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THE FOURTH ALL CENTER BUSINESS ENTERPRISE CONFERENCE

July 9-14, 1945
Federal Building - Room 246
Salt Lake City, Utah

THE AGENDA FOR LIQUIDATION PLANNING COMMITTEE

FIRST SESSION: Tuesday, 9:00 A.M.

- I Immediate Problem of Closing out Enterprises
 - 1. Tax Problems and Legal Aspects
 - a. Clarification of allocated reserve
 - b. Clarification of unallocated reserve
 - c. Clarification of Membership Fund
 - A. Income tax and Unemployment tax

Close of session: 11:30 A.M.

SECOND SESSION: Tuesday, 1:30 P.M.

- II Disposal of Inventories and Equipments
 - 1. Slow moving and dead stocks (shoe inventory)
 - 2. Disposal of equipments
 - 3. Distribution of final assets, accounting procedures and disposal of records.

Close of session: 4:00 P.M.

THIRD SESSION: Wednesday, 9:00 A.M.

- IV To set up Trustee's Expense and Fund based upon proper rates.
- V Business Enterprises' personnel problems during the final stages of liquidation

Close of session: 11:00 A.M.

FOURTH SESSION: Wednesday, 1:00 P.M.

Talk by Utah Co-op leader
Visiting of Salt Lake City Co-operatives

Close of session: 4:00 P.M.

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FIFTH SESSION: Thursday, 9:00 A.M.

VI Free Rental of all equipments and transportations
to be provided

VII Termination of operating agreements upon receipt of
final notice of center closure and draft a new agree-
ment, if necessary

Close of session: 11:30 A.M.

SIXTH SESSION: Thursday, 1:30 P.M.

General Assembly

Report from the Liquidation Committee

Close of session: 4:00 P.M.

To the delegates attending the all-center conference of business enterprises:

In connection with the agenda for the meeting of delegates of center business enterprises in Salt Lake City on July 8, it seems important that there be no misunderstanding about the position of the War Relocation Authority in relation to certain items on the agenda. The following statement will indicate, as clearly as possible, the position of the Authority.

1. Every reasonable service will be provided by the WRA, including legal service, with respect to that phase of the agenda having to do with plans for the liquidation of business enterprises at the relocation centers.

2. The question regarding the establishment of a single trusteeship for the handling of final distribution of assets is something that should be determined after full discussion by the representatives of the cooperatives and it is our belief that WRA should not have any responsibility for making this determination. It is the belief of the WRA that each cooperative enterprise in the individual center should go as far as possible in completing the liquidation process and distributing the remaining assets among the patrons, in view of the widely varying situations in the individual centers.

3. We believe that any discussion regarding the need or plans for the organization of a national cooperative should be an entirely separate matter from the discussion of plans for the liquidation of center cooperatives. The WRA has no responsibility for and no interest in the promotion of cooperatives other than those in relocation centers, unless it develops that certain services cannot be adequately provided for people who are relocating, because of restrictions or discrimination. In case a need develops for the formation of cooperatives for specific purposes and it is determined on the part of relocated evacuees that there is such a need, we might then consider the desirability of helping to work out a program for the development of such cooperatives, because of our interest in the relocation program. It is our belief, however, that this need can only be established by people who have relocated and not by people living in relocation centers.

4. Each individual cooperative in each of the relocation centers should determine whether it wishes to provide services of some type until the center finally closes or whether it wishes to consider liquidation at some set date before center closure. When this determination is made, WRA will try to work out a sound plan in connection with each of the centers to provide a minimum of canteen service of some type, if it cannot be provided by the individual cooperative.

Permit me to add a word of congratulation to you, as representatives of the business enterprises at our centers, on the good work that those enterprises have done. Your sound business judgment and your faithfulness of duty have contributed much to the welfare of all center residents. As you plan the dissolution of the cooperatives and as you leave the relocation centers and return to normal communities and normal business pursuits, I wish you prosperity and success.

D. S. MYER (s)

Director

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THE FOURTH ALL CENTER BUSINESS ENTERPRISES CONFERENCE

ATTENDING DELEGATES

<u>Center and Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Center Address</u>
<u>GRANADA:</u>		
1. Nobuhei Kurita	Board of Directors	11H-7C
2. K. Koda	President, Board of Directors	9H-11-D
3. G. Mitani	Education Committee	11H-3F
<u>HEART MOUNTAIN:</u>		
1. Sutenari Yamada	Executive Secretary	24-4-D
2. Ted Okumoto	Chief Accountant	15-4-C
<u>MANZANAR:</u>		
1. Himeichi Yashiki	Board of Directors	34-8-3
2. Kohei Fujino	Board of Directors	20-10-1
3. Roy Takega	Chief Accountant	20-1-4
4. Joe H. Kishi	General Manager	34-11-5
<u>MINIDOKA:</u>		
1. Rinta Morimizu	President, Board of Directors	41-11-E
2. M. Hayasaka	Board of Directors	4-2-B
3. Harry Hatate	General Manager	1-4-B
4. George Hara	Chief Accountant	12-10-F
5. Jack Yamaguchi	Executive Secretary	41-10-C
<u>POSTON:</u>		
1. Mingo Ohye	Board of Directors	3-11-C
2. Hiroshi Sakurai	Vice-Chairman, Board of Directors	2-22-D
3. Sadazo Yamane	Board of Directors	317-9D
4. M. Hayakawa	Procurement Officer	306-8D
<u>ROHWER:</u>		
1. Tomejiro Shigetame	President, Board of Directors	14-2-E
2. Kichinosuke Ikemae	Executive Secretary	15-3-C
<u>TOPAZ:</u>		
1. George A. Oshikubo	President, Board of Directors	23-9-C
2. E. S. Ishizaki	Finance Committee Chairman	19-3-D
3. H. S. Nozaka	General Manager	29-3-B
<u>TULE LAKE:</u>		
1. Henry Iseri	Assistant General Manager	4305-A
2. Mario Yamagata	Board of Directors	2901-D
3. Tadaichi Nomura	Board of Directors	8104-C

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THE FOURTH ALL CENTER BUSINESS ENTERPRISES CONFERENCE

Session #1

July 9, 1945 - 9:00 a.m.
Federal Building - Room 246
Salt Lake City, Utah

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Runcorn, WRA Auditor Supervisor.

Due to absence of Dr. Miyamoto, Acting Federation Secretary,
Mr. Runcorn, WRA Auditor Supervisor, presided as temporary chairman.

ATTENDING DELEGATES

GRANADA:

1. Nobuhei Kurita
2. E. Koda
3. G. Mitani

HEART MOUNTAIN:

1. Sukenari Yamada -- Executive Secretary
2. Ted Okumoto -- Chief Accountant

MANZANAR:

1. Mineichi Yoshiki -- Board of Directors
2. Kohei Fujino -- Board of Directors
3. Roy Takeda -- Chief Accountant
4. Joe H. Kishi -- General Manager

MINIDOKA:

1. Rinta Morimizu -- Board of Directors
2. M. Hayasaka -- Board of Directors
3. Harry Hatate -- General Manager
4. George Hara -- Chief Accountant
5. Jack Yamaguchi -- Executive Secretary

POSTON:

1. Manzo Ohye
2. Hiroshi Sakurai
3. Sadao Yamane
4. M. Hayakawa

ROHWER:

1. Tomejiro Shigetomi
2. Kichinosuke Ikezoe

TOPAZ:

1. Dr. George A. Oshikubo -- Board of Directors
2. E. S. Ishizaki -- Finance Committee Chairman
3. H. S. Nozaka -- General Manager

WRA REPRESENTATIVES:

1. Mr. Rossman - WRA Supervisor of Co-operative Enterprises
2. Mr. Runcorn - WRA Auditor Supervisor
3. Mr. Belt - WRA Field Man
4. Mr. Ishiyama - WRA Enterprise Buyer, from New York
5. Mrs. Pollitt - Solicitor's Office in Washington, D. C.

Absent Delegates

Tule Lake
Gila River

A suggestion was made by the temporary Acting Chairman, Mr. Runcorn, that due to Dr. Miyamoto's absence, Acting Federation Secretary, a new presiding chairman should be elected for this conference. This was approved unanimously by the delegates.

By popular vote, Dr. Ochikubo was elected as presiding chairman; Harry Hatate, vice-presiding chairman; and Mr. Manzo Ohye and Jack Yamaguchi as secretaries to take the minutes in Japanese and English, respectively.

A proposal was made by the presiding chairman, Dr. Ochikubo, and unanimously accepted by the delegates, that a committee should be organized to be known as the Agenda Committee. This committee to be composed of one member from each delegation. The following members were selected, with Harry Hatate as acting chairman:

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|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Manzanar: | Joe H. Kishi |
| 2. Minidoka: | Harry Hatate |
| 3. Poston: | Sedazo Yamane |
| 4. Heart Mountain: | Sukenari Yamada |
| 5. Rohwer: | Tomejiro Shigetomi |
| 6. Topaz: | H. S. Nozaka |
| 7. Granada: | Nobuhei Kurita |

The session closed at 4:30 p.m.

Executive Secretary

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THE FOURTH A. I. CENTER BUSINESS ENTERPRISES CONFERENCE

Session #2

July 9, 1945 - 1:30 p.m.
Federal Building - Room 246
Salt Lake City, Utah
Presiding Chairman - Dr. Oshikubo

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Oshikubo at 2:15 p.m.

Mr. Hatate, acting chairman for the Agenda Committee, presented to the delegation a suggested agenda, the content of which is as follows:

I Formation of the Liquidation Planning Committee

- a. The tax and its legal aspects
- b. Clarification of allocated reserve
- c. Clarification of unallocated reserve
- d. Clarification of Membership Fund
- e. Disposal of inventories and equipments
- f. Distribution of final assets, accounting procedures, and disposal of records.
- g. Business Enterprise's personnel problem during the final liquidation stages.
- h. Free rental and transportations to be provided by the WRA during the liquidation period.
- i. To set up Trustee's Salary and Fund, preferably based upon appropriate basis.
- j. Termination of operating agreements upon receipt of final notice to close Center Enterprise and draft new agreement, if necessary.

II Formation of Permanent Cooperative Organization

III Formation of Banquet, Photograph, and Entertainment Committees

For the Liquidation Planning Committee, the following delegates were selected, with Harry Hatate as acting chairman:

Manzanar:	Joe H. Kishi Kinsichi Yoshiki	Heart Mountain:	Sukenari Yamada Ted Okamoto
Minidoka:	Harry Hatate Rinta Morizima George Hara	Rehwer:	Tomejiro Shigetomi
		Topaz:	H. S. Nozaka E. S. Ishizaki
Poston:	Sadazo Yamane M. Hayakawa	Granada:	G. Mitani Nobuhei Kurita

For the Permanent Co-Op Organization Committee, the following delegates were selected with Mr. K. Koda as acting chairman:

Granada:	K. Koda	Minidoka:	M. Hayasaka	Rohwer:	K. Ikezoe
Manzanar:	K. Fujino	Poston:	H. Sakurai	Topaz:	H. S. Nozaka

For the Banquet, Photograph and Entertainment Committee, Mr. E. S. Ishizaki of Topaz, Mr. G. Mitani of Granada, and Mr. Manzo Ohye of Poston, was selected.

At this time Mr. Rossman, WRA Co-Operative Supervisor, took the floor and read Mr. Dillon Myer's message to the fourth all-center business enterprise conference. The content of his message is as follows:

TO THE DELEGATES ATTENDING THE ALL-CENTER CONFERENCE OF BUSINESS ENTERPRISES:

In connection with the agenda for the meeting of delegates of center business enterprises in Salt Lake City on July 8, it seems important that there be no misunderstanding about the position of the War Relocation Authority in relation to certain items on the agenda. The following statement will indicate, as clearly as possible, the position of the Authority.

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4. Each individual cooperative in each of the relocation centers should determine whether it wishes to provide services of some type until the center finally closes or whether it wishes to consider liquidation at some set date before center closure. When this determination is made, WRA will try to work out a sound plan in connection with each of the centers to provide a

minimum of canteen service of some type, if it cannot be provided by the individual cooperative.

Permit me to add a word of congratulation to you, as representatives of the business enterprises at our centers, on the good work that those enterprises have done. Your sound business judgment and your faithfulness to duty have contributed much to the welfare of all center residents. As you plan the dissolution of the cooperatives and as you leave the relocation centers and return to normal communities and normal business pursuits, I wish you prosperity and success.

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Mr. Rotzman also stated that there will be a letter sent to every cooperative enterprise in all centers from the WRA office in Washington, D. C. advising them to make a definite set date for the final closure of business enterprises, preferably, at an earliest date.

For the period of three months, (90 days) preceding the announced date of business closure, there will be no rental charge made against cooperative enterprise by the WRA.

It is advisable, he stated, that this period of three months should be conveniently divided into both operational and business liquidation process.

Close of session: 4:00 p.m.

Executive Secretary

Free
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THE FOURTH ALL-CENTER BUSINESS ENTERPRISES CONFERENCE

Liquidation Planning Committee Meeting

Session 48

July 10, 1945 - 9:00 a.m.
Federal Building - Room 246
Salt Lake City, Utah
Presiding Chairman - Dr. Ochikubo

The meeting was called to order by Dr. George Ochikubo, Presiding Chairman.

At this time the Permanent Cooperative Organization Committee, with Mr. Koda as acting chairman, accompanied by Mr. Huncrom, WRA Auditor Supervisor, left for separate session at the Grand Central Hotel.

Dr. Ochikubo asked Mr. Rossman to clarify the matter of free space for the Co-op after the closing date is set. Mr. Rossman explained that when the final date for closing the Co-op is set, there will be no rental charges three months before that time. Complete closing must be accomplished during that three-month period, including the final distribution, that is, office space required for the payment of the final assets.

Dr. Ochikubo asked whether the closing date of the Co-op means the closing date for the operations side of it or the date for the finishing up of the accounting side of it. Mr. Rossman answered that it is the date that you announce you are vacating the building.

It was suggested by Mr. Belt that we set up one date for the time that we are going to terminate the actual operations of the enterprise and another date as to when everything will be cleared up. He suggested also that 45 days be allowed for cleaning up the inventory and disposing of other assets and another 45 days established for cleaning up the bookkeeping and for final payment of equities, etc. He felt that 30 days was not sufficient for cleaning up everything after the close of business to residents.

Mr. Rossman stated that in regards to Camps 2 and 3 in Poston, as far as the Co-op is concerned, it is all one single unit so the Co-op would not be liquidated in the parts of camps which close but instead will be transferred over to the Co-op in Camp 1.

A question was raised by the chairman as to what will be done about the necessary services to the evacuees when the Co-op closes, such as shoe repair, barber shop, etc. Will the local WRA make some arrangement for the continuance of these services? Mr. Rossman replied that that phase hasn't been considered as yet. However, Mr. Myer stated in his memorandum that some means will be provided to continue the services. Mr. Belt stated that we have never encouraged private enterprises within the Centers, but it may be that at that stage it might be possible to permit private enterprise to function, especially in the case of barbers.

IMMEDIATE PROBLEM OF CLOSING OUT ENTERPRISES

1. Tax Problems and Its Legal Aspects.
 - a. Clarification of allocated reserve
 - b. Clarification of unallocated reserve
 - c. Clarification of Membership Fund
 - d. Income tax and Unemployment tax

Mr. Hayate of Minidoka raised the question that in case we use the allocated reserve for liquidation losses, would it be subject to income tax? There are two questions which cannot be answered at this time pending a ruling from Washington:

1. Whether or not the unallocated reserve is taxable.
2. Whether or not the allocated reserve is taxable in case it is used for liquidation losses.

Mrs. Nina R. Pollitt from the WRA Solicitor's Office in Washington was present to answer questions on unemployment insurance and income tax but since the ruling from Washington has not yet arrived, the questions could not be answered.

The following is a table showing which Centers are exempt or nonexempt from income tax and the type of law which each Center Co-op comes under.

<u>Center</u>	<u>Name of Act</u>	<u>Income tax status</u>
Granada	Colorado	Paying
Manzanar	California	Paying
Heart Mountain	Unincorporated	Exempt
Minidoka	District of Columbia	Exempt
Poston	" " "	Not Exempt
Rohwer	" " "	Exempt
Topas	" " "	Not Exempt
Gila	" " "	Exempt

Close of session: 11:45 a.m.

Executive Secretary

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THE FOURTH ALL-CENTER BUSINESS ENTERPRISES CONFERENCE

Liquidation Planning Committee Meeting

Session 44

July 10, 1945 - 1:30 p.m.
Federal Building - Room 246
Salt Lake City, Utah
Presiding Chairman - Dr. Ochikubo

The meeting was called to order by Dr. George Ochikubo, Presiding Chairman.

DISPOSAL OF INVENTORIES AND EQUIPMENTS:

1. Slow moving and dead stocks (shoe inventory)
2. Disposal of equipments
3. Distribution of final assets, accounting procedures and disposal of records.

Under (1) above, the following was disclosed by each Center delegate:

<u>Center</u>	<u>Approximate amount of dead or slow moving stock on hand</u>
Anache	0.14
Heart Mountain	\$7,000
Poston	5,000
Manzanar	3,000
Minidoka	800
Topaz	800
Rohwer	6 to 7,000

The amount of equipment to be disposed, including depreciation, was disclosed as follows:

<u>Center</u>	<u>Value of equipment on hand</u>
Anache	\$7,000
Heart Mountain	7,000
Poston	10,000
Minidoka	6,300
Topaz	8,500
Rohwer	6,000
Manzanar	4,750

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It was revealed that Minidoka and Rohwer have already started to dispose their equipment. Mr. Hatate of Minidoka stated that the method they are using is advertising in the papers.

Dr. Oshikubo inquired whether with liquidation coming on, is there any possibility of getting greater percentage for depreciation. Mrs. Pollitt stated that there is a possibility of greater percentage of depreciation. Dr. Oshikubo suggested giving the Center residents first chance to buy the equipment. If they cannot be sold in that way, then we will have to find outside markets for them.

Mr. Ishiyama of New York was called upon to report on the shoe inventory problem. He stated that in the past he has had letters from the different projects concerning surplus shoes and on the basis of those letters, they contacted the head of the National OPA to see if shoes could be sold without ration coupons. However, they couldn't make any exemption to the OPA regulations. They informed him that we are at no different position when it comes to liquidation than a man who is drafted into the Army and is forced to liquidate his store. They suggested that Mr. Ishiyama see the UNRA people. This Mr. Ishiyama did and found little cooperation there. They wanted 40 per cent discount from the cost price. They also wanted samples of every different kind of shoes in the stores. Mr. Ishiyama told the UNRA people that getting samples of every type of shoe was not feasible. Mr. Ishiyama declared that he would be glad to consult with Mr. Myer, who in turn may take the matter up with someone on a higher level.

The suggestion was made by Mr. Ishiyama that the Centers give him an approximation of how many pairs of shoes you have, the make, size, ranges, cost price, indication of whether its women, men or children's shoes, and the stock number of the company who manufactured the shoes. When he gets back to Washington he will follow the matter through with Mr. Myer.

Mr. Hatate of Minidoka suggested, and all delegates agreed, that all Centers submit a list to enable Mr. Ishiyama to obtain permission to sell shoes without ration coupons. Mr. Nozaka of Topaz further suggested that Mr. Ishiyama submit a uniform form of report so that each Center can report in some standardized way and set a deadline date. Dr. Oshikubo proposed, and all delegates concurred, that Mr. Ishiyama draw up this report form and give each Center a copy to take back to the Center, and that these reports shall be in the mail before August 1.

DISTRIBUTION OF FINAL ASSETS:

Dr. Oshikubo asked Mrs. Pollitt what procedure should be followed in disposing of final assets. Mrs. Pollitt replied that no matter how you distribute your assets, you will find in the end that you will have some money left. Mrs. Pollitt explained the provisions of the Colorado law, California law, Unincorporated law, and the District of Columbia law.

However, after discussion of the provisions of these various acts, the workings of a trust was not clear to all. Therefore, the chairman recommended that Mrs. Pollitt submit a written report to each Center Group on just how a trust works out in each particular case. Mrs. Pollitt agreed to send this clarification out under the Solicitor's name.

At this point of the discussion, Tule Lake representatives composed of Mr. Henry Iseri, Mr. Yamagata, Mr. Nomura, and Mr. L. Perkins were introduced to the members of the conference.

