec. 13, Service for the Issei; Sunday evening, Rec. 13 for the Y.B.A.

An announcement was made that on the first Sunday of each month henceforth, the Y.B.A. would hold joint services at Rec. 13 instead of at the two separate places as has been previously.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

(s) Toshi Awaya

52
June 1, 1943

13 ✓
CABINET MEETING

A meeting of the cabinet members and the block representatives was held in Rec. Hall 13 at 8 p.m. on June 1, 1943.

Reverend Nagafuji spoke to the group on various topics. He stated that (1) arrangements were being made to have a Reverend from Camp III come to Camp I to lead some of the services; (2) places of Sunday Services will be as before, the services are to begin at 8:30 p.m.; (3) in order to carry out the plan of conducting a greater part of the services in English, arrangements were being made to obtain the aid of Mr. Yoshida, Mr. Oishi, Mr. Miwa, and Mr. Matsumoto, as well as, Mr. Fujiwara, Mr. Yamaguchi, and Mr. Kurisu, who have been aiding in this program previously, to speak before the Service Groups at various times; (4) since the Services of the Y.B.A. will be conducted on the basis of the Shinshu Sect, the service books would be corrected accordingly at the next Service.

The three locals of the Sunday Schools were announced. There will be a Sunday School at Block 22 for those children residing in Blocks 26, 27, 28, 21, 22, 11, 12, 15, and 6; at Block 54 for those residing in Blocks 39, 38, 37, 44, 43, 42, 54, 53, 59, and 60; and at Block 18 for those residing in the remaining blocks. The assistants for the Sunday schools were placed in the following locals in accordance to their wishes:

Block 18

Satsuye Sadakane
Masako Deguchi
Louise Koike
Jennie Ishikawa
Hatsuye Okabe
Mas Kurisu
Henry Hiraki

Block 30

Mitzi Sugita
Alice Inouye
Shizuko Ito
Tsuyuko Iwakoshi
Mary Sumiyoshi
Miyoko Morikawa
Kimi Nishimoto
Bert Fujii
George Yamaguchi

Block 22

Grace Sugiya
Lilly Yoshimi
Shizue Miyagishima
Shizuko Ikeda
Haruye Nishimoto
Natsuko Nishimoto
Misao Shimabukuro
Yoshiko Taniguchi
Shizue Takemoto
Skip Sato

It was announced that a Summer School sponsored by the Education Department will be held during the vacation. One hour in the morning will be devoted to Religious Training. Those wishing to volunteer their services were asked to sign up.

June 25, Friday, Friday night, was the date set as the meeting of the Sunday School Teachers at Rec. 13 from 8 p.m.

The Installation Social is to take place this Friday night, June 4, it was announced.

A brief report on the Salt Lake City Conference was made by Mr. Henry Fujiura.

As there is to be a meeting of the representatives of the Y.B.A. from all three camps at Camp II on Wednesday, June 3, Chairman Fujiura requested that all cabinet members attend, if possible.

Since there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

(S) Toshi Awaya

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K
Hello Hank:

How's everything in Poston? Is it very hot. Finally the meeting was adjourned on Monday noon. It was really a relief. Our meeting was full of arguments to this and that. The first day was very bad. They all started out with a grudge, so I thought it was going to be a grudge battle throughout and nothing accomplished, but from Saturday on was hectic and got down to real business and fact finding. Now that I'm resting up, I should write in complete report of meeting while fresh in my memory, but I'm awfully tired, so excuse delay. I will at least give you a summarization of the report here.

The main purpose of this emergency meeting was in accordance of establishing a National Young Buddhist Federation of America. In this way we can work in unison and the Headquarters program were as follows: To establish an office in free zone with a director and an executive secretary. To promote a supreme Public relation with the WRA executives and Caucasians as well as Project Director. To cooperate 100% in regards to Resettlement. To publish literary materials regarding other center activities and literature in regards to Buddhism.