Mr. Belt inquired what account should the losses sustained from sale of dead stock merchandise prior to the time of going into the actual process of liquidation be charged to. Mr. Rossman replied that under the normal procedure, sales from the sale of that merchandise would go in with your regular sales. However, he stated that he has noticed that some Centers are showing that as other expenses and deducting it at the bottom of the statement. The sale should go into the regular sales and show your normal gross margin that you actually receive for that particular period. You should show it as an operation loss for that period.

Close of session: 4:15 p.m.

Executive Secretary

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THE FOURTH ALL-CENTER BUSINESS ENTERPRISES CONFERENCE

Liquidation Planning Committee Meeting

Session #5

July 11, 1945 - 9:00 a.m.
Federal Building - Room 246
Salt Lake City, Utah
Presiding Chairman - Dr. Ochikubo

The meeting was called to order by Dr. George Ochikubo, Presiding Chairman.

Continuation of discussion on disposal of inventory, equipment and distribution of final assets, accounting procedures and disposal of records.

Mr. Iseri of Tule Lake announced that the Tule Lake Co-op will be able to consume the following items:

1. Dry goods
2. Soap
3. Tobacco
4. Two National Cash Registers
Class 1900 series preferably.

Mr. Belt advised that the Central States Cooperative, Inc.
Larry Lehtin, General Manager
1535 South Peoria Street
Chicago, Illinois

can use meat market and grocery equipment such as scales, calculators, cash registers, etc. Mr. Belt suggested that we send a list of such items, the price, full description and the serial number of the equipment to the above concern to see if they can consume these items.

Mr. Rosman was requested by Dr. Ochikubo to explain as to where the loss for liquidation can be charged to. Mr. Rosman replied that it is certainly recommended that the amount that is unallocated be wiped off provided we don't have any tax complications and if we are exempt, then we are free to do as we like. He added that if we are tax exempt, all losses from liquidation should be charged against the unallocated reserve. Use that money up first so that when you come to the distribution of the final assets it would be easier because the other has already been allocated.

ACCOUNTING PROCEDURE:

Mr. Rosman explained that we have two definite and different periods. One is the last normal operating period, and second, the liquidation period, and that loss is distributed to everybody from the very beginning of business and therefore it is charged to the reserve fund.

DISPOSAL OF RECORDS:

In regards to the disposal of records, Mr. Rossman stated that the following records should be retained and maintained by the trustees:

1. Books of original entry
2. General ledger
3. Purchase book
4. Payment book
5. Membership records
6. If it is not too bulky, canceled checks.

A memorandum which Mr. Rossman received from the Washington office states that the University of California library has asked to have their library used as a depository of all duplicate records which might be helpful in research work. They are not interested in individual evacuee records. Mr. Rossman suggested that duplicate copies of financial reports, by-laws, order statements, etc. might be forwarded to them.

TRUSTEE'S SALARY:

As for trustee's salary, the experience of the Jerome Center was cited as an example for the delegates to determine on some basic figures. It was revealed that Jerome allotted \$1500 in all to their three trustees, the chairman of the three getting \$1,000 and the other two trustees each receiving \$250. The delegates all agreed that the distribution of the \$1500 to the three trustees was impartial.

Mr. Rossman stressed that the trustees are only responsible for the amount that has been turned over to them. He also pointed out that in determining the trustee's salary, Jerome took into consideration the time element and the responsibility for the trusteeship.

No definite basic figure for trustee's salary was agreed upon. The chairman suggested we adjourn and continue in the afternoon.

Close of session 11:30 a.m.

Executive Secretary

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THE FOURTH ALL-CENTER BUSINESS ENTERPRISES CONFERENCE

Liquidation Planning Committee Meeting

Session #6

July 11, 1945 - 1:30 p.m.
Federal Building - Room 246
Salt Lake City, Utah
Presiding chairman: Dr. Ochikubo

Meeting was called to order by Dr. Ochikubo, Presiding Chairman.

Mr. Kuncorn introduced Dr. Francis Kirkham of the Utah Cooperative Life Insurance Association. The text of Dr. Kirkham's talk is as follows:

In 1941 under the leadership of the Utah State Farm Bureau Federation, the State of Utah enacted for the first time in America a genuine cooperative life insurance statute. This legislative act was based upon ten years of research under the leadership of Frank Evans, who is now financial secretary of the LDS Church in Salt Lake City.

The Board of Directors of the Association is elected annually by the members who have one vote each. A member cannot give the right to another to cast his vote. Money received by the association can be used only for the following purposes:

1. To pay the death benefits of members.
2. To return to members their 20 year option over payments with interest made by them above the rate charged all members for life insurance only with cooperative benefits.
3. The cost of administration including commissions to agents. This cost is determined by the Board of Directors.

The remainder of the money paid by the members to the Association is placed in the reserve fund to be used for their sole benefit as they shall determine through their Board of Directors.

The Cooperative Law passed in the 1941 legislature absolutely guarantees cooperative benefits and procedures and principles and any person joining our Association must live up to it and there can't be no profit going to promoters.

It is now developing that other groups will come here and ask to use this Association. If any group wants to come to make use of this statute, we would put them on an independent basis. They would have their own Board of Directors and we would charge the minimum amount of money necessary for the service which we render and all the rest of it will be yours.

We hold an annual meeting and we elect our Board of Directors. The reason why it is so necessary for people to have a cooperative life insurance in America is this. There has developed in our country a plan of life insurance to which people are induced to pay for the purpose of savings, the idea being that they will not only pay to you a certain sum of money when you die but they will also give you a certain amount of money in case you live.

The death loss to younger people is much less than to older people so that the cost of life insurance advances with age. People between the ages of 25 to 46 must pay \$10 a year and as the ages increase, so does the amount to be paid. If this interests you, you should have somebody go into this very carefully and if you find that you want us to help you, we will invite you to come.

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TRUSTEE COMPENSATION:

Mrs. Pollitt advised all delegates that when we close up we should notify the Federal Income Tax people, the State Tax Commissioner and any other agency to which you pay taxes, that you are dissolving.

A representative from Poston suggested, and all delegates concurred, that \$500 for each trustee be set as the basic figure for trustee's salary. This figure represents responsibility. Mr. Matate of Minidoka recommended that prevailing outside wages be paid to any secretarial help that may be necessary after the trustees relocate. The amount of work to be done varies with each Center. Therefore, the money needed for this work should be in addition to the \$500 each for trustees. The delegates unanimously agreed on paying outside wages at that time.

PERSONNEL PROBLEMS:

Dr. Ochikubo of Topaz brought out the question, "To what extent are we bound to follow the WRA wage scale of \$16 and \$19 during the liquidation period? Key personnel will want to relocate. If higher wages or bonus is paid to these people, how will that affect our agreement with the WRA? Mr. Rossman replied that he will have to check with Washington in this matter. He agreed to send a teletype immediately.

The chairman announced that pictures will be taken at the Christian Church, 268 West 1st South Street at 6:30 p.m. and a banquet at 7:00 p.m. will be held at Dawn Noodle Shop.

Close of session: 3:15 p.m.

Executive Secretary

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THE FOURTH ALL-CENTER BUSINESS ENTERPRISES CONFERENCE

Session #7

July 12, 1945 - 9:00 a.m.
Federal Building - Room 246
Salt Lake City, Utah
Presiding Chairman: Dr. Ochikubo

The meeting was called to order by the presiding chairman, Dr. Ochikubo at 9:20 a.m. He stated that the pending matters were as follows:

1. Report from the Internal Revenue, Treasury Department, Washington, regarding income tax. The reply to the teletype sent to Washington by Mr. Rossman was not received as yet so it was decided to table the above issue for future discussion.

2. Personnel compensation during the final stages of liquidation.

A suggestion was proposed by Mr. Hatate that due to absence of the regular Federation Secretary, each Center contribute \$10 apiece for the added expense in hiring and maintaining other secretaries to take minutes for the meeting. He further stated that \$10 should be given to the janitor for his services during this conference. This was unanimously approved by the delegates and Mr. Hatate was appointed as its treasurer.

FREE RENTAL OF EQUIPMENT AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. Hatate of Minidoka suggested that pending liquidation there would be quite a bit of equipment and it would be better to sell it at an early date. He wished to know what the delegates thought about borrowing office equipment or trucks free from the WRA as the personnel diminished.

Dr. Ochikubo stated that during the period of liquidation, compensation was made in regard to rental of space that there was some talk that vehicles and trucks could be provided free. He wished to know if there was any possibility that that could be done.

Mr. Rossman stated it would be rather doubtful on use of expendable equipment.

Dr. Ochikubo stated that during the period of liquidation, the Co-op wanted free transportation and use of automobiles and trucks in order to facilitate liquidation and relocation.

Mr. Rossman stated that they were actually Government property and if anyone uses them they must pay if used for other than Government purposes. He asked if they wanted free use of all equipment. When the reply was affirmative he stated that he would telephone or teletype Washington, if a justification were drawn up in writing.

Mr. Hatate moved and Mr. Kishi of Manzanar seconded that they ask for free use of all equipment. This motion was unanimously carried by all the Center delegates.

Mr. Rossman stated that a reply might be received from Washington before the meeting adjourned.

TERMINATION OF OPERATING AGREEMENTS ON RECEIPT OF FINAL NOTICE OF CENTER CLOSURE AND DRAFT NEW AGREEMENT IF NECESSARY

Mr. Nogaka of Topaz was concerned with the three-month period during which the Centers are closing. If, upon the membership's decision to liquidate, the WRA is notified and the limited time for liquidation were specified, was the free rental space guaranteed or not? Was it necessary to make a new agreement?

Mr. Rossman stated that pending liquidation, free rental was specified, that notices had already gone out to the Project Directors.

Mr. Kishi of Manzanar wanted to know if they had to draw up a new operating agreement or if there could be a verbal understanding.

Mrs. Pollitt stated that when the membership decides to liquidate, they vote to turn it over to the trustees at a given time. She also stated that both a written agreement and a verbal agreement were equally binding. She reemphasized that the date that the trustees took over is the date that the membership voted to dissolve; that the date to dissolve was not the same as the date of closing of business to the public, when the remaining assets are turned over by the Board of Directors to the trustees.

The following is a hypothetical example placed on the blackboard by Dr. Ochikubo:

Membership on	Jan. 1st
decides dissolution date as	Mar. 31st
(a) Operations to be carried till	Jan. 31st
(b) Pay debts, pay refunds, and dispose	
of all reserve that the directors	
could dispose of in a normal period	
under the by-laws	Mar. 31st

Mr. Rossman stated that the Board of Directors and the membership could operate in any way they want to until March 31st. On March 31st whatever is remaining goes to the trustees.

He further stated that up to the date of dissolution is a normal operating period; that the liquidation period is not a normal operating period; that the liquidation period had to start after the vote to dissolve; also, that the by-laws state that you are to set aside 10 per cent during the period of your earnings.

He mentioned that during this liquidation period, it is perfectly legal to pay off members and to sell a typewriter if there is no use for it. At that time when the membership votes the date on which the trustees take over, the trustees take over. In the meantime, the Co-op has sold assets and paid liabilities, even membership liabilities. You can also get rid of the reserve by the dissolution date.

The Banquet Committee report was made by Mr. Ohye of Boston after the departure of the WRA Caucasian personnel since they were the honored guests at the banquet last evening and their offer to share in the expenses was politely refused. He stated that 25 delegates from 8 centers were present at the banquet and that the charges amounted to:

\$100.00	for the banquet
10.00	for tips
<u>58.50</u>	for liquid refreshments

\$168.50

To be fair in allocating the expenses, he suggested that half of the total, or \$74.25, be taken and divided equally among the 8 Centers, which would amount to \$9.20 each; and the other half, \$74.25, be divided by the 25 persons present, which would amount to \$3.00 per person, since each Center did not have the same number of delegates.

Mr. Yashiki made a motion to accept Mr. Ohye's suggestion. It was seconded by Mr. Hatate. The motion carried.

Close of session: 11:20 a.m.

Executive Secretary

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THE FOURTH ALL-CENTER BUSINESS ENTERPRISES CONFERENCE

Session #8

July 12, 1945 - 1:30 p.m.
Federal Building - Room 246
Salt Lake City, Utah
Presiding Chairman: Dr. Ochikubo

The meeting was called to order by the chairman, Dr. Ochikubo, at 1:45 p.m.

Mr. Ishizaki made an announcement that this evening at 8:30 p.m. at the Christian Church, prominent residents of Salt Lake City would serve refreshments for the delegates.

Mr. Iseri of Tule Lake had 2 lists which he wanted the delegates to check over.

He wanted the quota on dry goods when the other Center Co-ops liquidate and Dr. Ochikubo stated that he was sure that they would cooperate to the greatest extent but questioned whether the firms would be willing to turn over the quotas. Mr. Belt stated he was not in a position to commit himself on transferring a quota on dry goods.

Mr. Hatate of Minidoka suggested that when the other Center Co-ops corresponded with a firm a carbon copy of the letter be sent to Mr. Iseri so that Mr. Iseri would be able to correspond with the firm regarding commodities, mostly in dry goods. He also stated that they were interested in vendors, especially in Chicago or in St. Louis, since they may leave tomorrow for these points, but no one had any suggestions to offer.

Mr. Iseri then asked if someone were familiar with photographic supplies. Mr. Kishi of Manzanar stated that they were finally able to obtain a \$50 or \$60 permanent quota from Eastman and Ansco in Los Angeles but that they were having a hard time obtaining paper and chemicals; that they didn't know whether the quota could be transferred.

At this time Mr. Koda, Acting Chairman for the Permanent Cooperative Planning Committee, took the floor and reported on the results of their session held at the Grand Central Hotel. He stated that the committee studied the problem thoroughly and though everyone recognized the fact that it was a good idea for the people's benefit, no definite conclusion or decision was reached. But he expressed his desire to have the delegates "think it over tonight" on this matter and bring it up for further discussion tomorrow.

Mr. Kishi of Manzanar suggested that the pending matters be left until the replies were received and that they go into the General Session and discuss the other topics.

Regret was expressed that WPA officials were not in a position to clarify many of the points which were brought up.

Mrs. Pollitt was asked about the legal aspects if the Centers do not have their documentary stamps affixed, inasmuch as Minidoka and Topaz seemed to be the only Centers who have placed stamps. She stated that she would look it up.

Mr. Ted Okamoto of Heart Mountain moved and Mr. Yashiki of Manzanar seconded that the Agenda Committee be the committee to form the agenda for the general session in order that the meeting would not be unnecessarily prolonged. Motion carried unanimously.

At this time Mr. Rossman placed the following example on the blackboard in reference to liquidation process:

Announcement of closing	7/1/45
Closing of business	8/1/45
Date of dissolution	10/1/45

7/1/45

BALANCE SHEET

Cash	\$40,000	Current Liabilities	\$25,000-	(wholesale costs and other current expenses)
Inventory	48,000	Memberships	22,000-	(outstanding)
Equipment	8,000	Patronage refunds	15,000-	(had been declared before but not paid)
Other Assets	6,000	General Reserve	11,000	
	<u>\$102,000</u>	Undist. Earnings	29,000	
			<u>\$102,000</u>	

8/1/45 (After month of closing out)

Cash	\$90,000	Memberships	22,000
Inventory	2,500	General Reserve	11,000
Equipment	1,000	Undist. Earnings	60,500
	<u>\$92,500</u>		<u>\$93,500</u>

10/1/45

Cash	\$2,000	Reserve	*\$1,000	*Expenses necessary for remaining work, A.C., telephone, etc.
Canteen	3,000	Trust Fund	** 1,500	**Reserve to compensate trustees; Congress votes on this when you decide to dissolve
Barber Shop	500	Memberships	3,000	
	<u>\$5,500</u>		<u>\$5,500</u>	

And he explained that in this way, you're not taking away anything. Canteen and barber shop could be maintained. The plan is workable. You are not violating any regulations.

When the trustees take over no cash register receipts are issued and you operate at cost with a mark-up on articles.

If you think there will be a loss you should increase the reserve.

In response to Mr. Nozaka's question about operating without a business license, Mr. Rossman stated that you can operate without a license because you are still liquidating and no special license is required.

On 7/1/45 the building rental terminates and the license terminates.

State and special commodity licenses cannot terminate until 8/1/45.

You can determine between 8/1 and 10/1 about selling of equipment.

The trustees get the assets on 10/1 and operate the canteen as long as the Project Director thinks it necessary.

You continue paying sales and excise taxes as long as you are selling.

There were no questions after Mr. Rossman's explanation.

The general meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m., after which the Agenda Committee was to meet and formulate a new agenda to be tabled for tomorrow's assembly.

Executive Secretary

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THE FOURTH ALL-CENTER BUSINESS ENTERPRISES CONFERENCE

Session #2

July 13, 1945 - 9:00 a.m.
Federal Building - Room 246
Salt Lake City, Utah
Presiding Chairman: Mr. Oshikubo

The meeting was called to order by the Presiding Chairman, Dr. George Oshikubo, at 9:20 a.m.

Mr. Matate reported that the Agenda Committee had decided to take up the following:

1. Give the Tule Lake people a chance to discuss their buying program.
2. Reconsideration of the final discussion on the Permanent Co-op Organization.
3. Final discussion on the last stages of liquidation.
4. Election of a Resolution Committee.
5. Advertising in local Japanese and Japanese-American newspapers for unknown addresses of members.
6. New business

TULE LAKE BUYING PROGRAM:

Mr. Henry Iseri, Assistant General Manager of the Tule Lake Co-op, requested that some of the items on the Tule Lake list, which was distributed, were available at the other Centers that he be contacted immediately.

Mr. Perkins stated that it would be helpful on merchandise orders of any kind, even though they are of immediate need, if a list were sent to Mr. Takazawa, General Manager at Tule Lake.

The chairman stated that he was sure everyone would be glad to cooperate in regard to quotas and in sending carbon copies of letters regarding merchandise.

Mr. Perkins stated that he and Mr. Iseri would be in Chicago for another week. If anything worthwhile in regard to merchandise orders came up he asked that Mr. Iseri be contacted c/o Mr. Charles Belt, WR, 226 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois, until Thursday of next week. This was in order that both Mr. Perkins and Mr. Iseri could plan to stop in the Centers on their way back to Tule Lake.

-2-

RECONSIDERATION OF THE FINAL DISCUSSION PERTINENT TO A PERMANENT CO-OP ORGANIZATION:

A discussion was held and various delegates expressed their personal opinions. They agreed that the need for a permanent organization existed but could not commit themselves as far as the Centers were concerned.

Mr. Hatate moved and Mr. Ohye seconded that the subject of the formation of a permanent cooperative organization be tabled until the discussion of major problems was over. The motion carried.

PERSONNEL PROBLEMS DURING THE FINAL STAGES OF LIQUIDATION:

Mr. Rossman stated that there had been no word as yet from Washington pertaining to increased compensation during the liquidation period.

At this time Mr. Runcorn read the teletype which was received yesterday afternoon from Mr. Dillon Myer, Director of the WRA, regarding Center closure according to the following schedule:

Granada	On or before October 15
Central Utah & Minodoka	On or before November 1
Ht. Mountain & Gila River	On or before November 15
Colorado River & Manzanar	On or before December 1
Rohwer	On or before December 15

The message also stated that all Center residents should decide by September 1 where they wish to relocate.

Mr. Rossman stated that with the definite setting of Center closure dates the closing of business enterprises will follow; that it will require adjustment of planning; that it will be easier to explain to the Center residents. At this point Mr. Rossman left the meeting to telephone Washington.

Before the WRA personnel left the meeting Mr. Belt expressed his opinion that the conference had done very splendid work and that its advice and suggestions were appreciated.

Mr. Hatate announced that Mr. Runcorn had submitted an expenditure list as follows:

10 night letters for Dr. Miyamoto	\$6.25
Express charges on movie	7.18
Movie Rental	16.50
	<u>\$29.93</u>

He stated that the assessment for each Center would be \$4.40, plus \$10.00 decided upon the other day, making a total of \$14.40. The only exception was Tule Lake whose assessment was \$10.00. He further stated that additional assessments would be made if the meeting dragged on.

-3-

ADVERTISING IN LOCAL JAPANESE AND JAPANESE-AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS FOR
UNKNOWN ADDRESSES OF MEMBERS:

It was suggested that the various Center Co-ops be notified of any changes of addresses by members.

A vote was taken of those favoring advertising for addresses in both Japanese and English newspapers. The majority favored advertising. Mr. Ohye of Poston was elected to formulate such an announcement in Japanese and present it to the delegates for approval. This he complied to do first thing in the afternoon.

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

Each Center delegation elected one member for the Resolution Committee as follows:

Topaz -- Mr. Nozaka
Granada -- Mr. Mitani
Heart Mountain -- Mr. Okamoto
Manzanar -- Mr. Kishi (Appointed Acting Chairman)
Minidoka -- Mr. Yamaguchi
Poston -- Mr. Ohye
Rohwer -- Mr. Ikezoe

A round table discussion was held on personnel problems. This subject was to be discussed again at the afternoon session.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Executive Secretary

THE FOURTH ALL-CENTER BUSINESS ENTERPRISES CONFERENCE

Session #10

July 13, 1945 - 1:30 p.m.
Federal Building - Room 246
Salt Lake City, Utah
Presiding Chairman: Dr. Ochikubo

The meeting was called to order by the Presiding Chairman, Dr. Ochikubo, at 2:00 p.m.

Mr. Ishiyama conveyed Mr. Rossman's message that assurance from Mr. Province, head of Community Management in the Washington office, has been received this afternoon and that teletypes from Washington will be forthcoming on the following three pending issues tomorrow morning:

1. Suspension of operating agreement and the employees' compensation.
2. Free rental space, equipment and other facilities.
3. Assurance of minimum services to evacuees.

The chairman stated that the problem of income tax is still in the hands of the Internal Revenue and at this time it is still uncertain as to when we will receive a definite ruling.

A lengthy discussion was held in regards to personnel compensation during the liquidation period. Each member on the Board of Directors of each Center voiced their opinion. It was finally agreed by all delegates that some additional compensation will have to be paid to the employees who remain through the liquidation period, the amount to be determined by each individual Center.

At this time discussion was held on individual opinions on Center Closure.

Relative to advertising for notification of change of address of all former Co-op members, Mr. Ohye read the advertisement in Japanese. It was decided that Mr. Jack Yamaguchi of Minidoka translate it in the English version. The following was disclosed as the correct title of each Center Co-op.

Topaz Consumers Cooperative Enterprises, Inc.
Heart Mountain Community Enterprises
Manzanar Cooperative Enterprises
Minidoka Consumers Cooperative
Poston Cooperative Enterprises, Inc.
Rohwer Cooperative Enterprises, Inc.
Amache Consumers Enterprises, Inc.
Gila River Cooperative Enterprises, Inc.
Tule Lake Cooperative Enterprises, Inc.

There was some argument as to whether or not to include Gila River in the advertisement since they were not represented at this conference. It was finally agreed that the secretary send a letter to Gila River asking for their wishes in the matter.

The delegates decided to put the above-named advertisement in the following papers for a period of one month.

1. Colorado Times, Denver
2. Rocky Shampo, Colorado
3. Utah Nippo, Salt Lake City
4. Pacific Citizen, Salt Lake City
5. New York Times

Mr. Belt announced that Mr. Rosman was informed by the Washington Office that the War Department is going to release a lot of housing throughout the West Coast which will be available to relocatees, provided we can furnish the necessary management to carry on the project. This may have some bearing on the planning of the Post-Center Cooperative. Mr. Rosman will explain in more detail tomorrow morning.

Session closed: 4:30 p.m.

Executive Secretary

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THE FOURTH ALL-CENTER BUSINESS ENTERPRISES CONFERENCE

Session #11

July 14, 1945 - 9:00 a.m.
Federal Building - Room 246
Salt Lake City, Utah
Presiding Chairman: Dr. Ochikubo

The meeting was called to order by the presiding chairman, Dr. George Ochikubo, at 9:20 a.m.

A discussion was held on the advertisement of Co-op liquidation in Japanese and Japanese-English newspapers. It was unanimously agreed that all 8 Centers would pay an assessment of \$17.50 each to Mr. Ohye. This was to be used to obtain the best space possible for 4 weeks at \$20 for each of the Japanese newspapers, or \$120, plus \$10 each for the PACIFIC CITIZEN and for the NEW YORK TIMES.

Next, Mr. Kishi read the Resolution which was formulated by the Resolution Committee as follows:

"The Resolution Committee hereby submits the following resolution to be adopted by the delegation of the Fourth Federation of Center Co-operatives.

"WHEREAS, on Saturday, July 14, 1945, the Cooperative delegates of Manzanar, Minidoka, Granada, Heart Mountain, Poston, Rohwer, Topaz, and Tule Lake met to recognize the importance and value of this conference, and adopted the following resolution.

"RESOLVED, to extend deep appreciation to the various Co-op Boards of Directors for recognizing and in sending delegates to this conference.

"AND FURTHER, that this appreciation be extended to the WRA Washington Staff and Salt Lake Staff for their services, advice, consultation and assistance.

"AND WHEREAS, the secretary be authorized to communicate this resolution to the various staffs and Relocation Centers.

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this body fully recognize the conference minutes as the official work carried out by the conference and

"THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this body has fulfilled its duty as representatives to the Federation Conference."

This resolution, which is to be translated by Mr. Ohye, was accepted by the delegation.

The chairman appointed Mr. Ohye to send letters of acknowledgment and appreciation in Japanese to letters received and to the Christian Church.

Mr. Mitani moved and Mr. Nozaka seconded that \$1.25 be donated from each Center in order to donate \$10 to the Christian Church. All Centers were to pay Mr. Ohye \$18.75.

The discussion on housing was to be tabled until receipt of the teletype. However, Mr. Runcorn made a few remarks. He stated that the Enterprises Section of the WRA would be in line to proceed with the war housing released by the War Department on the West Coast because it concerned relocation, whether controlled privately or as a cooperative; and that the chance should be grasped now before leaders are lost by relocation.

Mr. Nozaka suggested that one or more delegates from each Center remain to discuss housing facilities. Mr. Yashiki suggested that we wait for the Washington teletype and then decide.

The chairman suggested that different aspects of the case should be taken into consideration and serious thought given to them; i.e., the amount of money required for leasing housing, the number of people going from a Center to a given area, the period of time--say 5 years.

Mr. Runcorn stated that this was wartime housing and not permanent. They would probably be leasing it, and a Co-op could lease it and sub-lease to its members.

Mr. Yamane stated that after the last war several Japanese families had unsatisfactory experiences with temporary housing and he did not advocate it.

The chairman asked Mr. Runcorn how long he thought it would take to draw up by-laws after receipt of the teletype from Washington and he replied that it would require about 3 or 4 days.

All the Centers concurred in having the topic tabled until receipt of the teletype from Washington, except Heart Mountain, who stated "no vote."

Close of session: 11:30 a.m.

Executive Secretary

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THE FOURTH ALL-CENTER BUSINESS ENTERPRISES CONFERENCE

Session #12

July 14, 1945 - 1:30 p.m.
Federal Building - Room 246
Salt Lake City 1, Utah
Presiding Chairman: Dr. Ochikubo

The meeting was called to order by the presiding chairman, Dr. Ochikubo, at 2:00 p.m.

Mrs. Pollitt passed out to each individual Center a written explanation on the workings of a trust under their respective Acts.

At this time the long-awaited teletype from Washington was read by Mr. Otto Rossman and is incorporated below word for word.

"To: Mr. Otto Rossman: *End Center Business Enterprises Conference July 14, 1945*

*Suspension
of
Rental charges*

"Reour phone conversation July 13. Suspension of rental charges on WRA equipment under loan contract to the Business Enterprises will be considered by Director Center by Center after closing dates for enterprises have been set. Requests should come from Centers through Project Director for his recommendation.

"Impossible now to suspend operating agreement concerning payment of wages by Enterprises at prevailing WRA rates. Director will consider favorably employment by the Co-op at prevailing outside salaries of individuals now relocated whose families are not resident at Centers and who may be brought back for temporary help during period of liquidation. This is in line with existing WRA employment policy. If this not feasible, Director will consider requests from Enterprises, submitted through Project Directors, but does not wish to make any commitment at this time. Such requests for exception to wage policy must be justified by the circumstances at each Center and carry the recommendation in each case of the Project Director.

"Upon closing of business enterprise at any Center, WRA will make whatever arrangements may be necessary to provide minimum canteen services for residents remaining at the Center.

"No decision yet received on tax exemption and unlikely it can be obtained by Monday. Center will be notified immediately on receipt of decision."

/s/ D. S. Myer, Director

* * * * *

In regards to housing which the War Department has just released all along the West Coast, Mr. Rossman communicated with Washington asking for more details such as what is the location, what type of housing is it, what size, what terms, when will they be available and will the WRA assist us in taking possession? Mr. Rossman received word today from Mr. Province of Washington that he had no specific information upon it, but that he was going to get in contact with Mr. Peterson Monday and asked Mr. Rossman to call him up Monday noon, Washington time, 10 o'clock our time. By that time he will have gathered all the information that they could so far. However, he suggested that if the meeting plans to adjourn this evening, it might be well if we would appoint someone or elect a committee that can receive this information.

Mr. Province further informed Mr. Rossman that the location is all the way from Southern California along the coast to the Canadian border. They consist of a great many hotels, rooming houses and family units, but just exactly where they are, what they are, they don't know at this time. Also, all of it has not been released as yet. It is still in the process. None of this is real estate for sale. It is leased by the government. It is government property and if we are interested, it can be sublet at a nominal fee.

Mr. Jack Yamaguchi of Minidoka explained Mr. Myer's telegram in Japanese and Mr. Hatate of Minidoka translated the housing situation in Japanese to the delegates.

In regards to free rental on equipment during the liquidation period, Mr. Rossman stated that a new operating agreement will have to be drawn to cover this period. Each Center must take the matter of free rental for WRA equipment up with their respective Project Directors. Mr. Rossman suggested that as Mr. Belt and Mr. Kuncorn will make the rounds of all the Centers, we choose that time as the time to initiate an agreement with the Project Director regarding free rental of equipment and any other matters which the Co-op would like the two men to assist.

In regards to personnel compensation, Mr. Myer suggested bringing in relocated persons back to the Center for a temporary period and paying them outside wages. However, this does not seem feasible. Therefore, Mr. Rossman recommended that when the liquidation period arrives, we should take the matter up with the Project Director to see if higher wages could be paid the remaining Co-op personnel.

DOCUMENTARY TAX

It was revealed that Topaz and Minidoka are the only Centers paying documentary tax. Mrs. Pollitt received a teletype regarding this point today from Washington. It stated that a documentary tax of three cents per membership certificate will be collected by the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

This tax is on no par value stock. The tax on par value stock on \$1.00 or fraction is 11 cents, but the Internal Revenue has ruled that all membership certificates issued by the Cooperatives are no par value stock because they can be bought at any time at the same price and do not fluctuate in value.

Mr. Hayakawa of Poston brought up the question of what will be done about check cashing when the Co-op closes. Mr. Rossman stated that we should be able to work out some solution with the Project Director whereby this service can be rendered.

It was disclosed at this time that most of the delegates will be leaving before Monday. A few will remain, however, to receive pending information.

At this time Mr. Koda, Acting Chairman of the Permanent Cooperative Planning Committee, took the floor and gave a lengthy talk in regards to the possibility of creating a post-center cooperative organization. A motion was made by Mr. Yashiki of Manzanar and seconded by Mr. Shigetome of Rohwer that though the delegates foresee the value and necessity of having such an organization in the post-center era, it would be advisable at present to let this issue remain as a subject to be studied by the individuals, since there exist too much details. All delegates agreed.

SIGHTSEEING TRIP:

Tomorrow the Christian Church is sponsoring a sightseeing trip in behalf of the delegates. A total of ten delegates expressed their desire to participate in this trip. They will meet at 2:00 p.m. in front of the Church.

PICTURES:

Mr. Ohye announced that any delegate who wants a picture of the conference should call for it at the New Grand Hotel desk tomorrow morning.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Mr. Hatate made the following financial report in regards to the Federation conference expenses. He emphasized that the \$50 paid to the secretaries constitute compensation for the work done in the evenings.

7 Centers @ \$14.30	DR	CR
Tule Lake Center		\$100.10
		10.00
To Janitor	\$10.00	
Federation Conference Expenses	29.93	
Office supplies and miscellaneous	10.17	
Executive Secretary - English	5.00	
Executive Secretary - Japanese	5.00	
Secretary - 6 days @ \$5.00	30.00	
Secretary - 4 days @ \$5.00	20.00	
	<u>\$110.10</u>	<u>\$110.10</u>

In regards to whether or not the Federation was still in existence, Mr. Kuncorn commented that the Federation was drawn up based on the buying office in New York and every Center has withdrawn from that except Tule Lake, so we really don't have a Federation now. Dr. Miyamoto of Los Angeles voluntarily called this conference. That is as far as he went.

Mr. Kishi of Manzanar, in behalf of the attending delegates, expressed thanks and appreciation to all members who participated in the conference. Dr. Uchikubo of Topaz and Mr. Hatate of Minidoka conveyed their appreciation to the WRA staff, Mr. Ishiyama, the secretarial help, and all those who helped to make this conference a success.

Mr. Jack Yamaguchi announced that the minutes for the entire conference will be ready tomorrow morning at the New Grand Hotel.

Session closed: 4:15 p.m.

Executive Secretary

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THE FOURTH ALL CENTER BUSINESS ENTERPRISES CONFERENCE

ATTENDING DELEGATES

<u>Center and Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Center Address</u>
<u>GRANADA:</u>		
1. Nobuhei Kurita	Board of Directors	11H-7C
2. K. Koda	President, Board of Directors	9H-11-D
3. G. Mitani	Education Committee	11H-3F
<u>HEART MOUNTAIN:</u>		
1. Sukenari Yamada	Executive Secretary	24-4-D
2. Ted Okumoto	Chief Accountant	15-4-C
<u>MANZANAR:</u>		
1. Mineichi Yashiki	Board of Directors	34-8-3
2. Kohei Fujino	Board of Directors	20-10-1
3. Roy Takeda	Chief Accountant	20-1-4
4. Joe H. Kishi	General Manager	34-11-5
<u>MINIDOKA:</u>		
1. Rinta Morimizu	President, Board of Directors	41-11-E
2. M. Hayasaka	Board of Directors	40-2-B
3. Harry Hatate	General Manager	1-4-B
4. George Hara	Chief Accountant	12-10-F
5. Jack Yamaguchi	Executive Secretary	41-10-C
<u>POSTON:</u>		
1. Manzo Ohye	Board of Directors	3-11-C
2. Hiroshi Sakurai	Vice-Chairman, Board of Directors	2-22-D
3. Sadazo Yamane	Board of Directors	317-9D
4. M. Hayakawa	Procurement Officer	306-8D
<u>ROHWER:</u>		
1. Tomejiro Shigetome	President, Board of Directors	14-2-E
2. Kichinozuke Ikezoe	Executive Secretary	15-3-C
<u>TOPAZ:</u>		
1. George A. Ochikubo	President, Board of Directors	23-9-C
2. E. S. Ishizaki	Finance Committee Chairman	19-3-D
3. H. S. Nozaka	General Manager	28-3-B
<u>TULE LAKE:</u>		
1. Henry Iseri	Assistant General Manager	4305-A
2. Morio Yamagata	Board of Directors	2901-D
3. Tadaichi Nomura	Board of Directors	8104-C

Session 1

July 9, 1945 - 9:00 a.m.
Federal Building - Room 246
Salt Lake City, Utah

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Runcorn, WRA Auditor Supervisor.

Due to absence of Dr. Miyamoto, Acting Federation Secretary, Mr. Runcorn, WRA Auditor Supervisor, presided as temporary chairman.

ATTENDING DELEGATES

<u>GRANADA:</u>		
1. Nobuhei Kurita		
2. K. Koda		
3. G. Mitani		
<u>HEART MOUNTAIN:</u>		
1. Sukenari Yamada	Executive Secretary	
2. Ted Okumoto	Chief Accountant	
<u>MANZANAR:</u>		
1. Mineichi Yoshiki	Board of Directors	
2. Kohei Fujino	Board of Directors	
3. Roy Takeda	Chief Accountant	
4. Joe H. Kishi	General Manager	

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MINIDOKA:

1. Rinta Morimizu -- Board of Directors
2. M. Hayasaka -- Board of Directors
3. Harry Hatate -- General Manager
4. George Hara -- Chief Accountant
5. Jack Yamaguchi -- Executive Secretary

POSTON:

1. Manzo Ohye
2. Hiroshi Sakurai
3. Sadazo Yamane
4. M. Hayakawa

ROHWER:

1. Tomejiro Shigetomi
2. Kichinozuke Ikezoe

TOPAZ:

1. Dr. George A. Ochikubo -- Board of Directors
2. E. S. Ishizaki -- Finance Committee Chairman
3. H. S. Nozaka -- General Manager

WRA REPRESENTATIVES:

1. Mr. Rossman - WRA Supervisor of Co-operative Enterprises
2. Mr. Runcorn - WRA Auditor Supervisor
3. Mr. Belt - WRA Field Man
4. Mr. Ishiyama - WRA Enterprise Buyer, from New York
5. Mrs. Pollitt - Solicitor's Office in Washington, D.C.

Absent Delegates

Tule Lake
Gila River

A suggestion was made by the temporary Acting Chairman, Mr. Runcorn, that due to Dr. Miyamoto's absence, Acting Federation Secretary, a new presiding chairman should be elected for this conference. This was approved unanimously by the delegates.

By popular vote, Dr. Ochikubo was elected as presiding chairman; Harry Hatate, vice-presiding chairman; and Mr. Manzo Ohye and Jack Yamaguchi as secretaries to take the minutes in Japanese and English, respectively.

A proposal was made by the presiding chairman, Dr. Ochikubo, and unanimously accepted by the delegates, that a committee should be organized to be known as the Agenda Committee. This committee to be composed of one member from each delegation. The following members were selected, with Harry Hatate as acting chairman:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Manzanar: | Joe H. Kishi |
| 2. Minidoka: | Harry Hatate |
| 3. Poston: | Sadazo Yamane |
| 4. Heart Mountain: | Sukenari Yamada |
| 5. Rohwer: | Tomejiro Shigetomi |
| 6. Topaz: | H. S. Nozaka |
| 7. Granada: | Nobuhei Kurita |

The session closed at 4:30 p.m.

Executive Secretary

THE FOURTH ALL CENTER BUSINESS ENTERPRISES CONFERENCESession 2

July 9, 1945 - 1:30 p.m.
 Federal Building - Room 246
 Salt Lake City, Utah
 Presiding Chairman - Dr. Ochikubo

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Ochikubo at 2:15 p.m.

Mr. Hatate, acting chairman for the Agenda Committee, presented to the delegation a suggested agenda, the content of which is as follows:

I. Formation of the Liquidation Planning Committee

- a. The tax and its legal aspects
- b. Clarification of allocated reserve
- c. Clarification of unallocated reserve
- d. Clarification of Membership Fund
- e. Disposal of inventories and equipments
- f. Distribution of final assets, accounting procedures, and disposal of records.
- g. Business Enterprises's personnel problem during the final liquidation stages
- h. Free rental and transportations to be provided by the WRA during the liquidation period
- i. To set up Trustee's Salary and Fund, preferably based upon appropriate basis.
- j. Termination of operating agreements upon receipt of final notice to close center Enterprise and draft new agreement, if necessary.

II. Formation of Permanent Cooperative Organization

III. Formation of Banquet, Photograph, and Entertainment Committees

For the Liquidation Planning Committee, the following delegates were selected, with Harry Hatate as acting chairman:

Manzanar:	Joe H. Kishi Mineichi Yoshiki	Heart Mountain:	Sukenari Yamada Ted Okumoto
Minidoka:	Harry Hatate Rinta Morimizu George Hara	Rohwer:	Tomejiro Shigetomi
Poston:	Sadazo Yamane M. Hayakawa	Topaz:	E. S. Ishizaki H. S. Nozaka
		Granada:	G. Mitani Nobuhei Kurita

For the Permanent Co-op Organization Committee, the following delegates were selected with Mr. K. Koda as acting chairman:

Granada:	K. Koda	Minidoka:	M. Hayasaka	Rohwer:	K. Ikezoe
Manzanar:	K. Fujino	Poston:	H. Sakurai	Topaz:	H. S. Nozaka

For the Banquet, Photograph and Entertainment Committee, Mr. E. S. Ishizaki of Topaz, Mr. G. Mitani of Granada, and Mr. Manzo Ohye of Poston, were selected.