In order to establish a headquarter, they would need financial backing, minimum expenditures for such headquarter will be approximately \$7200, which would mean each center much contribute about \$620 a year. Another words entire Poston must be considered one. Another words Poston one must appropriate about \$210.00 or theres about a year, which is payable monthly. Here's how we obtained such a amount.
\$7200

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|---|-----------|
| 1. Living and salary \$175 each person, 2 persons | \$350 |
| 2. Office rent, figuring on one of the churches | 15 |
| 3. Publications \$20 - \$5 stamp (mailing) | 25 |
| 4. Stamps for correspondence, etc. | 25 |
| 5. Office Equipment (Fixtures to buy) | 35 |
| 6. Traveling Expense (business only) | 75 |
| 7. Public Relations (Adv.) (business rel.) | 40 |
| 8. Contingency (emergency) | 60 |
| | <u>25</u> |
| | \$600 |

In many cases, do understand, I felt I had no right to vote, so I refrained from voting. NYBF of A is considered, voted to be on Shinshu - so I thought no right to include ourselves in as yet on vote.

These proposals were passed by the body (National Headquarter Budget) and now it is up to each center as to whether they can afford to contribute the amount. I guess Henry, you understand the essentiality of a Headquarter don't you? Please remind body that what the North America YBA has done in the past should be forgotten and work for unity and cooperation.

All the relocation centers were represented. Ten in all excluding Gilas, two centers and our three. And also Inter-mountain District YBA and Tri-State Districts were represented. Only one unable to come was New York, so it was a very fine showing.

Another thing was agreed upon.-Rev. Kumata will soon start a tour of the centers and it was asked of the centers to defray his expense. Each center to contribute \$30.00 to pay expense.

This Headquarter shall extend their fullest support to the Buddhist Brotherhood in America work together for a better Buddhism.

Please vote regards to their approval of headquarter. And whether they can contribute such a sum. Discuss with Reverends and work together for this Buddhist movement, will be for the welfare of both issei and nisei. Should make no classifications of generations, but work one in accord. This reply must be in by the next two months. The sooner it is replied the better.

Also report your monthly activities to Headquarters problems and etc. Temporary headquarters will be in Topaz-Rev. Kumata 7-10-E, Topaz, Utah.

I am now in Topaz. Rooming facilities are nice, but a very desolate place. No green grass, trees, just a barren old place and the cool fumes are terrific. This place is dusty also. Poston tops this lousy joint. I was greeted with a fish dinner. What a welcome! If you wish you may read to all, as I have more or less generalized it. Will keep you informed as time goes by. Regards to all--Carry on Busseis-----Namu Amida Butsu,

Art. Takemoto

Interview with Mr. and Mrs. Morimoto by GM. S✓

Yesterday afternoon I interviewed a middle aged lady of 44 from 2:45 to 3:00 P.M. This lady didn't look too healthy. She stands around 5'½" in height and is on the slim side. When laughing one could see her dimples and gold fillings in her teeth. She has light features with black hair rolled up in back, with a few waves in front.

This woman works in her own block kitchen, 27, as a kitchen helper. She has been working for quite a while at least for a year.

She is formerly from Orange County. She was not working when she first came in, just acted as a housewife. Activities are attending English and flower arranging class. She was attending flower making (out of crepe paper) class, but became too busy so dropped out. She is a member of the Woman's Club of Quad B.

This interview was taken in her home. It wasn't too clean while I was there. The room was partitioned into four rooms--three bedrooms and a living room. All were partitioned with curtains except for one. The room I took the interview was the living room which looked crowded. The cooler was directly on my side so I had to move up so I could hear a little better. The cooler itself makes so much noise it was very disturbing. I was in the house making out a report when she came home from work. She came home because they didn't have any work to do.

She sat on the bed (which is used as a couch) while I asked her if she had any spare time, and if I could interview her.

I cleared the table which had my papers and all my typewriting material. The lady, Mrs. M. (Issei), was now sitting on a bench next to me. After a few tiring signs she moved again this time on to the bed.

I asked her my first question when her husband walked in the house.

She not understanding and I not understanding or speaking Japanese had a hard time getting the question to her so she asked her husband to translate it. After he read the question he was looking some words up in the dictionary. Meanwhile Mrs. M. was taking her shoes and stockings off getting ready to take a little nap.

By the time he was ready to translate it she was about asleep. He did translate and she gave the wrong answer so he tried again and in reply she said, "You ask my husband first and then put the same for me." Well, I told her that I would have to interview one at a time and that I wanted to know she thought, but she not being interested was asleep. I worked on her husband, Mr. M.