At this time Mr. Ross, WRA Co-operative Supervisor, took the floor and read Mr. Dillon Myer's message to the fourth all-center business enterprise conference. The context of his message is as follows:

TO THE DELEGATES ATTENDING THE ALL-CENTER CONFERENCE OF BUSINESS ENTERPRISES:

In connection with the agenda for the meeting of delegates of center business enterprises in Salt Lake City on July 8, it seems important that there be no misunderstanding about the position of the War Relocation Authority in relation to certain items on the agenda. The following statement will indicate, as clearly as possible, the position of the Authority.

1. Every reasonable service will be provided by the WRA, including legal service, with respect to that phase of the agenda having to do with plans for the liquidation of business enterprises at the relocation centers.

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2. The question regarding the establishment of a single trusteeship for the handling of final distribution of assets is something that should be determined after full discussion by the representatives of the cooperatives and it is our belief that WRA should not have any responsibility for making this determination. It is the belief of the WRA that each cooperative enterprise in the individual center should go as far as possible in completing the liquidation process and distributing the remaining assets among the patrons, in view of the widely varying situations in the individual centers.

3. We believe that any discussion regarding the need or plans for the organization of a national cooperative should be an entirely separate matter from the discussion plans for the liquidation of center cooperatives. The WRA has no responsibility for and no interest in the promotion of cooperatives other than those in relocation centers, unless it develops that certain services cannot be adequately provided for people who are relocating, because of restrictions or discrimination. In case a need develops for the formation of cooperatives for specific purposes and it is determined on the part of relocated evacuees that there is such a need, we might then consider the desirability of helping to work out a program for the development of such cooperatives, because of our interest in the relocation program. It is our belief, however, that this need can be only established by people who have relocated and not by people living in relocation centers.

4. Each individual cooperative in each of the relocation centers should determine whether it wishes to provide services of some type until the center finally closes or whether it wishes to consider liquidation at some set date before center closure. When this determination is made, WRA will try to work out a sound plan in connection with each of the centers to provide a minimum of canteen service of some type, if it cannot be provided by the individual cooperative.

Permit me to add a word of congratulation to you, as representatives of the business enterprises at our centers, on the good work that those enterprises have done. Your sound business judgment and your faithfulness to duty have contributed much to the welfare of all center residents. As you plan the dissolution of the cooperatives and as you leave the relocation centers and return to normal communities and normal business pursuits, I wish you prosperity and success.

Mr. Rossman also stated that there will be a letter sent to every cooperative enterprise in all centers from the WRA office in Washington, D.C. advising them to make a definite set date for the final closure of business enterprises, preferably, at an earliest date.

For the period of three months, (90 days) preceding the announced date of business closure, there will be no rental charge made against cooperative enterprise by the WRA.

It is advisable, he stated, that this period of three months should be conveniently divided into both operational and business liquidation process.

Close of session: 4:00 p.m.

Executive Secretary

Liquidation Planning Committee Meeting

Session 3

July 10, 1945 - 9:00 a.m.
Federal Building - Room 246
Salt Lake City, Utah
Presiding Chairman - Dr. Ochikubo

The meeting was called to order by Dr. George Ochikubo, Presiding Chairman.

At this time the Permanent Cooperative Organization Committee, with Mr. Koda as acting chairman, accompanied by Mr. Runcorn, WRA Auditor Supervisor, left for separate session at the Grand Central Hotel.

Dr. Ochikubo asked Mr. Rossman to clarify the matter of free space for the Co-op after the closing date is set. Mr. Rossman explained that when the final date for closing the Co-op is set, there will be no rental charges three months before that time. Complete closing must be accomplished during that three-month period, including the final distribution, that is, office space required for the payment of the final assets.

Dr. Ochikubo asked whether the closing date of the Co-op means the closing date for the operations side of it or the date for the finishing up of the accounting side of it. Mr. Rossman answered that it is the date that you announced you are vacating the building.

It was suggested by Mr. Belt that we set up one date for the time that we are going to terminate the actual operations of the enterprise and another date as to when everything will be cleared up. He suggested also that 45 days be allowed for cleaning up the inventory and disposing of other assets and another 45 days established for cleaning up the bookkeeping end for final payment of equities, etc. He felt that 30 days was not sufficient for cleaning up everything after the close of business to residents.

Mr. Rossman stated that in regards to Camps 2 and 3 in Poston, as far as the Co-op is concerned, it is all one single unit so the Co-op would not be liquidated in the parts of camps which close but instead will be transferred over to the Co-op in Camp 1.

A question was raised by the chairman as to what will be done about the necessary services to the evacuees when the Co-op closes, such as shoe repair, barber shop, etc. Will the local WRA make some arrangement for the continuance of these services? Mr. Rossman replied that that phase hasn't been considered as yet. However, Mr. Myer stated in his memorandum that some means will be provided to continue the services. Mr. Belt stated that we have never encouraged private enterprises within the Centers, but it may be that at that stage it might be possible to permit private enterprise to function, especially in the case of barbers.

IMMEDIATE PROBLEM OF CLOSING OUT ENTERPRISES

1. Tax Problems and Its Legal Aspects.
 - a. Clarification of allocated reserve
 - b. Clarification of unallocated reserve
 - c. Clarification of Membership Fund
 - d. Income tax and Unemployment tax

Mr. Hatate of Minidoka raised the question that in case we use the allocated reserve for liquidation losses, would it be subject to income tax? There are two questions which cannot be answered at this time pending a ruling from Washington:

1. Whether or not the unallocated reserve is taxable.
2. Whether or not the allocated reserve is taxable in case it is used for liquidation losses.

Mrs. Mima Pollitt from the WRA Solicitor's Office in Washington was present to answer questions on unemployment insurance and income tax but since the ruling from Washington has not yet arrived, the questions could not be answered.

The following is a table showing which Centers are exempt or nonexempt from income tax and the type of law which each Center Co-op comes under.

<u>Center</u>	<u>Name of Act</u>	<u>Income Tax Status</u>
Granada	Colorado	Paying
Manzanar	California	Paying
Heart Mountain	Unincorporated	Exempt
Minidoka	District of Columbia	Exempt
Poston	" " "	Not Exempt
Rohwer	" " "	Exempt
Topaz	" " "	Not exempt
Gila	" " "	Exempt

Close of session: 1:45 a.m.

Executive Secretary

Liquidation Planning Committee Meeting

Session 4

July 10, 1945 - 1:30 p.m.
 Federal Building - Room 246
 Salt Lake City, Utah
 Presiding Chairman - Dr. Ochikubo

The meeting was called to order by Dr. George Ochikubo, Presiding Chairman.

DISPOSAL OF INVENTORIES AND EQUIPMENTS:

1. Slow moving and dead stocks (shoe inventory)
2. Disposal of equipments
3. Distribution of final assets, accounting procedures and disposal of records.

Under (1) above, the following was disclosed by each Center delegate:

<u>Center</u>	<u>Approximate amount of dead or slow moving stock on hand</u>
Amache	O. k.
Heart Mountain	\$7,000
Poston	5,000
Manzanar	3,000
Minidoka	800
Topaz	800
Rohwer	6 to 7,000

The amount of equipment to be disposed, including depreciation, was disclosed as follows:

<u>Center</u>	<u>Value of equipment on hand</u>
Amache	\$7,000
Heart Mountain	7,000
Poston	10,000
Minidoka	6,300
Topaz	8,500
Rohwer	6,000
Manzanar	4,750

It was revealed that Minidoka and Rohwer have already started to dispose their equipment. Mr. Hatate of Minidoka stated that the method they are using is advertising in the papers.

Dr. Ochikubo inquired whether with liquidation coming on, is there any possibility of getting greater percentage for depreciation. Mrs. Pollitt stated that there is a possibility of greater percentage of depreciation. Dr. Ochikubo suggested giving the Center residents first chance to buy the equipment. If they cannot be sold in that way, then we will have to find outside markets for them.

Mr. Ishiyama of New York was called upon to report on the shoe inventory problem. He stated that in the past he has had letters from the different projects concerning surplus shoes and on the basis of those letters, they contacted the head of the National OPA to see if shoes could be sold without ration coupons. However, they couldn't make any exemption to the OPA regulations. They informed him that we are at no different position when it comes to liquidation than a man who is drafted into the Army and is forced to liquidate his store. They suggested that Mr. Ishiyama see the UNRA people. This Mr. Ishiyama did and found little cooperation there. They wanted 40 per center discount from the cost price. They also wanted samples of every different kind of shoes in the stores. Mr. Ishiyama told the UNRA people that getting samples of every type of shoe was not feasible. Mr. Ishiyama declared that he would be glad to consult with Mr. Myer, who in turn may take up the matter with someone on a higher level.

The suggestion was made by Mr. Ishiyama that the Centers give him an approximation of how many pairs of shoes you have, the make, size ranges, cost price, indication of whether its women, men or children's shoes, and the stock number of the company who manufactured the shoes. When he gets back to Washington he will follow the matter through with Mr. Myer.

Mr. Hatate of Minidoka suggested, and all delegates agreed, that all Centers submit a list to enable Mr. Ishiyama to obtain permission to sell shoes without ration coupons. Mr. Nozaka of Topaz further suggested that Mr. Ishiyama submit a uniform form of report so that each Center can report in some standardized way and set a deadline date. Dr. Ochikubo proposed, and all delegates concurred, that Mr. Ishiyama draw up this report form and give each Center a copy to take back to the Center, and that these reports shall be in the mail before August 1.

DISTRIBUTION OF FINAL ASSETS:

Dr. Ochikubo asked Mrs. Pollitt what procedure should be followed in disposing of final assets. Mrs. Pollitt replied that no matter how you distribute your assets, you will find in the end that you will have some money left. Mrs. Pollitt explained the provisions of the Colorado law, California law, Unincorporated law, and the District of Columbia law.

However, after discussion of the provisions of these various acts, the workings of a trust was not clear to all. Therefore, the chairman recommended that Mrs. Pollitt submit a written report to each Center Co-op on just how a trust works out in each particular case. Mrs. Pollitt agreed to send this clarification out under the Solicitor's name.

At this point of the discussion, Tule Lake representatives composed of Mr. Henry Iseri, Mr. Yamagata, Mr. Nomura, and Mr. L. Perkins were introduced to the members of the conference.

Mr. Belt inquired what account should the losses sustained from sale of dead stock merchandise prior to the time of going into the actual process of liquidation be charged to. Mr. Rössman replied that under the normal procedure, sales from the sale of that merchandise would go in with your regular sales. However, he stated that he has noticed that some Centers are showing that as other expenses and deducting it at the bottom of the statement. The sale should go into the regular sales and show your normal gross margin that you actually receive for that particular period. You should show it as an operation loss for that period.

Close of session: 4:15 p.m.

Executive Secretary

Liquidation Planning Committee Meeting

Session 5

July 11, 1945 - 9:00 a.m.
Federal Building - Room 246
Salt Lake City, Utah
Presiding Chairman - Dr. Ochikubo

The meeting was called to Order by Dr. George Ochikubo, Presiding Chairman.

Continuation of discussion on disposal of inventory, equipment and distribution of final assets, accounting procedure and disposal of records.

Mr. Iseri of Tule Lake announced that the Tule Lake Co-op will be able to consume the following items:

1. Dry Goods
2. Soap
3. Tobacco
4. Two National Cash Registers
Class 1900 series preferably.

Mr. Belt advised that the Central States Cooperative, Inc.
 Larry Lehtin, General Manager
 1535 South Peoria Street
 Chicago, Illinois

can use meat market and grocery equipment such as scales, calculators, cash registers, etc. Mr. Belt suggested that we send a list of such items, the price, full description and the serial number of the equipment to the above concern to see if they can consume these items.

Mr. Rossman was requested by Dr. Ochikubo to explain as to where the loss for liquidation can be charged to. Mr. Rossman replied that it is certainly recommended that the amount that is unallocated be wiped off, provided we don't have any tax complications and if we are exempt, then we are free to do as we like. He added that if we are tax exempt, all losses from liquidation should be charged against the unallocated reserve. Use that money up first so that when you come to the distribution of the final assets it would be easier because the other has already been allocated.

ACCOUNTING PROCEDURE:

Mr. Rossman explained that we have two definite and different periods. One is the last normal operating period, and second, the liquidation period, and that loss is distributed to everybody from the very beginning of business and therefore it is charged to the reserve fund.

DISPOSAL OF RECORDS:

In regards to the disposal of records, Mr. Rossman stated that the following records should be retained and maintained by the trustees:

1. Books of original entry.
2. General ledger.
3. Purchase book.
4. Payment book.
5. Membership records.
6. If it is not too bulky, canceled checks.

A memorandum which Mr. Rossman received from the Washington Office states that the University of California library has asked to have their library used as a depository of all duplicate records which might be helpful in research work. They are not interest in individual evacuee records. Mr. Rossman suggested that duplicate copies of financial reports, by-laws, order statements, etc., might be forwarded to them.

TRUSTEE'S SALARY:

As for trustee's salary, the experience of the Jerome Center was cited as an example for the delegates to determine on some basic figure. It was revealed that Jerome allotted \$1500 in all to their three trustees, the chairman of the three getting \$1,000 and the other two trustees each receiving \$250. The delegates all agreed that the distribution of the \$1,500 to the three trustees was impartial.

Mr. Rossman stressed that the trustees are only responsible for the amount that has been turned over to them. He also pointed out that in determining the trustee's salary, Jerome took into consideration the time element and the responsibility for the trusteeship.

No definite basic figure for trustee's salary was agreed upon. The chairman suggested we adjourn and continue in the afternoon.

Close of session: 11:30 a.m.

Executive Secretary

Liquidation Planning Committee Meeting

Session 6

July 11, 1945 - 1:30 p.m.
 Federal Building - Room 246
 Salt Lake City, Utah
 Presiding Chairman: Dr. Ochikubo

Meeting was called to order by Ochikubo, Presiding Chairman.

Mr. Runcorn introduced Dr. Francis Kirkham of the Utah Cooperative Life Insurance Association. The text of Dr. Kirkham's talk is as follows:

In 1941 under the leadership of the Utah State Farm Bureau Federation, the State of Utah enacted for the first time in America a genuine cooperative life insurance statute. This legislative act was based upon ten years of research under the leadership of Frank Evans, who is now financial secretary of the LDS Church in Salt Lake City.

The Board of Directors of the Association is elected annually by the members who have one vote each. A member cannot give the right to another to cast his vote. Money received by the association can be used only for the following purposes:

1. To pay the death benefits of members.
2. To return to members their 20 year option over payments with interest made by them above the rate charged all members for life insurance only with cooperative benefits.
3. The cost of administration including commissions to agents. This cost is determined by the Board of Directors.

The remainder of the money paid by the members to the Association is placed in the reserve fund to be used for their sole benefit as they shall determine through their Board of Directors.

The Cooperative Law passed in the 1941 Legislature absolutely guarantees cooperative benefits and procedures and principles and any person joining our Association must live up to it and there can't be any profit going to promoters.

It is now developing that other groups will come here and ask to use this Association. If any group wants to come to make use of this statute, we would put them on an independent basis. They would have their own Board of Directors and we would charge the minimum amount of money necessary for the service which we render and all the rest of it will be yours.

We held an annual meeting and we elect our Board of Directors. The reason why it is so necessary for people to have a cooperative life insurance in America is this. There has developed in our country a plan of life insurance to which people are induced to pay for the purpose of savings, the idea being that they will not only pay to you a certain sum of money when you die but they will also give you a certain amount of money in case you live.

The death loss to younger people is much less than to older people so that the cost of life insurance advances with age. People between the ages of 25 to 46 must pay \$10 a year and as the ages increase, so does the amount to be paid. If this interests you, you should have somebody go into this very carefully and if you find that you want us to help you, we will invite you to come.

TRUSTEE COMPENSATION:

Mrs. Pollitt advised all delegates that when we close up we should notify the Federal Income Tax people, the State Tax Commissioner and any other agency to which you pay taxes, that you are dissolving.

A representative from Poston suggested, and all delegates concurred, that \$500 for each trustee be set as the basic figure for trustee's salary. This figure represents responsibility. Mr. Hatate of Minidoka recommended that prevailing outside wages be paid to any secretarial help that may be necessary after the trustees relocate. The amount of work to be done varies with each Center. Therefore, the money needed for this work should be in addition to the \$500 each for trustees. The delegates unanimously agreed on paying outside wages at that time.

PERSONNEL PROBLEMS:

Dr. Ochikubo of Topaz brought out the question, "To what extent are we bound to follow the WRA wage scale of \$16 and \$19 during the liquidation period? Key personnel will want to relocate. If higher wages or bonus is paid to these people, how will that affect our agreement with the WRA?" Mr. Rossman replied that he will have to check with Washington in this matter. He agreed to send a teletype immediately.

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The chairman announced that pictures will be taken at the Christian Church, 268 West 1st South Street at 6:30 p.m. and a banquet at 7:00 p.m. will be held at Dawn Noodle Shop.

Close of session: 3:15 p.m.

Executive Secretary

Session 7

July 12, 1945 - 9:00 a.m.
Federal Building - Room 246
Salt Lake City, Utah
Presiding Chairman: Dr. Ochikubo

The meeting was called to order by the presiding chairman, Dr. Ochikubo at 9:20 a.m. He stated that the pending matters were as follows:

1. Report from the Internal Revenue, Treasury Department, Washington, regarding income tax. The reply to the teletype sent to Washington by Mr. Rossman was not received as yet so it was decided to table the above issue for future discussion.

2. Personnel compensation during the final stages of liquidation. /

A suggestion was proposed by Mr. Hatate that due to absence of the regular Federation Secretary, each Center contribute \$10 a piece for the added expense in hiring and maintaining other secretaries to take minutes for the meeting. He further stated that \$10 should be given to the janitor for his services during this conference. This was unanimously approved by the delegates and Mr. Hatate was appointed as its treasurer.

FREE RENTAL OF EQUIPMENT AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. Hatate of Minidoka suggested that pending liquidation there would be quite a bit of equipment and it would be better to sell it at an early date. He wished to know what the delegates thought about borrowing office equipment or trucks free from the WRA as the personnel diminished.

Dr. Ochikubo stated that during the period of liquidation, compensation was so made in regard to rental of space that there was some talk that vehicles and trucks could be provided free. He wished to know if there was any possibility that that could be done.

Mr. Rossman stated it would be rather doubtful on use of expendable equipment.

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Dr. Ochikubo stated that during the period of liquidation, the Co-op wanted free transportation and use of automobiles and trucks in order to facilitate liquidation and relocation.

Mr. Rossman stated that they were actually Government property and if anyone uses them they must pay if used for other than Government purposes. He asked if they wanted free use of all equipment. When the reply was affirmative he stated that he would telephone or teletype Washington, if a justification were drawn up in writing.

Mr. Hatate moved and Mr. Kishi of Manzanar seconded that they ask for free use of all equipment. This motion was unanimously carried by all the Center delegates.

Mr. Rossman stated that a reply might be received from Washington before the meeting adjourned.

TERMINATION OF OPERATING AGREEMENTS ON RECEIPT OF FINAL NOTICE OF CENTER CLOSURE AND DRAFT NEW AGREEMENT IF NECESSARY

Mr. Nozaka of Topaz was concerned with the three-month period during which the centers are closing. If, upon the Membership's decision to liquidate, the WRA is notified and the limited time for liquidation were specified, was the free rental space guaranteed or not? Was it necessary to make a new agreement?

Mr. Rossman stated that pending liquidation, free rental was specified, that notices had already gone out to the Project Directors.

Mr. Kishi of Manzanar wanted to know if they had to draw up a new operating agreement or if there could be a verbal understanding.

Mrs. Pollitt stated that when the Membership decides to liquidate, they vote to turn it over to the trustees at a given time. She also stated that both a written agreement and a verbal agreement were equally binding. She reemphasized that the date that the trustees took over is the date that the membership voted to dissolve; that the date to dissolve was not the same as the date of closing of business to the public, when the remaining assets are turned over by the Board of Directors to the trustees.

The following is a hypothetical example placed on the blackboard by Dr. Ochikubo:

Membership on	Jan. 1st
decides dissolution date as	Mar. 31st
(a) Operations to be carried till	Jan. 31st
(b) Pay debts, pay refunds, and dispose	
of all reserve that the directors	
could dispose of in a normal period	
under the by-laws	Mar. 31st

Mr. Rossman stated that the Board of Directors and the Membership could operate in any way they want to until March 31st. On March 31st whatever is remaining goes to the trustees.

He further stated that up to the date of dissolution is a normal operating period; that the liquidation period is not a normal operating period; that the liquidation period had to start after the vote to dissolve; also, that the by-laws state that you are to set aside 10 per cent during the period of your earnings.

He mentioned that during this liquidation period, it is perfectly legal to pay off members and to sell a typewriter if there is no use for it. At that time when the membership votes the date on which the trustees take over, the trustees take over. In the meantime, the Co-op has sold assets and paid liabilities, even membership liabilities. You can also get rid of the reserve by the dissolution date.

The Banquet Committee report was made by Mr. Ohye of Poston after the departure of the WRA Caucasian personnel since they were the honored guests at the banquet last evening and their offer to share in the expenses was politely refused. He stated that 25 delegates from 8 centers were present at the banquet and that the charges amounted to:

\$100.00 for the banquet
10.00 for tips
<u>38.50 for liquid refreshments</u>
\$148.50

To be fair in allocating the expenses, he suggested that half of the total, or \$74.25, be taken and divided equally among the 8 centers, which would

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amount to \$9.20 each; and the other half, \$74.25, be divided by the 25 persons present, which would amount to \$3.00 per person, since each Center did not have the same number of delegates.

Mr. Yashiki made a motion to accept Mr. Ohye's suggestion. It was seconded by Mr. Hatate. The motion carried.

Close of session: 11:20 a.m.

Executive Secretary

Session 8

July 12, 1945 - 1:30 p.m.
Federal Building - Room 246
Salt Lake City, Utah
Presiding Chairman: Dr. Ochikubo

The meeting was called to order by the chairman, Dr. Ochikubo, at 1:45 p.m.

Mr. Ishizaki made an announcement that this evening at 8:30 p.m. at the Christian Church, prominent residents of Salt Lake City would serve refreshments for the delegates.

Mr. Iseri of Tule Lake had 2 lists which he wanted the delegates to check over.

He wanted the quota on dry goods when the other Center Co-ops liquidate and Dr. Ochikubo stated that he was sure that they would cooperate to the greatest extent but questioned whether the firms would be willing to turn over the quotas. Mr. Belt stated he was not in a position to commit himself on transferring a quota on dry goods.

Mr. Hatate of Minidoka suggested that when the other Center Co-ops corresponded with a firm a carbon copy of the letter be sent to Mr. Iseri so that Mr. Iseri would be able to correspond with the firm regarding commodities, mostly in dry goods. He also stated that they were interested in vendors, especially in Chicago or in St. Louis, since they may leave tomorrow for those points, but no one had any suggestions to offer.

Mr. Iseri then asked if someone were familiar with photographic supplies. Mr. Kishi of Manzanar stated that they were finally able to obtain a \$50 or \$60 permanent quota from Eastman and Ansco in Los Angeles but that they were having a hard time obtaining paper and chemicals; that they didn't know whether the quota could be transferred.

At this time Mr. Koka, Acting Chairman for the Permanent Cooperative Planning Committee, took the floor and reported on the results of their session held at the Grand Central Hotel. He stated that the committee studied the problem thoroughly and though everyone recognized the fact that it was a good idea for the people's benefit, no definite conclusion or decision was reached. But he expressed his desire to have the delegates "think it over tonight" on this matter and bring it up for further discussion tomorrow.

*No real need
or desire
for Perm
Coop -*

Mr. Kishi of Manzanar suggested that the pending matters be left until the replies were received and that they go into the General Session and discuss the other topics.

Regret was expressed that WRA officials were not in a position to clarify many of the points which were brought up.

Mrs. Pollitt was asked about the legal aspects if the Centers do not have their documentary stamps affixed, inasmuch as Minidoka and Topaz seemed to be the only Centers who have placed stamps. She stated that she would look it up.

Mr. Ted Okumoto of Heart Mountain moved and Mr. Yashiki of Manzanar seconded that the Agenda Committee be the committee to form the agenda for the general session in order that the meeting would not be unnecessarily prolonged. Motion carried unanimously.

At this time Mr. Rossman placed the following example on the blackboard in reference to liquidation process:

Announcement of closing	7/1/45
Closing of business	8/1/45
Date of dissolution	10/1/45

7/1/45

BALANCE SHEET

Cash	\$40,000	Current liabilities	\$25,000-	(wholesale accts & other current exp)
Inventory	48,000	Memberships	22,000-	(outstanding)
Equipment	8,000	Patronage refunds	15,000-	(had been declared before but not pd)
Other Assets	6,000	General Reserve	11,000	
	<u>\$102,000</u>	Undist. Earnings	<u>29,000</u>	
			<u>\$102,000</u>	

8/1/45 (After month of closing out)

Cash	\$90,000	Memberships	\$22,000
Inventory	2,500	General Reserve	11,000
Equipment	<u>1,000</u>	Undist. Earnings	<u>60,500</u>
	<u>\$93,500</u>		<u>\$93,500</u>

10/1/45

Cash	\$2,000	Reserve	*\$1,000	*Expenses necessary for remaining work, i.e., telephone, etc.
Canteen	3,000	Trust Fund	** 1,500	** Reserve to compensate trustees; Congress votes on this when you decide to dissolve.
Barber Shop	<u>500</u>	Memberships	<u>3,000</u>	
	<u>\$5,500</u>		<u>\$5,500</u>	

And he explained that in this way, you're not taking away anything. Canteen and barber shop could be maintained. The plan is workable. You are not violating any regulations.

When the trustees take over no cash register receipts are issued and you operate at cost with a mark-up on articles.

If you think there will be a loss you should increase the reserve.

In response to Mr. Nozaka's question about operating without a business license, Mr. Rossman stated that you can operate without a license because you are still liquidating and no special license is required.

On 7/1/45 the building rental terminates and the license terminates.

State and special commodity licenses cannot terminate until 8/1/45.

You can determine between 8/1 and 10/1 about selling of equipment.

The trustees get the assets on 10/1 and operate the canteen as long as the Project Director thinks it necessary.

You continue paying sales and excise taxes as long as you are selling.

There were no questions after Mr. Rossman's explanation.

The general meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m., after which the Agenda Committee was to meet and formulate a new agenda to be tabled for tomorrow's assembly.

Executive Secretary

Session 9

July 13, 1945 - 9:00 a.m.
 Federal Building - Room 246
 Salt Lake City, Utah
 Presiding Chairman: Dr. Ochikubo

The meeting was called to order by the Presiding Chairman, Dr. George Ochikubo, at 9:20 a.m.

Mr. Hatate reported that the Agenda Committee had decided to take up the following:

1. Give the Tule Lake people a chance to discuss their buying program.
2. Reconsideration of the final discussion on the Permanent Co-op { organization.
3. Final discussion on the last stages of liquidation.
4. Election of a Resolution Committee.
5. Advertising in local Japanese and Japanese-American newspapers for unknown addresses of members.
6. New business.

TULE LAKE BUYING PROGRAM:

Mr. Henry Iseri, Assistant General Manager of the Tule Lake Co-op, requested that if some of the items on the Tule Lake list, which was distributed, were available at the other Centers that he be contacted immediately.

Mr. Perkins stated that it would be helpful on merchandise orders of any kind, even though they are of immediate need, if a list were sent to Mr. Takazawa, General Manager at Tule Lake.

Mr. Perkins stated that he and Mr. Iseri would in Chicago for another week. If anything worthwhile in regard to merchandise orders came up he asked that Mr. Iseri be contacted c/o Mr. Charles Belt, WRA, 226 W. Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois, until Thursday of next week. This was in order that both Mr. Perkins and Mr. Iseri could plan to stop in the Centers on their way back to Tule Lake.

RECONSIDERATION OF THE FINAL DISCUSSION PERTINENT TO A PERMANENT CO-OP ORGANIZATION:

A discussion was held and various delegates expressed their personal opinions. They agreed that the need for a permanent organization existed but could not commit themselves as far as the Centers were concerned.

Mr. Hatate moved and Mr. Ohye seconded that the subject of the formation of a permanent cooperative organization be tabled until the discussion of major problems was over. The motion carried.

PERSONNEL PROBLEMS DURING THE FINAL STAGES OF LIQUIDATION:

Mr. Rossman stated that there had been no word as yet from Washington pertaining to increased compensation during the liquidation period.

At this time Mr. Runcorn read the teletype which was received yesterday afternoon from Mr. Dillon Myer, Director of the WRA, regarding Center closure according to the following schedule:

Granada	On or before October 15
Central Utah & Minidoka	On or before November 1
Ht. Mountain & Gila River	On or before November 15
Colorado River & Manzanar	On or before December 1
Rohwer	On or before December 15

The message also stated that all Center residents should decide by September 1 where they wish to relocate.

again uncertainly

Mr. Rossman stated that with the definite setting of Center closure dates the closing of business enterprises will follow; that it will require adjustment of planning; that it will be easier to explain to the Center residents. At this point Mr. Rossman left the meeting to telephone Washington.

Before the WRA personnel left the meeting Mr. Belt expressed his opinion that the conference had done very splendid work and that its advice and suggestions were appreciated.

Mr. Hatate announced that Mr. Runcorn had submitted an expenditure list as follows:

10 night letters for Dr. Miyamoto	\$6.25
Express charges on movie	7.18
Movie rental	16.50
	<u>\$29.93</u>

He stated that the assessment for each Center would be \$4.30, plus \$10.00 decided upon the other day, making a total of \$14.30. The only exception was Tule Lake whose assessment was \$10.00. He further stated that additional assessments would be made if the meeting dragged on.

ADVERTISING IN LOCAL JAPANESE AND JAPANESE-AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS FOR UNKNOWN ADDRESS OF MEMBERS:

It was suggested that the various Center Co-ops be notified of any changes of addresses by members.

A vote was taken of those favoring advertising for addresses in both Japanese and English newspapers. The majority favored advertising. Mr. Ohye of Poston was elected to formulate such an announcement in Japanese and present it to the delegates for approval. This he complied to do first thing in the afternoon.

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

Each Center delegation elected one member for the Resolution Committee as follows:

Topaz - Mr. Nozaka
 Granada - Mr. Mitani
 Mt. Mountain - Mr. Okumoto
 Manzanar - Mr. Kishi (Appointed Acting Chairman)
 Minidoka - Mr. Yamaguchi
 Poston - Mr. Ohye
 Rohwer - Mr. Ikezoe

A round table discussion was held on personnel problems. This subject was to be discussed again at the afternoon session.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Executive Secretary

Session 10

July 13, 1945 - 1:30 p.m.
 Federal Building - Room 246
 Salt Lake City, Utah
 Presiding Chairman: Dr. Ochikubo

The meeting was called to order by the Presiding Chairman, Dr. Ochikubo, at 2:00 p.m.

Mr. Ishiyama conveyed Mr. Rossman's message that assurance from Mr. Province, head of Community Management in the Washington Office, has been received this afternoon and that teletypes from Washington will be forthcoming on the following three pending issues tomorrow morning:

1. Suspension of operating agreement and the employees' compensation. |

2. Free rental space, equipment and other facilities.
3. Assurance of minimum services to evacuees.

The chairman stated that the problem of income tax is still in the hands of the Internal Revenue and at this time it is still uncertain as to when we will receive a definite ruling.

A lengthy discussion was held in regards to personnel compensation during the liquidation period. Each member on the Board of Directors of each center voiced their opinion. It was finally agreed by all delegates that some additional compensation will have to be paid to the employees who remain through the liquidation period, the amount to be determined by each individual Center.

At this time discussion was held on individual opinions on Center Closure.

Relative to advertising for notification of change of address of all former Co-op members, Mr. Chye read the advertisement in Japanese. It was decided that Mr. Jack Yamaguchi of Minidoka translate it in the English version. The following was disclosed as the correct title of each Center Co-op.

Topaz Consumer Cooperative Enterprises, Inc.
 Heart Mountain Community Enterprises
 Manzanar Cooperative Enterprises
 Minidoka Consumers Cooperative
 Poston Cooperative Enterprises, Inc.
 Rohwer Cooperative Enterprises, Inc.
 Amache Consumers Enterprises, Inc.
 Tule Lake Cooperative Enterprises, Inc.
 Gila River Cooperative Enterprises, Inc.

There was some argument as to whether or not to include Gila River in the advertisement since they were not represented at this conference. It was finally agreed that the secretary send a letter to Gila River asking for their wishes in the matter.

The delegates decided to put the above-named advertisement in the following papers for a period of one month.

1. Colorado Times, Denver
2. Rocky Shampo, Colorado
3. Utah Nippo, Salt Lake City
4. Pacific Citizen, Salt Lake City
5. New York Times

Mr. Beltt announced that Mr. Rossman was informed by the Washington Office that the War Department is going to release a lot of housing throughout the West Coast which will be available to relocatees, provided we can furnish the necessary management to carry on the project. This may have some bearing on the planning of the Post-Center Cooperative. Mr. Rossman will explain in more detail tomorrow morning.

Session closed: 4:30 p.m.

Executive Secretary

Session 11

July 14, 1945 - 9:00 a.m.
 Federal Bldg. - Room 246
 Salt Lake City, Utah
 Presiding Chairman: Dr. Ochikubo

The meeting was called to order by the presiding chairman, Dr. Ochikubo, at 9:20 a.m.

A discussion was held on the advertisement of Co-op liquidation in Japanese and Japanese-English newspapers. It was unanimously agreed that all 8 Centers would pay an assessment of \$17.50 each to Mr. Ohye. This was to be used to obtain the best space possible for 4 weeks at \$20 for each of the Japanese newspapers, or \$120, plus \$10 each for the PACIFIC CITIZEN and for the NEW YORK TIMES.

Next, Mr. Kishi read the Resolution which was formulated by the Resolution Committee as follows:

"The Resolution Committee hereby submits the following resolution to be adopted by the delegation of the Fourth Federation of Center Co-ops.

"WHEREAS, on Saturday, July 14, 1945, the Cooperative delegates of Manzanar, Minidoka, Granada, Heart Mountain, Poston, Rohwer, Topaz, and Tule Lake met to recognize the importance and value of this conference, and adopted the following resolution.

"RESOLVED, to extend deep appreciation to the various Co-op Boards of Directors for recognizing and in sending delegates to this conference.

"AND FURTHER, that this appreciation be extended to the WRA Washington Staff and Salt Lake Staff for their services, advice, consultation and assistance.

"AND WHEREAS, the secretary be authorized to communicate this resolution to the various staffs and Relocation Centers.

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this body fully recognize the conference minutes as the official work carried out by the conference and

"THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this body has fulfilled its duty as representatives to the Federation Conference."

This resolution, which is to be translated by Mr. Ohye, was accepted by the delegation.

The chairman appointed Mr. Ohye to send letters of acknowledgment and appreciation in Japanese to letters received and to the Christian Church.

Mr. Mitani moved and Mr. Nozaka seconded that \$1.25 be donated from each Center in order to donate \$10 to the Christian Church. All Centers were to pay Mr. Ohye \$18.75.

The discussion on housing was to be tabled until receipt of the teletype. However, Mr. Runcorn made a few remarks. He stated that the Enterprises Section of the WRA would be in line to proceed with the war housing released by the War Department on the West Coast because it concerned relocation, whether controlled privately or as a cooperative; and that the chance should be grasped now before leaders are lost by relocation.

WRA committed by Runcorn to housing w/ set up -

Mr. Nozaka suggested that one or more delegates from each Center remain to discuss housing facilities. Mr. Yashiki suggested that we wait for the Washington teletype and then decide.

The chairman suggested that different aspects of the case should be taken into consideration ^{and} serious thought given to them; i.e., the amount of money required for leasing housing, the number of people going from a Center to a given area, the period of time---say, 5 years.

Mr. Runcorn stated that this was wartime housing and not permanent. They would probably be leasing it, and a Co-op could lease it and sublease to its members.

Mr. Yamane stated that after the last war several Japanese families had unsatisfactory experience with temporary housing and he did not advocate it.

The chairman asked Mr. Runcorn how long he thought it would take to draw up by-laws after receipt of the teletype from Washington and he replied that it would require about 3 or 4 days.

All the Centers concurred in having the topic tabled until receipt of the teletype from Washington, except Heart Mountain, who stated "no vote."

Close of session: 11:30 a.m.

Executive Secretary

Session 12

July 14, 1945 - 1:30 p.m.
 Federal Building - Room 246
 Salt Lake City 1, Utah
 Presiding Chairman: Dr. Ochikubo

The meeting was called to order by the presiding chairman,
 Dr. Ochikubo, at 2:00 p.m.

Mrs. Pollitt passed out to each individual Center a written explanation on the workings of a trust under their respective Acts.

At this time the long-awaited teletype from Washington was read by Mr. Otto Rossman and is incorporated below verbatim.

"To: Mr. Otto Rossman:

"Reour phone conversation July 13. Suspension of rental changes on WRA equipment under loan contract to the Business Enterprises will be considered by Director Center by Center after closing dates for enterprises have been set. Requests should come from Centers through Project Director for his recommendation.

"Impossible now to suspend operating agreement concerning payment of wages by Enterprises at prevailing WRA rates. Director will consider favorably employment by the Co-op at prevailing outside salaries of individuals now relocated whose families are not residents at Centers and who may be brought back for temporary help during period of liquidation. This is in line with existing WRA employment policy. If this not feasible, Director will consider requests from Enterprises, submitted through Project Directors, but does not wish to make any commitment at this time. Such requests for exception to wage policy must be justified by the circumstances at each Center and carry the recommendation in each case of the Project Director.

"Upon closing of business enterprise at any Center, WRA will make whatever arrangements may be necessary to provide minimum canteen services for residents remaining at the Center.

"No decision yet received on tax exemption and unlikely it can be obtained by Monday. Center will be notified immediately on receipt of decision."

/s/ D.S. Myer, Director

In regards to housing which the War Department has just released all along the West Coast, Mr. Rossman communicated with Washington asking for more details such as what is the location, what type of housing is it, what size, what terms, when will they be available and will the WRA assist us in taking possession? Mr. Rossman received word today from Mr. Provinse of Washington that he had no specific information upon it, but that he was going to get in contact with Mr. Peterson Monday and asked Mr. Rossman to call him up Monday noon, Washington time, 10 o'clock our time. By that time he will have gathered all the information that he could so far. However, he suggested that if the meeting plans to adjourn this evening, it might be well if we would appoint someone or elect a committee that can receive this information.

Mr. Provinse further informed Mr. Rossman that the location is all the way from Southern California along the coast to the Canadian border. They consist of a great many hotels, rooming houses and family units, but just exactly where they are, what they are, they don't know at this time. Also, all of it has not been released as yet. It is still in the process. None of this is real estate for sale. It is leased by the government. It is government property and if we are interested, it can be sublet at a nominal fee.

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Mr. Jack Yamaguchi of Minidoka explained Mr. Myer's telegram in Japanese and Mr. Hatate of Minidoka translated the housing situation in Japanese to the delegates.

In regards to free rental on equipment during the liquidation period, Mr. Rossman stated that a new operating agreement will have to be drawn to cover this period. Each Center must take the matter of free rental for WRA equipment up with their respective Project Directors. Mr. Rossman suggested that as Mr. Belitt and Mr. Runcorn will make the rounds of all the Centers, we choose that time as the time to initiate an agreement with the Project Director regarding free rental of equipment and any other matters which the Co-op would like the two men to assist.

In regards to personnel compensation, Mr. Myer suggested bringing in relocated persons back to the Center for a temporary period and paying them outside wages. However, this does not seem feasible. Therefore, Mr. Rossman recommended that when the liquidation period arrives, we should take the matter up with the Project Director to see if higher wages could be paid the remaining Co-op personnel.