The interview with Mr. M was taken in a very short time because all of his answers were the same. I asked why and how and what but still he gave me one answer.

I interviewed him around 3:00 P.M. Mr. M. is quite an old looking man. (years old, to be next month.) He is tall and looks like a very healthy and jolly man. He is very heavily built with a gray mustache and gray and black (mixed color) hair. He is missing a middle and index finger of his hand. When working around at home with articles that sort of strains his eye (small articles) he wears black rimmed magnified glasses.

He works as a poultry man in this unit. He has been since he came in. Before evacuation, poultry farming was his business.

A former resident of Buena Park (town) in Orange County -- did not have any activities. (that I know of) Things he liked to do took too much time like fishing. (his main sports) After coming out here he has been going fishing and is a member of the Coop and Block Council.

The interview was taken in the same place as the one for his wife, only I was sitting on a floor not at the entrance and he was sitting to the left of the entrance.

I was interviewing him while he was making a shudder for the cooler which was a couple of feet to the side of and above me. Just as I was to begin, Mr. M.'s son walks in and asks questions about fishing and walks out. Mrs. M. was sleeping on the bed so there were only the two of us. ^{As} I asked him my first question he was pounding away; on the second question he was measuring and figuring measurements out and still listening. (I think) As he was working near a dark section of the room he had his glasses set lower, resting about in the middle of his nose.

I was asking questions right and left and to him evacuation means nothing-----"to me no bother, no worries because God protects me. I don't care what happens. God is with me always."

As I listened to him speaking broken English I found that he found no difference in security and anxiety of religion. It's all the same to him. "God protects me. I can do nothing against his will" Either security or anxiety means nothing, "each is normal". He, like his wife has been a Christian for a long while so the religion prior to evacuation was the same as camp life. Religion is believing in a God or some person who in the past years did great deeds and were worshipped. (I didn't understand that and I think I heard right, but -----?) His religion gives one an easy life, encouragement, strength and always contented. He was saying, "If I hit my finger with a hammer or if something tragic happens, it's all God's will, so amounts to nothing."

He also stated--"if the person has faith in their religion that they would stick with it on re-relocating. After all, the same spirit goes with

the persons."

I asked additional questions, but receiving the same answer omitted them. He thought these were very foolish questions to be asked but answered them for me. I think he wanted to say more at times, but thought "What's the use."

The cooler being very near, I had a hard time understanding because he speaks difficult and was hard to understand. I find that he is a great fun though.

Mrs. M. woke up about 3:30 so I started all over again and have noted what I understood and made up what she said.

I started out with my first question, "What has evacuation meant to you?" She hesitated and then said, "now how can I say it---evacuation has been so long ago----well, the government asked us to move out and so there wasn't any way out of it. I had to come so I did." That's all she said and had to say.

As for her religion before the time of evacuation it has been well secured. She has been a Christian since a child has had a great deal of faith in her religion. She doesn't seem to fear things as some people do because she knows that her God will take care of all things.

After coming into camp, the meaning of religion has not changed either to the bad or to the good. She knows quite a bit about the Bible and its ideals so trusts in the Lord.

Here in Poston, the Christian religion is growing quite strong. Many have found religion a security in Poston

At this point my small brother (age 13) trots in and asks his father questions, then goes into his folk's bedroom and calls out to his mother, "Where's my -----?" So she gets up off the bed and looks for them.

She finally finds them so we continued with our work.

As long as one has the Christian ideals; she doesn't seem to care for a certain denomination. She likes it separated into different groups, but being in Poston things like that are quite impossible. If this unified Christian church was divided, I think quite a number would lose interest in their faith at their certain denomination all depending on who speaks and the program arrangement. People who change like that don't have the real faith but play like they have one, so they could cover up. If once one gets to know their Lord, have real faith in them and keep it up, the spirit will go with the individual wherever and whenever it goes.

The interview with Mrs. M. was completed about 4:00.

After I was there I looked over my notes and began to write it up. I didn't finish that day.

At times, the cooler would make such disturbing sounds (loud enough as it is) that I had difficulty.