*Higher wages
rec by
WRA?*

DOCUMENTARY TAX

It was revealed that Topaz and Minidoka are the only Centers paying documentary tax. Mrs. Pollitt received a teletype regarding this point today from Washington. It stated that a documentary tax of three cents per membership certificate will be collected by the Bureau of Internal Revenue. This tax is on no par value stock. The tax on par value stock on \$100 or fraction is 11 cents but the Internal Revenue has ruled that all membership certificates issued by the Cooperatives are no par value stock because they can be bought at any time at the same price and do not fluctuate in value.

Mr. Hayakawa of Poston brought up the question of what will be done about check cashing when the Co-op closes. Mr. Rossman stated that we should be able to work out some solution with the Project Director whereby this service can be rendered.

It was disclosed at this time that most of the delegates will be leaving before Monday. A few will remain, however, to receive pending information.

At this time Mr. Koda, Acting Chairman of the Permanent Cooperative Planning Committee, took the floor and gave a lengthy talk in regards to the possibility of creating a post center cooperative organization. A motion was made by Mr. Yashiki of Manzanar and seconded by Mr. Shigetome of Rohwer that though the delegates foresee the value and necessity of having such an organization in the post-center era, it would be advisable at present to let this issue remain as a subject to be studied by the individuals, since there exists too much details. All delegates agreed.

*to let it
rest*

SIGHTSEEING TRIP:

Tomorrow the Christian Church is sponsoring a sightseeing trip in behalf of the delegates. A total of ten delegates expressed their desire to participate in this trip. They will meet at 2:00 p.m. in front of the Church.

PICTURES:

Mr. Ohye announced that any delegate who wants a picture of the conference should call for it at the New Grand Hotel desk tomorrow evening.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Mr. Hatate made the following financial report in regards to the Federation Conference expenses. He emphasized that the \$50 paid to the secretaries constitute compensation for the work done in the evenings.

	DR	CR
7 Centers (e) \$14.30		\$100.10
Tule Lake Center		10.00
To Janitor	\$10.00	
Federation Conference Expenses	29.93	
Office supplies and miscellaneous	10.17	
Executive Secretary -- English	5.00	
Executive Secretary -- Japanese	5.00	
Secretary -- 6 days (e) \$5.00	30.00	
Secretary -- 4 days (e) \$5.00	20.00	
	<u>\$110.10</u>	<u>\$110.10</u>

In regards to whether or not the Federation was still in existence, Mr. Runcorn commented that the Federation was drawn up based on the buying office in New York and every Center has withdrawn from that except Tule Lake, so we really don't have a Federation now. Dr. Miyamoto of Los Angeles voluntarily called this conference. That is as far as he went.

Mr. Kishi of Manzanar, in behalf of the attending delegates, expressed thanks and appreciation to all members who participated in the conference. Dr. Ochikubo of Topaz and Mr. Hatate of Minidoka conveyed their appreciation to the WRA staff, Mr. Ishiyama, the secretarial help, and all those who helped to make this conference a success.

Mr. Jack Yamaguchi announced that the minutes for the entire conference will be ready tomorrow morning at the New Grand Hotel.

Session closed: 4:15 p.m.

Executive Secretary

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SUGGESTED SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION AT THE
FOURTH ALL-CENTER CONFERENCE
FEDERATION OF CENTER BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

1. Report on the New York Buying office and future plans.
- 11 2. Report on necessity of amendments to By-laws section pertaining to dissolution. WRA legal advisor will be on hand to answer questions.
- 1 3. Discussion of plan proposed for closing cooperatives ninety days prior to center closing to allow sufficient time for winding up affairs and plan for continuance of necessary services after cooperatives are dissolved.
- 2 4. Tax problems and legal aspects of liquidation.
- 3 5. Disposal of inventories and equipment.
- 4 6. Distribution of final assets, accounting procedure and disposal of records.
- 5 7. Business Enterprise personnel problems during final stages of operation.
- 6 8. Special procurement and other problems of Tule Lake Cooperative.
- 12 9. Formation of single trusteeship for the Administration of trust funds of all business enterprises.
10. Plan for purchase farm machinery and other government surplus commodities through Business Enterprises.
11. Organization of permanent cooperative association,-
 - (a) to assist center business enterprises in liquidation
 - (b) to assist in relocation of businessmen through such organization
 - (c) to operate services in centers during remaining period after center cooperatives are closed.
 - (d) to assume trust liability of liquidated center business enterprises.
 - (e) to organize branches of business for post-enterprise operation, such as insurance services, housing, farming, and food processing, and/or to enter any other field the members may deem feasible.
12. Drafting of Charter and By-laws.
13. Capitalization.
14. Election of temporary officers, directors, and committees.

It is suggested that each center send at least four delegates to this conference.

PROPOSAL FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF FOOD GROWING AND PROCESSING COOPERATIVE, FOR CONSIDERATION OF DELEGATES TO CONFERENCE OF FEDERATION OF CENTER BUSINESS ENTERPRISES --

For sometime there has been a considerable amount of discussion in the Business Enterprise Section concerning a program to assist the residents in the projects in establishing some kind of post-project organization to further their economic and social well-being after the centers are closed. Since the time now appears to be opportune for some definite action along these lines, an attempt is herein made to crystallize a few thoughts, facts, and figures into a workable plan.

It is perhaps, advisable at this time to mention a few of the factors that prompted the outlining of this plan. They are:

1. There is evidence of an increasing shortage of all types of food which will be further accentuated by increased shipments abroad to feed the undernourished peoples of Europe.

2. Prior to evacuation, approximately 40% of all Japanese-Americans living on the West Coast were engaged in the growing, processing, and the distribution of farm products and other directly related activities.
3. Several well-established national food distributors are interested in entering the quick-frozen food field, but have withheld their entry because of the lack of adequate labor, supplies, and equipment. With V-E day, more of these supplies and equipment have become available.
4. The residents of several of the projects have expressed a desire to formulate a program whereby the present cooperative organization could be "transplanted" outside of the project to further the economic welfare of its membership.
5. Economic rehabilitation of the evacuees can be more quickly accomplished by group action rather than by individual action.
6. After the liquidation of the project cooperatives there will be left certain residue assets and liabilities which will be transferred to and administered by trustees selected by the different cooperatives. These separate assets, if administered by separate trustee groups, would be devoid of any dynamic possibilities and would in all probability eventually revert to the state or be donated to a charitable organization.
7. It is not only desirable, if only for the sake of justice, but also feasible to make an effort to return the evacuees, as far as possible to an economic and social level comparable to that enjoyed prior to evacuation.

In the following outline, the organization suggested under this plan will be referred to as a "Cooperative Association", as a matter of expediency. The name, in itself, is relatively unimportant as compared to the purpose for which the contemplated organization is to be established - namely, to cooperate to further their economic and social welfare.

It is suggested that a "Cooperative Association" be organized jointly by all the project cooperatives and the necessary amendments be made to the by-laws of the individual cooperatives to permit the "Cooperative Association" to act as trustee for all the project cooperatives. As the projects close, and the individual cooperatives are liquidated, the residue assets and liabilities would be transferred to the "Cooperative Association" instead of to separate trustee groups selected by each Cooperative. This procedure will concentrate all the residue assets, after liquidation, into a single organization, whose purpose, then, would be to administer these assets in such a manner as it believes will accrue to the greatest benefit of its membership. This membership, theoretically, would be identical to the combined membership of the former individual cooperatives since each former member of a project cooperative for which the "Cooperative Association" is acting as trustee would be eligible for a participating membership on the payment of a nominal fee. Participating membership would be strictly limited to former members. Non-participating memberships, on the other hand would be unrestricted and would not share in any profits created by the use of the funds of the "Cooperative Association", but would be paid the prevailing rate of interest.

It is further suggested that in the beginning, two directors be selected by each participating cooperative to represent its membership in the "Cooperative Association", with one director designated to serve two years and the other three years. At the end of two and three years, those directors selected for their respective terms would be re-elected or replaced by a vote of the general membership without consideration for former project cooperative affiliations. This procedure, it is believed, would be democratic and would encourage a rotation of the group which would be familiar with the operations of the organization. Each member of the Cooperative Association would be entitled to one vote either in person or by mail, but proxy voting would not be permitted.

As a first step towards furthering the economic re-establishment or rehabilitation of its membership, it is proposed the "Cooperative Association" either by itself, or jointly with reputable food processing and distributing company, organize a company to grow, market, and quick-freeze fruits and vegetables, - there are companies that are interested. As conditions permitted, it would eventually expand its activities to include meats, poultry, and seafoods. The quick-frozen field is selected for the initial venture because it would be possible to utilize the capabilities of a large number of the residents and because all indications point to the fact that the quick-frozen food industry is now on the threshold of very dynamic developments.

The reason for suggesting that the residents organize a quick-frozen company jointly with an established concern in this field is to make available to its initial operations the "know how" which the established company could provide - and which is very important - and thus, to enhance in every possible way its chances for success. Although the demand exceeds the supply at the present time, it is conceivable that the field will become very competitive in the post-war period. Joint organization would not only assure an immediate outlet for its production, but a distribution channel in the post-war period. From a public relations standpoint, also, it is believed there would be certain advantages. All these suggestions are made with real cognizance of the possible future difference that may arise concerning operations with the company with which the joint organization is established, and that would be one of the business risks that would have to be assumed.

In 1944, the quick-frozen foods industry packed close to a billion pounds of perishable foods. Of this, approximately 600 million pounds were fruits and vegetables. This figure can be compared with a pack of half a million pounds in 1930 when the quick-frozen foods industry was born. Although its growth has been phenomenal, the industry today, is still pregnant with far-reaching potential development, awaiting merely the availability of more labor, supplies, and equipment.

Leading companies like Standard Brands, Libby, McNeil & Libby, Stokely-Van Camp, California Packing, etc., who have made experimental efforts in this field and who contemplate expanding their operations as soon as conditions permit, base their plans on an estimate of a ten billion pound industry within five years. Authorities in the field visualize the time when frozen foods will eventually account for 35% of all retail food sales, with annual sales volume running into six billion dollars as compared with from 200 to 250 million dollars today.

Based on past operational experience, the minimum economical production limit of a quick-frozen plant seems to be in the neighborhood of three million pounds of products per year. A plant of this capacity will occupy a plant space of between 15,000 to 20,000 square feet. It will contain a boiler room of 50 horse power, a quick-freezing plant with a capacity of from 1,000 to 2,000 pounds per hours, and a sub-zero storage room of about 12,000 cubic feet of storage space and designated to store about a million pounds of the product. Such a plant, exclusive of the land, will cost about \$200,000.00. Of this total, \$130,000 will be in the building - if peas are to be grown and packed - and plant processing equipment, \$25,000 in the quick-freezing equipment, and \$30,000 in the storage room. Operating from 12 to 18 hours a day for a period of four months, such a plant will produce with the usual load factor possible under food processing conditions, about three million pounds per year. If operations can be carried on in a locality where the growing season is longer - and that is, of course, very desirable, - production would be increased to that extent and costs would be lower. It is estimated that a three million pound capacity plant would employ from 50 to 100 people in the processing and depending on the nature of the product processed.

It is estimated by reliable sources that the average income for the retail package to the plant is around 15¢ and the cost of the raw product, including the cost of processing is 13½¢, this figure before federal taxes. On the basis of a three million pound per year sale - supplies at present are inadequate to meet demand - a plant of this capacity would realize a profit before taxes of approximately \$45,000 and represents a return of

20-22 $\frac{1}{2}$ % on the invested capital. This is based not on growing the crops processed, but buying them on the open market. It is highly probable that the growing operations would also net a profit in addition to the processing. In the post-war years, the average income per pound of product is expected to fall below the 15% figure, but it is expected that increased production and more efficient means of operation will still maintain a substantial profit margin.

In view of the limited capital of the "Cooperative Association", expenditures for equipment should be kept at a minimum. Since the minimum economical plant capacity for quick-freezing is around three million pounds, it would be advisable to organize the food processing company jointly with some established food company like General Foods or Standard Brands who are already in the field and who contemplate expansion. In this way, it is believed any number of satisfactory arrangements can be worked out where capital investments on the part of the "Cooperative Association" could be kept low and where the major portion of the funds available could be used for operating capital.

The food processing company could be capitalized for \$250,000 and could consist of 250,000 shares of non-assessable common stock with a par value of \$1, of which 50,000 shares each would initially be subscribed by the "Cooperative Association" and the interested food company. The "Cooperative Association" should not enter into any agreements where it would not have a minimum of 50 % of the stock. The most desirable arrangement would be to have 51% control and the right to buy out the stock owned by the interested company during a specified period, and at a designated price. These details, of course, would have to be worked out at the time of organization between the "Cooperative Association" and the interested company. If additional funds are needed, it is believed a loan could be secured from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, or from other government or private sources.

Should the residue assets transferred to the Cooperative Association total \$80,000, then \$50,000 of this sum could be used to finance jointly the food processing company. The sum obtained through membership fees - say \$30,000 - plus the balance of \$30,000 from the transferred assets would be set aside in reserve to take care of the assumed liabilities of the cooperatives should the food processing venture fail. In that event there still would be \$60,000 available which would meet a substantial, if not all, of the possible claims. In actual practice, such a sum should be ample to meet all claims that might be made on the "Cooperative Association" as a result of the operations of the former project cooperatives. On the other hand, should the food processing company be a success, and should it reach a point where it could declare dividends to the "Cooperative Association", the membership equity of the "Cooperative Association" would be first paid off before any participating returns are declared. In accordance with the purpose of the "Cooperative Association" it should be its policy not to pay participating returns until it has expanded its economic base to a point where the business capabilities of its membership have been fully utilized.

The biggest problem in carrying out this plan would be in locating a large tract of land, along with suitable housing in an area that has a long growing season and where the public sentiment is either neutral or favorable. California, from the standpoint of operational advantages would be one of the most desirable areas in which to start operations, but their antagonistic attitude and the discriminatory land laws preclude any possibility of real success. In view of this, the most feasible area, it would appear, would be in the south. It is my impression from reading of the offers that have been made through the New Orleans Relocation Office that there are numerous large tracts of land which would be suitable for a project of this type and where some kind of a mutually satisfactory arrangement can be made with the owners of the land.

Although the problems faced in executing this plan are admittedly numerous, varied, and difficult, they are not insurmountable if enough resolve and conscientious effort will be put forth to make the plan a

reality and success. To the extent that it succeeds, it will uplift the morale of the group and remove a deep sense of insecurity that prevails among the evacuees at the present time. Even the mere fact that a program of this type is undertaken will help to restore their faith and confidence in our democratic processes which has been badly shaken by the evacuation and the subsequent treatment that has been accorded some of those who have returned to the West Coast.

From the standpoint of the evacuees the only real loss that will be suffered if the quick-freezing venture fails will be the nominal membership fee of five or ten dollars that would be paid by them to the "Cooperative Association". On the other hand if it is a success, and I am strongly inclined to believe that it would be, they will have established an economic beach-head for the post-war period from which the expansion possibilities would be limited only by their capabilities and their ability to cooperate together for the common good of its membership.

JM Barrett.

THE FOURTH ALL CENTER BUSINESS ENTERPRISES CONFERENCE

Session # 1

July 2, 1945 - 9:00 A. M.
Federal Building - Room 246
Salt Lake City, Utah

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Runcorn, WRA Auditor Supervisor.

Due to absence of Dr. Miyamoto, Acting Federation Secretary, Mr. Runcorn, WRA Auditor Supervisor, presided as temporary chairman.

ATTENDING DELEGATES

GRANADA:

1. Nobuhei Kurita
2. K. Koda
3. G. Mitani

HEART MOUNTAIN:

1. Sukenari Yamada -- Executive Secretary
2. Ted Okumoto -- Chief Accountant

MANZANAR:

1. Mineichi Yoshiki -- Board of Directors
2. Kohei Fujino -- Board of Director
3. Roy Takeda -- Chief Accountant
4. Joe H. Kishi -- General Manager

MINIDOKA :

1. Rinta Morimizu -- Board of Director
2. Motosuke Hayasaka Board of Director
3. Harry Hatate -- General Manager
4. George Hara -- Chief Accountant
5. Jack Yamaguchi -- Executive Secretary

POSTON:

1. Manzo Ohye
2. Hiroshi Sakurai
3. Sadazo Yamane

ROHWER:

1. Tomejiro Shigetomi
2. Kichinosuke Ikezoe

TOPAZ:

1. Dr. George A. Ochikubo -- Board of Directors
2. E. S. Ishikazaki -- Finance Committee Chairman
3. H. S. Nozaka -- General Manager

WRA REPRESENTATIVES:

1. Mr. Rossman - WRA Supervisor of Cooperative Enterprises
2. Mr. Runcorn - WRA Auditor Supervisor
3. Mr. Belt - WRA Field Man
4. Mr. Ishiyama - WRA Enterprise Buyer, from New York
5. Mrs. Pollitt - Solicitor's Office in Washington, D. C.

Absent Delegates

Tule Lake
Gila River

A suggestion was made by the temporary Acting Chairman, Mr. Runcorn, that due to Dr. Miyamoto's absence, Acting Federation Secretary, a new presiding chairman should be elected for this conference. This was approved unanimously by the delegates.

By popular vote, Dr. Ochikubo was elected as presiding chairman; Harry Hatate, vice-presiding chairman; and Mr. Manzo Ohye and Jack Yamaguchi as secretaries to take the minutes in Japanese and English, respectively.

A proposal was made by the presiding chairman, Dr. Ochikubo, and unanimously accepted by the delegates, that committee should be organized to be known as the Agenda Committee. This committee to be composed of one member from each delegation. The following members were selected, with Harry Hatate as acting chairman:

1. Manzanar: Joe H. Kishi
2. Minidoka: Harry R. Hatate
3. Poston: Sadazo Yamane
4. Heart Mountain: Sukenari Yamada
5. Rohwer: Tomejiro Shigetomi
6. Topaz: H. S. Nozaka
7. Granada: Nobuhei Kurita

The session closed at 4:30 P. M.

Session #2
July 9, 1945 - 1:30 P. M.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Ochikubo at 2:15 P. M.

Mr. Hatate, acting chairman for the Agenda Committee, presented to the delegation a suggested agenda, the content of which is as follows:

I. Formation of the Liquidation Planning Committee

- a. The tax and its legal aspects
- b. Clarification of allocated reserve
- c. Clarification of unallocated reserve
- d. Clarification of Membership Fund
- e. Disposal of inventories and equipments
- f. Distribution of final assets, accounting procedures, and disposal of records.
- g. Business Enterprise's personnel problem during the final liquidation stages.
- h. Free rental and transportations to be provided by the WRA during the liquidation period.
- i. To set up Trustee's Salary and Fund, preferably based upon appropriate basis.
- j. Termination of operating agreements upon receipt of final notice to close center Enterprise and draft new agreement, if necessary.

II. Formation of Permanent Cooperative Organization

III. Formation of Banquet, Photograph and Entertainment Committees

For the Liquidation Planning Committee, the following delegates were selected, with Harry Hatate as acting chairman:

Manzanar:	Joe H. Kishi Mineichi Yoshiki	Heart Mountain:	Sukenari Yamada Ted Okumoto
$\frac{1}{2}$ Minidoka:	Harry Hatate Rinta Morimizu George Hara	Rohwer:	Tomejiro Shigetomi
Poston:	Sadazo Yamane M. Hayakawa	Topaz:	H. S. Nozaka E. S. Ishizaki
		Granada:	G. Mitani Nobuhei Kurita

For the permanent Co-op Organization Committee, the following delegates were selected with Mr. K. Koda as acting Chairman:

Granada:	K. Koda	Minidoka:	M. Hayasaka	Rohwer:	K. Thezoe
Manzanar:	K. Fujino	Poston:	H. Sakurai	Topaz:	H. S. Nozaka

For the banquet, Photograph and Entertainment Committee, Mr. E. S. Ishizaki of Topaz, Mr. G. Mitani of Granada, and Mr. Manzo Ohye of Poston, were selected.

At this time, Mr. Rossman, WRA Co-operative Supervisor, took the floor and read Mr. Dillon Myer's message to the fourth-all center business enterprise conference. The context of his message is as follows:

TO THE DELEGATES ATTENDING THE ALL-CENTER CONFERENCE OF BUSINESS ENTERPRISES:

In connection with the agenda for the meeting of delegates of center business enterprises in Salt Lake City on July 8, it seems important that there be no misunderstanding about the position of the War Relocation Authority in relation to certain items on the agenda. The following statement will indicate, as clearly as possible, the position of the Authority.

1. Every reasonable service will be provided by the WRA, including legal service, with respect to that phase of the agenda having to do with plans for the liquidation of business enterprises at the relocation centers.
2. The question regarding the establishment of a single trusteeship for the handling of final distribution of assets is something that should be determined after full discussion by the representatives of the cooperatives and it is our belief that WRA should not have any responsibility for making this determination. It is the belief of the WRA that each cooperative enterprise in the individual center should go as far as possible in completing the liquidation process and distributing the remaining assets among the patrons, in view of the widely varying situations in the individual centers.
3. We believe that any discussion regarding the need or plans for the organization of a national cooperative should be an entirely separate matter from the discussion of plans for the liquidation of center cooperatives. The WRA has no responsibility for and no interest in the promotion of cooperatives other than those in relocation centers, unless it develops that certain services cannot be adequately provided for people who are relocating, because of restrictions or discrimination. In case a need develops for the formation of cooperatives for specific purposes and it is determined on the part of relocated evacuees that there is such a need, we might then consider the desirability of helping to work out a program for the development of such cooperatives, because of our interest in the relocation program. It is our belief, however, that this need can be only established by people who have relocated and not by people living in relocation centers.
4. Each individual cooperative in each of the relocation centers should determine whether it wishes to provide services of some type until the center finally closes or whether it wishes to consider liquidation at some set date before center closure. When this determination is made, WRA will try to work out a sound plan in connection with each of the centers to provide a minimum of canteen service of some type, if it cannot be provided by the individual cooperative.

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Permit me to add a word of congratulation to you, as representatives of the business enterprises at our centers, on the good work that those enterprises have done. Your sound business judgment and your faithfulness to duty have contributed much to the welfare of all center residents. As you plan the dissolution of the cooperatives and as you leave the relocation centers and return to normal communities and normal business pursuits, I wish you prosperity and success.

* * * *

Mr. Rossman also stated that there will be a letter sent to every cooperative enterprise in all centers from the WRA office in Washington, D. C. advising them to make a definite set date for the final closure of business enterprises, preferably, at an earliest date.

For the period of three months, (90 days) preceding the announced date of business closure, there will be no rental charge made against cooperative enterprise by the WRA.

It is advisable, he stated, that this period of three months should be conveniently divided into both operation and business liquidation process.

Close of session: 4:00 P. M.

Session # 3

July 10, 1945 - 9:00 A. M.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. George Ochikubo, presiding Chairman.

At this time the Permanent Cooperative Organization Committee, with Mr. Koda as acting chairman, accompanied by Mr. Runcorn, WRA Auditor Supervisor, left for separate session at the Grand Central Hotel.

Dr. Ochikubo asked Mr. Rossman to clarify the matter of free space for the Co-op after the closing date is set. Mr. Rossman explained that when the final date for closing the Co-op is set, there will be no rental charges three months before that time. Complete closing must be accomplished during that three-month period, including the final distribution, that is, office space required for the payment of the final assets.

Dr. Ochikubo asked whether the closing date of the co-op means the closing date for the operations side of it or the date for the finishing up of the accounting side of it. Mr. Rossman answered that it is the date that you announced you are vacating the building.

It was suggested by Mr. Belt that we set up one date for the time that we are going to terminate the actual operations of the enterprise and another date as to when everything will be cleared up. He suggested also that 45 days be allowed for cleaning up the inventory and disposing of other assets and another 45 days established for cleaning up the bookkeeping end for final payment of equities, etc. He felt that 30 days was not sufficient for cleaning up everything after the close of business to residents.

Mr. Rossman stated that in regards to Camps 2 and 3 in Poston, as far as the Co-op is concerned, it is all on single unit so the Co-op would not be liquidated in the parts of camps which close but instead will be transferred over to the Co-op in Camp 1.

A question was raised by the chairman as to what will be done about the necessary services to the evacuees when the Co-op closes, such as shoe repair, barber shop, etc. Will the local WRA make some arrangement for the continuance of these services? Mr. Rossman replied that that phase hasn't been considered as yet. However, Mr. Myer stated in his memorandum that some means will be provided to continue the services. Mr. Belt stated that we have never encouraged private enterprises within the Centers, but it may be that at that stage it might be possible to permit enterprise to function, especially in the case of barbers.

IMMEDIATE PROBLEM OF CLOSING OUT ENTERPRISES

1. Tax Problems and Its Legal Aspects.
 - a. Clarification of allocated reserve
 - b. Clarification of unallocated reserve
 - c. Clarification of Membership Fund
 - d. Income tax and Unemployment tax

Mr. Hatate of Minidoka raised the question that in case we use the allocated reserve for liquidation losses, would it be subject to income tax? There are two questions which cannot be answered at this time pending a ruling from Washington:

1. Whether or not the unallocated reserve is taxable.
2. Whether or not the allocated reserve is taxable in case it is used for liquidation losses.

Mrs. Mima R. Pollitt from the WRA Solicitor's Office in Washington was present to answer questions on unemployment insurance and income tax but since the ruling from Washington has not yet arrived, the questions could not be answered.

The following is a table showing which Centers are exempt or nonexempt from income tax and the type of law which each Center Co-op comes under.

<u>Center</u>	<u>Name of Act</u>	<u>Income Tax Status</u>
Granada	Colorado	Paying
Manzanar	California	Paying
Heart Mountain	Unincorporated	Exempt
Minidoka	District of Columbia	Exempt
Poston	" " "	Not exempt
Rohwer	" " "	Exempt
Topaz	" " "	Not exempt
Gila	" " "	Exempt

Close of session: 11:45 A. M.

Session # 4

July 10, 1945 - 1:30 P. M.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. George Ochikubo, presiding chairman.

DISPOSAL OF INVENTORIES AND EQUIPMENTS:

1. Slow moving and dead stocks (shoe inventory)
2. Disposal of equipments
3. Distribution of final assets, accounting procedures and disposal of records.

Under (1) above, the following was disclosed by each Center delegates

<u>Center</u>	<u>Approximate amount of dead or slow moving stock on hand</u>
Amache	O. K.
Heart Mountain	\$ 7,000
Poston	5,000
Manzanar	3,000
Minidoka	800
Topaz	800
Rohwer	6 to 7,000

The amount of equipment to be disposed, including depreciation, was disclosed as follows:

<u>Center</u>	<u>Value of equipment on hand</u>
Amache	\$ 7,000
Heart Mountain	7,000
Poston	10,000
Minidoka	6,300
Topaz	8,500
Rohwer	6,000
Manzanar	4,750

It was revealed that Minidoka and Rohwer have already started to dispose their equipment. Mr. Hatate of Minidoka stated that the method they are using is advertising in the papers.

Dr. Ochikubo inquired whether with liquidation coming on, is there any possibility of getting greater percentage for depreciation. Mrs. Pollitt stated that there is a possibility of greater percentage of depreciation. Dr. Ochikubo suggested giving the Center residents first chance to buy the equipment. If they cannot be sold in that way, then we will have to find outside markets for them.

Mr. Ishiyama of New York was called upon to report on the shoe inventory problem. He stated that in the past he has had letters from the different projects concerning surplus shoes and on the basis of those letters, they contacted the head of the National OPA to see if shoes could be sold without ration coupons. However, they couldn't make any exemption to the OPA regulations. They informed him that we are at no different position when it comes to liquidation than man who is drafted into the Army and is forced to liquidate his store. They suggested that Mr. Ishiyama see the UNRA people. This Mr. Ishiyama did and found little cooperation there. They wanted 40 percent dis-

count from the cost price. They also wanted samples of every different kind of shoes in the stores. Mr. Ishiyama told the UNRA people that getting samples of every type of shoe was not feasible. Mr. Ishiyama declared that he would be glad to consult with Mr. Myer, who in turn may take the matter up with someone on a higher level.

The suggestion was made by Mr. Ishiyama that the Centers give him an approximation of how many pairs of shoes you have, the make, size ranges, cost price, indication of whether its women, men or children's shoes, and the stock number of the company who manufactured the shoes. When he gets back to Washington he will follow the matter through with Mr. Myer.

Mr. Hatate of Minidoka suggested, and all delegates agreed, that all Centers submit a list to enable Mr. Ishiyama to obtain permission to sell shoes without ration coupons. Mr. Nozaka of Topaz further suggested that Mr. Ishiyama submit a uniform form of report so that each Center can report in some standardized way and set a deadline date. Dr. Ochikubo proposed, and all delegates concurred, that Mr. Ishiyama draw up this report form and give each Center a copy to take back to the Center, and that these reports shall be in the mail before August 1.

DISTRIBUTION OF FINAL ASSETS:

Dr. Ochikubo asked Mrs. Pollitt what procedure should be followed in disposing of final assets. Mrs. Pollitt replied that no matter how you distribute your assets, you will find in the end that you will have some money left. Mrs. Pollitt explained the provisions of the Colorado law, California law, Unincorporated law, and the District of Columbia law.

However, after discussion of the provisions of these various acts, the workings of a trust was not clear to all. Therefore, the chairman recommended that Mrs. Pollitt submit a written report to each Center Co-op on just how a trust works out in each particular case. Mrs. Pollitt agreed to send this clarification out under the Solicitor's name.

At this point, of the discussion, Tule Lake representatives composed of Mr. Henry Iseri, Mr. Yamagata, Mr. Nomura, and Mr. L. Perkins were introduced to the members of the conference.

Mr. Belt inquired what account should the losses sustained from sale of dead stock merchandise prior to the time of going into the actual process of liquidation be charged to. Mr. Rossman replied that under the normal procedure, sales from the sale of that merchandise would go in with your regular sales. However, he stated that he has noticed that some centers are showing that as other expenses and deducting it at the bottom of the statement. The sale should go into the regular sales and show your normal gross margin that you actually receive for that particular period. You should show it as an operation loss for that period.

Close of session: 4:15 P. M.

Session # 5

July 11, 1945 - 9:00 A. M.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. George Ochikubo, presiding chairman.

Continuation of discussion on disposal of inventory, equipment and distribution of final assets, accounting procedures and disposal of records.

Mr. Iseri of Tule Lake announced that the Tule Lake Co-op will be able to consume the following items:

1. Dry goods
2. Soap
3. Tobacco
4. Two National Cash Registers
Class 2000 series preferably.

Mr. Belt advised that the Central States Cooperative, Inc.

Larry Lehtin, General Manager
1535 South Peoria Street
Chicago, Illinois

can use meat market and grocery equipment such as scales, calculators, cash registers, etc. Mr. Belt suggested that we send a list of such items, the price, full description and the serial number of the equipment to the above concern to see if they can consume these items.

Mr. Rossman was requested by Dr. Ochikubo to explain as to where the loss for liquidation can be charged to. Mr. Rossman replied that it is certainly recommended that the amount that is unallocated be wiped off, provided we don't have any tax complications and if we are exempt, then we are free to do as we like. He added that if we are tax exempt, all losses from liquidation should be charged against the unallocated reserve. Use that money up first so that when you come to the distribution of the final assets it would be easier because the other has already been allocated.

ACCOUNTING PROCEDURE:

Mr. Rossman explained that we have two definite and different periods. One is the last normal operating period, and second, the liquidation period, and that loss is distributed to everybody from the very beginning of business and therefore it is charged to the reserve fund.

DISPOSAL OF RECORDS:

In regards to the disposal of records, Mr. Rossman stated that the following records should be retained and maintained by the trustees:

Books of original entry.
General ledger.
Purchase book
Payment book
Membership records
If it is not too bulky, canceled checks.

A memorandum which Mr. Rossman received from the Washington Office states that the University of California library has asked to have their library used as a depository of all duplicate records which might be helpful in research work. They are not interested in individual evacuee records. Mr. Rossman suggested that duplicate copies of financial reports, by-laws, order statements, etc. might be forwarded to them.

TRUSTEE'S SALARY:

As for trustee's salary, the experience of the Jerome Center was cited as an example for the delegates to determine on some basic figure. It was revealed that Jerome allotted \$1500 in all to their three trustees, the chairman of the three getting \$1,000 and the other two trustees each receiving \$250.00. The delegates all agreed that the distribution of the \$1500 to the trustee was impartial.

Mr. Rossman stressed that the trustees are only responsible for the amount that has been turned over to them. He also pointed out that in determining the trustee's salary, Jerome took into consideration the time element and responsibility for the trusteeship.

No definite basic figure for trustee's salary was agreed upon. The chairman suggested we adjourn and continue in the afternoon.

Close of session: 11:30 A. M.

Session # 6

July 11, 1945 - 1:30 P. M.

Meeting was called to order by Dr. Ochikubo, presiding chairman.

Mr. Runcorn introduced Dr. Francis Kirkham of the Utah Cooperative Life Insurance Association. The text of Dr. Kirkham's talk is as follows:

In 1941 under the leadership of the Utah State Farm Bureau Federation, the State of Utah enacted for the first time in America a genuine cooperative life insurance statute. This legislative act was based upon ten years of research under the leadership of Frank Evans, who is now

financial secretary of the LDS Church in Salt Lake City.

The Board of Directors of the Association is elected annually by the members who have one vote each. A members cannot give the right to another to cast his vote. Money received by the association can be used only for the following purposes;

1. To pay the death benefits of members.
2. To return to members their 20 year option over payments with interest made by them above the rate charged all members for life insurance only with cooperative benefits.
3. The cost of administration including commissions to agents. This cost is determined by the Board of Directors.

The remainder of the money paid by the members to the Association is placed in the reserve fund to be used for their sole benefit as they shall determine through their Board of Directors.

The Cooperative Law passed in the 1941 legislature absolutely guarantees cooperative benefits and procedures and principles and any person joining our Association must live up to it and there can't be no profit going to promoters.

It is now developing that other groups will come here and ask to use this Association. If any group wants to come to make use of this statute, we would put them on an independent basis. They would have their own Board of Directors and we could charge the minimum amount of money necessary for the service which we render and all the rest of it will be yours.

We hold an annual meeting and we elect our Board of Directors. The reason why it is so necessary for people to have a cooperative life insurance in America is this. There has developed in our country a plan of life insurance to which people are induced to pay for the purpose of savings, the idea being that they will not only pay to you a certain sum of money when you die but they will also give you a certain amount of money in case you live.

The death loss to younger people is much less than to older people so that the cost of life insurance advances with age. People between the ages of 25 to 46 must pay \$10 a year and as the ages increase, so does the amount to be paid. If this interests you, you should have somebody to into this very carefully and if you find that you want us to help you, we will invite you to come.

* * * * *

TRUSTEE COMPENSATION:

Mrs. Pollitt advised all delegates that when we close up we should notify the Federal Income Tax people, the State Tax Commissioner and any other agency to which you pay taxes, that you are dissolving.

A representative from Poston suggested, and all delegates concurred, that \$500 for each trustee be set as the basic figure for trustee's salary. This figure represents responsibility. Mr. Hatate of Minidoka recommended that prevailing outside wages be paid to any secretarial help that may be necessary after the trustees relocate. The amount of work to be done varies with each center. Therefore, the money needed for this work should be in addition to the \$500 each for trustees. The delegates unanimously agreed on paying outside wages at that time.

PERSONNEL PROBLEMS:

Dr. Ochikubo of Toraz brought out the question, "To what extent are we bound to follow the WRA wage scale of \$16 and \$19 during the liquidation period? Key personnel will want to relocate. If higher wages or bonus is paid to these people, how will that affect our agreement with the WRA? Mr. Rossman replied that he will have to check with Washington in this matter. He agreed to send a teletype immediately.

The Chairman announced that pictures will be taken at the Christian Church, 268 West 1st South Street at 6:30 P. M. and a banquet at 7:00 P. M. will be held at Dawn Noodle Shop.

Close of session. 3:15 P. M.

Session # 7

July 12, 1945 - 9:00 A. M.

The meeting was called to order by the presiding chairman, Dr. Ochikubo at 9:20 A. M. He stated that the pending matters were as follows:

1. Report from the Internal Revenue, Treasury Department, Washington, regarding income tax. The reply to the teletype sent to Washington by Mr. Rossman was not received as yet so it was decided to table the above issue for future discussion.
2. Personnel compensation during the final stages of liquidation.

A suggestion was proposed by Mr. Hatate that due to absence of the regular Federation Secretary, each Center contribute \$10 apiece for the added expense in hiring and maintaining other secretaries to take minutes for the meeting. He further stated that \$10 should be given to the janitor for his services during this conference. This was unanimously approved by the delegates and Mr. Hatate was appointed as its Treasurer.

FREE RENTAL OF EQUIPMENT AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. Hatate of Manidoka suggested that pending liquidation there would be quite a bit of equipment and it would be better to sell it at an early date. He wished to know what the delegates thought about borrowing office equipment or trucks free from the WRA as the personnel diminished.

Dr. Ochikubo stated that during the period of liquidation, compensation was so made in regard to rental of space that there was some talk that vehicles and trucks could be provided free. He wished to know if there was any possibility that that could be done.

Mr. Rossman stated it would be rather doubtful on use of expandable equipment.

Dr. Ochikubo stated that during the period of liquidation, the Co-op wanted free transportation and use of automobiles and trucks in order to facilitate liquidation and relocation.

Mr. Rossman stated that they were actually Government property and if anyone uses them they must pay if used for other than Government purposes. He asked if they wanted free use of all equipment. When the reply was affirmative he stated that he would telephone or teletype Washington, if a justification were drawn up in writing.

Mr. Hatate moved and Mr. Kishi of Manzanar seconded that they ask for free use of all equipment. This motion was unanimously carried by all the Center delegates.

Mr. Rossman stated that a reply might be received from Washington before the meeting adjourned.

TERMINATION OF OPERATING AGREEMENTS ON RECEIPT OF FINAL NOTICE OF CENTER CLOSURE AND DRAFT NEW AGREEMENT IF NECESSARY

Mr. Nozaka of Topaz was concerned with the three-month period during which the Centers are closing. If, upon the Membership's decision to liquidate, the WRA is notified and the limited time for liquidation were specified, was the free rental space guaranteed or not? Was it necessary to make a new agreement?

Mr. Rossman stated that pending liquidation, free rental was specified, that notices had already gone out to the Project Directors.

Mr. Kishi of Manzanar wanted to know if they had to draw up a new operating agreement or if there could be a verbal understanding.

Mrs. Pollitt stated that when the Membership decides to liquidate, they vote to turn it over to the trustees at a given time. She also stated that both a written agreement and a verbal agreement were equally binding. She reemphasized that the date that the trustees took over is the date that the membership voted to dissolve; that the date to dissolve was not the same as the date of closing of business to the public, when the remaining assets are turned over by the Board of Directors to the trustees.

The following is a hypothetical example placed on the blackboard by Dr. Ochikubo:

Membership on	Jan. 1st
decides dissolution date as	March 31st
(a) Operations to be carried till	Jan. 31st
(b) Pay debts, pay refunds, and dispose	
of all reserve that the directors	
could dispose of in a normal period	
under the by-laws	March 31st

Mr. Rossman stated that the Board of Directors and the Membership could operate in any way they want to until March 31st. On March 31st whatever is remaining goes to the trustees.

He further stated that up to the date of dissolution is a normal operating period; that the liquidation period is not a normal operating period; that the liquidation period had to start after the vote to dissolve; also, that the by-laws state that you are to set aside 10 per cent during the period of your earnings.

He mentioned that during this liquidation period, it is perfectly legal to pay off members and to sell a typewriter if there is no use for it. At that time when the membership votes the date on which the trustees take over, the trustees take over. In the meantime, the Co-op has sold assets and paid liabilities, even membership liabilities. You can also get rid of the reserve by the dissolution date.

The Banquet Committee report was made by Mr. Ohye of Poston after the departure of the WRA Caucasian personnel since they were the honored guests at the banquet last evening and their offer to share in the expenses was politely refused. He stated that 25 delegates from 8 centers were present at the banquet and that the charges amounted to:

\$100.00 for the banquet
10.00 for tips
38.50 for liquid refreshments
<u>148.50</u>

To be fair in allocating the expenses, he suggested that half of the total, or \$74.25, be taken and divided equally among the 8 centers, which would amount to \$9.20 each; and the other half, \$74.25, be divided by the 25 persons present, which would amount to \$3.00 per person, since each center did not have the same number of delegates.

Mr. Yashiki made a motion to accept Mr. Ohye's suggestion. It was seconded by Mr. Hatate. The motion carried.

Close of session: 11:20 A. M.

Session #8

July 12, 1945 - 1:30 P. M.

The meeting was called to order by the chairman, Dr. Ochikubo at 1:45 P. M.

Mr. Ishizaki made an announcement that this evening at 8:30 P. M. at the Christian Church, prominent residents of Salt Lake City would serve refreshments for the delegates.

Mr. Iseri of Tule Lake had 2 lists which he wanted the delegates to check over.

He wanted the quota on dry goods when the other Center Co-ops liquidate and Dr. Ochikubo stated that he was sure that they would cooperate to the greatest extent but questioned whether the firms would be willing to turn over the quotas. Mr. Belt stated he was not in a position to commit himself on transferring a quota on dry goods.

Mr. Hatate of Minidoka suggested that when the other Center Co-ops correspond with a firm a carbon copy of the letter be sent to Mr. Iseri so that Mr. Iseri would be able to correspond with the firm regarding commodities, mostly in dry goods. He also stated that they were interested in vendors, especially in Chicago or in St. Louise, since they may leave tomorrow for those points, but no one had any suggestions to offer.

Mr. Iseri then asked if someone were familiar with photographic supplies. Mr. Kishi of Manzanar stated that they were finally able to obtain a \$50 or \$60 permanent quota from Eastman and Ansco in Los Angeles but they were having a hard time obtaining paper and chemicals; that they didn't know whether the quota could be transferred.

At this time Mr. Koda, Acting Chairman for the Permanent Cooperative Planning Committee, took the floor and reported on the results of their session held at the Grand Central Hotel. He stated that the committee studied the problem thoroughly and though everyone recognized the fact that it was a good idea for the people's benefit, no definite conclusion or decision was reached. But he expressed his desire to have the delegates "think it over tonight" on this matter and bring it up for farther discussion tomorrow.

Mr. Kishi of Manzanar suggested that the pending matters be left until the replies were received and that they go into the General Session and discuss the other topics.

Regret was expressed that WRA officials were not in a position to clarify many of many of the points which were brought up.

Mrs. Pollitt was asked about the legal aspects if the centers do not have their documentary stamps affixed, inasmuch as Minidoka and Topaz seemed to be the only centers who have placed stamps. She stated that she would look it up.

Mr. Ted Okumoto of Heart Mountain moved and Mr. Yahhiki of Manzanar seconded that the agenda committee be the committee to form the agenda for the general session in order that the meeting would not be unnecessarily prolonged. Motion carried unanimously.

At this time Mr. Rossman placed the following example on the blackboard in reference to liquidation process:

Announcement of closing	7/1/45
Closing of business	8/1/45
Date of dissolution	10/1/45

7/1/45

BALANCE SHEET

Cash	\$40,000	Current liabilities	\$25,000 (wholesale accts and other current expenses)
Inventory	48,000	Memberships	22,000-outstanding)
Equipment	8,000	Patronage refunds	15,000-had been declared
Other Assets	6,000	General Reserve	11,000 before but not paid)
	102,000	Undist. Earnings	29,000
			102,000

8/1/45 (After month of closing out)

Cash	\$90,000	Memberships	22,000
Inventory	2,500	General Reserve	11,000
Equipment	11,000	Undist. Earnings	60,500
	93,500		93,500

10/1/45

Cash	2,000	Reserve	*1,000	*Expenses necessary for remaining work, i.e., telephone, etc.
Canteen	3,000	Trust fund	**1,500	**Reserve to compensate trustees; Congress votes on this when you decide to dissolve
Barber Shop	500	Memberships	3,000	
	5,500		5,500	

And he explained that in this way, you're not taking away anything. Canteen and Barber shop could be maintained. The plan is workable. You are not violating any regulations.

When the trustees take over no cash register receipts are issued and you operate at cost with a mark-up on articles.

If you think there will be a loss you should increase the reserve.

In response to Mr. Nozaka's question about operating without a business license, Mr. Rossman stated that you can operate without a license because you are still liquidating and no special license is required.

On 7/1/45 the building rental terminates and the license terminates.

State and special commodity licenses cannot terminate until 8/1/45.

You can determine between 8/1 and 10/1 about selling of equipment.

The trustees get the assets on 10/1 and operate the canteen as long as the Project Director thinks it necessary.

You continue paying sales and excise taxes as long as you are selling.

There were no questions after Mr. Rossman's explanation.

The general meeting was adjourned at 3:15 P. M., after which the Agenda Committee was to meet and formulate a new agenda to be tabled for tomorrow's assembly.

Session #9

The meeting was called to order by the presiding chairman, Dr. George Ochikubo at 9:20 A. M.

Mr. Hatate reported that the Agenda Committee had decided to take up the following:

1. Give the Tule Lake people a chance to discuss their buying program.
2. Reconsideration of the final discussion on the Permanent Co-op Organization.
3. Final discussion on the last stages of liquidation.
4. Election of a Resolution Committee.
5. Advertising in local Japanese and Japanese-American newspapers for unknown addresses of members.
6. New business.

TULE LAKE BUYING PROGRAM:

Mr. Henry Iseri, Assistant General Manager of the Tule Lake Co-op, requested that if some of the items on the Tule Lake list, which was distributed, were available at the other centers that he be contacted immediately.

Mr. Perkins stated that it would be helpful on merchandise orders of any kind, even though they are of immediate need, if a list were sent to Mr. Takazawa, General Manager at Tule Lake.

The chairman stated that he was sure everyone would be glad to cooperate in regard to quotas and in sending carbon copies of letters regarding merchandise.

Mr. Perkins stated that he and Mr. Iseri would be in Chicago for another week. If anything worthwhile in regard to merchandise orders came up he asked that Mr. Iseri be contacted c/o Mr. Charles Belt, WRA, 226 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois, until Thursday of next week. This was in order that both Mr. Perkins and Mr. Iseri could plan to stop in the Centers on their way back to Tule Lake.

RECONSIDERATION OF THE FINAL DISCUSSION PERTINENT TO A PERMANENT CO-OP ORGANIZATION

A discussion was held and various delegates expressed their personal opinions. They agreed that the need for a permanent organization existed but could not commit themselves as far as the Centers were concerned.

Mr. Hatate moved and Mr. Ohye seconded that the subject of the formation of a permanent cooperative organization be tabled until the discussion of major problems was over. The motion carried.

PERSONNEL PROBLEMS DURING THE FINAL STAGES OF LIQUIDATION:

Mr. Rossman stated that there had been no word as yet from Washington pertaining to increased compensation during the liquidation period.

At this time Mr. Runcorn read the teletype which was received yesterday afternoon from Mr. Dillon Myer, Director of the WRA, regarding Center closure according to the following schedule:

Granada	On or before October 15
Central Utah & Minidoka	On or before November 1
Ht. Mountain & Gila River	On or before November 15
Colorado River & Manzanar	On or before December 1
Rohwer	On or before December 15

The message also stated that all Center residents should decide by September 1 where they wish to relocate.

Mr. Rossman stated that with the definite setting of Center closure dates the closing of business enterprises will follow; that it will require adjustment of planning; that it will be easier to explain to the Center residents. At this point Mr. Rossman left the meeting to telephone Washington.

Before the WRA personnel left the meeting Mr. Belt expressed his opinion that the conference had done very splendid work and that its advice and suggestions were appreciated.

Mr. Hatate announced that Mr. Runcorn had submitted an expenditure list as follows:

10 night letters for Dr. Miyamoto	\$6.25
Express charges on movies	7.18
Movie rental	16.50
	<u>29.93</u>

He stated that the assessment for each Center would be \$4.50, plus \$10.00 decided upon the other day, making a total of \$14.50. The only exception was Tule Lake whose assessment was \$10.00. He further stated that additional assessments would be made if the meeting dragged on.

ADVERTISING IN LOCAL JAPANESE AND JAPANESE-AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS FOR UNKNOWN ADDRESSES OF MEMBERS:

It was suggested that the various Center Co-ops be notified of any changes of address by members.

A vote was taken of those favoring advertising for addresses in both Japanese and English newspapers. The majority favored advertising. Mr. Ohye of Poston was elected to formulate such an announcement in Japanese and present it to the delegates for approval. This he complied to do first thing in the afternoon.

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE:

Each Center delegation elected one member for the Resolution Committee as follows:

Topaz - Mr. Nozaka
Granada - Mr. Mitani
Heart Mountain - Mr. Okumoto
Manzanar - Mr. Kishi
Minidoka - Mr. Yamaguchi
Rohwer - Mr. Ikoze

A round table discussion was held on personnel problems. This subject was to be discussed again at the afternoon session.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 A. M.

Session # 10
July 13, 1945 - 1:30 P. M.

The meeting was called to order by the presiding chairman, Dr. Ochikubo at 2:00 P.M.

Mr. Ishiyama conveyed Mr. Rossman's message that assurance from Mr. Provinse, head of Community Management in the Washington Office, has been received this afternoon and that teletype from Washington will be forthcoming on the following three pending issues tomorrow morning:

1. Suspension of operating agreement and the employee's compensation.
2. Free rental space, equipment and other facilities.
3. Assurance of minimum services to evacuees.

The chairman stated that the problem of income tax is still in the hands of the Internal Revenue and at this time it will still be uncertain as to when we will receive a definite ruling.

A lengthy discussion was held in regards to personnel compensation during the liquidation period. Each member on the Board of Directors of each Center voiced their opinion. It was finally agreed by all delegates that some additional compensation will have to be paid to the employees who remain through the liquidation period, the amount to be determined by each individual Center.

At this time discussion was held on individual opinions on Center Closure.

Relative to advertising for notification of change of address of all former Co-op members, Mr. Ohye read the advertisement in Japanese. It was decided that Mr. Jack Yamaguchi of Minidoka translate it in the English version. The following was disclosed as the correct title of each center Co-op.

Topaz Consumers Cooperative Enterprises, Inc.
Heart Mountain Community Enterprises
Manzanar Cooperative Enterprises
Minidoka Consumers' Cooperative
Poston Cooperative Enterprises, Inc.
Rohwer Cooperative Enterprises, Inc.
Amache Consumers Enterprises, Inc.
Tule Lake Cooperative Enterprises, Inc.
Gila River Cooperative Enterprises, Inc.

There was some argument as to whether or not to include Gila River in the advertisement since they were not represented at this conference. It was finally agreed that the secretary send a letter to Gila River asking for their wishes in the matter.

The delegates decided to put the above-named advertisement in the following papers for a period of one month.

1. Colorado Times, Denver
2. Rocky Shampo, Colorado
3. Utah Nippo, Salt Lake City
4. Pacific Citizen, Salt Lake City
5. New York Times

Mr. Belt announced that Mr. Rossman was informed by the Washington office that the War Department is going to release a lot of housing throughout the West Coast which will be available to relocatees, provided we can furnish the necessary management to carry on the project. This may have some bearing on the planning of the Post-Center Cooperative. Mr. Rossman will explain in more detail tomorrow morning.

Session closed: 4:30 P. M.

Session #11

July 14, 1945 - 9:00 A.M.

The meeting was called to order by the presiding chairman, Dr. George Ochikubo, at 9:20 A. M.

A discussion was held on the advertisement of Co-op liquidation in Japanese and Japanese-English newspapers. It was unanimously agreed that all 8 Centers would pay an assessment of \$17.50 each to Mr. Ohye. This was to be used to obtain the best space possible for 4 weeks at \$20 for each of the Japanese newspapers, or \$120, plus \$10 each for the PACIFIC CITIZEN and for the NEW YORK TIMES.

Next, Mr. Kishi read the Resolution which was formulated by the Resolution Committee as follows:

"The Resolution Committee hereby submits the following resolution to be adopted by the delegation of the Fourth Federation of Center Co-operatives.

"WHEREAS, on Saturday, July 14, 1945, the Cooperativedelegates of Manzanar, Minidoka, Granada, Heart Mountain, Poston, Rohwer, Topaz, and Tule Lake met to recognize the importance and value of this conference, and adopted the following resolution.

"RESOLVED, to extend deep appreciation to the various Co-op Boards of Directors for recognizing and in sending delegates to this conference.

"AND FURTHER, that this appreciation be extended to the WRA Washington Staff and Salt Lake Staff for their services, advice, consultation and assistance.

"AND WHEREAS, the Secretary be authorized to communicate this resolution to the various staffs and Relocation Centers.

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this body fully recognize the conference minutes as the official work carried out by the conference and

"THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this body has fulfilled its duty as representatives to the Federation Conference."

This resolution, which is to be translated by Mr. Ohye, was accepted by the delegation.

The chairman appointed Mr. Ohye to send letters of acknowledgement and appreciation in Japanese to letters received and to the Christian Church.

Mr. Mitani moved and Mr. Nozaka seconded that \$1.25 be donated from each Center in order to donate \$10 to the Christian Church. All Centers were to pay Mr. Ohye \$18.75.

The discussion on housing was to be tabled until receipt of the teletype. However, Mr. Runcorn made a few remarks. He stated that the Enterprises Section of the WRA would be in line to proceed with the war housing released by the War Department on the West Coast because it concerned relocation, whether controlled privately or as a cooperative; and that the chance should be grasped now before leaders are lost by relocation.

Mr. Nozaka suggested that one or more delegates from each Center remain to discuss housing facilities. Mr. Yashiki suggested that we wait for the Washington teletype and then decide.

The chairman suggested that different aspects of the case should be taken into consideration and serious thought given to them; i.e., the amount of money required for leasing housing, the number of people going from a Center to a given area, the period of time--say, 5 years.

Mr. Runcorn stated that this was wartime housing and not permanent. They would probably be leasing it, and a Co-op could lease it and sublease to its members.

Mr. Yamane stated that after the last war several Japanese families had unsatisfactory experience with temporary housing and he did not advocate it.

The chairman asked Mr. Runcorn how long he thought it would take to draw up by-laws after receipt of the teletype from Washington and he replied that it would require about 3 or 4 days,

All the Centers concurred in having the topic tabled until receipt of the teletype from Washington, except Heart Mountain, who stated "no vote."

Close of session: 11:30 A. M.

Session #12

July 14, 1945 - 1:30 P. M.

The meeting was called to order by the presiding chairman, Dr. Ochikubo, at 2:00 P.M.

Mrs Pollitt passed out to each individual Center a written explanation on the workings of a trust under their respective ACTs.

At this time the long-awaited teletype from Washington was read by Mr. Otto Rossman and is incorporated below verbatim.

"To Mr. Otto Rossman:

"Re our phone conversation July 13. Suspension of rental charges on WRA equipment under loan contract to the Business Enterprises will be considered by Director Center by Center after closing dates for enterprises have been set. Requests should come from Centers through Project Director for his recommendation.

"Impossible now to suspend operating agreement concerning payment of wages by Enterprises at prevailing WRA rates. Director will consider favorably employment by the Co-op at prevailing outside salaries of individuals now relocated whose families are not resident at Centers and who may be brought back for temporary help during period of liquidation. This is in line with existing WRA employment policy. If this not feasible, Director will consider requests from Enterprises, submitted through Project Directors, but does not wish to make any commitment at this time. Such requests for exception to wage policy must be justified by the circumstances at each Center and carry the recommendation in each case of the Project Director.

"Upon closing of business enterprise at any Center, WRA will make whatever arrangements may be necessary to provide minimum canteen services for residents remaining at the Center.

"No decision yet received on tax exemption and unlikely it can be obtained by Monday. Center will be notified immediately on receipt of decision."

/s/ D. S. Myer, Director .

In regards to housing which the War Department has just released all along the West Coast, Mr. Rossman communicated with Washington asking for more details such as what is the location, what type of housing is it, what size, what terms, when will they be available and will the WRA assist us in taking possession? Mr. Rossman received word today from Mr. Province of Washington that he had no specific information upon it, but that he was going to get in contact with Mr. Peterson Monday and asked Mr. Rossman to call him up Monday noon, Washington time, 10 o'clock out time. By that time he will have gathered all the information that he could so far. However, he suggested that if the meeting plans to adjourn this evening, it might be well if we would appoint someone or elect a committee that can receive this information.

Mr. Province further informed Mr. Rossman that the location is all the way from Southern California along the coast to the Canadian border. They consist of a great many hotels, rooming houses and family units, but just exactly where they are, what they are, they don't know at this time. Also, all of it has not been released as yet. It is still in the process. None of this is real estate for sale. It is leased by the government. It is government property and if we are interested, it can be sublet at a nominal fee.

Mr. Jack Yamaguchi of Minidoka explained Mr. Myer's telegram in Japanese and Mr. Hatate of Minidoka translated the housing situation in Japanese to the delegates.

In regards to free rental on equipment during the liquidation period, Mr. Rossman stated that a new operating agreement will have to be drawn to cover this period. Each Center must take the matter of free rental for WRA equipment up with their respective Project Director. Mr. Rossman suggested that as Mr. Belt and Mr. Runcorn will make the rounds of all the Centers, we choose that time to initiate an agreement with the Project Director regarding free rental of equipment and any other matters which the Co-op would like the two men to assist.

In regards to personnel compensation, Mr. Myer suggested bringing in relocated persons back to the Center for a temporary period and paying them outside wages. However, this does not seem feasible. Therefore, Mr. Rossman recommended that when the liquidation period arrives, we should take the matter up with the Project Director to see if higher wages could be paid the remaining Co-op personnel.

DOCUMENTARY TAX

It was revealed that Topaz and Minidoka are the only Centers paying documentary tax. Mrs. Pollitt received a teletype regarding this point today from Washington. It stated that documentary tax of three cents per membership certificate will be collected by the bureau of Internal Revenue.

This tax is on no par value stock. The tax on par value stock on \$100 or fraction is 11 cents but the Internal Revenue has ruled that all membership certificates issued by the Cooperatives are no par value stock because they can be bought at any time at the same price and do not fluctuate in value.

Mr. Hayakawa of Poston brought up the question of what will be done about check-cashing when the Co-op closes. Mr. Rossman stated that we should be able to work out some solution with the Project Director whereby this service can be rendered.

It was disclosed at this time that most of the delegates will be leaving before Monday. A few will remain, however, to receive pending information.

At this time Mr. Koda, Acting Chairman of the Permanent Cooperative Planning Committee, took the floor and gave a lengthy talk in regards to the possibility of creating a post-center cooperative organization. A motion was made by Mr. Yashiki of Manzanar and seconded by Mr. Shigetome of Rohwer that though the delegates foresee the value and necessity of having such an organization in the post-center era, it would be advisable at present to let this issue remain as a subject to be studied by the individuals, since there exists too much details. All delegates agreed.

SIGHTSEEING TRIP

Tomorrow the Christian Church is sponsoring a sightseeing trip in behalf of the delegates. A total of ten delegates expressed their desire to participate in this trip. They will meet at 2:00 P. M. in front of the Church.

PICTURES:

Mr. Ohye announced that any delegate who wants a picture of the conference should call for it at the New Grand Hotel desk tomorrow evening.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Mr. Hatate made the following financial report in regards to the Federation Conference expenses. He emphasized that the \$50 paid to the secretaries constitute compensation for the work done in the evenings.

	DR	
7 Centers @ \$14.30		100.10
Tule Lake Center		10.00
To janitor	10.00	
Federation Conference Expenses	29.93	
Office Supplies and miscellaneous	10.17	
Executive Secretary - English	5.00	
Executive Secretary - Japanese	5.00	
Secretary - 6 days @ \$5.00	30.00	
Secretary - 4 days @ \$5.00	20.00	
	\$ 110.10	\$ 110.10

In regards to whether or not the Federation was still in existence, Mr. Runcorn commented that the Federation was drawn up based on the buying office in New York and every Center has withdrawn from that except Tule Lake, so we really don't have a Federation now. Dr. Miyamoto of Los Angeles voluntarily called this conference. That is as far as he went.

Mr. Kishi of Manzanar, in behalf of the attending delegates, expressed thanks and appreciation to all members who participated in the conference. Dr. Ochikubo of Topaz and Mr. Hatate of Minidoka conveyed and all those who helped to make this conference a success.

Mr. Jack Yamaguchi announced that the minutes for the entire conference will be ready tomorrow morning at the New Grand Hotel.

Session closed: 4:15 P. M.

Respectfully submitted

Jack Yamaguchi
 Jack Yamaguchi
 Executive Secretary